

for twenty years of steadfast commitment to cancer patients and survivors.

[From the Kansas City Star, June 4, 2000]

CANCER SURVIVORS CELEBRATE ANOTHER  
YEAR OF LIFE

(By Oscar Avila)

On the weekend of KC150, hundreds gathered Sunday at the Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Survivors Park to mark other anniversaries.

Cancer survivors marked personal milestones at the Celebration of Life rally. Survivors wore a button telling how many years they had survived. Participants and their families also marked the rally's 15th anniversary and the park's 10th year.

But speakers and participants agreed that they don't need traditional milestones to celebrate victories over cancer.

"Every day is a celebration," said Maria Eades of Kansas City, North, who was diagnosed with breast cancer nine years ago. "I wake up every morning and say, 'Thank you, God, for another day.'"

Jason Oldham, a television reporter who is receiving treatment for a brain tumor, said, "Every day is a good day."

The Blochs created the park at 47th Street and Roanoke Parkway to offer support for cancer patients and to promote awareness of the disease. Because of the family's efforts, the first Sunday in June is now celebrated throughout the country as National Cancer Survivors Day.

The park's walkway was lined with booths manned by people from cancer support groups, hospitals and research institutions. Participants reunited with friends and introduced themselves to new ones.

Several participants said they are convinced that this sort of emotional support can give their health a boost. Others hoped awareness of early detection and treatment would help prevent future cancer cases.

"If only one life can be saved by coming to this park and coming to this rally, then all of this is worthwhile," Annette Bloch said.

Guest speaker Buck O'Neil, a former player and manager with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues, reminded the crowd that not everyone survives the disease. O'Neil lost his wife, Ora, to cancer in 1997.

O'Neil's words, however, were in line with the rally's hopeful tone. He said his wife's struggle brought the two closer. Other speakers also shared promising news. The Blochs recently finished their 15th survivors park, in Jacksonville, Fla. And participants also hailed last week's announcement that Health Midwest and St. Luke's-Shawnee Mission Health System would open a comprehensive cancer center.

O'Neil said survivors should view the future with hope, not fear.

"You've just begun," he said. "God gave you another chance. That's what he did. Use it. Use it."

IN HONOR OF SAINT CLAIR  
SHORES VETERAN THOMAS  
KUZENKO

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 28th, I stood on the shores of the beautiful Lake St. Clair for the rededication of a park to honor our nations veterans. I want to take a moment to honor one veteran in particular. I

want to recognize the man who was instrumental in our being there that day. Had it not been for the vision, diligence, and devotion of Thomas Kuzenko the dedication of Veterans' Memorial Park may never have come to fruition.

Fifty-seven years ago, young Tom was called upon to serve his country in World War Two. He left his pregnant wife Virginia with a kiss, boarded a bus and was shipped off to sea with the United States Navy. He would later return home to his family and settle in St. Clair Shores, a pleasant residential community in the southeast corner of my district. This service in the military was just the beginning of a life of service for Tom Kuzenko.

If Tom had not recently passed, he would have been standing guard at the Veterans' Memorial in the park that day alongside his good friend Tom Fitzpatrick as the two had for many years. Described by friends as a quiet hero, Tom Kuzenko fought alongside the founders of the labor movement here in Michigan, helping to create a higher standard of living for workers as an organizer for the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. With that struggle behind him, he turned his attention to serving his fellow war veterans through the VFW Bruce Post. Tom was active in the post's community services and often traveled across the river to Canada to work with his dear friends in the Canadian Legion.

Each year he would gather with other volunteers from the VFW to keep what was then Memorial Park in good shape. If a bench needed painting, he would go to the city for the paint and take care of it himself. That was the kind of man he was. He later took on the cause of renaming what was known as Memorial Park to Veteran's Memorial Park. Tom was the driving force behind this project, and everyone in the city knew that.

Today visitors will know of Tom's legacy each time they see the beautiful symbol of life planted in his honor. While Tom may no longer be with us, his wife Virginia, his children Larry and Joyce, and his five grandchildren Ryan, Tyler, Bobby, Jennifer and Heather will all be able to sit under the tree dedicated to him, in a park he so proudly wished to have named in honor of his fellow veterans. My thanks go out to the members of the VFW Bruce Post for keeping Tom Kuzenko's dream alive, and to the City of St. Clair Shores, for finally bringing that dream to reality in a beautiful park on the water.

TRIBUTE TO MOLLY HOULE

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Molly Houle for her courage to fight juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. Molly is a 6-year-old girl from Bluford, IL who was diagnosed with the disability last June.

The disability has caused Molly many problems from getting out of bed to a lack of concentration at school. Despite the pain, she is drawing attention to her disability by being featured in WSIL's 15th annual Arthritis Foundation Telethon.

I wish Molly the best as she draws attention to the problems of juvenile rheumatoid arthri-

tis. Living with this disability is not easy, but I know her example will be an encouragement to all.

HONORING BALL STATE PRESIDENT JOHN E. WORTHEN—A GREAT EDUCATOR

**HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a leader in education in Indiana and the nation. In the heart of my district in East Central Indiana lies Ball State University, one of the premier institutions of higher education in the Midwest. For the last sixteen years Ball State has been under the capable guidance of University President John E. Worthen. Sadly, he is leaving the university this year.

Mr. Speaker, greatness is setting bold goals and then having the determination to accomplish them. John Worthen brought vision and greatness when he came to the university in 1984 and has spent the last sixteen years putting his vision into practice. Ball State, Indiana, and the nation are the better for his efforts. At the start of his administration, President Worthen focused on broad goals. He aimed for excellence in all things. The university has reached beyond its grasp to accomplish his vision. His plan was anchored in the premise that learning should be a lifelong pursuit. Under his leadership, Ball State's central mission has been to arm students with the skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to continue learning even after they leave the university.

John Worthen always looked to the future of education, not its past. He viewed technology as a fundamental component of that mission, and he directed Ball State's resources toward acquiring that technology. Ball State established courses and workshops to train faculty and staff to use the new technologies and started the Center for Teaching Technology to help faculty use this new tool to enhance their instruction. During the past ten years, Ball State has spent eighty million dollars on renovations that have added computer labs, put Internet access in every residence hall room, and wired every classroom to an interactive fiber-optic multimedia network. The university now has a student-to-computer ratio of thirteen-to-one, one of the lowest in the country. This year Yahoo! Internet Life magazine ranked Ball State among the top twenty in its annual survey of "most wired" universities. These technological capabilities have made Ball State a national leader in distance education. The Indiana Higher Education Telecommunication System has enabled Indiana students to take advanced placement courses—courses they would otherwise not have access to—that are broadcast from Ball State's "Indiana Academy," a school for gifted and talented students. Ball State offers an M.B.A. by distance education and offers nurses the opportunity to complete degree programs online.

President Worthen's education and training gave him a solid background for the challenge of running a university. A Midwesterner, he earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology at Northwestern University in 1954 and received his master's degree in student