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## First Lady Mary Pat Christie Honors Horizons Student Enrichment Co-Founder For Transforming Lives Of At-Risk Children

Wednesday, July 17, 2013

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### *Monmouth County Resident Lore Macdonald Recognized As 22<sup>nd</sup> New Jersey Hero*

**Trenton, NJ** – First Lady Mary Pat Christie today honored Lore Macdonald, co-founder of the Horizons Student Enrichment Program at Rumson Country Day School for her commitment to ensuring educational opportunities for at-risk children. Ms. Macdonald has been an influential force in Horizons New Jersey since its inception, overseeing the program's incredible growth from one Kindergarten class of just 15 children to a fully mature program of 125 children in Kindergarten through 8th grade



"Lore is truly the heart of Horizons New Jersey," said Mrs. Christie. "For 18 years, she has impacted and helped change the lives of some 2,000 children. Whether it's teaching classes, chaperoning field trips, community outreach or fundraising, Lore's tireless efforts are making a difference for many children and families in the community. I am so inspired by her dedication and I am proud to name her a New Jersey Hero."

The six-week academic and recreational summer enrichment program currently is serving 128 local children (grades K-8) in the Monmouth County area who are living in low income circumstances.

Lore Macdonald's involvement with the students and their families extends far past summer and into high school and beyond. Through her hands-on work with the students, she has helped Horizons sustain itself over the years by leading fundraising efforts including the Hoops for Horizons Basketball Tournament. Just recently, she was honored by Horizons National for her outstanding contribution to students and their families and was named life member of the Horizons Board of Advisors.



"Horizons is the best example of a public-private partnership that I've ever known," said co-founder Lore Macdonald. "Being part of the program has brought great joy to me and others for many years, and will continue to do so. I am truly honored to be receiving this recognition and I accept it on behalf of Horizons' staff and board, its students and families, Rumson Country Day School, Horizons National and its other affiliates across the country."

Through its professional and nurturing environment, Horizons is committed to the development of the whole child through experiences that enhance self-esteem, foster awareness of community responsibility, build problem solving

skills and encourage a life-long-interest in learning. The program emphasizes academics, the arts, intramural sports, swimming, and social growth.

For more information about the Horizons Student Enrichment Program, visit <http://www.rcds.org/page.cfm?p=343>

New Jersey Heroes is an initiative of First Lady Mary Pat Christie that showcases the positive and unique ways people and organizations are impacting New Jersey and their communities. To nominate a hero, go to <http://newjerseyheroes.org> and follow the application instructions and submit the person you believe is a true New Jersey Hero.

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**PHOTO CAPTION 1:** First Lady Mary Pat Christie is joined by the students of the Horizons Enrichment Program at the Rumson Country Day School in honoring co-founder Lore Macdonald. (L-R, Lore Macdonald, Headmaster Chad Small, Bridget Christie and First Lady Mary Pat Christie).

**PHOTO CAPTION 2:** First Lady Mary Pat Christie meets with students of the Horizons Enrichment Program at the Rumson Country Day School.

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