

two terms as Minister to France. He returned to his Virginia, and as many students of Mr. Jefferson have done since, served four years as Governor.

During Thomas Jefferson's Presidency, James Monroe returned to France and was essential in the negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. His foreign policy experience led James Madison to name him both Secretary of State and Secretary of War as the United States was once again pulled into war with Great Britain in 1812.

Elected President of the United States in 1816, Monroe's Presidency has long been referred to as the Era of Good Feeling, during which time he helped resolve long-standing grievances with the British, acquired Florida from the Spanish in 1819, signed the Missouri Compromise and renounced European intervention or dominion in the Western Hemisphere with one of our Nation's greatest foreign policy documents, the Monroe Doctrine.

In 1820, Monroe achieved an impressive re-election, losing only one electoral vote, reserving a unanimous election for George Washington.

My own family has many strong ties to the legacy of James Monroe. My wife Susan and I enjoyed our wedding on the grounds of his home Ashlawn-Highland in Charlottesville where her family has worked for many years. In fact, part of Monroe's property in Albemarle County, is now on the grounds of his teacher's great institution of learning, the University of Virginia and is respectfully referred to as Monroe's Hill.

The life of James Monroe is one that embodied Virtue, Honor and Commitment during his accomplished life of public service. It is fitting that he would pass from this Earth on July Fourth, 1831.

It is with sincere admiration that I respectfully ask my colleagues to recognize James Monroe's one hundred and ninety-eighth birthday as a reminder of his remarkable and magnificent leadership for the people of Virginia and the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING SISTER JANICE RYAN

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Sister Janice Ryan, a native of Fairfield, as this year's recipient of the Kids On The Block Vermont Puppet's Choice Award winner. This award is conferred annually by Kids on the Block—Vermont, a theatrical troupe that performs with puppets to deliver messages of personal safety, diversity, and acceptance of disabilities. As an honoree, Sister Janice is being acknowledged for her outstanding contributions to children and families statewide.

I have admired Sister Janice ever since I first met her. Her career-long

dedication to education and to helping those who need it most has encompassed serving in many capacities, including teacher, professor, administrator, advocate, mentor and role model. Each one of these alone are worthy of praise in their own right.

One of Sister Janice's first of many outstanding accomplishments was the development of the special education program at Trinity College, where she served as a professor, Chair of Education and President. She continued on that path of service in helping to pass groundbreaking legislation that ensured the educational rights of children with disabilities.

Sister Janice's passion and commitment to the children of Vermont and the Nation is unsurpassed. From 1995 to 1999 Sister Janice served as Education Director on my staff. Her experience was invaluable. I am forever indebted to her for her service.

All who know Sister Janice know how dedicated she has been her entire life in serving others. She now serves as the Deputy Director for the Vermont Department of Corrections. There are very few people in this world who have given so much and asked so little in return. I hope Sister Janice knows that her years of giving have not gone unnoticed. This award shows how much she is appreciated even though it is impossible for us to fully recognize her contributions.

I am so proud to stand here and tell you about such a great Vermonter. I wish her my deepest congratulations for an award she so greatly deserves. Everyone who has the opportunity to benefit from Sister Janice's service is extremely lucky.●

HONORING PARENTS ANONYMOUS OF SOUTH EASTERN KENTUCKY

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate the work of Parents Anonymous of South Eastern Kentucky.

Parents Anonymous was founded with the goal of preventing child abuse by engaging parents and strengthening families. Their goal is to stop child abuse by working with parents before it happens or continues to happen.

The citizens of Kentucky are fortunate to have the services of Parents Anonymous of South Eastern Kentucky. This organization's example of dedication, hard work and compassion should be an inspiration to all throughout the Commonwealth.

They have my most sincere appreciation for this work and I look forward to their continued service to Kentucky.●

GIRL SCOUTS OF KICKAPOO COUNCIL HONOR SIX GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to salute six remarkable young women who will soon be presented with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Girl Scouts-Kickapoo Council in Peoria, IL.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. It is presented to Senior Girl Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. Nationwide, less than 3 percent of Senior Girl Scouts earn the Gold Award each year.

To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a Girl Scout must satisfy several requirements. First, she must fulfill a series of preliminary tasks, including the completion of four Interest Project Patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge. Upon completion of these four tasks, the Girl Scout then must design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project, integrating all of the skills and knowledge that she has gained through her years in Girl Scouting. The project must demonstrate a substantial commitment to community service and leadership and be carried out over the course of at least 50 hours.

Leslie Carter, of Girl Scout Troop 47, will be presented with the Girl Scout Gold Award for her service as a personalized aide for a student with special needs during the summer school term. Leslie's project involved planning lessons and activities that helped the girl improve her socialization skills, enabling the student to be more receptive to academic lessons, try new activities, and improve her abilities.

