



21st District News
Allergy Response
Bill Moving Forward
 Sen. Thomas Kean, Jr. - Westfield
 Asm. Jon Bramnick - Westfield
 Asm. Eric Munoz - Summit



The Senate and Assembly Education Committees approved a bill sponsored by Senator Tom Kean Jr. and Assemblyman Eric Munoz, and co-sponsored by Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, to improve access to epinephrine for students at risk of life-threatening food allergies.

Peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, cashews, etc.), shellfish, fish, milk, and eggs commonly cause anaphylactic reactions in those who are allergic. Epinephrine is a drug, which counteracts anaphylactic shock, a reaction, which can cause suffocation in a matter of minutes.

"This bill seeks to ensure that appropriate safety nets are in place in our schools so that students at danger of life-threatening allergic reactions can - like other children - fully participate in the school experience without fear or risk," Senator Kean stated.

"This measure ends any confusion that could have placed a student in jeopardy," said Assemblyman Munoz, who is also a trauma surgeon. "In some people, exposure to a trace amount of a food can cause a severe reaction. This bill protects such students by making sure the medication can be quickly accessed and requiring school districts to designate and train employee volunteers to administer epinephrine if a school nurse is not present at the scene."

Under current law, the designation of delegates by school districts is authorized but not required. The legislation also calls for members of the medical, education and food allergy communities to develop guidelines for development of a policy for the management of food allergies in the school setting.

"We hope that this bill will help create a cooperative effort by all involved - from educators to food allergy experts - to ensure that our

schools are better equipped to respond to any of the 94,000 New Jersey children that suffer from food allergies" said Assemblyman Bramnick.

In other Trenton news, the New Jersey Assembly recently gave final legislative approval to a measure sponsored by Senator Kean, Jr. and co-sponsored by Assemblyman Munoz and Assemblyman Bramnick that would appropriate \$1,263,166 from the "Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund" to at least 40 pre-determined preservation projects.

The bill includes projects at Glen Alpine in Harding, the Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township in Madison, and All Saints Episcopal Church in Millington.

"This bill is a tremendous step forward in maintaining the many historic landmarks which are important to the history of New Jersey," Senator Kean said. "Throughout the state there are many historically significant buildings, churches, and houses that without this funding would continue to deteriorate."

In addition to the 40 designated projects, which will receive funding, the bill provides that any remaining funds, with the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee, may be used to provide additional funding for historic preservation projects of local government units or previously approved non-profit organizations.

"It was very reassuring to see such widespread support for this issue," stated Assemblyman Munoz, after the bill unanimously passed both the Senate and the Assembly.

"We hope that this additional aspect of the bill will be put to great use in further improving some of the other historic sites in need throughout the state," Assemblyman Bramnick said.

County Wins Award For Plainfield Building

COUNTY — The County of Union has been awarded a 2006 National Association of Counties NACO Achievement Award for the Park Madison Project, Freeholder Alexander Mirabella announced last week.

The award is a non-competitive program that recognizes counties for "creative and innovative program development and implementation, efficient administrative management of county agencies and responsible government for local citizens."

Approximately 8,000 people per year visit Park Madison for services for unemployed, underemployed and displaced workers. The Park-Madison Complex is owned by the Union County Improvement Authority and located at 200 West Second Street, Plainfield. State and county offices occupying the building include State Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) and Department of Labor and Workforce Development-Employment Service and Unemployment Insurance, and the Union County Department of Human Services, Division of Social Services and Division of Workforce Development Operations.

Hiking Club Looking For New Members

AREA — The Union County Hiking Club is looking for new members. The club offers a varied program of outdoor activities.

Hiking and biking activities are scheduled throughout the week in central and northern New Jersey. Membership dues are \$10 per year.

For more information county residents can call (908) 527-4900 for complimentary six-month schedule of club activities.

Resident Elected President CPA Group

WESTFIELD — Michael Gabel of Westfield has been elected President of the Union County Chapter of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJSCPA).

Mr. Gabel, a manager at Salerno, Gannon & Angelo, P.C. in Clark, joined the NJSCPA in 1989. He has served as vice president, secretary, treasurer and director of the Union County chapter. Mr. Gabel has also served as a member of the NJSCPA Personal Financial Planning and Young CPAs committees and as a volunteer for the Society's CPA Help Center. He also serves as a director on the board of the Wychwood Gardens Cooperative, Inc. Mr. Gabel earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from St. Peter's College in Jersey City.

Overlook Foundation Names Bd. of Directors

SUMMIT — Robert Helander, a Mountainside attorney, was recently elected to serve a three-year term on the Overlook Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees at the foundation's annual meeting last month at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield.

Other local residents elected to serve on the Foundation's Board for the 2006-2009 term include: Josh Weinreich, Michael Gambro, Steven Schlesinger, Leslie Killian and Jacqueline Esquivel of Summit; Charles LaRosa, Daniel Schilge and Steven Rosenberg of Westfield; Dr. Clifford Sales of Short Hills, and Lisa Donoghue of Saddlebrook. Officers elected were: Bruce Wesson of Summit, chairman; Gerald Glasser of Westfield, vice chairman; Betsy Compton of Summit, treasurer and Dr. John Gregory of Scotch Plains, secretary.

paid out to the Alliance, which includes advertising.

