

Mr. Speaker, Kirby Puckett is to Minnesota baseball what Hubert Humphrey is to Minnesota politics.

We have lost a real warrior, a very special person who brought so much energy, enthusiasm and dedication to the field.

Kirby was one of a kind. There will never be another like him. Kirby, your huge smile, big heart and great play will live forever in our hearts.

We will never forget you and we will always be thankful God put you in our midst.

And let us always remember that wonderful, trademark Kirby Puckett smile that lit up a room, inspired us and gave us hope.

Rest in peace, Kirby, in the loving arms of our Lord. And may your kind and gentle spirit live forever in the hearts of all of us.

TRIBUTE TO MILLVALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Millvale Volunteer Fire Department on its 100th year of service in the community.

This spring, the Millvale Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate its 100th anniversary. The Millvale Volunteer Fire Department was one of many victims in September, 2004, as the remnants of Hurricane Ivan flooded part of my district. Since then the fire department has worked hard to get back on its feet. Currently, the fire department has approximately 30 active members, and responds to about 250 calls per year.

The fire department will celebrate its 100 years on Saturday, May 13, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. at the Mount Troy Ballroom in Reserve Township.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Millvale Volunteer Fire Department. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such an important organization like the Millvale Volunteer Fire Department.

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY CRIM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Bobby Crim, an outstanding legislator and humanitarian. Bobby is a dear friend and will be honored by the University of Michigan-Flint Alumni Society with the Distinguished Alumni Award at a ceremony on March 23 in my hometown of Flint, MI.

The Alumni Society presents the Distinguished Alumni Award to graduates of the University of Michigan-Flint earning noteworthy regional or international recognition for his or her accomplishments.

Bobby Crim started his post secondary education at Flint Junior College. After receiving the first CS Mott scholarship he completed his

undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan-Flint in 1960 graduating with a bachelor of arts degree. He went on to receive a master of arts degree in 1986 from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. In the interim he started on an illustrious career in teaching, business, and public service.

Elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, Bobby served 8 years as the speaker of the House. In 1977 he organized the Crim Road Race for Michigan Special Olympics. He had three goals: to run a first class road race in Flint; to raise money for mentally handicapped athletes; and to foster community pride among the residents of the Flint area. The Crim Festival of Races has accomplished all three goals. Over the intervening years the festival has gained an international reputation as one of the top world-class races, has raised millions of dollars for six charities and is an annual event celebrated the fourth weekend in August throughout Flint.

Everyone in the community knows the painted blue stripe at the side of several roads in Flint marks the route for the Crim Race.

Mr. Speaker, the Crim Festival of Races stands as a lasting, tribute to the dedication of Bobby Crim. The skills he gained through his education at the University of Michigan-Flint enabled him to envision Flint as a better place and to turn that vision into reality benefiting thousands. I ask the House of Representatives to join with the Alumni Society in congratulating Bobby Crim as he receives the Distinguished Alumni Award.

CONGRATULATING WARREN POLLARD, RECIPIENT OF THE JOSEPH SAPORITO LIFETIME OF SERVICE AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Warren Pollard, of West Pittston, PA, the recipient of the Pittston Sunday Dispatch newspaper's Joseph Saporito Lifetime of Service Award for 2005.

Mr. Pollard has spent decades cooking food for good causes including the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels for area shut-ins. He often helps deliver the meals as well.

Mr. Pollard grew up in Avoca, PA. He attended Wharton School of Finance in Philadelphia and Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre. He served 2 years with the U.S. Army including a tour of duty in Korea. He returned home to become a bank examiner.

Mr. Pollard first started volunteering as a community cook more than 30 years ago when he started cooking spaghetti dinners for the Boy Scouts from the kitchen at the First United Methodist Church in West Pittston. He has done dinner fund raisers for the local fire company and an annual pork dinner for the church.

His church fund raisers also extend to selling pastry pockets stuffed with meat and vegetables and fruit pies.

