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*Dispatched 3/23/79*  
**Aw shucks ... whatta doll**  
Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello flashes a big smile after getting a kiss from Miss World-America Debra Freeze. Miss Freeze made a promotional stop in Hoboken before jetting off to Italy for a modeling assignment. The little doll in the center is Hoboken's 1978 beauty queen, Monica Germinario.

## Hoboken board wipes out \$650,000 school deficit

Transfers of numerous line items accounts involving several hundred thousand dollars approved last night by the Hoboken Board of Education should bring a projected budget deficit of nearly \$650,000 for 1978-79 down to "zero or close to it."

So asserted Richard England, chairman of the school board's finance committee, following favorable board action. Two trustees, Steven Block and Zelman Lugo, abstained. They said later they didn't have enough time to evaluate the proposal.

In other action, the board voted, with the same two members abstaining, to approve the action of the Board of School Estimate in setting the amount of \$3,927,413 as the local school tax levy for 1979-80.

It also hired Hector Morales as an assistant baseball coach at \$1,150 to replace James Molly, who didn't reapply for the post.

Thomas Vezette, a resident, wanted to ask questions about the proposed budget, but Robert Wendelken, board president, said, "The time to have discussed that was at the Board of School Estimate hearing (held last week)." No one from the public appeared to speak then.

Joseph Rafter, a parent, appealed to the trustees not to let the public's absence from last week's night hearing "affect the board's future policy" on possibly reverting to day budget meetings. "Help us bring people out next time, maybe by sending notices through the schools," he said.

And Dominick Pasculli urged the board to consider a public explanation of the budget at such a meeting in the future so the citizens can better understand how their money is spent. "I'm at a loss to evaluate our budget on the basis on what's printed in the paper," he said.

To that complaint, England replied: "The format of the budget is as archaic as some of the buildings in which we have to educate our children, but we're mandated by the state to do it that way."

According to England, the board is avoiding ending the school year in the red by applying \$75,000 of unspent "Thorough and Efficient Improvement Program" funds, \$173,529 of unexpended "Contracted Services" from the maintenance account funds, and \$397,785 of surplus in the insurance and judgment accounts.

These monies are being shifted into deficit accounts in the area of special education, bilingual education and various department salary line items that were apparently over-spent.

For example, principals' salaries, budgeted for \$505,046, shows a total of \$526,978 actually spent so far; salaries for administrative secretaries and clerks exceeded the original appropriation by some \$40,000; school doctors and nurses' salaries went over by more than \$30,000; salaries in the area of maintenance up by nearly \$68,000.

Next year's budget, if approved by the state, will show decreased spending in the area of capital improvements and maintenance and

England says that could mean no new windows for the Connors School, no new sidewalks for the Leinkauf School and no new doors for the high school.

Also forecast by England is a cut-back of more than \$50,000 in compensatory education funding which he says could force the board to lay off some of the personnel involved in that program.

Some good things, though, are provided in next year's budget, according to England. Among those are an appropriation for about \$38,000 to fund an expanded vocational education program and appropriations for a new principal likely to be named at the board's next regular meeting for assignment to the Calabro School and for a new vice principal.

The board, at its next meeting, may also award a school carrier contract for the transportation of handicapped children to special schools, said England, noting that there are funds set aside for the purpose in next year's budget.

Should the proposed budget get state approval England figures it would mean an increase in the local tax rate of about 37 cents so that local spending for school purposes would amount to around \$37 or \$38 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, he said.

## Hoboken nears boiling point as 'spaghetti' grows on high

By Ronald Leir

Spurred to action by 150 uptown petitioners, Hoboken's City Council last night directed the city Law Department to join with the state Public Advocate to stop utility companies from stringing overhead wires in spaghetti-like fashion through the city.

Fire Capt. Louis Muraco, who outlined residents' demands for removal of phone and electrical lines from the rear and front yards of homes, said the Fire Department couldn't raise aerial ladders to the upper floors of a burning tenement Tuesday night because the overhead wires were in the way.

Meanwhile, opposition has begun to build against the city's proposal to compel the owners of dwellings housing three or more families to install smoke detection alarms in the hallways of "every other floor."

They wouldn't mind putting in the devices if the city made available funds to purchase the units, which Raymond Falco, city fire marshal, figures will cost "less than \$500 for a five-family house."

The council will hold a public hearing at its April 4 meeting on an ordinance calling for installation of the alarms.

Continuing his plea for legal action on the "spaghetti" wires, Muraco said several firemen could have been trapped on the fourth floor of 325 Grand St. if they'd been unable to ventilate the roof in time because their comrades below couldn't move ladders into position along the front of the building with the wires dangling overhead.

"The phone company won't install my phone because I refused to allow them to run an overhead wire through my yard," said Muraco.

Gerald Fitzpatrick, chairman of the Hoboken Citizens Advisory Com-

mittee, told the council that the city was "invaded" over the weekend by phone company work crews who "strung a block at a time and left."

Fitzpatrick said the phone company's action was an "injustice to those property owners who've been renovating their homes and building up the city's image. The appearance of the uptown area especially has been set back 10 years because of the wiring."

Helen Manogue, head of the Hoboken Environmental Committee, urged the council to consider introducing an ordinance that would prohibit utility firms from putting up the spaghetti wiring unless they got prior approval from the city to do so.

Second Ward Councilman Walter Cramer, who called the overhead wiring a "menace to our firefighters," said the city Law Department should act with state Public Advocate Stanley Van Ness to "force the phone

company to show cause why these wires shouldn't be removed."

In the audience listening to the attack was Howard Winkler, a community relations officer for the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co., who, when asked for comment, said, "I'm here only as an observer."

During the discussion on smoke detectors, Robert King, a candidate for City Council, advised the governing body, "Let's not rush to judgment on forcing people to get unnecessary devices."

Following applause from the audience, Cramer commented caustically, "that's the best speech I've ever heard for slum landlords," and Falco followed that with the remark, "I'll clap for that because they're all here tonight."

Michael Spano, who said he owns 10 pieces of property in the city, also drew applause when he asserted, "It

seems unfair to rush legislation through when you don't provide a way to finance this. If I have to pick this money out of my pocket, I'd want to get it back quickly and that would mean I'd have to pass along the cost to my tenants."

In other developments, Councilman Robert A. Ranieri said Hoboken had paid perhaps as much as \$435,810 to Jersey City for 730 million gallons of water he claims never reached Hoboken consumers because of leakage from regulator control valves on the Jersey City line.

Ranieri said the estimates were based on measurements made by Andrew Amato, city public works director. He said the city Law Department should try to get Jersey City to give Hoboken "credit" for the amount Amato calculates Hoboken lost since Jersey City was put on notice last September to fix its defective valves.

The council authorized Mayor Steve Cappiello to sign an agreement with Bekay Urban Renewal Associates granting Bernard Kenny's firm a 20-year tax abatement on the

new Grogan Plaza commercial building, effective from the date of occupancy.

Martin J. Brennan, council president, disclosed that the city would rent one floor (at \$140,000 annually) if Kenny couldn't fill the space but that if Kenny couldn't at least break even on meeting his mortgage payments after five years, the city could pull out.

"We and the state HFA (Housing Finance Agency) made a joint agreement on the city's involvement to get the project going," according to Brennan.

Reacting to King's criticism of the city for "bailing out a private firm," Ranieri defended the abatement agreement — which allows the city to collect an annual 15 percent of gross revenues in lieu of taxes — as a "good investment that will provide some ratables and jobs."

Ranieri added, "The state of New Jersey agreed to pick up the mortgage payments, if necessary, only on the condition that Hoboken agreed to rent space if Kenny couldn't find someone to fill that floor."

## Fashion show to help cops get protective vests

A Hoboken merchant plans to put on a fashion show in June to raise money to help for bullet-proof vests for Hoboken policemen.

Actually, Eduardo Fernandez isn't a Hoboken merchant yet, although he will become the owner of Hollywood Coiffures on Washington Street in the next few weeks.

Fernandez said he got the idea for the event after reading last week about Ronald Tedford, the Connell policeman whose life was saved by a bullet-proof vest bought for him as a Christmas present by his wife.

He said he thought the show would be a good way to get known in town and would also benefit a good cause. The show would feature his hair and dress styles, and the money from the tickets would go into a fund to buy the vests for the city's policemen.

Patrolman Thomas Meehan, head of the Hoboken local of the PBA, said the union would support Fernandez's idea, and he said he would talk to Mayor Steve Cappiello to see if Hoboken High School or the city's Multi-Service Center could be gotten for the show.

Meehan said the city currently has 140 policemen. At a minimum of \$100 a vest, at least \$14,000 would be needed to supply them all.

He said the PBA might start the fund with a donation of \$500 or so, if the membership agrees. Proceeds of an annual police department-fire department basketball game might also go into the fund, he said.

## Ranieri 'impelled' to rap price spin

It's a "comedy of errors" to Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri — the price of two particular pieces of equipment for the city's Fifth Street pumping station fluctuated by about 250 percent over two years.

Ranieri said today that the Worthington Pump Corp.'s price on two impellers, which are parts of the pumps that lift sewage up at the station, ranged from an original quote of \$7,800 for the pair to a low of \$2,330.

The council at its last meeting resolved the two-year-old debt by voting to pay the company \$3,006 for the two. Councilman Anthony Romano questioned whether the city hadn't paid the bill before, and Ranieri's water and sewer utilities committee investigated the incident because of the wide disparity in prices.

Roy Haack, superintendent of the city's sewage treatment plant, said he called Worthington at its Harrison headquarters in the early part of 1977 and got a quote of \$7,800 for the two. He had intended at the time for the city to take on the task of doing the mechanical part of the repair work. The repairs there are currently being done by two outside contractors.

But when Worthington came in with a bid for the impellers, its price was only \$5,880. The council awarded the contract to Worthington on June 29, 1977.

Around the end of the year, Haack said, he called Worthington again to get a price on a third impeller. The price he was quoted, for the same piece of equipment from the same company, was \$1,165, he said.

Haack pointed out the discrepancy in prices, and said the city wouldn't pay the \$5,880. The company then sent him a letter, saying it had made a mistake and agreeing to charge the city \$1,165 apiece for the first two impellers, or \$2,330.

Haack said he then received another letter, saying that that price

was also wrong, and that the lowest the company could charge for the two impellers, without even making a profit, was \$3,006, the price the council eventually authorized.

The city will receive a \$2,814 letter of credit from Worthington, Haack said.

## Fee for detector permit at \$5

The fee for permits to install smoke detectors in houses has been lowered to \$5 for each detector in the latest version of Hoboken's proposed smoke detector ordinance, which the City Council will discuss at its caucus Monday night.

The latest draft of the ordinance, drawn up by Assistant City attorney Thomas Calligy on the recommendation of the council committee appointed to resolve the council's Mexican standoff on the idea, eliminates one and two-family homes, Calligy says.

The permit fee had been specified at \$10 for the first three devices installed, and \$5 for each additional device in the last draft of the ordinance. Originally, the permit fee had been envisioned as a flat \$40 fee for everyone.

The ordinance is not currently listed on the agenda for Wednesday's council meeting, but it could be added to it for possible council action Wednesday, Calligy said.

The committee, consisting of Councilmen Robert Ranieri, Thomas Kennedy and Bernard Scrivani, was appointed to resolve a council deadlock on whether three and four-family houses should be required to install the detection system.

The latest draft includes

## Stop those muggings, Cappiello tells cops

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, reacting to a letter campaign protesting an epidemic of muggings, has called on the city's police department to counterattack.

Cappiello met yesterday with Chief George W. Crimmins Sr. and Public Safety Director James Giordano. "We're going to make some moves which we will not make public," the mayor said. Doing so would be "like telling the criminals what we're going to do."

Cappiello said he'd received form letters signed by some 100 people, mostly elderly and residing in city housing projects on the west side of the city.

Crimmins reported that there

have been seven muggings or purse-snatchings reported in the city in the last month, all involving women. Most of the incidents occurred in the western part of the city, he said.

In the latest mugging, which happened Saturday, Annette Walsh, 63, had her pocketbook stolen by a man at 6:30 p.m. while she was in front of 907 Seventh St.

The man knocked her to the ground, causing contusions of the face, an abrasion to her nose and a loose tooth. She was treated for the injuries at St. Mary Hospital.

Hoboken's public works director, Andrew Amato, said yesterday he was the one who ordered truckloads of dirt dumped on a lot just north of 14th and Washington streets because he wanted to fill in a large hole he felt was a danger to children playing there.

But a few concrete litter

containers on the property were put there before he took over the public works department, Amato said.

Councilman Walter Cramer said he was looking into a dumping problem at the site and felt Public Works crews must have been responsible for leaving the heavy, city-owned concrete con-

tainers there.

Amato explained that about a year ago he noticed that a huge hole had developed at the site. A large railroad scale, used many years ago, had apparently collapsed, he said, and an open pit began to fill with water. He felt it presented a dangerous situation.

The scale was once owned by the Hoboken Shore Railroad, he said, but he couldn't contact the line. As an emergency measure he ordered the hole, about 12 feet deep, 10 feet wide and 40 feet long, filled in with earth.

"If I didn't do that it would

be a daily hazard to children playing in the area," he said. He conceded that some rubbish is now being tossed there.

As for the concrete containers, Amato said the city is encountering problems with them because residents began using them for getting rid of household garbage. The result

was that the small can

overflowed and littered the city streets, he said.

The containers on the lot

there before he took office, he pointed out, because the containers he ordered off the streets were taken to the city garage.

## Environment unit reelects Mrs. Manogue

Mrs. Helen Manogue has been elected to another term as chairwoman of the Hoboken Environmental Committee in balloting last night at Assumption Hall at St. Mary Hospital.

Also elected were John Sullivan as vice chairman, Michael Flanagan, treasurer; Rudolph Knother, recording secretary, and Mayr Perry, corresponding secretary.

Six other persons were elected to an executive council. They are Alice Genese, Morgan Cline, Maureen Singleton, Claire Walter, Betty Fitzsimons and Ruth Rejzla.

In other action at the meeting, the group decided it would hold a candidate's night sometime in April in order to hear from candidates for the six ward council seats.

The committee also decided it would make an annual award for the best rehabilitation project in Hoboken. Members were asked to nominate buildings they thought had been well done. Mrs. Manogue said, and more than one award might be given in any one year. Professionals would choose which of the nominations were worthy of awards, and the prizes would be given at the June meeting of the committee.

With Stevens Institute of Technology, the committee will co-host the annual meeting of the New Jersey Society of Architectural Historians May 6.

Between 60 and 100 members of the society will attend the meeting and tour Hoboken. Three private homes and Trinity Church will be open during the tour, Mrs. Manogue said.

She said the committee would run a historic tour for the Stevens Institute of Technology Alumni Association on June 2.

After the meeting, some of the members of the group visited the just reopened ground floor bar at the Hotel Madison on Washington and 14th streets. Owner Charles Roberts, a Hoboken fireman and a member of the Hudson County Vocational-Technical School Board, has begun renovations on the building, which had been closed for two years.

## Hoboken cop 3rd challenger for Gallo's seat

A Hoboken policeman has joined the list of people challenging incumbent 33rd District Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo.

Patrolman Eugene Drayton, a seven-year veteran of the force, said he filed his petitions yesterday in Trenton to run as an independent in the November election.

Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri and Virginia Zanetich, an active Hoboken clubwoman, have also announced they are running to unseat Gallo in the November election.

Drayton, who is assigned to the tactical patrol, said he had no argument with Christopher J. Jackson, the other 33rd district Assemblyman running again. He criticized Gallo's performance and said he could do a better job.

The patrolman said he would issue a campaign platform in the next few days.

Gallo's Hoboken challengers will all be running as independents in the November election, except for Gallo and Jackson, the Democratic Party choices.

## DPW did that dumping for safety, Amato says

Hoboken's public works director, Andrew Amato, said yesterday he was the one who ordered truckloads of dirt dumped on a lot just north of 14th and Washington streets because he wanted to fill in a large hole he felt was a danger to children playing there.

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## The housing mess

# The future is now



This block, along Clinton Street in Hoboken across from Columbus Park, was once a desolate, crime-ridden area, but a wholesale rehabilitation of these buildings and a nearby factory has turned it into one of Hoboken's cleanest, safest blocks.

By Patrick Ford  
(Last in a series)

Hoboken cops will tell you that five years ago it wasn't safe to walk in Columbus County Park by day or night.

"It was a wasteland," says one detective. "You had junkies and muggers all the time. A lot of them lived in the buildings across the street;

some came from other areas. It was a nasty neighborhood."

Today, Clinton Street along the block at Columbus Park is one of the cleanest and safest neighborhoods in the city.

"I wouldn't think twice about walking there anytime — day or night," the detective says. "We have very few problems in that neighborhood now."

The change came when Ap-

plied Housing Associates, which has rehabilitated more than 1,000 units of slum housing in Hoboken, did a complete rehabilitation on a row of tenements across from the park.

It also converted a near-deserted factory at 10th and Clinton streets — the north side of the park — into a spanking new apartment building.

Where there were junkies and muggers, now there are mothers and children.

"The reason that neighborhood has stayed nice is our tenant-selection policy," says Joseph Barry, a partner in Applied Housing.

"Our position is that we have a long-term interest in those buildings and we have the right to manage them."

"We make sure the family size fits the apartments, that the prospective tenant does not have destructive children, that the tenant has a history of paying rent and stability, and that there is not a prior conviction for dangerous offenses, such as drugs or assault and battery."

"We aren't looking to exclude poor people — most of our tenants are poor people," Barry says. "But every group has undersirables — when they are rich, they can afford to be off by themselves, but when they are poor they affect those around them because of overcrowding."

"Just because the people in our buildings are poor, doesn't mean they have to live with harmful, destructive people."

The firm also has 350 units in North Bergen, 150 in Bayonne and will soon have 250 in Jersey City in the Ninth Street Redevelopment Area.

The newly rehabilitated buildings on Van Wagenen Street in Jersey City are using similar tenant-selection policies. All indications are that these buildings will remain in good condition, according to city officials.

Even the most radical tenant advocates will agree that Applied Housing's buildings are top-quality for poor people. But, the advocates ask, what about the large families?

What about the people who are turned down by Applied Housing or other firms with strict tenant-selection practices? Are children from a large family not entitled to decent living conditions just because their

parents committed the "sin" of having too many children?

"Large families don't do well in large buildings," Barry says. "The answer for them is to have small buildings — where they are all large families but they are not all crowded into a limited space."

Jersey City has included 90 such townhouse units for large families in its plans for the massive \$30 million Montgomery Gateway project in the Downtown area.

There are proposals being worked out by Hispanics and a private developer in Hoboken for construction of such units.

Another possible answer for poor families — small and large — is being developed in Jersey City by the Downtown Urban Housing Corporation.

It's called "seat equity," because families invest their labor, or "sweat," instead of capital to become owners of rehabilitated tenements.

The DUHC is now seeking a state grant for \$70,000 and a low-interest federal loan to allow 20 families to do the unskilled labor in rehabilitating three tenements on Barrow Street that were donated by the city, and then hired skilled labor to do the plumbing, electrical work, carpentry and such.

The poor families would invest a minimum of 500 hours labor, then become cooperative owners of the property and pay off the federal loan as they would pay rent or mortgage.

"The cooperators would have a sense of responsibility for the property," says Robert Ricci, a member of the DUHC board of directors. "They would have a very real interest in taking care of the property — it would be theirs."

Jersey City Mayor Thomas F.X. Smith has already given his blessing to the project — that was needed because the city owns the three tenements being used for the pilot project.

Miguel Torres, president of DUHC, explains that the group would get the buildings on a one-year lease from the city.

"If the project fails, the city will get the buildings back with whatever cleaning has been done," he says. "If it is working, we would purchase the building one year from now and finish the job."

"This would be the only chance to own property for many poor people."

The Rev. Kevin Ashe of Jersey City is advocating formation of a housing resource center in that city that would educate both tenants and landlords on their rights and responsibilities.

The concept has been endorsed by the Mayor's Housing Policy Committee and the Mayor's Tenant-Landlord Relations Committee, on which Ashe serves.

"Many tenants, and a surprising number of landlords, are unaware of their rights and responsibilities, which causes unnecessary friction between them," Ashe explains.

The housing resource center could also compile information on problem areas in the city and send in

task forces to head off complete deterioration of such neighborhoods.

"Deteriorating property on an otherwise attractive block can be a cancer which, if unchecked, leads to neighborhood blight," states a report to Smith by the Housing policy Committee.

"When voluntary and cooperative efforts to stop such a cancer fail, we must rely on a strong enforcement program which will guarantee that minimum standards be met."

But there are no easy answers to the urban housing crisis. Jersey City is cluttered with blight. There are thousands of people living in object poverty, surviving from day to day in a world of fear, despair, frustration and anger.

Landlords, tenants and government officials alike speak of the dangers of another South Bronx.

Others say there has to be a better way.

One thing seems clear: The future is now.

## Farina seeking new occupancy law in Hoboken

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today he will ask the city's law department to come up with a certificate of occupancy ordinance that will not be struck down by the courts.

The Hoboken City Council had passed a certificate of occupancy ordinance in 1977, but it was challenged by a Hoboken landlord and overturned in Superior Court on the grounds that it was too vague.

The ordinance would have required landlords to obtain a certificate of occupancy before leasing an apartment to a new tenant. The apartment would have to conform to the zoning ordinance and city building and housing codes before it could be rented.

The ordinance provided, however, that there should be no

more than one inspection a year by the housing inspection bureau on any individual unit. It exempted owner-occupied buildings with three or fewer apartments.

Farina said he favored having a certificate of occupancy ordinance to prevent tenants moving into apartments where they would face health hazards.

He cited, as an example of this, the building at 131 Washington St. A new tenant moved in there over the weekend, he said, despite the fact that the basement there is filled with backed-up sewer water.

Requiring a reinspection before allowing the new tenant to move in would eliminate such health hazards, Farina maintained.

## 'Why break up a good friendship?'

By Patrick Ford

There are two matching red-and-white-striped basketballs sitting side by side on a ledge in the Hoboken High School athletic office.

One says "1,000 points — Bo Miller," the other says "1,000 points — Bob DuBois."

Sitting side by side among the top high school basketball players in Hudson County this year were Charles Miller and Bob DuBois, who have been teammates since they started in Hoboken recreation leagues as 11-year-olds.

Miller and DuBois will be sitting side by side in the freshman class at Boston College next year — both received full basketball scholarships.

"We've been playing together for a long time," says Miller. "We figured, why break up a good friendship?"

DuBois and Miller are street kids, but they're lucky ones — they have an opportunity to escape the inner-city by using their basketball skill to get an education.

"Hoboken hasn't had an extensive recreation program," says their coach, Gene Sparta. "These kids learned to play in pick-up games, they developed on the streets."

They could always be found hanging out on the basketball courts at Church Square Park of Jackson Street, playing the toughest street and working together to win.

Sitting side by side in an empty classroom at Hoboken

High, DuBois and Miller talk about the challenges facing them. Their speech exudes confidence. It's street talk — heavy slang that tells you most of their learning happened outside classrooms.

They could have made it easy on themselves. They were recruited by more than 100 schools, many of them "basketball factories" that seem more concerned with a winning season than the grades of their athletes.

"Some of the schools that came to see them never even mentioned academics," Sparta says bitterly. "They didn't even try to find out what kinds of grades the kids have or what they're interested in doing. All they cared about was basketball players."

But Miller and DuBois chose one of the East's most prestigious colleges. You don't slide through B.C. on a basketball scholarship. You work.

"We have an assistant coach who's responsible for making sure the players go to class," says Dr. Tom Davis, coach at Boston College.

"Freshmen are expected to be in the study hall four nights a week. We arrange for tutors when they're having trouble."

"They said they'd help us," DuBois says. "I wanted to do more than play basketball. I want an education."

"If you don't do good in basketball," Miller says. "Whatcha gonna do then?"

"These guys are well-trained," Davis says. "They know what's expected of them

and they know what they want. Best of all, they know they have to work hard at it to get what they want."

"They've had excellent coaching and guidance counseling at Hoboken," Davis says. "We started out recruiting Bobby, and about halfway through this past season, one of my assistants suggested that we go after both of them. We're really happy they're coming here."

Sparta's not surprised by all the attention Miller and DuBois attracted from college scouts.

"Miller was the best big man in Hudson County and DuBois was one of the best guards," he says flatly. "Miller made 70 percent of the shots he took this year — an amazing figure for a high school player."

Miller scored 1,311 points in three varsity seasons, a school record. The only other Hoboken player ever to top 1,000 points was DuBois, who hit for 1,233.

They reached the 1,000-point plateau in the same game — a contest against Union Hill High earlier this year that went into four overtimes before Hoboken pulled it out.

Miller holds the all-time school record for rebounds, and led the team for three years in total steals. DuBois is the all-time assist leader. He also holds the freshman scoring record of 540 points.

Miller and DuBois could score 30 points a game if they played separately. Sparta asserts. "Every time one of them was missing from a game, the other other scored at least 30."

"But I've tried to teach

them that points aren't that important — it's the overall attitude and performance that makes the man."

Sparta has been trying to get the pair to work on their academic skills. He says DuBois has improved greatly in reading and writing over the last year.

