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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 24, 2006

FIRST LADY MARJORIE O. RENDELL LAUNCHES PA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN'S ROLE MODEL BOOK

HARRISBURG — To help young women learn about overcoming obstacles, First Lady Judge Marjorie O. Rendell and Pennsylvania Commission for Women Executive Director Leslie Stiles unveiled the state's first role model book: *Voices: African American and Latina Women in Pennsylvania Share Their Stories of Success*.

The book profiles 50 Pennsylvania women who have reached the top in the fields of law, medicine, communications, business, technology, the arts, education and government.

"*Voices* represents the pain, joy, disappointments, accomplishments and triumphs in the lives of these extraordinary role models," said First Lady Rendell. "The stories of women from African-American and Latina heritage showcase not only their talents, but their decision to take on their challenges and grow from them."

"Like the women in this book, the Governor and I hope that anyone who reads *Voices* will learn to dream big and become the heroes in their own stories."

Due to the critical need for visible role models for young girls, especially in the African-American and Latino communities, the role model book provides young girls with stories of people of similar backgrounds to encourage readers to become successful, productive women. Studies have shown that gender- and racially-matched role models promote educational and professional achievement, a decrease in drug or alcohol use and a decline in physically violent behavior.

"For over 30 years, the Pennsylvania Commission for Women has served as an important advocate for the women and girls of the commonwealth," said Stiles. "The message of empowerment delivered in this book complements PCW's mission to identify and advance the diverse needs and interests of their constituents; to inform, educate and advocate, and to provide opportunities for women and girls to reach their highest potential."

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CURRENT THREAT LEVELS

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LT. GOVERNOR

- [Catherine Baker Knoll](#)

WHAT'S HOT IN PA



Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program
We Cover All Kids.

Governor Rendell's Strategic Sourcing Initiative Has Saved \$158.6 Million to Date



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FEATURED WEBSITES

- [Governor's Commission for Children & Families](#)
- [Integrated Enterprise System \(IES\)](#)
- [Pennsylvania's State Parks](#)
- [PA Fishing and Boating Licenses](#)
- [Drive Clean PA - Vehicle Emissions Inspection Fees and Current Pricing](#)

"It is our hope that the fabulous women who are featured in this book will volunteer their time and talents for personal appearances. They are, after all, far more than words in a book. They are vibrant, active women who are committed to inspiring young girls to succeed."

The PA Commission for Women will give a copy of *Voices: African American and Latina Women in Pennsylvania Share Their Stories of Success* to every county and public school library throughout Pennsylvania serving students in grades six through nine.

The role model series is sponsored by the Comcast Foundation.

###

EDITOR'S NOTE: The role models featured in *Voices* are as follows:

Renee Amooore (King of Prussia)	Cheryl Lynne Austin (Roslyn)
Joyce Avila (Tobyhanna)	Cynthia A. Baldwin (Pittsburgh)
Elva L. Banks (Philadelphia)	Sylvia Joyce Barksdale (Pittsburgh)
Joan Myers Brown (Philadelphia)	Blondell Reynolds Brown (Philadelphia)
Esther Bush (Pittsburgh)	
Mary Leftridge Byrd (Tumwater, WA, formerly of Camp Hill)	
R. Yvonne Campos (Pittsburgh)	Nancy Chavez (Camp Hill)
Renee Chenault-Fattah (Philadelphia)	Patricia A. Coulter (Philadelphia)
Pamela A. Crawley (Philadelphia)	Deborah Davis (Lancaster)
Maria Del Rey (Hershey)	Patricia I. Document (Pittsburgh)
Willa M. Doswell (Pittsburgh)	Sheila Elizabeth Dow-Ford (Harrisburg)
Gwendolyn J. Elliott (Pittsburgh)	Lillian Escobar-Haskins (Lancaster)
Brenda L. Frazier (Pittsburgh)	Pamela W. Golden (Pittsburgh)
Ivonne C. Gutierrez De Butcher (Harrisburg)	Linda A. Hicks (Harrisburg)
Charisse Lillie (Philadelphia)	Alba E. Martinez (Philadelphia)
Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson (Philadelphia)	Francine G. McNairy (Millersville)
Maritza I. Mendoza (Chester)	Rita Murillo (Pittsburgh)
Ana Elizabeth Nunez (Philadelphia)	Raquel Otero de Yiengst (Reading)

- [ExplorePAHistory.com](#)
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CITIZEN SERVICES

- [PA Healthy Kids Compendium](#)
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- [PA No More Calls Please Listing](#)
- [Search Pennsylvania's Unclaimed Property Database](#)
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- [PA PowerPort Feedback](#)
- [PENNDOT Driver Services](#)
- [National Next Of Kin Registry](#)
- [Yellow Pages](#)
- [Federal Government's FirstGov.Gov website](#)

COMMONWEALTH FLAG



The Pennsylvania flag is at full-staff.

LOTTERY RESULTS

Daily Number (DAY)	6, 4, 2	9/20
Daily Number	8, 1, 0	9/19
Big 4 (DAY)	9, 3, 3, 5	9/20
Big 4	1, 6, 7, 0	9/19
Cash 5	7, 15, 31, 35, 38	9/19
Lucky For Life Lotto	18, 20, 25, 29, 31, 32	9/18
MATCH 6 lotto	4, 5, 10, 33, 47, 48	9/19
	7, 8, 26, 27, 42	
Powerball	Powerball: 12	9/16
	Power Play: 5	

Last Updated: 9/20/2006

GOV'T HAPPENINGS

Events for 9/20/2006

- All Day [Hubble Vision 2](#)
- All Day [Fall Play Days: Imagine You're a Farmer](#)
- All Day [Violet Oakley: The Founding of the State of Liberty Spiritual](#)

State Gov't Events

LEGISLATIVE LINKS

- [Pennsylvania General Assembly Web Site](#)

Carmen I. Paris (Philadelphia)	Ana Pujols-McKee (Philadelphia)
Maria Quinones-Sanchez (Philadelphia)	Estelle Richman (Harrisburg)
Grace Robinson (Pittsburgh)	Argo L. Simpkins (Philadelphia)
Susan Slawson (Philadelphia)	Carole I. Smith (Philadelphia)
Cecile M. Springer (Pittsburgh)	Dawn Staley (Philadelphia)
Susan C. Taylor (Philadelphia)	Judith A.W. Thomas (West Chester)
C. Delores Tucker 1937- 2005 (Philadelphia)	Karen Farmer White (Pittsburgh)
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HARRISBURG, PA

Current Temp: 63° F.

Feels Like: 61° F.

Last Updated: 9/20/2006

2:00:05 PM

Your PA Zip Code:

17120

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DRIVING CONDITIONS



**Pennsylvania
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