

St. Mary gets special grant for family unit

St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, has been awarded a \$110,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the hospital's Family Practice Residency Program. It was announced today by Sister Grace Frances Strauber, executive director.

The grant is for a three-year period and will be used to enhance the graduate training program through added faculty and support personnel.

The hospital is the only urban institution in the state to have a residency program in Family Practice. Sister Grace pointed out. The grant will permit the program to accommodate an additional four physicians beyond its present complement of 12 students.

"This is particularly significant for Hoboken and the people we serve," Sister Grace continued. "It is a fact that physicians normally remain in the community where they receive their residency training. We can expect in years to come that more and more family physicians will stay in this area to relieve the acute shortage of primary care providers we now have. In that respect, the grant is particularly welcome."

SISTER GRACE STRAUBER, Hoboken

Dedication of a new north tower at St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken on Oct. 22 will cause many residents to be grateful to Sister Grace Strauber, SFP, MHA, the hospital's executive director.

Sister Grace has always gravitated toward management and delved into finance to provide herself with a background for her aspirations.

Entering the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor, a nursing order, a year after high school graduation, she directed her efforts toward the business end of care for the sick. Her bachelor's degree from Siena College was taken in business administration, and her master's degree from St. Louis University was in hospital administration.

She came to St. Mary to assume her present post in 1971 with a solid background of experience behind her. She had been in charge of accounting at St. Michael's Hospital in Newark; assistant administrator of St. Clare's Hospital in Schenectady and for five years treasurer of her religious order.

Sister Grace introduced a hospital-based family health center which is having a great impact on the level of health of the disadvantaged of Hoboken and vicinity. She modernized employees' training and made constructive use of computers. She has shown a deep con-



cern for mental health and problems of the aging.

Sister Grace is constantly updating herself on management techniques and hospital care, attending seminars and reading. She is chairman of the Hudson Health Association's health planning committee; a member of the Hospital Financial Management Association, the New Jersey Hospital Association's board of trustees, the Hudson County Health Systems Agency and the World Health Organization.

Ranieri tries to curb commuter parking

Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri sees a way he can help Hoboken residents get a better parking break — and he's busy today trying to develop it at the expense of commuters "who leave their cars in congested places before leaving for work in New York."

Ranieri is moving his project forward as the result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision earlier this week giving cities and communities the go-ahead to restrict commuter parking on congested neighborhood streets while allowing residents to park there on a free permit.

The justices overturned the

Virginia Supreme Court which had struck down an Arlington County parking ordinance on grounds it unconstitutionally discriminated against non-residents. Ranieri had launched a four-way move. He has advised Mayor Steve Cappiello of the high court's decision. He has asked the Hoboken Law Department to obtain and study the decision. He has also written briefly to seven cities requesting copies of their ordinances along lines similar to that of the Supreme Court's decision. The cities are Baltimore, Atlanta, San Francisco, Boston and Cambridge, Mass.; Charlottesville, Va. and

Wilmington, Del. He also wants to know the reaction of the State Motor Vehicle Division to the decision.

"We don't want to keep commuters from coming to Hoboken," said Ranieri. "We have \$8.5 million enclosed parking facilities with 1,500 car spaces available to anyone in the Grogan-Marine View Plaza. The parking is close to mass transit from Hoboken to a number of points."

The councilman said that, hopefully, once his project is finalized special free decals will be distributed by the police department for use by residents on their cars.

Ranieri said that for three years, until 1953, Hoboken had a permit system through which residents could obtain, voluntarily, a decal for a car. The decal, said Ranieri, was purely unofficial. But it served to alert police officers that the owner of the car is a resident.

Ranieri said that he will propose to the council that once resident parking priority is adopted, it enact a scale of fines for commuters violating the law.

Maxwell House to meet Jersey City on water levy

Jersey City officials and representatives of Maxwell House will get together — over a cup of coffee, perhaps — to discuss the impact of a proposed water rate increase will have on the giant Hoboken coffee maker.

Hoboken officials have expressed concern that another water rate increase by Jersey City, from which Hoboken purchases its water, will drive Maxwell House away. Maxwell House uses about one-half the water purchased by Hoboken.

Jersey City officials think part of the problem is that whenever they raise the water rates, so does Hoboken, even though the latter charges almost double the price it

pays to Jersey City.

"Why can't Hoboken cut down on its profit?" asked Francis X. Beirne, Jersey City's finance director.

Beirne estimated Hoboken nets about \$1 million annually on resale of Jersey City water.

Jersey City is seeking increased water rates to help meet a projected \$2.8 million deficit in its water division. The rate increases for out-of-town customers would be 45 per cent, while Jersey City residents and businesses would get a 40 per cent hike.

Officials say the increase is necessary to receive state approval for some \$20 million in bonds Jersey City must sell to finish its new water treatment plant.

Cappiello offers to give water system to Smith

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is again offering the city's water system to Jersey City — free of charge — if it will agree to charge Hoboken customers the same price it charges it own.

Reiterating the offer was Cappiello's reaction to a planned meeting between Jersey City officials and representatives of the Maxwell House Coffee plant in Hoboken, and the claim by Jersey City that Hoboken is making about \$1 million a year in

profit from the resale of the water it buys from Jersey City.

"That had to be an off-the-cuff statement by whomever made it," said the mayor when advised of the comment from Francis X. Beirne, Jersey City's finance director.

Beirne and coffee plant officials are to meet shortly on the proposed 45 per cent increase Jersey City wants. Hoboken officials are fearful that such an increase would force the company out of the city.

According to Cappiello, Hoboken

does not make \$1 million a year in profit on the resale of the water. He said that apparently Beirne took the total amount of water Hoboken bought from Jersey City and then applied Hoboken's water rate to it in order to get the \$1 million profit.

"But what is not taken into account is the fact that we have a system to maintain just like Jersey City," he continued. "We have a water department with workmen, meter readers, and a clerical staff. And then there is the fact that we were losing a large amount of water before we entered into the water line repair and replacement program."

"We are not making a million in profit, that's for sure. In fact I'm not too sure that we are going to break even this year. But if Jersey City officials doubt me and think there is a million profit, then I offer it to them."

"Let Jersey City take over our distribution system — with its one million in profit. The only condition Hoboken would attach to this is that it charge Hoboken residential and industrial users the same fee it charges Jersey City users."

Cappiello said he made the same proposal to Jersey City several weeks ago but didn't get an answer.

Oops!

The Hoboken City Hall boiler needs work. The Public Works Department so informed the business administrator last Sept. 1. He sent the work authorization out to a contractor last Thursday.

So did a lot of other people who needed boiler work. The contractor doesn't know when he can get to City Hall. You and I might be forgiven such a mistake in the privacy of our own home, but shouldn't City Hall be run better?

Hoboken pays water bill but wants future credit

Jersey City is getting \$100,000 from Hoboken for water supplied last month, but Hoboken officials, who feel they've been ripped off of money for a lot of water they never got, are sending something along with the payment.

They're attaching a "credit for the penalty we are paying for the value of water not received by the city," according to Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, who estimates the amount due at around \$25,000.

"We can apply that figure to any subsequent monthly payment," Ranieri said. The Hoboken City Council sanctioned the action at last night's meeting. Ranieri was upset that the city consumed less than the minimum level set by contract without having petitioned Jersey City for a reduction in fee, as allowed by the agreement, which provides for a 30-day notice.

Hoboken City Hall song: 'Baby, it's cold inside'

It's a little chilly at Hoboken City Hall these days — and likely to stay that way for some weeks to come. The City Hall heating system is broken down but the order to repair it only went out last week, and it may be some weeks before the contractor can finish other work he is doing and can get to City Hall.

See Editorial: OOPS! On Page 16.

As the temperature in the building hovered around the 60 degree mark yesterday, city employees resorted to wearing sweaters and coats. A few broke out their electric heaters — and proceeded to put portions of the building in darkness as overloaded circuit breakers switched off the electricity.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato, who is responsible for the building, was being blamed by most for not having the boilers ready for the cooler weather. But Amato said he had done his job.

"I had the heating system checked out during the summer and submitted a requisition for the needed work to the business administrator on Sept. 1," he continued. "I don't know what has happened but I do know that no work is being done on the system as yet."

From city sources it was learned that Edwin Chius, the business administrator, didn't sign the purchase order and send it out to the contractor until last week — five weeks after it was sent to him by Amato.

Chius was not sure of the circumstances or the dates involved but said he would "check it out."

Beirne tells Hoboken to keep its water system

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello may find this hard to swallow, but Jersey City officials think his suggestion that they take over his city's water operations is "absolutely ridiculous."

Jersey City Finance Director Francis X. Beirne said today he has enough problems with his own water division without taking on Hoboken's troubles.

"I see no sense to it," declared Beirne.

Jersey City sells water to Hoboken, which the latter then resells to its residents and businesses.

Jersey City will soon apply to the state for permission to raise the price 45 per cent to out-of-town customers (and 40 per cent to its own residents),

and Hoboken officials fear it might drive out its biggest employer, the Maxwell House Coffee plant. Maxwell House uses about one-half the water purchased by Hoboken.

Beirne contends there is no need for Hoboken to increase its resale price, and claims Hoboken actually makes a profit of about \$1 million on water. Hoboken officials dispute that, commenting that they'll be lucky to break even this year.

Beirne said that if Jersey City were to take over, it would have to analyze Hoboken's records thoroughly, as well as become responsible for Hoboken's equipment and lines. The first would be too time-consuming and the second would be too costly, Beirne said.

Hoboken finds its long lost sewer line

The Hoboken Department of Public Works has solved the mystery of the sewer line that wasn't there. They uncovered the troublesome line over the weekend on Grand Street, just south of 15th Street. It was believed there was no line when workmen had excavated to a depth of more than nine feet and couldn't locate the sewer line.

"They found it a few feet deeper," said Public Works director Andrew J. Amato, "but we still have a problem. The line isn't flowing anywhere near as fast as it should be. Residents and businesses in the area are still getting water in their basements from the lines, at least we think it's from the lines."

He said the search for the cause of the sluggish flow will continue.

Meanwhile, Amato said he will ask Mayor Steve Cappiello to authorize a systematic repair program for the city's sewer lines utilizing the city's own men and equipment.

"I would like to stage a series of meetings between myself and the mayor, and engineers familiar with the city's sewerage system," said the director. "From these meetings we should be able to determine the work that has to be done, what we can do ourselves without having to hire outside contractors, and what has to be done by contractors."

"Using this information we can possibly set up a repair program systematically attacking the worst problems."

Amato said the sewerage system is in bad condition but that fact in itself was not new to anyone.

"Everyone knows about the old wood sewer lines that go back to the Civil War, or how that area was neglected over the years," he continued. "Those are the reasons why the system is bad; they aren't methods of fixing it. It is time something is done. Neither the mayor nor I want to continue from past neglect."

Amato added he would also ask the mayor to have the Community Development Agency (CDA) investigate all state and federal funding to cover the cost of any major sewer line work.

Apologies to Hoboken police, not from maker of remark

Councilman Robert Ranieri of Hoboken, who felt that the state police superintendent maligned his city in a recent remark, has received explanations from Gov. Brendan Byrne and a state police captain formerly from Hoboken, who answered for his boss. But he still wants an apology from the superintendent, Ranieri said.

Ranieri dashed off a mailgram when he heard Col. Clinton Pagano describe state police undercover men as "not the same characters as those

off the street corners of Hoboken, Jersey City and Newark."

The councilman's demand for an apology brought a reply from Byrne that he's sure Pagano "intended no insult to the people of Hoboken or those of other cities."

The other reply came from Capt. F. M. Wladich, a Hoboken native, who was on the West Coast. Wladich, who still has relatives in Hoboken, said the superintendent's remarks "were not made to discredit any of the citizens of Hoboken."

Garbage mounds close parts of 2 Hoboken streets to traffic

Sections of 14th and Jefferson streets in Hoboken are closed to traffic because large mounds of garbage block the way. And while private contractors have caused much of the problem, the city, too, has contributed to the mess.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said that the city has been taking "five-to-10 truckloads" out of the area each day but conceded that city trucks were also dumping a portion of the rubbish.

"What the city dumps is taken out the next day," he said. "It's what con-

tractors dump that causes the problem. But how can you separate our dumping and theirs?"

The director said that the city knows several contractors who have been warned about illegal dumping, but who have continued anyway.

When asked why an attempt isn't made to arrest them, the director replied that they have to be caught in the act.

"And I don't have anyone to do that," he continued. "There aren't any inspectors any more so that's one

means not available to the department. The only other alternative is to throw it into the lap of the police department."

Amato said that the problem would be partially resolved when the city builds its compactor at the Public Works garage.

"Our (the city's) contribution to the mess will stop, but I don't know about the illegal dumping," he said. "Maybe we'll have to close off the street so contractors can't get in. But then they'll just find some other spot to dump it."

Amato said he would discuss the problem with Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director, and Police Chief George W. Crimmins.

Crimmins raps 'police' flimflam

A flimflam ring is reportedly soliciting Hoboken businessmen to advertise in a fictitious police publication it claims has the sanction of Chief George Crimmins.

The operation, which came to Crimmins' attention yesterday when two local businessmen told him they were approached, apparently relies on the chief's name to push the newspaper and get \$60 an ad from the unsuspecting merchants. Crimmins said police officials from the Hoboken PBA, county chiefs and state chiefs organizations all told him they were unaware of the publication.

"I got two complaints within 45 minutes of each other today from businessmen asking me what gives," Crimmins said. "I have no idea who these people are and I absolutely have no ties to this gimmick. I don't know how many have been approached or even how many have given right now."

Although Crimmins said he was sure the ring doesn't operate out of Hoboken, he said he doesn't really know how extensive the deceptive scheme is. He said he was completely unaware of the operation until yesterday and asked all local merchants to report any inquiries to him immediately.

"The one thing I'm asking from these people is that they say 'no' right away and then give me a call," Crimmins said. "We have a very strict law governing police solicitations and I'm absolutely certain the whole thing is a fraud."

Hoboken given \$279,000 in back taxes

By TERRY BRENNAN

Hoboken officials gladly accepted \$279,000 in back taxes yesterday from the owners of twin 25-story towers at Grogan Marine View Plaza.

The money, which became a campaign issue last spring when it was not included in the municipal budget, includes property taxes and interest along with tax shelter funds covering up until the end of September. Parking Authority lawyers are now working out a court agreement to collect \$382,000 that Integrated Resources of New York owes that city agency.

"We knew we were going to get the money but we never really knew just how much," Mayor Steve Cappiello said. "Our Law Department is now going over the figures to see

if we can get some interest on the (15 per cent of gross rents) tax shelter."

Although the firm had deposited some \$200,000 in an account to ultimately pay the city, Law Department officials were never quite sure the company had to pay property taxes for two years before they opened the towers 20 months ago. About \$124,000 of the money stems from in-lieu-of payments this year because many of the apartments have been rented since Jan. 1.

The city's taxpayers got some welcome relief two weeks ago when the director of the state Housing Finance Agency ordered the firm to pay the property taxes. Director William Johnston ruled that the owners had to pay what amounted to \$33,000 in taxes and interest due from 1973 and 1974.

The HFA has threatened to foreclose on the apartment complex because the company is \$1.8 million behind in mortgage payments to the state. The owners of the project are reportedly looking to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to get rent subsidies to meet their commitments.

Rents from the Parking Authority will ultimately help it meet its \$670,000 yearly payments to pay off an \$8.5 million construction bond issue. The bonds were floated to pay for four proposed garages at the plaza.

The owners reportedly haven't lived up to their agreement to lease up to half of the available spaces at the two completed garages. The firm agreed to lease at least one space for every apartment in the two structures.

Cause of sewer blockade sought

Hoboken's Public Works Department has started probing sewer lines in the northern section of the city in an attempt to find what is causing a severe blockage and curtailment of flow in a area of several blocks.

Director Andrew J. Amato made a special trip to Pennsylvania Monday afternoon to pick up two large inflatable pillows for the job.

The pillows allow the city to seal off sections of the sewer lines so that the men can work on them without having to contend with a continuous flow of sewage.

"We'll clean them out and look for breaks or blockages. That's probably an attempt to find what is causing a severe blockage and curtailment of flow in a area of several blocks."

Amato said he would be spending his mornings at City Hall doing his

routine paper work. The afternoon would be spent at the garage working with the men. He added that he was thinking about having a small office built at the garage for his use.

The director's presence at the garage in the afternoons will serve another purpose. It will help to insure that everyone puts in the time that they are supposed to.

"It'll put a crimp to any goofing off," he continued, "but that isn't the main reason for being there. We have to keep better track of our supplies and materials, in addition to making sure that we're getting the most from our available manpower."

Amato said that the men are now working on a section of line on Grand Street, just south of 15th Street.



LET'S GO, TEAM! — Giving her all for athletics, Mary Stark Ganser, president of the Hoboken Board of Education, dons football jersey and assumes old leather gridiron helmets that the parents association of the city Police Athletic League is selling for \$35 apiece, the same price as the new safety helmets needed by the city's two Pop Warner League teams for next season. Former Hoboken High School gridironers are getting first crack at the old helmets.

'Study hall aides would free Hoboken teachers to teach'

Hoboken school trustee Otto Hottendorf says one way to put more teachers back in the classroom is to take them out of study halls and replace them there with substitutes or teachers' aides.

The city school system presently has 20 fewer instructors in regular classes because of tight fiscal conditions and because some of those missing teachers are now serving, instead, as remedial math and reading instructors.

As a result, various classes throughout the system, but primarily on the elementary level, have been consolidated with an average of 30 per grouping, according to Thomas F. McFeely, superintendent of schools.

One parent attending last night's Board of Education meeting complained for the second consecutive session about her daughter having to attend an overcrowded fourth-grade grouping at the Brandt School.

Mrs. Patricia Vermeer told the trustees there's still just one teacher handling 37 fourth-graders at the school, although Frank J. Spano, principal, disputed that, saying there were 34 students.

"Bring the teachers into the classroom," pleaded Mrs. Vermeer. "You're not getting the children the education they deserve."

But George Maier, assistant superintendent, seeking to put the total number of pupils into perspec-

tive, said that "nearly one-third of the class" is periodically removed for participation in remedial reading and arithmetic programs.

No board member provided any reassurance to Mrs. Vermeer that the situation could be remedied.

Hottendorf was the lone dissenter in the board's 8-to-1 vote on a resolution approving the appointments of three teachers and transfers of 11 others.

Hottendorf, during the pre-meeting public caucus, tore into McFeely, taking the administrator to task for failing to juggle the schedules of high school teachers so that at least seven teachers could be assigned one extra class period each day.

Referring to the superintendent, Hottendorf said: "The professional should have done his job last May."

But McFeely immediately countered: "Since that attack is apparently aimed at me, I'd like to point out that board policy dictates what the superintendent does. The board's policy has been to maintain things as they are. We've consolidated to get down to the basic minimum after the board has told us to cut, cut, cut."

Hottendorf got more heat from trustee Michael (Spike) Costello, who chided his colleague for failing to make any recommendations on how to deploy the seven teachers, and from trustee Leo McLaughlin, who

defended the three appointments "because it's not costing the board any money with the people going to compensatory education, which the state pays for," and because "it's too late now" to change schedules.

On other matters, the board: • Heard Spano inform Dominick Casali that he plans to have additional lockers ordered for the Brandt School to supplement 108 that he said are "deemed usable" by school carpenters and 63 broken ones. "We'll put 15 in each clothing room to get us through the ninth grade and possibly the eighth," Spano said, "with kids doubling up on lockers."

• Appointed Grace Corrigan as clerk/bookkeeper with "additional compensation of \$500 per year" and granted a \$500 pay raise to Anna TURCIC, PURCHASING CLERK.

• Promoted Joseph V. Bucino, driver trainee, to regular driver at \$10,067 a year and transferred custodian Robert Savoia from night duty at the Wallace School to day work at the Calabro School and custodian Edward Canning from nights at Wallace to nights at the high school.

• Referred a request from Spano — to use the Demarest Junior High School gym every Tuesday night from now through March for Brandt basketball games — to trustee James Farina, chairman of the board's school facilities committee.

College students may watch over Hoboken's parks

Hoboken has three large parks and several playgrounds but not one attendant on the city payroll to keep an eye on things during the day. But Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today he is working to rectify that as quickly as possible.

According to the director, he has been talking with officials at Jersey City State College about the possibility of hiring college students as part-time or full-time park attendants.

Farina said that the college has a work program under which it pays for three-quarters of the students' wages and the city pays the rest.

Farina said he's not sure why the city is without park attendants. There were none on the payroll when he became director of the department.

"However, I would guess that the job of park attendant is one of the easiest not to fill when you are trying to cut down on employees like the city

has for the last four or five years," he continued. "That's probably the reason we don't have any attendants."

Park attendants serve as supervisors for the young children who use the facilities and make sure that all of the rules and regulations governing park use are followed. If not, they contact the proper authorities for assistance.

According to some citizen group, all of the effort Hoboken has been putting into upgrading its parks and playgrounds will be in vain if there isn't anyone to make sure that the facilities aren't abused.

"The city spent thousands of dollars on rehabilitating Church Square Park this past summer, with new trees, bushes, and sod," said a spokesman for one of the groups, RSVP. "Already there are signs of inadequate care."

St. Mary Hospital dedicates North Tower

By AUDREY RAINFELD

"Our old building didn't meet state safety standards, and yet the wrecker is having a hard time tearing it down," Sister Grace Frances Strauber, executive director of St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, told a gathering of some 500 persons at the dedication ceremonies for the new North Tower on Saturday morning at Our Lady of Grace Church.

Her remark was indicative of Hoboken's renaissance during the past decade as the hospital welcomed completion of its new \$10 million health care facility, a giant step out of the past into the future.

Auxiliary Bishop Jerome Pechillo, Episcopal Vicar for Hudson County, officiated at the ceremony which highlighted 114 years of service by the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor in the City of Hoboken, well represented at the rites by many lay and community leaders.

U.S. Sens. Clifford Case and Harrison Williams joined Mayor Steve Cappelletto and other program partici-

pants in the chance to extol the praises of the Franciscan Sisters, Board of Trustees, medical staff and volunteers and all who made the gigantic building program possible. Gov. Brendan Byrne, tied up with campaign commitments could not be present, but sent his wife, Jean, as his personal emissary. James Lucey, director of personnel for Maxwell House Coffee and chairman of the hospital's board of directors, served as master of ceremonies, introducing in addition to the political notables, Sister Rita K. Kerr, S.F.P., representing Sister Rose Margaret, president of the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor who founded the Hoboken hospital in 1863; Dr. Vincent DePietro, president of the medical staff; and Mrs. Lucille Casulli, hospital auxiliary president.

In praise of what is probably one of the most significant major medical strides in this area, speakers emphasized the new Family Practice Unit contained in the 7-story wing, and the importance of the family physician who maintains a general practice in upgrading standards of community health.

Sister Grace Frances had a surprise along those lines when

she announced the establishment by the hospital of an award to be presented whenever a physician came along who in the eyes of the medical staff and executive board merited it. Sister said it was to be named the Dr. Charles Quagliari Honor Roll for Family Physicians, and Dr. Quagliari, a 40-year staff member at the Hoboken hospital, came out of retirement from Wisconsin with his wife, to accept the honor from Dr. DePietro.

In turn Dr. Quagliari named Dr. James Nobile, his longtime colleague, as the first physician to have his name placed on the honor roll. Dr. Quagliari is stressing the importance of the general practitioner related the anecdote about the doctor who had "seen a thousand livers, but had never seen a patient."

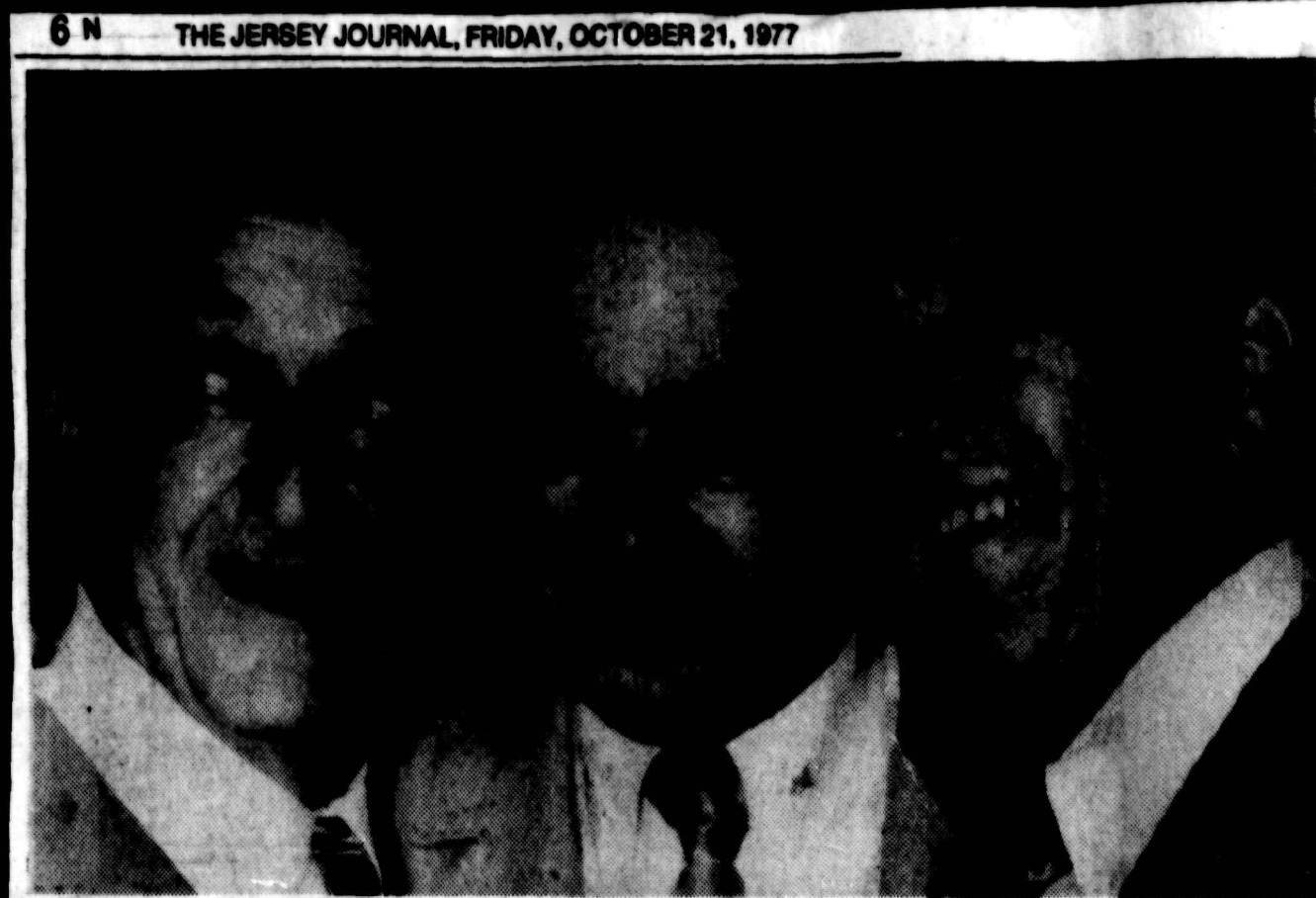
The program also included acknowledgement of major gifts to the hospital from industrialist Anthony D. Calabro in honor of his late wife, Angela, formerly of Union City. Gifts from Maxwell House Coffee and Bethlehem Steel, major Hoboken industries, along with those from other local business benefactors were also cited as having played a major part in the building program.

A rare mosaic reproduction of a Murillo masterpiece, a gift to the hospital from Calabro, was also unveiled. Created at the Vatican Mosaic Studios in Italy, the art work depicts the Madonna and Child and will hang in the chapel.

Senators Case and Williams outlined their many years of association with the Hoboken hospital and each told of his of his particular concern for better community health care and their efforts in Washington to secure proper funding for more facilities like St. Mary Hospital which provides care to people on the basis of need without worrying about whether or not they have insurance.

The 7-story North Tower Building replaces an outmoded and inefficient earlier structure and adds more than 100,000 square feet to the hospital facility. It provides new quarters for the School of Nursing, a medical family practice unit and the obstetrical and gynecological department. Also included in the new wing are a newborn nursery, coronary, surgical and respiratory intensive care units, and two medical-surgical nursing units.

In addition to the above facilities, the North Tower also houses executive and administrative offices, the nuclear medicine and ultra-sound departments, a psychiatric unit and the radiology department. Completion of the North Tower represents the second phase of the Hoboken institution's \$12,500,000 building program. Because of careful planning and attention to costs (Sister Grace Frances said costs had not increased since 1970), the facility was completed at the exceptionally low average cost of 97¢ per square foot. Demolition of the former North Tower will provide an area for much-needed staff and visitor parking.



HAPPY DEMOCRATS — Assembly Majority Leader Christopher Jackman of West New York, center is joined by State Sen. William V. Munsie, left, and Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto at Schenck Park, North Bergen. The assemblyman was guest of honor at the event sponsored by the Committee to Re-elect Chris Jackman.

Hoboken teacher wins sex bias case

By TERRY BRENNAN

A Hoboken school teacher won her sex discrimination suit against the city board of education yesterday when its "forced" maternity leave policy was declared illegal.

Mrs. Linda Rutigliano, who charged she was deprived of her civil rights when she wasn't rehired to fill one of several vacancies, will be entitled to almost \$9,000 in back pay and \$1,000 in emotional compensation. The hearing officer for the state Division of Civil Rights awarded her the \$1,000 for her "humiliation, suffering and pain."

"There is no evidence that males who experience new children in their families were ever required to stay away from work for a period of time," I. Leo Motiuk said. "The board's policy was based on the assumption it is the place of females to remain home after giving birth. This is discriminatory to women."

Although Motiuk acknowledged that the Hoboken Teachers' Association had bargained for the two-year maternity leave, he said Mrs. Rutigliano was physically able to return to work six months early and was entitled to that "option." She was a union member and admitted there was a "good chance" she voted for the contract.

Mrs. Rutigliano was a second grade teacher at the Rue School when she was required to take the leave from July 1, 1971 to Sept. 1, 1973. Her counsel argued at the April hearing that the contract clause was "clearly unconstitutional" and she was entitled to back pay.

"We knew we had the law on our side

because it was such a clear-cut case of sex discrimination," said Deputy Atty. Gen. Joseph Gorrell, Mrs. Rutigliano's counsel. "We thought we were entitled to reimbursement because she wanted to return and they kept substitutes while denying her her tenured rights."

School board attorney Robert W. Taylor argued at the hearing that the leave policy was enforced because it was part of the teachers' contract. Motiuk retorted that yesterday by stating the only rationale for enforcement was a discriminatory policy applied only to women.

Motiuk said he awarded emotional compensation because the extended leave caused Mrs. Rutigliano severe mental anguish. He maintained that "on several occasions (during the hearing) she was almost in tears" from her experience.

"It was obvious from the demeanor of Mrs. Rutigliano on the witness stand that the unlawful employment practice constituted a very traumatic experience for her," Motiuk said.

Gorrell argued that the \$25 a day the teacher could have made as a substitute was not adequate compensation for her experience. She would have collected \$59.50 a day if she had been reemployed during the leave.

The Hoboken assistant superintendent of schools said he wasn't aware of the decision yesterday but said the board is "against any form of discrimination." George Maier said he was sure the leave policy "won't be imposed on anyone in the future."

Ranieri may seek water, sewer unit

Prompted by another excessive payment to Jersey City for water that Hoboken didn't use, Council-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today he is seriously considering an ordinance that would put the city's water and sewer utilities into a separate department.

"Hoboken's water and sewerage problems are probably the biggest items the city has to contend with," said the councilman. "So it is imperative that they be subject to tight administration, which they apparently aren't getting now under the Public Works Department."

"They are public works' stepchildren. Our public works director (Andrew J. Amato) should realize that his duties are administrative, more so than physical. I respect the director for getting out into the field to make sure his men are doing their job, and for working with them, but that is only part of the duties."

"Administratively, there appears to be a gap, a vacuum in the department. And it has resulted in the loss of thousands of dollars for the city."

Amato, however, doesn't think a separate department is needed. He said that the problem was in the water department and perhaps a shakeup of personnel there would suffice.

"As director I must assume the ultimate blame," he asserted. "But I must also rely heavily on supervisors and deputies. Keeping track of our daily water use to see if we have dropped below the minimum amount we are required to buy from Jersey City should be routine policy in the department. Someone should have kept track of it, but they didn't and I intend to find out why."

Hoboken has to pay Jersey City \$100,000 for water used in September. However, the city actually used only about \$75,000 worth of water. The remaining \$25,000 is for the contractual minimum that it must pay for whether it uses it or not.

Ranieri said he wasn't criticizing Amato or the job he was doing as director. But he was questioning whether Amato would be able to give

the extra time needed for additional administrative supervision in the water and sewer utilities. Amato said he viewed the idea as a further attempt to strip him of power within the administration.

"I'll fight it," he vowed. "I took this job because I thought I could do a job for the city and get it back in shape after all the years of neglect. I'm making progress even though I don't have the men or equipment I need, and the chances of getting them aren't good."

"The councilman is going to have a fight on his hands if he pushes for this. I supported him in the last election. Maybe that was a mistake. Personally, I don't think he's doing his job."

"I was the one who educated Mr. Ranieri to the fact that his contract with Jersey City was cheating the people of Hoboken out of thousands of dollars in the first place. He doesn't mention that."

"Mr. Ranieri didn't come across the fact that we were again below the minimum. He was told by water department employees. Now he is using that information to push for a separate department."

"Why didn't Mr. Ranieri speak up at the council caucus Monday night when I told the council about the various problems? Instead I'm told that we don't have emergencies and I get no support. We have emergencies that the council and Councilman Ranieri have known about for some time but they never let the public know. Like the pump station that isn't running, or no chlorine going into the water system for six months."

"We have lots of violations that the state will be on us for if they aren't taken care of. But what happens with the council and Mr. Ranieri? I'm told to get inspectors to check them out and put them in writing. I'm doing my job, is Mr. Ranieri?"



Gov. Brendan T. Byrne, center, sits down with Mayors Robert Sabello of Guttenberg, left, and Steve Cappelletto of Hoboken at the offices of the North Hudson Council of Mayors in Guttenberg. (Story on Page 11).

Hoboken's public works chief insists council act on 'hazards'

Public Works Director Andrew Amato today threatened to file criminal charges of neglect of duty against members of the Hoboken City Council if, he said, they continue to fail to act on situations he feels are potentially dangerous to the public.