"Coach Sparta gives me things to read and tells me to write a report on them," DuBois says. "I feel like I'm reading much easier. I understand things more."

"I tell them to read all they can — even if it's just the sports pages," Sparta says. "I tell the kids to read Sports Illustrated, read about players like yourselves and try to fully understand what you're reading."

When the boys narrowed down their college choices to four each — all schools they had visited — they sat down with Sparta to talk it over.

"He helped us but we made the decision," DuBois says.

"I was surprised and happy when they told me their decisions," Sparta says. "I think they made a wise choice."

DuBois, munching on a chicken wing in that empty classroom, talks about a career in teaching. Miller says, "I'm leaning towards business administration."

But their secret dream goes something like this: "Now, starting for the New York Knicks — Bob DuBois, Charles Miller ..."

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## Residents want warning about new sign crews

Hoboken's signal and traffic division, in the midst of replacing all of the city's alternate side of the street parking signs, has run into stiff opposition from residents.

Superintendent Thomas Vecchione said residents have been complaining that the city has not given them enough warning, that the crews should get permission from landlords, about noise, and about breaking up sidewalks.

Vecchione said his crew only makes a three-inch hole in the sidewalk, and does not break them up. As for getting permission, he said he understands the city has an easement through the sidewalks and can put the signs in wherever it wants.

For residents who want a warning, he said his men will be installing the signs on the west side of Garden Street, the east side of Bloomfield

Street, and the east side of Garden in the near future.

Altogether, his men will put in between 1,000 and 2,000 new signs, replacing all the old ones.

According to Vecchione, the state Department of Transportation requires that the new signs must be angled to face the road at a 45-degree angle.

Presently, the old signs are at a 90-degree angle to the road. In addition, many of the signs in the western half of the city are not in place any more.

The plans call for three signs on each side of each north-south street, and two on each side of each side street. Presently there is only one sign on each side of a street.

Vecchione said his division is making the signs itself, with a \$17,000 machine bought through the Safe and Clean Streets program.

## Hey, Diogenes, Hoboken has what you're seeking

Diogenes should have lived in Hoboken.

The ancient Greek, best remembered for his search for an honest man, would have found two in Hoboken recently. Actually, they were a woman and a girl, but who's splitting hairs?

Carmen Castillo thought she was out \$1120.65 Wednesday. Mrs. Castillo told Hoboken police that she went into the Optical Center, 334 Washington St., early Wednesday afternoon to make an appointment for an eye examination.

While she was making the appointment, she took out her wallet, containing the amount, and placed it on the counter. She then left the store, forgetting the wallet.

Walking south on Washington Street, she realized she didn't have it and hurried back, but the wallet was

gone. A search proved fruitless. An employee said a woman with two small children had entered the store shortly after Mrs. Castillo left, then departed without buying anything.

Thursday, Ruben Henriquez, the store manager, called police with some good news for Mrs. Castillo. A woman and a 9-year-old boy had walked into the store around 4:30 p.m. Wednesday and turned over the wallet, with the contents intact.

The woman, who did not give her name, said the boy had picked up the wallet and didn't tell her he had taken it until they returned home.

Later Thursday, Anthony Kolich, vice principal of a Hoboken high school, called police to tell them that a student, Pashani Patel, had turned into the school office a brown paper bag containing pennies and dimes she had found that morning on the sidewalk at Eighth and Clinton streets.

Police totaled the amount at \$10 in dimes, and \$4.50 in pennies. As of yesterday morning, the amount was still unclaimed.

But anyone claiming the coins had better be prepared to prove he lost them.

## Hoboken repaving begins, water boxes to be raised

A repaving project involving almost \$500,000 and more than four miles of Hoboken's roads, is beginning, and Public Works Director Andrew Amato is assigning one of his men to make sure that the contractor does not pave over the boxes which control the flow in the city's water lines.

In past years, Amato said, Public Works personnel repaving roads often just covered

over the boxes, instead of raising them up to the new asphalt level. His worker will raise all the boxes, which are usually located a few feet out in the street from the fire hydrants.

His department has had to uncover and raise water boxes on Madison, Washington, and Monroe streets, he said.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the contractor, B. A. Haulage of Whippany,

has already started preparation work for the \$475,000, 4.03 mile project.

The project is being funded through the Safe and Clean Neighborhoods program, with the city and state splitting the cost. The program will repave nearly one sixth of Hoboken's approximately 25 miles of road.

Chius estimated that the repaving work would take some two months to complete.

Among the streets scheduled to be repaved are: Washington Street, between First and Second streets and between Third and Sixth streets; Eleventh Street, from Hudson Street to Willow Avenue; Willow, from Third to Seventh and from Eighth to Tenth; Hudson Street, from Third to Sixth; Newark Street, from Monroe Street to the Jersey City border; and 16th Street, from Willow Avenue to Jefferson Street.

## In Hudson



ROYAL PAIR — Hoboken Mayor Steve Caputo is flanked by this year's winners of the city's annual King and Queen contest. The current Queen is Kim Marie Klotz; the new King is Gary Cozza.



## Hoboken school board fires Taylor, won't say why 4/11/79 J.S.

By Ronald G. Leir  
First his pocket expenses were disapproved. Then they took away his phone. Last night, Robert W. Taylor lost his job.  
Taylor, a former board member, was fired from his \$24,992 job as attorney to the Hoboken Board of Education by an 8-to-1 vote of the board in a surprise, last-minute action.

Only Otto Hottendorf, who served with Taylor on the board some 20 years ago — both as appointees for former Mayor John J. Grogan — voted against the resolution ending Taylor's services May 16.  
By the time the board moved on the resolution, proposed by Steve Block, one of Mayor Steve Cappiello's new appointees to the board, Taylor had gone to a local watering hole where a reporter later caught up with him.

"It's incredible and shocking that this could happen after so many years of dedicated service," the attorney said.  
After serving several years as a school trustee during Grogan's tenure, Taylor was named counsel to the board in the late 1960s by the then-Mayor Louis DePascale, now employed as a labor negotiator by the school board.  
Did he expect the ax to fall? "I think it's interesting to note that each time we went through the printed agendas for Thursday's caucus and for tonight's meeting, I saw no mention of any such item," said Taylor.  
Does that mean Taylor will sue the board? "I have no further comment," the attorney replied.  
Board members, in their resolution, gave no reason for dismissing Taylor, but Block, who introduced it, said this: "Seven of the nine members of this board have less than two years' tenure and we had an attorney forced on us."  
"We reserve the right to retain our own counsel," added Block. "Should there be litigation on this, it would be inappropriate for us to state the reason for terminating the man. Our hope is to retain a new attorney or (legal) firm to replace him."

Ironically, the board action came only a couple of hours after the trustees called in Taylor and six other key management personnel not covered by contract for individual private conferences to discuss salary adjustments, according to board sources.  
Board files indicate that some four months ago, Taylor had advised board members in a confidential memo dated Dec. 12 that he and his colleagues would "agree not to request a (salary) ratio application for the 1979-80 school year" if the board granted a "7 percent wage increase."  
According to the memo, Taylor's pay would go to \$26,667; board secretary Thomas Gallo's from \$27,180 to \$29,063; business manager Anthony Romano's from \$22,733 to \$24,324; negotiator DePascale's \$18,601 to \$19,903.  
Taylor further proposed that administrative assistant Virginia Tallon's pay be increased from \$18,304 to \$19,585; food services coordinator John Palmieri, \$17,498 to \$18,608; and maintenance director Louis Francone, \$15,400 to \$16,542.  
The attorney also suggests the board "consider" adjusting the pay of Anthony Curko, internal auditor, from \$16,000 to \$17,120.  
One board source said that the 7 percent recommendation is definitely out, but added that some adjustments are likely to be granted "in proportion to what other supervisory personnel are getting."  
In other business, the board:  
• Promoted Richard DeBocio, an 18-year Hoboken educator and currently vice principal of the Leikau Elementary School, to principal and assigned him to the Calabro Elementary School, which had made do with an acting principal for two years. Block dissented, as did Hottendorf, who said that the board should appoint both DeBocio and Dorothy Zeigler, Demarest Jr. High School vice principal.  
• Created a six-man committee including two public members and headed by Trustee John Pope to study the feasibility of using Servco Tech facilities to set up a "computerized budgeting" program.  
• Agreed to place on its April 28 agenda a proposal by its consulting engineer Mayo, Lynch Associates to award a \$14,500 contract to C & M Door Controls Co. to replace entrance doors at Hoboken High School.  
• Heard Trustee Donald Pellicano, a member of the board's finance committee, defend the committee's preparation of the 1979-80 school budget. "It was not put together haphazardly and not without evaluating every line item in it. . . . Sure, we may look like a bunch of clowns once in a while, but I'd give Richard England (committee chairman) a big trophy for the job he did on the budget."  
• Tabled payment of claims and a proposal by the North Hudson Council of mayors to use the Wallace School kitchen for the council's "meals-on-wheels" program for senior citizens.

## Try to 'scare straight' youngsters 4/10/79 J.S.

Hoboken is going to try to "scare straight" 25 city youngsters who have been involved in scrapes with the law.

The juveniles will travel in August to Rahway State Prison for the prison's "Lifers Program," an encounter with convicts serving life terms. The program was the basis for the acclaimed television documentary "Scared Straight."  
"It's a shock treatment," said Public Safety Director James Giordano. "It lets them know the realities of prison life."

Lt. Joseph Ereira, head of the city's Juvenile Aid Bureau, agreed, saying the program was "eye-opening" for the youngsters who attend. He characterized it as "maybe harsh but effective."  
Pereira said the format of the program is a rap session between the youngsters and the convicts, in which the lifers detail the realities of prison life — the violence, the homosexuality, and the desperation they experience.  
The Juvenile Aid Bureau will choose the 25, Pereira said. They will be between 12 and 18, and will have been involved in minor "scrapes" with the police, but not serious offenses.  
"We hope it keeps them out of any further confrontations with the law," Pereira stated.  
"This may shock them," the lieutenant said. "It may scare them straight."

Pereira said the program has been very successful, especially since the documentary was on television. "They are booked up for a year," he said. Hoboken is either the first or one of the first to participate from Hudson County, he said.  
Detective Cecil Vincent will represent the Juvenile Aid Bureau at the Aug. 8 session. The program is being co-sponsored by the Hoboken Lions Club, through the efforts of Patrolman Eugene Drayton.

## Parts found to monitor Hoboken jail 4/20/79 J.S.

Hoboken still plans to keep a camera eye on its prisoners, even though prices quoted to Public Safety Director James Giordano for the system were twice as much as he wanted to pay.

Giordano said he has since found out that the police department has on hand two pieces of equipment which could be used towards the system.  
The director wants the system to consist of two cameras, a sound system, a monitoring screen and a videotape machine.

He said he discovered the department has a video tape deck and a camera. These were used years ago to monitor activity on Washington Street and First Street.  
Capt. Russell Sweeten and signal superintendent Thomas Vecchione will assemble the system, from parts on hand and equipment which will be purchased.

He said he hoped the two could put the system together for somewhere near the \$2,000 he originally estimated it would cost. He said he received two price quotes at twice that amount for all new equipment.  
Giordano said he hoped to have the system in place before July 1. It is designed to let police keep an eye on the prisoners in the municipal cellblock to keep them from damaging municipal property or injuring themselves.

The monitor screen will be placed near the police desk, with one camera located in the cellblock and another near the desk area.

## Old Hoboken building cited as 'historic' 4/17/79 J.S.

TRENTON — The state Environmental Protection Department today announced that the old Hoboken Land and Improvement Co. building at the corner of River and Newark streets, Hoboken, was entered into the New Jersey Register of Historic Places.  
Established in 1838, the company achieved significance in the commercial development of Hoboken, particularly at the turn of the century.

The company was formally dissolved in 1948.  
With state registry, the site was recommended to Washington for inclusion in the national register of places with approval anticipated in two months, related a spokesman in the State Office of Historic Preservation.  
He said there should be "absolutely no question of its being included in the National Register."

## 2 Hoboken cops get valor awards 4/24/79 J.S.

A Hoboken patrolman who was ambushed by an arson suspect and a lieutenant who broke a pawn shop window and disarmed two burglars received city decorations for valor yesterday.  
Patrolman Nicholas DePalma was awarded the Medal of Honor and Lt. Eugene McKenna received a citation bar. Twenty other policemen were given commendatory letters.  
DePalma had responded at a fire at 307 Madison St. last July 25. The patrolman chased a suspect in the arson into the building across the street at 310 Madison. In the basement of that building, the man knocked DePalma down and stabbed him several times with a blunt knife. The policeman then drew his gun, shot and killed the man.  
McKenna's decoration was for breaking up an attempted robbery at a pawnshop at 312 Washington St. last November 28. He shattered the window of the store, entered, and was confronted by two armed men who had tied up the owner of the store and an employee.  
One of the men was armed with a sawed-off shotgun, the other with a knife.  
Awarded commendatory letters were Lt. Frank Garrick, Lt. Paul Tewes, Sgt. Carmen LaBruno, Sgt. John Carrier and Detectives Rafael Cruz, Karl Fause, Vincent Lombardi, George Piscopo and Raul Torres.  
Also, Patrolmen Robert Burns, Joseph Cicila, Thomas Connors, Nicholas DePalma, Arthur DiVincenzi, Fred Ferrante, Edward Joseph Nardello, John Picurro, Smith and Albert Van Nieuwen.

Capello, in a brief statement at the ceremony yesterday, said he hoped the station could serve as a link between the urban community of Hoboken, where it is located, and the suburban communities that the commuters who use the station come from.  
The station is used by 35,000 people a day. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and all rehabilitation work will be in compliance with historic preservation requirements.

## Rehabilitation of terminal picks up steam 4/18/79 J.S.

The state Department of Transportation is projecting that a \$3.9 million second phase of the rehabilitation at the Erie-Lackawanna terminal in Hoboken will take two-and-a-half years to complete. The second phase was started this week.

The DOT will replace the roofs of the 17 train sheds at the station two at a time, sandblast the steel and concrete underneath them, and install skylights on the concourse in front of the platforms and in the corridor which leads to the PATH station, in the second phase of a three part rehabilitation financed overall with a \$4.8 million grant from the federal government.

Richard Anderson, director of commuter services for the DOT, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, and other legislators and officials gathered at the 75-year-old station yesterday to mark the beginning of the second phase of the project.  
The first phase, already completed, replaced the roof over the station's waiting room. In the third phase, scheduled to begin in the fall, the waiting room lavatories will be repaired and painted-over skylights opened up.

The current work will also include painting and re-roofing the concourse, and replacing a section of the inner track fence.  
The city's Community Development Agency prepared the application to the Economic Development Administration but the application was shifted to the DOT when the department purchased the station last year.

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## 500 apartments in Hoboken get rent subsidies 4/18/79 J.S.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development will make available rent subsidy money to Hoboken to fund the rehabilitation of 500 housing units in the next five years.

Fred Bado, director of the Hoboken Community Development Agency, which will administer the program, said it represented "a new approach" on HUD's part — to include the smaller owner as well as large developers in housing rehabilitation.  
The program, the Neighborhood Strategy Program, will provide rent subsidies to owners who substantially rehabilitate tenement-type structures within an area of the city marked off as a "neighborhood strategy area."

This area is bordered by First Street, Washington Street, 14th Street, and has an irregular western boundary which varies between Adams and Clinton streets and Willow Avenue, Bado said.  
The rehabilitated units must be occupied by low to moderate income people, Bado said. They will pay a certain portion of the "fair market value" of the unit, and the government will pay the rest of that amount to the owner.

Bado said banks in general are much more willing to lend money to those who have secured rent subsidy money from the government. The subsidies last for as long as the owner is paying off the loan for the rehabilitation — usually 20 years.  
Those in the city who have expressed interest in the program so far are a mix of larger developers and smaller owners, Bado said.  
The city should encourage the small landlord to participate in the program, Bado said. They would have to apply to the CDA, which would inspect the property, and do a feasibility study and financial analysis.

## This intersection takes the prize (for dirtiest) 4/16/79 J.S.



This intersection is the winner of Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri's "dirtiest street of the week" contest. It's the northwest corner of Eighth Street and Willow Avenue where a catchbasin has become clogged.

By Mark Fogarty  
The intersection of Eighth Street and Willow Avenue gets Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri's nod for his "dirtiest street of the week" award.

The councilman said that despite a new garbage contract and expensive new equipment for the Public Works Department, cleaning the streets "is not a high-priority item."

The councilman said he received four complaints about the area last week from residents.  
The chief problem in the area, according to Ranieri, is that the building at 800 Willow Ave. is pumping sewage into the street from a pipe cemented into the sidewalk. The sewage flows between a grocery store and a bakery into a clogged sewer catchbasin and backs up, he said.

Also, there is a problem with garbage along Willow Avenue between Eighth and Ninth streets because some residents don't have garbage pails and put out garbage in bags instead.  
Ranieri said he had informed the Public Works department of these complaints, and added, "I expect to see these complaints serviced efficiently."

The councilman said that despite a new garbage contract and expensive new equipment for the Public Works Department, cleaning the streets "is not a high-priority item."

"If you can't have the streets clean, you can't have good government," he maintained. "The people of the city of Hoboken pay for clean streets but they don't get them."

Second place for the district area last week went to Garden Street, from Observer Highway to Newark Street.

Ranieri said the big problem there was also lack of garbage pails. Some residents have also been putting their garbage on the large empty lot where the old Condenser factory used to be, making it an eyesore.

Ranieri invited city residents to call him at 426-2272 to nominate locations for the next award. He said he received 10 or 12 calls in response to his last invitation to nominate locations.

## Hoboken to do own sod job 4/15/79 J.S.

Hoboken is rejecting bids from contractors to resod the Little League Field at Fifth and Hudson streets and will do the job itself.  
Health and Welfare Director James Farina said that T and M Contractors, Hoboken, bid \$53,000 to resod the field, while Martini Inc., of Tenafly, bid \$23,380.  
On an alternate bid, to resod the infield and reseed the outfield, T and M bid \$15,300, and Martini bid \$9,325. All four prices are too high, Farina said.  
He said that Robert Hill, arborist for the Community Development Agency, told him that he, with the help of recreation personnel, could resod the infield for less than \$2,300, the amount above which the city has to advertise for bids for the job.  
Even if the job is done immediately, there is still a question of whether the sod would have time to take proper root before the season begins April 29.  
But Farina said he thought the city should do something to improve conditions at the field, even if it only lasts one year.

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## Sinatra group alumnus producing variety show 4/24/79 J.S.

Hoboken residents who remember the Hoboken Four, the group from which a skinny kid named Frank Sinatra rose into prominence, can stroll down Memory Lane later this week when Freddy Tamby, of the quartet, emcees the Senior Citizen Variety Show at the city's Multi-Service Center.  
Tamby, whose real name is Fred Tamburro, remembers that Sinatra was just 19 when the Hoboken Four won the 1936. He spent two years on tour around the country with Sinatra in the singing and dancing group, he said, and was present when the singer got his big break.  
That was in the Rustic Cabin nightclub in Bergen County, Tamby said. Bandleader Harry James had come in to listen to a saxophone player in another band, but hired Sinatra instead as a vocalist.  
Tamby said he stayed with

the singer then until he got drafted. The Hoboken Four continued as a trio after Sinatra left. Tamby played the piano and sang baritone. The other members were the late Patty Prince, and Jimmy Skelly, who still lives in Hoboken, Tamby said.  
The veteran entertainer said he'd sung and danced at such nightspots as the Diamond Mirror, in Newark, Mickey the Wise Guy's, in Hoboken, and several clubs in Union City.  
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, he will sing, play piano, and officiate as master of ceremonies at the Senior Citizen Variety Hour, the fourth annual seniors' show put on by Vincent J. Barbo, city senior citizen coordinator.  
Barbo, who wrote, produced, and directed the show, said he started putting on the productions because he felt seniors were getting stereotyped as feeble and senile on television shows.

"I felt we could show senior citizens as a whole are still able to contribute, still have talent," Barbo said.  
In all, 19 seniors from Hoboken, Weehawken, and Jersey City will entertain, he said. The setting of the show will be a disco, and the act will include the Senior Citizen Rockettes, who put the more famous Rockettes to shame, according to Barbo, ballroom dancing, singing, and specialty numbers.  
"They take pride in their performance," Barbo stated.  
Tamby at the piano will introduce the acts, accompany some of them, and sing. Shows are Thursday at 2 p.m., and Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m.  
Will he sing any of the numbers made famous by Sinatra?  
"I might sing 'Lady is a Tramp,'" he replied, noting that that song is Sinatra's favorite.



Freddy Tamby, at the piano, leads from left, Anthony "Chubby" Morrita, Mary Puhl, and Vera Pascale at a rehearsal for the Senior Citizen Variety Hour.

## Repair work on way at Fox Hill balconies 4/13/79 J.S.

Residents of the Fox Hill Gardens senior citizen apartment complex in Hoboken who have been unable to use their balconies for about two years because of defective panels, were assured by the Housing Authority last night that repair work is on the way.  
Andrew Scherer, authority chairman, announced that a special grant had been received from the federal Housing and Urban Development agency to carry out the repair work. The authority will draw up plans for replacing the defective laminated panels which they said had deteriorated, and performing any other work to make the balcony railings safe. The apartment is at 13th Street and Willow Avenue.  
Once the specifications are ready, the authority will seek bids for the work. An authority spokesman said suit has been filed against the original contractor.  
In other business the authority last night awarded an \$11,538 contract for plastic bags to Park Poly Co., Dunellen. The bags are used for rubbish removal. The Dominick Circle Co., of Hoboken, was given a contract for \$4,405 for rubbish container removal service and the Advanta Screen Co. of the Bronx won a \$5,000 contract for window screen replacements.  
After receiving bids for grading the heating system at Mor Gardens, the authority decided night to reject them and have its maintenance crew do the work.

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## \$3.9M railroad facelift underway in Hoboken

By DIANE CURCIO

A "train shed-breaking" ceremony was held yesterday on Track 17 of the Erie Lackawanna Terminal in Hoboken, where a \$3.9 million rehabilitation of the 75-year-old facility has begun.

Upgrading of the terminal is the first phase of a project aimed at developing the station area into a focal point for dining and shopping as well as travel.

The project will encompass rehabilitating the train sheds, cleaning and repainting all platforms, repairing the passenger corridor to the PATH trains, replacing skylights and reconstructing platform supports.

A \$4.8 million federal grant from the Economic Development Administration finances the project.

The conventional groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of a construction program was replaced by a "train shed-breaking" Mayor Steve Cappiello, State Sen. and Union City Mayor William Musto and Richard Anderson, a representative from the state Department of Transportation (DOT), were on hand to assist as an old shed was torn down.

"Since energy for automobiles is becoming more and more difficult to afford, it is necessary to keep an eye out for mass transit ways of travel," Cappiello said.

Conrail had owned the station, through which an estimated 35,000 commuters pass each day, but last year the DOT bought the facility. The terminal is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Initial grant applications for the rehabilitation were submitted by the Cappiello administration.

The work is scheduled to be completed within the next two and a half years. Work will progress on two tracks at a time and passengers are advised to consult the train schedule for any changes due to construction.

The ultimate plan for the Hoboken station is an East Coast model of the popular Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco, where assorted shops and restaurants are nestled near the waterfront. Kenneth Pal, director of planning and economic development for the Hoboken Community Development Agency, is seeking to interest a developer in the project.

In other grant news, Rep. Frank Guarini announced yesterday that the federal department of Housing and Urban Development has released funds under the Neighborhood Strategy Program for the rehabilitation of 500 housing units in the central section of Hoboken. The amount of the award will be determined in a meeting between officials of Hoboken and the Region II office of HUD.

## Amato's status poses department question

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato insists that his present status is misunderstood.

Amato, who has been reported as being on a leave of absence to campaign for his wife, Florence, said he has only been taking afternoons off the campaign.

Until noon or one o'clock every day he has been in his City Hall office, supervising the department and providing services to the citizens of Hoboken, he said. Then, in the afternoon, sewage superintendent Roy Haack fills in for him, he said.

