



Fanwood Council Mitchell, Brennan (D)

FANWOOD — Fanwood Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell and her running mate, Mike Brennan, Democratic candidates in the November 6 General Election, have resumed their door-to-door campaign for seats on the Fanwood Borough Council.

They halted their campaigning on September 11 out of respect for the victims of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"It just wasn't right to ring doorbells while our neighbors were focused on rescue and relief efforts," said Councilwoman Mitchell, who is seeking a second three-year term on the Fanwood Borough Council. "There were much more important to do in the wake of the attacks."

As a registered nurse, Councilwoman Mitchell noted that she is an outspoken advocate on the Borough Council for health related issues.

Her community involvement includes, Council Liaison to the Fanwood Volunteer Rescue Squad and Chairwoman of Board of Health. She has also served as a blood drive coordinator and as a member of the Recreation Commission.

Ms. Mitchell has also worked with the Fanwood Recycling Association, the Volunteer and Communication Committee, and the Interfaith Council for the Homeless.

"President Bush and other leaders have urged Americans to get back to work and our normal activities," Mr. Brennan added. "With general election coming up in a few short weeks, there's no better way to get our lives back on track than to talk and listen to our neighbors and try to strengthen our Democratic system of government."

Mr. Brennan is a computer systems engineer. He grew up in Fanwood and graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and Rutgers University.

Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Brennan will be meeting Fanwood residents at the annual Fanny Wood Day celebration on Sunday afternoon, September 30, in downtown Fanwood.

Anyone interested in helping the campaign is asked to call Tom Plante at (908) 889-5298 or to write to the Committee to Elect Mitchell & Brennan, P.O. Box 163, Fanwood, 07023.

S. Plains Council

Guy Celentano (R)

SCOTCH PLAINS — "In light of the recent tragedy and out of respect for the healing of our nation, many political candidates, including those at the local level, put their campaign activities on hold," a spokesman for Scotch Plains Republican Township Council candidate, Guy Celentano, announced this week.

Mr. Celentano, who had ceased his campaign, restarted his effort this week by meeting with people on Scotch Plains Day held this past Saturday.

"In these trying times it is important to follow the President's suggestion and get back to work," said Mr. Celentano.

"I feel deeply for all those that were affected by this attack, both locally and nationally. The inspirational way that Scotch

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Plains and American residents have acted by showing their patriotism is awe-inspiring. The displays of flags, candles, and donations show how strong we all can be. The tremendous volunteer effort including many from our community has been incredible," the candidate stated.

Mr. Celentano further suggested that, "we as Americans should try to do our part in supporting our government and our economy by supporting our local businesses."

"I look forward to walking the rest of the town to meet the residents of Scotch Plains, and getting back to thinking of our local issues, while remembering what we lost. I will continue to support and promote shared services with our surrounding communities, which will help to relieve our tax burden."

"The current Republican Majority Town Council has done an excellent job the last two years to hold the line on taxes, and I hope to continue that trend. We will continue to be strong and heal as a country, state and in our own community," Mr. Celentano stated.

Assembly, Dist. 21 Jardim (D), Hern (D)

Thomas C. Jardim and J. Brooke Hern, Democratic candidates for the State General Assembly in the 21st Legislative District, have announced their plans to get more young voters out to the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6.

Mr. Jardim and Mr. Hern said they would focus on individuals between 18 and 24 years of age.

They said their aim is to increase these voters' interest and participation in the Democratic process and the importance of exercising their right to vote.

"It's important that young people have a voice in and feel like they are a part of the democratic process," said Mr. Jardim, the former Mayor of Westfield and the first Democrat elected to that position since 1909.

"It's troubling to see how very few young people exercise their right to vote," said Mr. Hern, a New Providence resident and former aide to members of Congress and the State Legislature. "Even in their lack, they are expressing their belief that public policy is not relevant to their lives. Clearly, it is incumbent upon candidates and office holders to communicate directly with young people in a way that brings them out to vote."

