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HeroBox Commended for Community Service In Historic Presidential Video with All Five Living US Presidents

July 8, 2009, ATLANTA, GA – All five living U.S. presidents to appear in special video prior to MLB All-Star Game on FOX First Time All of the Living U.S. Presidents Will Participate in a Ceremony at a Sporting Event; U.S. Presidents to Salute 30 People Being Celebrated for Their Outstanding Community Service & Advocating for All Americans to Volunteer. Ryan is the winner out of three people nominated for the Braves baseball team for his community service through HeroBox, a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the troops by sending custom care packages to deployed troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Former President Jimmy Carter will highlight Ryan Housley will be honored during the pre-game ceremony at the 2009 MLB All-Star Game in St. Louis on July 14 on FOX, at which President Barack Obama will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

United States President Barack Obama along with former U.S. Presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter will appear in an unprecedented video address as part of a special ceremony prior to the 80th Major League Baseball All-Star Game on FOX, Tuesday, July 14 at 8 p.m. ET. The video will mark the first time all of the living U.S. Presidents will participate in a ceremony at a sporting event. Following the video, President Obama will throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

People ALL-STARS AMONG US

VOTE NOW! Add PEOPLE All-Stars to your Facebook page!

We've narrowed the field and found individuals who have gone above and beyond to serve their community. Now you can vote for your favorites. There are 3 finalists representing each Major League Baseball® team. The top vote-getter for each team will attend and be honored at the 2009 MLB® All-Star Game® and one will be featured in PEOPLE magazine.

STEP 1 Choose any MLB team (or teams) **STEP 2** Vote for one of the 3 finalists representing that team. **STEP 3** Pick another team to vote for more All-Stars.

Come back again! You can vote more than once. Keep voting to send your favorites to the MLB All-Star Game in St. Louis! Voting ends June 24.

ML - ATLANTA BRAVES

VIEW MY PITCH*

OLIVIA BUCKMON
VOTE FOR ME

HALEY KILPATRICK
VOTE FOR ME

RYAN HOUSLEY
VOTE FOR ME

RYAN'S PITCH

Inspired by conversations with his younger brother Evan, deployed in Iraq, Ryan Housley started HeroBox to support soldiers in combat. The non-profit organization supplies packages customized to a soldier's specific needs. Demand grew quickly, and Ryan now works full time to fulfill requests so that every soldier feels appreciated.

HeroBox currently houses over 2600 soldiers in their database, all awaiting a custom care package specific to their needs. The organization is powered by volunteers across the nation to supply care packages to those soldiers. "Our mission is to provide troops with whatever they need to keep morale high while they serve and protect our country abroad," says Founder Ryan Housley. "Right now, we have 200 citizen sponsors that have adopted soldiers, and we need more to cover all 2600 heroes."



People Magazine teams up with the 2009 MLB All-Star Summer events dedicated to charitable initiatives and recognition of the importance of community service for our nation's growth. Nearly three quarters of a million votes were cast at PeopleAllStars.com by fans across the nation to select the 30 "All-Stars Among Us" winners (one per MLB Club) out of the pool of 90 finalists who are serving as leaders within their communities. "The importance of community service is personified by the 30 'All-Stars Among Us' and reinforced by the willingness of the five living Presidents to come together in support of this important theme during the Midsummer Classic," said Baseball Commissioner Allan H. (Bud) Selig. "In addition to celebrating baseball's best on the field, Major League Baseball wants to shine a light on stars in the community whose work improves the lives of those who are less fortunate."

The 30 "All-Stars Among Us" will also participate in the MLB All-Star Red Carpet Show presented by Chevy airing nationally on MLB Network on Tuesday, July 14 at 4 p.m. ET. They will join the 66 Major League Baseball All-Stars, AL and NL All-Star team managers, and Cardinals Hall of Famers who are scheduled to appear including Lou Brock, Bob Gibson, Stan Musial, Red Schoendienst, Ozzie Smith and Bruce Sutter. One winning "All-Star Among Us" will be featured in PEOPLE the week of the All-Star Game. The Peachtree City based non-profit organization HeroBox began with Ryan Housley sending care packages to his brother, US Army Specialist Evan Housley. Ryan put up a simple web page (HeroBox 1.0) to field special requests from Evan and other soldiers in his brother's unit. As word spread, the demand outweighed the supply and the little web page soon became a non-profit organization: HeroBox.org.

In addition, Major League Baseball is supporting President Obama's call for community service through "United We Serve," a program which encourages Americans to engage in sustained and meaningful community service. The Presidential video address, which will run approximately seven minutes, will be part of a pre-game celebration honoring the 30 "All-Stars Among Us," men and women who are being recognized by Major League Baseball and PEOPLE magazine for their selfless acts of giving and service to their communities.

President Obama is encouraging all Americans to visit www.serve.gov to find service opportunities in their area. The 80th Major League Baseball All-Star Game will be televised nationally by FOX Sports, with pre-game ceremonies beginning at 8:00 p.m. ET, in Canada by Rogers Sportsnet and Sportsnet HD and televised in more than 200 countries and territories by Major League Baseball International.

For additional information on how you can get involved with HeroBox visit www.herobox.org and connect with us on Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter.

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