FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, February 23, 2007

Rep. Slaughter Attends Event with Area Pre-School Students at *Dolly's Imagination Library*

Niagara Falls, NY - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today helped to launch a new, youth literacy program in Niagara Falls. *Dolly's Imagination Library*, a nationwide program that works to put age-appropriate books in the hands of children under the age of five, is being sponsored locally by the Niagara Falls Housing Authority and the Niagara Falls School District.

"**Exposure to books and learning to read at a young age are critical to the future success of our children,** " said Rep. Slaughter. "**Programs like Dolly's Imagination Library lay a foundation of creativity and thinking skills in our children's minds upon which their formal education will be built. I would like to commend the Niagara Falls Housing Authority and the Niagara Falls School District for bringing this valuable program to the children of our community.** "

After delivering a few brief remarks, Slaughter joined a group of local pre-school children in reading the book "Snowmen at Night."

Created in 1996 in Tennessee by Dolly Parton, *Dolly's Imagination Library* has now spread to over 600 communities and 41 states.

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