

largest and most vibrant communities of Hellenic Americans anywhere in this country, I join with all of my Caucus colleagues and fellow residents of New York's 14th Congressional District in saluting the people of Greece. On October 29, 2004, the Hellenic community, together with many friends, convened in Astoria's Athens Square Park to recognize this outstanding accomplishment.

While it has been nearly three months since the Olympic flame was extinguished in Athens, the memory of how wonderful the 2004 Summer Games really were remains with us. The Athens Games attracted the largest American audience ever for an Olympic competition held outside the United States. The impact will be felt worldwide for generations to come. To me it was always clear that Greece would be an excellent host for the 2004 Olympic Games. Greek hospitality and warmth is renowned throughout the world. Thus, it is no surprise to report that the Greek people proved the naysayers wrong by hosting an impeccably organized and safe Olympic Games, an extraordinary world event in which the athletes took center stage.

For three weeks in August, the people of Greece welcomed the world to participate in a competition that allowed countries to set aside their political differences for a brief time and to come together in the spirit of peace and sportsmanship. Wanting to help make the 2004 Olympics a great event for visitors many volunteers, including those from New York City such as Andreas C George, Katherine George, Vlasia Anastasiou, Julia Anastasiou, Helen Skarla, Katerina Papaioannou, Joanna Savaides, Irene Aindili Kalliroe Argenas, Yeannis Kaltsas, Spiios Gianakopoulos, Elizabeth Bogiatzi, Marika Gianakopoulos, Argyris Ignatiades, Stephanos Pavlides, Ieanni Michaelides, Theodora Ziongas, George Costacos and Zacharoula Karyammi, gave generously of their time and energy. While they were there, the volunteers were able to see Greece's beautiful historic and natural treasures, ensuring that they would remember forever their experience in Greece.

On October 29th, the members of Hellenic cultural and civic organizations, Greek Orthodox churches, constituents and friends joined together to pay tribute to Greece for its extraordinary showing in the Olympics. The organizations represented included the Federation of Hellenic Societies and its members: Grinion Benevolent Society; Daughters of Roumeli Society of New York, Inc., Society of Diplatanos, Saint Marina, Inc., Nafpactian Brotherhood of New York, Galaxidi Brotherhood Eanthe, Thermopyles Phiotidos, the Laconian Brotherhood "Mani" Inc., Calavrytan Fraternity, Geros Tou Morea, Inc, Society Vryseon Anavretis, Pankerkyraikos Association, Kephalos, Society of America, Ithacan Society, "Odessus" Ithacan Society, "Odessus" Aesculapian Thessalian Brotherhood, Inc., Society of Epirotes, Pyrrhus Benevolent Society, Inc., Society of Epirotes Ladies Auxiliary, Souliotissaithealonikian Society of Kastorians, Pontion Society of Kastoria, Inc., Panthracian Union of America, "Orpheus" St. John Theologos Society, Pan-icarian Brotherhood, Mytilenian Society of America, Pan-Iemnian Philanthropic Association "Hephaestos" Inc., Gnomagoras Nisyrian Society Inc., Zoodohos Pighe of Andros Society, Cretans Association, "Omonoia" Cretan Women's Association, "Pasiphae" Syllagos