Councilman Robert Ranieri reacted promptly, saying he will ask that Mayor Steve Cappiello call Amato "on the carpet" immediately, and also will ask for a meeting of the Public Works Committee of the council to study Amato's action.

"Apparently he doesn't understand his job," said Ranieri. "I feel the mayor will have to explain to him what a director's responsibilities are."

"Why did he issue charges like this instead of coming to the council meeting last night to discuss this emergency?"

Amato charged there are "several potentially dangerous situations in the city that the council has ignored by playing down the problems or not letting the public know about them. I'm not going to let them do it any more."

"If I'm legally responsible for correcting these problems, then the council is legally responsible for giving me whatever help I need to get the job done before we have a crisis. Instead, I get the runaround and double talk."

Ranieri said Amato did outline his problems to the council members at Monday's caucus. "But he was told by the council how to handle it. Now, one day later he's going to file criminal charges?"

Amato said the only councilman he would exempt would be Thomas Kennedy, because he is the only new member and started his first term only a few months ago.

"This has nothing to do with politics, at least not on my part," Amato continued. "The anti-administration councilmen are just as much to blame as the pro-administration members."

The director cited the condition of a sewage pumping station at Fourth and River Streets as an example of council inaction and lack of cooperation.

"Conditions in that station are almost identical to the ones in the 11th Street pumping station before it blew up two years ago," he asserted. "High electric current, exposed wiring and circuit boards, and only one operational pump when there should be three to make that station a potential hazard."

"When I tried to alert the city council to this at Monday night's caucus I was told to get written reports on the problems after having various city inspectors check it out. An engineering report on conditions was done months ago and turned over to the city, but that wasn't mentioned."

"The very next day the last remaining pump went out and had to have emergency repairs. And everyone tried to hush it up."

The report on the pumping station was done by Mayo, Lynch and Associates and was presented to the city prior to the time Amato was appointed Public Works director.

Does Joseph Lynch, head of the firm, agree with Amato's conclusion that the station is a potential time bomb?

"I don't know if I'd go that far," said Lynch. "However, I must admit that the potential is there. The station does need a lot of work but that

was covered in our report to the city."

Amato said he was taking his strong stand with the council because as Public Works Director state and federal agencies could hold him legally responsible for not taking action on problems that are known to be potentially dangerous.

"I can be heavily fined or possibly sent to jail," he asserted. "If something like that should happen, is the council going to pay my fine or go to jail for me? No way."

Ranieri said Amato has all of the power within his department to find the solutions to his problems. He said Amato is in the field with his workers everyday "which is admirable" but Ranieri also feels he should confer with the city business administrator on how to administer a department.

"Either this man has become too big for the job or, perhaps the job has become too big for the man," said the councilman.

Stevens Tech honors prince

HOUSTON - Prince Charles, the heir to the British throne, received an Honorary Doctor of Engineering degree from Stevens Tech. Hoboken here yesterday.

In addition, the Prince of Wales, a Royal Navy commander and yachtsman, was presented with a folio containing a facsimile of a letter dated Aug. 26, 1851, in which Edwin Augustus Stevens - yachtsman, engineer and founder of Stevens Tech - described a visit by Queen Victoria to the yacht "America" after the vessel had defeated all the English contenders to become the first winner of the trophy now known as the America's Cup.

The honorary degree was presented to Prince Charles by Dr. Kenneth C. Rogers, physicist and president of Stevens Tech; Dr. Frederick L. Blasinger, chairman of the Stevens Board of Trustees and former president of Allied Chemical Co.; and David N. Barus, secretary of the board of trustees, an attorney and former Rhodes Scholar.

The ceremony, which took place at the Whitehall Hotel here, brought to full circle that historic royal visit a century and a quarter ago at an anchorage off Osborne House, Queen Victoria's favorite summer residence on the Isle of Wight.



DEDICATION CEREMONY - Bishop Jerome Pechillo hangs blessed crucifix on the wall of the recently-completed North Tower building of St. Mary Hospital during this weekend's dedication ceremonies in Hoboken. Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, left, St. Mary's hospital administrator, and James T. Lucey, president of the hospital board of trustees, were among the dignitaries participating in the dedication of the \$10-million facility.



Dispatch Photo by Ted Kerschbaum

Gov. Brendan T. Byrne savors a cup of java during a meeting with Maxwell House officials in Hoboken yesterday. Byrne tried to soothe management and labor anxiety over the proposed 40 per cent water rate hike in the Mile Square City. Mayor Steve Cappiello, rear, right, and union official Steve Hornigh, right, take coffee break with governor.

Byrne eyes water cost curb

By TERRY BRENNAN

Gov. Brendan T. Byrne came stumping into Hoboken yesterday to tell Maxwell House officials he will "thoroughly explore" ways to hold down soaring water costs.

The governor, who is counting on Hudson's large working class voting bloc to help sway next month's election, told both labor and management officials he would intervene to lower the city's exorbitant rates. Hoboken will be faced with a 45 per cent rate hike if the state Public Utilities Commission grants the increase at hearings that start in Newark today.

"I told them I would be working like hell to help finance the (Jersey City) water filtration plant," Byrne said. "You simply can't solve any problems in this state unless you tackle the big ones in the cities."

Although Hoboken water consumers were shocked with a 75 per cent rate hike from their Jersey City supplier 18 months ago, Jersey City Mayor Thomas F.X. Smith has maintained the city has no choice but to increase the rate

if the state doesn't come up with \$8 million in a water bond issue. Smith has consistently asked Byrne to have the state take over the city filtration plant.

Byrne said he wanted to "encourage" Maxwell House officials that Hoboken has a sound financial future. The company consumes almost half of the city's water and would reportedly either curtail operations or ultimately leave Hoboken if rates continue upward.

Hoboken is totally dependent on Jersey City for its water supply and has been saddled with soaring rates since the state ordered construction of the filtration plant 10 years ago.

Jersey City officials will ask the PUC for the rate increase so it can pay off bonds on the \$40 million plant. The city is struggling to offset an estimated \$2.8 million deficit in debt service and is paying off \$19 million in construction bonds.

A union spokesman said Maxwell House would probably have to lay off workers if the rate increase is approved. He said the "water costs here are critical and this could be a severe setback for both the city and Maxwell House."

Cappiello has plea for Byrne water plant

Gov. Brendan Byrne will be back in Hoboken today looking for votes in his re-election bid. But Mayor Steve Cappiello plans to sidetrack the governor for some serious discussions on the city's water problems.

"I will be making a very strong pitch for increased state help for Hoboken and Jersey City since we're both in this water thing together," asserted Cappiello. "Unless the state and federal governments step in and give Jersey City some substantial financial help with the reconstruction of the water filtration plant, we are both in big trouble."

The filtration plant work will cost in excess of \$40 million, most of which Jersey City hopes to raise from the private sector. But in order to accomplish this, Cappiello said, it must show the financiers that the water operation is in the black. That means higher rates to Jersey City's water consumers, including Hoboken.

"There are state and federal funds available for this kind of work," continued Cappiello. "Even though Jersey City did not apply for them it should get some special consideration because of the impact its current course will have on other communities that buy water from it and on its own residential and industrial water users."

Cappiello added that he also has written letters to U.S. Sens. Harrison A. Williams and Clifford P. Case and Rep. Joseph LaFante explaining the plight of Jersey City and Hoboken because of the water problems and asking for their help in getting federal consideration for the filtration project.

Hoboken cop promotion certifications delayed

It may be several weeks more before Hoboken can have any of its patrolmen and lieutenants certified for promotion to sergeants and captains, because Civil Service is making some changes on the lists of men who passed them.

According to a Civil Service spokesman, two changes are being made in the list of men eligible for promotion to captain. Up to six changes may be made on the list for sergeant.

He said that a lieutenant who was originally listed as failing the captain's test actually passed the examination and will be added to the list. It was also found that an error had been made in the scoring of another man's examination and as a result he will be placed higher on the list of eligibles.

The spokesman added that on the sergeant's examination a number of patrolmen who were under suspension had been allowed to take the test and were not given credit for the amount of time they were suspended.

"Longevity has weight value upon the overall placement," he continued. "In some of these cases the suspensions have been cleared up and the men are entitled to the missing time credit. This will change their positions on the list."

According to the spokesman, it

should take Civil Service a few weeks to make the necessary corrections and adjustments. In the meantime, it will not certify anyone from either of the lists for promotion.

Hoboken OKs \$ for tenant aide

By TERRY BRENNAN

A Hoboken block association received City Council approval last night to use a \$50,000 "direct" state grant for a consultant to help soothe landlord-tenant relations.

Tom Newman, president of the more than 40 "active" members of the First Ward Block Association, said the funds will be used to hire a bi-lingual consultant to ease communication problems between tenants and landlords. Newman said that some 50 per cent of the tenants are Spanish-speaking and virtually all of the landlords only speak English.

"We want the money to go after slumlords here who are putting too many things over on their tenants," Newman said. "The consultant's major job will be to implement the Truth in Renting Act by simply telling both tenants and landlords their rights. This is long overdue in the First Ward."

Although just about all of the city's much-needed revitalization program was channeled into uptown wards, the First and Fourth Wards downtown are filled with many substandard housing units. Newman said "irresponsible landlords" are running

ramshackle boarding houses for "outsiders" who sign a few forms and establish immediate welfare rights.

"We set out on our own to get this money and the city will only act as a fiscal agent to hand it over to us," Newman said. "There's absolutely no city involvement in it other than to pass on the funds and we'll be ultimately responsible to the state."

Newman said the consultant will help the organization "get after both tenants and landlords who don't meet our community standards." He said the association will have no legal authority but will direct tenants and landlords on how to fight their legal battles.

There was some "concern" over the funding because Hoboken didn't want to be confronted with a potential forum for political dissidents. The program takes effect Nov. 1 and has a second year option if state officials approve its extension.

Newman said there's been a rash of tenant complaints along Second st. between Washington and Park sts. and Bloomfield st. between Second and Third sts.

Byrne strikes raw nerve on Hoboken water

"Taste a bit of that good water while you're in Hoboken, governor," grinned Jersey City Mayor Tommy Smith when he learned Brendan Byrne planned a bit of campaigning yesterday at the Maxwell House plant in Hoboken.

Byrne, at a North Hudson Council of Mayors meeting yesterday to bolster his North Hudson support, hit a raw nerve when he talked of helping Jersey City pay for a new \$40 million water filtration system at its Bontion Reservoir. Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken grinned back at Smith but said nothing. Cappiello's town buys its water from Jersey City. He has been complaining about rising water costs. Jersey City contends Hoboken makes a 100 per cent profit on every gallon it sells to Maxwell House. Maxwell House, in turn, is dropping hints it may leave Hoboken if the water bill escalates.

Byrne, caught in the crush of local politicians at three North Hudson whistltops, had a few words about a recent poll which has him neck and neck with Republican Raymond Bateman.

"The only poll I believe in is the one next Tuesday (the state elections Nov. 8). I've found when the pollsters finish their polls, they have a way of discounting urban areas, claiming the people don't come out," said Byrne. "I'd like to see us turn that around and I believe we will."

Yesterday, the governor whipped out a small notepad and jotted down a self-reminder to name a Hudson Democrat to the Hackensack Meadows Development Commission, a concern to Secaucus residents who want a partisan commissioner against highrise construction. The HMDC development committee is currently considering Hartz Mountain Industries plan to build 4,400 units of condominium apartments and Byrne yesterday promised to telegram Secaucus officials promising his support against the project.

Smith, almost certain to recommend the name Byrne will select, said the appointment can wait until after the election. "Right now there are more important and pressing issues," said Smith as he joined the crush of well-wishers at the North Hudson mayors' office in Guttenberg.

Council, Amato regain harmony in Hoboken

The Hoboken City Council and Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato have settled the differences that last week disrupted the harmony of Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration.

Amato said today, after talking with the mayor, that he is going to do things "the council's way," but up to a point.

"I will follow the proper chain of command and put everything in writing," he continued. "If there are emergencies the proper documentation from the right experts will be included with the written reports."

"But I'm not going to stop pushing. I'm going to handle things the way the council wants them handled. But once I have done that I will continue to push for quick action on the council's part on those problems that I feel need its immediate attention."

Amato said he needed the council's cooperation and attacking it for not moving as quickly as he would like probably was not a wise decision on his part.

"But I took an oath of office to do everything within my power to live up to the responsibilities of this job for the people of Hoboken," he continued. "The words mean something to me. I'm really trying to live up to them."

Takes two to run bus line, says Chius

Hoboken's crosstown bus is out of service again and the city's Business Administrator, Edwin J. Chius, thinks it might be a good idea to keep it out of service for good.

Chius said today he is going to recommend to the city council that it either end the crosstown service com-

do not cover operating expenses and salaries.

"If the city wishes to continue the service I think it should seek a second bus," he continued. "The city wouldn't be losing any more money with two buses than with one, after the initial outlay of funds of the vehicle. And it would be able to supply service without any disruptions."

According to Chius, the bus broke down Monday and will be out of service for at least a week. He said the wiring is bad and will have to be replaced. The job is expected to cost between \$500 and \$700.

pletely or purchase a second bus that can be used as a back-up when the main vehicle breaks down.

"The bus is getting old, and the older it gets the more frequently it is out of service for repairs," he continued. "However, there is no back-up vehicle and we must cancel service when repairs are being made. But we can't cancel out the city's expenses for that period."

"Even though the bus might be in the shop and the city isn't providing bus service, we still have drivers who must get paid for not driving. We can't lay them off because we are required to give them notice. By the time the time of notice has expired the bus would be back in operation and we'd need their services again."

Chius added that the Crosstown operation was still a losing proposition for the city since fares collected

Busing

The Hoboken business administrator is preparing to ask the City Council to eliminate the city's crosstown bus service or buy a spare bus.

He is concerned that the bus is off the road for repairs or service so often and the crosstown service halts until the bus is back on the streets.

There is a free crosstown bus service — sponsored by the Hoboken Council of Elders and the senior citizens program — which parallels the city's crosstown bus at many points.

Normally this free bus has a good service record. Ironically, it is out of service for winterizing now.

The city should confer with the elders to find out how they keep their bus operating better than the city's. If that does not help, then the city should either buy a spare bus or eliminate the route.

Hoboken hot lunch delayed

A hot lunch program for the Hoboken school children, which was supposed to start next week, has been rescheduled, tentatively to begin during the first week of January, a board of education spokesman said today.

John Palmieri, head of the lunch program for the board, said that after completing an inspection of the various schools where hot lunch facilities are being installed, it is apparent that too much work remains to be done for the program to start next week.

The contract work includes the installation of microwave ovens for heating the lunches, freezer units for storage, electrical work, and plumbing. The job is costing the board \$205,000, 75 per cent of which is coming from the state and federal governments.

"The first week in January is a safe estimate," said Palmieri. "I believe everything should be ready before then and we might be able to get things started in the latter part of December. By January we should definitely be underway."

Hoboken currently has a cold lunch program and feeds approximately 2,800 students a day. Palmieri said that the hot lunch program should get better participation with 4,500 to 5,000 pupils served daily. That would amount to more than two-thirds of the total enrollment for the school district.

The lunches will be free to any students who wish to participate regardless of family income, Palmieri continued. And that reason is expected to account for the high enrollment in the program.

"We are reimbursed for the lunches by the government, depending on family income," he explained. "However, there are so few students who are above the income limits set by the government that the board decided to make the lunches free to all who wanted them."

3 cities battle Hoboken fire

By Lawrence Babich
and Arnold Freilich

Fire threatened the heart of historic Hoboken today as a 100-year-old church burned and hundreds of residents fled tenements and renovated brownstones before dawn.

More than 100 firemen from three communities battled to contain flames fanned by the wind in a mid-

town block between Washington and Hudson streets. Two firemen were injured in the fire that also threatened a parochial school.

At midday police still had the area around the fire scene blocked to vehicular traffic and motorists were rerouted around the Washington Street area to Hudson and Bloomfield Streets.

Officials said the fire broke out in the century-old Mount Olive Baptist Church on Washington Street between 7th and 8th streets shortly after 2:30 a.m. By the time the first fire units arrived, the church was completely "engulfed," said Fire Chief James Houn, and additional help was called. Along with the entire force of Hoboken firemen, units from Jersey

City and Union City joined in the fight to contain the blaze. The blaze spread to the rectory of the Academy of the Sacred Heart just south of the church and then to the academy. It also caused damage to two four-story tenements north of the burned-out church on Washington Street and to a two-story brownstone behind it on Hudson Street.

Firemen said embers from the burning church caused problems. More than 70 residents of the tenements at 723 and 725 Washington St. had to be relocated by the Red Cross because of the damage to the buildings, firemen said. A teacher at the Academy of Sacred Heart said school was

canceled for today because of damage to the building. The fire was in a midtown area just above the main business district on Washington Street. Fireman John Greene was treated and detained at St. Mary Hospital with smoke inhalation and returned to duty.

The Rev. Stewart Odell, pastor of the church, said the building was more than 100 years old and it was the only black Baptist Church in Hoboken. He said the church was in the fourth week of a \$100,000 renovation program. The church has 350 parishioners, he said.

Houn said firemen had the blaze under control by 4 a.m. and at dawn some of the units were starting to break down their lines and head back to their firehouses. He said the cause of the blaze was undetermined but an inspection will be made of the burned-out church when possible. Houn said there was no indication that the fire was suspicious.

Highrise in Hoboken is stalled

By TERRY BRENNAN

Plans for a massive Weehawken senior citizens' highrise appear to be moving ahead while a more moderate Hoboken project for the elderly seems temporarily stalled.

Columbian Towers, the 196-unit, 14-story Hoboken tower that would generate an estimated \$70,000 in annual taxes, would get the same 90 per cent mortgage guarantee from the state Housing Finance Agency proposed for the \$32 million Weehawken complex.

Developers of the \$6 million Hoboken highrise submitted their application some two months before but have heard little from HFA officials.

"We're very interested in completing this project but haven't heard very much from the state," said Hoboken Housing Authority Chairman Joseph Caliguire. "We're anxious to get something going on that property but can't do a thing without the HFA."

Although the three, 21-story Weehawken towers were initially proposed and approved on Sept. 22, a letter was delivered to Mayor Charles Miller from the assistant executive director of the HFA Monday. Richard L. Kadish wrote from Trenton that all forms have been received for the 796-unit Weehawken project.

"I think it's very odd that the mayor gets a hand-delivered letter all the way from Trenton to say everything's A-Okay," said Republican Committeeman Dominick Pacchini. "This state official says he's reviewed the revised resolutions before I got a chance to see them. Who's recommending what to whom here?"

Pacchini has been fighting the Weehawken Senior citizens' complex since it was first proposed and questioned why there seems to be "more state support" than for the Hoboken highrise. The Second Ward Weehawken committeeman is running for the assembly district that includes both Weehawken and Hoboken.

"Hoboken would seem to be a more logical place for senior citizens' housing because the people seem to be more in favor of it down there," Pacchini said. "I'd be in favor of it if adequate surveys were made and city residents wanted it. I know Weehawken residents don't want the complex and surveys definitely haven't been made."

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello wouldn't comment on "the Weehawken situation" but said he was anxious to get the project completed. He said he has been in contact with HFA officials "but they haven't told me anything."

"Each constituency obviously has to make up its own mind on what it wants," Cappiello said. "Our application has been down there for a long time and we want to see something on that site."

Hoboken 'emergency' hard to define

In Hoboken, an emergency is an emergency only when it's in writing — and sometimes not even then.

Public Works Director Anthony Amato told the city council at last night's caucus there was an emergency condition at the city's pumping station at Fourth and River streets, where "river water is pumped into the sewers" and electrical wire boxes are "all mangled."

"If somebody breaks in and opens a gate down there," Amato continued, "he could get killed and I don't want to be responsible." The director said he had verbal confirmation of his fears from Mayo, Lynch Associates, the city's consulting engineers.

Amato also pointed to a similarly

"hazardous" condition at City Hall where, he said, "water is seeping through the walls and touching wire boxes in the basement."

But Council President Martin J. Brennan told Amato he couldn't accept a verbal appraisal of the situation — either from him or from Mayo, Lynch — and urged the director to consult the city building inspector about problems in City Hall and "he'll make recommendations in writing."

"Get the city fire inspector to check any wiring, the plumbing inspector to check pipes and the sewer plant operator to check the sewers," Brennan added. "Get it from the experts in the field in writing," he said.

Amato, noting that he is presently working on an emergency at 16th Street and Willow Avenue where a 3-inch main is broken, agreed to follow this procedure.

Meanwhile, Law Director Lawrence Florio, who put in writing, through Revenue and Finance Director Frank Bartolotta, a request for an \$18,000 "emergency appropriation" spread equally over five years to revise and codify municipal laws, got a lukewarm reception from the council.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said: "It's not an emergency," but City Clerk Anthony Amoroso cautioned Ranieri, "We've got ordinances going back to 1858."

When Ranieri asked why the law

department couldn't simply weed out those ordinances that are clearly outdated, Florio said "I can see doing away with the stuff on horses, but on other laws, you can't be sure. Only last week, we had a problem with five roosters in someone's backyard."

Brennan advised his colleagues to "sit on it. Or, you fellows can consider this for introduction at the first November meeting and take a gamble that we don't exceed our 5 per cent budget cap."

The council president also wondered aloud about the feasibility of the city's federally-funded Community Development Agency (CDA) contracting with Mayo, Lynch on developing plans at 10 per cent of cost for planting trees in the city. He said the city's received many complaints in the past from homeowners about their sidewalks being torn up.

Joseph Cicala, a CDA administrator, said city property owners are being surveyed to see who would accept the trees. Because the public works department lacks both the manpower and equipment to do the planting, "the only thing to do is to bid for the trees and labor," Mayo, Lynch, he said, will lend guidance on how to chop up the sidewalks.

In other business, the council: Prepared to suspend its 30-day notice rule for first readings of ordinances tomorrow night on revised salary ordinances for policemen.

Firemen and fire brass so that contractual pay raises can take effect with the January payroll, according to Brennan.

Heard Councilman Walter Cramer call for the city to end its contract with East Orange for the computer processing of municipal summonses because, "since that arrangement, we've taken in less money. The system didn't do us any good."

Concurred with Brennan's suggestion that the city water department is "the most logical place" on which to put responsibility for making at least monthly checks of Hoboken's water consumption levels to insure that Hoboken doesn't wind up paying Jersey City for that amount of water below the contractual minimum it doesn't use.

Hoboken vexed by alarm boxes with laryngitis

Hoboken officials should decide by the end of this week what they are going to do about a \$68,000 voice call box alarm system for the fire department that has yet to work to the city's satisfaction.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, members of the Law Department, and Thomas Vecchione, head of the Hoboken Traffic and Signal Division, will meet Thursday morning with officials and engineers from the J. W. Signal Co. of Greenbrook on the trouble-plagued system and hopefully find out what the company plans to do.

Installation of the 10 voice call boxes started over three years ago. The boxes have been in for over a

year but still do not function properly, according to Vecchione.

"They aren't reliable," he continued. "They are erratic. One day one box will work, the next it doesn't, and a few days later it's working again."

The city has paid the company \$29,000 but is holding the rest of the money until it is satisfied that all 10 voice call boxes are working properly and dependable.

On Vecchione's recommendation, the city has threatened to sue several times but formal action along those lines was never initiated. Vecchione said he still feels that the city should file suit and get its money back.

Hoboken extends installation time for fire call boxes

The company that installed 10 new voice fire call boxes in Hoboken is being given an additional 30 days to get the system operating properly, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius said today.

Chius, Mayor Steve Cappiello, Police Capt. Russell Sweeten and Thomas Vecchione, head of the public safety department's traffic and signal division, made the decision yesterday following a meeting with officials of the J. W. Signal Co.

If the necessary work isn't completed within the 30 days, the city will continue to hold back \$29,000 remaining to be paid on the \$68,000 contract signed in October of 1974. Chius said the city at that time may move to have the contract declared "null and void" and keep the equipment that the city has in its possession, which is

valued at more than the \$29,000 already paid on the contract.

"As far as the city is concerned, the problems that have developed are all the company's," said Chius. "The specifications for the job clearly stated that the contractors were to thoroughly examine the existing system before submitting their proposal. They were given every opportunity to do so. If something was missed or not anticipated, that is the company's problem."

Chius said that the city has presented the company with a list of repairs and modifications that should be made and it has agreed to start on them immediately.

According to the director, the city checked all 10 boxes this week and found only one was working. And even that one was not working properly.

Cappiello acts on Hoboken water loss

Abandoned water service lines may be responsible for a considerable amount of Hoboken's unaccountable water loss. But Mayor Steve Cappiello took steps today to eliminate that possibility.

"I have instructed the city business administrator (Edwin Chius) to make sure that all contracts the city issues for demolition work includes in the specifications a requirement for the contractor to have the service lines checked by our plumbing inspector before payment will be made," said the mayor.

"In this way we will insure that the line has been properly capped and isn't running. If it isn't the city will have the line capped. We may have the contractor do it or do with our own people."

According to the mayor, there has been growing suspicion in recent years that leaking service lines at vacant properties may be responsible for a good portion of the water Hoboken can't account for.

"There have been several reports which indicate this possibility," he continued. "We can't estimate how much because we don't know how many bad service lines we have. But it appears that there are quite a few around the city."

"When a building is demolished, whether by the city or private

property owners the contractors are supposed to make sure that the service lines have been properly capped or shut down. In many instances, this hasn't been done. Some end up with lines running for years without anyone taking any notices — or paying for it."

"The city has to pay for it since we buy our water from Jersey City. But it is money wasted, spent on something that no one gets any use or benefit from and action should be taken to stop it."

Hoboken councilman raps pinball drive

By TERRY BRENNAN

The city's revitalized image could be severely tarnished if the Hoboken City Council decides to open the way for legalized pinball machines, a councilman charged last night.

The ordinance would open the door for "coin-operated games of amusement" for vendors willing to keep a minimum of 10 machines. The arcades could be installed anywhere in the city as long as they were placed 500 feet from schools or churches.

"I think it's a ploy to fleece the young and naive by teaching them how to beat the system," Councilman Robert Ranieri said. "How can whoever introduced this be in earnest after all we've done to clean up our image the past few years? This would only mean they would start laughing at Hoboken once again."

Although council rules dictate that each ordinance must have the sponsor's name attached, no one would take the credit or blame

for the measure until Mayor Steve Cappiello said last night he had introduced the ordinance. He said the ordinance was a "replica" of a similar Bayonne measure which actually limits each location to three machines.

Ranieri said formal adoption of the ordinance tomorrow would "clear the way for Washington and First Sts. to be New Jersey's Times Square." He said a clause creating a 1,000-foot minimum between establishments was no guarantee "Hoboken wouldn't become the Las Vegas or Atlantic City of North Jersey."

"This could cause the dissolution of the 'New Hoboken' we've been working so hard to create," Ranieri said. "What comes after pinball machines? Certainly not a library or a wholesome recreation center."

The present ordinance calls for a limit of one machine in any section of the city. The proposed ordinance would increase that to a "minimum of 10" and the locations would be open to youngsters 12-years-of-age and older.

Overtime dispute triggers rubbish crisis in Hoboken

Hoboken's problem with littered and filthy streets could be in full bloom again come Monday morning. It all depends on whether Public Works employees decide to accept time off for time worked instead of overtime pay and come to work today to help pick up the rubbish.

The alternative to showing up for work today or tomorrow is suspension, according to department sources.

Hoboken has been assigning four men—two laborers and two truck

drivers—to work on litter pickups Saturday and Sunday. The city had been paying them straight time for the hours they worked. But recently they were informed that the city couldn't pay them any more and they would have to accept time off at a later date for the hours they put in over the weekend.

The men balked at this, sources reported, and informed Director Andrew J. Amato and Mayor Steve Cappiello yesterday that they did not want to work the overtime under those conditions.

A number of the men met yesterday morning with the mayor to advise him of the matter and discuss the problem. Cappiello said nothing was resolved during the meeting.

"I explained the city's position," he said. "And that is that if we have the money, we'll continue to pay them overtime. But if we don't, we expect them to accept time off for the time they put in. And right now, we don't have the money."

Cappiello said the men work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. five days a week with an hour off for lunch. That amounts to a 35-hour week. But the city feels it is entitled to 40 hours of work a week from the men.

"I'll have no problem filling the job of anyone who wants to quit or gets suspended," said the mayor. "The city must be kept clean. If these men don't want to do the work they can go elsewhere. There are many unemployed people in Hoboken who will gladly take those jobs."

One alternative the city is considering is overtime is revising the weekly work schedule so that Saturdays and Sunday are included as regular working days. The proposal has not received a warm reception from the Municipal Employees Association which is currently negotiating a contract with the city.

The workmen held a hastily called meeting at the Public work's garage yesterday afternoon to decide whether they will report for work this morning. However, their decision, if one was reached, was not relayed back to city officials.

Hoboken City Hall plugs into central phones soon

Preliminary work needed for the installation of a new telephone system for Hoboken City Hall, combining it with the police department, fire department, Community Development Agency (CDA), and the Board of Education, will start next week, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius said today.

The system, called Centrex II, will take nine months to a year to install, once the city has provided adequate space for the equipment needed. That space will be on the ground floor of the City Hall building in the vicinity of the detective bureau, said Chius.

"The system is more economical and efficient," he continued. "It reduces the need for working operators from five to one through the

consolidation of the different agencies.

"It will also reduce the number of unauthorized long-distance calls. Ninety percent of the telephones in the system will be restricted to local calls and we will get a monthly accounting of all calls made from each phone."

"And added benefit will be the return to the city, school board, CDA, police and fire departments of valuable floor space now used for telephone switchboard areas."

Chius said that the current monthly charge to the various agencies for telephone service averages out to about \$6,100 a month. With the Centrex II system the cost will be about \$6,100 a month. With the Centrex II system the cost will be about \$6,300 a month.

Sick cops may get choice

A number of Hoboken policemen who have been on extended sick leaves with full pay may soon be given the option of either returning to work, if they are physically able, or filing for disability retirement, Chief George W. Crimmins said today.

"The illnesses that forced these men on sick leave are valid but Hoboken just isn't in the position of being able to carry them for extended periods of time at full pay," said the chief. "It makes little difference if the injury or illness is service connected or incurred off the job."

"We are financially unable to replace these men while they are on the payroll and getting full salary. And that means few men to provide proper police protection for our residents."

Crimmins said that there are about half a dozen men who are on extended sick leaves. One has been on leave for almost a year.

The chief added that abuses of one-day sick leaves are also becoming a problem within the department in spite of efforts by his office and the Policemen's Benevolent Association

(PBA) to discourage them.

"Over the weekend, we had seven of our patrolmen who were scheduled to work call in sick for one day," Crimmins said. "That is getting to be too much. I'm not exactly sure of what we can do about it but all avenues will be investigated."

The city had tried to force everyone to get a doctor's certificate when they were out, even if it was for one day. But it was unable to make it stick and had to allow the men 24 hours before requiring a certificate.



Brick walls and charred beams are all that remain of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, on Washington Street, Hoboken, following the blaze that also damaged adjacent buildings and made 15 families homeless. (Photo by Wally Hoenig)

Pastor hopes to save century-old church

By Peter Hallam

Will a new Mount Olive Baptist Church rise again in Hoboken from the shell of the old one that was gutted by a general alarm fire early yesterday morning?

Members of the congregation vow that it will in spite of an order from the Hoboken Building Inspector that the brick walls are hazardous and should be demolished. The fire-damaged church officials until today to get demolition started.

"Without that shell Mt. Olive wouldn't be Mt. Olive any more," asserted the Rev. Odell Stewart, pastor. "I think it can be saved. We're going to do everything within our power to save it and build a new church within the framework of the old."

Mayor Steve Cappelletto and other city officials have been giving Rev. Stewart and church officials their full cooperation and are unlikely to push for the demolition until it has been determined if the walls of the church can be restored. And the Rev. Stewart is the first to point that out.

"The loss of the church is a tragedy but there was some good that came of it," he continued. "We have had numerous voluntary offers of help from the people of Hoboken. The outpouring has been most inspiring. Mt. Olive will surely survive."

Mt. Olive has been surviving for

49 years. The church was founded in 1928 in the southwest section of the city. It moved into the 100-year-old building at 719 Washington St., a former Methodist church, in 1969 from its old church at 67 Jefferson St.

The first alarm of fire was received at 2:30 a.m. When fire units arrived on the scene they found a "raging inferno," according to Chief James Houn, and unpowered alarm units sounded immediately. Units from Jersey City and Union City also were

called in to help fight the fire which eventually caused varying degrees of damage to nine buildings, including the church and parsonage.

Houn said it appeared that whatever caused the fire had been burning a long time and then suddenly erupted, possibly exploded.

"We may never know for sure what started it, but it happened very fast," he said. "However, we don't intend to be complacent at this time. Our investigation is underway."

Plumbers had been working in the church Tuesday installing a new boiler and heating system valued at \$100,000. Houn said he had no idea if their work had any connection with the fire.

Hundreds of Hoboken residents were left without apartments while the fire fighting operation was under way — 16 families lost their homes overnight and are being relocated by the Red Cross, the Hoboken Welfare League and other agencies.

Numerous acts of community action were reported during the fire fighting operation. Like the group of students from Stevens Institute of Technology who showed up with

blankets for residents forced to flee their apartments. Or the group of sailors from the Academy of the Sacred Heart who worked all day to clean up their school next to the church so they could go back to classes today.

The fire knocked out telephone service to several hundred families and businesses in the area. Repairmen worked on the lines throughout the day while a sound car from New Jersey Bell cruised the area telling residents that service would be restored sometime during the night if all went well.

Washington Street, between Ninth and Sixth streets, is still closed to traffic, except for emergency vehicles, this morning and will remain closed until a decision is made on whether the church is to be demolished, Houn said.

"I sympathize with the pastor and congregation, and I understand their desire to preserve the building and its historic presence in the city," said Houn. "But my main concern is with the safety of the city."

"The front of the church is four stories high, maybe higher including the steeple."