Twice a year he cooks for the area's homeless when they stay at his church. And he also does a Thanksgiving dinner which is open to anyone in the community needing food.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Pollard. His selflessness and devotion to service and community are truly commendable. It is fitting that he should receive this honor from his home town because Mr. Pollard's work has improved the quality of life in the greater Pittston area.

TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUT TROUP 283

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the proud history and wonderful accomplishments of Boy Scout Troop 283 of Wayzata, MN.

This Sunday, March 19, Troop 283 will be celebrating its 90th anniversary at Wayzata Community Church. Troop 283 is Minnesota's oldest Boy Scout troop.

Troop 283 has a rich tradition of public service to help people in need and has represented the highest standards in Scouting for nine decades. The Scouts and their many volunteer leaders have displayed an inspiring dedication through these past 90 years.

Mr. Speaker, these young people are tomorrow's leaders and they are getting the skills, knowledge, moral guidance and inspiration they need through Scouting.

The young people of today, who now more than ever need strong adult guidance and parental involvement in learning valuable life skills that will help them mature, have been extremely well-served by the generous and dedicated volunteers and parents who have led Troop 283 through the past 90 years.

Mr. Speaker, Troop 283 has focused on giving our young people positive role models, emphasizing the importance of community service to help people in need, protecting the environment and promoting good citizenship.

Everyone who has been involved with Boy Scout Troop 283 through the years is to be congratulated on their 90-year investment in the future of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking all the young people and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 283 over the past 90 years for all they have done to produce good citizens who keep America strong.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR BILL SHOVLIN

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Mayor Bill Shovlin, a man who committed his life to serving others and his country.

For more than 46 years, Mayor Shovlin was a distinguished public servant who was dedicated to education, community service, and the betterment of our Commonwealth. When his country called on him, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Bill's long career in local politics included serving in the Beaver County tax assessor's office, as auditor in Midland Borough, as a Midland council

member of 28 years, and then mayor for 16 years. He also served as treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association.

He was an equally dedicated husband, father, and grandfather, who passed along his spirit of public service to his family and community. I extend my sincerest condolences to the Shovlin family. The Midland Borough and the Beaver Valley have lost a great man.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mayor Shovlin. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such dedicated citizens like Mayor Bill Shovlin.

TRIBUTE TO GREGORY GAINES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, the University of Michigan-Flint Alumni Society is bestowing their Community Service Award on Gregory Gaines of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addictions. The award will be presented to him at the 2006 Annual Alumni Leadership Awards ceremony on March 23. Greg was chosen to receive this award because of the selfless amount of time and energy he has devoted to running the Mr. Rogers "Say No" Program in the Flint community.

After earning a bachelor of applied science degree in 1989, Greg has worked with at-risk young men in our community to instill them with discipline, hardwork, and pride. Through his program over 1,800 boys have benefited from his training. His innovative approach, to have the boys grow the produce they sell at the Farmers' Market, teaches them the value of hard work, responsibility, working together, patience, problem solving and self-control. Greg works with boys that come from inner city, single parent homes and are prime targets for the lure of alcohol and drugs. With his guidance these boys are able to see the benefits of education and hard work. They develop the skills and patience to work toward long-range goals instead of succumbing to the immediate gratification of substance abuse.

The Mr. Rogers Program has proved to be so successful that for the first time girls will be brought into the program starting in the summer of 2006. Last year Greg won the Genesee County Children's Champion Awards Caring Adult prize and the Mr. Rogers Program was a finalist for the Outstanding Business/Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, day in and day out, Greg Gaines makes the Flint community a better place. His hands on approach to helping our children requires enthusiasm, tolerance, and persistence. Greg has proven he is equal to the task and his devotion to our greatest resource, our children, is to be commended. I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me today and applaud the accomplishments of Gregory Gaines as he receives the Community Service Award from his alma mater, the University of Michigan-Flint.

IN HONOR OF SPECIAL AGENT DAVID E. NOVAK, HAZARDOUS DEVICES SECTION, UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to one of our Capitol Police Officers, Detective David E. Novak, who will retire after more than 20 years of service. During his career, Dave's dedication, professionalism, and expertise have served the Congress well, and his important contributions will be missed.