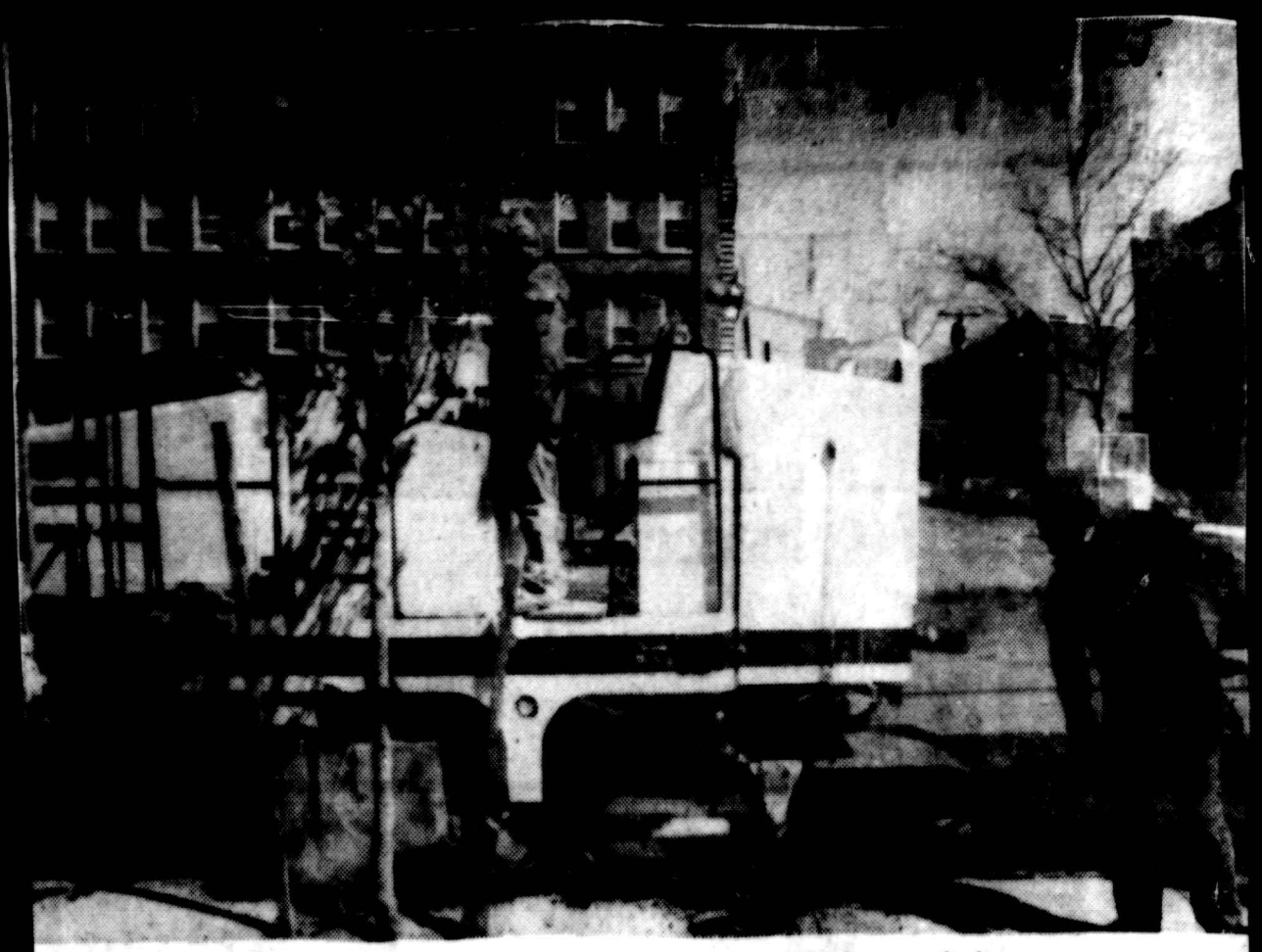
Haack, appointed acting Public Works Director on April 16 by Mayor Steve Cappiello, did not agree with Amato's assessment.

"I understand that he's on vacation until after the election," Haack said. He said that he, Haack, is currently in charge of the department, both in the morning and the afternoon.

Cappiello said that both men are right in their claims, "more or less."

He said Haack is right when he claims he is temporarily in charge of the department full time, but that Amato has been coming in to oversee the department, and check on the staffs. Haack has been doing most of the field work, Cappiello added.

Amato, when he asked for time off to campaign for his wife, who is running against Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione, did not specify that he would just take afternoons off, Cappiello said, but has now agreed to do that.



SPRUCING THE STREETS — Workmen operating a resurfacing machine are stripping 11th Street in Hoboken. The work is part of \$475,000 resurfacing job for four miles of city streets.

## Hoboken, county named in fire-death suit

Manhattan attorney Harry Lipsig has filed a notice of claim against Hoboken, Hudson County and the state, informing them that he intends to make them defendants in a \$80.3-million lawsuit on behalf of relatives of 17 of the 21 people who died Jan. 20 in a Hoboken tenement fire.

Lipsig's notice claims that the city, county and state failed to enforce housing codes at 131 Clinton St., the scene of the fatal fire, where over 180 violations were found prior to the

fire, according to a spokesman for Lipsig.

It also charges them with failing to make the owners, Isaac and Genoveva Haim of Jersey City, correct the violations, and with failing to warn the casualties of the fire about the dangerous conditions existing there prior to the blaze.

The notice of claim, according to the spokesman, is a preliminary step to filing a suit. The three defendants now have six months to investigate the charge.

The claim totals \$80.4 million for

the 17 members of the Drepaul and Rampsaud families killed in the blaze. The breakdown is \$34 million for the wrongful deaths of the 17, \$3.4 million for their pain and suffering, \$2 million for loss of services to their relatives, and \$30 million in punitive damages.

Ceteram Drepaul is making the claim on behalf of his brother, Jacob, and Kusila Budhu is making the claim on behalf of her two sisters, Gangi Rampsaud and Gongpatty Drepaul, and their total of 14 children.

Lipsig is also representing

Drepaul in a \$51.4 million suit against the Haims, and Mrs. Budhu in a \$50 million suit against the owners.

Those two suits have been filed in Southern U.S. District Court in Manhattan. The spokesman said that several New Jersey courts would have jurisdiction in the governmental suit, and that which would try it is undetermined.

The spokesman said there would probably be some consolation of the cases. The suits against the owners may take a year or more to come to trial.

## Hoboken OKs \$16,780,379 budget

Two Hoboken City Council last night voted to adopt the municipal budget calling for 1979 expenditures of \$16,780,379.04 of which \$4,970,523.01 must be raised by local taxation.

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the local tax levy represents an increase of about \$12,000 over last year.

In a public caucus following the adoption of the budget, Mayor Steve Cappiello told the council members that a city public works driver whose truck

was reportedly stolen from the city garage last week has been suspended pending a departmental hearing.

According to Cappiello, Alfred Johnson, 30, an employee in the public works department for between 12 and 14 years, drove a 1979 city Chevrolet van containing sewer-cleaning equipment into the DPW garage at Observer Highway and Willow Ave around 8:30, the mayor said.

The truck was recovered two days later in Jersey City's Downtown section near the

Holland Tunnel at 16th Street and Jersey Avenue minus its \$800 radio and equipment valued at about \$1,000, said Cappiello.

Johnson was suspended without pay by DPW garage foreman John Wallington, according to Cappiello.

Councilman Louis Francione told a reporter he figures Johnson, the father of 11 children, got a bad break.

"This must have been an inside job. One of our trucks has never been stolen before and Al has always done a good job for the department," he said.



Burn victim George Marsh is placed aboard a Coast Guard helicopter for transport from Hoboken to St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

## Cop again first at fire, helps carry out man

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Patrolman John Smith has done it again.

Last Jan. 20, Smith was one of two officers in the first radio car to reach the scene of the fatal fire at 129 Clinton St. in Hoboken in which 21 people perished. Smith had participated in the rescue of a number of people from the burning building.

Yesterday, Smith and his partner, Patrolman Thomas Connors, were the first policemen to arrive when a fire was reported at 124 Bloomfield St.

Smith and Connors carried George Marsh, 34, from the third floor of the burning building. Marsh had been found unconscious in his fourth-floor apartment by firemen who had carried him down one flight of stairs.

Smith's back was injured on Jan. 20 and yesterday he suffered smoke inhalation. He is listed in satisfactory condition today in St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken.

## Hoboken fire shows need for detectors

By Mark Fogarty

Hoboken fire officials have determined careless smoking as the "probable" cause of the early morning fire on Bloomfield Street yesterday in which one man was burned severely enough to be airlifted to the burn center at St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

Fire Chief James Houn said the fire appeared to have smoldered for some time, perhaps several hours, before it

flared up. He said from all indications, it started in or near the bed. The mattress was destroyed and a hole was burned through the floor.

Houn said the smoke detector system called for in the city's proposed ordinance calls for detectors in the hallways, and that smoke and flames were not visible in the fourth-floor hallway until relatively late.

If the man had had a smoke detector in the apartment, the chief said, it would have been a help in alerting him. Once the smoke got into the hallway, it would have triggered a detector, alerting the other residents, Houn said.

Another fire official also said that the fire showed that people should install a detector in their own apartments.

The victim, George Marsh, 34, is listed in fair condition there. The one-alarm blaze broke out in Marsh's top-floor apartment at 124 Bloomfield St., a four-story brick building.

Two policemen who helped rescue Marsh, Thomas Connors and John Smith, were treated for smoke inhalation at St. Mary Hospital and then released. Smith, however, subsequently collapsed in police headquarters and was detained at the hospital for smoke inhalation and hypertension.

Two firemen rescued Marsh from his burning apartment shortly after the alarm was turned in at 6:42 a.m.

According to Capt. Carmine Gullo, aide to Public Safety Director James Giordano, Fireman John Cassessa raised a ladder to the roof of the building, crossed the roof of the building to the rear fire escape, broke the window to Marsh's apartment and located the man where he had

collapsed trying to get to the fire escape.

Cassessa and Fireman Donald Pesciotta then pulled Marsh from the flame and smoke-filled apartment, and with the aid of Capt. Anthony Mosca brought him down to the third floor, where Smith and Connors then took him down to an ambulance.

Residents of the other four apartments got out safely and were going to relocate temporarily with friends or relatives, according to a spokesman for the Red Cross.

Marsh first was taken to St. Mary, but then airlifted to the burn center by helicopter from the Stevens Institute of Technology about 11 a.m.

Mapy Vaera, who lives in the third-floor apartment with her five children, said she had been awakened at about 6:30 a.m. by someone shouting "fire" in the street.

Peter Peluso, who lives on the second floor with his brother-in-law, said he found out about the fire when someone knocked on his door at about 6:45 a.m.

Peluso said that the building is well kept. It is listed as being owned by Juan J. Vega of Hoboken.

Marsh's top floor apartment was extensively damaged by fire. The others received smoke and water damage.

Willie Ramos, a resident of one of the adjoining buildings, said he was worried that the fire could spread to his building or the one on the other side.

He said his family is seriously thinking about getting a smoke detector now.

## Amato hurls challenge at his 2 critics

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said he is inviting Councilmen Robert Ranieri and Walter Cramer to a meeting Thursday in his political club to clear the air about recent accusations against him and his department.

Cramer is the chairman of the council's Public Works committee, and Ranieri is the chairman of the Water and Sewer Utilities committee.

Cramer attacked Amato at the last council meeting for not properly supervising his department, and for missing council caucus meetings. Ranieri, although he has refrained from attacking Amato, has been conducting a campaign to point out the city's dirtiest streets.

Amato said he decided to invite the two after a meeting at his political club Thursday night. Club members and residents asked him why he was not defending himself, Amato said.

Amato said he wanted to meet the councilmen face to face, in front of the people. He said he will answer all charges at that time.

The meeting will be at 9 p.m. in the clubroom, at 108 Madison St.

In another matter, Amato said he will press the county to clear up bad conditions at the Paterson Plank Road grade crossing.

The grade crossing is covered by water, he said, caused by a clogged or collapsed sewer catchbasin.

The road was repaired with temporary asphalt, which was washed into the catchbasin, he said. The county promised him that the condition would be fixed, but no work has been done so far, he said.

Ranieri was in Washington attending a conference. Cramer, however, said he would not attend the meeting. He said he wouldn't meet with Amato if any political club, and objects that Amato had not invited other two members of the Public Works committee.

Cramer said the only place he would meet Amato were the City Council chambers or the director's City Hall office.

## Hoboken housewife seeks Hudson Assembly seat

By SUSAN KELMAN

A 58-year-old Hoboken housewife who has no campaign funds or political organization will challenge the Democratic organization candidates in the 33rd District's fall Assembly race.

Virginia Zanetich announced yesterday that she has collected 600 nominating signatures to put her on the ballot as an independent in the November election. She will challenge the Democratic ticket of Assemblymen Thomas Gallo of Hoboken and Christopher Jackson of West New York.

Mrs. Zanetich's announcement came just one day after Hoboken Councilman-at-Large Robert Ranieri announced his candidacy as an independent for the 33rd District. Ranieri has been a councilman for six years.

A mother of three children, Mrs. Zanetich lives with her husband, Anthony, at 900 Castle Point Terrace in

Hoboken. Her youngest son attends Duke University in North Carolina.

"I really believe I can talk to the little guy out there," she said. "I have no campaign funds. I'll do it with a dollar."

Tired of what she calls the poor attendance and performance of Gallo, Mrs. Zanetich decided Friday to enter the race. She collected the 600 signatures and told friends and neighbors about the campaign over the weekend.

"The excitement is unreal," she said after answering a phone call from a friend offering support. "The word is out."

A past president of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Zanetich said she has been active in volunteer groups for the past 10 years.

Although she said she has never met Jersey City Mayor Thomas Smith, Mrs. Zanetich said he is the best thing that has ever happened to the county. She questions only his wisdom in supporting Gallo.

"I was very disappointed when I heard Tom Gallo was running again. The organization should have come up with a more qualified man," she said. "I think I'm going to beat him."

"In my life, it has always been right to go ahead and do things without any fear," she said as she prepared to file her nominating petition today.

The 33rd Assembly District includes Guttenberg, Hoboken, Union City, Weehawken, West New York and parts of Jersey City.

## Cappiello will remain neutral

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, head of the city's Democratic organization, said today he would not be endorsing anyone in the upcoming Fourth and Sixth Ward council races.

The mayor previously had said he had not made any decisions about endorsing anyone in the two wards.

"I've withheld any endorsement and made it an open fight," Cappiello said.

He said several candidates in both races were his supporters. In the Fourth Ward, he said, Louis Alijo, Thomas Cerbo, and Florence Amato support him. The three are running against Councilman Louis Francione.

In the Sixth, he said, Edward McLaughlin, John Giacchi, John Ciriello, and Patrick Pasculli are all supporters of his. They are running

against incumbent Nunzio Malfetti.

Asked if he risked having the winners of the races not support his policies, by withholding his endorsement, the mayor replied, "Not necessarily."

Asked if he was confident that supporters would win both seats, Cappiello replied that the races are "so wide open it's hard to predict anything."

## Amato says he'll resume fulltime status on Monday

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato today announced he would return to fulltime status Monday.

The announcement apparently resolved the confusion over who had control over the department and when.

Amato took a leave of absence starting April 16 to campaign for his wife, Florence, who is running for the

Fourth Ward council seat.

Mayor Steve Cappiello appointed sewage superintendent Roy Haack as acting director.

But Amato remained on the job in the mornings, taking off the afternoons to campaign. He said Haack was merely filling in for him in the afternoon. Haack maintained he had control over the department fulltime.

## Ranieri wants Gallo's seat

Hoboken Councilman-at-Large Robert A. Ranieri today announced that he will challenge 33rd district Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo in the November election. He also criticized Gallo for his performance in Trenton.

Ranieri said he or an emissary would file his petitions tomorrow in Trenton. He said he had no quarrel with Christopher J. Jackson, the other 33rd district assemblyman, but was only challenging Gallo.

He charged that Gallo was not a good assemblyman "nor one that has or can produce results."

Ranieri said, "We might just as well have had the seat vacant."

Gallo, also a Hoboken resident, reached in the Assembly yesterday, said, of Ranieri's candidacy. "It's a complete surprise to me."

Asked if he had any reaction to Ranieri's criticism, Gallo said, "not right now. I have to get back into session here."

Ranieri will run as an independent in November. He will not run in the June Democratic primary.

He said, if elected, his goals will be to give the district the proper

representation, and to see to it that Hoboken gets its fair share of state funds.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, asked if he would support Ranieri against Gallo, replied, "I'm with the Democratic organization," which, he said, has endorsed Gallo and Jackson.

In another development, Ranieri said he will travel to Washington tomorrow for four days, to a steering committee meeting of the National League of Cities, where he is Hoboken's representative.

## Hoboken Hispanics host candidates

By CAMILLE KENNY

The newly-formed Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (HCC) and the Galdys Civic Association in Hoboken have invited all candidates running for the city's six ward council seats to attend a forum Sunday night.

The candidates will be asked to discuss seven issues of importance to the Hispanic community, and will be rated on their answers by a panel chosen by the two organizations. "The highest-rated candidates will be endorsed by us," said

Rafael Montanez, president of the HCC. "Candidates who do not answer the questions or make an appearance will not be considered for endorsement."

The seven issues put forth by the two associations that the candidates will address include improvement of the city's education system, inclusion of more Hispanics in the city's administrative offices, endorsement of housing programs for Hispanic s, alleged police harassment of Hispanic youths, recreation programs, and employment.

The candidates will also be asked if they would publicly endorse candidates for a councilman-at-large seat in 1981.

"We want to demonstrate that we are ready and able to get involved in the political process of our city," said Montanez. One of the main objectives of the forum, he said, is to get the candidates to make a public commitment to the concerns of the Hispanic community.

Montanez, who owns the Supersonic Travel Agency, said the HCC was formed about a month ago, and has 25 to 30

members. The Galdys Association has about 60 members.

Twenty-one people are running for the six seats in the May 8 election. None of them is Hispanic. Hispanics constitute only 26 per cent of the voting population in the Mile Square City, although they are about 40 per cent of the population.

But Hispanic voter registration for the next election has increased since the November election by 60.

The forum will be held at 8:30 p.m. at the Serpico Lounge, 530 Adams St.



# Hoboken's First Street wins 'dirtiest' award

The debris and garbage-strewn stretch of First Street, between Garden and Clinton streets, is the third winner of his Dirtiest Street of the Week Award, Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri said today.

Particularly bad is the corner of First and Clinton, by the old Steneck bank building. Four people came in to his store to complain about the stretch of road, and two more called him about it last week, he said.

Ranieri notified the Department of Public Works about the street Friday. He credited the department with a 50 percent average in cleaning up the two previous award recipients, a stretch of Third Street, and the intersection of Eighth Street and Willow Avenue.

Third Street got cleaned up, but the intersection didn't, Ranieri said. The councilman awarded "dishonorable mention" to Jefferson Street, between Sixth and Seventh streets, mostly in front of an empty lot there.

Parishioners and children attending school at St. Ann's must pass the spot, and some have complained to him that the street has not been cleaned and is filled with malodorous dog litter.

Ranieri also proclaimed the corner of Twelfth and Hudson streets a "weekend special." The councilman said that residents on weekends pile trash and discarded furniture around a fire hydrant there until, by late Sunday, the hydrant is completely buried by the trash.



Litter accumulates along fence on Clinton Street, between Newark and First streets, in Hoboken.

# Haack becomes fixture as public works adviser

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken mayor Steve Cappiello says interim Public Works Director Roy Haack will continue to occupy a prominent role in the running of the department despite the return yesterday of director Andrew Amato from a two-week vacation.

Amato, harshly criticized for his administration of the department, resumed his office yesterday following a break from duties to campaign for his wife in the council race.

Cappiello said the "expertise" of Haack will continue to be used in administering the department.

"Haack will work with the director to keep the organization already begun," the mayor said he felt Haack "seems to have a handle on the men."

During his two-week tenure as director, Haack revamped the street cleaning force, using 12 public works employees and 13 Comprehensive Employment and Training Act workers under the supervision of George Crimmins Jr., Hoboken CETA director.

Haack designated part of the crew to clean north-south streets every day and the remainder to east-west streets every third day. Previously, Cappiello said he received numerous complaints from residents throughout the city about untended streets. Cappiello says he now is receiving compliments on the cleaning effort.

Councilman Walter Cramer, who criticized the administration of the public works department at the April 18 council meeting, commended street work under Haack's supervision.

At the last council meeting, Cramer charged that Amato could not effectively administer his department. "Amato is the first guy to grab a pick and do the job himself. But I find fault in his administrative ability. We don't pay him to dig in the streets."

In his ward, Cramer said, two trouble spots near 10th and Bloomfield streets and at 12th Street and Park Avenue have been cleaned under the guidance of Haack.

Amato has remained silent to charges of ineffective leadership. He invited Cramer and Councilman Robert Ranieri, who has been running a weekly "dirtiest street" contest, to Amato's political club to get a response to their accusations.

Cramer refused the invitation, saying that "city business should be conducted in council chambers, not a political club." However, Amato is loath to enter a political forum—the council—to defend himself. "I don't want to go to a political meeting. Any discussion should be done before the people, not at a caucus or council meeting," the director said.

Ranieri said he would appear at the 106 Madison St. clubhouse for a 10-minute discussion on "city improvement," and he agreed that city business should be handled in City Hall.

In recent weeks Ranieri has pointed an accusing finger at unsightly street blocks. Included among the "dirtiest" list two weeks ago was the junction of 8th Street and Willow Avenue, where a clogged catch basin caused a flooded corner. Crews under Haack's supervision since have cleaned and drained the corner.

Under Haack's administration, Ranieri said, the city has shown a "modest" improvement. The councilman maintained that "a cleaner city is not the responsibility of any one person but everyone."

Ranieri said he would meet with Amato in his office after the election. Ranieri is chairman of the council committee on water and sewerage.

Cramer said he also was willing to speak with the director at a later date. But Cramer said councilmen Nunzio Malfetti and Salvatore Cemelli, the two other members of the public works committee, should attend too.

# Hoboken sued, countersues

Hoboken is being sued for the balance of a contract to provide fire alarm boxes which it has refused to pay, and is in turn countersuing the contractor for the amount it has already paid.

Signal division superintendent Thomas Vecchione said the litigation involved a \$68,000 contract with Pyrotechnics of Cedar Knolls (former the J.W. Signal Co.) for 10 voice alarm boxes and a central console.

The console was fine, Vecchione said, but the boxes, in which one could speak to an operator, proved spotty, so he took them out again and refused to pay the balance of the contract \$39,000.

The company is suing for that amount. The city is suing to get back what it already paid, and an additional \$7,000 it paid for wiring for the system.

# Merchants' drive to buy vests for police gathering interest

The idea of a Hoboken merchant to raise funds for bullet-proof vests for all the city's policemen is picking up steam.

Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken local of the Patrolman's Benevolent Association, has appointed Detective Cecil Vincent, who works in the department's Community Relations Bureau, to coordinate the efforts.

And Vincent said today that "at least" five merchants have said they are interested in the project, which was originated by a new merchant in town, Eduardo Fernandez, a Washington Street beautician.

Fernandez' idea was to sponsor a show featuring his clothes and hair designs, with the proceeds going towards the bullet-proof vests.

He said it would be a way for him to get known in town, and at the same time benefit a worthy cause.

Vincent said he would write this week to Thomas Gallo, secretary of

the Hoboken Board of Education, requesting the use of the high school auditorium in June for the fashion show.

Other ideas under consideration are softball and basketball games and a disco.

Meehan has estimated that it would take \$14,000 to provide the vests to the 140 Hoboken policemen.

Vincent said anyone interested in participating could call him at 420-2107.

The detective said he and others on the force thought it was "really, really great" that businessmen are participating in the drive "in order to possibly save the lives of some of the fellows in blue."

# Ranieri asks Cappiello to establish EDC at last

With the city's councilmanic election out of the way, Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri today called on Mayor Steve Cappiello to establish an Economic Development Corporation as his first post-election act.

"After three years of dilly-dallying," Ranieri declared, "it is time to shift from talk to action."

"I am at a loss to understand why this all-important project for Hoboken has never got off the ground," the councilman continued.

"Our Community Development Agency has accumulated \$300,000 earmarked for it over the years. Everybody is in favor of it—but nothing happens."

An ordinance creating the CD was passed by the city council three years ago, he continued, and the corporation was set up—on paper—but not board of directors was ever appointed nor was any more made to activate it.

Cappiello said recently that he intended to put the EDC on his feet.

"But we have heard this before, over the

last three years," Ranieri commented today. He added that he refrained from bringing the matter up until after the election so as to prevent it from becoming "a campaign issue."

He said it is urgent that Cappiello meet immediately with Fred M. Bado, director of the CDA, and "interested councilmen," to choose several public-spirited industrialists willing to be members of the board of directors.

The available \$300,000, he continued, should be used to staff the corporation.

The purpose of the proposed EDC, he said, is to keep existing industrial plants from moving out of Hoboken, by helping with their problems, and to bring in new industry. Low-interest long-term loans are available from the U.S. Department of Commerce and also from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, he said.

These departments require that a municipality seeking such help must have a board and a staff which can show the capability to administer such a program, he added.

# Bado will discuss guidelines on loans

Director Fred Bado of the Hoboken Community Development Agency will meet with representatives of the Hoboken Board of Realtors to come up with a solution to home improvement loan low income guidelines which, according to Eileen Cappock, board president, threaten to halt the influx of new homeowners into the city.

CDA administers the home improvement program which provides loans at 3 percent for new homeowners who want to improve their homes. Previously there was no income requirement, Bado said, but now the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development has imposed income guidelines for eligibility.

The maximum income for a single person is \$12,265, while, for a family of three, it's \$16,500.

Ma. Cappock addressed the City Council at its meeting yesterday and sent a letter to Council President Martin J. Brennan urging that the

program receive "a top priority." Among her suggestions was that instead of income guidelines, a loan review program be set up house by house, some administrative positions in other programs be merged so that the money saved could be put in the home improvement program, and that CDA put some of its contingency funds into the program.

She also requested the agency to research federal and state programs which could provide money for the program.

Bado said that all the money for the program for this year has already been allocated. To continue the program until CDA's new calendar year begins in August would require reallocating existing money.

