

for valor in action against an enemy force bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services.

My father, the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal, himself a World War II veteran, was extremely grateful to Private Obregon and the many other men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. My father was among the founding members of Post 804, and it was always important to him that Memorial Day be observed with a heartfelt and patriotic tribute to the fallen. If my father were with us today, he would be the first to commend Post 804 for its 60-year tradition of organizing these poignant Memorial Day services.

This year, the American Legion Post 804 will be holding an inspirational 24-hour Memorial Day Patriotic Vigil. It will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 27 and conclude on Monday, Memorial Day, May 28 at 10 a.m. The conclusion of the vigil will mark the beginning of the Post's Memorial Day service at Cinco Puntos in East Los Angeles, and the entire community has been invited to participate.

Many of the Post's 150 members who will participate in the service know firsthand the toll that war takes on our brave men and women who serve. The Post's membership includes veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf.

In addition to the Post's Memorial Day service, Post 804 supports and sponsors a number of important community events throughout the year, including Veterans Day services at Atlantic Park in East Los Angeles, a toy drive for the Children of Brooklyn Avenue School, school presentations on the American Flag and Patriotism, and voter registration and blood drives.

The Post is also home to Sons of the American Legion Post 804 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4696, including its Ladies Auxiliary. The Los Angeles Chapter of the Hispanic Airborne Association, the San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association, and the Rice Patties Jumpers Chapter of 187th Regiment also call the Post home.

Madam Speaker, I salute Post 804 for its patriotic and meaningful work in the community and for steadfastly holding true to its basic tenants to safeguard "the principles of justice, freedom and democracy" and "to promote peace and goodwill on earth . . ." Through its efforts in organizing Memorial Day services and its other important community undertakings, the Post serves as a living memorial to our men and women in uniform who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the Eugene A. Obregon American Legion Post 804 on the occasion of its 60th Annual Memorial Day Service at Cinco Puntos in East Los Angeles, and in commending the Post for its dedication to preserving the memories of our brave soldiers to ensure that we "never forget."

CONGRATULATING ZACHARY
BARTER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents,

Mr. Zachary Barter of Brown University. Mr. Barter is a teaching student and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Barter and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 397 through 402. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall Nos. 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, and 402.

TRIBUTE TO OUTSTANDING
VALPARAISO, INDIANA NOON
KIWANIS CLUB VOLUNTEERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend nine exceptional individuals from Northwest Indiana who have been recognized as outstanding volunteers by the Valparaiso, Indiana Noon Kiwanis Club. These individuals are: Judy Back, Elizabeth "Bette" Brown, Bob Buhle, Chelsey Dunleavy, Michele Hale, Sandy Jenkins, Beverly Overmyer, Pat Puffer, and Rob Thorgren. These honorees will be recognized at the Sixth Annual Valparaiso Kiwanis Club Foundation Volunteer Recognition Program, which will be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2007, at the Strongbow Inn in Valparaiso. This annual event recognizes the efforts of outstanding community volunteers and celebrates the spirit of volunteerism in Valparaiso.

Judy Back, of the Salvation Army, has been a constant role model and a true inspiration to her community through her many volunteer efforts. Having served on and chaired many boards throughout the years, Judy has been extremely active in her efforts with the Porter County Angel Tree Program, a program that provides children with gifts and families with food for the holidays. Judy has also been active in many other facets of the Salvation Army, as well as the Purdue North Central Women's Association, of which she was the founding president.

Bette Brown, a retired teacher with the Valparaiso Community Schools, has enriched the lives of countless students over the years. Since her retirement, she has continued to volunteer at Valparaiso High School, serving as front desk person. In this capacity, Bette is

in charge of greeting visitors and guiding them on their visits. In addition, she plays an important role in the safety of the students by making sure that all visitors are authorized and accounted for. Furthermore, Bette has been active in the Valparaiso Organization for Learning and Teaching Seniors (VOLTS) program, as well as the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps, a program aimed at introducing children to classical music.

Bob Buhle has served in many capacities for the Hilltop Neighborhood House for several years, including Board President and Vice President. In addition, he has been instrumental in the construction of the Hilltop Community Health Center, as well as a dedicated member of the organization's Board Development Committee and Finance and Audit Committee. Not only has Bob dedicated himself to Hilltop, he has also donated much of his time and efforts to Habitat for Humanity.

