



PO Box 535, East Brunswick, NJ 08816
732-613-4790 – syoung@sueyoungmedia.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 2, 2007

CONTACT: SUSAN YOUNG
(732) 613-4790

CELEBRATE NJ! MONTH FINALE:
UNION COUNTY STUDENTS HONORED
AT BEARS GAME

(Newark, NJ) -- It was the culmination of months of hard work for fourth graders from Union County who participated in the Celebrate NJ! school program. After researching and writing articles for a newspaper, dozens of area students were honored by the Newark Bears during a recent home game. Each child earned two tickets to the game. The game marked the final event of Celebrate NJ! Month.

Joseph Waltner, a fourth grade student at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy in Linden says, "I think Celebrate NJ is a good way to learn about our state. I researched and wrote about North Wildwood because I like to go there for fun but I learned a lot about it that I didn't know before."

According to Eva Tripodi, a fourth grade teacher at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy in Linden, "The Celebrate NJ! Program is great because the students get to both supplement and enhance the material about New Jersey in their social studies book. They really enjoy doing the program and learning because they are researching topics they choose."

Children from Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy in Linden, St. Genevieve School in Elizabeth, the Leonard V. Moore School in Roselle, and Memorial School in Montvale were honored. Youngsters from Orange Avenue School in Cranford, J. Garfield Jackson Academy in East Orange, and St. Mary, Star of the Sea School in Bayonne also attended.

The student reporters' articles ranged from North Wildwood to Dave Thomas to Prudential. They are all published online at the organization's web site.

Karen Hatcher, Celebrate NJ! Executive Director, points out, "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.”

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 hosted 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 – Karen Hatcher, Celebrate NJ! Executive Director (back row, right), and Eva Tripodi, a fourth grade teacher at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy in Linden (back row, left) with a group of students from Union County who were honored at a recent Newark Bears game for their contributions to a student newspaper developed for the Celebrate NJ! School program.