

CYAN YELLOW MAGENTA BLACK

Freeholders to Help Develop Wildlife Preserve in Clark

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders voted December 10 to provide the Township of Clark with \$140,000 to develop a wildlife preserve on the banks of the Clark Reservoir, the largest body of water in Union County.

The county funds will help the township to develop nature trails along the 2.3-square mile reservoir, which runs through the center of Clark. The township also plans to create piers, accessible by trails, to allow for fishing and observation. Currently, there are no nature trails along the banks.

"We are proud to help Clark Township improve this important natural area," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan, who sponsored the resolution. "Equally important, this funding will help bring a love and understanding of nature to children and adults," he added.

The reservoir and the land around it are an important habitat for freshwater fish, birds, frogs, turtles and plants. It also provides an important source of food for wading birds, like herons and egrets, ducks, migrating birds and birds of prey, such as hawks and osprey, according to the Freeholders.

Catfish, sunfish, carp and bass live in the lake, and township officials hope to stock the waters with game fish in the future.

"The planned improvements will open the banks of the reservoir to passive recreation like fishing and bird-watching," said Clark Mayor Robert Ellenport.

"This is an important resource for the people of Clark and Union County, and we intend to ensure that they can enjoy its natural beauty," the Mayor remarked.

Under an agreement with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, the reservoir cannot be used for "active recreation," the Mayor said.

Earlier this year, Clark Township purchased the inactive reservoir, which was once operated by the Middlesex Water Company. The township is currently using state funding to repair the dam, which is located near Madison Hill Road.

"This year, Union County made a major investment in parks, playgrounds and athletic fields," said Freeholder Sullivan. "These investments will result in a better quality of life and better opportunities for our residents and their children," he concluded.



TECHNOLOGY BOOST...Union County Freeholder Linda d. Stender recently delivered checks to county school officials that will fund computer equipment and training for teachers. Pictured, left to right, are: Freeholder Stender, Director of Institutional Technology for Scotch Plains and Fanwood Schools Don Williams, Union Township School Business Administrator Karen Dunn, Superintendent of Union County Vocational-Technical Schools Dr. Thomas Bistocchi, Westfield School Assistant Business Administrator Tamar Sydney-Gens and Union County Education Services Technology Coordinator Linda Maloney.

Freeholders Deliver Funds To Facilitate Access 2000

Union County Freeholder Linda d. Stender recently delivered \$2,240,890 million in funds to accelerate county public school district's access to technology by providing matching funds for computers, networking and wiring of classrooms, teacher training and Internet connection.

"I am pleased to join officials from Union County schools to institute a program that will place state-of-the-art computer equipment in our classrooms to better prepare students for the next century," stated Freeholder Stender at a meeting of county officials at the Magnet School in Scotch Plains.

Susan Pepper, Director of Access 2000, said the county's goals are to have a computer with high-speed Internet access available in every

county classroom by the end of the year 2000 and to have every teacher trained in computer technology.

"These goals parallel local, state and national technology goals," Mrs. Pepper said.

"Access 2000 funds will accelerate each district's five year technology plan by supplementing current district technology spending, not replacing it. The result will be a \$6 million infusion of funds for computer technology in the public schools," she stated.

Mrs. Pepper is a former President of the Westfield Board of Education.

*More County News
On Page 2*

Cheryl Hathaway Named Employee of the Month

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and County Manager Michael J. Lapolla recently named Cheryl Hathaway Employee-of-the-Month for November for turning the deficit-ridden Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center (IDRC) into a surplus generating department.

The center, which is operated by the Union County Department of Human Services-Division on Planning, is a state-legislated program serving residents who have been convicted of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. It is the only project of its kind in the state.

"We acknowledge Cheryl for her hard work initiating a process to recoup revenue from the non-compliant Driving while Intoxicated (DWI) offender's project. This offsets a long-term operating deficit," stated Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan.

"In 1995, the Intoxicated Drivers Resource Center had a long-term operating deficit of \$25,000. In just

two years, she enabled the center to close with a surplus of 2 percent and that figure continues to be realized," he added.

Ms. Hathaway, an Assistant Director for the IDRC, works for the Department of Human Services-Division of Planning. She has been a county employee for 11 years.

"The Employee-of-the-Month Recognition Program is a way to recognize and reward employees for valuable contributions and accomplishments, professional growth and quality performance," Mr. Lapolla stated.

Each employee honored receives a plaque from the County Manager, a resolution from the Freeholder board and a day off from work.