Tiffany Cremer, of Girl Scout Troop 47, will be honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award for her project which aimed to increase public awareness of Girl Scout events, service projects, and programming, by publishing articles and photographs in local newspapers across Fulton County, IL.

Kendall Juers, of Girl Scout Troop 555, will receive her Girl Scout Gold Award for her efforts to refurbish the collection of the Glen Oak Primary School Library. Kendall collected new and used books to be donated to the library and also made bags that the children will use to protect the books they check out of the library and bring home.

Alicia McCombs, of Girl Scout Troop 47, will receive her Girl Scout Gold Award in recognition of her role in co-directing a school play and fulfilling a variety of additional responsibilities, including set building, costumes, makeup, and lighting.

Diana Newlan, of Girl Scout Troop 555, will be presented with the Girl Scout Gold Award in recognition of her efforts to reorganize her school's music library, including cataloging, repairing, and replacing sheet music.

Sarah Rosecrans, of the Juliette Girl Scout Troop, will be honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award for her leadership in planning a councilwide event for Brownie Girl Scouts, enabling the younger girls to learn about and prepare for Junior Girl Scouts, the next level in Girl Scouting.

For each of these young women, I expect that the completion of the Girl Scout Gold Award is only the first step toward a lifetime of civic involvement. I take this opportunity to congratulate each of these young women for their hard work and dedication in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award and to publicly recognize them for their exceptional leadership and service to their communities. ●

IN TRIBUTE TO THE PETTYS

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, this year many of our colleagues are seeking the NASCAR vote, but I think it would be wise if each member in this body, instead, sought out the NASCAR heart.

My neighbors in South Carolina are Pattie and Kyle Petty. In May 2000, the Pettys faced a terrible tragedy, as their young son, Adam, the next great racing hope in the family, died during a practice session. Pattie and Kyle didn't retreat after that, but have worked ever since to bring Adam's dream of a camp for chronically ill children to reality. Many NASCAR drivers, owners, sponsors, and fans have contributed, and the Victory Junction Gang Camp will open its doors in June.

I bring to the attention of my colleagues the following article from the April 23 USA Today, outlining the good work of the Petty family and I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From USA TODAY, Apr. 23, 2004]

LEGENDARY RACING FAMILY HOPES TO TURN CORNER

KYLE PETTY HELPS MAKE HIS SON'S DREAM A REALITY

(By Chris Jenkins)

As a race car driver, Kyle Petty can't hope to match the success of his father and grandfather. As an executive, he can't hope to compete with NASCAR's mega-teams that have millions more to spend on the best cars, drivers and mechanics. As a father, he can't hope to put his son's death in a racing accident nearly four years ago completely behind him.

But Petty does hope, and he seems to radiate hope to those around him through his sincere nature and gentle, quick wit. Other drivers might be better at turning left on the racetrack. They don't have his gift for turning life's negatives into positives.

"No matter how bad your day is, when you see Kyle, your day's better," driver Tony Stewart says. "He tells you a silly joke that makes you laugh or something that makes you feel better."

Petty, 43, gets angry—furious, actually—when he and his cars don't measure up. And he recently woke up crying in the middle of the night, missing his son, Adam.

But in the right-hand column of Petty's emotional ledger is the camaraderie he feels with others in the NASCAR community, optimism that his family's team eventually will return to victory lane and, above all, the completion of Adam's dream: a \$20 million-plus retreat for chronically ill children.

"I've always been incredibly optimistic that as bad as it is, it's got to get better," Petty says.

It would be easy to dwell on what might have been. Had Adam Petty lived, many in

NASCAR believe his electric talent and sponsor-friendly personality would have driven the Petty Enterprises team back to the prominence it once enjoyed. Petty doesn't allow such thoughts: "If you do, you'll just go crazy."

Kyle's father, seven-time NASCAR champion Richard Petty, 66, says it took years for Kyle's upbeat personality to resurface. "It took him a long time to get over it," Richard says, pausing to reconsider his use of the phrase "over it."

"Not to get over it. To get it beside of him instead of in front of him."

Says Stewart: "I think when you see what Kyle's been through as a person, a lot of people at that point would kind of retreat and kind of put themselves in their own little hole and shut themselves out from the rest of the world.

"With Kyle and (wife) Pattie, it's just the opposite. He's such a positive person that you can't help gravitate toward people like him and you want to be surrounded by people like him."

"CAMP" A MISNOMER

A tour of the Victory Junction Gang Camp, a retreat in rural Randleman, N.C., for chronically ill children, revealed two minor flaws.

