



Ribbon-Cutting on the Social Services Agency side of the building. Left to right are Public Works Director Emily A. Hammer; Commissioner Director James R. Kern III; Commissioner Lori Ciesla; Warren County Division of Temporary Assistance and Social Services Director Lauren Burd; Commissioner Jason J. Sarnoski; Rhonda Thomas-Boothe, County Alliance Coordinator, Warren County Department of Human Services; county Chief Financial Officer Kim Francisco; and former freeholder Richard D. Gardner.

Commissioners Cut Ribbons to Open Two Buildings in One

By Art Charlton

WHITE TWP., NJ – To open a just-completed facility that is actually two buildings in one, the Warren County Board of County Commissioners held a ceremonial ribbon-cutting for new Warren County Social Services Agency offices, then headed to the other side of the structure to cut the ribbon at the front door to the new home of Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County.

The new building at 3 Shotwell Drive just off Route 519 in White Township joins a growing complex of County government facilities, next to the existing Human Services building and the Richard D. Gardner Branch of the Warren County Library that opened in April 2013. Nearby are the main garage of the County Road and Bridge divisions, the Warren County Correctional Center, and the Wayne Dumont, Jr. Administration Building. Staff will be moving into the new facility in the coming weeks.

Joined by representatives of the project team and some municipal officials, Commissioner Director James R. Kern III and Commissioners Jason J. Sarnoski and Lori Ciesla wielded oversized scissors to snip red ribbons that adorned the entrances to the building.

Kern noted that the COVID pandemic showed the increased demand for human services programs and the need for more space to provide those services.

Saying "It really took a team to make this happen," Kern saluted the project team: Warren County Administrator Alex J. Lazorisak; Public Works Director Emily A. Hammer; architect Raymond E. O'Brien; Finelli Consulting Engineers; Settembrino Architects, Construction Manager; and De Sapio Construction, Inc., General Contractor, who "did an absolutely beautiful job on this building."

The Commissioners stressed that the project was accomplished through the County's long-standing "pay as you go" policy, without borrowing money and spending on interest payments.

Warren County "has a history of doing the right projects for the right reasons with the right people," Sarnoski said. "When we build, we build with a purpose" and not to expand government but to consolidate, which results in lower operating costs, he explained.

Sarnoski noted the building includes secure entrances for the public and for employees, and is set up to enable safe interaction. Meanwhile, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County will be moving to "fresh, bright offices" for serving youth involved in 4-H programs and to provide services to farmers and other residents, Sarnoski said.

Ciesla pointed out that once again, Warren County is able to construct a new



SpringHill Suites Grand Opening

By Rep Joe Emrick

SpringHill Suites in Easton is officially open! To celebrate the addition of this new hotel to our community, a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at its location, 3774 Eastgate Blvd.

Drug Take Back Day Saturday

By Rep Joe Emrick

This Saturday, Oct. 26, is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

Sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the event is aimed at reminding citizens across the nation and the Commonwealth that safe disposal of unused prescription drugs is one of the best ways to fight drug abuse.

In addition to prescription medications, DEA regulations allow for the disposal of over-the-counter medications; prescription patches and ointments; vitamins; and pet medicines. Please note each take-back location has the right to determine what items they will accept.

To learn more about Pennsylvania's drug take-back program, including finding a take-back location near you, click here https://links.pahousenews.com/q/0CO__qOWs60XH8BbZ8kx1_2cyEAB62UXiSSZcOJYnZ0aW1lc0ByY24uY29t4gV25pI8MRp38LPzCW3jnEV1dpaQ