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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Representative Matt Smith

DATE: March 17, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Resolution – “Martha Dixon Day”

In the near future, I plan to introduce a resolution that will designate April 9, 2011 as “Martha Dixon Day” in Pennsylvania.

Martha Dixon was Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1959 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh. After graduation, she began her professional career at the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory. Shortly thereafter, Special Agent Dixon began her tour of duty with the Federal Bureau of investigation (FBI). Her first duty post was in Knoxville, Tennessee where she played an integral role in restoring peace and order at the infamous insurrection at the Talladega Federal Correctional Institution in 1991 and was awarded for her bravery.

On November 22, 1994, special Agent Martha Dixon lost her life while responding to a man who opened fire in the Cold Case division of the Washington, D.C. Main Field Office of the FBI. Before succumbing to her injuries, Special Agent Dixon was able to return gunfire, seriously wounding the perpetrator and thus preventing an even greater number of casualties.

Special Agent Dixon’s family created “*The Martha Fund*” in her name. “Martha’s Run”, an event exemplifying Special Agent Dixon’s love of running, is the largest fundraiser for the organization. Proceeds from the run benefit the local community and help to underwrite the construction costs of new playgrounds in the Mount Lebanon, PA surrounding areas. Special Agent Dixon was a loving aunt whose nieces and nephews adored her. She enjoyed watching them at play; as such, these playgrounds manifest a safe haven for all children. This year’s run is scheduled to take place on April 9, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in Mount Lebanon, PA.

Please join me in celebrating the life of FBI Special Agent Martha Dixon. If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Jamie Fetter at (717) 783-1850 or jfetter@pahouse.net.

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