



HELPING AREA LIBRARIES...Union County municipal library directors join Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella in awarding of technology grants totaling \$57,000.

## County Libraries Receive \$57,000 From Freeholders for Technology

MOUNTAINSIDE — Union County Freeholder Chairman Alexander Mirabella distributed \$57,000 in checks to library directors from around the county on October 17 at the Mountainside Public Library.

As part of the Libraries of Union County Consortium Annual Reception, Mr. Mirabella was honored as one of the Library Champions of 2001 during the event.

"This funding helps support our libraries as they continue to serve all county residents and is specifically targeted to increase utilization and upgrading of Internet-based technology," Freeholder Mirabella said.

He said the county would continue to help libraries as they provide improved information services through electronic library resources and address the digital divide by having computers with high-speed Internet

access for residents who need such services.

Mr. Mirabella said the county would also support the libraries as they foster cooperation and resource sharing between municipal and school libraries.

The Union County Link Technology Grant Program was developed to address some of the significant needs of the local municipal libraries. Grants were available in areas of demonstrated needs relating to library technology infrastructure, computer equipment upgrades and improved patron access to information through electronic library resources.

Nineteen municipal libraries provided application proposals and received \$3,000 each for a total of \$57,000 awarded. Participating libraries included: Berkeley Heights, Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden,

Mountainside, New Providence, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Summit, Union, and Westfield.

Freeholder Mirabella was selected by the directors of the municipal libraries to be honored during the event as a legislative leader in recognition of his support of the Union County public libraries.

### County Residents Can Now Search Properties on Web

ELIZABETH — Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi last week unveiled a land record search Website which, she predicts, will revolutionize the way residents can search for property in the 21 municipalities in Union County. There is no charge for the service.

The new Website, which is located as a link to the county clerk's site at [www.unioncountynj.org](http://www.unioncountynj.org) or at <http://clerk.unioncountynj.org/UCPA/DocIndex>, is only the second property search site in the state and represents one aspect of a long-range program by Ms. Rajoppi to make records more accessible to the public. The second phase, to be instituted in early 2002, will permit images of the documents on the Web site.

The Web site contains information recorded into the official land records of Union County from June 1, 1977 through the present.

## New Seventh Congressional District Stretches Into Hunterdon County

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

AREA — What has been known as the Route 22 Congressional District may now get the tagline of the Raritan Valley Line District, now that New Jersey's 13 Congressional Districts have been redistricted based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

The new seventh district, which includes Westfield, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Fanwood, is now considered more of a Republican stronghold for GOP freshman Congressman Michael Ferguson.

Among the major changes in the district is the removal of Plainfield, where Congressman Ferguson only received 16 percent of the vote during last year's victory over Maryanne Connelly of Fanwood. Also removed from the district is the Essex County community of Millburn, home to State Assemblyman Joel Weingarten.

Mr. Weingarten finished third in last year's GOP Congressional Primary behind Mr. Ferguson and Tom Kean, Jr., now a State Assemblyman. Mr. Weingarten has been placed in the 10th District of Democratic Congressman Donald Payne of Newark.

Assemblyman Weingarten opted not to run for re-election this year after Millburn became the only Essex County town in the newly redistricted 21st Legislative District. Union County Republicans backed Mr. Kean and Dr. Eric Munoz this past spring for open Assembly seats. They won election to full two-year terms on November 6.

Also no longer in the district is Franklin, a town of 50,903 where Mr. Ferguson received 16 percent of the vote last year, and Maplewood in Essex County, where he received only 25 percent of the vote. Maplewood was also moved into Mr. Payne's 10th District.

The new seventh district will stretch from Union County west through Somerset County to Hunterdon County, picking up solid Republican towns like Bedminster, Bernardsville and Raritan.

The new district includes the following towns:

**Union County:** Berkeley Heights, Clark, Cranford, Fanwood, Garwood, Kenilworth, part of Linden, Mountainside, New Providence, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Summit and Union.

**Hunterdon County:** Alexandria, Bethlehem, Bloomsbury, Califon, Clinton Township, Flemington, Glen Gardner, Hampton, High Bridge, Holland, Lebanon Borough, Lebanon Township, Milford, Raritan, Readington, Tewksbury, Union.

**Middlesex County:** part of Edison and part of Woodbridge.

**Somerset County:** Bedminster, Bernardsville, Bound Brook, Branchburg, part of Bridgewater, Far Hills, Green Brook, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, North Plainfield, Peapack and Gladstone, Rocky Hill, South Bound Brook, Warren and Watchung.

According to the National Republican Committee (NRC), President George W. Bush won the new sev-

enth district with 51 percent last year after losing New Jersey by 15 percentage points.

"I'm delighted with the new district, but I will continue to work hard, campaign aggressively and do all I can to serve each and every constituent," Congressman Ferguson stated in a press release issued by the NRC. "No matter what polls show or how favorably new districts are drawn, I will always campaign as if every vote counts."

"We're excited about this new district," Mr. Ferguson's Deputy Chief of staff Brian Donahue told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood*. He noted that Mr. Ferguson, who grew up in Lebanon Township, is very familiar with Hunterdon County.

Union County Republican Chairman Ronald Frigerio of Westfield said he feels the district benefits Congressman Ferguson's reelection efforts in 2002.

"It is a benefit to Mike from an election point of view," he stated. He said Finn Casterson, Jr., the son of millionaire Finn Casterson, Sr., would have a better chance against Democratic Congressman Frank Pallone in the sixth district. Mr. Casterson's hometown of Bedminster sits in the seventh district.

Unlike previous Congressional redistricting, New Jersey maintained its 13 Congressional districts. The state had 15 seats back in the 1960s.

