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IT'S OFFICIAL--CELEBRATE NJ! MONTH IS UNDERWAY:
STUDENTS FROM ATLANTIC & CUMBERLAND COUNTIES HONORED AT
ATLANTIC CITY SURF GAME

(Bradley Beach, NJ) -- It was the culmination of months of hard work for fourth graders from across New Jersey who participated in the Celebrate NJ! school program. After researching and writing articles for a newspaper, dozens of area students were honored by the Atlantic City Surf during a recent home game. Each child earned two tickets to the game.

Rita Robb, a fourth grade teacher at the Myron L. Powell Elementary School in Lawrence Township, Cumberland County says, "The Celebrate New Jersey! School Program was such a great fit with our studies. Writing is an important piece of the fourth grade curriculum. Being able to use the study of New Jersey to reinforce reading and writing was great for our students. Getting tickets to the baseball game is a wonderful way to reward the children for their efforts."

According to Karen Hatcher, Celebrate NJ! Executive Director, "These students worked so hard and learned so many wonderful things about the place they call home. We were inspired and entertained by the variety and depth of topics that they chose. It's great to have an opportunity to celebrate their efforts and to create a positive association with learning about our State."

Children from Northfield Community School in Northfield, Atlantic County and Myron L. Powell Elementary School in Lawrence Township, Cumberland County participated in the festivities.

Governor Corzine has issued an official proclamation again this year designating June as the *Celebrate New Jersey!* month. To conclude the school program, eight local minor and independent league baseball teams will host Celebrate NJ! game nights throughout the month for the 9,000 students who participated in the program.

Celebrate NJ! is also running a year long campaign that invites everyone who has a Reason to Celebrate NJ! to log on to www.CelebrateNJ.org and enter that reason. The

group will continue to unveil the reasons each month based on the number of days in a particular month. Residents are encouraged to enter specific reasons describing the interesting and unique aspects of the Garden State. Entry cards are also available at over 350 libraries across the state. The selected reasons are announced daily on the organization's website.

The "365 Reasons to Celebrate NJ!" campaign is made possible through the generous support of sponsors NJ Cable Telecommunications Association, ArborSys Group, and St. Barnabas Health Care System. For more information about the campaign, visit www.CelebrateNJ.org.

-30-

Photo Caption: Back row (white shirt) - Karen Hatcher, Celebrate NJ! Executive Director, (l to r) Myron L. Powell students Melanie Dodson, Dominic Caldwell and Morgan Dowd and Splash, the Atlantic City Surf Mascot. The students were honored by Celebrate NJ! for their contributions to a student newspaper developed for the Celebrate NJ! school program.