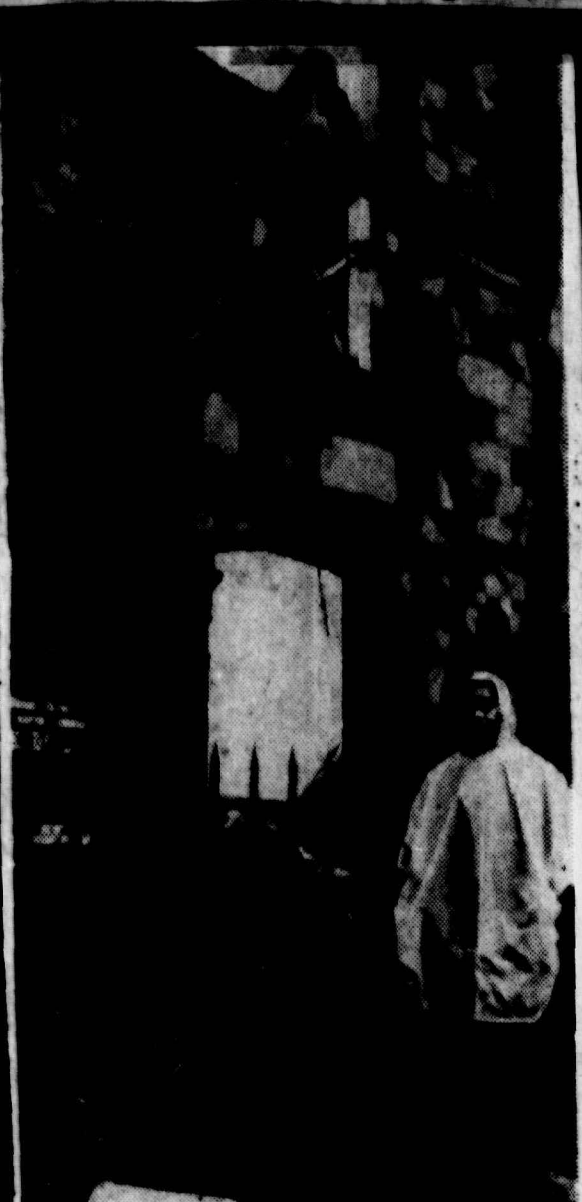
"If it ever falls, it could be dangerous. So I'm keeping the street roped off and closed to traffic until further notice."

Gov. Brendan Byrne, on a bond-selling tour of the Maxwell House-Cotton plant in Hoboken, showed up at the fire scene with Cappelletto and Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith of Jersey City.

The governor said he would see what the state could do to help with the rebuilding of the church, adding that he might be able to state loan some Community Development funds.

But a church is more than a building. It is the spirit of those who make up the congregation and their dedication that make it work. The members of Mt. Olive Baptist Church have plenty of spirit which they'll demonstrate at services Monday. However, there is one minor problem confronting the congregation.

"We've had so many offers of space for a temporary church that it might take a day or two to select the one best suited for us," said the Rev. Stewart.



The Rev. Odell Stewart, pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Hoboken, stands in front of the still smoking ruins of the building that was destroyed in a general alarm blaze. 10/27/77

\$1M fire destroys church

By TERRY BRENNAN

Sixty-one Hoboken residents were left homeless yesterday when a fire raced through a historic church and caused an estimated \$1 million in damage.

The blaze, which erupted in the Mount Olive Baptist Church at 721 Washington st. just after 2:30 a.m., had already smothered the structure with smoke and flames when the first of 150 firemen arrived. The fire caused extensive damage in an adjacent building and minor-to-serious damage in seven others.

"I couldn't even send my men into the heart of the building because the walls could collapse at any time," Fire

Chief James Houn said. "The church is so totally devastated that all we can do is a 'visual inspection' from outside."

Although Red Cross officials said some 80 residents had to be evacuated from nearby buildings, the only injuries involved three firemen who were treated for smoke inhalation at St. Mary Hospital and released. Ten of the original 15 families uprooted by the blaze stayed with the Red Cross in Jersey City last night.

Backup units from Jersey City and Union City were called in and helped control the blaze in a little over three hours. City building inspector James Canfield condemned the church yesterday and ordered the pastor to start demolition today.

Houn said there was "so much damage and rubble that it's hard to determine the exact cause." He said there was no proof that materials stored for a \$100,000 restoration of the building could have ignited the blaze.

All but the displaced residents were allowed to reenter their apartments by 8 a.m. yesterday. Police blocked off Washington st. between 7th and 8th sts. Motorists were rerouted around the city's main thoroughfare.

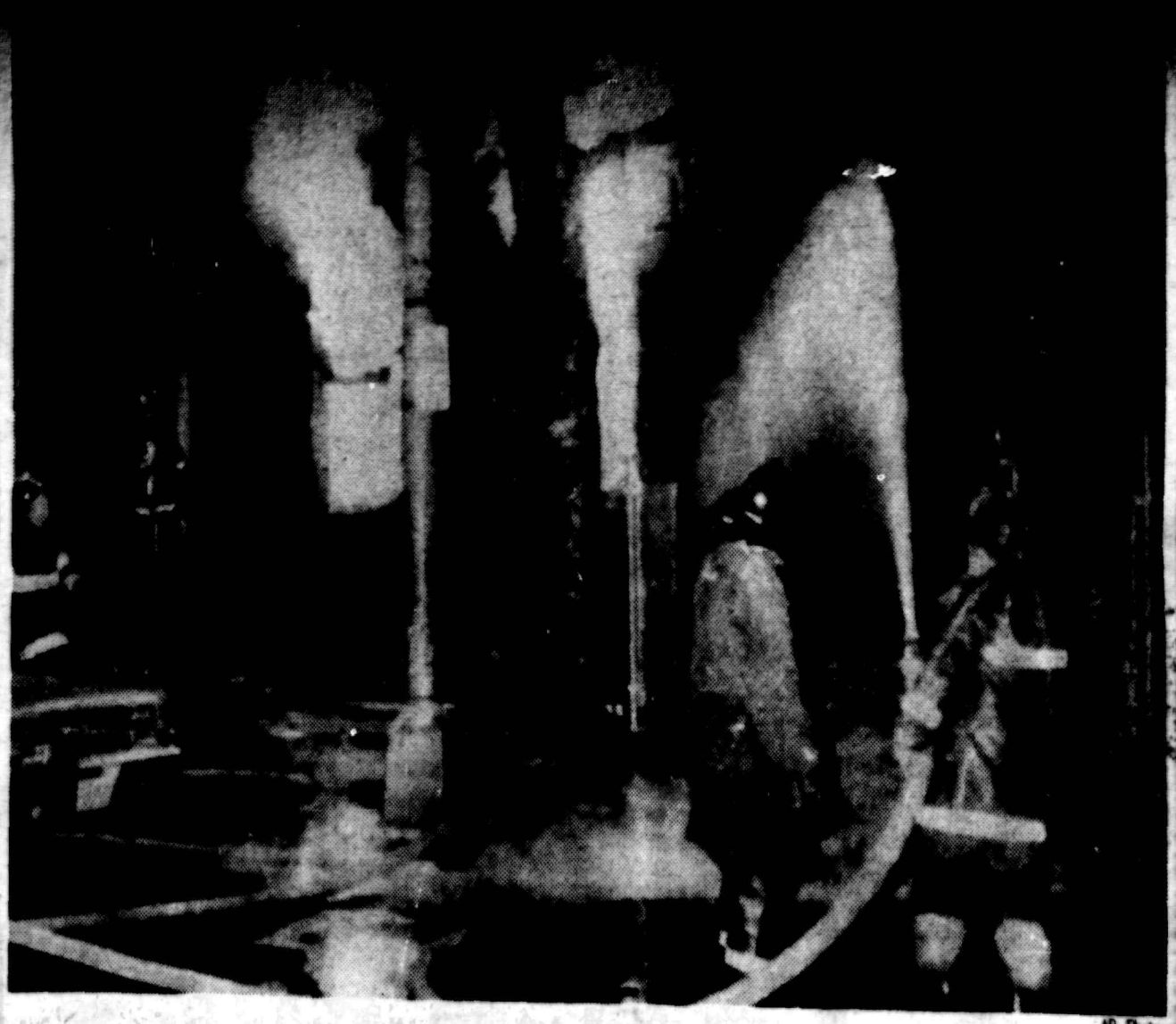
Five nuns from the rectory of the Academy of the Sacred Heart were forced to evacuate when the fire spread south into the school. Classes were called off yesterday but were expected to resume today.

The pastor of the city's only black Baptist church said he was still hoping to renovate the building. Rev. Odell Stewart said he wants demolition to be delayed pending a complete investigation of the fire.

Officials in the Building Department said it would be impossible to rehabilitate the burned-out building. They said demolition is always ordered when 60 per cent of a structure is destroyed and "there's nothing left there."

The assistant pastor said he cried when he arrived at the church from his Paterson home at 3:30 a.m. Rev. William Beatty said that he just wanted "to get about 12 hours' sleep and wake up and find that this was a nightmare."

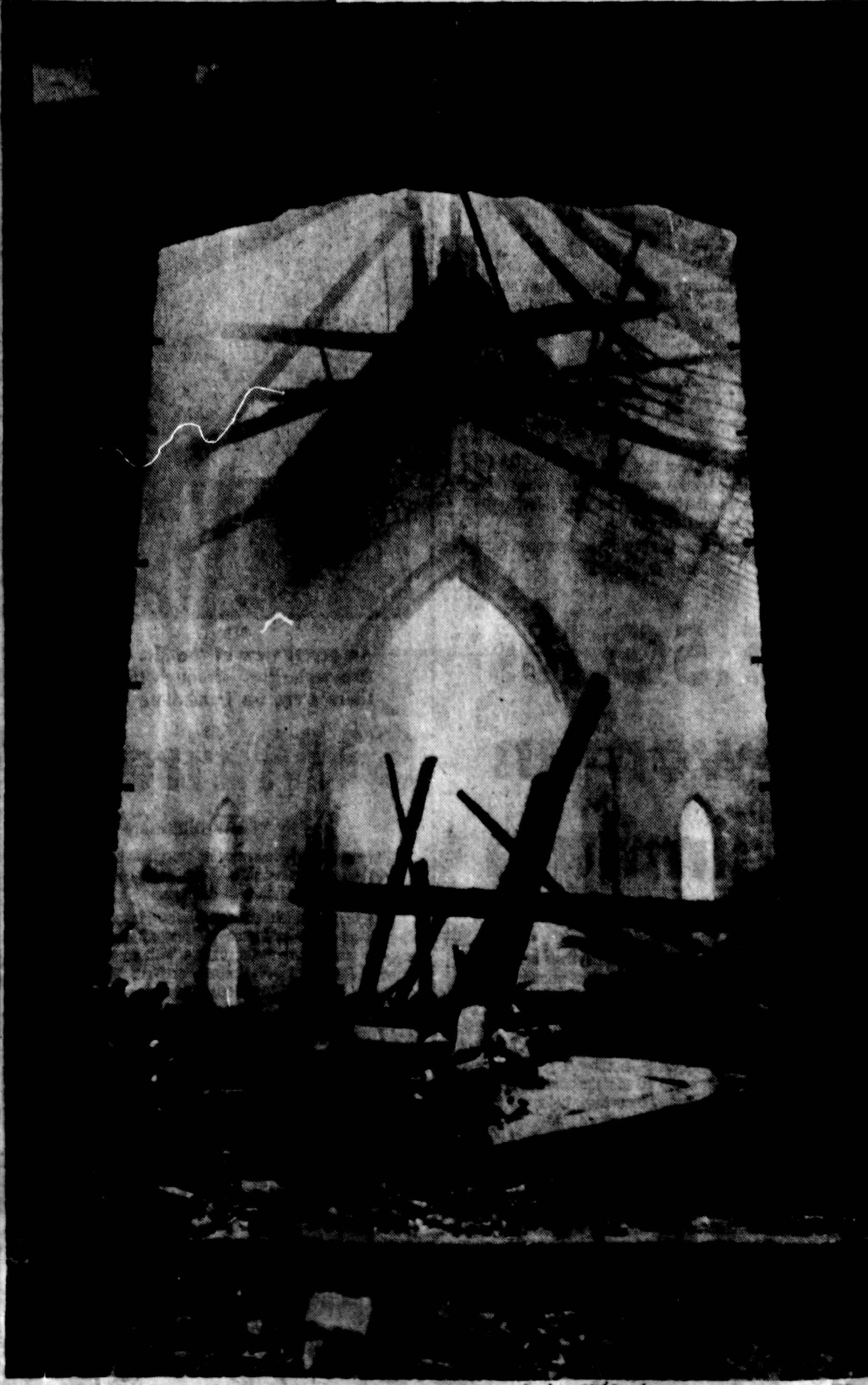
The executive director of the Red Cross in Jersey City, Joe Lesowich, said there was "well over" \$100,000 in personal losses from residents from 723 Washington st. alone. He said the fire in the interiors of both 723 and 725 Washington st. caused extension damage to residents' personal belongings.



Firemen battle the blaze which destroyed the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken yesterday. The 102-year-old structure, which was undergoing a \$100,000 renovation, may still be rebuilt. Dispatch 10/27/77



An aerial view of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken which was consumed by fire yesterday. Although the fire spread to occupied structures adjoining the church, there were no immediate injuries reported. Dispatch 10/27/77



The charred remains of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken, which was destroyed by fire yesterday. The 102-year-old church was undergoing a \$100,000 renovation at the time. Dispatch 10/27/77 Dispatch Photo by Joel Friedman

Star Ledger 10/27/77

A pastor views his burned church with 'resignation'



A view through the front door archway of the smoldering remains of the Mount Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken.

By ARTHUR K. LENERAN

God wanted the Mt. Olive Baptist Church to burn yesterday morning. That's the way Pastor Odell Stewart saw it. When Rev. Stewart arrived at the Hoboken church at 3 a.m. it was a mountain of flame and he told himself it was God's will that the old church burn to the ground.

"It was God's church," Stewart said after the sun had come up and before the last flames had gone out. "It was God's to raise up and God's to destroy. It was God who burned it down. It was God's will it burned."

That was a little easier for Stewart to believe because the fire had been merciful in a way, as if guided. It had gutted the church, burned out parts of four buildings nearby, brought out 100 Hoboken firemen, forced 100 neighbors out of their homes, and yet had harmed no one seriously, it seemed.

Only Hoboken firefighter Jack Green had been hospitalized. He had felt pains in his chest at the fire. Last night a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Hoboken said that Green was under observation in stable condition.

But for very good luck, what Rev. Stewart might call divine providence, others would have died in the fire. The flames arched over the church's parsonage buildings, where the church caretaker and a son were sound asleep. And a group of nuns sleeping in a building just beyond the parsonage awakened just before the flames reached their bedrooms.

"I guess I woke up when I heard the slate falling off the roof of the church," said Sister Marian Houghton, principal of Sacred Heart Academy. The academy stands beside the church's parsonage. Sister Marian and the other nuns who teach at the school sleep in rooms on the fourth floor of the school building.

"I'm not really a light sleeper," Sister Marian said. "So I guess waking up like that, well, somebody was watching over me, because I normally sleep through everything."

Sister Marian was discussing this in the black remains of her room. The fire had swept through her window and destroyed the room's outer wall. Now where the wall had been there was a sheet of plastic to keep out the rain. (Please turn to Page 38)



A somber Rev. Odell Stewart, pastor of the fire-gutted Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken, gets a cup of orange juice from a parishioner as he discusses the blaze.

Pastor 'resigned' to blaze

(Continued from Page One)

the hall outside the room teenage girls were trying to salvage books and furniture soaked by the hoses. School was canceled for the day, but the girls came anyway.

"I got up and I ran out," Sister Marian said. "I was running for the phone and banging on everybody's door as I went. Then we all thought of a sister who is older and we were worried about her. So we grabbed her and we were on our way out when the firemen were coming in to get us."

One of the men on the way into the school yesterday morning was Mike Bavaro. At this point Bavaro was a worried man. Bavaro was still in front of the church long after dawn yesterday, watching the ruins smolder, ready to hose the rubble down if the flames reappeared.

"A church fire is a tough fire to start out with," Bavaro said. "The ceiling in the church is so high you build up a tremendous amount of heat up there. Then when the fire finally breaks through the roof it's like a vacuum. Whoosh, it all goes at once. Then you just have to pray to Christ it doesn't spread to other buildings."

"That's what we were afraid of here. When we got here the church was completely involved. And we could see it was going over to the sisters' rooms on top of the school. So we were lucky to get everybody out. Everybody was lucky."

Church shell to be saved in Hoboken

The Rev. Odell Stewart is getting his wish. The Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Hoboken will be demolished but as much as possible of the exterior shell will be saved and used for the new church.

Mt. Olive was gutted by a general alarm fire this week leaving only the four brick walls remaining. But they were condemned by the city's building inspector and ordered leveled.

The inspector, James Caulfield, gave the church and its officials several extensions of yesterday's 8 a.m. deadline for having the work start and at 4 p.m. an agreement was reached between the city and church administrators.

Ottillio and Sons, a Paterson contractor, will start work on the building this morning.

However, Hoboken was prepared to have the building razed just in case the church officials refused. The city had selected William Young and Sons, the contractor working on demolition at St. Mary Hospital, to take down the church.

According to Caulfield, the matter worked out to everyone's satisfaction.

"The church had to assume responsibility for the demolition if it wanted to try saving any portion of the front," he said. "Once the city started to work we'd have to go all the way. I wouldn't allow the city to take the chance of a portion of the remaining wall falling and injuring anyone."

"We planned to level the building, fill in the basement, grade the area and have it fenced in."

Church services will be held at St. Matthew's Church, Eighth and Hudson streets, until the Mt. Olive congregation, the only black Baptist church in the city, has its own church again.

A building fund campaign will be initiated, according to church officials.

Not far from Bavaro stood Rev. Stewart, an orange plastic parka like those worn at football games pulled over his head. A light rain was falling. A little smoke was rising off the burnt timbers. Stewart was standing in the middle of Washington Street, blocked off by patrol cars and fire engines still in front of the church.

People were waiting for a wrecker to arrive. There are 350 in his congregation, many of them poor, Stewart was saying. The congregation had bought the church from a Methodist congregation about eight years ago. Rev. Stewart said he came to the congregation about two years ago. Just recently, he said, the congregation had started renovating the church. He was wondering aloud whether a contractor working on the renovation might have inadvertently caused the fire.

The church had been a beautiful building, Stewart said. He used the word beautiful again and again. It had been decorated with all kinds of ornaments inside, he said. It was built 100 years ago but it hadn't really looked old because most of the buildings on Washington Street are 100 years old. The street looks like the set for a movie about the 18th Century.

Rev. Stewart said he would keep his congregation together by borrowing a meeting place from someone. He said he didn't know exactly who. He wondered whether the congregation would be able to continue programs it had run for kids and senior citizens.

"We take up a collection every Sunday," he said. "But that doesn't build a church. We had some insurance, but I don't know how that'll work out yet."

Someone suggested that the fire might be a setback for the congregation, and Rev. Stewart said he didn't think that was necessarily so.

"I don't consider it a setback," he said. "I think this might be a little bit of progress. I feel it's God's will that the church burned down, and so there must be some good in it. I don't judge what the good is, that's the Lord's business."

"We see these things through the eyes of flesh, and it looks to us like a catastrophe, sure. But the Lord tells us to hold on, and have faith, and sooner or later what seems to be a catastrophe will turn out to be a blessing in some way."

Cilento blasts Iacono shift from Bateman

Hudson County Republican Chairman Anthony Cilento and former Chairman Stanley Iacono traded remarks today concerning Iacono's unexpected endorsement of Democrat Gov. Brendan T. Byrne.

Cilento said Iacono made the endorsement "at the last minute" to keep his \$6,000-a-year job as a commissioner of the Local Finance Board.

Iacono dismissed this as "ridiculous." He said his term has expired and the governor has already nominated someone to replace him. He said he will step down as soon as the Senate confirms the governor's appointment.

Cilento said Iacono was chairman of the Hudson County Republican dinner for Sen. Raymond Bateman last Saturday "but he never showed up."

The county chairman said Iacono took 25 tickets but never sold nor paid for any of them.

Iacono said the dinner chairmanship was nothing but a front to help the Republicans sell tickets.

"I never attended a dinner committee meeting," Iacono said. "Everybody who would normally buy tickets from me had been approached before I got to them. It appeared to me the committee didn't need my services."

As a final shot, Cilento said Iacono, the former mayor of Weehawken, had ruined the Republican Party in that town. In response, Iacono said he was endorsing all the KRepublican candidates for municipal office in Weehawken and was working for their election.

Yesterday Iacono switched from Bateman to Byrne. In the June primary, Iacono had supported Bateman. He said his change of mind came about because "Bateman has failed to show leadership."

Hoboken Council splits on amusement parlors

Is Hoboken about to breed a "den of iniquity" by paving the way for an influx of "amusement parlors" into the city?

That's what Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri thinks will happen if the local governing body approves an ordinance legislating places of entertainment offering "coin-operated machines."

A public hearing will be held on the proposed ordinance at tomorrow's 10 a.m. City Council session.

This ordinance, Ranieri asserted at last night's council caucus, "is a basic challenge to the integrity of this council. It could open a Pandora's Box, saying that Hoboken is now wide open."

"First and Washington streets could turn into 42nd Street and Broadway and it would all be sanctioned on the basis of revenues," Ranieri continued.

But Mayor Steve Cappiello, who said he sent the proposal to the council one month ago, defended it, saying, "I've had several inquiries from people hoping to create such an establishment."

"It's just part of the amusement business wherein a facility can be set up to entertain young people. The ordinance is modeled after a similar one in Bayonne," the mayor said. Ranieri contested the latter statement.

"If it's done properly and with taste, a facility could be developed along the main business thoroughfare, at a renovated Erie-Lackawanna terminal or wherever one could be supported in the city," Cappiello added.

"We get a tremendous amount of police calls about kids hanging out on the street and this facility could be the answer to that problem. I'm talking about first-class entertainment—not the kind of thing you're talking about, Bob," Cappiello said.

The ordinance, according to Ranieri, will permit a minimum of 10 machines per establishment and would set a licensing fee of \$300 plus \$25 for the first machine and \$15 for each machine beyond that.

Joining Ranieri in opposing the ordinance were Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francone, who insisted: "This is not going to bring any money into the city," and Second Ward Councilman Walter Cramer, who called the proposal "only a form of encouraging youngsters to start out on a gambling trend."

The only thing that Ranieri says would make him "keep silent" about something he regards as "siphoning money out of children" would be a favorable signal from the Mayor's Commission on Recreation toward the idea.

When The Jersey Journal called Sue Newman, head of the advisory

group, after the meeting, she gave this reaction: "It sounds dreadful, horrible... at best, a little better than the boob tube. I think we can find something better culturally for our children."

"It strikes me as a very small way of solving a very big problem involving our teens, but I'm open-minded toward hearing the mayor's explanation," Ms. Newman said.

Ranieri last night also the councilman got into a shouting match with city Law Director Lawrence Florio over a series of resolutions drafted for tomorrow's meeting which authorize payments totaling more than \$300,000 for Spiniello Construction and Mayo, Lynch Associates in connection with various water improvement projects.

After city Comptroller John Erbeck told the council that the city had only \$21,000 in hand to pay one of Mayo, Lynch's bills (Spiniello is owed \$345,000) and that "letters of credit" were awaited from the federal government for the balance, Ranieri complained that the council had no business voting on the payment resolutions without having the money.

"My opinion is the resolutions are good," insisted Florio.

"Be quiet!" Ranieri shouted. "Just back off, young man. That's your opinion. Sit on it! The City Council should table these resolutions. When the money comes in, then approve them. That's doing things business-like."

To do otherwise, said Ranieri, would amount to "financial insanity."

Council President Martin J. Brennan, seeking grounds for compromise, suggested that the resolutions be amended to read that the bills will be paid "contingent on receipt of the monies."

But Cramer, who is also an attorney for Public Service Electric & Gas Co., said to do so would be "illegal under the Sunshine Law because 48 hours notice isn't being given to the public."

"I agree with Walter," said Florio, continuing to defend the resolutions in their present form.

"How can you pay if you don't have the money?" he said. "There's nothing in the resolution saying when you have to pay. It's up to Mr. Erbeck not to pay until you get the money."

In two public works developments, Cappiello told the council he's exploring the possibility of "quick rent-ups" of snow removal equipment in case city plows are inoperable, as claimed by Public Works Director Andrew Amato, and the possibility of hauling refuse from litter baskets around the city to a privately owned compactor in the city's northwest sector rather than paying for large containers.

Jackman, Gallo hit on 'excessive waste'

By TERRY BRENNAN

Challengers in the 23d Assembly District are trying to take its two entrenched Democrats with lacking the "business know-how" and "imagination" needed to cut spending.

The incumbents, Majority Leader Chris Jackman of West New York and Tom Gallo of Hoboken, are being repeatedly attacked by their four challengers for not cutting the "excessive waste" in state government. The income tax is being used as a symbol of the legislature's inability to cut spiraling costs.

"State legislators should try to learn something from the business world because they obviously just keep on spending and spending," said Robert Pompliano, a Jersey City lawyer running on the Republican slate. "The reason we have this despicable income tax is there's either too much patronage or too much Civil Service. The state has to be run more like a business if there's ever going to be any relief for our harried taxpayers."

Although all four challengers are unapologetically opposed to repositing the income tax, Jackman and Gallo maintain it's the best way to come up with revenues needed to cover costs. Jackman said the unpopular income tax is "fairer" than either an increase in property or sales taxes.

"We obviously have to reevaluate the whole income tax plan because it's suburban-oriented as it stands now," Jackman said. "Property owners are already suffering too much and the sales tax is the most regressive tax we have. An income tax may be necessary to cover our educational costs."

Jackman contends that the emotional dogma is shielding the major issue of effectively halting out urban areas. He said municipalities such as Jersey City "obviously need a massive dose of state aid" to maintain basic services.

"We need some way to get the state to take over welfare costs because the urban areas are strangled by the 25 per cent they now pay," Jackman said. "We have to reorder things so the whole state starts paying the price of urban decay. This campaign hinges on how effectively urban legislators can capture state aid."

The second Republican candidate said there has to be more imaginative approaches to development of the district's valuable waterfront property. Dominick Facchini said he'll attract sorely-needed retail and recreational facilities to the waterfront if he's one of the two top vote getters in next week's election.

Facchini said ineffective leadership has failed to come up with some of the \$90 million in federal matching funds for state transportation projects. He criticized the other challengers' sentiments when he attacked Gallo and Jackman for "lacking basic business know-how."

"Our district is filled with blue-collar workers and our Assemblymen haven't been able to stimulate construction projects," Facchini said. "That link between the George Washington Bridge and the Lincoln Tunnel has been in the works for 30 years. Effective legislative leaders would have completed that road years ago."

Gallo was appointed to the Assembly in 1973 and won reelection two years later. Both he and Jackman have repeatedly maintained they voted for the income tax only because of the self-destruct clause introduced by state Sen. William V. Masto of Union City.

The two independents in the race claim the major issue revolves around the incumbents' inability to effectively cut state spending. Charles Velli and Ralph Lanni were members of the "Project W" team that temporarily unseated Masto as Union City mayor seven years ago.

"I'm absolutely opposed to any increase in taxes because all that seems to do is give the Legislature more money to squander," Velli said. "We simply have to cut spending by reducing excessive waste and unnecessary jobs. That means the income tax would be the first to go for good."

Jackman agrees there's an unnecessary duplication of government services and says more regionalization is the answer. He said Hudson municipalities could more effectively provide basic services by purchasing in larger volume on a county or district level.

Lanni said Gallo and Jackman have "failed their constituents by not capturing more state transportation aid." He claims large portions of aid always ends up in rural projects because of "our delegation's lack of initiative and foresight."

"Tonelle av. is the only major artery crisscrossing the county and it takes forever to get moving on it after a rain storm," Lanni said. "All I keep hearing from Gallo and Jackman is the income tax is the best alternative. I think the only alternative is getting Assemblymen in Trenton who can pare down spiraling state costs."

Hoboken officials to meet with P.A. on pier plans

What does the future hold in store for the Port Authority's three piers in Hoboken?

Mayor Steve Cappiello and other city officials hope to find out tomorrow when they meet with representatives of the P.A. and discuss its plans for the pier area.

The P.A. operates three piers in Hoboken—A, B and C—but none has been getting much work in recent years as more and more shipping companies go to containerized cargo. Only one of the three piers now get any regular use and even that is greatly reduced compared to the activity of a few years ago.

"I think it's fairly obvious that shipping activities aren't going to be making a comeback in the city," said the mayor. "We just don't have the

facilities needed for a large-scale shipping operation or the land area on which they could be built.

"But we do have a lot of waterfront property that will be good for other purposes. And the ones I'm interested in the most will be those that create the most jobs."

Cappiello added that representatives of the Urban Observatory at Stevens Institute of Technology also will be invited to attend the meeting since it is concerned with the redevelopment of the city's waterfront as a whole.

He wants to deduct for Hoboken's litter

Second Ward Councilman Walter S. Cramer of Hoboken doesn't think the city should pay for services he says it hasn't been getting.

That's why he has recommended that the City Council deduct money from the city's monthly payments to the LaFera Contracting Co., which collects the city's garbage.

"Under the terms and conditions of our current three-year contract with the company, it is supposed to be picking up garbage placed at fire hydrants and emptying out the corner trash baskets," said Cramer. "As far as I know, the city has been and is still doing this work. If it is, then we should figure out the cost to the city through man-hours and wear and tear on our

equipment and deduct the amount from the monthly bill."

Mayor Steve Cappiello has promised to talk with the company and straighten things out. Cramer said he will give the mayor until the end of the month before pushing for any deductions.

"But in the meantime, I think the city should start figuring out the daily cost of making these pickups," he continued, "because I intend to push for the deductions if the company doesn't start making them."

Cramer, who is an attorney with Transport of New Jersey, said that he reviewed the current contract and it clearly stated that the contractor was supposed to make the trash basket and fire hydrant collections, not the city.

Hoboken teachers pick HTA as union

Dispatch 11/4/77
The Hoboken Teachers Association staved off a rebellious faction and won the right yesterday to retain its power as bargaining agent for the city's 400 teachers.

The HTA, which was racked with dissension and a widening split after a five-week strike two years ago, held off a second attempt by the Hoboken Federation of Teachers to represent city teachers in contract negotiations. The HTA won the election, 247-201.

Although HTA President Michael D'Onofrio called the victory a "vote of confidence in the association," the president of the HFT said he was "encouraged in the continuing split in our so-called leadership." Vincent Germirino said the HFT showing indicated that teachers were growing "increasingly dissatisfied with the chummy relationship HTA officials have with our administration."

Sacred Heart nuns thank all who helped

88 11/5/77
The Sisters of Charity of Sacred Heart Academy in Hoboken are saying daily prayers for the many people who offered assistance last week when fire destroyed the Mt. Olive Baptist Church and damaged the academy next door.

"All our benefactors were remembered at a Mass of Thanksgiving on Nov. 1 at St. Peter and Paul Church in Hoboken, and will be remembered in our prayers daily," the nuns wrote in a letter to The Jersey Journal expressing thanks to the many who pitched in when the school needed it most.

Though the building appears to have been untouched by the flames, there was considerable interior damage. The letter expressed special

gratitude to firefighter from Hoboken, Union City and Jersey City.

"Their efforts resulted in confining the fire in the Academy building to one room. They also protected the library volumes from water damage to a great extent, and they assisted students and teachers in cleaning up after the fire was under control," the letter continued.

Thanks were extended to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, father Juniper Alwell, and Maxwell House, which sent a supply of cleaning materials for use by students who also volunteered to pitch in for the cleanup effort.

The letters ended by saying "To all who offered any help of any kind, we extend our thanks and that of our students and faculty."

Schools tell Hoboken: 'We need \$2.5 million'

Following a public hearing attended by only three persons, the Hoboken Board of Education may be looking to the city for \$2.5 million to implement a 10-year master plan.

The board doesn't yet know if it will use the money for new construction or repairs to existing schools but may seek the funding after it gets the final recommendations on a state-mandated school facilities master plan from Mayo, Lynch Associates by the end of the month.

Preliminary capsulized sugges-

tions were offered by Elizabeth Schonwald of Mayo, Lynch at last night's public hearing in the Wallace School.

The trustees purposely had the local architectural and engineering consultant firm hold off presenting the final version of the plan until public input had been solicited.

While Mrs. Schonwald says it's hard to predict which way elementary school enrollment is headed in Hoboken, the opening of the new mini-school, coupled with a slight rise in

student population, "could mean a surplus of anywhere from 900 to 1,150 (elementary school) seats," the preliminary report states.

These extra spaces, the report continues, could pave the way for the "closing of either Leinhardt (517 seats, built 1903) or Connor School 699 seats, built 1906) or the gradual elimination of both and subsequent replacement with a single new facility."

By contrast, matriculation pro-

jections for older students are more explicit.

"Junior or high school enrollment will decline noticeably from 1,600 to 1,216," the report says.

"This means that if the schools are maintained in their current usage pattern — Demarest (capacity 919) as a full junior high school and Brandt as both an elementary school (capacity 385) and as a junior high (capacity 581) — the natural enrollment decline

will relieve the current overcrowding (1,600 students, 1,500 seats)."

Other options the report suggests be explored are:

- Relocate 300 Brandt elementary school students to the mini-school and the rest to the Wallace School. Then, extensively upgrade the Brand facilities by putting in gas and running water and a gymnasium.

- Phase out the junior highs over the next decade and replace them with a single, centrally located

tion was turned down in favor of other projects.

Now, faced with mandated economies for the next five years at least, the school trustees, of necessity, are compelled to turn to the city government.

Board counsel Robert W. Taylor said the trustees "number one priority" should be school repairs, rather than one new building.

"We have almost exhausted our potential for allowable borrowings and we just don't have the leeway to go out and ask the public to vote for \$4 million in school improvements," Taylor said.

But, noted Taylor, the board

modern structure with a capacity of around 1,200 to 1,300.

Enrollment at Hoboken High School (capacity 1,410) is seen falling from 1,199 to 1,054 or 974, according to the report, adding that, "since the building is new, good maintenance should be stressed."

Months ago, Hoboken sought \$4.5 million in federal Public Works grants to rehabilitate the city's six oldest public schools, but the applica-

tion could apply to the state Education Department for a waiver on bonding for capital improvements if the city, which, according to Taylor, has a \$2.5 million debt ceiling for capital funding, agreed to back the notes.

Mary Stack Gaspar, board president, who attended last night's session, with colleagues Michael (Spike) Costello and Leo McLaughlin, feels that careful renovation of the old school buildings with their high ceilings and windows "is a good way to preserve some of the charm of the city."

