

Scout Venture Crew 80, sponsored by the First Christian Church of Alexandria and made up of youth members and adult leaders, came together to assist in administering first aid and to operate Amateur Radio for those in the afflicted areas.

Having been highly trained by their leaders in emergency communications and first aid, Venture Crew 80 exemplified the Boy Scout Motto, "Be Prepared." With the knowledge that Hurricane Isabel was quickly heading toward Northern Virginia, these young people and their adult leaders responded to the call of the Alexandria Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Fairfax Amateur Radio Emergency Service to assist them with their storm operations.

On Wednesday September 17, with most of the Northern Virginia area making preparations for the oncoming wind and rain, Venture Crew 80 were being briefed on how they could assist the city of Alexandria with radio communications support, and by 8 a.m. on Thursday they were on the call assisting the EOC and Red Cross shelters across the area.

Throughout Thursday, these dedicated individuals helped set up radios and other equipment needed to run a successful emergency operations center, assisted in assembling food, water, cots and blankets for shelters should they be needed during and after the storm, and helped gather emergency medical response gear for distribution. After completing the setup, they helped to handle the large amount of radio traffic between the EOC, Red Cross and the emergency shelters and monitored the amateur radio traffic. They remained at their posts, helping their fellow citizens make it through Hurricane Isabel, until 6:30 Friday morning.

Venture Crew 80 continued their support throughout the weekend at the EOC, various emergency shelters, the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center and their communities. Their first aid training was especially appreciated when neighbors came seeking aid and the nursing staff was unable to help.

On behalf of the residents of the City of Alexandria and Fairfax County, I would like to thank all the boys and girls, men and women who took their time and energy to help our community during Hurricane Isabel. It is obvious that the emergency efforts throughout the storm would not have been possible without the hard work of Venture Crew 80.

CONGRATULATING THE PHILIPS FAMILY FOR 268 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Philips family of Stroudsburg for a combined 268 years of service to the Phoenix Fire Company No. 2 of the Stroudsburg Fire Company in Monroe County PA. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute this amazing legacy of service and dedication as this family is honored by the Borough of Stroudsburg Council at its meeting on Wednesday, October 15.

Mr. Speaker, I have the great fortune of representing a family that has over the years

dedicated their lives in volunteer service to Stroudsburg and the surrounding communities as members of the Phoenix Fire Company. Herman F. Philips, Lloyd F. Marsh, and Thomas Philips served all their lives and were members until they passed away. Robert W. Philips, Sr., Robert W. Philips, Jr., Richard Philips, and Millard "Skip" Philips all currently serve in the department. The Philips family firefighters have also risen to leadership positions within the department. Skip and Thomas were both assistant chiefs and chiefs, and Robert, Sr. was chief twice.

Their service to both the community and the fire department is remarkable. Equally amazing is the number of volunteer firefighters from one family. However, their longevity in the department is also noteworthy. Robert, Jr., is currently the least experienced volunteer firefighter of the Philips family with only 32 years of service. Robert, Sr., and Richard both have over 50 years while Skip is approaching 50 years.

Firefighters play a critical role in protecting our communities throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. Volunteer firefighters not only faithfully conduct their duties in the fire department, they also are community leaders and volunteer for other activities. The Philips family is no exception. They are pillars of the Stroudsburg community and deserve recognition for their remarkable service over several decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent this family that has played such an impressive vital role in their community and in voluntarily serving others.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONALD OLSZOWY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and work of an exceptional individual who I am proud to call my friend. Ronald Olszowy was honored by the Central of Polish Organizations on Sunday, September 28th, as the 2003 Marshal for the Passaic, Clifton and Vicinity Contingent of the 66th Annual General Kazimierz Pulaski Day Parade, which will be held on October 5th in New York City.

Over the past thirty years, Ron Olszowy has worked tirelessly on behalf of the men, women, and children of Passaic, Bergen, and Essex Counties. His selfless and unquestioning commitment to various civic, fraternal, and charitable organizations has left an indelible mark on the lives of many, demonstrating the positive difference that one person can make. It is only fitting that we honor Ronald Olszowy in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

The son of the late New Jersey Assemblyman Emil Olszowy, Ron grew up in a family committed to public service. Graduating from Lodi High School and Polk Junior College in Winter Haven, Florida, Ron entered the United States Army as a Military Policeman. During his 1968–1971 stint in the military, Ron held a top-secret security clearance within the Defense Atomic Support Agency. In September of 1968, he was decorated for heroism and credited with saving the life of another soldier.

Upon leaving the military, Ron received his bachelor's degree at William Paterson University, and soon became involved in local and state politics as the campaign manager for his father as well as for former Assemblyman Joseph Scancarella and former Assemblyman Gerry Zecker. In 1982, Ron applied the experience that he had gained in the Assembly elections to his role as a County Coordinator for Governor Kean's election. The election was successful and, in 1985, Ron Olszowy was appointed by Governor Kean as one of four public members of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

As the President and owner of Nationwide Bail Bonds and Interstate Insurance Agency in Clifton, Mr. Olszowy has demonstrated the same boundless enthusiasm, initiative, and personal drive that had made him so successful in the political arena. His distinguished work in the field of Bail Bonds led to his serving terms as both the President of the Professional Bail Agents of New Jersey and the President of the Professional Bail Agents of the United States. In both of these capacities, Ron has established himself as one of the foremost professionals in his field.

Yet Ron's commitment to enriching the lives of others extends far beyond the professional sphere. As the former director of the Board of the Passaic Boys and Girls Club, former director of the Passaic Lions Club, and Chairman of the Board of the American Cancer Society, Ronald Olszowy has devoted his time, talents, and energy to providing much-needed services to the residents of northern New Jersey. He has provided a valuable role model for the young men and women of the area, proving that the only real success in life comes from a true commitment to the community at large.

Mr. Olszowy's fine spirit of community service and volunteerism has been recognized across the State of New Jersey. He is a member of the Passaic, Bergen, and Essex County Police Chiefs Association and has been honored by Policeman's Benevolence Associations throughout Passaic, Essex, and Bergen Counties for his dedication to law enforcement. What is more, Ron Olszowy has three times been named Man of the Year for his acts of generosity—in 1991 by the American Cancer Society, in 1994 by the Italian-American Police Society of New Jersey and, in 1995 by the Passaic County Police Chiefs Association.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the extraordinary efforts of public servants like Ron Olszowy. I ask that you join our colleagues, the members of the Central of Polish Organizations, and myself in recognizing Ronald Olszowy for his outstanding service to the men and women of Northern New Jersey.

SEWICKLEY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to one of America's premier communities on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. I am proud to serve as Sewickley's Representative in the