




Speech by

Michael Pucci

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

Hansard Thursday, 21 June 2012

LOGAN ELECTORATE

 **Mr PUCCI** (Logan—LNP) (3.37 pm): I rise in this House today to pay tribute to a few wonderful events that I was honoured to attend as the member for Logan. For Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, a cancer charity event was hosted by Jenny Atkinson at the Bean to Cafe in Regents Park on 26 May this year. I would like to publicly thank the organiser of the day, Danielle Simpson, who has been personally touched by cancer, losing her daughter's father three years ago. He was only 28. The member for Algester, Anthony Shorten, and his wife, Kelly, joined me and my wife, Anna, and a large number of guests. The day was a great success.

I also had the privilege of participating in the Principal for a Day program with two schools in my electorate—Park Ridge State School and Browns Plains State School. I was fortunate enough to attend Park Ridge State School on the day of their awards ceremony and was able to hand out the awards and congratulate a number of students and teachers for their efforts. I thank principal Peter James for allowing me to experience a day in his shoes, and I was very impressed with the behaviour of the students and the dedication of the school's staff.

I also attended Browns Plains State School. I thank principal Michael Shyne for sharing his day. The staff there are doing a fantastic job and it is evident that they are happy to be there as they continuously emulated the spirit of 'it's a better place to be'. I am sure that the great staff of these schools are the main reason Logan is leading the way in improving school attendance records above the national average.

Logan is a vibrant place where there is always something happening. In the past month I have had the pleasure of attending Logan's Kaleidoscope Multicultural Street Festival, which is organised by the Ethnic Communities Council of Logan. I had the pleasure of meeting with the President of the Ethnic Communities Council, Paul Khieu OAM, and many of the special guests including Uncle Noel Summers. My fellow member of parliament Mike Latter, the member for Waterford, also attended. The Madi Drummers from the Madi Association welcomed us with great enthusiasm, and we were entertained by many groups of dancers from the Heilani Polynesian School of Arts, as well as performers in their traditional dress from around the world. The festival keeps getting better and better since its inception in 2006.

I have also enjoyed being locked up for a fundraiser for the PCYC Time for Kids charity. The Time for Kids charity raises awareness for the PCYC's work with young offenders and people at risk. Queensland raised over \$250,000 on that day, nearly \$30,000 of it raised in Logan alone. This will go a long way in the PCYC's programs for youth to participate in the developmental and crime prevention programs in their area. These programs make a huge difference in their lives and help to make positive life decisions. I give a big thankyou to Crestmead PCYC's branch manager, Sergeant Mel Cowie, for the invitation.

The Logan Eco Action Festival was also held last month at the Griffith University's Logan campus. The festival promotes eco-living tips in a free, fun family environment. It is an interactive educational event designed to stimulate awareness about environmental issues—

(Time expired)