



Suntastic Summer

Local resident stays on track to raise funds for Komen

NEW PROVIDENCE — Park in Newark on Sunday, Jean Criss-Farrell of New Providence, a Fuze Beverages Hero for Hope, and her sister, Dr. Mary Fontana, were two of the 10,000 area residents in Essex County Branch Brook

Park in Newark on Sunday, May 4, to participate in the Susan G. Komen North Jersey Race for the Cure. The 5K run/walk series raised awareness and funds for breast cancer research and

community education, screening and treatment programs for underserved and uninsured women. A million dollars in pledges has been received to date.

Pledging continues through May 31. Make donations online at www.komennorthjersey.org/race or by check payable to the Komen North Jersey Affiliate, 785 Springfield Ave., Summit 07901. At least 340 community, corporate and high school teams participated in the Race for the Cure.

Team Jean, one of the top 10 teams in fundraising, was captained by Ms. Criss-Farrell, who also served as a member of the North Jersey Race for the Cure Survivor Committee.

In welcoming Race Day participants, Deborah Belfatto of Summit, Komen North Jersey Affiliate executive director and co-founder, said, "This is truly a beautiful day, a most significant day, and one we have looked forward to for 12 years. Although the Race for the Cure has been held in over 100 cities throughout the

U.S. and in two foreign countries, this is the first time the race has been held in northern New Jersey.

"The funds we raise here today will provide life-saving resources to thousands of uninsured women throughout northern New Jersey and will bring us one step closer to finding the cures. We are honored to have so many join us, an overwhelming 10,000 from communities throughout North Jersey, in a single purpose: saving lives and the eradication of breast cancer worldwide."

Governor Jon S. Corzine was part of the opening ceremony and met a personal goal by running the 5K — the first since his accident last April. Thousands cheered as he crossed the finish line at 33 minutes 16 seconds.

Also part of the program was former Governor and Senate President Richard Codey, whose wife, Mary Jo Codey headed-up Team Codey with 110 team members; Newark's Deputy Mayor Margarita Muniz and



TEAM JEAN — Jean Criss-Farrell of New Providence, a Fuze Beverages Hero for Hope, at left, and her sister, Dr. Mary Fontana, in Essex County Branch Brook Park in Newark on Sunday, May 4.

Councilman Donald Payne, Jr. Kent Manahan, senior anchor, *NJN News*, and Steve Aduato, anchor, *Thirteen/WNET/PBS* served as masters of ceremonies.

Grammy award-winning artist and honorary race chairwoman Gloria Gaynor performed "I Will Survive" during the Survivor Recognition Ceremony.