Chelsey Dunleavy, a peer tutor in the Life Skills Program at Valparaiso High School, has served as President of the HOPE Club for the past two years. As a volunteer in the Life Skills Program, Chelsey devotes her spare time to helping students with special needs. As President of the HOPE Club, she plans and supervises activities and events and does so in a manner that allows everyone to participate. Chelsey is also very active in her church, where she teaches Sunday school, as well as in various other programs at Valparaiso High School. In performing any tasks, Chelsey is known for her ability to excel far beyond any expectations, and more impressively, to do so without expecting anything in return.

An avid runner, Michele Hale, has been a volunteer with Opportunity Enterprises for the past seven years. Pairing her love for long-distance running with her commitment to serve her community, Michele leads the Opportunity Enterprises' Lake County Marathon Training Team and also serves as the organizer for an annual charity bike run. Michele also serves as President of the Calumet Region Striders and contributes much of her efforts to the Cancer Foundation, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and Saint Jude's Children's Hospital.

Sandy Jenkins, a volunteer for the Porter Auxiliary, has contributed countless hours to the organization and the people it serves. While her primary duty is to provide information for visitors at the front desk, Sandy has always welcomed additional responsibilities with the Auxiliary and has served in a secretarial capacity and in public relations as well. For her efforts and her unwavering dedication to the Porter Auxiliary, Sandy has even been featured in the Stay Healthy magazine.

A volunteer with the Independent Cat Society, Beverly Overmyer has fully dedicated herself to the organization. Among other roles, Beverly has served on the Board of Directors, as Corresponding Secretary, writer for the Newsletter, room parent, co-chair of the public relations committee, and in many fundraising capacities. Though extremely committed to the Independent Cat Society, Beverly also finds time to volunteer for the Taltree Arboretum, where she serves as an instructor and prepares materials for field trips, and is very active in the Kankakee Valley Historical Society.

Pat Puffer is being honored for her many efforts in the community, most notably, her work with the Porter-Starke Services Foundation.

Pat has served the foundation in various capacities, such as board member and sponsorship and silent auction committee member for the Art of Healing Gala. Passionate about her service to the community, Pat has been involved not only with Porter-Starke, but with numerous other organizations and fundraising efforts, including: the Valparaiso Ethics Committee, Parkinson Style Show, American Heart Association, Valparaiso YMCA, Children's Museum of Valparaiso, United Way of Porter County, Crisis Center, Boys and Girls Club, American Cancer Society, and Special Kids Special Needs, to name a few.

Rob Thorgren has been a volunteer with the Valparaiso YMCA for the past five years. A leader within the organization and his community, Rob has served in many capacities with the YMCA. He has served on the Board of Directors, as a Strong Kids Campaigner, and as a special events volunteer. Additionally, he has served as a member of the Capital Campaign Development Committee and the Building Committee for the new Valparaiso Family YMCA.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending those outstanding individuals on their recognition as honored volunteers by the Valparaiso Kiwanis Club Foundation. Their years of service and dedication have played a major role in shaping the future of Northwest Indiana, and each of the honorees is truly an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH COHN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fine work of Deborah Cohn, Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Operations at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), for her leadership in promoting government telework. As a result of her ingenuity and perseverance with this program, Ms. Cohn spearheaded the development of the USPTO's telework program at a time when telework was unconventional, and her efforts have paid off as the program is among the most successful telework programs within the Federal workforce.

This year, the Trademark Work at Home (TWAH) program is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Established in March of 1997, TWAH began as a pilot program with 18 telework volunteers. Today, TWAH is the most successful and progressive program in the Federal Government, involving 85 percent of eligible trademark examining attorneys, who work 4 days per week at home.

The USPTO, located in my congressional district in Alexandria, VA, has received many distinguished awards for opening doors to its telework program. These include the most recent 2007 Work-Life Innovative Excellence Award from the Alliance for Work-Life Progress—the highest honor offered by the organization, which was created to showcase programs and policies that demonstrate excellence in promoting work-life effectiveness while achieving institutional goals. Other notable awards include those from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the

Telework Exchange, the MidAtlantic Telework Advisory Council, and the International Telework Association and Council.

The Trademark telework program is a successful model for other governmental agencies. Combining management by objective with hoteling results in proven space and related cost savings for the agency. The program also demonstrates that flexibility of schedules and location enables employees to maximize their working efficiency, which is reflected in production gains by its participants and the Office. The extremely low attrition rate experienced by the TWAH participants shows that agencies facing recruitment and retention problems would be well-served by offering telecommuting options, similar to those of the USPTO, to attract and retain qualified workers.