As to what will be the price to retain that charm, the figure won't be known until the final recommendations are made.

Hoboken Library adds 430 new books

88 11/1/77
A total of 430 new books were purchased by the Hoboken Public Library last month, Lucille Cunningham, director, said today. Many of the new volumes have been delivered and are now available to library members.

Some of the new books are:

The Galbraith Reader: Selected and Arranged with Narrative Comment, by Editors of Gambit; The Diary of Virginia Woolf, Edited by Anne Olivier Bell; Down the Seine And Up the Potomac: Twenty-Five Years of Art Buchwald's Best Humor, by Art Buchwald; Current Convictions: Views and Reviews, by Robert Craft; No Laughing Matter: The Autobiography of a WASP, by Margaret Haley; Marathon: The Pursuit of the Presidency, 1877-1878, by Jules Witcover; The Professor of Desire: A Novel, by Philip Roth; The Honourable School Boy: A Novel, by

John LeCarre; The Walnut Door: A Novel, by John Hersey; The Ice Age: A Novel, by Margaret Drabble; The Wolf By The Ears: Thomas Jefferson and Slavery, by John Chester Miller; In Search of the Common Good: Utopian Experiments Past and Future, by Charles J. Erasmus; The Life of Adlai E. Stevenson, by John Barlow Martin; Celebrate Your Self: Making Life Work For You, by Dorothy Corkille Briggs; Daniel Martin: A Novel, by John Fowles; Portrait of a Romantic: A Novel, by Steven Millhauser; Lament for a Lost Lover: A Novel, by Philippa Carr; Woman's Way To God, by Anne Fremantle; Sex, Crime, and the Law, by Donald E. J. MacNamara and Edward Sagarin; The Best American Short Stories, 1977, Edited by Martha Foley; The Church and the Homosexual, by John J. McNeill, S.J.; Life Is A Banquet,

by Rosalind Russell and Chris Chase; Great Cheap Wines: A Poorperson's Guide, by James Nelson; Elbow Room: Stories, by James Alan McPherson; Once To Every Man: A Memoir, by William Sloane Coffin, Jr.; Love Letters: An Anthology, by Antonia Fraser; Turning East: The Promise and Peril of the New Orientalism, by Harvey Cox; We Must March My Darlings: A Critical Decade, by Diana Trilling; The Armageddon Game: A Novel of Suspense, by Mark Washburn; Ghosts I have Seen: A Novel, by Richard Peck; Mawson's Will: The Greatest Survival Story Ever Written, by Simon Leys; Frederic Chopin, by Bernard Gavoty; The Making of Adolf Hitler: The Birth and Rise of Nazism, by Eugene Davidson; and The Lormer Line: A Novel, by Anne Melville.



Hoboken comes back

By Jim Bishop

88 11/1/77
Hoboken is an old joke. It squats on the edge of the greasy Hudson River smelling of scale houses and urine. It was a tenement ghetto of piers and ruttled paving, railroad terminals and all-night bars before anyone understood the phrase "urban decay."

Women leaned out of five-story walkups on pillows to watch the action below. The men were Irish, Italian, German and they worked on the police department, the fire department or on the docks shoving crates. Hoboken had a good newspaper, "The Hudson Observer," but that died, too.

The best a family could say, was, "We're moving up on the hill." The Hill meant Union City, North Bergen or Jersey City. This was considered disloyal by those who remained. To move out meant losing old friends.

Under the smoke, what Hoboken had to offer was courage. Kids like Francis Sinatra grew up there thinking that the whole world was poverty-stricken. Richard Conte was born on the side of the hill, neither up nor down.

It was proper to die in St. Mary Hospital if one had to die. It was also a touch of class to be born there. Weddings were held in Meyer's Hotel. At the Clam Bar, drunks tottered among busted shells on the floor. It was safe for a woman to shop along Washington Street because the police carried nightsticks which, when used, sounded like a sharp single to right.

New York City has given up. So has Detroit. The Irish have given Dorchester to the blacks. A priest at my old parish in Jersey City — St. Patrick's — calls it "inner city." People who understand and appreciate "a neighborhood" are moving out by the millions.

Not so in Hoboken. People are moving in. They are not tearing the old tenements down. They are being renovated by carpenters, plasterers and painters. Hoboken is developing a bright clean look.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors, an assortment of officials who weep about "the flight from the cities," marvel about what Hoboken is doing for itself.

Few sites are dingier than the old Lackawanna ferry terminal. The boats to New York stopped long ago. Architects and planners are all over the huge waiting room converting it into a shopping center.

Where did we get the notion that old is useless? When did we adopt the philosophy that it is good not to know, not to help neighbors? In Hoboken, 2,900 of its 15,000 housing units are having floors scraped, walls repaired, facades sandblasted and painted in bright colors, heating and air-conditioning units installed.

Much of this is being done on weekends by the owners. Many of the young couples cannot afford the inflated cost of new housing.

Flower boxes have been added. The mayor, Steve Cappelletto, isn't surprised at the resurrection of Hoboken. He was the twelfth child of a man who had a shoeshine stand. He speaks of an elite people of pride as though the city always had it, but forget where they left it.

Puerto Ricans who moved in were told that Hoboken is not a slum. Their men were expected to pitch in, make the place shine. Their women were expected to lend a little flour, borrow a cup of sugar, and help other children to get to school.

Police Chief George Crimmins took a lot of cops out of squad cars and put them back on the street. Today, a policeman is expected to know the families in his neighborhood. He walks slowly. He trades street talk. Crime dropped three years in a row.

Ironically, discouraged New Yorkers are trying to move across the river to Hoboken. They will accept railroad flats, where only the living room and kitchen have windows, if they can rent or buy.

The lawyers in the city's Community Development Agency study the U.S. government's laws for grants, aids and long-term loans to find something that will rejuvenate a century-old flat.

Nobody wants to tear anything down. They will settle for nothing less than the garden-fresh aura of Hoboken when their great-grandparents stepped off the immigrant ships a few blocks away.

Byrne woos Hudson vote in Hoboken

By TERRY BRENNAN

Dispatch 11/3/77
Gov. Brendan T. Byrne continued his last ditch efforts to capture Hudson County yesterday by kicking off the \$4.8 million restoration of the Erie-Lackawanna Terminal in Hoboken.

The governor, who has been campaigning long and hard in Hudson for the past three months, initiated the first phase of the \$10 million commercial and cultural complex at the terminal. Byrne also signed a \$4.5 million railroad relief bill and cut the ribbon at a half acre park in the Mile Square City.

Although Byrne defeated Republican challenger Charles Sandman by an 84,000 plurality in Hudson four years ago, the governor's aides are only predicting victory here by less than one third that figure. County Democratic leaders were initially lukewarm in their support of Byrne but have been pushing hard for the governor the past few weeks.

The director of planning and economic development for the Hoboken Community Development Agency said rehabilitation of the terminal would start the week after Christmas. Ken Pat said construction would include both interior and exterior work and the main waiting room would get a "complete cosmetic overhaul."

The Public Works grant will give priority to local residents for the 500 jobs construction is expected to generate before the first phase is completed in 18 months. The state bought the terminal from the bankrupt railroad for \$309,000 18 months ago and will lease it to the city for use by its 60,000 daily commuters.

Phase Two calls for creation of a mass transit link between the terminal and Giants Stadium along an unused rail line. The line could reportedly be activated and hooked up to provide direct rail service between Hoboken and the Meadowlands.

Byrne also signed a bill that would delay for at least two years a \$4.5 million loss in railroad property aid for four Hudson municipalities.

Jersey City, Weehawken, West New York and Hoboken would have lost the funds because property within their boundaries is no longer used by the railroad.

The governor then raced over to commemorate the new half acre Multi-Service Park at 3d and Adams sts. The park is part of a \$450,000 state Green Acres matching-grant project along with rehabilitation of the 3 1/2 acre Church Square Park.

Teachers reaffirm HTA

88 11/1/77
The president of the Hoboken Teachers Association said today he hopes to begin negotiations shortly with the Board of Education for a new contract. His pledge followed a vote yesterday which reaffirmed the association as bargaining agent.

The association defeated the Hoboken Federation of Teachers 247 to 201 in an election conducted by the Public Employment Relations Commission.

"The results showed that the teachers of our city are pleased with the representation they have had in the past and will continue to receive in the future from this association," said Michael D'Onofrio, HTA president.

"The majority of teachers have stood firmly behind the association," he said.

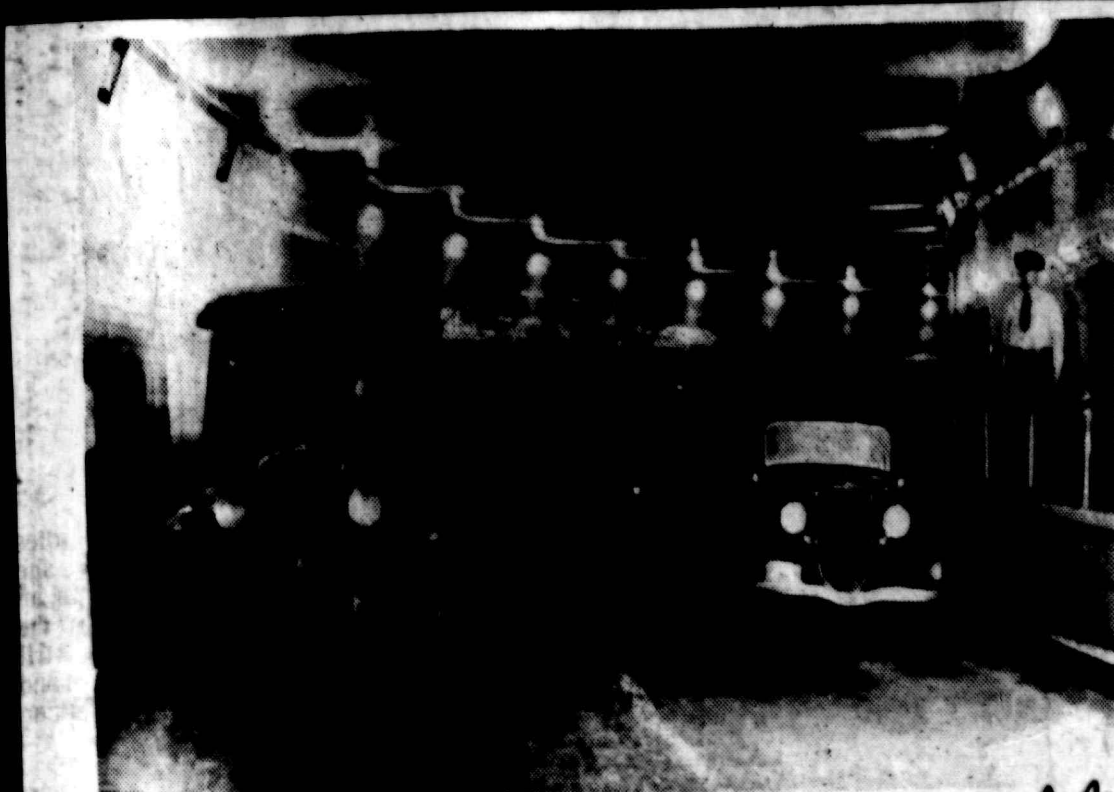
The federation, which is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, had petitioned PERC for the election which was held at three schools from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The association has represented the teachers for many years.



Dispatch Photo by Bob Kist

Loafing around

Hoboken mayor Steve Cappelletto and Gov. Brendan Byrne sample the Italian bread at Gustoso's bakery in Hoboken yesterday. Byrne was in town to sign a bill providing funds for restoring the Erie Lackawanna railroad station.



88 11/3/77
The Holland Tunnel today looks much the same as it did when motorists used it to travel between New York and New Jersey nearly a half-century ago.

Holland Tunnel nears milestone

Manhattan will have been connected to the rest of the North American continent for a half-century Nov. 12. That date marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Holland Tunnel.

The Port Authority, which operates the tunnel, plans to commemorate the day by unveiling a plaque below the bust of Clifford Holland—the tunnel's engineer—at the New York entrance to the tunnel.

The mile-and-a-half tunnel connects 12th and 14th Streets in Jersey City with Canal Street in Manhattan and took seven years to complete. At the time of its opening it was the longest un-

derwater tunnel in the world.

The methods and principles used in the construction of the tunnel still form the basis for the construction of underwater vehicular tunnels all over the world, according to a P.A. spokesman.

Prior to construction of the tunnel only slow-moving ferries provided access to New York. When the tunnel was finally opened motorists "took to the tunnel like a new toy," according to one eyewitness account. The drivers would travel through the eastbound tunnel and immediately return through the westbound tunnel and repeat the process.

Hoboken pier session put into drydock by P.A.

88 11/5/77
A meeting between Hoboken and Port Authority officials to discuss future possible use of the P.A.'s three piers in the city has been cancelled without being rescheduled for a new date.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto said the meeting was called off at the request of the P.A. He said he did not know the reason for the cancellation.

The P.A. operates Piers A, B, and C along the city's waterfront as part of a three-way agreement between it, Hoboken and the federal government, which has owned them since World War I. The piers originally belonged to shipping companies based in Germany but were confiscated with the outbreak of war.

Cappelletto said he is "concerned" about the piers' fate since the amount of work they supply for local longshoremen gets steadily smaller and smaller.

"Our entire waterfront has potential," said the mayor. "All we need is someone to develop it. Hoboken has a

say in what is going to happen with the P.A. piers and I'm sure that we'll be consulted on whatever it is. However, my main concern at this time has to be jobs.

"We have so many people out of work in the city that this must be the main priority. I'd even support something that produced less in rates for the city if it was going to provide a lot of job opportunities for local people."

No one appears interested in developing the Hoboken waterfront, Cappelletto said he hasn't heard anything official and no one has made any proposal that he knows about.

"There are rumors floating about," continued the mayor, "but at this time they have no basis in fact that I know of."

Officials of the P.A. could not be reached for comment. All inquiries were being referred to their public information office.

Terminal renovations to start

88 11/3/77
Gov. Brendan T. Byrne has signed an architectural design contract to signal the start of a \$4.8 million project to renovate the Hoboken railroad terminal. Work will begin by Dec. 20.

The renovation will be done under the federal public works grants for Hoboken. Byrne said it will create 200 construction jobs.

The contract is with Becker, Beadison and Murphy, of Newark, and Ralph Jefferson, of Summit, a joint venture.

Byrne said "this contract is another important step in the revitalization of the city of Hoboken," which he added has achieved "national acclaim" for its success in transforming urban decay into vital urban development.

"But this has been accomplished with more than just bricks and mortar. It is a sense of community pride that has brought about the revitalization," Byrne observed.

The renovation of the former Erie Lackawanna terminal is the first step in the planned rehabilitation of the station into a transportation

commercial complex.

Assistant State Public Transportation Commissioner Peter E. Stangi said it is being federally funded because of the high priority Byrne placed on it in his request for public works funds.

Stangi recalled the state acquired the terminal for \$282,567, last year by using 1988 transportation bond issued funds. The terminal was built in 1909 and was entered into the National Register of Historic Places in July, 1973.

The governor signed the contract in a ceremony at the railroad station yesterday.

Hoboken High trio sweeps top county fire poster prizes

11/9/77

Three students at Hoboken High School have swept first, second and third place in the annual Hudson County Fire Prevention poster contest, it was announced today by a spokesman for the association.

Taking first place in the high school division was Angie Pineda, a 10th grade student. Second place went to Debbie Janssen while Marie Mulvaney came in third. Both are seniors.

In the intermediate division for youngsters in grades 5 through 8, the winners were Dawn Vitale, a seventh grade pupil at St. Peter and Paul's School, Hoboken; John Garcia, second place, a seventh grade pupil at St. John's School, North Bergen, and Debra Ann Sallino, third place, an eighth grade pupil at St. Ann's

School, Hoboken. Lori Dvarak, a fourth grader at St. John's School, North Bergen took first place in the grammar school division of the contest. Second place went to David Bryngli, a third grade pupil at Wislon School, Weehawken. A Wilson School fourth grader, Lorin Unger, was third.

The winners will be presented with U.S. Savings bonds at ceremonies Thursday night in the Holiday Inn Lounge, 614 Grand St., Hoboken. Gold medals will go to the second place finishers in the contest and silver medals will be presented to the third place winners.

Fireman James Monaco, head of the Hoboken Fire Community Relations Bureau, is coordinating the event.



Working on an arts and crafts display, at the basement offices of Citizens United for New Action (CUNA), from left, are Luis Rivera, Anna Marie Torres, Juan Garcia, director; Michael Cortes, holding paints in dish, and Angel Navarro, art supervisor.

CUNA just aims to help, mostly kids

By Peter Hallam

Juan Garcia, 40, of Hoboken is an activist. Things seem to happen when he's around—and not always good things. He's had his scrapes with the law, especially when the city's Puerto Rican community felt the time had come to assert its presence in the late 1980s and early '90s.

Garcia has not changed that much but his direction has.

Instead of taking the system on head-to-head to change it, he's joined it and is working harder than ever to change it from within.

And the vehicle for that is CUNA (Citizens United for New Action) located in the basement of a tenement house at 809 Willow Ave. Relying entirely on citizens' contributions and volunteer workers, CUNA now has more than 50 working members who help their fellow residents with any problems they might have.

"We're really not that much into changing the system as we are into trying to get it to work the way it is supposed to," he said. "The various government and social agencies are there to help the people,

to provide them with services and assistance in their times of need. But all too often it doesn't work that way.

"We try to put the people in contact with the agencies that can get them the help they need, and if that agency doesn't we try to find out why—and then push to get it anyway."

The idea for CUNA germinated more than two years ago but it wasn't until last September that Garcia was able to get the program officially underway. He is on disability and that gives him a lot of free time. That time was put to use helping families but it was a one-man show, fighting to get them public assistance, fighting to get them food stamps or whatever else they needed.

"I was getting things done, but I couldn't do it all on my own," he continued. "That's when the idea struck me of forming a citizens group which would try to help other residents with their problems and needs."

"What we are really trying to do is educate people to their rights, educationally, socially and politically—although we are not politically motivated. CUNA is active with welfare problems, housing and recreation, when they come up. But we are the busiest with the children."

To keep neighborhood children busy CUNA keeps its doors open to them seven days a week, but not during school hours. Besides arts and crafts, youngsters can get some private tutoring on their school work if needed—and it is needed in some cases.

According to Angel Navarro, 27, who recently lost his job as a truck driver, many of the children don't have a thorough understanding of their ABC's and can't do simple mathematics. He has been working with some of the third and fourth grade children to help them overcome their deficiencies.

"We screen the kids to see how they are doing in school and the results show that there is definitely something wrong," Navarro continued. "These are children who were born and raised in Hoboken."

Navarro said CUNA would shortly become more active in the field of education by trying to encourage the board of education to create programs which would place special emphasis on the basics—reading, writing, mathematics.

"This has to be done in the early years, otherwise they'll be pushed through the school system without ever getting the basic education they need," he said. "We have kids being graduated from high school every year who can't read or write properly."

CUNA is negotiating with the Hoboken-North Hudson YMCA for the use of the Y's facilities for after-school programs, hopefully funded by the city. But if the funding falls through, it will pick up the tab itself, although it will mean fewer kids can

participate. "We are also trying to put together some sports programs for the youngsters," said Garcia, the non-salaried director. "This will include sponsoring teams in various leagues, maybe even starting our own leagues."

CUNA has also started an anti-litter educational program with the children and their parents. And it seems to be working on that one block.

"It's a lot cleaner," Garcia continued. "We aim at the kids and they take it home to their parents. Our block is a lot cleaner than it was, and a lot quieter, too."

Some day in the not too distant future Garcia would like to apply for a federal or state Community Development grant for the operating cash CUNA needs. But that is still a way off.

"We're not ready for it yet," he said. "The community supports us with donations and we've been making ends meet that way. Government grants are available to us but we're not that well organized administratively to take advantage of them. But we will be soon."

Garcia said he would like to establish branch offices around the city, maybe even one in every voting district. They would not necessarily be associated with CUNA if residents of a particular area felt they would like to start their own center.

"The important thing is to get residents involved in the things that are happening around them," he continued. "Individually, it is hard to get things done, but collectively as a group nothing is impossible. Government listens and does when the group speaks."

To date, CUNA has helped more than 100 families with problems stemming from welfare, food stamps and Social Security. But Garcia is most proud of the recent Halloween party CUNA held at Hoboken High School which was attended by more than 2,500 persons, most of them children.

After weeks of begging and pleading with the Board of Education, Garcia and CUNA were reluctantly granted permission to use the gym at Hoboken High School for the party.

Seaman happy to find shelter not car lot yet

By John Watson

"So I've still got a place to stay tonight," shouted chief steward Orville Holland as if surprised that the Lutheran Seamen's Home in Hoboken had not been torn down and turned into a parking lot.

Laden with a well-worn suitcase and an overstuffed garment bag, Holland was returning from a voyage on a cargo ship delivering military supplies to the American troops in Germany. When he left nearly a month ago many of the home's 46 residents had complied with an eviction notice from its owner, the German Seaman's Mission of New York, and

were busy looking for some place else to bunk. Six of the 16 ancient mariners who resisted the order and are testing it in court, were gathered in the building's library swapping finely-honed tales of their years at sea.

They chuckled approval of the young man's cavalier sense of humor in the face of their tenuous hold on the building. At 54, Holland is one of the younger members of the group. Most are well above 60 and have long since retired from the sea. They welcomed him home offering a choice seat within their circle.

Seated among the library's dusty

volumes of Honore de Balzac and Taylor Caldwell novels were Alexander (Tennessee) Robbins, 55, from Illinois, John Benik, 72, a retired Austrian seaman, Dave Boyd, 68, a retired merchant marine officer, Henry Meier, 73, a German sailor who now makes sausage, and James McCaffrey, 52, whose ship was torpedoed during the Second World War.

Holland's tales about the size of the ship, its cargo and the port at Bremerhaven hadn't been told enough to be honed into an adventure epic, but the older seamen listened intently waiting for a chance to compare it with some of their "real" adventures.

The mention of the German port served as a cue for Karl (Rudy) Judd, 88, to reminisce about how he was lured from his native Germany by the thrill of the sea in 1920.

He described with remarkable memory for detail his first job on the American luxury liner Gutland. Within a matter of minutes he recounts a half century of life in the maritime capped by his last voyage in 1940. Exercising the privileges of seniority, his tale drifted over to the past 18 years he has spent in the seaman's home. The conversation then turned, as it often does these

days, to the outcome of their court fight for their home.

Lawyers on both sides of the case apparently agree that whatever the outcome of the case, the men will eventually have to find some place else to live.

The building is owned and operated by the German Seaman's Mission of New York which is a completely self-supporting agency of the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Lutheran Church, according to attorney J. Nicholas Suhr. The mission, which he says is often cast as the

villain in this case, wants to sell the property not simply to make a profit but because continuing to operate it threatens the organization's survival.

The mission's primary activity is providing spiritual counseling for sailors in the New York harbor area, he explained. "Providing homes is barred by the organization's charter."

The mission began allowing sailors to stay in the building at 60-64 Hudson street during the early part of this century when Hoboken was a major shipping area and the home was a convenient place for the men to rest

for a few nights. For most of that time the New York Waterfront Commission helped pay for the building upkeep but it stopped providing funds last March, Suhr said. As a result the mission has begun losing money. The retired seamen pay less than \$80 a month for the rooms.

The mission's deficit is caused by the reported \$13,000 cost of operating the home. The mission's entire income, including rents and donations is about \$8,000, Suhr said. "The deficit is such that it is a question of the survival of the primary mission."

Suhr believes that the mission's

funds are being directed to a "limited number of people for a limited purpose." The mission serves about 3,500 sailors each year, Suhr explained, but the 16 holdouts at the home in Hoboken are making a disproportionate drain on the money. "Eventually it's all going to be gone and nobody is going to be helped anymore," Suhr added. The question, as Suhr sees it, is whether 16 men should be cared for by sacrificing the spiritual care of 3,500 others.

New Jersey law does not force anyone to be a landlord. But it does require that displaced tenants be given adequate time to find another home. The major issue in the court fight revolves around how much time do the seamen have before they are required to leave.

Attorney Gregory Diebold of Hudson County Legal Services is arguing in court for a six-month notice before eviction. He hopes that if he wins, a third party will come to the seamen's aid and continue to support the home. There is a chance that the building which is nearly a century old will be preserved by the city or preserved by a historical society.

The building's owners are reportedly negotiating with a local supermarket for the sale and demolition of the home to make way for a parking lot. Chief Steward Holland thinks parking lots are good material for jokes.

The boiler at the seamen's home broke down this week and the men fought off the cold with blankets and overcoats. Rudy was giving it a try but the other seamen were afraid he might catch pneumonia as he did last year.

One of the seamen offered to let Rudy have his electric heater but warned that it might blow the electrical circuits and then everybody would be without light or heat. They thought about it for a minute or two and decided to let Rudy try the heater. It didn't blow any fans.

Hoboken sick of bluecoat absentees

Hoboken policemen and firemen who make a habit of taking off sick the first or last days of their work shifts may end up facing departmental charges, Mayor Steve Cappelletto warned today.

The mayor, who is also public safety director, said that the city is seriously considering filing charges under the Civil Service Administrative Code against men whose record show a consistent trend of one-day sick leaves.

"We attempted to thwart the practice of taking one-day sick leaves by requiring the men to get certificates from their doctors to prove

that they were actually sick," said the mayor. "But we were overruled by the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) and ordered to discontinue it because it was not in the contract."

Unlike non-uniformed employees who get a specific number of paid sick days each year which they may accumulate, bluecoats get an unlimited number of paid sick days each year. Some police and firemen, whose illnesses or injuries have been verified by physicians, have been off duty with full pay for over a year.

"It's a generous policy," said the mayor. "I know of no private business or industry that offers unlimited sick leave. And because it is generous some have a tendency to take advantage of it. Perhaps if we had a set

number of days for police and firemen each year the offenders would have second thoughts about frivolously taking sick days when it really isn't needed."

Cappelletto said that he will discuss the matter with Police Chief George W. Crimmins and Fire Chief James Houn. If both agree, records will be kept on all one-day sick leaves. The records will show if the one day was taken at the beginning or end of a shift, a weekend or other circumstances that might show the policy was being abused.

"Under the Civil Service administrative code, excessive absenteeism is an offense and reason for departmental charges," the mayor continued. "And that could lead to suspension or dismissal."

Brownstones hot Hoboken property

If there were 100 brownstone homes available in Hoboken this week most of them would be sold by next. That's how bullish most city realtors are on Hoboken's housing picture. They're also a little frustrated because the demand for homes far exceeds their ability to provide them.

"It's definitely a seller's market," said Andrew P. McGuire, who operates his own real estate and insurance agency in addition to being Hoboken's chief assessor. "I get people coming in or calling every week, but I don't have anything to offer them."

Hoboken's housing market started to soar several years ago when New Yorkers caught up in the brownstone craze realized that what was going for anywhere up to \$80,000 in Brooklyn Heights could be bought in Hoboken for less than \$30,000.

Hoboken property owners are no less intelligent than their Brooklyn counterparts. As more and more brownstone seekers "discovered" Hoboken, sale prices on them and similar buildings started to rise sharply.

"Houses that sold for \$10,000 to \$12,000 a few years ago are now going for anywhere between \$30,000 and \$35,000," McGuire said. "They (property owners) are demanding top dollar—and they're getting it. But now it isn't just brownstones. Any brick or stone building in halfway de-

cent condition has high marketability. And the older they are, the better."

The successes Hoboken has had in the last five years or so in the rehabilitation of its housing and apartments, and the national publicity that was generated by them is undoubtedly one of the root causes for the city's ability to attract new residents, say city officials.

"We have a lot to offer in spite of the many problems the city still has," said Mayor Steve Cappelletto, "especially for people who are into the New York scene."

"We have a fairly low crime rate—people aren't afraid to walk most of our streets at night—good transportation to and from New York, and a good community atmosphere. Many New Yorkers have come to realize that living in Hoboken is almost like living in New York but with some of the hassle."

The same conditions that caused Hoboken's house buying market to boom are also having a staggering effect on the apartment market.

"If you have a good apartment to rent you can afford to be choosy," remarked one property owner. "It wasn't too many years ago that I would advertise an apartment for rent and get one or two replies. Today I get 20 to 30, mostly from New Yorkers, and they all beg me not to rent it until they can get a chance to see it."

The prices for apartments—except those in multi-family tenements—have risen sharply with initial rents being guided only by what the market will bear.

"I raised the rent on one of the apartments I recently rented by more than \$100 a month, and the new tenant was more than happy to pay it," said one uptown owner of a three-family house.

"My tenant is from New York and said he would have had to pay up to \$100 a month more for something comparable. So we're both happy."

Amato says he wouldn't have given roof opinion

A verbal dispute between two Hoboken councilmen over whether or not the city's Public Works Director, Andrew J. Amato, should have been allowed to give an opinion on the quality of a new roof being put on City Hall wasn't necessary, according to the director.

Amato said today that he wouldn't have answered the questions of First Ward Councilman Anthony H. Romano on the roof even if he hadn't been instructed by City Council President Martin J. Brennan to remain silent.

"The responsibility of whether it's a good or bad job isn't mine any longer," said Amato. "I stopped the job because I wasn't satisfied that it was being done in accordance with the specifications prepared by the Community Development Agency (CDA) and its engineers."

"CDA and the engineers said the contractor was doing the job properly. I disagreed. However, CDA

wanted the job to resume. I declined as long as I was responsible for the building and the quality of the work."

"Director (Fred M.) Bado agreed to accept full responsibility for the job since the CDA is paying for it. I agreed to that but asked that he put it in writing. That was several weeks ago and I still don't have the letter from him accepting responsibility for the job."

Amato said that he sent a letter to Bado yesterday reminding him of their agreement on the roof work and asking for the letter. Bado, however, will not get to see Amato's letter until Monday. He has been attending the State League of Municipalities' convention in Atlantic City and isn't expected back in his office until the beginning of next week.

The city council is holding up a payment of more than \$20,000 to the contractor until the city engineer, James Caulfield, can inspect the work and decide if it is satisfactory.

Hoboken agency waits data on seniors' project

Officials of Columbian Towers, a senior citizen project proposed for the John J. Grogan Marineview Plaza, will brief Housing Authority officials tomorrow on the progress they have made finalizing the project, a spokesman for the authority said today.

The public meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. in the authority's offices at 400 Harrison St.

Columbian Towers, a corporation comprised of officials of the Hoboken Knights of Columbus Council, is seeking a mortgage from the state Housing Finance Agency (HFA). However, the time needed to obtain it is rapidly running out.

The Housing Authority has given the corporation until January to finalize the project and begin preliminary construction. It is the second extension granted to the corporation by the authority.

In other business, the authority will accept bids on the maintenance of its garbage compactors, and for the construction of centralized mail facilities in Andrew Jackson Gardens under the modernization.

The authority also is expected to approve the start of condemnation against several properties in its two-block Neighborhood Development Program along First Street.

700 of 5,000 Hoboken water meters not running

More than 700 of Hoboken's approximately 5,000 industrial and residential water meters are not running, according to a recently completed survey taken by the city's water department on the orders of Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato.

The director today confirmed the results of the survey but said he and the city council Water Committee are working on the problem. Amato added that parts and replacement meters have been ordered by the city but additional materials will be needed because the original order will not be enough to fix them all.

The Water Committee consists of Councilmen Robert A. Ranieri, Anthony H. Romano and Louis Francione. Ranieri is committee chairman.

According to Ranieri, a meeting of the committee with Amato has been scheduled for Nov. 21 to discuss what the needs of the water department are for getting all of the meters back in service.

Ranieri said he was also anxious to find out why it had taken so long for the order for new meters and replacement parts to get to the council.

"The council only received the bids on the needed parts at the last meeting, but the need for them apparently developed long before then," he asserted. "It is my understanding that this was made known by the water department and public works but for some reason it never got further than that until recently."

Amato said that because the 700 meters are "DR" (don't register) the city has been sending estimated water bills to the owners of the properties the meters are located in. He said the city didn't know if it was getting the right amount of money from the property owners compared to the amount of water that was supplied.

Ranieri thinks that the city hasn't and thus the dead meters will account for a lot of water the city can't account for now, even with new and repaired water lines throughout most of the city.

Hoboken had state of emergency

Rain damage to private property in Hoboken is expected to run into at least several hundred thousand dollars because of the heavy downpour Monday and yesterday.

The city's Public Works and Fire Departments were flooded with telephone calls from residents and property owners seeking help with their flooded basements, many of them finished and used as apartments, but there was no help to be given for most. Mayor Steve Cappelletto declared a "state of emergency" at 12:05 p.m. and called in all public works laborers and foremen and an additional crew of firemen to assist.

According to Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato, the majority of the problems were located in the west section of the city, which in some areas is below sea level.

"The best we could do for those who called was to shut down any electrical fixtures that might short out if the water reached them," he said. "We only have one or two big pumps we could use and they just weren't enough."

Men from the public works and fire department were out all day turning off oil-fired heating systems, electrical circuits and doing what they could.

Numerous intersections in western Hoboken

were flooded, some to a depth of three feet, causing several cars to stall out. Traffic was blocked by an abandoned car at Second Street and Park Avenue. The water was at least three feet deep extending 30 or 40 feet down both sides of Second Street and Park Avenue.

Director Amato said that part of the flooding was caused by the inability of the city's sewer system to handle the heavy amount of rain. Litter washed into catch basins, caused flooding in other areas.

Even Mayor Steve Cappelletto's home on Adams Street didn't escape. The mayor said that he has a sump pump in his basement but the amount of water coming in was more than the pump could handle and he turned it off rather than have it burn out from continuous use.

The mayor said the city would investigate the possibilities of getting state and federal aid for those who suffered property damage.

Residents of 11th and Garden streets found an unusual method of combating flooding conditions in their area. They opened a manhole cover on Garden Street, just north of 11th, and allowed rain water to flow into the sewer line. The catch basin on the north east corner has been clogged for several years, they said.

Hudson seeks disaster aid

By RICHARD DRABIK

Hudson County, along with Bergen and Essex counties, will be declared disaster areas and become eligible for emergency relief aid as soon as damage surveys are completed, a Federal Disaster Administration (FDA) official said last night in New York.

Particularly hard hit by the devastating storm were Hoboken, major sections of Jersey City and Lodi, in Bergen County.

