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Angel Angelina

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Angelina

Thank you for featuring Angelina Jolie and the movie she directed, Unbroken ("Love Is All There Is," December). We can all learn a lot from Jolie’s example of empathy and compassion, particularly when it comes to understanding the combat experiences of those who protect our values and ideals. This empathy is crucial for ensuring that we do all we can for veterans when they complete their service and confront the challenging transition back to civilian life. In December, the U.S. officially ended its military engagement in Afghanistan, and now many in the military are returning home. At the law school where I am dean, we began operating a legal-advocacy clinic to assist veterans, ensuring that they receive the support and services they have earned. Jolie’s compassionate portrayal of Louis Zamperini is an important reminder that each of us can support our veterans. The more we can begin to understand the challenges, triumphs and struggles of veterans, the better we can support them.

Rachel Van Cleave,
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EDITOR ADAM PITLUK RESPONDS: What an excellent program, and an excellent note, Dean Van Cleave. I’ll be sure to keep an eye on the school’s advocacy clinic for veterans. (It’s programs like these that make me wish I hadn’t dropped out of law school.)

One of my favorite things about flying on American Airlines is reading American Way. Adam Pitluk’s article in the December issue about Angelina Jolie was inspirational. I hope you continue to share with your readers the profiles of people who are making a difference in the lives of others. With so much bad news in the world, it is refreshing and awe-inspiring to read about the work of Angelina Jolie. I especially enjoyed the background information about the movie Unbroken and Angelina Jolie’s relationship with Louis Zamperini. Keep up the good work. American Way is an essential component of flying on American Airlines.

Reydel “Sonny” Santos, Miami

A.P. RESPONDS: This is my favorite thing about my job, Reydel. I love when readers love our magazine. And I’m especially proud when I can personally connect with people through my writing. Here’s to many more flights and magazines to come!

The article about Angelina Jolie and her community-service awareness tied into her profession was