Brennan directed Bado to sit down with Ms. Cappock to try to devise some way around the eligibility limit.

Bado said the income guideline's purpose was to aid people with low to moderate income.

# Cappiello backs separate sewage unit

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello will ask the city council to approve recommendations by Storch Engineers, the city's sewer consultant, to establish a sewer division separate from the Department of Public Works and to hire a city engineer to assist Public Works Director Andrew Amato.

Amato said he had no reaction yet to Storch's recommendations, and that he would be discussing them with Cappiello. He did say, however, that he didn't think he was in need of the technical assistance the city engineer is supposed to give him.

The director meanwhile said he had missed the last two council caucuses because he didn't want to be used as "a political football."

"What I have to say, I'll say after Tuesday (election day)," Amato said. His wife, Florence, is challenging incumbent Louis Francone in the city's Fourth Ward council race.

Amato said he would defend himself at a meeting of his political club tomorrow night. Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri has said he will put in an appearance there, but Councilman Walter Cramer, currently Amato's harshest critic, has said he will not.

Cramer at Monday's caucus refused to sign claims for the Public Works department because Amato was not present. Amato said he will invite Cramer to meet with him in his city hall office Friday.

"Inasmuch as we spent money for the expertise, I think we should be guided by it," said Cappiello of Storch's recommendations, which would take the sewer division from Amato's department and place it under Cappiello's control.

He said he would ask for action as soon as council members have had a chance to read the Storch report.

The report recommended that a sewer superintendent be appointed to run the division under the mayor. Asked if Roy Haack, the present sewerage treatment plant superintendent, would be a logical candidate for the position, Cappiello replied, "He's as qualified as anybody I know within our own system."

As for city engineer, the mayor said he would talk to the council to adopt criteria for the position and accept resumes from anyone qualified. Cappiello also said that Haack, who was acting director during Amato's recent leave of absence, would be continuing to assist in the management of the department.

Asked if he were dissatisfied with Amato's performance as director, Cappiello replied, "He's had some criticisms we will be discussing with the city council committee."

The council's public works committee is composed of Cramer, Nunzio Malfetti and Salvatore Cemelli.

Amato has attributed the recent criticism of him to politics. He said he has also been attacked in campaign literature in several of the city's wards.

"Everybody wants to use me as a political football," he said. "I get thrown from ward to ward."

# Separate sewer unit urged for Hoboken

Storch Engineers, Hoboken's sewer consultant, has recommended that the city establish a sewer division separate from the Public Works Department and that a licensed engineer be employed in Public Works to provide technical assistance to Director Andrew Amato.

"The city does not have the ability, with its in-house staff, to return the sewer system to a condition where preventive maintenance will have a significant impact," the report stated.

"We further recommend that the sewer division initially not be a sub-

unit of the Department of Public Works but report directly to the Mayor (Steve Cappiello)."

The engineer should have the title of city engineer, the report recommended. Hoboken has not had a city engineer for several years. "This employee can be the in-house expert the Director needs to assist him in making difficult technical decisions," the report stated.

As to the present state of the city's sewerage system, Storch reported, "Because of low flow and apparent lack of maintenance over the years, there has been a significant

buildup of debris within the pipe system."

The firm cited a wooden pipe on Jefferson Street, which was two-thirds filled with debris. "The debris exhibited a marked stratification of color and stage of decay. It was obvious that the debris buildup had been occurring over a protracted period of time."

Storch reported that manholes and corner basins had equally severe buildup problems.

It recommended a \$150,000 first-year funding for a sewer contractor to undertake "an intensive, planned, supervised program" of cleaning the system.

The city has included a line item of \$150,000 for this expense in the current budget.

The sewer division should be activated on Jan. 1 of next year and include a sewer superintendent, foreman, air equipment operator, sewer laborers and truck drivers, the consultant firm said.

Other conclusions and recommendations include:

• The appropriation for the sewer division, as shown in the 1978

budget, does not reflect the actual expenditures for sewer-related activities. The actual expenditure is lower than the expenditure authorized in the budget.

• "There is a need to improve communications within the Department of Public Works . . . it is recommended that the director of public works hold monthly meetings with the department personnel."

• "There are an insufficient number of Department of Public Works employees engaged in sewer-related work. There is no supervisor below the director who is responsible for sewer maintenance."

Of Amato, the report stated, "The director spends many hours on his job, and usually takes direct charge of emergency situations. However, he has no full-time technical expert available to assist him in making decisions as to work techniques."

# Hoboken Woman's Club is 75

"See Big Things Big and Small Things Small," is the motto of the Woman's Club of Hoboken, which this month celebrates its 75th anniversary.

"We are known as a warm and friendly club and truly believe we have lived up to our motto over the years," said Agnes Conway, the current president.

Miss Conway will preside on Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at the diamond anniversary reception at the Hoboken YMCA, 1301 Washington St.

As the members and their guests — many officials representing the Eighth District of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs — gather for the celebration, looking

backward over the years will be in order.

The club was founded by Mrs. Otto H. Wittpen, the former Caroline Bayard Stevens, daughter of Edwin Augustus Stevens, one of the founders of Stevens Institute of Technology. The first efforts were in opposition to child labor and cruelty to children. Eventually the club became involved in other civic matters and public charities.

One of the first major undertakings was establishment of the Rosecrans scholarship to train young women for service for better homes and communities. Efforts helped secure a new post office building and to encourage a clean streets campaign.

The club also dedicated a shelf of books at the Hoboken library, and its members have been active on boards of the Memorial Day Nursery, the Mary Stevens Hammond Memorial Home, the YMCA and the Hoboken Chapter of the Red Cross.

Down the years the Hoboken group, which subsequently became affiliated with the state federation, won numerous state awards. Mrs. Anthony T. Zanetich, a past Hoboken Club president, is the immediate past president of the huge New Jersey State Federation.

On the committee planning Thursday's celebration are Mrs. Ralph Spadavecchia, chairman; Mrs. Max Klimkeit, Mrs. John Repetto and Mae Rosecrans.



Agnes Conway Hoboken president

# Hoboken may scale down park plans

Some of the items planned for Hoboken's Observer Highway park may have to be deleted because bids for the job came in at more than the budgeted amount, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

The low bidder for the parking and recreational facility, Orlando Construction Co. of Union City, bid \$445,360 for the job and Cappiello said only about \$300,000 is available for it, through the city's Community Development Agency.

The specifications for the contract contained a list of "alternates," Cappiello said — items which can be deleted from the contract.

The items total \$40 to \$50,000, the mayor said, but he did not know what they are.

Cappiello said the items will have to be deleted, unless the CDA can

come up with more money for the project.

He said he wants a report from the engineer, P.L. Caulfield of Hoboken, and CDA director Fred Bado as soon as possible.

Reverting for bids is not feasible, he said, because the city wants to get construction started as soon as possible so that residents can have the benefit of the recreational facilities.

The park is planned at the site of the old Condenser factory along Observer Highway. The first phase of the work would be to install tennis courts, a grass field, and a running track between Garden Street and Park Avenue.

The second phase would be to put in basketball courts, a parking area, and a field hockey facility between Bloomfield Street and Garden Street.



## Amato told to attend caucus on bill issue

The Hoboken City Council has ordered Public Works Director Andrew Amato to appear at its next caucus May 14 so it can resolve an impasse over unpaid public works claims.

A total of \$8,419.95 in bills went unpaid at yesterday's meeting because Councilman Walter Cramer, head of the council's public works committee, refused to approve them.

Cramer said he refused because he had some questions about the claims, and Amato was not present at the council's Monday caucus to answer them.

Amato said he would attend the caucus session and all caucuses from now on. He did not attend the last two, he said, because he did not want to be used as a "political football."

Cramer said he had received a letter from Amato asking him to meet with the director in his city hall office tomorrow, but he objected that Amato had not invited the other two members of the public works committee.

Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri also objected, saying councilmen shouldn't be summoned to appear in the director's office.

Amato, when he announced he was inviting Cramer to his office, said he didn't invite the other committee members because they hadn't criticized him.

The council also received bids on the proposed municipal park along Observer Highway, and to repair the roof and gym floor of the Jefferson Street recreation center.

Monroe Mechanical Services, Hoboken, bid \$214,500 to do the first phase of the work, which would be to put in tennis courts, a grass field and a running track between Garden Street and Park Avenue.

Orlando Construction Co. of Union City bid \$148,300 for phase one, and \$207,000 to do phase two — park-

ing area, basketball courts and a field hockey section between Bloomfield Street and Garden Street.

Six firms submitted bids for general construction work and for the repair to the gym floor at the recreation center. The lowest for the general construction work was Louis Gargiulo, at \$39,900. Lowest for the floor repair was T and M Contracting Co., at \$18,500.

The council approved a \$2,380 payment to Dr. F.A. Marciano for dental treatment given to a fireman, Michael Taglieri, who hit himself in the mouth with a tool while clearing debris at a fire scene.

It also approved paying a \$450 clothing allowance to Patrolman Robert Gallagher, who is retiring because of a "bad back," according to Ranieri.

## Haack becomes fixture as public works adviser

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken mayor Steve Cappiello says interim Public Works Director Roy Haack will continue to occupy a prominent role in the running of the department despite the return yesterday of director Andrew Amato from a two-week vacation.

Amato, harshly criticized for his administration of the department, resumed his office yesterday following a break from duties to campaign for his wife in the council race.

Cappiello said the "expertise" of Haack will continue to be used in administering the department.

"Haack will work with the director to keep the organization already begun," the mayor said he felt Haack "seems to have a handle on the men."

During his two-week tenure as director, Haack revamped the street cleaning force, using 12 public works employees and 13 Comprehensive Employment and Training Act workers under the supervision of George Crimmins Jr., Hoboken CETA director.

Haack designated part of the crew to clean north-south streets every day and the remainder to east-west streets every third day. Previously, Cappiello said he received numerous complaints from residents throughout the city about untended streets. Cappiello says he now is receiving compliments on the cleaning effort.

Councilman Walter Cramer, who criticized the administration of the public works department at the April 18 council meeting, commended street work under Haack's supervision.

At the last council meeting, Cramer charged that Amato could not effectively administer his department. "Amato is the first guy to grab a pick and do the job himself. But I find fault in his administrative ability. We don't pay him to dig in the streets."

In his ward, Cramer said, two trouble spots near 10th and Bloomfield streets and at 12th Street and Park Avenue have been cleaned under the guidance of Haack.

Amato has remained silent to charges of ineffective leadership. He invited Cramer and Councilman Robert Ranieri, who has been running a weekly "dirtiest street" contest, to Amato's political club to get a response to their accusations.

Cramer refused the invitation, saying that "city business should be conducted in council chambers, not a political club." However, Amato is loath to enter a political forum—the council—to defend himself. "I don't want to go to a political meeting. Any discussion should be done before the people, not at a caucus or council meeting," the director said.

Ranieri said he would appear at the 106 Madison St. clubhouse for a 10-minute discussion on "city improvement," and he agreed that city business should be handled in City Hall.

In recent weeks Ranieri has pointed an accusing finger at unsightly street blocks. Included among the "dirtiest" list two weeks ago was the junction of 8th Street and Willow Avenue, where a clogged catch basin caused a flooded corner. Crews under Haack's supervision since have cleaned and drained the corner.

Under Haack's administration, Ranieri said, the city has shown a "modest" improvement. The councilman maintained that "a cleaner city is not the responsibility of any one person but everyone."

Ranieri said he would meet with Amato in his office after the election. Ranieri is chairman of the council committee on water and sewerage.

Cramer said he also was willing to speak with the director at a later date. But Cramer said councilmen Nunzio Malfetti and Salvatore Cemelli, the two other members of the public works committee, should attend too.

## Hoboken ambulance corps says cops don't cooperate

Members of the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps are griping about the lack of cooperation they receive from city police, ambulance head Thomas Vecchione said today.

Vecchione said cops have been giving ambulance drivers a hard time about assisting them with carrying people to the vehicles. During the day, he said, there is often only one man to drive the ambulances.

A second complaint is that twice recently, policemen have not ridden in the ambulance when the corps has transported mentally disturbed people to St. Mary Hospital.

But the biggest complaint, he said, is on calls after midnight.

He said the corps had worked out an agreement with Public Safety Director James Giordano that police cars would respond to an accident scene first, and then call the corps only if an ambulance is needed.

"If someone is injured but can still walk," Vecchione said, "the police car should take the person to the hospital."

Police are getting paid, while corps members are volunteers. Also, those on call after midnight have to get up in the morning to go to work, he said.

Cooperation on this agreement

has slackened off considerably, Vecchione said.

Giordano confirmed that he had issued an order to cooperate with the corps, and would reissue it more strenuously. He also agreed that policemen should ride in the vehicles when mental patients are being transported, and should help in carrying patients when the corps is short-handed.

Giordano said he wanted "no conflict between the police department and the ambulance corps."

"They do a helluva job," the director said.

## Politics halts street sign replacement

The director of Hoboken's Traffic and Signal Division said today he has stopped the city's street sweeper warning sign replacement program because a top city hall official told him not to put a sign in front of the home of a politically-connected resident.

Thomas Vecchione would not name the official or the resident, but said the incident took place when he was installing a sign on Garden Street, off 11th Street.

"I was installing a sign in its proper place," he said, "and then I got a call from a city hall official that the homeowner didn't want it in front of his house. They wanted me to move the sign a few feet."

State law requires that street sweeper signs be installed 35 feet from each corner, with two signs on the short east-and-west streets; and three signs, one in the middle of the block, on north-and-south streets.

Vecchione said when he started Hoboken's new sign replacement

program five weeks ago he had been putting in the signs as specified by the law.

"I won't bow to political pressure," he said. "I won't put in any signs at all if I have to break the law." Vecchione said he will be having a meeting shortly with his boss, Public Safety Director James Giordano, and other city officials to discuss the situation.

The traffic and signals director estimates that half of Hoboken's streets are without signs indicating when the sweeper will come. In addition, he said, there are many locations where the signs are faded or not put in at a 45-degree angle as required by law.

The city's sweeper sign replacement program was restarted five weeks ago after the signal division had obtained the necessary equipment.

See STREET SIGN — Page 1.

Continued from Page 1

ment to make new signs and had organized the new program.

The program was transferred from the Department of Public Works to the Traffic and Signal Division about a year-and-a-half ago.

Throughout the years, Vecchione said, many of the signs were vandalized and had never been replaced. During the weeks before he stopped the program, Vecchione said his

men installed new sweeper signs on Hudson and Washington streets, the west side of Bloomfield Street, and the west side of Garden Street up to 11th Street.

Giordano had announced on Tuesday that an intensive program to put sweeper and other signs on every block will begin this summer using high school students.

Vecchione said the students would work with his men.

## Reporter 'sweeps up' dirt in Hoboken

What happens when a street sweeper is at work on a Hoboken street?

To find out a Jersey Journal reporter, incognito, followed a sweeper yesterday along its run on Garden Street from 14th Street to Observer Highway.

The first thing he found was that the officer who is supposed to ride the scooter ahead of the sweeper to put tickets on the windshield of cars in the

way of the cleaning machine — wasn't there.

This enabled the sweeper operator to go down the length of the street in 15 minutes, relaxing for the other 45 minutes until he was due on another street.

Actually the street sweeper didn't even go down the length of Garden Street. It stopped at Garden and Second.

When confronted by The Jersey

Journal reporter, the street sweeper operator said he wasn't doing anything wrong.

"Once I'm finished cleaning a street the remaining time is mine," he said.

The operator says he stopped at Second Street because there are no signs posted on Garden between Second and Observer Highway.

Why was the public safety officer who tickets the cars missing in the first place? the reporter asked.

First he called the desk officer in the Hoboken Police Department who told him to call Sgt. Mario Marcado, who was responsible for the public safety officers.

"There was an apparent lack of communications," the public safety director said. "The sweeper operator should have called the police desk to inform him there was no public safety officer."

Later in the conversation, however, Giordano said the police sergeants on duty during a particular shift are supposed to keep track of the public safety officers who ride ahead of the sweepers.

Meanwhile, the public safety director said, he thought there were two public safety officers and not one.

The reporter next tried Hoboken CETA director George Crimmins Jr. The CETA director said he had sent two men to the police department who ride in front of the sweepers and give out tickets, but it was not his responsibility to supervise them.

Marcado said he was just responsible for the mechanical condition of the vehicles and not the men who drive them. He suggested the reporter try the director of Hoboken police uniformed division, Capt. Russell Sweeten.

The captain expressed surprise that the public safety officer, who he said was a CETA worker, was not on the job.

"You don't have much control over the workers," he said. "They come in at 8 and I come in at 10 in the morning."

When asked if he thought the lack of supervision was a problem, Sweeten said no.

"It's not really a job that needs supervision," he said. "If there is a problem we get calls from people like you."

The captain said there was only one public safety officer who rode ahead of the sweepers.

Then the reporter tried Public Safety Director James Giordano.

Finally the reporter spoke with Sweeten again, who said that while the reporter was observing the sweeper, both officers were at the police station by the desk officer.

He said he found out there had been two sweepers on duty since two weeks ago, when a second machine was fixed. The second machine, he said, was doing the area west of Willow Avenue, which hadn't been cleaned by machine in quite a while.

Many residents didn't know the second machine was back and they called the police station to complain. So the desk officer called both public safety officers to headquarters to find out what was happening.

The captain said the public safety officer for the second sweeper never told him or his men he was back on duty and the sweeper was fixed.

"I thought he was guarding the parks at night," the captain said. He said in the future he will have better supervision for the public safety officers.

"I will issue a directive," he said, "for the sergeants on duty to make sure the public safety officers are doing their job."

Meanwhile Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato could not be reached for comment on the whole situation.

## Mary Ellen Gallo gets Hoboken job

Hoboken Councilman Thomas Gallo's daughter-in-law will be named the city's new recreation coordinator.

Mrs. Gallo, wife of the assemblyman's son, Dominick, will take over the newly-created position as early as next week, according to Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina.

The director said Mrs. Gallo was one of two candidates recommended by Hoboken's recreation committee.

"Both candidates were well qualified for the job, but Mrs. Gallo was a local resident and that gave her the edge," he said.

Farina said he believed a local resident could better serve the needs of the Hoboken community.

Mrs. Gallo now works as a part-time arts and crafts instructor in the Uptown Cultural Arts and Recreation Program. She has directed the summer

arts and crafts and recreation program at the Stevens Cooperative School in Hoboken for the last four years.

Mrs. Gallo has also taught pottery in both the Hudson School in Hoboken and the Hoboken Evening High School.

Before Mrs. Gallo takes office, Farina said, the Hoboken City Council must first approve the job specifications at its next meeting on Wednesday.

Farina said Mrs. Gallo will be paid approximately \$9,000 a year for the part-time position.

Mrs. Gallo will be responsible for coordinating Hoboken's recreation programs along with those of the Community Development Agency and Board of Education. She will supervise some of the recreation programs.

Farina said the recreation coordinator would not supervise or take charge of the recreation programs sponsored by the CDA.

## Mayor denies Amato rap

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello Friday denied charges by Public Works Director Andrew Amato that the recent criticism of his performance is politically-inspired.

"I don't mix politics with the running of government," Cappiello said. "All I want is maximum efficiency from my people. Of course, it feeds go on. It happens all the time, and it makes for a competitive spirit."

Councilman Walter Cramer has charged that Amato is an inept administrator. Cramer said that, although the director prodded the city to buy nearly \$300,000 in new equipment last year, the streets remain filthy.

Cramer delivered a lengthy criticism of Amato at the April 18 council meeting. Since

then, the councilman has refused to approve bills submitted by Amato until the director appears at a caucus meeting.

On Thursday night, before a gathering of 50 people in his political club at 106 Madison St., Amato responded to Cramer's criticism. He said administration officials have undermined his efforts because of his friendship with the campaign manager of an opposition candidate in the 5th Ward race.

Mark Cerrone, a long-time friend of Amato and a member of his political club, is backing Norman Wilson, in the 5th Ward contest. But Amato claims his only endorsement in the council races has gone to his wife, Florence, who is running in the 4th Ward.

"Two years ago, I went before the Steve Cappiello club and pledged my support to the

mayor. I said then that if Steve Cappiello went down, I'd go down with him," the works director said. Amato insisted his only allegiance is to the administration.

Amato said he closed his ladies garment plant, where 75 people were employed, to work as public works director for Cappiello. "I love my job, and this is an honest department," he said.

Amato said he would retain an attorney, if necessary, to clear his reputation.

Amato said, "the administration is trying to make a movie star out of Haack." Amato charged that streets were cleaner during the short Haack tenure because the "administration is using everything in their power to keep the streets clean to make me look bad."

## Amato critical of street sweepers

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said today one of his street sweepers can't adequately clean the length of one of Hoboken's north-south streets in 15 minutes.

A Jersey Journal reporter observed a street sweeper go down the entire length of Garden Street Monday. The sweeper operator started his machine at 10 a.m. and was finished at 10:15 a.m.

During the time remaining until he was due on another street at 11 a.m., the sweeper operator stopped at a local restaurant and relaxed at the public works garage.

"What's wrong with a little

coffee break?" asked Amato when first told of the situation. When the reporter explained, however, that it was a 45-minute coffee break, Amato said he thought that was much too long.

"He (the sweeper operator) must have been going too fast down the street," Amato said. "It should take longer to clean a street."

Meanwhile in a related matter, Amato said he will appoint an acting sanitation inspector today to replace Edward McIntyre, the city's chief sanitation inspector who died Wednesday morning after a short illness.

Amato said he first wants to check with Hoboken's law department to see if the city

council must give the acting inspector police powers.

Among the inspectors' various duties, Amato said, are supervising public works employees in the field including the sweeper operators.

## Senate OKs Hoboken aid bill

By Special Correspondent

TRENTON — The Senate approved under an emergency resolution yesterday an Assembly-passed bill restoring most of the more than \$600,000 in state aid in lieu of railroad taxes to Hoboken. It was sent to Gov. Brendan T. Byrne for his signature.

Earlier, the Senate Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee released the measure after testimony from its sponsor, As-

semblyman Thomas A. Gallo, Hoboken Democrat.

Sen. William V. Musto, Union City Democrat, led the floor moves for the act which would extend the in lieu payments for two more years at a level of approximately \$600,000, 75 percent of the more than \$800,000 Hoboken was allocated by the state last year.

Relying on the funds for the current budget, Hoboken also is using the measure to counter a ruling by

State Taxation Division Director Sidney Glaser. He had refused to restore the 75 percent amount.

While Hoboken was notified that the rail properties, including the former Erie Lackawanna terminal, are exempt from local taxation because they are state-owned, Gallo's act would insure the payments regardless of ownership or possession as long as the property "is used for the transportation of persons or freight by a railroad."

## No wall ads at City Hall, please

Are the inside walls of Hoboken's City Hall supposed to be plastered with free advertising?

A Jersey Journal reporter put that question to Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius after he noticed a number of posters throughout the hall.

Chius answered a resounding

"no."

"I rip them down all the town," said the business administrator. "I don't think scotch tape belongs on the wall of City Hall. It cheapens the building."

Two of the posters hanging in the second floor lobby of the hall advertised a new commercial enterprise — a miniature gold course, batting range and golf driving range that is to open soon in Hoboken.

Another poster advertised a rummage sale in a local apartment complex while still another two informed City Hall employees of the upcoming elections of the Hoboken Employees Association.

Chius said the Municipal Employees Association letter should

have been placed on the City Hall bulletin board instead of on the wall.

The other posters, he said, didn't belong there at all.

The business administrator said it was Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato's responsibility to make sure there were no posters on the hall's walls.

Amato, however, said he wasn't aware of the posters.

"When I came in at a quarter to 8 I didn't see any posters," the director said. "Someone must have put them on the wall while I was in my office."

Amato said he will order his men to take down any posters that don't belong.

The public works director said, though, his men already had orders to take down posters.

"They have been doing it all along," he said.



## Hoboken 4th-grader wins state art-essay contest

By Special Correspondent

TRENTON — Michael Thomas, a fourth grade pupil at Daniel S. Kealey School in Hoboken, was announced by Gov. Brendan T. Byrne as one of seven winners in the Art/Essay Contest sponsored by the State Transportation Department observation of National Transportation Week.

Each winner received a \$25 Savings Bond and plaque from Byrne and Transportation Commissioner Louis J. Gambaccini in the State House yesterday. Thomas won the competition for grades 4-6.

## 3 Hoboken police cars vandalized

Three Hoboken police cars have been vandalized in the last few weeks while they were parked in the Hoboken Police Benevolent Association President Richard Meehan said today.

Meehan said a microphone was taken from one car, while another had its radio equipment worth \$1,000 removed and still another had its aerial bent.

All three cars, he said, were parked at night in the authority's Third Street Garage when the incidents happened.

The PBA president said Hoboken's police cars had been stored

until about a year ago on the upper level of the Second Street Garage. "They were moved to the first floor of the Third Street Garage so the lot attendant could watch over them," he said.

Meehan said the attendant, though, has other things to do and cannot always keep an eye on the patrol cars.

"What we really need is a fence,"

he said. In addition to the recent incidents of vandalism, he said there were a number of incidents where patrol cars had their headlights broken a few months ago.