While cleaning up from Monday's and Tuesday's steady, heavy downpour — measured at a saturating 8½ inches — officials said they feared the disaster could be transformed into devastation if predictions of a new rainstorm, due to begin late tonight, are true.

The National Weather Service has forecast a moderately heavy rainfall over the next two days. Officials said the ground is already water-saturated and that all the rain from a new storm would be runoff.

Hudson officials yesterday began gathering detailed information needed by the Federal Disaster Administration's office in Manhattan before the county could be designated a disaster area.

Preliminary damage estimates put the cost of emergency repairs as well as major rehabilitation necessitated by the storm at \$10 million in Hudson County. Bergen officials estimated their damage at "at least \$10 million."

Because of severe flood damage in Hoboken, volunteers from the Jersey City chapter of the American Red Cross have set up a special telephone number to bring assistance to Hoboken residents. That number is 433-1997 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Joseph Lecovich, director of Jersey City's Red Cross, said last night, "We have a very urgent situation in Hoboken."

He said that about 400 families were driven out of their basement-type apartments by the flood waters. He added that their furniture, clothes and food had been destroyed by the ruinous water.

City officials were concerned about the safety of the streets, which, in many cases, had been undermined by the water. They said they feared cave-ins.

Hoboken Board of Education met last night in an emergency session to map plans to try to get all city schools reopened by Monday.

Board Trustee Mary Gaspar said following the meeting that the boilers in at least four elementary schools have been severely damaged. She said emergency generators would be required if these schools are to have heat on Monday, as required by state law.

She said that Joseph Lynch, the city engineer, would tour all city schools today to make a detailed survey of the damage, so this information could be included in a comprehensive report to the FDA by Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

Both Cappelletto and Jersey City Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith have set up a liaison operation with the FDA in New York in

preparation for the federal disaster designation.

Lecovich reported there was "a lot of hidden, structural damage" to buildings that had been under water for up to 24 hours. He said he feared some of these buildings were "in danger of collapse."

He said at least 1,000 residents of Jersey City were affected by the storm damage, particularly in the Downtown section. Other damage areas, he said, were Greenville and Country Village.

The Red Cross official said, "The social impact of this disaster has been devastating for Jersey City and Hoboken. It is too early to even estimate what this will be."

On Tuesday, he said, the Red Cross office received 800 telephone calls from residents seeking help.

The culprit in Hoboken and Jersey City was the Hudson River. Since both areas are virtually at sea level, and the tides were abnormally high Tuesday, there was literally no place for the 8½ inches of rain to go but into cellars, where residents of basement apartments reported that their furniture was "floating" in eight feet of water.

Officials in both cities reported difficulty in pumping out basements because of the high water table and the saturated ground. They said that in some instances, water flowed into streets from the storm sewer system designed to take it away.

Although there were no injuries attributed to the two-day storm in Jersey City, officials reported two street cave-ins, each large enough to hold a medium-sized car, according to Public Works Director Anthony Ventolito.

City labor negotiator Bruce Fox lost his car when the ground collapsed underneath it on Montgomery st. on Tuesday. Fox escaped without injury, but the automobile is reportedly a total loss.

The basements of many homes were filled with water from floor to ceiling. The streets in the city's downtown section were so badly flooded Councilman Anthony Cucci arranged for a rowboat to get some voters to the polls for yesterday's gubernatorial election.

Ventolito said he has had trucks from the Division of Streets and Sewers working around the clock since yesterday cleaning out sewers. "At one point two of the ratchet trucks used

to clean the sewers broke down, and I told my men to go out and rent another one," Ventolito said.

One of the city's housing projects, Montgomery Gardens, was without electricity for about five hours on Tuesday, which meant that the elevators that carry tenants up and down the 12-story project weren't in operation. Another housing development, the A. Harry Moore Projects, were so severely flooded, residents had difficulty entering and leaving their homes.

Ventolito said he had crews at work trying to repair the two gaping cave-ins at Princeton and Linden aves., and at Barrow st. between Railroad and Newark aves.

Jersey City Business Administrator Joseph Giorgio said a team of state inspectors would be in the city today to review the damage and see what steps have been taken to make repairs.

According to Aldo Cianfanelli, acting chief engineer for the city, Jersey City applied for and was given disaster aid by the state in 1972 to repair sewer pipes and catch basins damaged during Hurricane Dora.

Scooter may help speed parking tickets

The Hoboken Parking Authority may purchase a three-wheel motor scooter to help increase the efficiency of its meter maintenance program and the issuance of parking tickets, an authority spokesman said today.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director, said that the authority members will be given a demonstration of the scooter Monday just before their regular 8 p.m. meeting.

"We have a utility truck but it is on its last legs," said Hottendorf. "A three-wheel scooter might be a suitable and less costly alternative that could give the authority greater mobility."

According to Hottendorf, the scooter gets about 35 miles per gallon and is less costly to maintain than a truck. It is also smaller and could park between parked cars while work is done on the meters. The truck the authority now has is usually double-parked while meter work is being done.

The best feature, he added, is that the scooter is about half the price of a replacement van or truck.

Edwin J. Chius, a former parking authority member and the city's business administrator, will also be present for the demonstration to see if the city might have some use for the vehicles.

Hottendorf said that when not in use for meter maintenance, the scooter could be used to help with the enforcement of the parking meter regulations, especially in bad weather.

The vehicle can be equipped with an enclosed cab to protect the meter attendants from the weather and could speed up the issuance of tickets for overtime parking.

Bus service improvements in works for Hoboken

Hoboken will not only keep its trouble-plagued crosstown bus service but will strive to improve its efficiency and that of the free senior citizen bus service, Edwin Chius, business administrator, said today.

"I have taken up the matter of the crosstown bus with the city council's administration committee and we all feel that the bus we now have is unreliable," Chius asserted. "The solution is to purchase a new bus, possibly two, but one that can be repaired locally without any problems."

According to Chius, the main problem with the existing bus is that

it was purchased from a manufacturer located in the South. This makes parts difficult to get when needed. He said that the senior citizen bus has been operating relatively trouble-free because it was purchased and serviced locally and parts were not a problem.

"We will be seeking bids on the purchase of one and two buses that will meet the city's needs," he continued. "If we buy one it means that we will have to have the existing crosstown vehicle overhauled. If we buy two, we can retire it or overhaul it at our leisure."

"Either way, the city will have two buses, both of which will be used. By staggering the use of the buses we can provide service without any breaks for maintenance and reduce the amount of heavy wear and tear on either one."

"The city bus is operated seven days a week, 15 hours a day. With two buses we can use one three days and the other four. When one is out of service it can be getting routine service and maintenance and when major repairs are needed, requiring the bus to be sent out, we will have a back-up that won't require a service break."

Chius said that the second city bus can also be used to provide free senior citizen bus service when that bus was out for repairs and maintenance.

The director added that the crosstown schedule may also be subject to some major changes depending on the public's reaction to some proposals being considered.

"I plan to hold a series of open public meetings on the schedule to see how the citizens react," he said. "For the amount of use the buses get I think we can reduce the running schedule from one run every 15 minutes to one every 30 minutes. But that's something to be discussed."

Chius added that there would not be any immediate changes in the crosstown bus schedule. The public meetings on a new schedule would be held after the new bus or buses are in hand and the city can start using them.

Now is the time

Three days after the big rain storm, there are still many flooded catch basins in Hoboken.

A glance at them tells even the most casual observer that they are either clogged or inoperable for some other reason. As most Hoboken residents know, these drains have been inoperable for considerable amounts of time, some of them for years.

Even if they were all operating perfectly, it is doubtful if they could have handled the record rainfall of the other day, but they certainly could have handled some of it... and they would not be overflowing with water today.

Now, before more rain and certainly before the winter storms, Hoboken public works officials should get to work on clearing the catch basins so they can be useful.

Playground equipment could be returned to Hoboken park

A way may have been found which will allow playground equipment to remain in Columbus Park, Hoboken, for the winter months, according to city Health and Welfare Director James Farina.

The playground equipment was removed several weeks ago from the county-operated park at 10th and Clinton streets. Although Farina objected, he was told by the Hudson County Parks Commission and the

board of Freeholders that it was "standard policy."

Farina said today that while it might be standard policy there were some exceptions.

"Union City has an agreement with the parks commission whereby the equipment is left alone for the winter months providing Union City agrees to maintain it," said Farina. "I will ask the county to enter into the same agreement with Hoboken."

Wallace School to mark date Columbus found Puerto Rico

Pupils at the Wallace School, Hoboken — where 70 per cent come from Spanish-speaking families — will hold two assemblies on Friday, Nov. 18, to mark "Discovery Day," the date when Christopher Columbus first stepped onto the island now known as Puerto Rico.

Costumed students will reenact the scene 404 years ago when Columbus was welcomed by Indians as he stepped ashore on his second voyage to the New World.

The assemblies, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon, are being directed by Gumerinda Ferreira, a member of the faculty. Principal Peter Vecchio said parents will be invited to attend.

In addition to the play, the children will entertain with music and dances relating to Puerto Rican folklore. A choir also will entertain.

On Wednesday, parents will be hosts at a luncheon for the Wallace School staff.

Cappelletto to push for continued aid

Mayor Steve Cappelletto, a member of the resolutions committee of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, said today Hoboken will be pressing for continuance of the state Urban Aid and Safe and Clean Neighborhoods programs at the league convention next week.

In addition to Hoboken, delegations will be in Atlantic City beginning Tuesday representing most other Hudson municipalities. "The Safe and Clean Neighborhoods program is especially important to Hoboken and other urban cities," he said. "If the state should drop or seriously curtail the program it would mean Hoboken would have to spend a lot more money to keep employees hired under the program on the payroll. That could be a serious financial problem."

Approximately 10 Hoboken officials, including the mayor, plan to attend the convention. Major topics to be aired during the four days of sessions, ending Friday, Nov. 18, will include the state tax policy after July 1 of next year, improving legislative techniques, fiscal development of planning, human rights, labor relations, planning and zoning and unemployment compensation coverage.

Plan effort for battleship

The Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee will begin a full-scale drive within three weeks to bring the U.S.S. New Jersey to the city, Al Straten, president, said today.

"We have reorganized and we're now ready to resume the fight to bring the New Jersey to Hoboken," asserted Straten. "This time we've got a lot of help from city officials who have pledged their full support to our effort."

The committee met last week to begin planning new activities in its effort. Some of the unexpected guests included Mayor Steve Cappelletto, Richard Eversen, a member of the state Battleship Commission, and Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Hoboken Parking Authority.

Straten said that Hoboken's chances of getting the World War II ship were still "very good."

The committee will hold its next regular meeting on Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Continental Lounge, 104 Hudson St. Anyone interested in becoming a committee member is invited to attend.

5 municipalities to be asked about disposal program

The Hudson County Sewerage Authority will hold a meeting Nov. 21 for the public to make suggestions on a regional program upgrading the daily disposal of 25 million gallons of sewage in the North Hudson area.

Residents from Guttenberg, Hoboken, Union City, West New York and the eastern slope of North Bergen are being urged to speak out at the session scheduled to get under way at 8 p.m. at Union Hill High School in Union City. The five-municipality area is one of three sectors currently under HCSA study.

Three North Hudson primary sewage treatment plants handle from 30 to 50 per cent of the county's Hudson River sewage. A 1972 federal waste water treatment law required plants be upgraded to the secondary treatment level.

A feasibility study being developed by Clinton Bogert Associates, a Fort Lee engineering firm, may suggest upgrading of the three primary treatment plants in Hoboken, West New York and eastern North Bergen or it may recommend a central facility.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency will subsidize funding up to 75 per cent and the state Department of Environmental Protection will provide another eight per cent if they approve the overall project. Participating communities must pay the balance for construction and operating costs.

The eventual proposal also would suggest plans to upgrade local sewage systems, pumping stations and related equipment. The study area has a combined sewer system, mixing residential-industrial waste with rain water runoff.

Knights seek new home in Hoboken

The Hoboken Knights of Columbus Council is again looking for a new home.

A special meeting of the Columbus Club, the corporation that is responsible for the operation of the council's facilities and business, has been scheduled for Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. in the council's rented headquarters at 537 Washington St., James Gabriele, president, said today.

"The meeting has been called for the purpose of working on the selection of a new permanent headquarters for the council and corporation," he said. "We have three possibilities at the moment that are being considered."

"I urge all members concerned with future of the council to attend this meeting. If they have any ideas or suggestions other than the ones already in hand they should be presented."

Up until two years ago the council and Columbus Club owned its own headquarters on Hudson Street, between Seventh and Eighth Streets. But it sold the building when operating costs became too high. The four-story building has since been resold to Applied Housing Associates which plans to use it for office space.

The lease on the council's current rented headquarters ends next September, Gabriele added.

Mrs. Gaspar assails 'cap' squeeze

Declaring that the Hoboken school district "is the meeting pot of New Jersey," the president of the city's board of education today criticized the state's tightening of budget "caps" as unrealistic and unfair.

Hoboken was among the 11 Hudson school districts whose "caps," or spending limits, were

reduced on Monday by the State Department of Education. Hoboken's limit was reduced from 7.7 per cent to 5.9 per cent.

"We're being directed to provide a thorough and efficient education on one hand but on the other hand, the state is telling us we can't do it," said Mrs. Mary Gaspar.

She pointed to the diversified

ethnic backgrounds of many of Hoboken's students and the special programs that have been set up to enable the school system to carry out its mission. "We have problems that some districts in Somerset and Morris Counties never heard of," she declared.

At a board meeting last night, the members approved a Title I budget of \$895,837. Title I is a federally-funded program which provides remedial reading and mathematics classes for many students.

The board also approved the selection of Communication Technology Corp., of Marlton, for evaluation work of the Title I program at a cost not to exceed \$27,000.

Hoboken has more pinballs than permits

Companies renting out pinball machines and other electronic coin-operated amusements to stores and businesses in Hoboken are not only failing to get permits for their machines, they're also exceeding the number of such machines allowed by city ordinance in any one place, according to Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri.

The councilman said today that he has passed along to the police department five locations in the city where more than one amusement machine has been installed.

"Our city ordinance says only one such machine per establishment," he continued. "The ordinance applies to such coin-operated machines as pinballs, pool, shuffle board and bowling, and anything else that is considered a game."

"These locations were called in to me by concerned residents who have been noticing the machines but didn't know that only one was permitted by law. At least they didn't know until last week when a new ordinance was presented to the council that would increase the number of such machines allowed in any establishment."

That ordinance has been tabled by the council, primarily because Ranieri pointed out to the council that the city had failed to or couldn't enforce the old ordinance. The councilman said that there were more than 140 machines around the city operating without permits, which are to be obtained from the city annually. The new ordinance was introduced by Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

The mayor said that he had been asked to do so by some local businessmen who were interested in opening amusement concessions in the city, but not necessarily ones that would use pinballs or other similar machines. One was a coin-operated baseball batting cage.

Hoboken will get up to 13 new patrolmen

Hoboken will be appointing up to 13 new patrolmen to fill vacancies now existing in the department through retirements and promotions," Mayor Steve Cappelletto said today.

Thirteen new appointments would bring the department up to full roster strength of 104 patrolmen. The city now has 87 regular patrolmen and four temporaries. However, it has been ordered by Civil Service to drop the temporary officers since there is a list of men eligible for appointment to permanent positions.

The mayor said today that he is writing to Civil Service for certification of eligibles to be appointed. But he was still holding off on any action to dismiss the four temporaries because three are Hispanic and are needed.



Veterans' Day note

James Marcell sounds taps in front of the World War I veterans' monument in Elysian Park, Hoboken, during the annual Veterans' Day observance, one of several held in Hudson. More photos and a story on other tributes are on Page 2. (Photo by Wally Heming).



Mary Quinn, children's librarian at the Hoboken Library, listens intently to one of the cassettes which the library makes available to the public. The library also offers a shut-in service, by which registered residents may have books delivered to their homes.

Water rates soaking city?

Jersey City is considering a request from Hoboken to lower the minimum amount of water Hoboken must buy from 8 million gallons a day to 5.75 million. But even before action has been taken on the request, Hoboken is gearing to ask for yet another drop in the minimum.

According to Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, the new rate is already higher than what Hoboken is actually using and the city should seek yet another reduction in the minimum.

"At my request, the Hoboken Water Department kept a running day-by-day consumption chart for October," he continued. "The figures show that our daily average use for the month was 5.4 million gallons a day. So even if the new minimum is approved by Jersey City we will be paying for water we don't use."

Under the existing terms of the contract with Jersey City, Hoboken must buy a minimum of 8 million gallons of water a day even if it doesn't use it. Last month the city noticed that consumption was down considerably and formally asked Jersey City to reduce the minimum to 5.75 million gallons a day. Jersey City has 30 days to act on the request.

PBA won't oppose city's goldbrick hunt

The Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association (PBA) will not attempt to block or interfere with efforts by the city to tighten up on sick leave abuses, James Behrens, president, said today.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, public safety director, said last week that the city will keep track of all sick leave information and may bring men up on departmental charges for abusing the sick leave policy.

"That is an administrative move that the city is entitled to make," said Behrens. "Although I have not taken it up with the membership as yet, I doubt very much that the PBA will oppose it."

"The vast majority of PBA members realize that the city has a very generous sick leave policy and do not want to see it changed. But continuous abuses of the policy could force the city to do just that. Yet there are always a few who do abuse it and risk having the policy changed for those who don't."

Mayor Cappiello and Police Chief George W. Crimmins contend that some men are taking extra days off as one-day sick leaves. They are usually at the beginning or end of their shifts, indicating that the men are not really sick but wish to have an extra day for their breaks between shifts. One-day sick leaves also pick up on weekends, they add.

To combat this, the city is going to keep a thorough record of each man's one-day sick leaves, noting whether the man was starting his shift, ending it or whether the leave was during the week or a weekend.

"The PBA has been very conscious of the sick leave problem and in its own way has tried to discourage these men from abusing it," Behrens said. "I personally feel the city is making the right move. But it should have initiated it a long time ago."

Hoboken may hire lawyer in water case

Hoboken plans to hire a special attorney to represent it in negotiations with Jersey City on the proposed water rate increase now before the state Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

A resolution to hire John Sailer as special counsel for the city will be presented to the city council tonight. The meeting is scheduled for 8, with a caucus at 7 to precede the regular meeting. The meeting is being held this evening instead of Wednesday to allow the councilmen and other city officials to attend the state League of Municipalities gathering now underway in Atlantic City.

The council will accept bids for the demolition of 500-508 Observer Highway, 128, 130, 132 and 88-90 Monroe St., 212 and 226 Madison St.

Several contracts are also expected to be approved by the city for goods and services. They include the purchase of 750 tons of rock salt from International Salt Co. at \$23.80 a ton; a \$4,500 contract with R. E. David Co for maintenance of communications equipment in the Public Safety Department; and a \$23,117 contract with Arrow Supply Co for water meter and fire hydrant parts.

The council will receive notification from Mayor Steve Cappiello that he is proclaiming next week "Puerto Rican Week" in Hoboken.

Also expected to get council approval is the payment of \$104,160 to Jersey City for water received during the month of October, and a request to the state Division of Local Finance for approval to include \$32,000 in additional revenues in the city's 1977 budget. The city is getting the money from the federal government under the Public Works Employment Act of 1976. It will be allocated to the public safety and public works departments.

Cilento says GOP is down, not out

By Robert E. O'Brien
Republican County Chairman Anthony Cilento is still in a state of post-election shock, but quickly adds that he doesn't mean he or the party has pushed the panic button.

"We're down but not out," he said. He said it was time for Hudson Republican leaders to think about changing many district leaders who "just don't do their job."

Cilento said he felt the election slipping away in the closing days of the election.

"Ray Bateman never should have listened to Simon (William Simon), former U.S. Secretary of the

Treasury who advised the Republican gubernatorial candidate on fiscal affairs."

Cilento said Simon's plan was not a viable alternative to Gov. Brendan T. Byrne's income tax.

"We blew the election with that one," Cilento said.

He added that he was aware that winning the county was not very likely for the Republicans, but he had hoped the party would win in North Bergen and Bayonne, where local political circumstances seemed to indicate the possibility of a Republican upset. Both municipalities went Democratic rather heavily.

Meanwhile Jersey City Mayor Tommy Smith is trying to gather the

county's legislative delegation together for a unity meeting. He wants the delegation to present a united front on the income tax issue.

So far, he hasn't been able to arrange a meeting convenient to all 12 members of the delegation. Smith denied, however, that there was dissension between him and some members of the delegation.

The election losers usually find solace by selecting a few districts where they did well and rationalizing that the future really is not as dim as it appears.

One of the best tools for this none too accurate reasoning is to zero in on winners who lost their home districts. This recent election didn't provide

either the dissident Democrats nor the Republicans this opportunity.

Several Democrats not allied with Smith have been passing the word quietly that Senator-elect David Friedland lost his home district. He didn't, he won it, 232 to 111.

As a matter of fact, Friedland trounced his Republican opponent, Joseph Gallagher, 110 to 71 in Gallagher's district.

Another target of dissident Democrats is Senator-elect Walter Shell. He defeated his Republican opponent, Edward Magee, by a plurality of almost 200 in his (Shell's) home district, as well as winning in Magee's district, 170 to 122.

Ranieri urges resident parking test program

Is permit parking for residents a valid solution to Hoboken's long-neglected parking problem? Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri thinks it is and has recommended to the city that a trial program be started in a few different areas.

"It can and does work in other communities so there's no reason why we can't work a similar program in Hoboken and give our residents, especially those in the uptown area, some long-deserved parking relief," said the councilman.

Ranieri said he has been investigating a number of restricted area parking programs that are being conducted successfully in other municipalities both in and out of New Jersey, and has obtained copies of the

municipal ordinances creating the parking areas.

"A number of them are successful but because of conditions within those municipalities they are dissimilar to Hoboken," he continued. "The one I most favor is a program started in Cambridge, Mass. The town itself is very similar to Hoboken."

"It restricts areas of the city to only residential parking. Residents must display a parking sticker or visitor card in their windows. Those who don't are ticketed or towed away. The main purpose of the program is to provide some parking relief for residents while discouraging the use of municipal streets for commuter parking."

Hoboken had a similar program a number of years ago but it was not successful. However, Ranieri said the program didn't fail because it was a bad concept or poorly thought out.

"The idea was sound," he con-

tinued. "It failed because the municipal officials at that time were not committed to it. This resulted in poor enforcement. And once there was poor enforcement the program was doomed. There was also a question of whether or not restricting parking to residents only was legal. But that matter has now been tested in the high courts and the ruling is that it is legal."

Ranieri said he has had some preliminary discussions with Hoboken Parking Authority officials and feels that they are in favor of a trial program.

"I have suggested to the mayor that we take an area uptown of four or five blocks and use it for the trial," the councilman said. "If after a year we feel that it has worked well it can be expanded to other areas of the city. The area must be properly posted, maybe even over-posted with signs alerting motorists to the fact that only permit parking is allowed. And then enforcement must be strict with

the full cooperation of city police, the parking authority and its meter attendants, and residents."

However, Ranieri added that he still believes that a multi-level parking garage sponsored jointly by the city, parking authority and General Foods Corp. for construction on the Maxwell House Coffee plant riverfront property would be a better solution.

"It would be a new and novel project, and as such eligible for federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Office of Economic Development," he asserted. "The facility would be large enough to provide off-street parking for company employees, commuters and residents of the area at a nominal fee."

"This seems to me to be one of the few valid proposals for a solution to the parking problem which would not entail condemnation of private property that produces ratables for the city."

Report rips park mess in Hoboken

Hoboken's outdoor recreation facilities are a mess because of inadequate personnel, inadequate equipment, inadequate supervision and inadequate concern.

Those are the findings of Hoboken's recently-created Recreation Commission, which were submitted in an 11-page report to Mayor Steve Cappiello and the city council. A second report on indoor facilities by the five-member committee will follow in the near future.

According to Ms. Sue Newman,

commission chairman, the mayor and council will study the report for two or three weeks and then write to the commission a reply stating what the city can and can't do to implement the recommendations.

Also serving on the commission, which was created by city ordinance, are Irene Bolsius, Robert M. Hill, Jack Mahoney and Carlos Perez.

The park survey began 12 weeks ago. In its report, the commission covers playground equipment, comfort facilities, green acres, walks,

play areas, general overall condition and the roles and functions of those involved in the operation of the outdoor recreation facilities.

Noting that the parks are often substitutes for backyards and are the core of the neighborhood recreation system, the report pointed out that all four parks — Elysian, Stevens, Church Square, and the new Multi-Service Center parks — have their problems.

The Multi-Service Park is only a year old, the report said, but ironically is the worst in some respects. It has insufficient trash containers and is the dirtiest of the parks. The shrubs have been almost totally destroyed and the grass areas partially destroyed.

Elysian Park lacks grass, safety surfacing, new fencing and sand in the sandbox; rain drains are clogged, lighting is poor, walk way repairs are needed and play equipment missing.

Stevens Park, at Fourth and Hudson streets, also lacks safety surfacing, fences are in poor repair, it has no toilet facilities, trees need attention, shrubbery and grass are lacking, drains are clogged and assorted glass and junk cause hazards for children.

Church Square Park, Fourth and Garden streets, is in need of walkway repairs, cleaning out of the sand dog run which emits an odor and attracts flies, has partially clogged drains, no restroom facilities (a restroom is in the park but is always locked), trees are in poor condition and grass is in need of mowing.

The report also stated that parks and playground equipment are not being properly maintained, adding that parks personnel are "hardly adequate for the job to be done."

"If workers do not put in a full day, if they are too unskilled, if they are uninterested or unmotivated, you have a mess — and that's just what we have," the report continued.

"There is no one in the park system with horticultural skills. This, of necessity, leads to bad care of the greenery. There are no guards to speak of in the parks on a regular and dependable basis and this leads to vandalism. Some of the park workers are too old and sick to be asked to do much of anything. Other workers are so lazy or incompetent that even the recent addition of a better supervisor can't bring them up to snuff."

"Some of the workers are so slow that it is easier for the supervisor to do the work himself than to keep explaining the simplest points over and over again. On top of all this, we have a population that adds to the dirt in the parks each day and does nothing to prevent destruction."

"Without serious attention to unsatisfactory conditions in our parks and playgrounds, city funds now being allocated for their maintenance are wastefully expended or, worse, serve to collaborate with and actively support lower — than — acceptable standards for decent recreational facilities."

The report pointed out that while the city did have some "superb" workers in the parks department, there are those who do little or nothing, including one who does not even live in the city. It estimated that as much as \$40,000 a year may be spent in salaries for which no work is done and said that the general level of work is "poor."

Competent work crews must be established, the report continued, and the men must have clearly defined roles and areas of responsibility for maintaining the general conditions of the parks. The parks must be kept open seven days a week and properly supervised at all times.

The commission recommended that the city establish a 28-man team responsible for the operation of all parks. This would include two superintendents, one recreation supervisor, two handymen, three foremen, six parkmen, six custodians, four recreation leaders, four guards and a horticulturist.

In order to comply with this, additional full-time and part-time personnel will have to be hired, it concluded.



A discarded mattress, box spring, milk crates and other debris form a bridge for youngsters to cross flooded 11th Street between Washington Street and Willow Avenue in Hoboken.

Hoboken islands won't be winter garden spa

Uptown residents on Garden and Bloomfield streets in Hoboken are calling on city officials to get started on the landscaping of the 11th Street traffic divider islands, but it appears they'll have to wait until the weather turns warm again.

"We were expecting to have something very nice," said a spokesman for the 1100 Garden Street Block Association, referring to the job of upgrading the islands, which started in the spring.

"Instead, what we have is a mess that's getting worse as time goes by," the spokesman added.

Last night, the city council voted to adopt plans and specifications for a city tree planting program financed through the city's federal Community Development Agency (CDA) which will focus mainly on the First Ward and the 11th Street Islands, but planting won't take place until the spring.

The islands are in the middle of 11th Street and separate eastbound traffic from the westbound. This past spring, under a Community Development Agency (CDA) project, all of the existing shrubs and trees were

removed to make way for new shrubbery and plants, but nothing was ever planted.

There are four islands between Washington Street and Willow Avenue. According to residents, they are several inches deep in water where dirt has been removed and now they have started to accumulate rubbish.

"Beautifying the islands was a good idea," the spokesman continued. "But it appears that it wasn't thought out very well or planned properly. We can't understand why the job should take six months to do and still not be completed or even near being completed."

Robert Hill, a horticulturist employed by the CDA, is in charge of the project, but residents of the area don't blame him. They say that the city and CDA were to provide him with men and equipment for the project but haven't lived up to their promises.

"What we had before the work started in the spring wasn't too good," the spokesman added. "But it was a lot better than what we have now."

'Gag rule' troubles Romano

Is Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato happy with the new roof on city hall for which the contractor has submitted a partial bill for more than \$29,000? Amato isn't being allowed to say.

The question was asked of the director by First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano at Monday night's council caucus. But before Amato could answer it he was instructed not to by City Council President Martin J. Brennan.

Romano said today that he was "troubled" by Brennan's direction to Amato and wondered if a "gag rule" was being imposed on directors.

"The purpose of having the directors at the council caucus is to have information available to us if we have questions concerning the operations of any department," said Romano. "I

assume a director is qualified to give us his opinion on anything that is happening in his jurisdiction.

"Councilman Brennan's explanation was that Amato was not qualified to express his opinion on whether or not he was satisfied with the quality of the work done on the roof. In view of the fact that the director was quoted several times in the press as being displeased with the work and the fact that he even had the job stopped for several weeks, I think my question was reasonable.

"And indirectly I think the council president insulted the director and his ability. Director Amato is certainly qualified to give his opinion on the work and since he was in construction for many years, he's probably qualified to give an expert's opinion on the quality."

Romano said that Brennan's "gagging" of Amato was a bad precedent.

"If a director has to be an expert to give an opinion on the happenings of his department to the council then the next step is to have everyone in every department attend the caucus sessions so that they can give their expert opinion on any questions," he asserted.

Although Romano didn't get an answer to his question on the city hall roof, he did make his point. The resolution authorizing payment of the roof's claim has been tabled until the Dec. 7 council meeting. By then, the council should have an opinion from the city building inspector.

Neither Brennan nor Amato was available for comment.



VOLUNTEERS HONORED — Show Grace Francis Strober, second from left, executive director of St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, meets with some of the volunteers who were honored at a dinner held at the hospital's Assumption Hall. With her, from left, are Mrs. Rose Carrier, volunteer of the year, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mazzeo, volunteer couple of the year; and Sister Felician, assistant administrator.

Cramer admits he erred in computer gripe

A Hoboken councilman who wants the city to end its contract with East Orange for the computer processing of all parking tickets says he is having second thoughts about the effectiveness of the operation.

Second Ward Councilman Walter S. Cramer said today he was concerned with the computer operation because city records showed that more money was being taken in fines when Hoboken was operating without the computer. However, he overlooked something.

"I did not take into account the fact that other factors may have contributed to the reduction in fines rather than the computer," he said. And one of those other factors may be the main reason for the reduction.

"For several months this year we have not been issuing any tickets for alternate side of the street parking violations because we have not been using the mechanical sweepers to clean the streets. These are \$10 tickets, and a large portion of the total amount of fines comes from them. Cancelling the computer contract may not be the right thing to do, after all, I'm re-evaluating my position."

Meanwhile, Cramer disclosed that he will introduce an ordinance to re-institute the towing away of cars that block the path of the city's mechanical sweepers.

"Our former Public Works director (Raphael P. Vitale) was right," said Cramer. "There is only one way of getting the streets reasonably clean, and that's with a towing program as unpopular as that might be."

Cramer said he was working on the ordinance now and hoped to have it ready for presentation to the council by the time the city's public works department has both sweepers repaired and ready to start working again.

The councilman added that he is also reviewing the city anti-littering ordinances with a view towards possible improvements in it.

"Our streets are dirty," he continued, "but most of the time our sidewalks are worse. There are weaknesses in the ordinances we have now. It is not right that a property owner should have to get a summons for litter or rubbish that someone else dumped on his property. But neither is it right for that to serve as an excuse for the property owner not to clean it up after a reasonable period of time."

Cramer added that enforcement is still a problem and said that city police are not complying with a recent order issued by the public safety director—Mayor Steve Cappelletto—to enforce the anti-litter ordinances.

"With the granting of special police powers now limited by state edict, the majority of our enforcement problems fall on the shoulders of the police department," he asserted. "The mayor recognized this and a few months ago issued a departmental order for all walking policemen to take note of littering violations and issue summonses for them."

"I see no indication that the mayor's order is being complied with," Cramer said. "There has been no visible signs of improvement in the general conditions and I'm sure there would have been if the enforcement was there."

Trash pickups remain bone of contention

The LaFera Contracting Co. of Newark, Hoboken's contract garbage collector, and City Councilman Walter S. Cramer have reached an impasse over whether the company is living up to the terms of its contract.

Cramer says the company isn't picking up rubbish left at fire hydrants or emptying out litter baskets, both requirements of the contract. Company officials, however, claim that they are making the pickups.

"I know they aren't making the pickups," said the councilman "even though they insist they are. So we are at an impasse. But not for long. I intend to work out something with either public works or the police whereby the operation of the company is monitored and we'll find out one way or the other whether the contract is being followed."

According to Cramer, he and Mayor Steve Cappelletto met with company representatives Monday night in the mayor's office to discuss the contract.

"If I'm correct about the company not living up to the agreement then the city should take action to get some of its money back," he continued. "We should figure out exactly how much it is costing Hoboken to make the pickups for the company and deduct this from their next bill. We might even look into trying to collect for past years since I understand that those collections have always been part of the contract but haven't been made by the company for some time."

LaFera is concluding the second year of a three-year contract with Hoboken. However, the company has been the city's contract garbage collector for over 10 years.



Engineer I. Rothmann spruces up the platform in front of Tom Turley, Thanksgiving's symbol, at the Hoboken studio where floats are made for New York's holiday parade.

Macy's parade born in Hoboken

By Peter Halliam

After 51 years, Thanksgiving and the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Parade have become almost synonymous. There are few families with televisions who have not caught at least a part of the parade on Thanksgiving morning.

But Hoboken residents are a little more fortunate. They get a sneak preview of what the parade will hold starting in August.

That's when Manfred G. Bass, who designs all of the floats for the parade, and his small crew get into full swing on the preparation of their new additions for the November parade at Macy's Parade Studio, in Hoboken.

