

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

personnel administration from Columbia University in 1955. He served four years in the Navy as a carrier pilot and education and legal officer. He attained the rank of lieutenant. He earned an Ed. D. at Harvard University in 1964 in counseling psychology and administration in higher education. John Worthen began his career in education as the dean of men at American University in Washington, D. C., then moved to the University of Delaware where he taught education courses and accepted various administrative responsibilities. In 1979, he became president of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Ball State University invited him to become its eleventh president in 1984.

Although technology has been a major focus, John Worthen's presidency has been an attack on many fronts. His was not an administration of timid initiatives. The university reorganized the school year from academic quarters to semesters; a move that allowed students to involve themselves more deeply in a subject and that saved the university thousands of dollars in administrative costs each year. Departments were realigned to reflect common disciplines. For example, Journalism, Telecommunications, Speech Communication, and Communication and Information Studies combined to form a new college, the College of Communication, Information, and Media. By 1997, it was the fourth largest college of its kind in the country.

John Worthen has applied the university's resources to statewide issues. Under his leadership, Ball State has moved to make education "at home in Indiana" more attractive to top ability students who might otherwise leave the state and build their careers and lives elsewhere. New scholarships aimed at those students have increased the university's enrollment of National Merit Scholars and increased Honors College enrollments. For the past three years he and I have worked together to create a job fair on Ball State's campus to offset recent factory closings in the area. This year's event attracted seven hundred job seekers. Three hundred received job offers as a direct result of the event. Ball State really stepped up to the plate and made a determined effort to see the Muncie community thrive.

In 1987, Ball State launched Wings for the Future, its first capital campaign. The goal was to raise forty million dollars. The campaign collected \$44 million and created three endowed chairs and fourteen professorships. The university is now in the middle of another campaign that appears headed for the same success with a goal of ninety million dollars. One-third will go for faculty research, one-third for scholarships, and one-third for facilities. During John Worthen's presidency, Ball State's endowment went from twelve million dollars to eighty-five million dollars.

Ball State researchers were there when the space shuttle Columbia landed in June 1996, conducting research on the effects of gravity in space on the astronaut's muscles. Other noteworthy research efforts have targeted nutrition among the elderly in Indiana, the decline in frog populations worldwide, tick-borne disease, and cancer prevention. While research has an important role in education, John Worthen has always ensured that Ball State's best teachers are still in the classroom. Ball State professors have won state and national recognition in teaching, including the

1997 Indiana Professor of the Year, national teaching awards, and honors for research, architecture, music, theater performance, history, and public relations, to name just a few.

Many academic programs at Ball State have received national recognition. The music engineering technology program has been ranked first in the nation, the entrepreneurship program ranks fourth. Ball State has taken the lead in environmental awareness. The university has established an international conference on environmental education and practices. The conference draws hundreds of architects from around the world. The Center for Information and Communication Sciences, created in 1985, teaches students to design and set up networking systems, an area in desperate need of trained workers.

Ball State athletics have achieved recognition on the field and in the classroom. Men's basketball made the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in 1990, the men's volleyball team has been in the NCAA finals fourteen times, and women's field hockey went undefeated in conference play for five consecutive years. But the most impressive figure is Ball State's athlete graduation rate, at 77 percent, the seventh best rate in the country.

President Worthen has solidified and expanded Ball State's international ties with study centers abroad and teaching exchanges with various international universities. The Chronicle of Higher Education ranks Ball State among the top doctoral granting institutions for students studying abroad.

Since 1984, the university has built five new facilities, including a state-of-the-art telecommunications building, a new home for the Human Performance Laboratory, an arena, and a new alumni center. All of these improvements and additions have been accomplished with the intent of making Ball State accessible for people with disabilities.

In closing, I cannot forget to mention Sue. The most complete and best preserved Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton ever found was named after its discoverer, Sue Hendrickson. This spring, using people, technology and programs that were the direct outcome of John Worthen's policies, Ball State dazzled the nation by bringing Sue's debut at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History to an estimated five million school children nationwide. Ball State uses its technology to connect people and ideas in meaningful ways. That is what technology is meant to do, and Ball State certainly has got it right. They were able to get it right because of John Worthen's vision and follow-through. He leaves behind a university well prepared to face the challenges and pursue the possibilities of the twenty-first century.

Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to work along side John Worthen. I will miss the benefit of his counsel and wisdom. I wish he and his wife Sandra much happiness as they move on to new challenges.

FRIENDS OF THE SMYRNA
LIBRARY

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today, as a resident of Smyrna,

Georgia, to recognize an exceptional organization that has just recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. On April 10, 1990, eight concerned citizens of Cobb County met and formed The Friends of the Smyrna Library. During its first four years, the group grew very slowly until 1994, when the president—Mrs. Lillie Wood—was elected, and she immediately began a search for new members. Under her leadership, the Friends of the Smyrna Library has grown to over 400 members, and is now one of the largest library support groups in Georgia.

The Friends of the Library are very active. They coordinate art exhibits for library galleries; schedule exhibits of collectibles and sculpture for display; host an annual dinner theater; conduct two book sales yearly; hold quarterly speaker programs; recruit library volunteers; and sponsor a monthly book discussion program.

In addition to everything else it does, the Friends publishes a quarterly news letter, The Library Link, which features library news, book reviews, a guide to suggested reading, and articles by library friends and staff. Under the editorship of Clare Isanhour, The Library Link has been recognized as one of the most attractive and professionally produced library publications in Georgia.

The Friends have donated over \$40,000 to the library for the purchase of new materials, and the members have donated thousands of hours of time to the library as volunteers. This enables the library to provide a much higher level of service to the public than would otherwise have been possible.

I join my fellow citizens of Smyrna, Georgia, in saluting the public service provided by The Friends of the Smyrna Library and its outstanding president.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TEMPLE SHOMER EMUNIM

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize the 125th anniversary of the Temple Shomer Emunim in Sylvania Ohio. The congregation commemorated this most auspicious occasion in special services and celebration on June 2 and 3, 2000.

In 1870, there were about 30 Jewish families in Toledo, Ohio, most of whom were Orthodox. A small number of these families sought a more liberal practice of their faith and organized a Reform congregation. Those early services were held in homes and conducted by visiting rabbis. The band of families practicing in the Reform movement formally established a Temple in 1875 and the congregation was dedicated as Shomer Emunim-Guardian of the Faithful. This name was suggested by Rabbi Isaac Wise, founder of America's Reform Judaism and is taken from Isaiah 26:2, "Open ye gates that there shall be a righteous nation-guardian of the faithful . . ."

In those first years, the congregation worshipped in a small church rented from a Christian congregation. In 1879, it was decided the grand sum of \$12,500.00 would be raised in order to build their own sanctuary. With Toledo's Jewish population at the time settled in a