Sources indicate that Democratic State Senator Joseph Vitale of Woodbridge is considering running for the seat.

## Franklin Man Convicted In 1998 Shooting Death of Teen at Malibu

After a 15-day trial, a jury in Elizabeth, last week convicted a Franklin Township man of reckless manslaughter in the November 27, 1998 shooting death of Trishawn Moody, 19, of New Brunswick at Club Malibu in Scotch Plains.

Kirwan Brown, 21, was convicted in the shooting death of Moody in the night club's parking lot on Terrill Road. He was acquitted of the most serious charge of murder. News accounts indicated that Brown's attorney, Joseph Benedict of New Brunswick, plans to appeal the jury's decision.

Authorities said Moody was shot at least two times as he stood in line with other patrons waiting to enter the club. Brown, who had a prior confrontation with Moody, upon seeing Moody in line, reportedly returned to his car and retrieved a handgun and approached Moody.

Brown then opened fire on Moody, hitting him twice along with a 21-year-old New Brunswick

man, Ta-Quane Hoagland, who was also standing in line. Brown was convicted of aggravated assault in the shooting of Hoagland. He was also found guilty of unlawful possession of a weapon and possession of a weapon with intent to use it against another person.

Brown then fled the scene and was arrested several days later by Scotch Plains Police Sergeant William Schultz and Sergeant Kevin Foley of the Union County Prosecutor's Office. At the time of his arrest, authorities said Brown had written a sworn statement to police in which he admitted to the shooting.

At trial, Brown charged that his statement was forced out of him by overzealous detectives who, he said, harassed and intimidated him.

"We are gratified that the jury rejected the defendants false claim of coercion by the police and has held him accountable for Mr. Moody's death," said Prosecutor Thomas V. Manahan.

Assistant Prosecutor Regina

Caulfield, who handled the case for the prosecution, presented 16 witnesses. She was able to convince the jury, through their testimony, that Brown's alibi was fabricated and that he was guilty of the shootings.

Sentencing is scheduled for early February 2002. Brown faces a maximum of 10 years in state prison. He would have to serve 85 percent of his sentence before being able to apply for parole.

### Motor Vehicle Station Closed on Thanksgiving

WESTFIELD — The Westfield motor vehicle inspection facility will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 22.

Standard hours for the station are 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with late hours until 7:30 p.m. once a week. The appointment-only station is also open from 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

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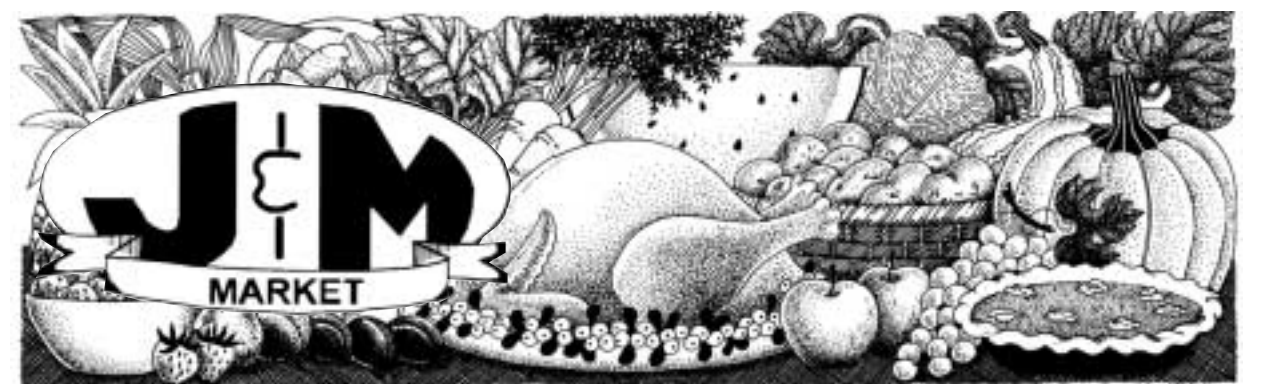
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| Seasonal Fruit & Cheese Platter  | \$35 (10-14 people)     | \$45 (15-19 people) |
| Cheese with cracker platter  | \$35 (10-14 people)     | \$45 (15-19 people) |
| Vegetable Crudite  | \$35 (10-14 people)     | \$45 (15-19 people) |
| Sliced Filet of Beef on Garlic Toast w/ Horseradish Sauce  | \$75 (10-15 people)     | \$150 (16-20)       |
| <b>Manicotti w/ Tomato Basil Sauce</b>   | <b>Pastas</b>           | \$5 lb.             |
| <b>Baked Penne w/ Ricotta and Mozzarella Cheese</b>  |                         | \$4 lb.             |
| <b>Traditional or Country Sausage Stuffing</b>   | <b>Side Dishes</b>      | \$12/tray           |
| Stuffed Artichoke  |                         | \$6/lb.             |
| Honey Sesame Glazed Carrots  |                         | \$4/lb.             |
| Green Beans Almondine  |                         | \$5/lb.             |
| Candied Yams   |                         | \$4/lb.             |
| Turket Giblet gravy  |                         | \$5/pt.             |
| Herb Whipped Potatoes  |                         | \$2/lb.             |
| Whipped Butternut Squash   |                         | \$4/lb.             |
| Baked Acorn Squash with Brown Sugar Glace  |                         | \$4/lb.             |
| <b>Tossed Mixed Greens, or Caesar, or Mesclun</b>  | <b>Salads</b>           | \$2/per person      |
| <b>Choice of dressings: Raspberry, Balsamic Vinaigrette or Italian Vinaigrette</b>                           |                         |                     |
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