Since the doors to the large studio just north of 15th Street on Park Avenue are usually open to allow paint fumes to escape, it doesn't take much to peek inside and see what's going on. But in August it's difficult figuring out what a large glob of wire mesh, onto which some workman is putting wads of fiber glass, is going to become.

By September and early October they have started to take form but still must be painted. By then Bass' work force has started to swell. And it continues to grow until a few days before parade time there are up to 25 persons doing their thing, 12 hours a day, and usually seven days a week.

The planning for the parade for the next year starts the day after this year's march. Bass will sketch out several ideas and submit them to his superiors for consideration. For the 1977 edition his two major proposals were a scene from "Star Wars" and a scene from J. R. Tolkien's "Middle Kingdom," complete with Hobbits

and a dragon. The latter got the nod. The task of putting the drawing into float form begins.

The parade starts at 9 a.m. and ends at noon on 34th Street near the Macy's department store. For Bass and his associates, it starts at about 2 a.m. That's when his creations begin their journey from Hoboken to Manhattan via the Lincoln Tunnel.

There are 18 floats in all that will be featured in this year's parade and most of them are stored at different locations in the city.

They all assemble in the immediate vicinity of the parade studio around 1 a.m. Hoboken and Port Authority Police arrive about 1:30 to provide escort service for the trip through the tunnel. New York Police pick up the convoy on the other side of the river and complete the escort to the starting point at 77th Street and Central Park West.

"It's an interesting experience," says Bass. "We get some pretty odd reactions to the floats from the public at that hour of the morning."

Besides the floats, the parade will feature nine large helium-filled balloons, including a new addition—"Kermit the Frog" of the "Muppet Show." He is the first new balloon to be added to the parade lineup in three years. The balloons are kept in Georgia and brought up to New York a few days before the parade.

Kermit is 63 feet high and 24 feet wide. Bass has been working on the parade floats for Macy's since 1926 and finds his work just as enjoyable and challenging today as then. "I still love it," he asserted. "How could anyone not enjoy doing something that makes kids so happy?"

Water department check up scheduled

How well is Hoboken's water department functioning? And what should be done to improve the operation? The city council's water committee will be meeting Monday at City Hall to get the answer.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, the chairman of the committee, said today that all employees of the water department are being asked to attend the session which will start at 6:30 p.m.

"Actually there will be several meetings with the water department that evening," said Ranieri. "We are staggering the sessions so that we deal with each different subdivision within the department at a time."

"The commission will discuss each aspect of the department's operation with the people who are responsible for it—metering, meter repair, billing, administration, and water line repair."

Ranieri said that there are problems within the department and that they must be corrected as quickly as possible.

"Water, which we purchase from Jersey City, is one of the city's more costly expenditures and it may become an even heavier burden on the city and its taxpayers as the years go by," he continued. "So it is imperative that we have a water department that is functioning smoothly and

efficiently, and giving the city the most for its dollars."

"A number of things have happened in recent months which made me believe that the department isn't operating as smoothly as it should. The committee hopes to find out why the city has these problems and what can be done to insure that they don't happen again."

Among the areas of concern is the number of broken water meters and why they were not routinely repaired, why it took the city so long to order spare parts for the meters, why no one noticed that the city was using less water than the minimum amount it was required to buy from Jersey City.

"Some of the problems may not be the fault or responsibility of the department," Ranieri asserted.

Hoboken group wants state to inspect streets

A Hoboken civic group has asked the state to look into the problems the city has been having with keeping its streets and sidewalks clean.

Manuel Perez, president of the 14th Street Block Association, said today that the association has asked the state's Consumers' Health Service to inspect the city, especially the area around 14th Street.

"The state would not promise to make the inspection," said Perez. "but it said every effort would be made to have one made."

According to Perez, the area is "very messy" and the city is not doing enough to keep it clean despite promises from officials after the association served the city with a petition carrying the names of more than 1,300 area residents.

"No one ever sweeps the streets in this area," he continued. "The garbage in the corner trash baskets hasn't been picked up since last week. It's been months since anyone swept

the portion of Bloomfield Street between 14th and 15th streets."

Perez said the association reluctantly asked the state to come in.

"We tried very hard to work this out with the city and went through a little trouble to get petitions, present them to the city and to talk with city officials about the problems," he said. "That was more than six weeks ago and there hasn't been much of an improvement in conditions."

Perez admitted that most of the rubbish problems were being caused by residents of the area, but the city's failure to make even routine cleanups was compounding the problem.

"We're reaching out to the neighborhood people to educate them to what is expected of them," he continued. "But it's hard to get them to care when most of them think the city doesn't care about them. And when you see what a mess this area is and how little attention it gets, it's hard to argue with them."

Seamen must leave by Feb. 28

Sixteen seamen at the Lutheran Seamen's Home, Hoboken, have until Feb. 28 to leave there under a ruling by Judge John J. McCole in Hudson County District Court.

The seamen, most of them retired, had been fighting efforts by the home's administrators to evict them since last January from the Hudson Street premises, but the judge ruled yesterday that they had been given adequate notice. However, his decision gives them time to make other arrangements.

Gregory Diebold of the Hudson County Legal Services, who defended the seamen, had no comment, pending further consultation with his clients.

J. Nicholas Suhr, during a series of hearings, told Judge McCole that the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Lutheran Church served adequate notice on the residents as far back as last January. He said 42 residents were there at the time, but all except 16 moved out.

Suhr said the home's administrators received a \$155,000 offer to buy the property and replace the home with a lot for a nearby supermarket. Diebold had urged the remaining 16 men have found it difficult to get homes elsewhere and they should have been given six months' notice under the circumstances.

Repairs lagging, Hoboken will reclaim Grand Hotel

A resolution authorizing the Hoboken Law Department to reclaim the Grand Hotel at Third and Hudson streets will be submitted to the city council at its Dec. 21 meeting by Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri.

The city council, on Sept. 21, granted the owner of the property, the 232 Hudson St. Association, six months to complete renovation of the hotel. However, it also advised the company that substantial renovation work must be completed on the building by Dec. 21 or the city would move to take it back. The property was sold to the company by the city at

public auction earlier this year.

"I am sending a letter to the company advising it that the city has not forgotten the agreement," said Ranieri. "Little, if any work has been done on the building since Sept. 21."

"I am also advising the owner that he owes Hoboken \$2,162 in taxes that have not been paid for eight months. The water bill is also in arrears although the company has never been billed. That's the city's fault. No one ever advised the water department that the ownership of the property had changed. It still carried the city as the owner."

According to Ranieri, the com-

pany is represented by Pasquale Severino, who operates a local real estate business. He said that unless Severino appears before the council prior to Dec. 21 and provides it with proof that substantial work has been done, the resolution to reclaim the property will be presented to the council.

At the time of the purchase of the property from the city, Severino said that the old hotel would be converted into a first class steak house with the upper stories to be turned into modern apartments. The interior of the building was gutted but no renovation work has started as yet, said Ranieri.

Hoboken Catholics help Baptist church

More than \$2,000 has been raised by Hoboken's Catholics and donated to the congregation of Mount Olive Baptist Church to help rebuild their church, which was destroyed by fire several weeks ago.

A check was presented to the Rev. Odell Stewart, pastor of Mount Olive, by the Rev. Juniper Alwell O.F.M. Conv., pastor of St. Joseph's Church, as the dean of Catholic clergymen in Hoboken. The money represented donations received from parishioners of St. Peter and Paul's, St. Ann's, Our Lady of Grace and St. Francis Churches, as well as St. Joseph's.

The money was raised through collections at all Catholic churches during the first weekend of this

month. Rev. Stewart extended a "special thanks to the churches and their parishioners."

He also warned local residents not to give donations to persons collecting for his congregation unless they are in possession of valid identification and a letter from the Rev. Stewart.

"If anyone does wish to make a donation to our building fund we would prefer that they sent it directly to the bank handling the account," he continued. "That is the Mount Olive Baptist Church Building Fund Trust Account, in care of the First Jersey National Bank, Second and Hudson streets, Hoboken."

Permits being sought for pinball, juke boxes

Owners of businesses where more than 50 unlicensed pinball machines and juke boxes in Hoboken were installed have applied for licenses since it was learned that the city administration has not been enforcing the ordinance covering them.

Although having a pinball machine or juke box on commercial premises without a permit from the city is a violation, no summonses have been issued.

Detective Leo Serrano, assigned to check out all the spots in the city where such devices might be located, explained today that he hasn't issued any because he hasn't found any instances where the ordinance was knowingly flaunted.

"Ignorance of the law and what it requires of anyone who has an amusement device on their premises is really the problem," he said. "They just don't know that they have to get a permit for it from the city."

The city's fee for a permit for a pinball machine or other electronic amusement device is \$15 a year. A permit for a jukebox is \$20. While the machines are usually owned by a company that distributes them to local stores and bars, obtaining the permits for their use is the responsibility of the owner of the premises where the machines are located, not

the distributor, Serrano said.

"Everyone is cooperating once they find out what is required of them," he continued. "So far I have had to issue only warnings. No one has refused to get their permits or comply with the ordinance concerning the number of machines they are allowed to have on their premises."

Serrano had been supplied by Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri with the names of several locations around the city where more than one pinball machine had been spotted. Only one machine is allowed by the ordinance per establishment.

"They were advised of the law and the owners promised to have them removed within a few days," he continued. "Those that I have had the chance to check have complied."

The city's somewhat reluctant enforcement of the pinball ordinance came to light several weeks ago when Mayor Steve Cappelletto tried to get the city council to approve a revised ordinance that would have allowed the establishment of amusement arcades in the city.

During the discussion on the ordinance it was discovered that many of the machines already in use around the city were not covered by permits and some establishments had more machines than allowed by the ordinance.

Amato, Bado may hit the roof

Harsh words are expected between Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato and Community Development Agency Director Fred M. Bado when they confront each other Dec. 5 at the city council's caucus to answer questions concerning a new roof that has been put on City Hall.

Although the work has now been just about completed it was stopped for several weeks by Amato because the contractor was not installing the new roof slats in accordance with the specifications for the job.

After several meetings with the CDA and the architects and engineers hired to oversee the job, Amato allowed the work to resume but, according to the Public Works director, with the understanding that Bado was assuming "full responsibility" for the work.

However, Bado now says that he never agreed to be responsible for the work.

"I couldn't assume the responsibility even if I wanted to," said Bado. "I don't have the expertise or qualifications. I'm neither an engineer nor an architect. But we do have engineers and architects overseeing this work. And they say that the method being used to install the roof is acceptable and they are accepting the responsibility for the work. That's what we are paying them for."

According to Amato, the CDA director did agree to be responsible for the work and to put that acceptance into writing. Amato sent Bado a letter this week asking why he had not received that formal written acceptance.

"I wouldn't have allowed the work to start again if he didn't agree to be responsible for it," said Amato. "He also promised to put it into writing which he hasn't done so far."

Both Amato and Bado agree on one thing — the cause of the problem was inaccurate specifications prepared by the CDA's engineer. The specifications said that the space between supporting crossbeams was six feet. However, when the contractor started working he found the distance was actually six feet, six inches.

This left the contractor with the problem of figuring out how he was going to fit 12-foot lengths of planking into space that required 13 foot lengths, and still have adequate support. The solution was to groove the sides and butt ends of the planks so that they interlocked.

According to Bado, even though the ends of all the interlocking planks don't rest on the crossbeams the engineers say that it is an acceptable method of installation.

Bado said he will answer Amato's letter and explain this and that the engineers are responsible for the quality of the work. The engineers and architect will also appear before the council at the caucus to answer questions about the roof work. The council has asked James Caulfield, the city's building inspector, to appear and give his opinion. Caulfield said he would appear but he probably wouldn't comment on the work.

Stevens ROTC unit will close down

After 26 years, the ROTC at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken is ceasing operations due to a lack of student participation.

Lt. Col. Roger River, commander of the unit, said today that it will complete the school year at Stevens which ends June 16. After that, students who still wish to participate in the ROTC program will have to travel to the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark.

"We got very good support from the college administration and faculty," said Col. River, who has commanded the program at Stevens since 1975. "There just wasn't enough student interest to keep it going."

The ROTC program at Stevens has been on probation for the last five years due to lack of student interest, according to Col. River. However, it was allowed to continue by the Air Force because the quality of the enrollees it did get was very high, he said.

But this year Congress required all ROTC units to have a minimum enrollment of 17 junior and senior students to make the units worth the cost. The Stevens unit hasn't had 17 members since 1972, Col. River added.

Currently, there are eight juniors and seniors participating in the ROTC program.

Cappiello still a cop, foils shore theft

It's been more than 10 years since Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello wore his police sergeant's stripes or carried a gun. But once a cop always a cop—and Cappiello hasn't forgotten that.

The mayor, according to a city spokesman, was responsible for the arrest of a teenager Tuesday in Atlantic City where the mayor was attending the state League of Municipalities convention.

"Mayor Cappiello was walking along the boardwalk in the late afternoon near his hotel when he heard the sound of breaking glass coming from the direction of one of the Boardwalk shops that had already closed for the day," the spokesman said. "He went to investigate and found a young man trying to break in."

"The mayor apprehended the youth and held him until Atlantic City police arrived on the scene."

Cappiello was with two or three other officials attending the convention at the time. The spokesman added that the mayor may have to go back to Atlantic City for the hearing, depending on the plea entered by the defendant to the burglary charge. Cappiello is the main witness.

Cappiello to lead battle against litter

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken doesn't discriminate. He's just as upset today at the Police Department, of which he's the director, as he is at the Public Works Department after a very bad weekend for the city's anti-litter forces.

"This past weekend may have been the worst litterwise that the city has ever had," asserted Cappiello. "I don't think I've seen it any filthier—and I don't intend to see it that way again, ever. If I have to personally become involved in our anti-litter campaign, so be it."

The mayor has started his own personal involvement by meeting

with the public works foremen to find out that they need to do the job and to give them his views on what they are and aren't doing right. Next, police superiors will be expected to get their men to enforce the anti-littering ordinances.

"Then we'll hold a joint meeting to coordinate a program of enforcement and cleaning up," the mayor continued. "The city has to take to the attack and that's just what it is going to do."

Although annoyed because he feels that neither the Public Works Department nor the Police Department is going "all out" to crack down

on littering, the mayor said that the problem is initiated by city residents. "Neither the police nor public works is responsible for littering the city's streets—I guarantee that," he said. "That we can thank our citizens for. Not all of them, but a large number of them. Either they don't care or they don't know any better and can't use a little common sense."

"If it's a case of not caring, then we're going to go after these offenders and bring them into court. If it's not knowing any better, then the city has to educate them."

The mayor said that he would like to start an anti-litter education program in the local schools in the hope that students would bring home the city's message to their parents.

"But that isn't enough," he continued. "We must also try to reach those residents who don't have children in school and don't get the local papers. We must get their attention, cooperation and involvement."

Cappiello said that there was a definite lack of civic pride among some segments of the community.

"I'll say it right now, if we can't get the people to care about their city and how it looks and we can't get them involved, we'll never have a reasonably clean municipality," he added. "Complaining about littered streets and sidewalks isn't enough. Concerned citizens can and should serve as the city's eyes and ears."

The mayor said that over the weekend every trash container in Church Square Park was overturned and their contents scattered around the park.

"We assume it was the work of kids," Cappiello continued. "Kids or not, I can't believe that 25 trash containers could be overturned without one person seeing it. Yet no one reported it to police. This is where we need citizen participation and involvement."

Concerned citizens, those who really care, just don't walk by situations like this. Someone should have called the police and possibly we could have caught the culprits before they completed their spree.

"But if being concerned with the welfare of the city doesn't grab them let's talk about something that everyone is interested in—money. With public cooperation on anti-litter a good portion of the public works annual budget could be trimmed and a healthy chunk of tax dollars could be saved. We could lower taxes and stimulate the economic atmosphere

of the city. A lower tax rate would attract new business and new business and industry means more jobs.

"So litter and garbage doesn't mean we just have a dirty city, it hurts the city in a lot of other ways that take money out of everyone's pockets."

Meanwhile, Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said he will ask the city council for permission to purchase two new street sweeper machines next year—and sell the two sweepers the city purchased last year.

"The two sweepers we have are too delicate for streets like ours," he said. "We just had one machine completely overhauled. It was used twice after it was returned by the company before it broke down again. I don't think they (the sweepers) were meant for streets in the poor condition ours are in. They do a poor job when they're operating right."

Amato said that since the sweepers were bought with state funds through the Safe and Clean Neighborhoods program the state might allow Hoboken to sell the sweepers to another municipality, possibly one in a suburban area.

Hoboken to get dirt piles off isles — somehow

Large mounds of dirt will be removed from the traffic divider islands on 11th Street in Hoboken before Thursday — but the city is borrowing a dump truck from Union City to get the job done, Director James J. Farina said today.

"Public Works Commissioner (Robert C.) Botti of Union City has promised me at least one dump truck, maybe two, so we can clean up the islands today," said Farina. "The rest of the job — beautification of the islands — is then up to the Community Development Agency (CDA)."

Residents of the area complained last week that the islands have been in a deplorable condition since the spring and were getting worse because some residents had started dumping rubbish on them.

According to Farina, the islands mit no have looked too good because all of the trees, shrubs and grass had been stripped away to make way for more extensive landscaping. However, they were kept fairly clean until recently.

More than 16 inches of dirt was stripped from the islands and piled up at the ends. It will be replaced with

more fertile soil to enhance the chances of survival for the new trees and shrubs. But the city didn't have any suitable trucks for hauling the old dirt away and the piles were allowed to sit for a number of weeks.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said that his department did take out a number of loads of dirt several weeks ago and deposited it at the 16th Street field. Additional dirt was dug up after that but the city's dump trucks broke down and couldn't be used to take it away.

Work to start on Hoboken office building

TRENTON — Robert S. Powell, executive director of the State Economic Development Authority, expected a final financial agreement today with the First National State Bank of Newark for a \$3.6 million construction loan to help finance the \$4,670,000 four-story office building to be built on two acres at First and River Streets in Hoboken.

With the financial agreement today, Powell predicted actual construction work would begin next month on the 14-month project that he described as the largest single private investment in Hoboken in recent years. The EDA estimated an average of 150 construction jobs will be created during the building period.

When the 98,752 square foot structure is completed, an estimated 700 commercial and office jobs are anticipated in the project being built by Bernard F. Kenny, trading as the Bekay Engineering and Development Co. of Hoboken.

Powell explained that the Trust Co. of New Jersey and the First Jersey National Bank, both of Jersey

City, will provide \$2 million each as the permanent mortgage to repay the construction loan reached by the First National Bank. The EDA is guaranteeing the debt service for the first 10 years.

The project cost includes \$3,300,000 for construction, \$400,000 for tenant improvement; \$230,000 for architectural, engineering and legal fees; \$300,000 for land costs; \$170,000 for interest during construction and \$1,600 each for cost of financing and contingency funds.

The bank lenders and the conventional loan also required the personal guarantee of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard F. Kenny until two years after rentals are sufficient to cover debt service and operating expenses, at which time the guarantee will lapse, Powell noted.

He said the site development work, such as test borings, already had started.

Tax liens auction scheduled

Tax liens on more than 50 Hoboken properties for non-payment of taxes, water and sewerage charges will be auctioned off by the city at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Hoboken City Council chambers.

The liens are held for a two-year period after which the purchaser may initiate foreclosure proceedings to claim the property. But during that period the owners may pay off the lien to the holder plus 12 per cent interest per year.

If no one bids on a lien it reverts to the city. In that case the city may foreclose after six months if the owner fails to satisfy the lien and interest due on the back bills.

The largest single amount owed to the city is a \$15,870 lien against Ralph Spano for the demolition of property at 209 and 211 Newark St. Taxes, additionally owed on the properties amount to \$2,120 and \$2,441 respectively.

The Umlands restaurant building at 508 Washington St. is on the list. Owned by Ann Roberts, it has tax arrears of \$2,314.

The property owners may pay what they owe and redeem their property from the sale up to the actual time the auction is to begin.

Think carefully

Hoboken should do some careful thinking before it makes any move to restrict parking to residents.

Most of those who would be hit by a parking ban are employees of industrial firms who live out of town. One of Hoboken's big troubles over the years is that industry has been leaving. Inadequate parking facilities is one of the reasons for the exodus.

The principal target of the proposal to restrict parking to local residents would be the Maxwell House coffee plant. Said to be the biggest coffee factory in the world, this plant pays more than 5 per cent of the city's taxes.

It has already been hit with an astronomical increase in its water rate. To wipe out employee parking in the neighborhood of its plant might be the nudge that pushes Maxwell House out of town.

poration but one that had several corporate officers who were also affiliated with River Towing.

The director added that he will ask police chief George W. Crimmins to have the piers checked regularly in the hopes of preventing the company from using them, as soon as Crimmins returns from the League of Municipalities convention in Atlantic City.

Ranieri defends solo sewage role

By Peter Hallam

After two public meetings of the Hudson County Sewerage Authority, a Hoboken councilman said today that Hoboken's reasons for withdrawal from the agency over a year ago are "still valid"—it's unorganized and can't give answers to important questions on cost and financing.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri, who attended Monday night's meeting in Union Hill High School, in Union City, said that the county authority, after seven years in existence and the expenditure of over \$1 million is still "disorganized and unable to give any firm estimates on its costs and the costs to those municipalities which are going to be part of it."

"These were the exact reasons that prompted Hoboken to withdraw from the authority," he continued. "And I still think it was a wise decision in view of the progress that Hoboken has made since going out on its own."

"In one year we have organized a pilot program, constructed two different types of treatment systems, put both of them into operation and should complete testing on them by the end of next month. And we did it all for an investment of less than \$100,000."

"We should have a report citing

all of the facts and figures for the operation of either treatment system shortly after the first of the year, putting Hoboken far ahead of the county authority in its quest to upgrade its treatment operation."

The main drawback to Hoboken's plan to upgrade its sewage treatment facilities on its own is the position of funding taken by both state and federal pollution control agencies that favor smaller municipal operations.

"That is policy, no law," said the councilman, "and I think that if push

comes to shore, Hoboken should take both the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to court and fight for the state and federal money we need to build our own facility."

"If Hoboken comes up with a valid and efficient plan for upgrading its sewage treatment facilities while the county authority is still floundering it should get some consideration, especially if the state and federal agencies are sincere in their efforts to end pollution."

"It seems unreasonable that a municipality that is ready to significantly reduce its flow of pollution into the river should be overlooked or put aside in favor of a larger facility that is still years in the future. And if we can design our facility with the potential to tie in with the county when and if it is ready to proceed, and I'm sure we can, that would be even more in our favor."

Ranieri said that he has been preaching the strong stand approach to other city officials and getting some good support for it.

Fifth Street piers, foreclosed, being used

The former owners of the Holland America piers in Hoboken may still be using the two docks at Fifth and Sixth streets even though the city has evicted them and changed the locks on the gates leading to the property. Revenue and Finance Director Frank Bartlett said today.

"We can prevent them from getting to the piers from the land side, but not from the river," the director said. "And apparently that's what someone is doing, probably the former owners. I have been advised by one of my employees who has a view of the piers from his home that there is tug

boat activity at them in the afternoon and evenings."

Bartlett said he didn't know exactly what would be done about it, short of having a policeman assigned to the piers full time.

"I have contacted the U.S. Coast Guard about the unauthorized use of the piers but its response

was that we should have local police take care of it," he explained.

Hoboken sold the piers several years ago to Rover Towing Co. which used them for its barge operation along the Hudson River. The year after that company bought the piers it sold them to Merwyn's Midnight Waterfront Beauty Inc., a new cor-

Basketball court to be ice rink

Hoboken plans to have ice skating available for its youngsters this winter, Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today.

According to Farina, the board of education will allow the city recreation department use of its basketball court area at the Hoboken High School field for the winter months.

"The area will be flooded when the weather is cold enough to keep the water frozen for a reasonable amount of time," he continued. "Arrangements are also being made with Public Service to hook up lights so there will be night skating as well."

State may run Hoboken schools



Frank Meola frames out new rectangular window, replacing rounded window built into religious edifice 111 years ago.

Hoboken landmark getting a facelift

By William H. Taft

One of the oldest buildings still standing in Hoboken, the Martha Institute, is having its face lifted... not to be made more beautiful, but to cut down its heating bill.

The brick walls which have looked out on the city for 111 years will be seen no more. Their historic value has had to give way to the high cost of oil. They are being covered with vinyl siding.

The Martha Institute is and has always been the social hall and school of the church next door. The Rev. George Kaden, minister of what is now called the Community Church, explained that the rising price of fuel was just too much for his congregation to shoulder, along with the cost of repairing interior damage done by rain driving in through the brickwork.

The three-story structure occupies half the block on the north side of 4th Street eastward from Park Avenue. The adjacent church was known as the German Evangelical Reformed Church when it was founded in 1856.

The congregation acquired the site for the institute from Col. John Stevens, founder of Hoboken's Stevens Institute, and built on it in 1866. The name, Martha, was in honor of Steven's wife.

For a time, while the City of Hoboken was setting up a public school system, the Martha Institute was the city's first high school.

The cornerstone, which is between the ground floor and the second floor at the corner of Park Avenue, is engraved in German script, in keeping with the national origin of the early members of the church.

The inscription on the 6th Street side of the cornerstone reads, in German, "Psalm 118. Verses 22 and 23."

The Rev. Mr. Kaden said the cornerstone will be covered with a special brown vinyl to match the color of the stone, and an artist will reproduce the original inscription on the vinyl, with paint.

Another historic feature of the edifice will vanish with the circular-

head windows, which, Kaden said it is impossible to duplicate, but which must be replaced if the weatherproofing is to be effective.

He said the church is buying regular double-hung sash windows for the entire building, and, after the siding contractor installs them, the men of the congregation will paint them and also install necessary insulation around them, on the inside.

These men will also put wire mesh screens over all the new windows, to protect them from vandalism and ballplaying in the street, the minister added. The church itself is already so protected.

Membership in the original German Evangelical Reformed Church dwindled in the 20th century. The nearby First Reformed Church of Hoboken united with it a couple of decades ago, but by 1908 the congregation had fallen off to 28.

In that year the Hoboken First Methodist Church gave up its century-old house of worship on Washington Street two blocks away to federate with the Reformed Church under the new name, Community Church. (The old First Methodist Church, which became Mt. Olive Baptist Church, was recently destroyed by fire.)

The new "federated" congregation — of Methodist and Reformed denominations — now has 30 active members, according to Kaden.

Some of these are of German origin. Among the others, the minister said, are some from

Hoboken's East Indian community in the immediate neighborhood, some of them having been converted to the Christian faith by Methodist and Presbyterian missionaries in India.

Kaden, a young man, has been breathing new life into the church. He sees an increasing use of the Martha Institute, both by the congregation and by outside groups, which already use it for meetings.

"We are in the process of growing spiritually as a congregation," he says. "We intend to use the building as much as we possibly can."

Ranieri's pinball machine plan draws only 'tilt'

A suggestion from Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri that Hoboken police confiscate all pinball machines and electronic amusement devices that aren't covered by city permits has been turned down by Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director.

The mayor said today that he presented Ranieri's suggestion to the city Law Department for its opinion and the reply was that the city didn't have the authority to do so.

"And even if we did have that authority, exercising it might make more problems for the city," the mayor continued. "Once confiscated the city would be responsible for the safekeeping of the machines. That would mean a secure place to store them and probably some kind of guards to make sure they aren't stolen."

"Pinball machines and other amusement devices are very expensive pieces of equipment. They cost thousands of dollars each. The city's past record of taking care of its own equipment hasn't been good. I wouldn't want it to be responsible for these expensive machines."

Ranieri was not displeased by the mayor's rejection.

"I'm only one of nine elected legislators whose job it is to pass laws that protect the citizens of Hoboken and the city itself," the councilman said. "Enforcement of those laws is not my job or responsibility. If the mayor and Law Department feel that

we cannot confiscate the illegal machines, so be it. However, that is not the end of it.

"There is still a question that must be answered. And that is why the city ordinance governing the operation of such machines isn't being enforced. Maybe we can't confiscate the machines, but we do have the authority to issue summonses to the people who are responsible for them."

"Every machine is supposed to be covered by a city permit. Most of them aren't. Every distributor in the city — and we have three — must have a license to do business. Two do but one doesn't and that one is still allowed to do business. And only one machine per establishment is allowed, but some places have three and four."

"These are violations of the city ordinance and should be dealt with. If we can't enforce this ordinance then we can't enforce any of the ordinances the city has on the books."

A Hoboken detective has been assigned to track down the machines not covered by city permits. However, he has not been issuing summonses to the persons who have the illegal

machines on their premises. Instead, they have been getting warnings and an opportunity to apply for the annual permits that were supposed to have been obtained in June.

Ranieri questioned this procedure but said as yet he has not gotten a satisfactory explanation.

Cappiello against waiving cap for ballooning school budget

Even if the county superintendent of schools allows the Hoboken Board of Education to spend more in 1978-79 than allowed under a state budget "cap," Mayor Steve Cappiello says he's against it.

Board members learned last night that not only did their proposed \$17.7 million budget exceed the state cap by about \$2.6 million but also they'd have to ask the city to nearly double its contribution toward that budget to about \$7.6 million.

"Under no circumstances," declared Cappiello, "can the city afford to spend that amount of money."

It would be a traumatic blow to the progress we've made up to now. I think the income tax is designed to take care of our "Thorough and Efficient" needs.

"I don't intend to put a greater burden on city homeowners than they now have and I'm not about to drive out any of our large taxpayers," the mayor added.

Hoping to get his economy message across to the school board, Cappiello dispatched the three members of the City Council's finance committee — Martin J. Brennan, council president; Walter Cramer and Robert

The state may have to take over the operation of Hoboken's schools unless the board of education can prove that it will have enough money to finish out the school year, which ends in June.

Hoboken school board sources said today that the state Department of Education is expected to look into Hoboken's situation as the result of a letter sent by Otto Hottendorf, a board member, to Thomas F. McFeely, superintendent of schools, about the hiring of teachers despite the lack of enough money in the salary account to pay them.

Several months ago, the board

hired 23 teachers on the recommendation of McFeely although Robert Taylor, the board's attorney and accountant, told the board that there weren't adequate funds in the budget for them.

According to Hottendorf's letter to McFeely, a copy of which was sent to state Education Commissioner Fred G. Burke, the school board now faces the possibility of having to close the schools in April because the board is spending too much money on salaries for teachers — and McFeely has now recommended to the board that it hire still more personnel.

The sources said that Hottendorf

has asked McFeely to appear at the next board meeting and present in writing his suggestions for eliminating the problem. They added that this, in all probability, will mean the layoffs of the 23 teachers plus additional teachers to make up any deficits in the instructional salary accounts.

"Under state statutes, the state can come in and take charge of the school district's operation if we run short of funds and can't complete the school year," the sources said. "Once the state gets Hottendorf's letter we expect it'll be looking into the matter closely."

Police ordered to begin crackdown on littering

Hoboken's police superiors have gotten the word from their boss, Mayor Steve Cappiello, that they will be expected to have their men issue summonses for littering violations starting today.

The mayor said today that he has met with the police superiors much in the same fashion that he met with Public Works Department foremen last week.

"It was an informal session but I think the message was clear — the police will be responsible for enforcing our anti-littering laws," the mayor said. "Most of that responsibility is going to fall on the Tactical Patrol Force since they are the men who walk the beats. But no one is really excluded from enforcing the law."

"I'm also sending a memo for the men who are assigned to radio car patrol duty. If they see violations they

are to take action."

The mayor said that he didn't expect a "ticket blitz."

"I'm sure that the police will use common sense," he continued. "The people I think they should be trying to nail are those who are observed dumping rubbish in the city. That would include trucks coming into the uptown area for dumping purposes as well as individuals who put their garbage at a fire hydrant."

"I don't want them to go after a property owner who just happens to have a fire hydrant on his property that is someone's favorite dumping spot. But if that rubbish is still there after a few days then maybe the property owner needs to be shaken up a little too. No, they didn't put the rubbish out but they or their represen-

tative — superintendent or agent — could have reported the rubbish to the city for collection."

The mayor said that he would like property owners as well as tenants to call the Public Works Department if they spot something that has to be picked up.

"An ignored pile of rubbish seems to attract others who add to it," he asserted. "If we all care a little more and call the city when we see discarded household items maybe the city can stay on top of it."

Cappiello said that pickups can be arranged by calling Public Works at 793-3000, extension 374, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. However, the earlier the call is placed the more likely the rubbish will be collected the same day.

Clean islands for the trees

The Hoboken Public Works Department with the assistance of its Union City counterpart is cleaning up the 11th Street traffic divider islands and preparing them for the planting of new trees and shrubs. But the cleanup probably will have to be done again before the landscaping can start.

The reason is that the Community Development Agency (CDA) has yet to get bids on the greenery and can't start the planting until it does and awards a contract. CDA has gone out for bids but they will not be opened until next Wednesday's council meeting.

According to Joseph Cicala, head of the neighborhood preservation program for the CDA, if the bids are

acceptable and a contract awarded the job might start towards the end of next month, although that will be in winter, a time unfavorable for planting.

However, Cicala pointed out, there is always the possibility that the bids will be found to be "too high" and rejected. Then the CDA would have to seek new bids, delaying the project again.

In the meantime, the litter and rubbish that accumulated on the four islands between Washington Street and Willow Avenue was removed yesterday by Hoboken's payloader and a Union City dump truck, will start to build up again. Several truckloads of dirt and rubbish were

removed yesterday, according to Health and Welfare Director James Farina who arranged to borrow the truck from Union City.

"If too much rubbish accumulates on the islands again between now and the time the CDA is ready to start the beautification project, I guess we'll just have to clean them off again," Farina said.

The CDA is looking for bids on 300 trees and top soil. Most of the trees are to be planted in the First Ward, but some of them will be set aside for planting with shrubs on the 11th Street island.

300 back school board shift

Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration already has obtained between 300 and 400 signatures toward the minimum of 1,250 from eligible Hoboken voters in its petition drive to revert from an elected board of education to an appointed one, a spokesman said today.

Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, president of the board, said the election will be a waste of \$13,000 in school money.

Edwin Chius, city business administrator and one of the mayor's aides leading the petition drive, said the 1,250 signatures comprise 15 per cent of the votes cast in the last election for the state assembly.

"The petition calls upon the school board to hold a special election within 50 days of the submission of the purpose of allowing the voters to decide if the board should revert from a Type I board to a Type II," Chius said.

