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## MISSOURI SENATE

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# Sen. Jason Crowell Greets Southeast Missouri Outstanding Older Worker

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JEFFERSON CITY—Sen. Jason Crowell (R-Cape Girardeau), welcomed Ruth Illers of Jackson, finalist in the Missouri Outstanding Older Worker Contest, to the capitol. At 80 years old, Illers works as an Administrative Assistant for the Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging.

“Ms. Illers is truly an amazing citizen,” said Sen. Crowell. “I can only hope that I will be as enthusiastic and full of energy at that age.”

The Missouri Outstanding Older Worker Contest seeks to honor a resident over 55 who works more than 20 hours a week. The 2007 contest finalists visited the Capitol on April 26, and the winner was announced the following day.

Illers has worked for the Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging for 26 years, beginning as a executive secretary. During her time at the agency, she has transitioned from taking shorthand notes by hand to becoming proficient on the office computer. On the submission form, co-workers praised Illers and referred to her at the “go-to” person for the staff.

“For 26 years, Ms. Illers has been dedicated to her work and she has not let changing trends or others people’s perceptions stop her from doing what she loves,” said Sen. Crowell. “She is an exemplary person and I am proud of her.”

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*Pictured with Senator Crowell is Ruth Illers of Jackson*

To obtain a jpeg version of the above pictures or to get more information, contact Joe Don McGaugh at 573-751-2459.

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