"I want to congratulate Tom and Brooke for deciding to participate in this important effort," said David Skaggs, Director of the Washington-based Center for Democracy & Citizenship and who represented the State of Colorado in the United States Congress for 12 years. "It's crucial for the good people who run for office to rise above the conventional wisdom and break the unfortunate habit, where candidates ignore potential young voters because so few vote, and so few vote because candidates ignore them."

According to nationwide estimates, less than 30 percent of eligible voters between the ages of 18 and 24 voted in the 2000 Presidential election, and less than 20 percent voted in the 1998 Congressional elections.

The New Jersey Young Voter Campaign is a non-partisan project funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts and the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Campaigns Slowly Start Up After Trade Center Tragedy

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — The political campaigns for Westfield Town Council remained all but shut down this week following the devastating attack on the World Trade Center that may have taken as many as 6,500 lives including those of eight local residents.

Westfield Republican Town Committee Chairman Jon Bramnick said his party's candidates, all incumbents, have opted not to continue to door-to-door canvassing at this time. He said, instead, council members Peter M. Echausse, First Ward; Matthew P. Albano, Second Ward; Neil F. Sullivan, Third Ward, and Janis F. Weinstein, Fourth Ward, are available to meet with constituents on town issues or to discuss aspects on the campaign.

The Republicans have decided not to send its campaign literature either.

"I feel that to be inappropriate at this time," he explained. Mr. Bramnick also said "aggressive campaigning" on issues simply would be a good idea considering the tragedy that is ongoing following the September 11th attack which led to the destruction of the 110-story Twin Towers and other surrounding buildings.

"Aggressive campaigning is inappropriate at this time," the GOP Chairman said.

Kenneth Rotter, Chairman of the Westfield Town Democratic Committee, indicated that his party's candidates resumed their campaign this past weekend. The candidates seeking to unseat Republicans are Reid Edles, First Ward; Thomas J. Fucillo, Second Ward; Kevin G. Walsh, Third Ward, and Susan Jacobson in the Fourth Ward.

Although admitting it was a "tough call" on starting up the door-to-door effort, he cited President George W. Bush and other leaders resolve that America get back to work and life as best as possible since the September 11 World Trade Center tragedy.

"We must go forward with the Democratic process that the terrorists were trying to destroy," he said.

He said it is important that candidates "continue to engage in a dialogue" with residents on the issues, "and continue to do what makes us America and what makes us Westfield."

The State Legislative District 21 race is starting to get back in swing as well. Thomas C. Jardim, a former two-term, Westfield Mayor turned Assembly candidate, indicated that his campaign, along with running mate J. Brooke Hern of New Providence, officially began knocking on doors

again this past weekend. State Senate candidate, Ellen Steinberg of Chatham, joins them on the Democratic ticket.

"I feel pretty satisfied that it is not only appropriate but important to resume and to get back to as normal a campaign as we can," Mr. Jardim stated, citing the Democratic process of choosing America's elected leaders.

"I feel pretty strong to get back out there campaigning," he said noting the campaign will obviously be respectful to those families directly impacted by the tragedies of September 11.

On the Republican side, Assemblyman Thomas Kean, Jr. of Westfield said his campaign is starting up slowly this week.

"I think the one thing we want in this election season is that there are all positive campaigns," Mr. Kean said. "And I think that will be good for the electorate and Democratic process as well."

Mr. Kean is joined on the GOP ticket by State Senate candidate Richard H. Bagger of Westfield and State Assemblyman Dr. Eric Munoz of Summit.

Chiropractor to Speak To Mothers & More

CRANFORD — Dr. Edward Lubrano, a licensed chiropractor with the Lubrano Family Chiropractic Center will speak to the Union County Chapter of Mothers and More on Wednesday, October 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hanson House, 38 Springfield Avenue in Cranford.

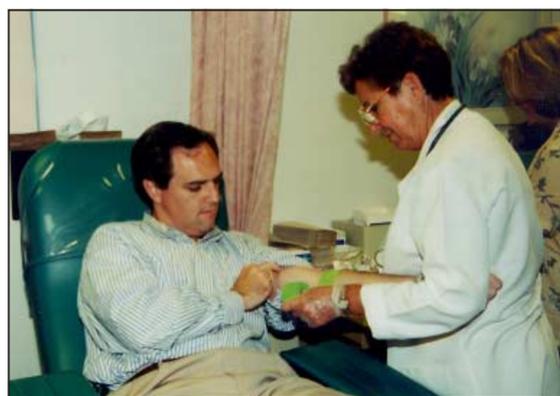
Entitled "Women's Health and Stress," Dr. Lubano's lecture will include an individual personalized health survey which will help determine each participant's stress level.

