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For immediate release
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COUNTY CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW UNION COUNTY COLLEGE BUILDING IN ELIZABETH

*Six-story building financed and built by the
Union County Improvement Authority in partnership
with the County of Union, Union County College, and City of Elizabeth*

ELIZABETH--Union County Freeholders, the Union County Improvement Authority, the Mayor of the City of Elizabeth, and Union County College officials held a ceremony celebrating the groundbreaking of the six-story Elizabeth I. Kellogg Union County College building in midtown Elizabeth today.

The \$48 million building, developed by the Union County Improvement Authority, will house degree programs, continuing education offerings, a lecture hall, a state of the art information commons and library, and serve as a new home for Trinitas School of Nursing. The top floor will serve as the new headquarters of the college's customized training arm, the Industry Business Institute (IBI), and will also provide a conference center and office suites that will be made available for economic development offices. The building is expected to be completed by October of 2009 and serve as many as 8,300 students, including 2,300 from the Trinitas Nursing School. The Union County Improvement Authority is financing the project, and the State of New Jersey will also contribute \$19 million.

"With this new facility, we will expand educational opportunities for our residents," said Freeholder Chairwoman Bette Jane Kowalski. "I would like to thank our many partners, including the Union County Improvement Authority, who took the lead on its construction and financing. We look forward to its opening."

Charlotte DeFilippo, the Chairman of the Union County Improvement Authority, thanked the Freeholder Board for their support.

"We look forward to the construction of a brand new state-of-the art facility that will educate a generation of our residents, raise their living standards and improve their quality of life," DeFilippo said. "When we invest in education, we invest in our future."

Mayor Chris Bollwage hailed the construction of the new facility as part of the ongoing revitalization that has occurred in Elizabeth over the past decade.

"Our efforts with partners like Union County College and the County of Union are making exciting things happen for Elizabeth," Bollwage said. "We are empowering our residents with new educational opportunities and adding to the institutions that occupy the hub of Elizabeth."

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Dr. Thomas H. Brown, Ph.D., the President of Union County College, thanked the County Improvement Authority for their efforts in spearheading the development, and noted the Elizabeth I. Kellogg building would add another dimension to the college's expanding system, which has campuses in Elizabeth, Cranford, Plainfield and Scotch Plains. Union County College is also the oldest community college in New Jersey.

"This educational complex is part of Union County College's focus to ensure that we are equipped to prepare students for the professional demands of the 21st century," said Dr. Brown.

The Elizabeth I. Kellogg building will rise from W. Jersey Street between the Broad Street NJ Transit Station and the former PSE&G substation on W. Jersey Street intersecting Price Street in the midtown area. It is located a short half-block away from Union County College's current campus on W. Jersey Street, the Lessner building, which will continue to house the Institute for Intensive English (ESL), a number of existing credit programs, and new credit programs.

In addition, approximately 3,000 students of the College's Center for Economic and Workforce Development will be brought back to downtown Elizabeth from their current temporary location at St. Hedwig's school in Bayway.

Highlights of the new building include:

- ∞ Six stories, 132,000 square feet
- ∞ Brick and precast concrete exterior, steel structure decked with concrete
- ∞ A two-story atrium lobby
- ∞ Library, Information Commons, and food court.
- ∞ 150-seat lecture hall
- ∞ Multi-purpose classrooms
- ∞ The Nursing School will include a simulated patient evaluation and treatment area
- ∞ Administrative offices and economic development suites on upper floors
- ∞ 1.4 acres
- ∞ Baseboard and duct gas heating and central air
- ∞ Fiber optics
- ∞ Four elevators (one freight elevator) and rear loading area

Terminal Construction Corp., of Wood-Ridge, NJ, is the contractor, and Imperial Construction Company of Elizabeth is the construction manager. Fletcher Thompson A/E LLC of East Brunswick are the architects.

In anticipation, the Union County College Foundation recently concluded a highly successful capital and endowment campaign, which raised over \$8 million dollars to equip the new building and provide for student scholarships, Dr. Brown noted.

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The building is named after the late Elizabeth I. Kellogg, a longtime resident of Elizabeth who was well known for her personal and philanthropic commitment to the betterment of the city and its people. In 1982 she was named a charter member of the Board of Governors of the newly named Union County College and eventually retired from that position as a Governor Emeritus.

She also served as President of the Union County College Foundation and both she and her heirs have been generous supporters of the College and its mission. This building will join college facilities already named in her honor - the library located in the Lessner Building in Elizabeth and the Greenhouse located on the Cranford campus.