Meehan said during the most recent incident of vandalism, an alert police officer making a routine check saved one of the patrol car's radios.

"The radio had been removed

from the police car and it was lying under the car," he said. "Someone had probably removed it and planned to come back for it, and if he hadn't made the check we would have lost the radio."

Hoboken Public Safety Director James Giordano said he had not heard of the latest vandalism incidents but would look into the situation.

## Hoboken youths to clean lots

Hoboken youths again will clean 40 vacant city lots filled with garbage and debris this summer.

The same 40 lots were cleaned last summer by youths involved in a summer program.

Hoboken Community Development Agency Director Fred Bado, whose agency runs the programs, said

the problem is as soon as the lots are cleaned up, local residents again fill them with garbage and debris.

Bado said even in cases where his agency has put fences around the lots to prevent dumping, residents have thrown their own garbage over the fence.

"The only thing the fence has

done is make it harder for the public works employees to remove the garbage," he said.

The CDA director said his agency has more than \$100,000 allocated for residents who want to make the vacant lots into pocket parks, but there has been little interest.

"There were five or six vest-pocket parks five years ago but they all have been destroyed by vandals," said Bado.

Because of this, Bado said his agency will not create any more parks, unless neighborhood residents are involved.

"Community residents must help maintain the parks or else they will be destroyed," said Bado.

## Amato politicked, streets 'fell apart'

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato has ordered a crackdown on some of his employees who aren't putting in a full day's work and others who are collecting overtime pay without his permission.

"I am the boss of this department and I am going to run it," declared Amato. "Some employees think they can do whatever they want, they don't even come into this office any more."

The director said during the time he took off the job to campaign for his wife's unsuccessful bid for a City Council seat and during recent vacations he took, the Public Works Department "fell apart."

"I have a bill here for one foreman for \$400 worth of overtime in one week," Amato said. "I'm not saying they shouldn't take the overtime if there is an emergency, but an employee should at least call me on the phone and let me know."

Amato said it seems the same people are the ones getting the overtime over and over again.

"Something funny's going on," he said.

The director also cited numerous incidents where his men apparently went home early or were goofing off on the job.

"There are holes and craters throughout the streets. They're supposed to clean and take care of everything but they haven't been."

Amato said all he's asking his men to do is to do a decent day's work for their pay.

"Some of my men," he said,

"don't understand. People are entitled to service."

Amato said he will be going out in the field himself to make sure his men are doing their job.

## Hoboken will award baseball field contract

The Hoboken City Council will award a contract tomorrow for the first phase of its new recreation and parking center on Observer Highway from Park Avenue to Bloomfield Street.

A contract of approximately \$120,000 is expected to be awarded to Alondro Construction Co. It calls for a baseball field with a cinder running track around it, and two tennis courts. It will be located on the city block from Garden Street to Park Avenue. The city hopes to have the project ready in about 90 days. The second phase, calling for parking of

automobiles and other recreation facilities, will be awarded later.

The council will receive a draft of a proposed new zoning ordinance for review and, on recommendation of Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, the board will give it a first reading. Calligy pointed out that this will conform with a state timetable and will enable the council to make any changes they want and then give the ordinance a public hearing.

The council will be asked to approve a \$157,000 monthly water bill from Jersey City. This prompted Councilman Robert Ranieri to call at last night's caucus for some action on

hiring a water consultant. Ranieri again maintained that Hoboken is losing about half of the water it is buying. As an example, he cited a house on Newark Street which was recently found to have been served by three water lines. Two did not have a meter, he said, and the third was tied into a meter that was defective.

Both Councilman Walter Cramer

and Council President Martin Brennan questioned Public Works Director Andrew Amato about old concrete rubbish receptacles stored in a vacant lot at 14th and Washington Street. Amato said they were there before he assumed directorship of the department but that he had filled in land in the lot as a safety measure when a large hole developed.

## Despite probe, Orlando wins Hoboken contract

The Hoboken City Council last night, as expected, awarded a contract for \$135,170 to the Orlando Construction Co., Union City, to build a baseball field, cinder track and two tennis courts on the site of the old Condenser Service & Engineering Co. along Observer Highway from Park Avenue to Bloomfield Street.

Monroe Mechanical Co., Hoboken, was the only other bidder on the job. That firm offered to do the work for \$214,500, city officials said. Meanwhile, federal probes are looking into alleged mob infiltration into Orlando's federally financed construction projects elsewhere.

The council will hold a public hearing June 7 at 10 a.m. on a proposed zoning code which would prohibit any industrial development on the city's waterfront and would restrict high-rise residential construction to the city's southwest area, according to Ralph Seligman, city planning board consultant who drafted the code.

Speaking after the council introduced an ordinance for the zoning code last night, Seligman said he'll visit Philadelphia tomorrow to get a tour of that city's park system before drafting the new code's "development plan," which will designate recreational use areas for Hoboken.

The consultant was responding, in part, to questions about certain possible deficiencies in the zoning code raised by Richard Cohen, who claimed the code's waterfront section permitted a "legalized floating zone" where just about anything could be built.

But Seligman said later that the code provided for public hearings before any "conditional uses" could be granted. Under such uses, he said, residential structures would be limited to two stories of no more than 35 feet, although a developer could gain an exemption by providing a certain amount of open space.

Other waterfront property uses allow marinas, including storage, repair and outfitting of small boats, and "planned commercial development," which Seligman said could be primarily restaurants and research labs.

In other developments, Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri complained that Jersey City's governing body, by voting for a November referendum on whether or not the city should fluoridate its drinking water, was being "unfair" to Hoboken, which buys its water from Jersey City. "It's not equitable where

another city is determining the status of our drinking water," said Ranieri.

Meanwhile, Florio says he's been advised by county officials that the Hudson freeholders have awarded a contract to the Badaracco Bros., Hoboken, to repair the Park Avenue bridge lighting and that firm will start work today, he said.

The council also received bids for construction of a municipal garage that came in at about \$30,000 over the estimate and authorized payment of \$11,200 to T&M Contractors, Hoboken, for repairing a cornice at the firehouse at 801 Clinton St.

## Two cities tackle traffic congestion

Increased truck traffic through Hoboken streets and motorists using bus stops for parking in Union City is spurring police in both cities to crack down on problems which they appear to be intensifying.

In Hoboken, Public Safety Director James Giordano said today the city will put an end to the use of city streets by huge trucks seeking an accessway between the Lincoln and Holland Tunnels.

In Union City, Public Safety Commissioner Arthur Wichert pinpointed bus stops as the major cause of traffic congestion.

Giordano said Hoboken crews will be putting up 50 signs that say "No Trucks" at various places throughout the city in the next few weeks.

"Once the signs are up," he said, "we will start renewed enforcement of our ordinance."

Hoboken has an ordinance barring trucks which use the city streets as a connector road. The law is about 25 years old but city officials could not remember the last time it was enforced.

"There are only a few signs now in the city and many are faded out," said Giordano. "We haven't been able to enforce the ordinance because we

don't have the warning signs. It would not stand up in court."

Giordano estimated at least 35 large trucks use Hoboken streets daily as an accessway. They put a strain on local paving and sometimes cause sewer lines to collapse, he said.

Union City's traffic problems, Wichert said, is caused mainly by buses unable to pull

into bus stops and pick up passengers because illegally parked cars are at the stops.

"This causes traffic to back up behind loading buses which cannot pull up to the curb," he explained. He pointed to the one-way route along New York Avenue as a main problem area.

Motorists using the stops will now be ticketed, he warned.

## Hoboken beginning water leak overhauls

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said yesterday crews would begin repairs on 25 water service leaks scattered throughout the city next week.

Amato said the repair work would be charged to the property owners. The Pitometer Associates of Manhattan, contacted by Hoboken, estimated that 125,000 gallons were lost daily.

The director said the leaks occurred in the pipe taps running from the homes to the main lines in the streets. Normal wear on the pipes is the general cause for the breaks, Amato said.

Water loss is a major problem in Hoboken. Councilman Robert Ranieri, chairman of the water and sewerage committee, has reported that half of the 10 million gallons Hoboken receives daily from Jersey City remains unaccounted for. Yet, Hoboken residents must pay for every gallon sent to the city.

The repair work marks the first action under Amato's campaign to reorganize the public works department. The director has been criticized for "ineffectively" administering the department by Councilman Walter Cramer, chairman of the public works committee. Amato countered by stating top officials have been undermining his authority at the department.

But at the Monday night caucus, the council instructed Amato to inform the crews to take orders only from him. "I'm happy about the caucus meeting, it cleared the air," Amato said. "Now I can do my job."

"The men were told today, they take orders only from me," he continued. "From now on I'm not going out into the streets...I used to jump into the holes and repair the sewers myself. But no more, I'm working from this office to supervise everything."

## City's parking bonds win higher rating

The rating of Hoboken Parking Authority bonds has been raised by Moody's Investors Service from BA to BAA, Joseph Hottendorf, Hoboken Parking Authority chairman said today.

The one-step higher rating is important, said Hottendorf, because if there is ever a need to float bonds, it can be done at a lower rate.

The city of Hoboken's bond rating had been raised from BA to BAA last year by Moody's and Hottendorf said even since then he had been trying to get Moody's to raise the level of the authority's bonds too.

Hottendorf said he felt the higher rating was due to the fact that the parking authority took in almost \$300,000 more in revenue in 1978 as compared with 1977.

The chairman said the increased revenue was due to his

and his staff's extensive efforts to attract more people to park their cars in the parking authority's three garages.

"We have advertised on the PATH Trains and in magazines and I have made numerous phone calls to union officials and different people to let them know about the facilities," he said.

Hottendorf said there are a number of New York residents who now park their cars in the authority's garages.

"They can't beat the rates, \$35 a month as compared with up to \$200 a month in New York," he said.

## Cappiello pushes Bado on EDC

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said he wants Community Development Director Fred Bado to get moving and set up an Economic Development Corporation now.

"I told him I want to see the organization off the ground now," he said. "Mr. Bado has been exercising too much caution. We have got to get the whole thing moving."

Last June 16 Cappiello said he had directed Bado to "begin post-haste on the paperwork necessary to get the EDC going."

Bado meanwhile, said he is putting finishing touches on his plan to create the EDC and a report should be in the hands of the mayor in the coming week.

But, he said, the actual creation of the EDC is still a way off.

The present timetable, he said, calls for the establishment of a Mayor's Advisory Committee by the end of June which would meet to discuss how the EDC should be set up and what its by-laws should be.

Bado said he doesn't want the EDC created until members of the advisory committee are sure about the by-laws.

"I don't want to run into the problems we had with the Historic District Commission

where the by-laws had to be changed once the commission was established because members weren't sure of the commission's goals," he said.

"I recently had a meeting with private industry representatives in Hoboken and now I'll do the same with the retail community," he said.

Bado said it has been hard convincing business leaders that the EDC will work for them.

"There is a basic distrust of city hall," he said. "They think the politicians only care when it comes to election time and they want contributions."

## Movies return to Hoboken

Tonight for the first time in more than a decade, they'll be showing movies again in Hoboken.

The grand opening is scheduled for 8 p.m. of Hoboken's Cinema 1 and 2 in the Grogan-Marineview Plaza office building at Second and Hudson streets.

Each of the twin theaters will have seats for 250 patrons and the latest sound and projection equipment available, said Victor Drjelic, the theater's owner.

The first two attractions at the theater are the Neil Simon comedy, "California Suite" and a Spanish film.

Drjelic said he plans to present both Spanish and English films to serve both segments of the Hoboken community. The theaters, he said, will present first-run films starting at 6 p.m. during the week and all day on Saturday and Sunday.

The movie owner said he feels the theaters will be very successful.

"The people of Hoboken need good entertainment," he said. "During the weekends I've always seen the crowds of Hoboken residents on buses going to see movies in Union City. Now they won't have to any more."

The theaters have been under construction for the last year and a half. They are the first new theaters since the old Fabian theater on Washington Street closed.



## May agree on money due Hoboken for water

Hoboken and Jersey City are getting close to an agreement as to how much money the mile-square city is owed because of a water leak on the Jersey City side of the border between the two cities, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

The mayor said for the first time both cities have laid their cards on the table as to how many gallons of water Hoboken is losing daily from the Jersey City leak.

Cappiello said a study done by the Pitometer Associates in New York for Hoboken in November 1976 showed Hoboken was losing 110,000 gallons of water daily from the Jersey City leak.

The mayor said Jersey City officials did their own in-house study and they came to the conclusion Hoboken was losing approximately 64,000 gallons of water a day.

Although there is a large difference between the two cities' figures, Cappiello said he thinks an agreement can be reached soon.

Cappiello said based on his figures, Hoboken would stand to gain \$400,000, which comes out to \$100,000 for each year the leak remained unfixed.

Jersey City officials are scheduled to start fixing the leak on Monday, but Cappiello, Public Works Director Andrew Amato, and other city officials all agree fixing the leak is just a drop in the bucket.

A study done for Hoboken by the Stevens Institute Center for Municipal Studies and Services three years ago said Hoboken was losing half the 12 million gallons of water it

received from Jersey City through various leaks.

"I would estimate while we are now only using about 10 million gallons of water daily, we are still losing half of it through leaks," Councilman Robert Ranieri said.

The Stevens report that the water loss was due to leaky fire hydrants, broken water meters, leaky service pipes and water taps that had never been turned off.

Amato said he is now addressing some of those problems cited in the Stevens report by having his men travel around the city looking for vacant buildings and lots where buildings once stood and the water was never turned off.

The Public Works director said he has also found at least 25 homes where the water pipes are broken and if the homeowners don't fix them now, his men will do it at their expense.

Still Cappiello questions if the public works department has enough men and the expertise of the Stevens experts to really address the problem.

Ranieri said he feels what is needed is a separate water and sewer division as recommended in a recent report by a city consultant.

Meanwhile, motorists traveling between Jersey City and Hoboken will have a harder time of it starting Monday when Jersey City starts repairing its water leak.

Motorists who normally use the Newark Street-Jersey Avenue route to travel between the two cities will have to use either Grove or Henderson streets.

## Independents to back Wilson in June run-off

By DIANE CURCIO

The Hoboken 5th Ward Independents have united and pledged to support E. Norman Wilson in his attempt to unseat administration-backed incumbent Martin Brennan in the June 12 council run-off election, it was learned yesterday.

Four Independents had challenged Brennan for the 5th Ward seat in the May 8 election. But the five-way struggle failed to produce a majority vote for any of the contenders. Wilson and Brennan received the most votes in last week's contest.

Defeated Independent candidates Leonard Laizzi, Michael Cirilli and Anthony Lisa are scheduled to meet at Wilson headquarters today to plot campaign strategies.

The defeated Independents say the 5th Ward needs a change in leadership. In announcing his endorsement, Laizzi said yesterday: "Wilson will truly represent the people and I'm sure he will remain independent." Laizzi received 216 votes in the regular election.

On Thursday night he met with members of his political club. "I asked the membership to follow me in my support

of Wilson and they agreed unanimously," Laizzi said. Seventy-two members are registered in the club.

Laizzi pledged his endorsement despite a long-standing political feud with Wilson campaign manager Mark Cerrone. Neither Laizzi nor Cerrone explain reasons for their feud.

Cirilli, who received 191 votes, and Lisa, who got 121 votes, announced their endorsement on Tuesday night.

Wilson, executive director for HOPES Inc., a community service organization, said yesterday the "Independents" unity "show that basically the people in the 5th Ward want a change and myself and the other candidates are committed to bringing it about."

Brennan could not be reached to comment on the move yesterday.

Wilson said the first priority of his administration would be to make himself available to the people. "I intend to maintain an office in the 5th Ward that will be open two nights a week and on Saturdays."

Wilson also contends that the school system should be of major concern to a councilman.

## Ranieri wants Hoboken to vote on fluoridation

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri said today he is tired of Jersey City going back and forth between a fluoridated and unfluoridated water supply and he wants to give Hoboken voters a chance to decide for themselves.

Related story on Page 4.

Ranieri said he will introduce a resolution at the next Hoboken City Council meeting in June calling for the question of fluoridation to be put on the ballot in November.

Jersey City's water supply had been fluoridated for many years but the Jersey City Council ended that

practice last year and decided to give Jersey City voters a chance to vote on the matter this November.

Hoboken receives its water from Jersey City, but has no say at all in the operation of the water system.

This doesn't bother Ranieri, however, because he feels if Hoboken voters vote the opposite way Jersey City voters do, there may be good grounds for Hoboken to break its contract with Jersey City.

The councilman said Hoboken is now in the third year of a five-year contract with Jersey City and Ranieri said the fact that Jersey City keeps switching between fluoridation and non-fluoridation may be a violation of the agreement between the two cities.

## School board raises pay

The Hoboken Board of Education last night awarded pay raises to six administrative personnel not covered by contract, approved a "pilot" after-school program for youngsters at the Calabro School, appointed three guidance counselors and named an assistant track coach.

Awarded the largest salary boost was Louis Francione, maintenance supervisor, who goes from \$16,000 to \$18,000 annually. Business Manager Anthony Romano's pay was

jumped from \$23,000 to \$23,848; board secretary Thomas Gallo went from \$28,000 to \$28,513; administrative assistant Virginia Tallon, from \$19,000 to \$19,310; food service director John Palmieri, \$18,000 to \$18,293, and internal auditor Anthony Curko, \$16,000 to \$16,750.

No pay adjustment was granted board negotiator Louis DePascale.

Robert Wendelken, who was selected board president at the annual reorganization session

(James Monaco is vice president), said the six employees agreed to a "waive" their right to a "ratio" formula which allows them a certain percentage of contract workers' pay adjustments.

The board reacted favorably to a written proposal by Joan and Joseph Rafter to permit the use of the Calabro School on Monday and Tuesday from 2:30 to 4 p.m. under the principal's supervision to conduct courses in "cross cultural

games," language arts and baton-twirling for Calabro School youngsters.

Assigned to various elementary schools as guidance counselors for the rest of the school year were Ann Angelone, John Sivo and Matthew Calabrese. The trio, who work now as teachers, will get \$300 more a year a counselors.

The board also named Elizabeth Quagliari as assistant track coach at a stipend prorated at \$700 for the balance of the season and voted to abide by an arbitrator's ruling in a Title I employees' pay grievance which Wendelken said would cost the board \$53,000.

## Stevens Co-op School has plans to expand

The Stevens Cooperative School in Hoboken will be expanding from its present kindergarten, nursery and first grade program to a full nursery to fourth grade program.

The expansion will take place in the next two years, according to school director Hugh Kilmer.

Kilmer said during the 1979 school year, Stevens will create a separate first grade and also accept a few second-grade students. In 1980, he said, the school will introduce a combined third and fourth grade class.

The director said the school is also currently involved in trying to expand its tuition assistance program to help meet the needs of the Hoboken community.

"Hoboken is not a rich community," Kilmer said, "about half our students could use assistance."

He said about one quarter of the students now enrolled in the school receive assistance.

Kilmer said the school just received a \$1,000 contribution from singer Frank Sinatra for use in help-

ing kindergarten students with the school tuition.

"With the establishment of the first grade class next year, we will also be initiating a program of having qualified parents serve as resource teachers in exchange for tuition reductions," he said.

The Stevens School, according to Kilmer, will also be introducing a cooperative program where some of its pre-school teachers visit other area schools to share their knowledge.

## Clam Broth owner shells out for vests

By DIANE CURCIO

A campaign to supply the Hoboken Police Department with bulletproof vests got a boost yesterday when the owner of the Clam Broth House Restaurant donated \$480 to buy three of the protective garments.

The PBA has received pledges from various other Hoboken merchants and civic organizations to buy 13 other vests, according to Detective Cecil Vincent, PBA's Benevolent Association coordinator for the project.

Public Safety Director James Giordano said he appreciated the efforts on behalf of the merchants, but cautioned the officers "to always think of their safety while wearing the vest. It is not a cure-all for the undesirables who are out to get a policeman on the streets. You still have to be alert and on guard at all times."

PBA President Thomas Meehan said a lottery would decide who among the force will wear the vests. The 86 officers in the uniform division have first priority.

Although the vests will be issued to the lottery winners, the protective gear will remain the property of the PBA, Meehan said. Should someone habitually fail to wear the vest while on duty, the PBA will give it to another officer, he explained.

The state police have certified the model chosen by the Hoboken department.

Anyone interested in donating to the drive can send donations to: Hoboken PBA Vest Fund, 100 Newark St., Hoboken.

## 7 employees accuse Amato of harassment

By Randolph Diamond

A group of seven Hoboken Public Works employees charged today they are being "politically harassed" by Public Works Director Andrew Amato because they worked for the re-election of Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione.

Francione defeated Amato's wife, Florence, in the Fourth Ward in the recent city-wide elections.

The men also said Amato is "not competent to run the public works department," and "cited a number of incidents where workers who were members of Amato's political club had been rewarded and those who were not were punished."

Amato denied all the charges and said "the men are making up fairy tales."

Hoboken Mayor Steven Cappiello, who met with the seven men said he will turn their charges over to Walter Cramer,

chairman of the City Council's Public Works Committee.

"We may have to have hearings," Cappiello said.

The employees said Amato and his son often follow them around to make sure they don't stop for even a minute to get coffee.

"While we're working hard employees who are friends are drinking at a local bar and taking half a day," said employee John Colegrove. "It's purely political harassment."

Another employee, C. Scerbo, cited the example of one employee he, he said, is a member of Amato's political club and takes a two-hour lunch break and then is allowed to leave daily at 2:30 p.m.

"We have all the dates and the times, we can document all this," Scerbo said.

The seven men said most of the 25 employees in the public works garage are against Amato.

"He doesn't know what he is

doing," said Colegrove. "During a snowstorm last year I was driving a salt spreader down one street and he had another salt spreader following me. He talks about saving money for the department, but what is the point of sending all the salt spreaders down the same street?"

Amato said the men were making the charges "because they just want to goof off. A lot of times I find them in restaurants at 2 p.m. or just not doing their job."

"I'm not out to hurt anyone, I don't care who anyone supported in the election," Amato went on. "The men had it easy for many years but I wouldn't put up with them goofing off. All I'm asking is for a decent day's work for their pay."

All seven employees expressed concern at the meeting with the mayor that they were going to be suspended by Amato.

One employee, mechanic Danny Mincica, had received a

suspension order effective today because he was fixing his own van in the public works garage after work Friday night, violating Amato's order that no private vehicles be fixed in the shop.

Mincica admits violating the order but said he uses his own van while on city business to pick up parts and service public works trucks because the public works department wouldn't supply him with a van.

"I've spent hundreds of hours driving the van around on city business and I never asked them to pay gas, and now I'm suspended," said Mincica.

Amato said Mincica should not be using a private vehicle to do city business.

"What happens if there is an accident, if he kills someone?" he asked. "Are we responsible?"

The Public Works director said it is not true there are no city vehicles for Mincica to use and said he also caught the mechanic fixing someone's private car last week.

"We are not going to let him run a private business in the garage fixing cars," he said. The public works director said he is very concerned about some recent thefts from the garage, including \$600 worth of tires.

"We haven't even paid for them yet and they're gone," he said. "Tools also have been taken. I don't want anyone in the garage after hours."

Cappiello, meanwhile, told the public works employees yesterday he is very concerned about the loss of gasoline in the garage and other problems.

"We still have investigations going on," he said.

One of the seven employees present at yesterday's meeting with the mayor was Carmen Falco, a nephew of Councilman Francione.

Falco had been brought up on departmental charges two weeks ago that he left work a number of times after lunch and never came back.

Amato said Falco admitted his guilt and he dropped the charges.



## Defeated candidates unite to back Brennan's opponent

Hoboken Fifth Ward Council candidate E. Norman Wilson has now received the endorsements of all three independent candidates he defeated in the recent election.

Wilson received the endorsement of Michael Cirilli early last week and now the two other candidates, Leonard A. Laizzi and Anthony P. Lisa, have also endorsed him.

Wilson is scheduled to face City

Council President Martin Brennan in a runoff election on June 12.

Wilson was the highest votegetter and Brennan ran second. But neither candidate received more than 50 percent of the vote, forcing a runoff.

Laizzi said he was endorsing Wilson because he felt an obligation to the residents of the Fifth Ward.

"I campaigned against Councilman Brennan and felt then as I do

now," he said "It is time to change from the political machine type of representation to a new independent councilman who has promised to avail himself to the people of the Fifth Ward."

Meanwhile, Wilson said voters in his ward are being told if they did not vote in May that they cannot vote June 12 in the run-off.

"This is definitely untrue," he

said, "and is an attempt to keep people from voting."

Wilson said he did not know who the people were who were spreading the rumor, but he said, "they're not from my camp."

Brennan also said the men were not connected with his campaign and he doesn't know why anyone would do such a thing.

## Recreation post jeopardized by lack of specifications

Hoboken can't appoint a recreation coordinator after all the necessary preliminaries were overlooked.

Meanwhile the city of Hoboken started to plan its summer recreation program this week, but it's largely without the help of Hoboken's newly chosen recreation coordinator, Mary Ellen Gallo.

Mrs. Gallo was hired to help plan and supervise Hoboken's recreation programs, but now the soonest Health and Welfare Director James Farina estimates she could take office is sometime in July.

The problem, according to Farina, is that the Hoboken Recreation Commission has not yet finished drawing up the specifications for the job.