Dr. Lubrano will also ask for two volunteers to complete a computer-generated test to determine stress levels and will then field questions regarding women's health and stress.

Mothers & More is an international, non-profit organization supporting women who have altered their career paths in order to remain at home and care for their children.

The Union County Chapter offers a variety of activities for mothers and their children, including playgroups and outings for moms and children, plus discussions and guest speakers at meetings.

Chapter meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Hanson House. New members are always welcome. For more information, please call Heidi at (908) 810-7165 or Jan at (732) 381-3199.



THE GIFT OF LIFE...Congressman Michael J. Ferguson (R-7th) was among the hundreds of persons who gave blood following the September 11 World Trade Center terrorist attack. At Overlook Hospital in Summit, where Mr. Ferguson donated blood, over 1,000 persons called to give blood over a two-day period. The hospital is averaging 75 to 100 donations daily.

County Sheriff; Freeholders Froehlich; Mingo, Ruotolo, Sullivan (D's)

Editor's Note: The following release was held the previous few weeks due to the shutdown of campaigns following the attack on the World Trade Center.

ELIZABETH — Union County's 2001 Democratic candidates — Sheriff Ralph G. Froehlich, Freeholder Vice Chairman Lewis Mingo, Jr. of Plainfield, Freeholders Mary P. Ruotolo of Westfield and Daniel P. Sullivan of Elizabeth — officially kicked off their re-election campaign earlier this month.

"This is one of the best teams of freeholders I have ever worked with in my 24 years as Sheriff. Together, we have worked to cut crime, make life better for our senior citizens, preserve open space and streamline government services," Sheriff Froehlich said.

"SLAP (Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program) put non-violent offenders to work in our communities and the municipal transport program we created allows our local police to spend more time keeping our streets safe," Sheriff Froehlich added.

Under the leadership of Freeholder Sullivan, this Freeholder team began to preserve open space and improve Union County's parks in 1998 the creation of Project Pocket Parks.

"That initiative led us to the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, which voters overwhelmingly approved last year. In 2001, we began to implement this trust fund by preserving the largest tract of privately held open space in Union County," Freeholder Sullivan said.

As Finance Chairman in 2000, Freeholder Ruotolo worked to ensure that the county held the line on taxes for the fifth year in a row. She also created Access 2000, which made computers and Internet access available to every public classroom in Union County.

"I'm delighted that even while working to keep taxes as low as possible

we have been able to help our municipalities with educational enhancements for our children," said Ms. Ruotolo. "This year, our new Access 2001 initiative began linking our schools and libraries into a powerful educational resource."

Freeholder Mingo noted that this year was declared by the board as the "Year of the Senior Citizen."

"With Senior Focus, we helped build new senior centers. Senior Scholars continues to provide new educational and personal opportunities for our seniors. With Seniors in Motion, we provided vehicles to allow greater mobility and self-sufficiency for senior citizens," Freeholder Mingo said.

The candidates noted that the board's efforts of implementing "long-awaited road and bridge improvements, created a successful Welfare-to-Work program and supported local artists and historians" through the HEART (History, Education, and Art Reaching Thousands) Grant program.

"Our candidates are running on a solid record of achievements, economic growth and fiscal stability. I'm confident voters will look past our opponents' empty rhetoric and re-elect our team on November 6," said Union County Democratic Charlotte DeFilippo. "The Democratic team is continuing to make Union County as better place in which to live, work and raise a family."

AARP Meeting Slated

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet on Monday, October 1, in the Assembly Hall of the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, at 140 Mountain Avenue.

The social period with refreshments will begin at 1 p.m., followed by a brief business meeting at 1:30 p.m. Guest speaker Fontaine Gatti will then give a slide presentation on Tahiti and several Polynesian Islands.

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