"What Cheryl accomplished is quite impressive," Mr. Lapolla said. "She carefully considered many options, decided on the best way to eliminate a deficit and then followed through. Her work has saved the county money and we are pleased to recognize her."



HONORED EMPLOYEE...The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and County Manager Michael J. Lapolla recently named Cheryl Hathaway Employee-of-the-Month for turning a deficit-ridden program into a surplus generating department. Pictured is Cheryl Hathaway and Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan.

County Grant Program Aids Local Organizations, Artists

WESTFIELD - The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the third group of organizations and artists to receive funding under the 1998 HEART Grant Program.

HEART, which stands for History, Education, Arts-Reaching Thousands, was established by the freeholder board to help enhance their ability to provide projects relating to history, the arts and the humanities.

"When proposals to the HEART Grant program are accepted, individuals and groups are able to present exceptional programs for Union County residents," stated Freeholder Sullivan.

"The awards to the 21 recipients in this third group total \$66,600, but thus far, 37 organizations and individuals have received a total of \$115,900," he stated.

"Projects such as this are one of the rewards of being a freeholder," said Freeholder Mary P. Ruotolo, Liaison to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board. "It's wonderful giving grants to groups and individuals which will have a positive impact on county residents."

The new local recipients of the funding are: the Miller-Cory House Museum in Westfield; Music For All Seasons, Inc. of Scotch Plains, as well as Sondra Tammam, pianist, and Cantor Martha Novik, both of Westfield.

The Miller-Cory Museum received \$950 to expand its Fall Festival Celebration which includes period arts performances, colonial balladeers, and dancers. It will also subsidize the cost of crafts for school children.

Ms. Tammam and Ms. Novick received \$3,900 for a free concert at Union County College which will feature music from around the world. These artists will explain the history, background and musical form of selections. The use of visual art will enhance the selections.

Music For All Seasons received \$7,500 for the presentation of eight live, professional, interactive music programs at the New Jersey Geriatric Center; the Gill Senior Apartments in Cranford; and the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside.

Music For All Seasons was founded

in 1991 to foster communications through the art of music for those who are confined to institutions.

Kean University Names Dr. R. Daniel DiSalvi Professor Emeritus

WESTFIELD - Dr. R. Daniel DiSalvi of Westfield, a former Kean University psychology professor, has been named Professor Emeritus for his contributions and service to Kean University.

Dr. DiSalvi retired this year after a 32-year career at Kean.

While at Kean University, he received two "Teacher of the Year" awards. During his tenure, he served on almost every department committee and on several Middle States Evaluation Committees and recently helped develop a new program in the psychology department, "Marriage and Family Therapy." He has also introduced new courses in gerontology.

Dr. DiSalvi holds a bachelor of science degree from West Chester University; a master's degree from the University of Delaware; a Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and a certificate in gerontology from the University of Southern California.

Prior to his career at Kean in 1966, Dr. DiSalvi served as Dean of Students at Jersey City State College, now known as New Jersey City University, and as Dean of Students at Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Dr. DiSalvi has served as a board member of the Janet Memorial Home, a philanthropic agency serving Union County and state youth, and he was later elected President of its Board of Trustees in 1982.

When the Janet Memorial Home became known as the Janet Memorial Foundation, he became its first president. He has also served as vice president, treasurer, and secretary at the Foundation.

Dr. DiSalvi also served as secretary to the board at Bridgeway House in Elizabeth and as a secretary to the Union County Mental Health Board.



HONORED FOR COMMITMENT...Scotch Plains resident Robert B. Blair, former Treasurer of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association in Parsippany, was presented with a plaque by the chapter's immediate Past President Patricia Lombreglia at the chapter's annual meeting, held recently at Warner-Lambert in Morris Plains. He was honored for his commitment to the Chapter as a member of its Board of Directors. Pictured, above, are Ms. Lombreglia and Robert Blair.

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SUPPORTING LITERACY...Karen Paardecamp of Fanwood, Executive Director of the Union County Chapter of Literacy Volunteers of America/New Jersey Affiliate, based in Scotch Plains, accepts a \$1,500 donation from Comcast executives Joseph J. Fischer, Area Vice President, center, and Buck Dopp, Vice President and General Manager. The cable company donated a total of \$9,000 to six New Jersey chapters of Literacy Volunteers. The money was raised through Comcast's Third Annual Charity Sports Tournament at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township. The money will be used to purchase supplies and training support materials for the literacy program.

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