Once the specifications are drawn up, Farina said, the job specifications must first be ap-

proved by the City Council and then the Civil Service Commission must then approve the job and give a test.

In addition, Farina said there is a law which prohibits the appointment of a new employee within 30 days of an election. Hoboken had a council election May 8.

Farina said even if Mrs. Gallo had Civil Service approval, she couldn't be appointed now because it has not yet been 30 days since the last city elections.

Another runoff election is scheduled for June 12. Farina said the city will also have to wait 30 days after that to appoint Mrs. Gallo.

He said Mrs. Gallo would be sitting in on some of the summer recreation planning to offer her advice on a volunteer basis, before she takes office.

One of Mrs. Gallo's functions will be to coordinate Hoboken's recreation programs with those of the board of education and the Community Development Agency.

Because Mrs. Gallo is not yet in office, Farina said his staff will work hard to make sure there is no duplication between the agencies in the current summer program.

Meanwhile, Farina said he couldn't understand why the recreation commission didn't create the specifications for the recreation coordinator's job before it recommended Mrs. Gallo.

Suellen Newman, chairman of the recreation committee said the Commission didn't draw up the specifications first for the job, because it wasn't sure it could find someone to meet them.



## Hoboken 6th Ward recount sought...

By DIANE CURCIO

Patrick Pasculli, charging that 10 absentee ballots were fraudulent, will contest Tuesday's Hoboken election results that had him lose a slot in the 6th Ward run-off by just five votes.

"People filed absentee ballots from addresses where they never lived," said Pasculli's campaign manager, James Farina, who is also Hoboken's health and welfare director.

Farina said a lawyer has been retained to work for a court order to force a recount and to contest the absentee ballots.

Hudson County Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady said yesterday candidates had 15 days to obtain a court order for a recount.

The 6th Ward run-off election has narrowed to a dogfight between incumbent Nunzio Malfetti and former Councilman Edward McLaughlin.

Malfetti was the star vote-getter, rolling up a total of 302. From the election machine tally, Pasculli placed second with 202 votes and McLaughlin garnered 204 votes.

But McLaughlin received 72 absentee votes, bringing his total to 343 and nudging

ing Pasculli out of second place. Pasculli obtained only 36 absentee votes.

Pasculli is a teacher at Wallace School in Hoboken and also vice president of the city's Young Democrats, of which Farina is president. Tuesday's vote was Pasculli's first attempt at elective office.

The other candidates in the race were John Giacchi, with 279 votes, and John Cirriello, 91 votes. The run-off is slated for June 12.

McLaughlin said he was "hopeful the other candidates would now lend their support to me. After all, we four agreed the ward was not properly presented."

McLaughlin said he and Malfetti are "total opposites. I run an issue campaign. I'm always looking at the business approach. But Malfetti is the hand-shaking, ward-healing type of politician."

McLaughlin said he would ask the Hoboken Environment Committee to host another candidates' forum to discuss the issues with Malfetti. The incumbent opposition councilman said "whatever issues he (McLaughlin) brings up I'll answer."

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello did not endorse any of the Sixth Ward contestants because each challenger was a supporter of his administration.

## ...ditto in 5th Ward

By DIANE CURCIO

Leonard Laizzi, who came in third in the Hoboken 5th Ward council race, said yesterday he is taking action to force a recount of the votes.

Laizzi said he has retained an attorney to prepare the necessary legal papers to win a court order for a recount.

"With the heavy campaigning we ran, it should have been a closer election," Laizzi said. He garnered 216 votes from the five districts in the 5th Ward.

E. Norman Wilson will contest Council President Martin Brennan in the June 12 run-off election. Wilson was the top vote-getter with a tally of 880. Brennan received 865 votes.

Hudson County Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady said yesterday that election machines have been impounded pending action by Laizzi. In the meantime, the Hudson County Board of Elections has certified the tallies, he said.

Laizzi attributes his low vote partly to his lack of challengers brought on by a mix-up with applications. Laizzi said he neglected to file the challengers' names with the Hudson County Board of Elections until after the deadline, two weeks before the vote.

Challengers, hired by candidates, station themselves near a voting machine and query voters' right to cast ballots at the particular polling outlet. The candidates each are allowed to place two challengers per district.

Should the expected recount fail to sway the election results, Laizzi said, he probably would shift his support to one of the other run-off candidates.

Both Wilson and Brennan said yesterday they would regroup to plan new election strategies. Brennan is endorsed by Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, having served on the council since 1971 and as its president since 1975.

Wilson is executive director of Hopes Inc. in Hoboken, a non-profit, federally-funded community service organization.

Laizzi said that within 10 days the membership of his Laizzi Association will meet to decide where to channel their support.

"I am only one vote. The entire membership must meet to decide who they want to support."

The other contenders in the 5th Ward race were Michael Cirilli, 191 votes; and Anthony Lasa, 121 votes.

## Major leak repair in Jersey City will reduce Hoboken's water loss

By DIANE CURCIO

Repair work to plug the pesky water leak near the Jersey City-Hoboken border is set to begin Monday.

But a Hoboken councilman said the project represents only a drop in the proverbial bucket, since the overall water hemorrhage for the Mile Square City is 5 million gallons daily.

"We know we buy 10 million gallons per day from Jersey City, but we only service 5 million to Hoboken customers. The other 5 million is left unaccounted for," Robert Ranieri said.

The boundary area water leak wastes 125,000 gallons daily, according to The Pitometer Associates Inc. of Manhattan, an engineering firm employed by Hoboken. "That's just a fraction of the overall loss," Ranieri said.

The Jersey City analysis of the dimensions of the leak is even lower. Ranieri said, Jersey City estimated that 60,000-65,000 gallons are lost daily. The two cities are expected to negotiate the figure, Ranieri said, to determine how much credit is due Hoboken.

Jersey City Finance Director Fred Tomkins said earlier this week Hoboken may receive \$100,000 to settle the dispute. But Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said the settlement fee is still being negotiated.

Ranieri said the packing around the giant water regulators had worn, much like the washers in a faucet wear, to cause the leak.

Retired Hoboken City Engineer Patrick Caulfield discovered the fault in the regulators within the Jersey City border. Ranieri added, Jersey City has taken responsibility for the repair and has contracted the J.A. Cavanaugh Co. for the \$57,484 job.

The project is expected to be completed in 20 days, Ranieri said. Traffic will be detoured from Observer Highway and traction Marshall Drive during the repairs. Ranieri said, Hoboken will repave the streets once the project is finished, according to the councilman.

The Storch Engineering firm of Florham Park is expected to be hired by Hoboken to study the overall water leak problem and devise ways to resolve it, Ranieri said.

A proposal to hire Storch will be presented to the city council Wednesday, Ranieri, chairman of the council water and sewerage committee, said.

Storch is the second firm to be considered for the project, according to the councilman. When the city consulting engineers warned of the 5 million gallon spillage four years ago, the Davidson Laboratories, in conjunction with Stevens Tech in Hoboken, submitted

a proposal to resolve the matter.

Ranieri said he advocated following the Davidson plan but the city administration chose to do the job in-house. But "it fell by the wayside, like any other project which the administration is not fully dedicated to," Ranieri said. The city's failure to resolve the problem could also be attributed to the "internally-weak city water department," Ranieri continued.

The water department is under the jurisdiction of Public Works Director Andrew Amato. Amato could not be reached yesterday to comment on the situation.

Ranieri said the 5 million unaccounted-for gallons are probably consumed by:

- Non-metering of water used by private consumers.
- Non-metering of water by public consumers.
- Improper meter reading.
- Service line leaks.
- Open lines underground.

The irony is—those who use the 5 million gallons must pay for the whole bill," Ranieri said. Hoboken customers have been paying \$12.50 per cubic foot of water since October. The rate was formerly \$10.50, and Hoboken is appealing the increase.

## Ambulance boycott denied by PBA head

A charge that Hoboken police don't cooperate with the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps is unfair and false, Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, said today.

The head of the ambulance squad, Thomas Vecchione, had said that cops had been giving ambulance drivers a hard time about assisting them carrying people to their vehicles.

Vecchione had also said that cops were not following an agreement that police cars would respond to an accident scene first, and then call the corps only if an ambulance was needed.

Meehan said, however, in the past 9 years at least 10 Hoboken policemen have volunteered as drivers for the ambulance squad. "These men have given the squad their time after already working a full eight hour tour of duty," he said. "If this isn't cooperation, what is?"

The PBA head said there are at least three policemen

volunteering their time to the squad right now. He denied any of his men have refused to help the ambulance squad carry a sick person.

Meehan said he felt Vecchione's statement that police cars should arrive first at the scene of an accident and then call the ambulance squad was not in the best interests of the injured party.

"If someone is badly injured, but the ambulance isn't called until the police car arrives, valuable response time is lost," Meehan said. "We like to call the ambulance right away so there is no time lapse."

Vecchione, meanwhile, when asked to comment on Meehan's statements, said he may have been too critical of the police department. "The majority of the men are doing a good job working with us," he said. "We have just been having problems with a few of them."

Vecchione admitted that no police officer ever refused an ambulance attendants request to help carry a sick person.



MINOR LEAGUERS — Edward Smith, 8, and Rose Marie Bears, 9, announce the opening of the Minor League baseball season today in Hoboken by holding up a league shirt in front of league official Joe Pullano. The league is for youngsters 8, 9 and 10 years old and each player was given a free shirt this weekend.

## Hoboken students to get sports activities they want

Students in Hoboken schools want recreational programs such as swimming, basketball and field trips this summer and Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina says he will follow their wishes.

Farina has conducted a survey of Hoboken school children this spring asking them which recreational activities they would prefer this summer.

On the elementary level, swimming was the first choice, basketball the second and field trips the third among students.

On the secondary level, however, basketball was the first choice for students, while swimming and field trips were the second and third choices, respectively.

Other activities high on the list of students in the elementary schools were bowling, gymnastics, tennis, arts and crafts

and football.

On the secondary level, other activities include body building, bowling, gymnastics, cheerleading, wiffle ball and modern dance.

"This is what the students wanted and this is what we're going to give them," he said.

The director said, though, other activities which were less popular choices among students also will be in the program.

Of Hoboken's approximately 7,000 school students, Farina said about 1,200 filled out the survey.

The health and welfare director had announced the hiring of the city's recreation coordinator, Mary Ellen Gallo on Thursday.

He said the new director will work closely with him organizing and coordinating the recreation schedule.

## Don't change

The part of Hoboken that is built up with two and three story, owner-occupied houses has a distinctive character that has attracted much attention.

These brownstones and other well kept residences, set back from the street, are the backbone that has held Hoboken together.

A new zoning ordinance before the city's planning board would retain this neighborhood character in the approximately one third of the city that is graced with it now. The chairman of the board is dissatisfied with this part of the proposed new ordinance because it would bar highrise apartments. He is thinking of tax revenue for the city.

Thoughtful observers will disagree with him. As any real estate man will testify, these owner occupied houses are in tremendous demand, precisely because they comprise a stable neighborhood where families take pride in their property and are personally interested in maintaining it.

There is plenty of room for highrises in the other two thirds of Hoboken, much of which is built up with aging tenement houses which, fortunately, are gradually coming down.

## Who's in charge?

We made a spot check of Hoboken's street sweeping operation the other day and found that the CETA worker assigned to accompany the sweeper and ticket parked cars was not on the job.

None of the many city officials we questioned had known or would have known about this had The Jersey Journal not brought it to their attention.

The most disturbing factor about this breakdown in Hoboken's municipal services is that no one in the city government concedes he is responsible for directing or supervising the street sweeping operation.

Under these circumstances, what is to prevent the absence of the sweeper operator as well as the ticket-writer?

Obviously, the first step is for Mayor Cappiello to pick someone and tell him it is his responsibility to run the street sweeping program and then make sure he does the job.

## Hoboken dog census starts license rush

Hoboken Health Officer Patricia Mitten says her office found 400 unlicensed dogs when conducting the city's annual dog census last month. The 400 unlicensed animals are only a tip of the iceberg, however, because Mrs. Mitten says the one

CETA worker assigned to the dog census only covered one quarter of Hoboken.

"A lot of people weren't home and with only one person there is just so much you can do," Mrs. Mitten said.

The health officer says warnings are being given now to homeowners with unlicensed dogs at the rate of 20 a week.

"If they don't get a license for their dog once they receive the warning, they will have to go to court," the health officer said.

Mrs. Mitten said since she started sending out the warnings approximately two weeks ago there has been a rush of people in her office for licenses.

Mrs. Mitten said the total dog census in the area surveyed by the CETA worker was about 1,000 dogs.

Next year, Mrs. Mitten said, she hopes to have a more comprehensive dog survey.

"One possibility," she said, "would be to use high school students to help in the surveying."

## PBA chief says lack of car radios imperils police

Lives of Hoboken policemen are in danger because there are no two-way radios in some Hoboken police cars, Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, charged today.

When the city purchased 10 new patrol cars last year, Meehan said, they also purchased 10 stationary radios to go into the cars.

But even though the city had the radios all along, the PBA head said, at least two patrol cars are still unequipped.

"Many of my fellow officers had to wait 12 months to get their radios installed," he said. "We have walkie talkies when there is no radio, but there are a number of dead spots in Hoboken where they don't work and they are not as reliable in general."

Meehan blamed Traffic and Signals Director Thomas Vecchione.

"I asked him a number of times to install the radios and he always said he was going to get around to it," Meehan said. "This is a man's life we're talking about."

Vecchione admits that some

policeman had to wait until a year to get their radios installed, but said it's because he has a number of other more important responsibilities.

"I am in charge of making sure our fire alarm system works throughout the city, as well as the various traffic lights," he said. "I couldn't put the radios in the cars right away."

The Traffic and Signal director said patrolmen's lives were never in jeopardy.

"They had the walkie talkies," he said.

Vecchione denied Meehan's statement that the walkie talkies didn't work in a number of locations.

"There are about two spots in the city where the walkie talkies won't work and in those places all the policeman has to do is move his car 10 feet and they will start functioning again," he said.

Vecchione said the reason two patrol cars still don't have radios is because the radios malfunctioned and had to be sent back to the company for repair.

"We expect them to be returned shortly," he said.

## Money's worth

Hoboken is hoarding a lot of federal money earmarked for setting up an Economic Development Corporation to help keep industrial plants from moving out of Hoboken and to bring new ones in.

Last June 16, Mayor Cappiello announced he had directed Fred M. Bado, director of the city's Community Development Agency — which has custody of the federal money — to "begin post-haste on the paperwork necessary to get the EDC going."

There is still no EDC, but the federal grants for it continue to roll in every year, and the CDA stashes them away. The amount accumulated is reported to be more than \$240,000. Under the law, the money can be spent only for the salaries of a director and staff.

It is serious enough that this important Hoboken project has been kicked around for years, but it will be much worse if, when the mayor does appoint a director, he picks someone politically qualified — such as a needy person who lost out in last week's election.

See to it, mayor, that the director is not only qualified, but that he has orders to pick a staff that is equally qualified. Hoboken has done without an EDC so long that it must be sure it is getting its money's worth and not a money gobbler.

## It will be all for the kids in Hoboken Saturday

A parade of children, a troupe of clowns and singers, an outdoor disco and a two-hour variety show are just a few of the activities planned for Saturday's International Year of the Child celebration in Hoboken.

The day-long, city-wide event will commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Children and the United Nations General Assembly resolution proclaiming 1979 as the International Year of the Child.

The event will start at noon on Saturday when Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello will read a city proclamation.

A parade of children will then proceed up Washington Street, which will be closed to vehicular traffic, from Newark through 7th Street.

Merchants will hold sidewalk sales along Washington Street from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the celebration.

In addition, there will be a roving troupe of clowns, magicians and musicians, several children's art exhibits and concerts performed by local elementary and high school students.

Hoboken small fry will have a chance to display their artistic talents during the festival.

St. Mary Hospital's Mental Health Center will sponsor the

## Historic unit lauds renovations

Members of the Hoboken Historic District Commission said last night they are pleased with two recent building renovations in the downtown area but would like to see a more subdued sign than a billboard planned for atop a supermarket.

Members of the commission, of which Helen Manogue is chairman, met last night with Joseph Lynch, a member of the architectural firm of Mayo Lynch Associates, and Dr. F. A. Marciano, a local dentist.

A spokesman said the historic commission members were encouraged by the concern shown by Lynch and Marciano for preserving and restoring much of the beauty of oldtime buildings.

Marciano recently restored a one-story building at 93-95 Hudson St., while Lynch is renovating a corner building at 80-81 Hudson St. for office use.

Under the ordinance creating the Historic District Commission, anyone making exterior changes must file plans with the commission and obtain a certificate of appropriateness before seeking a building permit. The commission encourages retaining the architecture of yesteryear in a 14-block area running from Observer Highway to Fourth Street, from Hudson Street west.

The commission members said they felt plans for an advertising billboard atop a supermarket at Newark and Washington streets might not be in keeping with the type of area they are seeking. They will ask that a smaller and more subdued sign be considered to advertise a bank, they said.

The commission's views on a new city zoning code will be brought to the city council by Councilman Robert Ranieri, the spokesman said.

painting of a gigantic sidewalk mural as part of the celebration. Information will also be available on childhood and adolescent problems and other family services provided by the mental health center.

The United Child Services, a newly formed cooperative organization of child care agencies in Hoboken, will sponsor the event in conjunction with the city of Hoboken and the Hoboken Community Development Agency.

Information booths will be sponsored by the agencies to acquaint the public with the variety of child- and family-related programs available in the city and county.





## There are exchange library agreements

New neighbors will be glad to learn that they don't have to limit themselves to the facilities of the library or libraries in their particular new Hudson County community.

An agreement between the various libraries of the cities and towns makes it possible for card holders of any municipality's library to borrow books, films and sometimes tape cassettes from any other municipality's library.

The Jersey City Public Library system has a main library, ten branch libraries and a traveling bookmobile. The Main Library is at 472 Jersey Ave.

West New York's library is at 425 60th St. and Bayonne's Main Library is located at 687 Avenue C. Three branches include: Bergen Point Branch, 162 Broadway; Branch 1 at Kennedy Boulevard and West 11th Street; and Branch 2 at 1055 Avenue C.

Weehawken has one library at 40 Hauxhurst Street, while Union City has two branches, the Main Branch at 43rd Street and New York Avenue, and the 15th Street Library, at 418 15th St.

The Secaucus Library is at Plaza Center, while Hoboken's Library is located at Fifth Street and Park Avenue.

There are three libraries in North Bergen: the North Bergen Main Library at 8107 Bergenline Ave., the New Durham Branch, 4305 Bergen Turnpike, and the Lincoln Branch at 1406 67th St.

## Hoboken fiasco

How can so many things go wrong with Hoboken's attempts to provide recreational facilities which it so sadly lacks?

The latest goof is the discovery that the city cannot appoint a recreation coordinator, because the necessary preliminary steps were never taken, as the city's Law Department has now pointed out.

Even if everything goes like clockwork from now on — and who expects that it will? — the coordinator cannot be appointed until midsummer when the outdoor recreation season is half over and it is too late to start anything new.

This follows other disappointments over recreation plans that went awry. The large-scale playground which was to have been opened by summer on Observer Highway will not materialize for a long time.

As for the heralded Elysian Park project which residents eagerly awaited, it turns out that this will create no new facilities.

Obviously the fiasco over the appointment of a recreation coordinator could have been avoided if the several officials involved had done some coordinating among themselves.

Poor work, Hoboken... again!

## Hoboken may seek advice on uptown parking woes

The Hoboken Parking Authority will meet next month with two consultants to study the overcrowded parking conditions in the uptown section of the city, Parking Authority Executive Director Joseph Hottendorf said today.

Hottendorf said the Parking Authority will meet with the consultants, Burke Associates of Chicago, on June 19 and

McGee Associates of Washington, D.C. on June 25th to discuss the possibility of a parking survey.

"We have to do something to relieve the congested conditions in the uptown section so it isn't a nightmare anymore," said Hottendorf.

"Everyone and his brother has an opinion, but we want to get an expert to tell us what

needs to be done," said Hottendorf.

There have been a number of different proposals to relieve the congestion, Hottendorf said, including building a new garage or building a number of smaller parking lots.

He said he doesn't feel the survey would cost that much money since West New York, which is larger than Hoboken, had one done for \$15,000.

## Police cars can stay in city garages

Hoboken's police vehicles will not be evicted from one of Hoboken's Parking Authority's garages, city Public Safety Director James Giordano said today.

Joseph Hottendorf, Parking Authority director, had given the police department until Friday to remove all vehicles it had been parking in the garage because of complaints alleging poor security at the garage by Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association.

Meehan had said a number of patrol cars had their headlights broken while parked in the garage and there had been vandalism to other cars, including one in which a \$1,000 radio was removed, but Hottendorf denied most of the incidents had happened.

Giordano said he met with Hottendorf and the two resolved the matter.

Meehan, meanwhile said Hottendorf "was sadly mistaken about the vandalism," that has occurred to police cars while they were parked in an Authority garage.

"We're not looking for him (Hottendorf) to look bad, we just want a fence to be put around the patrol cars," Meehan said. "If we don't do something we could get a kook with a hammer smashing all the cars."

## Calls for ballots delivered by hand

Incumbent Hoboken Sixth Ward Council candidate Nunzio Malfetti said today he wants the absentee ballots in the upcoming runoff election in the sixth ward to be delivered by hand, instead of the usual method of having them sent by the mail.

Malfetti said a number of residents have told him that campaign workers with Malfetti buttons pinned on them have been coming to their homes and asking if they want to sign up for a absentee ballot.

Malfetti said he doesn't have any campaign workers soliciting absentee ballots and he is not sure who the men are.

Hudson County Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady said the absentee ballots cannot be hand-delivered because of an order by the state attorney general that they be mailed.

Brady said, however, he will investigate the charges made by Malfetti.

## Leahy gives Malfetti nod in 6th ward council race

Former Hoboken Councilman-at-Large Francis X. Leahy has written a letter to Hoboken voters in support of incumbent Sixth Ward Council candidate Nunzio Malfetti.

It reads, in part: "Malfetti has proven to me time and time again that his only concern has been the welfare of all of the people. During his tenure of office, he has never demonstrated a desire for personal favor and has always been available to anyone who has sought his assistance."

"As a resident of the Sixth Ward,

I am gravely concerned that our ward could possibly return to those dark days of 'invisibility' and personal gratification, rather than the true representation we have been receiving from our present Councilman Nunzio Malfetti. "He is neither arrogant, nor selfish or deceiving. Those of you that I have had the opportunity to know, can be assured, that Nunzio Malfetti will continue to serve you and your interests. I believe in Nunzio Malfetti because he has never given me any reason not to."

## Cash collected to provide 15 vests for cops

The campaign to buy bulletproof vests for Hoboken's policemen is off to a good start, according to Hoboken Community Relations Unit Detective Cecil Vincini.

The drive to purchase the life-saving vests for Hoboken's policemen started a few weeks ago and already Vincini said enough money has been contributed to buy 15 vests.

The detective said the contributors to the vest fund include the Clam Broth House and the Hoboken Junior Chamber of Commerce, both which gave money to purchase three vests the Hoboken Jaycees and L. Pini and Sons.

An anonymous donor, the detective added, gave money for seven vests.

Vincini said the police committee to buy the vests has talked to representatives to various Hoboken service clubs and they too have expressed interest in purchasing the vests.

Each vest costs \$150, according to Vincini, and he said any one in the community who wants to help out the policemen is welcome to give a donation. Vincini said 150 vests would be needed to provide protection for every member of the department.

## Amato seeks to boot DPW 'instigators'

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said yesterday he wants to fire a "handful of instigators" who he says quit work early and service private vehicles at the agency's garage.

The director, who mentioned no names, said about six public works employees leave their posts as early as 1 p.m. and claim overtime for hours they haven't worked. "As far as I'm concerned it's stealing," he said.

Furthermore, the director says, equipment has been missing from the public works garage. A \$800 shipment of tires was taken the same day it was delivered, he said.

Seven public works employees have charged the director has harassed them because of their political ties to Councilman Louis Francione. Amato's wife, Florence, had unsuccessfully attempted to unseat Francione in the May 8 election.

Amato denied the charges. He said the men were angered by a new order he issued last Thursday prohibiting private vehicles from being stored or repaired at the public works garage.

The director said he saw a worker repairing his van at the garage on Friday. The employee, Daniel Miniccia, was suspended for three days, Amato disclosed.

"If this was a private business, would you put up with this sort of thing? ... The public works should be run like a business," the director said.

Amato said he intends to crackdown on the "instigators" and plans to meet next week with state Civil Service representatives to determine authority to fire the employees.

The director also says some employees are making extra money by servicing businesses with city garage competitors. "These people are more concerned with the extra bucks they can make ... Some people have to be removed to make an example ... to show that we're running a business here."

## Throwaways ban sought

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he will confer with Hudson County's legislators about the possibility of having them introduce a bill in Trenton barring throwaway bottles and cans.

The throwaway bottles and cans are a very big problem in Hoboken, the mayor said, and he estimates they cost the city \$1 million a year.

"People throw the bottles and cans into our sewers," the mayor said, "and they become backed up. With the new sewer work that is expected in the future, we have to do something."

