

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.