Chius added that if the drive does come up with enough valid signatures of registered voters, and there is no

reason to believe it won't, the board is legally bound to hold the special election.

"We are moving as fast as we can to get those signatures so the petition can be presented to the school board as quickly as possible," he continued. "The idea is to get the petitions in so that the special election can be held before the next regular election of the board which is usually in February."

According to Chius, reverting to the appointed board where the members of the board are selected by the mayor was one of Cappiello's campaign promises during the May mayoral election.

Mrs. Gaspar is one of the three board members who will be coming up for re-election next year.

"It will mark the third time that the people of Hoboken have been asked to decide the issue of the appointed board or elected," she con-

tinued. "Twice the voters have opted for the elected board and I see no reason for them to change their minds now."

"The appointed school boards of the past are responsible for most of the problems that the elected board members now face. These problems were inherited by the elected board."

Mrs. Gaspar added that she felt the elected school board members have shown that they are more responsible to the needs of the public than the appointed boards.

"The appointed board members owe their allegiance to one man — the mayor who appoints them," she continued. "The elected board members must be responsible to the people who come out and elect them."

Mrs. Gaspar, the first elected woman board member, added that she would not publicly campaign for the elected or appointed school boards.

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THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1977



WORD TO THE WISE — Hoboken Postmaster Sam Tridante joins Mayor Steve Cappiello as he pens an official reminder to residents to mail their Christmas cards early. The postal system has designated Dec. 3 to 8 as "Mail Early Week."

Almost every traffic light in Hoboken called illegal

Almost every one of Hoboken's traffic lights is illegal, an official of the state Transportation Department said today.

Informed of this by The Jersey Journal, Acting Hoboken Municipal Court Judge Chris G. Pappas said that if a driver charged with going through a red light raises the issue as his defense, he will require the prosecution to prove that the light is legal.

The illegal Hoboken traffic lights include those operated by the county government. That means all the lights except those on Washington Street from First Street to 13th Street, which are operated by the city. All the

other lights are under the county's jurisdiction.

According to the state spokesman, who is in the Transportation Department's Traffic Engineering Division, the state's records show no approval of any of the lights on Washington Street from First Street to 13th Street.

"A routine check of our records shows that there may be only two signal lights that have been approved by the state," the official said. "We have approvals for the light at Washington and Newark streets, and for the one at Fourth and Hudson streets."

"Apparently the illegal lights

were installed over a period of years by the city or county without the state's consent," he said. "Not necessarily that they didn't ask for it. Permission may have been sought and may not have come as quickly as they would have liked, and they may have gone ahead and installed the lights without it. However, our files do not show that permission was sought."

Although the state says the lights aren't legal, Pappas said he will not take it upon himself to assume they are illegal until he is officially notified.

"I would have to see some kind of official document from the state before doing otherwise," he asserted. "However, if a defendant accused of disregarding a traffic signal bases his defense on the illegality of the light, we would have a different matter. It would then fall upon the prosecutor to prove otherwise."

"If the city prosecutor is unable to prove that the light is legal I would have no other choice but to dismiss the charges."

A check of city records shows that there are no city ordinances governing traffic lights, a spokesman for the city's clerk's office said. Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, said that if there are any records on traffic lights and state approvals they would normally be in the clerk's office. None could be found.

Getting state approval for the lights would be a simple matter except for one thing, the traffic controls must also meet the state's technical specifications — and none of Hoboken's meets those requirements.

"I won't venture a guess at how much it would cost the city to meet the state's requirements in order to

get approval for the traffic control lights," said Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director. "There is no way Hoboken could afford it without a great deal of help financially from the state."

The mayor said he would get on the problem of the lights immediately by asking the state Department of Transportation for its "guidance" and assistance.

"Since most of the city's traffic control lights were installed prior to the new state regulations I would also hope that it will be willing to waive the requirements for additional lights and electronic walk signs."

The mayor added that he did not intend at this time to issue orders to police to ignore issuing summonses for passing red lights.

"The lights are needed and I hope most residents will obey them even if there is a question about their legality," he continued. "They do help with traffic control and flow, and without them the city would be one large traffic jam if everyone simply disregarded them. We will continue with due process."

Hoboken may grab unlicensed pinballs

A Hoboken councilman wants the city police department to start confiscating all pinball machines that are not covered by permits or are owned by a distribution firm that has not acquired an operating license from the city for 1977.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today he has sent a letter to Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director, and Police Chief George W. Crimmins asking that police immediately start enforcing the city's pinball ordinance and confiscate any of the electronic amusement devices that don't comply with it.

Hoboken police have been crack-

ing down on the amusements by checking all establishments with them and requiring the operators to obtain permits where there are none, and to remove machines when their number exceeds the number allowed by the city ordinance. However, Ranieri says this isn't enough.

"A number of things have come to my attention which indicates that more forceful measures are needed," said the councilman. "In some instances a warning and requiring the owner of the premises to get the necessary permits is not enough."

"In some instances where an illegal number of machines are on a premises an attempt was made to screen this from public view by erecting partitions," Ranieri continued. "To me this indicates that the people involved were aware of the laws we have in the city and were deliberately trying to get around them."

"I and other officials were misled about the situation involving one distribution company who were told was contesting the annual \$2,500 license fee by taking the city to court, and that was the excuse for not paying the fee which was due July 1."

"Actually, the city has not been served with any formal written notice of any suit, if one has been filed at all. I personally checked with the Law Department and they have no record of any legal action by the company called Hi-Score."

"And even if it had initiated legal action that is not an excuse for not paying the required \$2,500 licensing fee while continuing to do business in the city. The proper procedure is to pay the fee and then file the suit. If the case is won the city would be directed by the courts to reimburse the company."

Ranieri said "Hi-Score" is one of three companies distributing pinball and electronic amusement devices in the city. The other two have paid their fees and obtained their licenses.

According to Detective Leo Serrano, who has been assigned to check on the pinball machines around the city, he has been issuing warnings rather than summonses to the owners of premises in violation because they were unaware of the law. Ranieri disagrees with this procedure.

"Hiding the machines in backrooms or behind partitions and curtains is a very strong indication that the owner of the premises did know about the city ordinance and was trying to avoid detection," the councilman said. "Warnings shouldn't be given in such cases. The owners should get a summons and the machines should be confiscated by the police."

Hoboken will be urged to seek school funds

If the bill for a \$100,000,000 school bond issue becomes law, Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, Hoboken's school board president, will urge her board to apply at once for the city's share.

Mrs. Gaspar said today. The state Senate has already passed the measure and sent it to the Assembly. It provides for the state to pay the entire cost — principal and interest — of bonds issued for school construction or renovation, up to a certain amount.

Mrs. Gaspar would have the Hoboken board use the bond proceeds to renovate existing schoolhouses, not to erect new ones. The city's schools are not only structurally sound but architecturally beautiful, she said, declaring:

"The charm of Hoboken is in its old architecture, the old brownstone image. In keeping with the current rebirth of the city, we should cherish and perpetuate this asset in our schools."

Most of the deficiencies at Hoboken's old schools, she asserted, are problems of "windows, roofs and painting."

"It would be a most horrendous

mistake to tear down these buildings and put up new ones," she continued. "It would not be possible to replace them."

Mrs. Gaspar pointed to the marble staircases at the Rue School, and the ornate appearance of both its interior and exterior. The outside of the Kealey School, she said, is "great — just aged —" and all it needs is rehabilitating. The Leinkauf School, she asserted, "is immaculate;" and the Connors School, although heated by coal, is "unbelievably magnificent." "Look at the work that was done to preserve the cornices at the Demarest Junior High," she added.

"We could never reconstruct these grand old buildings, with their thick walls and high ceilings," Mrs. Gaspar continued. "We should bring in a designer and fix up their defects, and put in new desks and windows."

As for the later schools, Hoboken High needs only to have its exterior wall tiles replaced ("It suffered no damage at all in the recent floods," she remarked), while the Wallace and Calabro schools are new.

Get with it

Because of the astronomical water bills Hoboken sends out to its property owners, it is more than a little surprising that the city has not billed anyone for water at the defunct Todd Shipyard in recent years although ships have been drawing city water there in tremendous amounts.

Comparable weak spots in Hoboken's city administration have been coming to light regularly, and one may wonder whether the supply of weak spots is inexhaustible.

The gift of the water to the ships was uncovered by an official who has not long been a member of the administration team and who has been appalled at some of the practices he has discovered.

Nothing yet equals the giveaway of water worth tens of thousands of dollars, but everything adds up to the definite conclusion that Hoboken ought to start to get with it.

Comeback

A new office building will start going up in Hoboken on Friday. It is to be a big one, a block wide, with the latest facilities for sophisticated business tenants. The exterior has been designed to harmonize with the architectural tone of Hoboken's ongoing renaissance.

This is a bold venture. No office buildings have gone up in Hoboken in half a century, because the demand for them was not there.

Since Hoboken began its turnaround about a decade ago, the only new construction has been apartment houses and public buildings, mainly schools and parking garages.

The office building about to rise at Grogan Marine View Plaza has been carefully thought out. If it makes good, the city will have turned another corner on its comeback trail.

Giordano is Hoboken's newest judge

There's a new face in Hoboken's Hall of Justice. It belongs to Peter Giordano, a local attorney, who is the city's newest acting municipal court judge.

Giordano has been filling in for Judge Rudolph R. Naddoo and Acting Judge Chris G. Pappas for the last few weeks. Naddoo was hospitalized for some tests more than a month ago. During that time, Pappas sat every day. But doing so required him to neglect his own private practice.

At the request of Pappas, the city put on a third judge so that the acting judge could get back to his own office and clear up his backlog of work, a court spokesman said.

Naddoo is expected to return to the bench sometime next week.

Hoboken planning advisory meet of Title I parents

The Parents Advisory Council of the Hoboken Board of Education Title I program will meet at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the David E. Rue School, Third and Garden streets.

Francis E. McGorty, director of the federally-funded program, said that in addition to regular business, Linda Erbe, a coordinator, will present a program on "how parents can motivate their children." Mary Lemonowicz, chairman of the council, has urged parents of children in the Title I program to attend.

Use of sewer truck triggers Hoboken hassle

Why is a \$25,000 Hoboken Public Works truck that is supposed to be used to clean out corner catch basins assigned to a pothole filling detail and carrying around a load of asphalt?

Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francone said today that he will question Director Andrew J. Amato at tonight's council caucus on that.

"I don't buy that business about not having enough trucks," said Francone. "We had troubles with repairs before Amato became director but we always managed to keep them running and on the job. Using the catch basin cleaner truck to haul asphalt is a waste of money. Why isn't it being used for cleaning out the catch basins? The bad storm we had a few weeks ago showed that we have plenty of basins that need cleaning."

Director Amato said he would give Francone "all the answers he can handle" at the caucus meeting.

"Why doesn't he ask his brother-in-law about the conditions of the trucks," Amato asked. "They didn't get in the condition they're in in the couple of months that I've been public works director. They've been subject to years of neglect and abuse, not a couple of months."

Francone's brother-in-law is Raphael P. Vitale, the city's former public works director, who was fired by Mayor Steve Cappiello earlier this year as a result of political differences. Amato was made the temporary director replacing Vitale. In July, the mayor named him to a full four year term.

Amato said that he wasn't blaming Vitale for the condition of the trucks but that Vitale could probably explain to Francone the problems he incurred in keeping them operational.

"Those problems didn't go away," he continued. "The administration is trying to spend as little of the taxpayers' money as possible to hold the tax line. So I have to make do with what I've got until conditions get better."

Amato said that the city was now preparing to buy two new dump trucks for his department and that additional trucks would be purchased during next year.

"In the meantime, I use what I have when I need it," the director added. "Right now we need to patch potholes, so I'm using what I have to do that job."

Shipyard water pact sought

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato of Hoboken has instructed the city's Law Department to send letters to the Eastern Seaboard Pile Driving Co. ordering it to have representatives to meet with the city to work out a formal written contract for the use of city water for its ships docked at the old Todd Shipyard.

Amato and Councilman Robert A. Ranieri and Anthony H. Romano have launched probes to find out who authorized the company to tap city fire hydrants in the area for their water needs — without paying the city anything for the water.

"My investigation is still going on," said the director, "but that's no reason for allowing the situation to continue. 'They've been getting free water, as far as I know, and it should be stopped. The first thing we should be doing now is meeting with the company to work out a formal written agreement for the purchase of city water."

Amato said he would like the meeting to include Ranieri, Romano

and Councilman Louis Francone, the three members of the city council's water committee.

Meanwhile, Romano said he will suggest to the council that the water and fire departments work out a method of sealing all fire hydrants along the city's waterfront to prevent anyone from tapping them for water.

"The seals must be easily broken so that the fire department won't have any trouble should they need a hydrant for firefighting purposes," he continued. "But a broken seal on a hydrant that hasn't been used for fighting a fire would show that someone has used the hydrant. Couple this with regular inspections of those sealed hydrants and we should be able to catch anyone bilking the city of water."

Last week Amato observed one of the ships docked at the Todd Shipyard pumping water from a city hydrant to the ship. Police were called and two crew members escorted to police headquarters. They were later

released without any charges being preferred against them, but the incident was enough to prompt the probes of unauthorized use of city water.

The city must also resolve the question of unpaid rents from Eastern, which has been making payments to Seatrain Lines until four months ago.

A spokesman for Eastern said that the company had been paying Seatrain because it claimed that the portion of the pier it had docked its ships at was Seatrain property and in Weehawken. Maps of the area show that part of the pier is in Weehawken, but the land portion is in Hoboken. In August the company moved its ships so that they were all inside Hoboken's boundary line and then started paying Hoboken the \$1,500-a-month rental.

Revenue and Finance Director Frank J. Barletta said that Mayor Steve Cappiello has been negotiating with Seatrain officials to claim a portion of the money it had been paid by Eastern Seaboard.

Hoboken battleship berth backing asked

Allan Straten, president of the Hoboken Battleship Memorial Committee, will address the Liberty State Park Planning Commission tonight at St. Peter's College in the hope of getting it to endorse Hoboken as the site for the rebirth of the U.S.S. New Jersey.

Hoboken is one of several towns that are still in the running with the state battleship commission for designation as the permanent home of the World War II battleship.

According to Straten, a report explaining in detail the advantages of

selecting Hoboken will be presented to the park planning commission for inclusion in its records. Straten added that a state wide political campaign aimed at getting the designation for Hoboken has also been launched.

"We firmly believe that Hoboken would be the ideal permanent berth for the historic ship," said Straten. "Of all the sites being considered,

Hoboken and Hoboken alone has the most to offer. It is easy to get to, it has a park already designed where the ship would fit and it has the support and backing of the community and its officials."

The meeting of the park commission is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the college in Jersey City.

Cappiello hit on appointed board

Mrs. Mary Stack Gaspar, president of Hoboken's board of education, asserted today that Mayor Cappiello's move to revert from an elected to an appointed board was "directed at me."

Another criticism of the mayor's action was made by Frank Duroy, a leader of the city's Puerto Rican community who ran unsuccessfully for councilman-at-large last May.

Cappiello's Hoboken Democratic Organization is circulating petitions to have a city referendum on the question of discontinuing electing school board members and having them named by the mayor instead, as formerly.

Mrs. Gaspar, who holds her seat on the board by election, commented: "If I am knocked out of the box, 6,817 kids will lose a hard-working friend, and six children will get back a full-time mother."

She said that in pushing to get money for more teachers, she had in mind "the fact that 82 per cent of Hoboken's school children have been projected as candidates for compensating education, ten per cent have been designated as in need of bilingual programs, and three per cent are currently in special education classes of smaller size in an attempt to 'mainstream' them — get them into regular classrooms."

"These are the kids that I especially care about," Mrs. Gaspar said. "That is why I am a board member."

"Only five per cent of our pupils do not need special help," she added.

Duroy asserted:

"As a citizen who has been active in Hoboken in both the civic and political arenas I cannot sit idly and allow the heavy-handed tactic of any

person or group to force upon the parents and taxpayers of Hoboken a needless and costly election for the purpose of reinstating the authority of the mayor to appoint members of the board of education instead of having them elected.

"There is a myth being advocated by the mayor and his supporters — that the mechanism of a direct election for board members in reality has not altered the overall composition and policies of the board of education and nothing really is changed, especially since 9 out of 10 times those who have been elected were supported by the regular organization and this same situation will continue, and instead of burdening the taxpayers of Hoboken with the added cost of an election it would be simpler to revert to the appointed board and save the money of running an elec-

tion."

"This simplistic argument is used to justify the elimination of a privilege we as a people have taken for granted. I guess one can logically extend this line of thinking one step further to the local municipal level and eliminate the direct election of mayor and council persons because if one studies the demographic data of the past 20 years in Hoboken, nine out of ten times the victorious candidates were those who had the backing of the regular organization — so why bother holding an election? Just let the organization make the decision for the people and save the cost of running an election."

A teacher at Montclair State College, Duroy said he is challenging Cappiello to "an open debate" on the issue of an elected vs. an appointed board.

Bluecoats win allowance

The Hoboken City Council has approved the transfer of \$78,000 from the Public Safety Department's salary account to pay for the 1977 clothing allowances that are now due city police and firemen.

The authorization was approved at a special council meeting held at noon yesterday following the council's regular meeting.

According to a spokesman for the

city's Revenue and Finance Department, the money for the clothing allowance — \$300 for every fireman and policeman — was in the budget for 1977 but had inadvertently been put into the salary account when the budget was being prepared earlier in the year. Since funds set aside for salaries cannot be used to pay expenses, a paper transfer was necessary to make sure the city adhered to state budgetary regulations.

Cappiello denies drive motive

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken today denied a charge by Mrs. Mary Slack Gaspar, school board president, that he is pushing for a return to the appointed school board so that she can be eliminated as a board member.

"I'm surprised that Mrs. Gaspar has never mentioned anything about her feelings on this to me," said the mayor. "But I assure her and everyone else that my desire to have an elected school board has nothing to do with the elected members who now sit."

"The appointed board is more harmonious and is better able to work with the city on financial matters. Actually, I'm not against the idea of an elected board. But the elected board, in my opinion, hasn't worked out well in Hoboken and Hoboken is my main concern."

Cappiello said the bickering between the elected school board and the city over budgets the last three years has resulted in costly hearings for both and the loss of much time that could have been put to better use.

The school board's budget is submitted to the voters where there is an elected board. The last three budgets have been defeated and went to the city council for reductions. However, the school board appealed all of the reductions to the state commissioner of education — and in each instance won back all or a substantial portion of what the council had cut out.

The petition campaign aimed at forcing the school board to hold a

special election before the next regular school board election would also bring about the re-establishment of the Board of School Estimate to decide on the budget. It comprises the mayor, two councilmen and two school board members. Cappiello is supporting the campaign.

"If I wanted to get Mrs. Gaspar off the school board, there is an easier way of doing it," the mayor continued. "We (the mayor's organization) could run a candidate against her."

"There have been four school board elections in Hoboken since the appointed board was eliminated," Cappiello continued. "The organization and administration forces have backed candidates that have won in every one of those elections with one exception. Every school board

member now sitting, including Mrs. Gaspar, had the administration's blessing. It would be much simpler for the administration to back another candidate and I'm fairly sure that that person would win."

However, Cappiello would not say whether he would appoint Mrs. Gaspar to the board if the public decides to go back to the appointed board. The other two school board members whose terms coming to an end are Michael Costello, a police detective, and Anthony DeBari, owner of a local bakery. He also declined to say whether he would appoint them.

"I haven't thought about any appointments," he said. "And I probably won't until the appointed or elected school board question is resolved."

Chief warns cops to show up or else

Hoboken policemen who fail to appear in court for hearings on charges they initiated, or who fail to show up before the Grand Jury when summoned, will face departmental charges from here on, Chief George W. Crimmins said today.

Any man summoned to appear in court either locally or on the county level, who fails to make that appearance, could be formally charged with a departmental violation and given a hearing, he warned.

"If one of our police officers is party to an arrest and that matter is coming up in court, either in Hoboken or the county, I expect him to be there to testify if he has been summoned to do so," said the chief. "Some men are not doing this, and in recent months the problem has been getting worse."

Crimmins said he has gotten complaints about men not appearing for court cases from both county and local court officials.

"It is not the same men all the time," he continued. "And I wouldn't say that it has become a serious problem, at least not yet. But there are signs that the practice is on the increase and I aim to stop it right now before it does become an epidemic."

The chief said that each instance in which a member of the force failed to appear in court would be judged by the circumstances surrounding that particular situation.

"Such mixups are not always the fault of the men," he added. "But forgetting or just not showing up isn't an excuse or a mixup."

Hoboken warned on solo plan

The Hudson County Sewerage Authority contended today that if Hoboken persists in its intention to "go it alone" in upgrading its sewage treatment — refusing to join in an overall plan being prepared by the county authority — the cost of what Hoboken does will have to be paid for entirely by Hoboken.

This is so because in order to benefit from the authorized federal and state grants amounting to 63 percent of the cost to the entire county, Hoboken's plans must be approved beforehand by the authority, according to Richard Jenny, the authority's executive director.

The authority is preparing a comprehensive plan for the county, in which Hoboken would be one of the links, to satisfy the federal government's sewage treatment requirements.

Hoboken's officials have taken the position that the plan the authority is drawing up would result in levying against the city a greater charge than what it would cost Hoboken to satisfy the federal requirements independently.

In warning against the Hoboken position today, Jenny did not go into the main agreement made by Hoboken — that the work needed to bring Hoboken into compliance would cost less if Hoboken does it independently.

He did say that "if, indeed, Hoboken has a technically and cost effective plan, the county authority and its engineers would be pleased to include same in the authorized and federally funded (83 percent) 201 Regional Facility Plan," adding, "Any other procedure for upgrading Hoboken's facilities would impose a 100 percent cost burden on the people of Hoboken, rather than receive the benefit of the 83 percent federal and state grants."

To support this contention, Jenny quoted opinions by the New Jersey attorney general and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Jenny did not quote any federal official as saying that no federal funds would be allowed to go to Hoboken unless the city complied with the overall county plan.

Hoboken has withdrawn from participation in the county authority, contending that the authority "is disorganized," has spent \$1,000,000 in seven years and still cannot give any firm estimates of cost to the municipalities.

In contrast, Hoboken asserts, the city in one year has contributed two types of treatment systems in a pilot program and put both in operation, all for less than \$100,000.

Jenny today referred to the opinion of the state attorney general on Dec. 3, 1976:

"The city of Hoboken is obligated to upgrade its existing sewage treatment facilities in compliance with an approved regional plan, pursuant to a prior order of the Department of Environmental Protection."

"Because of conditions which will be imposed upon the county authority, pursuant to federal grants which will be made to finance facility planning, we can assume that the county authority will not approve of the construction of any sewerage facilities by the city of Hoboken unless said facilities are in complete accord with the county facility plan."

"Any attempt by the county authority to approve facilities in Hoboken which would be in conflict with the facilities plan could result in a loss of all of the 75 percent federal funding which the Hudson County municipalities presumably hope to receive."

Also on Dec. 3 the state Department of Environmental Protection notified Hoboken that "in the opinion of the DEP, only through active participation and cooperation with the HCSA will the city of Hoboken be able to assure the interests are best served."

Last Dec. 23 the state DEP wrote to Mayo, Lynch and Associates, Hoboken's engineers:

"This letter is to notify you that the HCSA has been chosen the planning agency for all of Hudson County. Any studies undertaken by the city of Hoboken will not be eligible for federal or state funding through the construction grants process."

"Although this office will have no further relationship to the proposal feasibility studies to be conducted by Mayo, Lynch and Associates, we would like to point out that these studies will probably duplicate studies to be undertaken by the Hudson County Sewerage Authority, and therefore will be a waste of local taxpayers' money."

Jenny, in referring today to the studies the

county authority is making, commented that "only in recent months has Hoboken provided the authority's engineers with material that had been requested for a considerable period of time."

Hoboken's HA deficit \$202G

Capital improvements and increased operating costs will create a projected deficit of \$202,000 in the 1977-78 budget of the Hoboken Housing Authority, an official said last night.

Authority Comptroller Carmen Frio told the members at a regular meeting the current \$2.4 million budget for the current fiscal year, which began Oct. 1, has been approved by federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) officials. But the subsidy request, \$800,337, was cut to \$755,600.

Frio said he was "satisfied with the amount of the subsidy and said the Authority did 'fairly well' in the amount granted."

The deficit will be erased out of the current \$550,000 reserve or surplus, Frio said. The Authority is committed to a number of capital improvements such as new boilers, new roofs, and much needed paint jobs on some buildings, and the deficit will be incurred partially to pay for them, he said.

The Authority operates five projects including 1,352 units. Rent is subsidized by the federal government. Tenants pay a maximum of 25 percent of their income for rent.

While the operating cost this current fiscal year is \$2.4 million, the Authority collects just more than one half that amount in rent — \$1.3 million.

Frio said the balance, or the difference between income and costs, is the amount of the federal subsidy and the part of the reserve necessary to close the gap.

The reserve generated during the fiscal year just ended is \$174,000, but Frio said all of that sum would be used this year. As an example of the increased cost of operating, he cited the more than 100 percent increase in the cost of liability insurance. Last year, the insurance bill was \$34,000, and this year the cost is \$74,000.

'Spare Seaman's Institute

The Hoboken Environment Committee today asked the owners of the Singer Shop Rite Supermarket not to take over the venerable Seamen's Institute building and raze it to make way for a parking lot.

The building "shares in the historic character of the city in general; and, in particular, helps create a visual effect in the Hudson Place area," Mrs. Helen Manogue, chairman, said in a letter on behalf of the executive committee.

"Along with the Erie Lackawanna terminal and the buildings to the north of Hudson Place," the letter said, "it creates a turn-of-the-century charm which needs to be preserved."

"By demolishing this building you will be destroying the city's ability to rebuild this critical part of

Hoboken; you will be destroying one of the city's priceless assets. Destruction of buildings such as the Seamen's Institute flies in the face of Hoboken's success to date as a city which is on the rise due to its ability to use what it has — its fantastic building stock."

The letter went on to propose that if Singer Shop Rite goes through with its intention to acquire the building, that it "seek to utilize the structure as a mixed-use building which will retain the integrity of southern Hoboken."

Cappiello to get new automobile for new year

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken will be getting a new car.

The council approved specifications at yesterday's meeting for a new vehicle for the mayor along with specifications for equipment for the fire department for supplying the municipal buildings with heating fuel. The bids will be received by the council at its Dec. 21 meeting.

Cappiello's present car was purchased during his first year in office, 1973, but is a 1974 model. The four-door Mercury sedan apparently satisfied the mayor's needs — the specifications call for bids on the same model and make of car, only the 1978 edition.

A spokesman for the mayor's office said the 1974 car was still running fairly well and might be put to other uses when the new car arrived, possibly in the police department as an unmarked vehicle.

Bids were received yesterday by the council on a new flusher truck which would be used to wash down the city's streets after they are swept. However, both will probably be rejected by Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

He said that one bid did not meet the specifications since it was for the flusher unit only and didn't include the truck such units are mounted on. The other bid was "too high," he said.

The city also received bids on chlorine for the sewage treatment plant. The chlorine would be supplied in 100 one-ton containers and 100 100-pound cylinders. Delta Chemical Co. bid \$20,000 for the containers and \$2,250 for the cylinders; Doremus Chemical Co. bid \$14,800 and \$1,983; and Schaffer Brothers bid \$15,000 and \$1,650. The bids were referred to Chius for study.

Two companies submitted bids for supplying the city with trees. Princeton Nurseries submitted bids of \$48,010, \$34,800 and \$30,634 based on different quantities and quantities of the trees. M. Tomasella and Co. of Newark submitted bids of \$149,265, \$135,145 and \$129,411.

A spokesman for Tomasella said that his company's bids were considerably higher because the estimates were for supplying the trees, transporting them to the city and planting them. The other firm's bid was only for supplying the trees.

The council corrected a technical error by approving the action of the city's welfare director in paying out more than \$500,000 since June in payments to welfare recipients.

Work begins on Hoboken office building

Construction has begun on Hoboken's first new office building in half a century, a block-long structure in Renaissance design fronting on First Street from Hudson to River streets. This will round out the redevelopment of the first of three city blocks which were cleared nine years ago for Grogan Marine View Plaza.

The start of the project was celebrated yesterday with a ceremony at the site, followed by a luncheon given by the owner, Bernard F. Kenny, at the Clam Broth House across the street. Kenny said the construction contract calls for completion in 365 calendar days.

City officials led by Mayor Steve Cappiello, representatives of banks that are financing the construction and others attended.

The ground floor of the building along River Street will provide space for shops. Two 234-seat movie theaters will be located on the first floor at the corner of Hudson and First streets. One will show Spanish, the other English-speaking films.

The top floor will consist of "penthouse offices," more elaborate than the rest.

The \$4 million construction cost is being financed by the First National State Bank of Newark. After the structure is completed, a permanent mortgage will be taken over jointly by two Hudson County banks, the Trust Co. of New Jersey and the First Jersey National Bank.

The building is being erected by the Briscos Construction Co., which built the Meadowlands Sports Complex.



Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello and Bernard F. Kenny topped a hill during ceremony yesterday marking the ground breaking for a waterfront office tower on River Street. Kenny is the developer of the property.

Valor awards urged for cops who rescued 15 from fire

The Hoboken Policemen Benevolent Association will nominate for valor awards four officers who rescued 15 people from a blazing tenement house in Hoboken before firemen got there early yesterday.

Patrolman James Behrens, PBA head, said the four are Sgt. Robert McDonough, who was cruising in a radio car; Lt. Patrick Donatucci and Sgt. Steve Dargno, cruising in another

radio car, and an off-duty Detective Robert DeStefano.

McDonough and Donatucci managed to go up one fire escape to take hold of 10 persons leaning out windows and get them down the fire escape, while the other two officers did the same for five occupants on another fire escape, Behrens said.

The burning building was at 97 Hudson St.

Extra signatures gathered for school referendum

A minimum of 2,000 petitions will be submitted to the Hoboken Board of Education Friday asking for a special election no later than Jan. 31 to decide whether the elected school board should be retained or replaced by an appointed board.

Edwin J. Chius, city business administrator who has been working on the petition drive, said today that only 1,245 signatures of registered voters are needed to obligate the board to schedule such an election. He said several hundred extra signatures for the special election have been obtained.

The petitions will be turned over to Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary, who must validate or invalidate the signatures and inform the Hudson County superintendent of elections. If a sufficient number of signatures are valid, the election must be called within 90 days of the date the petitions were filed.

Chius said that the 50th day is Feb. 4, a Saturday. Since elections must be held on a Tuesday the latest day the election can be scheduled is Jan. 31.

And regardless of the outcome of the election, if it is held, voters will be

going to the polls a few weeks later to elect three board members and accept or reject the board's 1978-79 budget. Chius said that even if the public votes to go back to the appointed board the first appointments won't be made until 1979.

When asked why the question of an elected or appointed board wasn't included on the ballot for the regular board election, thus saving local taxpayers the cost of two elections within a few weeks of each other, Chius replied that the people supporting the appointed board did not want the issue confused with the other school questions.

"School board elections get poor voter turnouts," he continued. "It is logical to assume that the voters who do bother to vote in a school board election are those who support the elected board concept. By holding a separate election on one specific question we are assured of no conflicting or confusing issues."

The three board members whose terms expire next year are Mary Gaspar, board president, Michael Costello and Anthony DeBari. None has yet indicated publicly whether he or she will seek re-election.

Farina asking bigger budget for parks

A blistering report issued over a month ago by the Hoboken Recreation Commission citing inadequacies in the city's parks has not gone unnoticed by Director James Farina.

The director said today he has asked the mayor and City Council for an additional \$33,000 for supplies and replacement equipment in his preliminary parks budget request for 1978 so that the department will have enough to keep the parks in good condition.

"Last year the parks department had only \$10,000 for this purpose," he continued. "For 1978 I have asked for \$63,000. I think this should be adequate to purchase the material and equipment needed for full use and proper maintenance."

The director added that he has also asked for \$83,000 in funds for the recreation department's needs as compared to the \$20,000 that was granted in the 1977 budget.

"This too is only for materials and supplies, not personnel," he continued. "The commission's report also was critical of personnel and how we use them. I am not neglecting that area either."

Farina said that he is attempting to get more productivity from existing personnel in both recreation and parks, and if he doesn't get it there will be some changes made, possibly some dismissals.

"Some of the changes can't be affected overnight," he asserted. "It is going to take some time, but it is going to be done and done in a reasonable amount of time."

The report was presented to the mayor and City Council more than a month ago. The council agreed to study the report and make a formal reply to the commission. As yet, no formal reply has been made.

Hoboken gets ready to turn right on red

What happened to the Hoboken city government's prohibition of right turns on red lights at about 40 intersections many weeks ago?

Mayor Steve Cappiello explained today that the decree has not yet been enforced because the signs notifying motorists were not ready. The city makes its own signs, and Cappiello said the city's sign-making machine had only recently been put in shape.

Thomas Vecchione, superintendent of the signal division, said, however, that his department had run out of money, and the supply was only replenished at a meeting of the council Wednesday.

He said he has already ordered blank aluminum plates, which should arrive shortly, but the enamel-like material which he puts over the plates will not be delivered for a couple of weeks. And when it does, he said, he will get right at the project.

The signs will either be strapped on or bolted to the poles that hold up the traffic lights, Vecchione said.

Most of the intersections of Washington Street are affected.

Centralized phone system being installed

Hoboken municipal offices should convert to a new telephone system on the weekend of Jan. 21, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius said today.

The "Centrex" system is now being installed by the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. and will centralize the city switchboard, the board of education, the police and fire departments and the Community Development Agency into one unit.