The first is in its name: A "camp" has shoddy log cabins, leaky canoes and a slimy pond. This place feels more like a trendy suburban subdivision. There are new buildings—a theater, a gym, a pool and more—trimmed in bright colors and stainless steel, resort-quality guest cottages and medical facilities where volunteer doctors will care for campers' special needs.

The second flaw, pointed out by Kyle and Pattie Petty, is a bent pedestrian bridge girder that was rammed by an errant delivery truck. It's March, three months before the camp is to open. This setback doesn't seem to be stressful. Instead, the Pettys laugh, reminded of the time Adam, at 15, accidentally mangled the family van by running into an overhang at his grandfather's house.

Fond stories about Adam, the only one of the Pettys' three children who seriously pursued a driving career, still waft through the garage. Once he was spotted carrying a briefcase around the infield, an accessory not often associated with drivers. Bystanders couldn't let that oddity pass without comment, so they asked him what he was carrying. Grinning, he opened the briefcase to reveal a hairbrush and some gum.

For Kyle, almost anything can trigger memories. "The way the sun shines, the way you see a car on the racetrack," he says. "I'll hear somebody holler, say a name and turn around expecting to see Adam standing there. And it just tweaks you just right. And it hurts you. And it just breaks your heart."

"And I'm not the only person in this boat, believe me. There's plenty of other families out all over this country who have lost kids. I'm sure they all feel the same way."

Adam died in May 2000 during a practice session at New Hampshire International Speedway. NASCAR officials determined that he died of a neck injury, the same type that would kill Dale Earnhardt nine months later. Drivers now are required to wear safety collars that help prevent neck injuries, and the wall Adam hit is covered with an impact-absorbing barrier system.

Kyle Petty doesn't blame NASCAR. He knows it might sound odd to outsiders, but being around racers offers "a lot of comfort."

The camp embraces racing as its theme. Used race cars will be suspended from the cafeteria ceiling. An obstacle course is built from tires. One building looks like a giant

race car—Adam's car. "Racing is all Adam knew," Petty says.

Often when something is done in someone's memory, it is said he or she would have wanted it this way. In Adam's case, this is literally true: After helping his sponsor, Sprint, promote a product that allowed kids in different hospitals to communicate, Adam became determined to do something else for those kids—even if, as his grandfather says, that meant offering to sign over the rights to his winnings for the next 20 years to a loan officer if he'd lend Adam the money to build a camp. But the project never got rolling until after his death.

"Most 19-year-old kids (are) looking out for themselves," Richard says. "And he was, don't get me wrong. But he had feelings for other kids, too. So that just inspired us that much more, that it was his idea originally. We're going to do it come heck or high water."

NASCAR and many of its drivers, team owners and sponsors have chipped in for the camp, which will welcome its first group in June; Stewart has pledged to raise at least \$1 million. Fans have donated money and time. Nursing home groups have sent box loads of handmade teddy bears and quilts, gifts to campers.

The project is personal to rookie driver Brian Vickers, who befriended Adam and the other Petty children, brother Austin, 22, and sister Montgomery, 18. All four grew up attending the same home-schooling classes from a tutor. Vickers isn't comfortable talking about Adam and doesn't mention the significant donation he's quietly making to the camp.

Asked if Adam was talented enough to become a star, Vickers looks at the floor and says, "Yeah."

TEAM LOSES GROUND

Most of today's big-time racing teams have moved into gleaming buildings designed to attract tourists and impress sponsors in suburban Charlotte. Then there's Petty Enterprises' humble jumble of white shacks in Randleman, a town short on stoplights and long on religious radio programming.

Founded in 1949 by Kyle's grandfather, NASCAR pioneer Lee Petty, then made famous by Richard, the team has won 268 races and 10 NASCAR championships. Most of that success came before the NASCAR boom of the 1990s. When corporate America began waking up to the popularity of NASCAR in the late 1980s, Richard was past his prime, though he'd drive until 1992.

Other teams were winning races, so they landed big sponsors. Having more money allowed those teams to develop technology to make their cars faster.

The Pettys fell behind; they've won three races since 1984, none since '99. Adam was supposed to change that. When he died, the promise of a young driver who could rally crewmembers and attract sponsorships died with him. "We had a lot of stuff lined up around how we were going to do his career and stuff like that," Richard says. "So when the accident happened, everything just went into limbo. For six months or a year there, we just basically survived."

Today the team, which fields cars for Kyle and journeyman Jeff Green, 41, has funding from Georgia-Pacific and General Mills, plus associate sponsors. It's significant money (exact amounts are not disclosed), but nowhere near what marquee teams command.

But the team's problems might not all be financial. Years ago it was common for drivers to run teams. As the business of racing became more complex, other teams added layers of management. Today Petty is the only driver with a major team who has extensive executive responsibilities.