Special Agent Novak grew up in Nebraska, but in 1983 came to Washington, DC, and became a member of the United States Capitol Police. First assigned to the Capitol Division, he soon earned the rank of Detective and accepted a position with the Hazardous Devices Section, graduating from the FBI Bomb Data Center Hazardous Devices School in Huntsville, Alabama, on November 21, 1986.

The Bomb Squad has excelled for more than 30 years at developing and adapting new tools and techniques for rendering safe procedures. Dave played an integral part in this success. The Capitol Police Bomb Squad is rated by the FBI Bomb Data Center and staff of the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone Arsenal as one of the top bomb squads in the Nation. The unit has achieved recognition throughout the bomb technician community through their assistance to other agencies and service in offices and positions in professional associations and organizations.

Admired by his colleagues for his cool, steady demeanor and exceptional skills with tools and equipment, Dave served as one of the leaders of the Bomb Squad as its members coped with the emergencies of 9/11 and the Anthrax letter attack. Mr. Speaker, the magnificent performance of the Bomb Squad in response to the opening of the anthrax letter on October 15, 2001, cannot be overstated. The continued dedication and commitment of the Hazardous Devices Section after that incident was impeccable. Dave helped sustain the morale and commitment of the bomb technicians after the contamination caused the closure of their offices, along with much of their equipment and vehicles. They coped with this loss even as they faced an exorbitant increase in response calls, and worked 12-hour shifts six days a week for nearly seven months.

The Bomb Squad is a small but very important component of this police force we all take great pride in. As Dave prepared for his retirement, he went out of his way to serve as a mentor, and a colleague, to those who would follow in his place. While we wish him well in his retirement, his wit, practical jokes, technical expertise and the significant role he played will be greatly missed. I thank him for his many years of service, and for his dedication in implementing the mission of the United States Capitol Police, protecting the United States Congress.

HONORING MARY ROGERS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of San Francisco's most admired, beloved and fearless social activists, Mary Helen Rogers, who died March 3, 2006 at her home after a long battle with cancer. She lived an impassioned life fighting for affordable housing and social justice and to restore the vibrancy of San Francisco's Fillmore District. Her activism and courage often made the difference between the survival and the decimation of a community.

During the month of March, Women's History Month, as we honor the accomplishments of our great national heroines, we also recognize women working to strengthen their local communities. This past year we grieved the loss of several remarkable women who struggled for equality and progress, Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King and Betty Friedan. I call them the magnificent disrupters. Here in San Francisco we were proud to have our very own magnificent disrupter—Mary Helen Rogers.

During her 40-year fight to protect African American families from being displaced by urban renewal, Ms. Rogers worked tirelessly to tear down the barriers that have prevented fair and equitable treatment of African American families, school-aged children, welfare recipients, minority businesses, and community churches.

When the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency was razing entire blocks of the Western Addition neighborhood, a cultural and business hub of the African American community, she literally lay down on the street in front of the bulldozers. She then co-founded the Western Addition Community Organization which forced the city to help the residents it had displaced.

Ms. Rogers founded the Western Addition Citizens Advisory Committee that continues to provide broad-based community input to publicly funded development initiatives. Her civic activities included serving as secretary/treasurer of the National Tenants Association, founding board member of Westside Mental Health Clinic, board member of Agape Outreach Center, chair of the San Francisco Juneteenth Committee, and parent volunteer at the Raphael Weill Elementary School, later known as Rosa Parks Elementary School.

In addition to her numerous volunteer positions, Ms. Rogers served as a dedicated public servant through her tenure at the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and the San Francisco Housing Authority. She has received numerous awards from a host of national and local elected officials.

With great sadness I extend my sympathy to Mary's 9 surviving children: William Cary, Angela McPeters, Dennis Rogers, Patricia Rogers, Michael Rogers, Mark Rogers, Mario Rogers Sr., Eric Rogers Sr. and Paul Rogers. I want to thank them for sharing their magnificent mother with us; she brightened our lives with her strength, her courage and her grace.