It is puzzling that the corporations in the county affiliated with the Alliance aren't miffed about being dissed. Only three companies purchased ad space of less than a quarter page each. What happened to PSE&G, Elizabethtown Water and Maher Terminals and what about the Bank of America, Wakefern or Wachovia? Surely they all have something to crow about? And wouldn't the residents in towns such as Westfield, Scotch Plains, New Providence or Clark just love to see their Republican mayors on the cover just once.

The use of taxpayer money for self-promotion is undeniably shameful. I am sure that my opinion will be viewed by some as sour grapes and whining coming from a candidate who does not have the use of this or a similar "free venue" at her fingertips. I say so be it, because what is wrong is wrong and I will continue to bring unethical practices such as this publication to the attention of the good residents of Union County.



A TOWN DONATION... Westfield PAL member Patrick Love, left, gives Robert Downs, president and chief executive officer of The Town Bank, a plaque on Friday in recognition of the bank's sponsorship for the PAL to play a game at Kehler Stadium.

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You'll want to learn from Marvin how to choose, cook, eat, handle and keep safe all kinds of summer favorite seafood.



More "shore" things? How about take-alongs like coolers, ice packs, easy-care melamine dishes for waterside meals. (Don't forget fresh fruit and veggie trays for fast party food, too!)

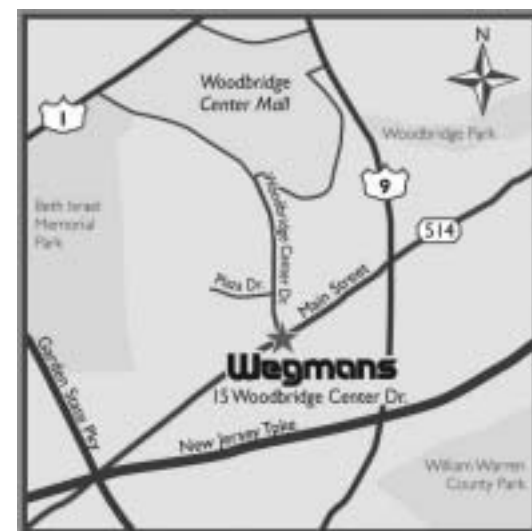
June 30-July 2
Get a Great Taste of the 4th!

Start with grab & go food, like Shrimp Trays, Prepared Salads, and Veggie/Fruit platters! Declare your independence from the ordinary. We have Sizzling Strip Steak Burgers and other specialty burgers, like Bacon-Cheddar, hand-made in our Meat Department.



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CAMPAIGN RELEASE
Alliance's 'Directions' Offers Homage to Board
 By Pat Quattrocchi, GOP Candidate for Freeholder

Two days before last week's Primary Election, the "Union County Directions" arrived in my mailbox. Though they will deny it, this publication is an homage to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders as well as other Union County public officials who just so happen to be of the same political persuasion and are seeking reelection.

Featured on the cover is Mayor John Gregorio of Linden with a story about all of the wonderful things he is doing for the city. The bottom half of page one is comprised of an article about the Union County Arts Center, located in Rahway and recently purchased by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The article is accompanied by a picture of Rahway Mayor James Kennedy, Freeholders Deborah Scanlon, Chester Holmes and Al Mirabella. The oddest thing about the picture is not that the president of the UCAC Board of Trustees, Richard Stender (husband of candidate Linda Stender) is in the center of the picture, but that the Mrs. Stender's name is first rather than an "L to R" listing. So, on the front page in the sea of six smiling faces are those of five elected officials all with the same party affiliation and all on the ballot in November as well as the former spouse of another currently campaigning for a seat in Congress.

Freeholder Mirabella appears in six of the group shots accompanied frequently by Freeholders Scanlon and Holmes. It would appear that to cover their posteriors and not risk violating campaign laws that they threw in one picture each of Freeholders Dan Sullivan, Nancy Ward, Angel Estrada and Betty Jane Kowalski but for the second year in a row Freeholder Adrian Mapp of Plainfield was MIA. Freeholder Mapp I understand is chairman of the rival "New Democrats" party in his community and I imagine on the "outs" with "official County Democrats."

If I recall correctly, the only time Freeholder Mapp was in the publication was in the fall edition as a council member in Plainfield when he landed on the freeholder ticket in 2004. With his term up next year it will be interesting to see if he is given prominence in the publication at that time. However, in view of present circumstances, that is doubtful.

The late Ann Baran held the position of County Manager with both Republican and Democratic controlled boards. She was a co-founder of the Union County Alliance and an executive board member until her death this year. She worked tirelessly to foster the intent of the Alliance.

This latest edition cannot be what she had in mind as a vehicle to promote an organization billed as a "bi-partisan coalition focused on economic revitalization and improving the quality of life for people who live and work in the region." Rather, it has turned into a thinly veiled campaign piece funded with taxpayer's money, featuring incumbent freeholders patting themselves on the back just days prior to an election. In 2006 alone checks totaling \$130,850 have been