The mayor said the bottles and cans also litter Hoboken streets and are a big eyesore. Cappiello said he talked to the legislators about a year ago about introducing a bill barring the throwaway containers but industry lobbyists killed it before it even got off the ground.

The mayor said a bill barring throwaway containers has been enacted in a number of states where the move has been met with great success.

## Hoboken public works

- Cappiello asks council to hire interim administrator
- 'How do I fire unworthy employees?'
- Director takes tools to protect them

Public Works Director Andrew Amato of Hoboken, who said he has to take city tools away from his men because he's afraid they may steal them, wants to confer with the state Civil Service Department about firing some of them.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, meanwhile, is recommending that an interim administrator be named for the department.

Amato said he has been taking tools and equipment from the department garage because he's afraid they may be stolen by some of his men.

"I keep hammers, pumps and other city tools on property I own on Madison Street so they're safe," said Amato.

The director said many of his men may be under the impression that he has been fired or is about to be, but he is still running the show.

He wants to check with Civil Service, he said, to find out about firing some employees who allegedly leave work in the middle of the day and

never come back and others who run private businesses on city time.

Cappiello said he will confer with the City Council next month about hiring an interim administrator. Amato would not be fired but would work with the administrator until things are in shape, he said.

The mayor said he is not satisfied that all Public Works employees are doing their jobs and he wants accountability.

"I don't want politics going on during working hours. I've been saying that all along. All I want is the men to do their job," said the mayor.

The mayor explained, "You talk to Amato and get his bias and you talk to the men and get theirs. I have to bring in someone else to take charge of the situation." He said he had a number of people in mind but declined to go into names.

Amato said he thought he was doing an excellent job in putting the department back into shape.

"In his heart the mayor knows I'm right," Amato said.

"You want to know what kind of men you're dealing with?" Amato asked. "One of my men was caught shoplifting \$7 worth of food from a supermarket and I had to get him off the hook. Another one tried to break a picture of Mayor Cappiello hanging in City Hall."

"Each time I've tried to help them out and give them breaks because I know they have families and need their jobs. But they've gone a little bit too far. It doesn't pay to help these employees any more as far as I'm concerned."

A group of seven employees charged Tuesday they were being "politically harassed" by Amato because they worked for the reelection of Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione. Francione defeated Amato's wife in the recent council election.

Amato said the men were angry at him because he was demanding a full day's work. "I'm tired of men coming in at 9 a.m. and then disappearing until 1 p.m.," he said. "The

residents of this city deserve service but the men just don't understand."

He complained that the men have old washing machines and refrigerators in the Public Works complex and are using the space to run a private business. "It's like a junkyard down there. Over my dead body will I let this happen," said Amato. "Not as long as I'm the director."

## Gallo protests Towers rent increase

Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo of Hoboken said yesterday he has filed a letter of protest with the Housing and Urban Development Agency to a proposal by the management of Clock Towers Apartments to raise rents by 16 percent.

Gallo said he acted after receiving pleas from many residents of the

building. "Many of them live on Social Security and fixed incomes," he said, "and a rent increase of this proportion would be disastrous to them." The assemblyman said he has sent his protest to T.J. Verdon, acting area manager of HUD, and also has contacted Rep. Frank Guarini and asked him to intervene with the

federal agency. Councilman Salvatore Cemelli said he also has been contacted by several of the families and will also file a protest to HUD. Clock Towers is the apartment development that was converted from the old Keuffel and Esser factory building, Third and Jefferson streets.

## Amato answers Cappiello

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said he told Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today that he knows how to run the Public Works Department and doesn't need any help.

Cappiello, however, said he still wants to speak with city council members about the possibility of hiring an interim administrator to work with Amato until the department is back in shape.

"I was in business for 20 years and I was successful by doing the right things," Amato said. "In the two years since I've been running the public

works department I've been kicked around. Now I want to run the department myself."

Cappiello had said on Thursday that he was not sure that all public works employees are doing their jobs and he wants some accountability.

He had said that he felt he was getting biased views from both Amato and his men on how the department was running and a person outside the department was needed to take charge of the situation.

A group of seven Public Works employees had charged Amato with political harass-

ment earlier in the week because they supported Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francione in the recent city-wide elections.

Francione had defeated Amato's wife, Florence, in the race for the Fourth Ward Council seat.

The men said Amato lets public works employees who are members of his club leave early in the day, while he follows them around and makes threats hard for them.

Amato, meanwhile, countered back that the seven



## Cappiello endorses McLaughlin

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today endorsed Sixth Ward council candidate, Edward McLaughlin, in the upcoming runoff elections on June 12.

"I think he is the best man for the job," said the mayor. "He has prior administrative experience."

Cappiello's endorsement came just after Sixth Ward council candidate Patrick Pasculli conceded he had not

won a place in the runoff elections.

Pasculli had fallen just three votes short of making the runoff in the recent city council elections. His final vote tally was 341 votes to McLaughlin's 344.

McLaughlin will face incumbent Councilman Nunzio Malfetti in the runoff. Although Malfetti received the highest total in the Sixth Ward, with 392

votes, he did not have to get more than 50 percent of the vote needed to win the election.

Pasculli had paid for a recount, but even after it showed he was still three votes short, he would not concede.

His campaign manager, James Farina, said the candidate was considering challenging the results in court, but would not go into details.

Pasculli said today "to pursue this any further would only delay the electoral process and hinder the representation of the ward residents."

A spokesman for Pasculli said he will not endorse either candidate in the Sixth Ward.

Pasculli's endorsement of McLaughlin had been expected because Malfetti, an Independent, is a Cappiello opponent.

## Board hires lawyers for 2 court suits

Without a board attorney to represent it yet, the Hoboken Board of Education has hired two legal representatives to handle two upcoming cases. The action came at last night's special meeting at board headquarters.

One of the cases was brought against the board by its last attorney, Robert Taylor, whose services were dropped by the school trustees on May 15.

The board hired Albert J. Hordes, a Jersey City attorney, to handle Taylor's suit, which alleges "an unfair practice charge" in that the board did not bargain in good faith, according to Robert Wendelken, board president.

Taylor's case will be heard by the Public Employment Relations Commission. It has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

The second case will be heard Friday in

Hudson County Superior Court before Judge Frederick Kentz Jr. when the board answers an order to show cause brought by three female employees of the board who are charging sex discrimination.

The charge was brought by Dorothy Zeiger, a vice principal, Helen Culha, chairman of the history department, and Carlotta Winslow, a teacher.

Hired to present the board's defense in this case was the Newark law firm of Lowenstein and Sandler.

Wendelken said the board has not yet had time to receive applications and conduct interviews for the open board attorney position but would do so shortly. The pressing nature of these two suits required the appointment of attorneys, he said.

## Cappiello to visit constituents' home

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is expected to make good on an old campaign promise by visiting Yugoslavia this month.

During the 1973 campaign Cappiello promised his Yugoslavian immigrant supporters to visit someday their island home of Susak.

Someday became June 20, when Yugoslavian immigrants from the San Sego Club will depart for a one-week visit to their homeland.

Pino Morin, San Sego Club president, has invited Cappiello on the trip.

The club reportedly will pick up the \$2,500 tab for the mayor's transportation to the island. The San Sego Club, head-

quartered at 319 Adams St., has nearly 4,000 members throughout Hudson County and Bergen. Several hundred emigrated to Hoboken from the island of Susak.

The highlight of the mayor's trip will be the first Mass celebrated by a newly ordained member of the Morin family.

Tradition dictates that Yugoslavian priests celebrate their first Mass in their native town. The Mass will be held July 1 at St. Nicholas Church on the island.

Other festivities will also mark the trip. Cappiello will likely receive the Yugoslav version of the key to the city from the island people.

A farewell party will be held on June 10 at the San Sego Club in Hoboken.

## Hottendorf fears conflict, will quit rent board post

Joseph Hottendorf is planning to resign as chairman of Hoboken's Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board.

Hottendorf, also executive director of the Hoboken Parking Authority, said he will have a conflict between his two positions if a bill which allows local rent control boards to grant or deny rent increases to state financed housing projects passes the state Assembly.

Hottendorf said currently the state regulates rent increases in such state projects as Marineview Towers in Hoboken, but under the bill the authority would be passed on to local rent control bodies.

"The parking authority has agreements with Marineview Towers concerning parking and I am sometimes subject to private information about the project," he said. It would be a moral conflict of interest to have to consider a rent increase for the project.

Hottendorf said he has asked other board members if they would like to be chairman, but no one has expressed interest.

"I don't know what we are going to do," he said.

The chairman said he only serves as chairman of the Stabilization Board as a favor to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello.

"It's a non-salaried position," he said.

Hottendorf meanwhile said he is angry at one of the co-sponsors of the bill, Assemblyman Thomas Gallo of Hoboken.

"He didn't even have the courtesy to tell me about it," the chairman said. "He only lives 100 feet from me."

Hottendorf said he didn't know the current status of the bill, but said he will resign immediately if the bill is passed.

Gallo meanwhile said he didn't know anything about the bill.

"You're sure you have the right Gallo?" he asked a reporter. "There is a D. Gallo in the Assembly too."

A check with a state Assembly clerk in Trenton, however, showed the bill was indeed co-sponsored by Thomas Gallo.

The clerk said the bill is currently tied up in committee.

## Hoboken board holds up disco plans

The plans of a Hoboken machine shop owner to convert part of his shop into a disco hit a snag last night when the city's Board of Adjustment rejected his bid for a variance.

The board's chairman, Frank Camerone, said the board's members were not satisfied with different aspects of the plan submitted by Frank Van Den Bergh, owner of the Machine and Bearing Corp. of New

Jersey, 1221 Adams St. Camerone said the board was mainly worried about several possible safety violations in the plans as well as noise and parking problems the disco might cause.

This was the first time Van Den Bergh had submitted his plan to the board. According to Camerone, the owner wanted to continue his machine shop in a smaller part of the building

while converting the larger factory area to a disco which would hold 100 to 120 people.

In other matters, the board granted special permits for two used car lots located on 251 14th St. and 700 First St. and tabled a plan for the conversion of a factory building on 351 Second St. into a coast factory until the next scheduled meeting.

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## Mini-marathon slated for Hoboken on June 10

Hoboken will have its own mini-marathon on June 10, a Sunday, starting at 10 a.m. in the high school stadium.

All Hoboken residents — no outsiders — are welcome to register, James Farina, the city's recreation director, announced today.

The distance run will be five miles.

There will be three divisions:

elementary students and high school students, with a registration fee of \$1; and adults, for a \$3 fee.

Jerry Smith, Hoboken High School track coach, is in charge of the marathon.

Applicants can register at Farina's office in City Hall, or with athletic coach James Ronga at Hoboken High; or at Demarest Junior High School.

## State giving Hoboken new traffic lights

The state will install new traffic lights in Hoboken along with two master control systems to help improve the city's traffic flow.

Hoboken director of traffic and signals, Thomas Vecchione, said the state, which now handles maintenance at the intersections, is turning them over to the city.

He said the new lights will be located at Willow Avenue and 14th Street, 15th Street and 14th Street, 14th and Park Avenue, Paterson and Jackson, Paterson and Monroe, Observer Highway and Willow Avenue, Observer Highway and Washington Street, Hudson Street and Hudson Place and 4th Street and Willow Avenue.

## Hoboken kids to have their 'day' tomorrow

Tomorrow, kids in Hoboken will have their very own day.

There will be a parade of children, a troupe of clowns and singers, an outdoor disco and a two-hour variety show, to cite just a few of the activities.

It's all part of Hoboken's celebration of the International Year of the Child.

The event was originally scheduled for May 20, but rain washed out the event.

The celebration is being held to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Children and the United Nations General Assembly resolution proclaiming 1979 as the International Year of the Child.

The event will start at noon with proclamations by various city and state officials.

A parade of children will then proceed up Washington Street, which will be closed to vehicular traffic from Newark through Seventh streets.

Merchants will hold sidewalk sales and there will be the roving troupe of clowns, magicians and musicians and several concerts performed by Hoboken school students.

The event is being sponsored by the United Child Services and the Hoboken Community Development Agency.

## Hoboken pushes effort to stop leaking water

Hoboken Public Works Director Andru Amato said today his department is making progress in stopping the leaks through which millions of gallons of water have been lost by the city.

During the last two weeks, Amato said, his men have fixed 30 leaking fire hydrants and four leaks in water lines that run into private homes.

Amato said he knows of at least 25 other private homes where the water line leading into the house is cracked and said his men will fix them next.

The Public Works director had previously said that it is the homeowners' responsibility to repair the leaks and, if they didn't, his men would at the expense of the homeowner. Amato said his men aren't waiting any more and are going in right away to fix the additional leaks.

While the estimate of how much

water Hoboken loses daily from its supplier, Jersey City, varies, it has been generally agreed by officials that Hoboken may be losing anywhere from 35 percent to 50 percent of its daily water supply.

A private contractor began on Wednesday fixing a leak at the Jersey City-Hoboken border that Hoboken officials had estimated caused the loss of 110,000 gallons daily.

The leak is on the Jersey City side and officials of both cities had argued over the water loss for a number of months.

Meanwhile, Amato said a public works crew is still looking for abandoned buildings and vacant lots where buildings once stood and where water taps were never shut off.

Amato has said no records were kept on which water taps were shut off prior to his taking office two years ago.

## Repairs on water pipe hurried in Hoboken

Hoboken water department workers are expected to finish work today replacing a 12-inch cast-iron water pipe that burst early Sunday.

The break in the pipe had left Hoboken without water for 45 minutes that morning.

Meanwhile, Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said he will authorize the city engineer to hire an outside contracting company to replace a broken sewer at the same location of the water break on Willow Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets.

Cappiello said replacing the sewer, which was completely destroyed, would be too big a job for the water department.

Officials believe a sudden surge

of water pressure caused the cast-iron pipe to burst.

A large hole will remain exposed on Willow Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets and the street will be closed until all work is finished, officials said.

## Hoboken firemen OK pact; cops next week

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken firemen have "overwhelmingly" ratified a new contract with the city for 1979, and Hoboken policemen are expected to do the same next week.

Michael Bavaro, president of the Hoboken local of the International Firefighters Union, said the new contract the firemen accepted provides a 7 percent pay increase, a dental insurance plan and a prescription drug discount program.

Hoboken Councilman Robert A. Ranieri said the Firemen's Superiors Union has ratified a similar contract.

Meanwhile, Thomas Meehan,

president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, said a ratification vote on a new contract for policemen is scheduled for next Friday.

Meehan said the PBA and the city have reached agreement on most major issues and he expects "an overwhelming vote" in favor.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said the police contract is very similar to the firemen's.

Both contracts run from last Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

Representing the city in the negotiations were Assistant County Counsel Francis X. Hayes and the city law department.

## Landlord installing 1,000 smoke alarms

Applied Housing Associates is installing over 1,000 smoke detectors throughout its buildings in Hoboken even though it isn't required to do so, its president, Walter Barry, said today.

Barry said battery-operated detectors are being installed in 887 apartments and that electrical detectors are being installed in the hallways of all buildings.

Federal regulations up until two years ago didn't require buildings such as Applied Housing's to have smoke detectors when renovated.

New regulations were enacted then requiring the detectors in all

future reconstruction work using federal funding but a grandfather clause exempts buildings built or renovated before the regulations took effect from having the detectors.

"It's not that we're doing this because we're so good-hearted," said Barry. "But the morale of everyone living in the buildings will be strengthened when people see we care about our buildings and them. Then maybe the people will take better care of where they live."

In addition to the smoke detection equipment, Barry said his company is also installing water-saving devices throughout its apartment buildings.

Everything should be totally installed by the middle of June," he said.

Barry said the total cost of the fire prevention equipment and the water-saving devices will approach almost \$70,000.

The Hoboken City Council has been debating the last few months whether it should enact a law requiring smoke detectors in apartment houses.

The matter was considered before the council a few weeks ago but it was tabled and council passage of such a bill is not expected in the near future.

## Do-it-yourself revival a success in Hoboken

Hoboken's First Ward Block Association is about to sell two former tenement houses it has rehabilitated, it was announced today.

The buildings are adjacent at 208 and 210 Garden St. Prospective purchasers are asked to contact the association at its office, 141 Garden St.

The association bought the two buildings in a dilapidated condition last fall and has all but completed their conversion into attractive three-family residences.

"Everything but the old floor joists was gutted from each structure," the association said. "New plumbing, wiring, ceilings, walls,

windows, roofs, etc., are being installed."

The work on each house cost about \$45,000 but the association will be able to sell each "for around \$40,000," because it received a grant of nearly \$20,000 for each building from the Hoboken Community Development Agency.

Another project goal is to promote home-ownership by minority, particularly Hispanic, families, the spokesman said.

Special provisions will be made, he said, to assure a high proportion

of Hispanic involvement, both in this project and in any future projects the group may undertake.

Association members urge minority individuals interested in home ownership to contact the group's community organizer, Tomas Ayende.

A general meeting of the Block Association will be held tonight at 7:30 in St. John's Lutheran Church in Hoboken for the purpose of discussing the procedure the group will use to select the new owner.

## Maier, Brennan to talk about music cutbacks

Hoboken Schools Superintendent George Maier said today he will meet with Council President Martin Brennan to discuss cutbacks in the school systems music programs.

Maier said he doesn't want to make cuts in the music programs, but said he has no choice.

"We have had budget cutbacks and it's a question of priorities," he said. Three of Hoboken's music teachers are scheduled to lose their jobs.

## Machines in Hoboken runoff to be checked

Ten voting machines to be used in the councilmanic runoff elections in Hoboken's Fifth and Sixth Wards on June 12 will be inspected at 10 a.m. next Thursday at the Emerson Warehouse, 15th and Coles streets, Jersey City.

Seven machines to be used in the Fifth Ward runoff and three for the Sixth Ward runoff are to be inspected, according to Joseph T. Brady, Hudson

County superintendent of elections and registration commissioner.

Brady said that invitations are being sent to the candidates or their representatives. In the Fifth Ward, City Council President Martin Brennan is opposed by E. Norman Wilson Jr. while the contest in the Sixth Ward is between Councilman Nunzio Malfetti and Edward McLaughlin.

## Raffle to decide which cops get protective vests

The Hoboken Police Benevolent Association will hold a raffle Thursday to determine which 20 policemen will receive new bulletproof vests.

Cecil Vincent, chairman of the PBA raffle committee, said the raffle is the only fair way to distribute the 20 vests donated by the public.

The vest committee is trying to raise the money to purchase 150 vests, one for each member of the police department.

Each vest costs \$150 and a number of merchants, service organizations and individuals have donated to the vest fund so far, according to Vincent.

"We received \$1 from an elderly lady for the fund along with a nice card," he said. "It was beautiful."

The vest drawing will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday in the Clam Broth House and representatives from organizations and business that have donated money for the vests will be present.

Vincent said all policemen who receive the vests must sign an agreement that the PBA is the owner of the vests and that they will be returned to the PBA if they are not used.

"We don't want the men to keep the vests if they are not using them," said Vincent. "We want them to be in use."



# Cleanup plan for sewers up to council

Hoboken councilmen will decide tomorrow whether they will follow through on the recommendations of an engineering firm and hire a private contractor to clean the city's clogged sewerage system.

At a caucus meeting last night, Michael D'Altilio, of Storch Engineers, Florham Park, told the five councilmen present for the meeting that there was no way the city's Department of Public Works could handle the job on its own. Councilman Robert Ranieri heads the committee dealing with the sewerage problems.

D'Altilio recommended that the city set aside \$150,000 for the hiring of a specialized sewer cleaning contractor to undertake a one- to two-year program of sewer cleaning.

The firm made those suggestions, D'Altilio explained, "based on the condition of the system, the lack of preventive maintenance and the observed debris buildup which cannot be removed by conventional preventive maintenance."

Following the cleaning of the system by an outside contractor, "it will later be possible for city personnel using conventional preventive maintenance techniques to keep the system functioning with a higher degree of reliability until massive reconstruction planned by the city is feasible."

Ultimately, the city should set up a separate Division of Sewers that would be directly under the control of the mayor. This division should be activated in January, 1980 and have about a dozen employees.

The Storch report painted a picture of a sewerage system that has almost ceased to function. No sewerage flow could be detected in the southerly section of town, D'Altilio said, and only a small movement in the northern section. In some areas, 48-inch pipes were blocked by more than 36 inches of debris.

There was also a significant buildup of debris in corner basins and manholes. And, as of March 5, there were no pumps operating at the Fifth Street pumping station.

D'Altilio told the councilmen that even if city personnel went all out using available equipment and methods, it would have "little effect" on the problems facing Hoboken.

Part of the problem has been that the Public Works Department has been more geared to emergency repairs than prevention. In an examination of the time spent by Public Works employees on various jobs, he showed that slightly more time was spent on emergency repairs — about 34 percent — than on preventive work — about 30 percent. In fact, he said,

only about 15 percent of total work time should be spent on emergencies while more than 40 percent should go to preventive maintenance.

After the three-month study of the department, Storch came to a number of conclusions. It found that there was no subdivision in the department that had sole responsibility for the sewer maintenance and that there was not enough employees for maintenance work.

It also found that there was no supervisor, other than the department director, who was directly responsible for sewer maintenance, that there weren't enough of foremen, that many laborers were working out of title, that foremen possessed technical skills they need but lacked management training, that the director has no professional technical expertise available to him, and that salary ranges need restructuring.

It also said there was a need for both upward and downward communications in the department. No one knows what is happening, D'Altilio said.

He suggested a series of forms to measure the output of each man and the entire department. This would give a quantitative record of what the men have done and will allow the council to compare the department from year to year to check on efficiency.

Such records would also allow the council and department officials to determine how much the work costs by having city employees do it so as to compare it with the costs of hiring a private contractor for some of the work.

D'Altilio said that the suggestions contained in the report would give a reasonable degree of reliability to the systems although it will not solve the city's sewerage problems.

If the council acts to accept the report of Storch Engineering at its Wednesday meeting, it could advertise for bids immediately for a contractor to clean the system. The cleaning could take up to two years to complete. Bids could be accepted within 30 days and could be awarded within a month after that.

Ranieri said the firm did "a beautiful job," and cut the cost of their report to half of what had been allocated. The report was a goal that he had been working on for four years and he hoped to see it implemented Wednesday, he added.

The councilman also called for a comprehensive report on the city's water system, which some officials say is in as bad a shape as the sewerage system.

## Cappiello sees taxes falling in Hoboken

Hoboken property owners will be getting a big tax break this year, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

Although Hoboken's tax rate for 1979 has not been officially set, Cappiello said he heard from Hudson County Board of Taxation officials that this year's tax rate will be about 12 percent lower than last year.

"This means that if someone's house is assessed at \$20,000 he will be saving \$240 this year as compared with last year," said Cappiello.

In 1978 Hoboken taxpayers paid \$107.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, according to Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

The mayor said the new rate is possible because of savings the city

made in running the government and because of higher tax rates owners of vacant land in Hoboken will be paying.

Cappiello said vacant land in Hoboken has only been assessed at one-tenth of its real value and the new tax rate will reflect the real value of the property.

The mayor said while the assessment rate of homes and buildings in Hoboken has basically stayed the same this year, the assessment rate of the vacant lots has been greatly increased.

It is expected that Hoboken officials will receive official word on the new tax rate in the next few days.

## Hoboken hopeful claims 'illicit' ballot gathering

By DIANE CURCIO

Independent Hoboken 5th Ward council candidate Norman Wilson said yesterday he is considering filing a complaint with the Hudson County superintendent of elections concerning the "illicit" gathering of absentee ballots.

Wilson, who is challenging administration-backed Council President Martin Brennan, said he has knowledge of a Hoboken liquor store owner who has been soliciting absentee ballots on his premises.

Furthermore, Wilson charged that absentee ballots are being delivered to the city welfare office, and a city detective has been picking up absentee ballots. No officials from the two city departments could be reached yesterday to comment on the accusations.

Brennan said yesterday he "knows of no illegal goings-on" concerning absentee ballots.

Wilson said he would meet with his lawyer last night to decide what action can be taken to remedy the situation.

Absentee ballot applications have shown a marked increase in the last days before the Hoboken run-off Tuesday, June 12, as compared to the May 8 election.

The surge in the number of absentee ballots is evident in the 5th Ward contest, where 141 such ballots were counted in last month's election, but 270 forms have already been mailed for the June 12 contest.

## Haack role sparks new city hall feud

A new crisis erupted today in the Hoboken Public Works Department, but this time it was not between Public Works Director Andrew Amato and his employees, — but between Amato and Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Amato ordered Sewage Plant Superintendent Roy Haack back to the plant today. Haack had been assigned to Hoboken City Hall the last few weeks on Cappiello's orders. He was acting as a consultant to the mayor on various sewerage and water problems.

"I'm moving Haack back to the sewerage plant because that is where he is needed," said Amato. "The city council assured me it will support all my decisions and let me run the department."

Cappiello said, however, Amato's order doesn't hold much weight with him.

"I consult with Mr. Haack frequently and I need him in City Hall," he said. "He is not going back to the sewerage plant, it can't be done."

When informed of the mayor's comments, Amato said there were "serious problems" at the sewerage plant and Haack was needed there now.

