



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BISHOP WELCOMES ANGELS TO NATION'S CAPITOL**

*Mastic Mother and Son Receive Top Honors from Congressional Coalition on Adoption*

WASHINGTON, DC-Congressman Tim Bishop yesterday welcomed Ms. Madelyn Ward and her son, Jomo Henderson, to our nation's capital as they received the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Angels in Adoption Award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption. Ms. Ward, who resides in Mastic, has adopted four children in addition to her own six children. Madelyn is also in the process of adopting one more child. Her 29-year-old son, Jomo, who will be joining the United States Air Force in January, also received the award because he serves as the children's mentor and role model.

"Madelyn and Jomo are a mother and son team who have worked together to bring joy and love to children who otherwise may grow up alone," Bishop stated. "I am proud of this family for opening their home and hearts to the most innocent among us."

"I am overwhelmed by this honor," Madelyn stated. "I have never had the time to tour our Capitol, so this is a truly wonderful opportunity."

"My mother and I extend our sincere gratitude to the Coalition and to Congressman Tim Bishop," Jomo stated. "This has been a remarkable visit." The adopted children have taken the last name of Henderson-Ward to honor Jomo, who has accepted the role as a father figure.

Each member of Congress is offered the opportunity to choose an individual making a difference in the lives of children through adoption or foster care advocacy. The Angels in Adoption campaign seeks to raise awareness of adoption and to honor those who have dedicated their lives to helping children. Since the program's inception in 1999, members of Congress have awarded more than 750 Angels from all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

"Madelyn and Jomo have never asked for a single 'thank you' or for an ounce of recognition. They are a truly remarkable team and deserve to be honored," Bishop stated.

Madelyn's son, London, joined in the celebration. London is a member of the Los Angeles Police Department and a former member of the United States Navy.

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