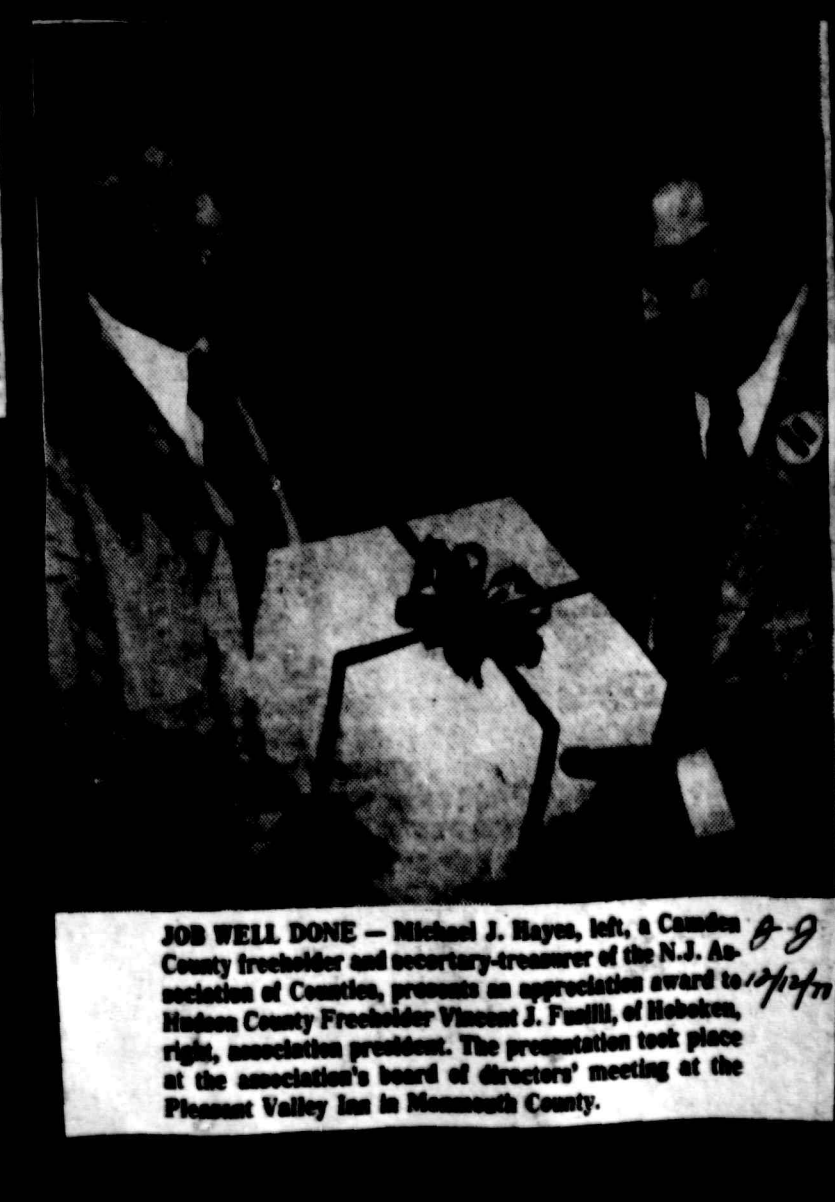
However, the rewiring needed for the conversion is playing some havoc with the existing telephone system. Incoming and outgoing calls are suddenly interrupted or disconnected and some telephones go completely dead.

Chius urged everyone to "be patient." Some degree of inconvenience is to be expected during the transition period. He said every effort was being made to keep it to a minimum.

McDonald's aiding St. Mary fund

McDonald's Restaurant in Hoboken will help the St. Mary Hospital Building Fund with special sales and a night of athletic activities at the Wallace School gym next Wednesday beginning at 7 p.m.

The restaurant will give the hospital \$5 for each \$100 of gift certificates it sells by Christmas Day, give the fund the entire proceeds of the balloons it sells and the proceeds from ticket and refreshment sales for the charity game between McDonald's men's basketball team and Mike's Athletic Club. A girls' volleyball team match of McDonald's employees will follow the basketball game.



JOB WELL DONE — Michael J. Hayes, left, a Camden County treasurer and secretary-treasurer of the N.J. Association of Counties, presents an appreciation award to Hoboken County Freeholder Vincent J. Fanelli, of Hoboken, right, association president. The presentation took place at the association's board of directors' meeting at the Pleasant Valley Inn in Monmouth County.

Ex-cop has a museum in his yard

By William H. Taft

How would you like to have a traffic light in your backyard? And a parking meter, a hydrant, a police call box and a fire alarm box?

In the yard of retired Hoboken Patrolman Paul C. Kostka all these things are there. And not as junk lying around. All are immaculately painted or polished. Kostka's paved backyard is a veritable museum of items he dealt with until he retired at the age of 51 two years ago last May.

Among other memorabilia are a street sign atop a post, one-way and stop signs, a gas-burning street light which burns.

The item Kostka cherishes most is the tomb of the ashes of his Great Dane, Leo, who died a year ago last April at the age of 12. The monument is flanked by cast figures of two dogs resembling Great Danes, and a pair of lions (for "Leo"). An ever-burning light glows above the receptacle which houses the urn containing faithful Leo's cremated remains.

The four-way traffic signal gives a green light continually in two directions, red in the others. Until recently it was operational and Kostka had it working during daylight hours, but now the motor is shot and the needed replacement part for this antique model cannot be obtained.

This traffic light guarded 4th and Hudson streets for many years. When a 28-story building went up on the corner, it had to be replaced — by a modern-type signal system suspended over the middle of the intersection.

The parking meter works. The police telegraph box (as the call box is identified on its metal cover) dates back to the 1890s or 1880s when the roundman kept touch with his headquarters by telegraph. It was later converted to a telephone, and it went out altogether when the police force introduced two-way walkie-talkie radio for foot patrolmen about eight years ago.

The call box has a nostalgic association for Kostka. It was situated at 3rd and River streets, which was on his beat. Kostka says there is only one other Hoboken call box in existence — the others were scrapped.

Actually, he says, all the memorabilia in the yard was discarded by the city.

The street name sign (11th and Garden streets) in the yard is unusual in that it is posted just above a bird house. Another post is surmounted by two merry-go-round horses.

The contents of Kostka's house are as interesting as his yard. It is an attached brick structure only 13 feet wide but it is 40 feet long and has four stories on top of a full basement.

Since buying it in 1953 and moving in with his wife, Mary, Kostka has redesigned and transformed the entire interior. It is loaded with antiques, collectors' items. One room is the "game room," meaning big game, with stuffed animals and mounted heads.

Another is crammed with Chinese figures, Chinese and Japanese tea sets, Czechoslovakian hand-painted dishes.

A magnificent heraldic shield five feet long and as wide dominates the living room, with "House of Kostka" emblazoned on it. Other such shields are seen on walls throughout the house; and the "K" crest, in brass, copper and on other material, is seen everywhere. "Indicator" lights abound.

Driving down Garden Street, one cannot miss the Kostka house. Figures of two coachmen in red and green guard the stoop. Miniature hitching posts are at the foot of the steps. Elaborate name-and-address plates in red surmount a rural-type mailbox at the sidewalk.

Every room has been done over but one, and now Mrs. Mary Kostka, nee Taraboch (that's Croatian) is about to come into her own. That room is the kitchen. Not that there is anything much wrong with it, but it does not have the "K" flourish, and so that too will now be taken care of.



Paul Kostka checks state of the equipment in his yard.

Threats flow with sewage in Hoboken

A Hoboken neighborhood group is threatening to call in the state Health Department unless the city does something to eliminate the flow of raw sewage into the basement of 208 Second St., a problem that has been occurring for more than six years.

Tomas Ayende, the community organizer for the First Ward Block Association, said today efforts to get the city to work on the sewer line on Second Street between Garden Street and Park Avenue have gotten little results but lots of promises.

"The block association has written to the state once before but was referred to local city agencies," he said. "We contacted those agencies but still have not gotten any satisfaction and the health problem remains unresolved."

According to Ayende, something is wrong with the sewer pipe running between Garden Street and Park Avenue, not with the house connection

to the line from 208 Second St. He said that the owner of 208 Second St. had the same problem and after fighting with the city for several years for relief finally had a new line installed from his home to the city's large sewer line on Park Avenue. That ended his problem.

"There wasn't anything wrong with his old line," Ayende continued. "It was in the city's line but he got tired of fighting and paid to have the job done. And he's still having some problems because sewage is seeping through the wall from 208 into his basement."

According to Thomas Newman, president of the block association, whenever it complains to the city about the problem the plumbing inspector is sent down and orders the owner of 208 to pump out his basement. He said the raw sewage is pumped directly into the street. And during the winter months it frequently freezes causing a health problem for the entire neighborhood.

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said the city wants to install a manhole so it has access to the line midway between Garden Street and Park Avenue and can clean it out.

"We think that the problem is being caused by an accumulation of waste over the years," he continued. "There isn't any access to the line so it can't be cleaned. A manhole would solve that problem but it is a major job and one that the department hasn't been able to get to because of other emergencies."

Amato said that he has talked with block association officials and promised them that the city would do the job. "I just can't promise when it will be done, but it will be done," he added.

Newman said the association appreciated Amato's willingness to accept responsibility for the job, but that wasn't getting it fixed and it might have to go to the state again to force the city to take action.

"That's really the only avenue available to us," he said. "We can't make the city repair the line, but the state can."

The block association doesn't think the manhole is going to eliminate the problem, Newman added. He said that its "experts" believed that the line on Second Street wasn't properly connected to the other sewer lines running along Park Avenue and Garden Street.

Amato said the association could be right but he was going on the advice of the city's plumbing inspector who recommended the manhole and a thorough cleaning.

Hoboken bluecoats get double clothing stipend

Hoboken's police and firemen are getting a second \$300 clothing allowance for 1977.

It was added after city officials realized that a provision in the 1977 police and firemen's union contracts for \$300 in "expenses" was illegal. The City Council has now amended the union contracts so that instead of receiving \$300 for clothing and \$300 for "expenses," the uniformed men will receive \$600 for clothing.

The officials had discovered that in order for the police and firemen to be paid \$300 as expenses, they would have to turn in itemized claims which, as one official confidentially expressed it, "would be difficult to substantiate."

To get around this, the council held a special meeting at which the 1977 budget was amended by wiping out \$79,800 allotted for the "expense" item and adding it to the clothing allowance.

Last June the men were paid the \$300 clothing allowance provided in their contract and in the budget. Now they will get the other \$300.

Mayor Steve Cappiello explained today that "expenses" was meant to cover "maintenance of clothing and the cost of guns and bullets."

The upkeep of police and firemen's work clothes is considerable, the mayor said, because these men have to lay out money for "seasonal requirements." Patrol car officers, for example, wear leather jackets instead of regular uniform coats, for efficiency, he said.

Repairs of shoes and boots are included in the "maintenance" the city had in mind, Cappiello added.

Policemen have to pay for their guns out of their own pockets — they are not furnished by the city.

As for bullets, the mayor said, the city only supplies enough to each man for sufficient target practice to keep him "at the point of qualifying" but not additional bullets he needs if he wants extra target practice to make himself outstandingly proficient.

The union representatives who signed the original contract a year ago have not yet signed the amendment, but they have indicated they would be "happy to do so," a spokesman said.

The contract in which the "expense" money was inserted was negotiated for the city by Councilman Robert A. Ranieri.

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Hoboken withholds garbageman's pay

By Peter Malliam

Hoboken is holding up the \$40,000 November check for its garbage collector — The LaFera Contracting Co. of Newark — because several city councilmen feel the company isn't living up to its contract.

The company retaliated by threatening to cut out some of the services it said it was giving free of charge.

A spokesman for the company said there wasn't any immediate danger the company would stop collecting the city's garbage but it was a possibility if the matter isn't resolved quickly.

The council was evenly divided at yesterday's meeting on whether LaFera should get paid, with four members opposed — Councilmen Walter S. Cramer, Nunzio Maffetti, Salvatore Cemelli and Martin J. Brennan — and four in favor — Councilmen Anthony H. Romano, Louis Francione, Bernard Scrivani and Thomas Kennedy. The deciding vote belonged to Robert A. Ranieri, who is out of state.

Kennedy later changed his vote to a "no," making the margin 5-4-3 against payment.

Cramer was the first to bring up the question of contract obligations when the resolution for payment came before the council. Cramer, who had complained in the past about the company not emptying out litter baskets although required to by the contract, said it still wasn't.

"I met with company officials and the public works director (Andrew J. Amato) on this, and the company representative insisted that the rubbish pick-ups were being made," Cramer said to the other councilmen. "But that apparently isn't true. Public Works is still cleaning out the litter baskets. In view of this, I can't vote to pay the November payment."

The council instructed City Clerk Anthony J. Amoroso to send a letter to LaFera advising it that the November payment has been held up and asking the company to have a representative meet with it to discuss the problem.

Joseph LaFera Jr., the owner of the company, was not available for comment. A spokesman said he was out of town and wasn't expected back until sometime next week. However, he added that he didn't expect LaFera would be pleased by the city's actions and the method in which it was done.

"We haven't had any complaints from the city since the meeting with Public Works and several councilmen," he continued. "Aside from that, if the city wasn't happy with the trash pick-ups it should have held back a portion of the payment, not the whole thing."

"The litter basket collections reflect only a small portion of the company's duties in Hoboken. Only a portion of the check should have been held while we ironed it out. Holding back the entire payment for November is out of order."

According to the spokesman, there probably will be some "major" renegotiations between the company and the city on the garbage contract. He said the company is performing some duties for the city free of charge that aren't included in the contract — and that may change now because of the city's attitude.

Hoboken ABC delays decision on bar license

The Hoboken Alcoholic Beverage Control board has reserve decision on whether to continue the license of a tavern at 88 Garden St. following a hearing on complaints about its operation.

The licensees, listed on a state ABC complaint form as Edna Walker and Judith Rivera, trading as the MIMI Corp., are charged with:

• Violating provisions of their license by hiring outside help, including a manager and two barmaids, to run the tavern.

• Disturbing the peace by permitting music to be played loudly on various dates from Aug. 8 to Nov. 13.

Since the time the license was issued by the local board, however, the corporate officers have changed and now only Edna Walker Hughes is the apparent licensee.

Several Hoboken policemen testified they never found the licensee in the tavern during inspections of the premises. They said they saw only Julio Alequin Rivera, who told them he was serving as bartender and manager.

Norman J. Sweeten, serving as the state's attorney, claimed Rivera's employment was contrary to the terms under which the tavern's license was granted. Only the licensees, he said, were to have the responsibility of managing the bar.

Mrs. Hughes, represented by Jersey City attorney John W. Yengo, testified she had never designated Rivera as her "manager." She said she was in the tavern during some of the occasions police visited but she said they never asked to speak to her.

Various neighbors of the tavern, including Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Soto, Marco DeMichele and Juan Velaz, told the board, headed by Al Pierro, they couldn't sleep at night because of the noise from live bands playing Latin music.

Members of the First Ward Block Association have spearheaded the complaints directed against the tavern.

Mrs. Hughes said she has no live entertainment now, just a juke-box.

Amato warns 3 firms to pay for ships' water

Letters are being sent to three companies directly or indirectly involved in the unauthorized use of city water at the defunct Todd Shipyard site asking that they meet Wednesday with Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato and the City Council Water Committee to work out a formal contract for continued use and a payment plan for water already taken.

Amato said the companies had better satisfy the city or he will try to bring criminal charges against them for stealing water.

He said he was not receiving cooperation from other City Hall agencies involved.

"I'm asking all of the parties to come in so we can get to the bottom of the matter and determine who is responsible for paying for the water that has been used, and who should be a party to the contract with the city for continued use," he said.

The director said he asked one of the firms because it owns the ships that were taking on the water. A second firm's representatives are being asked to come because the company apparently owns a portion of the pier the ships had been docked at prior to moving to one that is owned by Hoboken, and may have been supplying the ships with Hoboken water without paying. The third company is being invited because it had employees at the scene the day Amato found a heavy hose connecting one of the ships with a city fire hydrant.

According to Amato, he has been able to establish that city water has been taken without permission or payment in the past. However, he doesn't know how many times it had happened or how much water was taken.

"The water department tells me that we can document the fact that the ships were hooked up to hydrants on several occasions and were ordered to stop and disconnect," he said. "But we don't have any idea of how much water was taken on any of those occasions."

Some city officials are throwing around figures but they are no more than guesses.

"They're basing their figures on assumptions and those assumptions could be just as wrong as right. The point is we can't prove them if we have to go into a civil court to seek payment. I'd prefer to take another approach, a criminal one. The city was robbed of water. To me that's the same as stealing a city truck or other equipment."

"If we can't negotiate a settlement that is satisfactory to everyone who is involved then I think we should pursue this as a criminal matter."

Compacting deal may aid rubbish pickup

Hoboken will attempt to improve its rubbish collections this week by eliminating the trips its trucks must make to the dump in North Arlington in favor of a temporary agreement with a local compacting company, Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius said today.

Chius said that the city should have an agreement worked out with Haulaway Inc., before the end of the week and start dumping the rubbish into its compactor by Friday.

"We have two trucks working on rubbish and they must make several trips each day to the dump," said Chius. "Those trips take time which could be spent on our street picking up more rubbish. Each takes the better part of an hour to make the trip."

"By eliminating the trips we give the trucks several more hours on the streets and hopefully will have a cleaner city. That is especially important this month when we seem to have

more rubbish because of the Christmas season with leftover boxes and cartons and gift wrappings."

Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said he was going along with the "experiment" but would reserve his opinion until he has a chance to study the cost of the operation.

"We'll be paying something like \$2 a cubic yard," he continued. "Our trucks carry about five cubic yards. So that's \$10 every time we dump a load. In the long run, it might be cheaper to keep going to the dump, especially once we have some new vehicles and are able to put more equipment and crews on the streets."

Meanwhile, Amato said the threat by the LaFera Contracting Co. of Newark to halt the city's regular garbage pick-ups because the council held up the company's \$40,000 check for November appears to be over. Amato met with several councilmen Friday night and they agreed to make the payment.

But making the payment this week will require a special council meeting and as yet no such meeting has been called. Only the mayor and the city council president have the right to call a special meeting. According to the city clerk's office, it has no communication from either the mayor or Council President Martin J. Brennan calling the meeting.

And there must be 48 hours advance notice of any such meeting under the state's Sunshine Law. That means if payment is to be approved this week the notice must be in the city clerk's hands no later than tomorrow.

The payment to LaFera was held up because the council felt the company wasn't living up to its contract. Some councilmen contend that the company is supposed to empty out the corner litter baskets but hasn't been doing it. The company says it does but it may not be as evident to the city

now because it does it only every other day.

A company spokesman pointed out that under the current contract with Hoboken it makes pickups only three days a week. Under the previous contract it had been making pickups six days a week.

Amato said that the company has advised him that if it isn't paid this week it will stop collections and institute legal action against the city.

Hoboken to hold tax line again in 1978

Hoboken officials are predicting only a minor change in the city's tax rate for 1978, based on the preliminary budgets that have been submitted to Mayor Steve Cappiello by his department directors. And if their predictions come true it will mean that the mayor's administration has been able to hold the spending line for five consecutive years.

The job of putting the preliminary requests from the departments into a final form that can be submitted by the mayor to the city council during the early part of next year has fallen to Business Administrator Edwin Chius. He thinks the city is in good shape.

"Using the preliminary requests, the budget for 1978 would be in the vicinity of \$15 million," said Chius. "The actual budget for 1977 was \$13,855,000 — about \$1.2 million less."

"That isn't bad at all. Usually the preliminary budgets come in high and a lot has to be trimmed from them. This year they are within reason. They show that the directors have done their homework and are asking for what they feel they really need and must have for the next year to continue services at the current level."

According to Chius, there undoubtedly will be some cuts made by himself and the mayor, but there probably won't be that many.

"I won't be surprised if we strike a tax rate that is very close to the 1977 rate," he continued. "Of course, that figure is based on three factors — the city's needs, the school district's needs and the county's needs. We have control over the city's needs but none or very little over the portion of the tax dollars from our property owners that must go to support the county and schools."

The largest increase in any department is in the sewerage utility. Salaries would go from a total of \$142,000 to \$161,000. But funds for other expenses would jump from about \$250,000 this year to a little over \$2 million next year.

Chius said the sewage treatment budget isn't reflected in the city budget because it is supposed to be self-sustaining. The monies paid by property owners in sewerage charges are supposed to cover the cost of operating the plant. Next year it may not.

"The repairs and rehabilitation of the plant are mandatory on the orders of state and federal anti-pollution agencies," Chius continued. "We must upgrade the treatment facilities and that means new equipment and repairs."

The water utility budget for 1978 came in at approximately \$2,225,000. That's about 20 percent higher than this year's but reflects an anticipated raise in the rate charged for water brought from Jersey City.

However, Chius said that city water rates probably won't have to be increased to offset the increased costs to the city. He said that repairs to the city's system made over the last three years should reduce the amount of water used by Hoboken and thus reduce the overall operating costs of the local system.

The Public Safety budget for the police and fire departments is now estimated at \$4.6 million as compared to \$4.3 million for this year. Most of this is reflected in salary increases to which the city is already committed by contract with the two uniformed services.

The Public Works budget shows only a \$300,000 increase over all from 1977 to 1978. The proposed budget is \$2.2 million, of which \$200,000 would go for salaries and \$1.4 million on supplies, equipment and other expenses.

The Revenue and Finance budget shows only a \$5,000 increase from this year to next year, listing \$304,000 for salaries and \$50,000 for other expenses.

Health and Welfare's preliminary budget for next year shows it is \$200,000 higher than this year's. But it includes \$500,000 more in welfare costs which weren't anticipated this year but did materialize.

The Law Department, the smallest budget of all city departments, shows a proposed increase of \$20,000 — \$131,000 for this year to \$151,000 for next year — but most of the increase will be used for codification of all city ordinances.

Chius said the city must review all of its ordinances and eliminate all of the old outdated ones. He said an outside consultant or company was usually hired to perform the work.

The last modernization of the city's ordinances was conducted more than 10 years ago and it was not a complete updating, Chius said.



RESTAURANT GRAND OPENING — East Rutherford Mayor James Piosia, center, snips a ribbon marking the opening of the Bottom of the Barrel Restaurant at 118 East Belling Springs Rd., East Rutherford. On hand for the festivities were, from left, Union City Commissioner Robert C. Botti, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, Patty Musella, owner, and Matty Rega, manager.



HONORING FUSILLI — Honoring Hudson County Freeholder Vincent J. Fusilli, left, are Bridget Mastromarino, center, president of the Hudson County Mental Health Association, and Santa De Gross, director of volunteer services at Academy House. The Mental Health Association is honoring Fusilli for his efforts on behalf of the mentally ill while serving as president of the New Jersey Association of Counties.

Plano donation holds key to arts council fete

The Hoboken Cultural Arts Council will have plenty of music when it holds its first fund-raiser Friday night at the Public Library, Fifth Street and Park Avenue.

And the credit for it goes to Mrs. Fred Gauss of Secaucus, who is donating an old but well-preserved piano to the council. Mrs. Gauss learned of the council's need for the musical instrument through a story last week in The Jersey Journal. She contacted Mrs. Pam Brennan, the guiding force behind the council, and arrangements were made to have the piano picked up and delivered to the library in time for Friday's event.

"Mayor (Steve) Cappiello and Public Works Director (Andrew J.) Amato are going to have a public works truck pick up the piano and deliver it to the library for us," she said. "The council thanks them and especially Mrs. Gauss for their consideration."

The council has lined up a three-

hour event which will start at 8 p.m. Included will be a dance recital by Tracy Everitt and members of his school of dance, a selection of holiday songs performed by the Hoboken Renaissance Singers and exhibitions by eight local artists of their creations and of turn-of-the-century dolls, model trains and ships borrowed from the Newark Museum.

Admission is \$2 payable at the door. Champagne will be served during the evening to the guests.

"We are hoping for a large turnout," said Mrs. Brennan. "This is our first formal event and we need the support if the council is to become an active part of life in Hoboken."

Unlike the Hoboken Recreation Commission, which was created by a city ordinance this past summer, the Cultural Arts Council does not yet have an official status with the city. However, Cappiello has pledged his support and a good showing could prompt the creation of the council by city ordinance, Mrs. Brennan said.

Ice skating rink site is changed again

Hoboken's kids will have a place to ice skate this winter but the site for it has been changed again, according to Director James J. Farina.

The school yard at the Wallace School, 11th Street and Willow Avenue, had been tentatively set as the place the rink would be set up. But that has been changed, said Farina. The new location will be one of the basketball courts at Church Square Park, Fourth and Garden streets.

Originally the city had planned to establish the skating rink at the basketball courts next to the Hoboken High School field at John F. Kennedy Veterans Memorial Stadium. But that was scrapped in favor of the Wallace School.

Today, Farina said that the Wallace School courtyard was not as advantageous as he first thought.

"It's a little too big for what we want to do," he explained. "In addition, there are too many children around the area during school hours and someone might get hurt on the ice. And if the yard is flooded for skating, it will eliminate its use for school and play purposes."

Farina said that there are three basketball courts at Church Square Park and one of them will be used for the rink. The court will be lined with heavy plastic and then boxed in with railroad ties to hold the water until it freezes. He added that the area was smaller than the schoolyard and would be easier for the city to maintain.

Adequate training promised for Hoboken's new cops

Fears that the 10 or so new cops Hoboken will soon be adding to the police force will be put on patrol without adequate training were laid to rest today by Mayor Steve Cappiello, the city's public safety director, and Chief George W. Crimmins.

"Every precaution is being taken to make sure that none of the new men will come in contact with the public in any way until they have undergone at least local training and are qualified to use their weapons," said the mayor in response to questions

raised by some residents whether untrained men will be put to work.

"Every new man is required to attend the State Police Academy at Sea Girt and pass the course there before he can become a permanent member of the department. However, the city has no control over when the men are accepted for the training course, but it must be done within a year of starting the job."

The mayor said that the city sends the names of the new men to the state police and they notify the city

when each will start his training classes.

"In addition, we are also requiring all potential appointees to undergo a battery of psychological tests at Stevens Institute of Technology to make sure that they are mentally prepared to handle the pressures of the job," continued Cappiello. "Men who fail to measure up will not be appointed."

The mayor said that the city already received a list of men eligible

for appointment from Civil Service and is notifying the top men on it that they are being considered for appointment. If selected, they will be put on the Tactical Patrol Force (TPF), a unit created through the city's participation in the state's Safe and Clean Neighborhoods Program. An equal number of men will be taken out of the TPF and assigned to regular police duties. Under the Safe and Clean Streets program the city pays half of the salaries and the state the other half.

According to Chief Crimmins, the new men will be placed under the supervision of Lt. Paul Tewes and Sgt. James Tummaro, the department's training officers, until they feel they are ready for contact with the public.

"Both men are certified instructors," said Crimmins. "The training they are capable of providing is not a substitute for the training course required by the State Police, but it will

be more than adequate until the men are accepted for the state course."

The chief added that, should any of the men fail to measure up to the standards set by Lt. Tewes and Sgt. Tummaro or fail the State Police course, they would be dropped from the force.

"They are only temporary or probationary officers until they complete that course," he explained. "Failure to pass it leaves the city no choice but to dismiss them."

Compacting costs too high for Amato

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato said today he will recommend to Mayor Steve Cappiello and Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius that the city discontinue the use of a rubbish compacting service which started Monday.

"Based on the bills for the first few days it could cost the city between \$70,000 and \$80,000 a year," said the director. "Since this was only an experiment there is no danger we'll spend that kind of money, but I recommend that we don't go any further."

Amato said the city's trucks have been averaging about 11 loads of rubbish a day which have been dumped at

the compactor site in the northwest section of the city.

"The idea of using the compacting service was to eliminate the trips our trucks had been making to the dumps in North Arlington to get rid of the rubbish. Fewer trips would mean more time on the streets and more work done."

"There was a slight increase in the number of loads handled but the difference can't be justified by the money we're spending. We dump free under the contract with our garbage collector."

Amato said the city would be better off building its own compactor. He estimated that it would cost between \$10,000 and \$20,000 based on some estimates he had obtained earlier this year.

"But if we have enough trucks in service next year we might not need a compactor service," he continues. "Still, such a service operated by the city would increase the city's overall efficiency."

Amato said he would present his observations on the service to the mayor and Chius for their consideration.

Suspensions cut in half for Hoboken sewer crew

Five employees of the Hoboken Public Works Department have had their suspensions cut in half—from three days without pay to a day and a half—and the money won't be taken out until after the Christmas holidays, the department director, Andrew J. Amato, said today.

The men, who were suspended by Amato at noon Thursday for three days, will return to work Monday morning. They were supposed to have been working on a broken sewer line on Jackson Street, between Newark and First streets, but could not be found when the director checked the work site.

The suspended men are foreman Robert Ghode, John Colegrove, Francis Belfiore Jr., Marcelino Morales and David Thorpe, Amato said.

"I have heard their explanations

and I didn't find they justified what happened," the director asserted. "My instructions were not followed by the men or their foreman. However, in view of the season, I don't want to be overly harsh so I have decided on suspensions of a day and a half without pay. The money will be deducted from their pay checks after Christmas."

Amato said that starting Jan. 2 he would be taking a much tougher stance with employees who don't "pull their fair share of the work load."

"The people who don't produce will have to go," he declared. "I can't afford to have dead wood in the department, there's too much work that has to be done and not enough people as it is. Everyone is going to get his part—or they're going to find themselves off the city payroll and looking for work elsewhere."

School board delays filing vote petitions

A petition requiring the Hoboken Board of Education to hold a special election to determine whether the public wants to continue the elected type of board or return to an appointed one was not filed as expected yesterday.

Edwin J. Chius, city business administrator and one of those directing the petition campaign, had said that the petition would be presented to the board secretary, Thomas A. Gallo, yesterday.

Chius was not available to tell what delayed the filing. However, a spokesman for the director said that while the group had more than the required 1,250 signatures, there were still some sheets outstanding. They will be collected over the weekend, added to those already turned in, and submitted probably during the early part of the week.

Meanwhile, Louis Picardo of 619 Willow Ave., has become the first potential candidate for the school board election scheduled for Feb. 14. Picardo, an employee of the city's Revenue and Finance Department, picked up nominating petition forms yesterday.

Potential candidates have until Jan. 5 to file nominating petitions.

Even if the move to go back to the appointed school board wins in the election, the first three appointments won't be made until 1978. So the 1978 school board election scheduled for Feb. 14 will not be affected by the outcome of the special election.



TOYS AND THINGS — Pam Brennan of the Hoboken Cultural Arts Council prepares an exhibit to be shown at the Hoboken Public Library tomorrow night starting at 8.



Robert Faro, music teacher at Hoboken High School, congratulates Michele Lanzo, the first Hoboken student in 29 years to be chosen for the North Jersey Area Band. At right is Principal Walter Fine.

Clarinetist breaks the ice for Hoboken on area band

Michele Lanzo, an 11th grade student at Hoboken High School, today became the first Hoboken student in more than 20 years to win a place in the North Jersey Area Band.

The young clarinetist recently competed with students from 32 other high schools in North Jersey through a series of auditions. The winners from each school become members of the North Jersey Area Band which will present a symphonic concert Jan.

15 at Morris Hills Regional High School.

Robert Faro, music director at Hoboken High School, said several local students entered the audition phase of the program and Michele was selected to become part of the clarinet section. He said Michele, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lanzo, will try out next month for the New Jersey All State Band, which is organized each year by the Music Educators of New Jersey.

Change the law

The Hoboken referendum on reverting to an appointed board of education will be scheduled as a special election, instead of simply putting it on the ballot at some regular election.

This is legal. The state election law provides that such a referendum must be voted on within 90 days from the filing of the petition for it.

A special election is going to cost at least \$10,000 and perhaps \$25,000 — judging by the cost of the last two school board elections — in a city that is hurting for money.

The referendum could have been held in connection with the regular school board election, which is scheduled for Feb. 14, or the primary in June or even the general election last month or next November, without going to the additional expense of a special election.

Anyone who wants to avoid a large turnout of voters at a referendum can maneuver to file the petition at a time which would require a special election. This would be strictly according to the law.

To avoid such maneuvers, and, perhaps, to insure a larger turnout at such a referendum, why not simply change the law so that this type of referendum can be put on the ballot at a regular election?

Hoboken finally to act on codes

After almost a year Hoboken is finally getting ready to act on an ordinance that will adopt the state's new Uniform Construction Code, set up a code enforcement agency, and adopt new permit fees.

The new state law was to have been adopted by all municipalities by last January. Hoboken was one of the few that didn't and was facing a possible state take-over of construction code enforcement and the collection of all permit fees.

The ordinance adopting the state's new code will be presented to the city council for its first reading at Wednesday night's meeting.

Two other ordinances are on the

city's agenda. One establishes a number of no parking areas around the city. The other makes some changes in parking meter time limits and locations.

Both had been on the agenda for the Dec. 7 meeting but were tabled when the council questioned several provisions in each. The no-parking area ordinance was tabled because it made the south side of Observer Highway a no-parking area from Hudson Street to the Jersey City line. Adopting that provision would have forced several trucking companies and freight forwarding companies who park their vehicles on that side of the street out of business.

AWOL sewer workers suspended in Hoboken

A five-man sewer repair gang has been suspended by Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew J. Amato for at least three days and may be facing possible dismissal pending the outcome of an investigation by the director.

The five men — four workmen and a foreman — were supposed to be working on the installation of a 16-foot section of new sewer line on Jackson Street, between Newark and First streets, yesterday morning. However, according to the director, they were not to be found when he went to the site shortly before noon.

"I gave specific instructions to the foreman and the crew to keep me posted on their progress," the director said. "They ignored my instructions and when I went to the scene to find out what was happening, I found no one there. They had left without permission."

Amato added that a large metal plate that was supposed to cover the excavation had not been properly replaced.

"For the time being the entire crew was suspended," he continued. "I am waiting for a formal explanation from the men as to why my instructions were ignored and why they left the site without permission or telling anyone."

"If I'm not satisfied with their explanations I just may have them formally charged and move to dismiss them from their jobs," he added. The director identified the men as Robert Ghode, foreman; John Colegrove, Francis Belfiore Jr., Marcelino Morales and David Thorpe. Meanwhile, work on the installation of the new sewer line section has been temporarily suspended until next week, Amato said.

Hoboken ups license fee despite barbers' protests

Hoboken barbers and hair stylists will be paying increases of from \$15 to \$30 for annual licenses beginning Jan. 1, despite their contention at a public hearing last night that business isn't what it used to be.

Six barbers, led by Biagio Leone, president of Hoboken Master Barbers Association, attended the Board of Health meeting at which a \$25 fee for barbers — up from \$10 — was approved. Hair stylists' fees will go up from \$10 to \$20.

Thomas Pescatore, board president, said license fees have not been increased in about 10 years and the city was just bringing the rates up to those of neighboring communities.

Leone said barbers protested fee increases last year and conditions haven't changed since then.

The new ordinance increases a wide range of permits and licenses for fruit and vegetable dealers, bakers, groceries and supermarkets, butchers, fish dealers and peddlers.