Kreton "Minos" Pancyprian Association, Inc., Greek Cultural Center Inc., Northern Chios Society of "Pelion", United Pireotes of America, Aetoloakarnanian Mutual Society, Mutual Aid Society, Aigioton Vostitsa Epidavrou Limiras Association, Inc., Pan-eliakos Society of New York, Kalamata Society, Ltd., Aristotelis Society of Halkidikipansamian Brotherhood "Pythagoras" of New York, "Labrys" Cretan Youth Organization of New York, Pontian Society "Kominioi", NY Greek American Folklore Society, Inc., Greek American Folklore Society, Inc., El Greco Society of Visual Arts, Inc., "St. Demetrios" Naupaktias Brotherhood of America, Greek American Homeowners Ass., Society Agiagalousion Amerikis, Greek-American Labor Council, Greek Society Elatousion of "St. Stefanos", Syllagos Noumou Magnisias "Argonaytes", Benevolent Association of Calamatahellenic Veterans Society of Greater New York, Inc., Panhellenic Organization "Martyrs of Kavo Melanios" Othoni Society of USA, Inc., Association of Logastra, Inc., Hellenic Organization of University Graduates of America, Philoptohos Adelfotis Arahoviton Nafpaktias Olympiakos Fan Club of NY, USA Greek and American Retirement Club, Pankritiki Enosis Athlismou, Inc., Pan-Grecoian A.E.K. Fan Soccer Club of USA, Inc., Greek-American Mothers Association of USA, Omilos Metanaston Karitsis Messinian Benevolent Association, Hellenic American Educators Association, Gnomogoras Nisyrian Society, Inc., Benevolent Society of Athanasios Diakos "Apostole", Association Magouliton of Spartasyllagos Patrinos Kostis Palamas and other prominent organizations, including PSEKA, Athens Square Park Inc., American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, St. Paul Soc., Pan Dodecanese Society of America, Krikos; Eastern Orthodox Lawyers, Pan Macedonian Cultural Center; the Modern Greek Studies Center; the Hellenic American Medical Society; Euro-American Women's Council and the Pan Erikoussa Society of America, as well as our friends in the Greek press: National Herald, Hellenic Harmonies, Hellas News, National Greek TV, Hellenic Times, Estiator & Greek American Review, Antena, Aktina, Eseis Magazine, Maria Papadatos Show; Orthodox Observer, Hellas FM, and Mike Zapitis Hour.

The millions of Americans who watched the Games achieved a better understanding of the Greek people, their warmth, generosity and graciousness. These Olympics helped solidify the reputation of Greece and the Hellenic people for abundant hospitality, or "filoxenia". Greece has earned our gratitude and sincerest congratulations. "Axie!"

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise to pay tribute to Greece for giving the world a spectacular 2004 Summer Olympics.

IN HONOR OF FOREST HILL
MANOR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Forest Hill Manor on its fiftieth anniversary of serving our community's seniors. This historic building was once the illustrious

Forest Hill Hotel, and is still known today for the fine service it offers its guests.

In 1954 the hotel was acquired by the California-Nevada Methodist Homes for the purpose of providing a retirement residence in picturesque Pacific Grove. Throughout the years the Manor has continued to undergo improvements, designed to maintain the high quality of life residents have come to expect from this institution.

Currently the Manor is beginning work on the latest expansion project, responding to the growing needs of the community. There will be an additional thirty-two independent living apartments, and six more assisted living apartments. The Manor is also adding a skilled nursing facility on the property, with twenty-six beds, so residents will not have to receive care offsite. These new developments will expand the Manor's ability to work for the elderly community in the Monterey Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Forest Hill Manor on the outstanding service it has provided our community for the last fifty years. The Manor is a model retirement home, offering a pleasant living experience for 693 residents since 1954. I extend my congratulations to Forest Hill Manor and wish it many more successful years.

IN HONOR OF SHERIFF MARK
TRACY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Tracy who is retiring after ten years as the Santa Cruz County Sheriff. Mr. Tracy's lifelong dedication to the Santa Cruz community consists of over 32 years as a police officer, as well as numerous volunteer and leadership positions within local organizations. Beginning his career as a Deputy Sheriff with Santa Cruz County, Mark rose through the ranks to become a Sergeant and a Lieutenant. He was elected Sheriff-Coroner of Santa Cruz County in 1994.

During his years with the Sheriff's Office, Mark has worked in and represented nearly every bureau and capacity in the department and has received numerous awards and commendations. Notably, he has acted as Coordinator of the Search and Rescue Team, was a founding member of the Hostage Negotiating Team, and has served as Chairman for both the Santa Cruz County Criminal Justice Council and the Santa Cruz County Commission on Domestic Violence. By establishing the Domestic Violence Unit and working with advocacy groups throughout the county, he has promoted better services to victims of domestic abuse. Additionally, Sheriff Tracy established the High Tech Crime Unit to address the growing problem of identity theft and computer crimes.

In his career as Sheriff, Mark has also established unprecedented levels of trust and cooperation with the community, including women's groups, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, as well as medical marijuana organizations. He has overseen the opening of new service centers throughout Santa Cruz County and has placed school resource officers at high schools and junior high schools throughout the region.