I have been a longtime advocate of commuter friendly policies such as telecommuting. Proven benefits include helping to offset the high price of gasoline, continuity of operations in the case of a future threat or disaster, improved air quality, reduction in traffic congestion, increased employee productivity and work quality, improved employee morale, and employee cost savings. As the Nation's largest employer, the Federal Government should be the leader in telework policy. The USPTO serves as the gold standard for the Federal Government thanks to the efforts of Deborah Cohn.

Ms. Deborah Cohn is a graduate of The American University and George Mason University School of Law. She began her career at the USPTO in 1983 as a trademark examining attorney, was promoted to senior attorney and then managing attorney, and then joined the Senior Executive Service as a Trademark Law Office Director in 2001. Ms. Cohn was named Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Operations in 2005 whereby she currently oversees the examination and processing of applications throughout the trademark operation and works with other USPTO business units in achieving agency goals.

Throughout her legal career at the USPTO, Ms. Cohn has been involved in work-life improvement initiatives. She is a former Council of Excellence in Government fellow where she first began developing the TWAH program. Ms. Cohn is a sought after resource, speaker, and expert on the development and management of telework programs.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating Ms. Cohn's efforts in making the USPTO's telework program the most successful program within the Federal Government. I also ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Trademark Work at Home program.

CONGRATULATING THE AMBASSADOR OF GREECE TO THE UNITED STATES, MR. ALEXANDROS MALLIAS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Ambassador of Greece to the United States, Mr. Alexandros Mallias, who was recently honored by the B'nai B'rith International Center for Jewish Culture for his commitment to advancing Jewish-Greek relations.

As part of its "Odyssey of the Jews of Greece" series of cultural events, B'nai B'rith International recognized the efforts of Ambassador Mallias in working with American Jewish organizations to promote a closer relationship between Greece and Israel. B'nai B'rith Executive Vice President Dan Mariaschin expressed the organization's gratitude to Ambassador Mallias and highlighted the long history of the Jewish people in Greece.

On a personal note, my own family was part of that history. My great grandparents and maternal grandmother emigrated from Greece to the United States, and many of those family members they left behind in the Jewish community of Thessaloniki perished at the hands of the Nazis during the Holocaust.

I would like to congratulate Ambassador Mallias, and insert his remarks into the RECORD.

(A) RELATIONS BETWEEN GREEKS AND JEWS THROUGH THE CENTURIES

Greeks and Jews are connected by history, geography, monotheistic religions, philosophy, trade, social sciences, arts.

The two peoples have been interacting since the beginning of recorded history. There is recorded presence of Jews in the Greek world, what Jews first named Gentiles, centuries before Christ. The presence of Jewish community in Thessaloniki, the capital of Macedonia, goes back to the 2nd century BC.

The most important sites of Christianity in the Holy Land are under the supervision of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate. It is a unique and the most ancient surviving institution on earth.

Over the years, Greece has forged strong ties with Israel. Bilateral relations are at a very good level. Political, economic and cultural relations have gained their own dynamic.

(B) HOLOCAUST

During the Second World War, Greek Jews shared the fate of their fellow Jews all over the continent in the hands of the Third Reich.

According to the Central Board of Jewish Communities in Greece: "When, during the German occupation, the hateful campaign against the Jews started, their Christian compatriots showed compassion and solidarity."

Archbishop of Greece Damaskinos declared: "We are all Jews." He filed to the German Authorities 2 petitions asking them to stop the persecution of the Jews. The petitions were undersigned by 29 leading cultural institutions and professional bodies of the country, including the Academy of Athens. Many ordinary Greeks in rural Greece and big cities risked their lives and the lives of their families by sheltering Greek Jews.

Fortunately, the decimated Greek Jewish community with the assistance of the state and energized by its unique spiritual inheritance survived the massacre of the Holocaust. Today the Greek Jews have reclaimed their rightful position among the most dynamic and progressive segments of the Greek society.

The message of the Holocaust: Never Again.

(C) INDICATIVE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE GREEK STATE.

First post World War II Greek Government was the first among European countries to pass legislation for the restitution of the property confiscated by the German occupation Forces. Unclaimed property did not revert to the state but was given to the Jewish Community.

Designation by Law 3218/2004 of the 27th of January as the day of Remembrance of the