HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 418

Commending Ritchie Carroll and Kathy Lee-Meredith.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 13, 1995 Agreed to by the Senate, January 19, 1995

WHEREAS, for the past five years, the Baldwin Intergenerational Program has paired at-risk students from Baldwin Elementary School in Manassas with residents of the Prince William Senior Center, to the benefit of the children, the senior citizens, and the Manassas community; and

WHEREAS, created by Ritchie Carroll of Baldwin Elementary and Kathy Lee-Meredith of the Senior Center, the program has resulted in academic, social, cultural, behavioral, and emotional improvement for the children and feelings of satisfaction, joy, and accomplishment for the adults; and

WHEREAS, each year, the 15 students from the school who are "adopted" by 15 senior citizens from the Center meet with their mentors monthly, alternating between the school and the Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, the students learn from the knowledge and the accumulated life experiences of the senior citizens, while the adults gain a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment from helping young people succeed; and

WHEREAS, a singularly creative and innovative project, the Baldwin Intergenerational Program has been recognized by the Prince William Commission on Aging, the Manassas City Council, and the Virginia and U.S. Departments of Education; and

WHEREAS, the initiative and continuing efforts of Ritchie Carroll and Kathy Lee-Meredith have created a program of immediate and positive influence on the children, of immense gratification to the senior citizens, and of lasting benefit to the community and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Ritchie Carroll and Kathy Lee-Meredith for their uniquely creative and effective efforts on behalf of the schoolchildren and senior citizens of Manassas; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare copies of this resolution for presentation to Ritchie Carroll and Kathy Lee-Meredith as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on the success of the Baldwin Intergenerational Program.