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**BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS**

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**NEWS**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: APRIL 20, 2011  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: JOYCE GABRIEL

**Camden's Ferry Avenue Library Named for Riletta L. Cream**  
*Legendary Educator Honored with naming rights on library that provides major benefits and new services to city residents through the Camden County Library System*

The official opening of Camden's Ferry Avenue Branch Library as a member of the Camden County Library System included a surprise announcement that the facility would be named for former freeholder and legendary educator Riletta L. Cream.

"Patterson had Joe Clark, Camden had Riletta Cream," said Freeholder Ian K. Leonard, the Freeholder Board's liaison to the Camden County Library System, a position formerly held by Cream. "As many of us know, Miss Cream was the legendary principal of Camden High from 1972 to 1987 who transformed the school from a troubled institution to one everyone was proud of. Today, we're here to celebrate the official opening of this branch and to honor Freeholder Cream."

As a freeholder, Riletta L. Cream championed the construction of the Ferry Avenue Branch of the Camden County Library System.

"This library is here because of the vision of Riletta Cream and her colleagues on the Freeholder Board," said Camden Mayor Dana L. Redd. "Camden residents will truly benefit with the expanded library services now available to them because of these types of partnerships. Working together, we will move Camden forward."

"I am overwhelmed," said Riletta Cream. "I am so proud of what this place has become. When we built the library, it was just walls with nothing happening. When I walked through the doors today, there are books and children...it's happening!"

Under the direction of the Camden County Library System, the Ferry Avenue Branch Library has been transformed from a facility without inventoried books or a card catalogue into a modern computerized library that enables residents to quickly and easily find the materials they need.

"When this library first opened in 2005, it served as a catalyst for transforming the Centerville neighborhood," said Mayor Redd. "The city was able to leverage this investment to encourage new housing that turned about an entire community. An additional 668 new units will be built around the library in the near future."

Freeholder Cream was joined by Judith Nadell reading read to a group of 20 preschoolers from the Camden Kids Academy. Nadell and John Langan's publishing company, Townsend Press of Berlin

Township, generously donated \$100,000 to help defray the costs of merging the Ferry Ave. branch into the county library system. The couple also gave two free books from their company's collection to each of the children attending.

New library services now available to Camden residents include: access to an expanded suite of online research and homework databases; free computer classes; tax assistance; book discussion groups; an active Summer Reading Club for children and teens; and, the Your Library, Your Lifeline series of programs offered to provide assistance with job searching, resume writing, investing, saving for college, and more.

“Choosing to join the Camden County Library System was the right thing to do for Camden City,” said Freeholder Leonard. “Children deserve access to these services, and Camden has chosen to implement a city library tax to provide them - just like other municipalities in the county system.”

In addition to Freeholder Ian K. Leonard and Camden City Mayor Dana L. Redd, guest included NJ Senator Donald Norcross, Assemblyman Gilbert “Whip” Wilson, Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr., Freeholder Scot McCray, Camden City Council Member Frank Moran, State Librarian Norma Blake, Camden County Library Director Linda Devlin and Camden County Library Commission Members including Chair Susan Bass-Levin.

A slide show from the event on April 26 can be found at [www.camdencounty.com](http://www.camdencounty.com)