He refused to say what those problems were, but said they needed Haack's immediate attention.

"I am the director of public works and Haack's transfer is my decision," Amato said.

Since Amato took office two years ago, he and Haack have feuded with each other regularly. They are political enemies. Haack said he will do whatever he is told.

The sewerage plant superintendent served as acting public works director when Amato went on vacation last month to help his wife Florence in what was to be her unsuccessful bid for the Fourth Ward City Council seat.

After the election Haack was serving as foreman of the public works garage while the regular foreman was on vacation, in addition to acting as Mayor Cappiello's consultant.

Amato and a number of employees in his department have been feuding back and forth the past few weeks and each side has accused the other of political harassment.

## Hoboken plans crackdown on truckers

Hoboken Public Safety Director James Giordano said today he will no longer tolerate truck drivers who block Hoboken streets while making deliveries.

Giordano said he will have his patrolmen inform storeowners that they must make sure there are places for the trucks to park while making deliveries.

Giordano said he knows of a number of stores where the problem has become particularly troublesome.

"The storeowners are going to have to make provisions to clear the curb in front of their store so the trucks won't block the streets," Giordano said.

If necessary, he continued, he will have to ask state officials to create loading zones in front of stores if the storeowners themselves can't clear the curb of cars.

Giordano said he expects to start the crackdown by the middle of the month.

He said that before he issues the new orders he wants to make sure 50 new "No Trucks" signs are posted throughout the city.

Once the signs are put up, Giordano said, the city will also start enforcing an ordinance which prohibits trucks from using Hoboken as an accessway.

Though the law has been on the books for over 20 years, it has seldom been enforced because there were few "No Trucks" signs posted in Hoboken.

Giordano said almost all the signs were supposed to be up by now, but the repair of a water leak near the Jersey City-Hoboken border has delayed work.

The Newark Street-Jersey Avenue route between the two cities has been closed because of repairs. Giordano said a sign crew needed to move detour signs, would be used to install "No Trucks" signs when the street repairs are completed.

## Hoboken urged to attack poor housing

The head of Hoboken's First Ward Block Association, Thomas Newman, today called on city officials to launch a coordinated attack on poor housing conditions.

Newman said he would talk with Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, and members of the City Council to discuss improvements.

Newman said the present inspection system is completely inadequate. He cited a recent state inspection of property owned by Ernest and Liselotte Lieber which turned up more than 650 housing code violations.

Just a year before, Newman said, the city inspection of the properties found only 50 violations.

"I'm not saying the building inspectors are dishonest," said Newman. "They are understaffed and maybe they weren't able to do a complete inspection of the buildings."

Newman said, though, something must be done to improve the inspection system.

Under the current system, Hoboken inspects each building in the city once every five years, except when complaints are received.

## Hispanic group backing 2 Cappiello candidates

Claiming a major role in the election of two council candidates in Hoboken recently, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Gladys Civic Association said today they are backing two candidates in the runoff next Tuesday who have been endorsed by Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Rafael Castillo, a spokesman for the groups, said the Hispanics will be supporting Councilman Martin Brennan in the Fifth Ward and Edward McLaughlin, a Sixth Ward candidate.

In the May 8 election, the groups backed winning Councilman Anthony Romano, who was opposed by the mayor and Councilman Louis Franccone who won in a race in which Cappiello remained neutral.

Castillo said that when Romano defeated challenger Frank Cameron in the First Ward last month he acknowledged the assistance given him by the two Hispanic organizations. Franccone defeated Florence Amato in the Fourth Ward.

Gladys De Jesus, who heads her association, said "We know we have the organizational and

## Hispanics stick by candidates

Two Hoboken Hispanic groups expressed continued support yesterday for candidates in the city's 5th and 6th Ward council seat run-off elections one week from today.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Gladys Civic Association are continuing their support for incumbent Councilman Martin Brennan, running against Norman Wilson Jr. in the 5th Ward, and Edward McLaughlin, who is opposing incumbent Independent Councilman Nunzio Malfetti in the 6th Ward.

Both Brennan and McLaughlin, a former councilman, are also endorsed by Mayor Steve Cappiello. Wilson, the top vote-winner in the five-man 5th Ward race, has been endorsed by the other three Independents who ran in his ward.

The two groups claim that their endorsements will decide the victors in the run-offs.

## Block pulls strings on overhead wires

A majority of Garden Street residents on a block in uptown Hoboken decided last night they want to have their overhead electric and utility wires shifted to their rear yards.

But their vote left unanswered the questions of how much it will cost, when it will happen and who will pay for it.

The Hoboken Environmental Committee sponsored the neighborhood meeting at the American Legion Hall at the request of several residents living between 12th and 13th streets who complained of the "Black Spaghetti" crisscrossing over their street.

Mrs. Helen Manogue, chairman of the environmental group, said 60 percent of the homeowners favored returning the service lines to the rear yards.

Representatives of Public Service Electric and Gas Co., New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. and Cable Vision of New Jersey were at the meeting which was arranged after a fire captain, Louis Muraca, complained about the number of overhead lines on the block where he lives.

Mrs. Manogue said the utilities' representatives discussed underground installation and re-designing the overhead clusters but the homeowners appeared to favor the return of the wires to the back yards. The committee will be contacting all of the utilities to determine if and when it can be done and who will pay for the work. Mrs. Manogue said. Also taking part in the meeting were Mayor Steve Cappiello and Councilmen Walter Cramer and Robert Ranieri.

## Hoboken club sending 300 on Yugoslav tour

Over 300 Yugoslavian immigrants living in Hoboken will visit their homeland later this month.

Going along with them will be Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, making good on a campaign promise he made in 1973 to his Yugoslavian supporters.

The trip is being sponsored by the San Sego Club of Hoboken which has over 4,000 members throughout Hudson and Bergen counties.

Pino Morin, president of the club, said the tour will include a visit to the island of Susek, where many Hoboken immigrants were born.

The club will pick up the \$2,500 tab for the mayor's transportation and expenses during the trip.

## Give us written contract, municipal union chief asks

By Randolph Diamond

The new president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association, John Wallington, is demanding a written contract for the 200 city hall and public works employees under his jurisdiction and Mayor Steve Cappiello seems willing to oblige.

Wallington said he is tired of his employees being "treated as second class citizens" and wants them to have rights that policemen and firemen do.

Municipal employees in Hoboken have never had a written contract, though traditionally the employees have received the same wage increases policemen and firemen have gained in their contracts.

Wallington, who recently took

over the union, said municipal employees have no guarantees their benefits won't be taken away from them if they are not specified in a contract.

"What happens if a different mayor comes in and tries to take away all of our benefits?" he asked. "We need some type of protection."

The Union president has called a meeting for 4 tomorrow in the city hall courtroom to discuss the situation with his members.

Wallington said he hopes to make the Municipal Employees Association a strong union, which fights for the rights of city employees.

Right now, Wallington said, the association only has about 40 paying members and he said, at the recent elections in which he was elected president there were less than 30 ballots cast.

Wallington, who works as a foreman for the public works department said he wants to specifically improve conditions for public works department employees in the city garage.

Wallington repeated charges made by other garage employees that conditions in the city garage are horrendous.

"There is water all over the garage because of a broken sewer, you can't work in there," he said.

City officials have said in the past they know conditions in the garage

are bad, but said they don't want to put any more money into the facility because construction will be starting shortly on a new one.

Wallington said he would also like to see city hall officials create a women's lounge on the third floor.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said it wouldn't bother him if municipal employees were covered under a written contract. In fact, he said he even suggested the idea to union officials about a year ago.

Cappiello said under a written contract employees' job specifications could be clearly defined and consequently the city could get more accountability.

In the past, the mayor has said he had not been satisfied that all employees in the public works department have been fully accounted for.

The mayor voiced objections to the union proposal for a women's lounge.

"I don't stretch in a lounge and city hall employees aren't going to either," he said.

The mayor said the employees already have a six-hour day and while he has nothing against them taking a short coffee break, a lounge would just be too much.

The mayor said, though, he would consider the union lounge proposal if the union agreed to the lengthening of the work day by a hour.



Steve Cappiello

Wanted street tidy for parade

## Amato irked by trash sweep

The removal of discarded furniture piled outside a Hoboken rooming house this weekend fanned the flames of a political rivalry within the public works department, it was learned yesterday.

Two public works employees supervised by Sewage Authority Superintendent Roy Haack worked overtime Friday afternoon loading the rubbish into a city compactor.

Mayor Steve Cappiello ordered the job to rid the street of an unsightly heap before the Year of the Child parade held on Saturday.

But when Public Works Director Andrew Amato arrived at the scene Friday, a shouting match ensued between the director and Haack, public works sources disclosed yesterday. Officials say Amato and Haack have been at odds since the mayor appointed Haack acting public works director while Amato took a vacation to campaign for his wife's candidacy in the May 8 council race.

Amato resumed control of his office following his two-week leave, but the mayor said Haack would maintain a high rank in the department to utilize "his expertise."

Amato said yesterday he objected to his crews being enlisted for the work. "We don't go out doing private jobs. We'll help out when people put out a few pieces but not a whole truckload." The director maintained that the owner of the furniture, Robert Goodman, should be billed for the work.

Cappiello said Goodman would be charged for the overtime wages of the crew, use of the compactor and hauling fees. For his part, Goodman criticized Amato as a poor administrator. "An administrator should help a taxpayer ... Amato has no common sense."

Amato said Goodman was issued a summons for the garbage. Aside from the hauling charges, Goodman would face a fine of \$25 to \$200 if found liable.



## Hispanic attains goal as he walks beat as Hoboken policeman

Only a small percentage of Hoboken's policemen and firemen are minority group members, a fact which has caused the federal government to sue Hoboken and other cities in New Jersey alleging discrimination in their hiring practices.

But Hoboken's new Hispanic policeman, Antonio Rentas, isn't worried about discrimination.

"I'm very proud of being Hispanic," said Rentas, "but I hope people will judge me first as a person and the kind of job I do as a cop."

Rentas was one of five new policemen sworn in last week and he feels he has been treated just like any other recruit.

"Everyone has just been great to all of us," he said. "The sergeant who has been training us and all the officers have just been so helpful."

Rentas, a native of Ponce, Puerto Rico, moved with his family at an early age to the United States.

They first lived in the Bronx, moving a few years later to Weehawken where Rentas lived until he moved to Hoboken five years ago.

Rentas, who just turned 29, always wanted to be a cop.

"My father and my uncle were cops in Puerto Rico. It runs in the family," he said. "I think being a cop will be a great job."

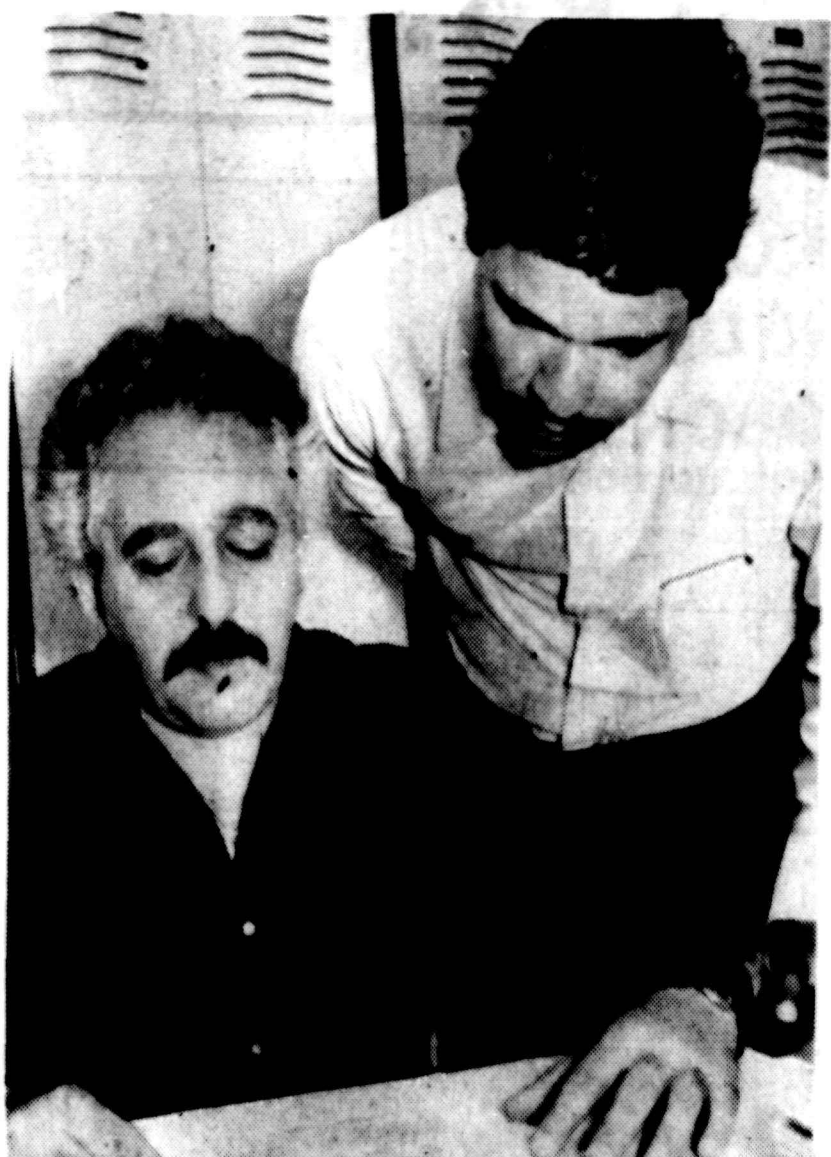
Rentas said he sees his job as a challenge.

"I love to work with people and the job can be a real experience," he said. "Nothing is the same, you're always meeting different people and getting into new situations."

When Rentas was graduated from high school in Weehawken he knew he wanted to be a policeman, but felt he wasn't ready yet.

"I didn't have enough life experience yet," he said. "When I became a policeman I wanted to be sure I could handle it."

The new policeman drove a



Antonio Rentas, an Hispanic recently appointed to the Hoboken Police Department, learns the ropes from Sgt. James Tummaro.

truck for a number of years delivering fish, a job which he said was a dead end.

Three years ago he took the Civil Service test offered in Hoboken for new policemen and scored relatively high.

The community of Hoboken, however, has not hired many new policemen in the last few years and Rentas is not only happy, but also relieved he was finally appointed.

"The list expires in October, I got in just under the wire," he said.

Rentas didn't apply to be a patrolman in any other community but Hoboken because he wanted to work in the Mill-Square City.

"It's a really good place," he said. "You have all different types of people and it's kind of like a small-town atmosphere."

Rentas will be in training with the four other patrolmen for the next few weeks and then will walk a beat with an experienced patrolman.

Soon Rentas will have his own walking beat and will fulfill his own dream.

## Hoboken may pick up ball if Jersey City fumbles jai alai

If Jersey City doesn't want jai alai, Hoboken might be willing, Mayor Steve Cappiello said today.

But meanwhile, a special Jersey City Council meeting has been called for Tuesday morning to attempt to reverse Wednesday's vote against a jai alai fronton on that city's waterfront.

State Sen. David Friedland of Jersey City will address the Jersey City Council at Tuesday's meeting. Friedland, who is pushing a bill to have a statewide referendum in November on legalization of jai alai, was visibly upset yesterday as he tried to correct any damage to his efforts which the council's vote may have caused.

Friedland said the damage would be minimized if the council reverses

itself on Tuesday, but at least one member felt the senator's efforts were intrusive.

"Sen. Friedland should stop interfering with the council's decisions," said Councilman Gerald McCann, sponsor of the resolution opposing jai alai on the waterfront.

Cappiello said he would approach legislative leaders about substituting Hoboken for Jersey City in the proposed legalization referendum legislation, if the Jersey City Council remains opposed to the sport.

"If the fronton was successful, it could revitalize our whole waterfront," said the Hoboken mayor.

Current legislation would restrict jai alai to Jersey City, Camden and Long Branch.

McCann, who argued that jai alai on the waterfront might scare off potential housing developers, said he doesn't want the sport anywhere in the city, but might vote in favor of it anyway, if any other council member strongly wants an arena in his own ward.

Councilman Anthony Cucci said he probably would support jai alai as long as it is not located on the waterfront.

Councilman Thomas McGovern said it was possible he would change his mind once he is fully informed of the benefits jai alai could bring to Jersey City.

Friedland and Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith have repeatedly cited the jobs and tax revenues jai alai would create, but McGovern complained

that neither ever bothered to detail those benefits to the council.

A possible compromise might be to agree that the jai alai fronton would not be on the waterfront.

Although city officials have insisted that the waterfront is the best location for a fronton, both Friedland and Smith said other sites are possible. The mayor suggested a 60-acre site at the southern end of Grove Street, while Friedland said the western side of the city, near Route 440, might be considered.

## Calling Cappiello

Hoboken is losing 25,000 gallons of city water daily at the big leather factory on Observer Highway.

The public works director says the leak is on the company's property and the company should correct it.

The company contends it cannot find a leak on its property and insists the leak must be coming from the city's water main in the street.

The company accuses the city of harassing it over the water waste and is threatening to move out of the city. The Public Works director is treading warily for fear of propelling the company into doing just that.

The water waste has been going on for two and a half years. This is an intolerable situation. The director has been unable to handle it.

Obviously, it must be handled at a higher level. Mayor Cappiello owes it to the city to intervene personally without delay.

## P.A.'s refusal to clear silt led to pier's abandonment

The president of the Pittston Stevedoring Corp. said the Port Authority's refusal to dredge the area around Pier A in Hoboken was a factor in the company deciding to leave the city.

A P.A. spokesman said yesterday that Pittston, Hoboken's last shipping company, would leave the city June 22.

Despite the P.A.'s refusal to dredge the area, Robert Chiarello said he doesn't blame the bi-state agency.

"There were only one or two ships a month docking at the pier and the dredging would have cost around \$500,000," he said.

The pier area was dredged by the P.A. in 1976 at a cost of \$300,000, and apparently the investment was not worth it, Chiarello said.

Chiarello said because of the small number of ships that would use the pier the company's operation was very unprofitable.

"We had to hire a set number of people even though we weren't using them most of the time," he said.

Still, Chiarello had nothing but praise for the Hoboken longshoremen.

"Of all the places we have worked, they are the best," he said. "They work hard and do their job."

Chiarello said the company is trying to keep its 12-employee maintenance shop in Hoboken.

A P.A. spokesman, meanwhile, said the dredging operation would not have been worth it because of the little activity the pier saw.

Dredging has also been a problem for Bethlehem Steel in Hoboken which has a number of its own piers.

The general manager of its Hoboken operations, Richard Blackington, said the company recently spent \$500,000 to dredge the area around its piers, but because of the large amount of mud and silt, another dredging job will have to be done next year.

"We are willing to spend the money," he said, "but there are so many different regulations and steps we have to go through to get a permit," he said. "Each year the government passes more and more regulations and it's getting harder and harder to operate."

Blackington said if things don't let up, the entire waterfront may die. "There will be no shipping activity," he said.

## Factory cited in Hoboken's water loss

A water leak in a pipe at the Neumann Leather Co. factory on Observer Highway in Hoboken is causing the loss of over 10,000 gallons of city water daily, Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato charged today.

Amato said he has known of the leak for at least two years, but that many officials have refused to do anything about it. "I want them to bring in a contractor now to solve the situation," Amato said.

Richard Bernheim, president of Neumann Leather angrily reacted to Amato's statements and said that if the city administrator keeps on "harassing" him he will "seriously consider" moving his factory out of Hoboken.

"There is a leak and we have spent thousands and thousands of dollars trying to find it," he said. "But we believe the leak is on city property outside our property. I have tried to dig up the city street but they (the city) won't let me."

"I've talked to the business administrator and the mayor and asked director Amato to come down here, but we get no cooperation. It's as though they don't give a damn about industry in Hoboken."

Bernheim said that two winters ago when the leak was discovered, the city shut off the water main leading into the factory and put in a temporary line above ground.

"While the main was off the leak stopped so it must be in the city line," he said.

The temporary main was taken away, when cold water came up, he said, and the leak recurred.

Amato said, however, that the city plumber and foreman told him the leak was inside the company and not on city property.

"It is not my responsibility to go down to the plant," the public works director said. "My foreman and plumber have already made a determination."

Amato said he had invited Bernheim to discuss the situation in his office a number of times but he has refused.

The director said Bernheim has now accepted his invitation and he expects to meet with the company president in the next week.

"We are willing to work with them," the public works director said. "We just want to solve the problem."

Amato's crackdown on the company is part of his overall effort to reduce Hoboken daily water loss.

City officials have estimated that Hoboken is losing anywhere from 35 to 50 percent of the water it receives from its supplier, Jersey City, because of various leaks.

The public works director announced about a month ago he was making an all-out effort to capture Hoboken's lost water.

Last week he announced his men had fixed 30 leaking fire hydrants and four service leaks in water lines connecting private homes.

## Fire drill for 2,000 in Hoboken

A mass fire drill with more than 2,000 Hoboken tenants evacuating their apartments at the same time will take place on June 16, Walter Barry, the head of the Applied Housing Corp. said today.

Barry said every tenant in Applied Housing's almost 1,000 Hoboken apartments will participate in the drill, which he said is the largest Hoboken has ever seen.

Barry said Applied Housing officials have been working the last two months in preparation for the drill.

Pat Shortall, tenant relations coordinator for Applied Housing, said meetings have been held in every Applied Housing building to inform tenants of the drill and to make them aware of their alternatives in case of a fire.

Barry said many deaths in fires are often caused when people panic and don't know what to do.

"What we are trying to do is educate the people," said Barry.

The Applied Housing president had announced yesterday the company will install smoke detectors in every one of its Hoboken apartments, even though it is not required to do so by law.



## Making the pick

Arthur Polans, owner of the Clam Broth House in Hoboken, makes the first pick as the names of Hoboken policemen are drawn from hat held by Thomas Moehan, head of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. The drawing will determine the order in which policemen will receive bulletproof vests. Also on hand for the drawing were Det. Cecil Vincent, left, chairman of the local fund drive; James Giordano, director of public safety, and Mayor Steve Cappiello, right.

## Vote machines checked for runoffs

The 10 voting machines to be used in Tuesday's runoff councilmanic elections in Hoboken's Fifth and Sixth Ward have been found to be in satisfactory condition, according to Joseph T. Brady, Hudson County's elections superintendent and registration commissioner.

The routine inspection to the seven machines to be used in the Fifth Ward's runoff and the three machines for the Sixth Ward contest took place yesterday at the Emerson Warehouse in Downtown Jersey City. Since the

Third and Fifth Districts of the Fifth Ward have over 850 voters apiece, an extra machine is used in each of those polling places.

The Fifth Ward has five districts; the Sixth Ward, three districts.

Continued from page 1

"If my members want a written contract, then they are going to have to be responsible and learn to live up to it," he said.

Wallington was recently elected head of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association which represents more than 200 city hall and public works employees in Hoboken.

Municipal employees in Hoboken never have had a written contract, but traditionally have received the same benefits as policemen and firemen.

Wallington said the practices of Hoboken employees leaving early and goofing off had lessened somewhat since Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius took office two years ago and instituted a time sheet system in which employees had to sign in and out.

Before that system, Wallington said, just about everyone was leaving early and goofing off.

"My members may not like me much for what I am saying, but it's true," he said.

After hearing Wallington's statements concerning his employees' actions, a surprised Mayor Steve Cappiello said he was in complete agreement with the employees association head.

He says another factor is that his workers have been attempting to legally collect the absentee vote from Ward residents who said they would not be able to go to the polls next week.

Under state law, a voter is eligible for an absentee vote if he:

- Is out of the state on the day of an election.
- Is ill or disabled. A pregnancy would be an applicable case.

- Is permanently and totally disabled.
- Observing a religious holiday that prohibits going to the polls.

- Works hours that would prohibit him from going to a polling place.

Continued from page 1

"It's organized and concerted," Wilson said Thursday. "It's not just the work of one overzealous worker."

Several of the depositions state that Brennan campaign worker Joanna Vercy, owner of a liquor store in the ward, has used her business as a base from which to solicit the ballots.

Basically, the depositions state that Vercy told customers that if they signed a white card (an application for the ballot) they would not have to "go through the trouble of going to the polls."

Two of statements say that Vercy later collected the ballots from those who signed them, instructing them either to vote for Brennan or simply sign them without casting a vote.

Brennan, reached at his campaign headquarters last night, dismissed the allegations against Vercy as "outright lies."

"I'll defend Joanna on this," he said. "I don't think these people are that naive that they would sign (the ballots) without knowing what was going on."

Brennan also said the people who signed the depositions may be receiving benefits from HOPES (Hoboken Organization against Poverty and Economic Strife), of which Wilson is executive director, and so may have felt pressured to sign them.

## County investigates ballot fraud

By JACK FISCHER and DIANE CURCIO

The Hudson County Superintendent of Elections is investigating allegations of widespread illegal gathering of absentee ballots in the primary runoff for City Council in Hoboken's fifth Ward.

Superintendent Joseph Brady said Thursday that several investigators from his office are conducting door-to-door interviews with residents of the ward in an attempt to verify charges of the illegal practices made by Independent council candidate E. Norman Wilson.

Wilson faces administration-backed Council President Martin Brennan in a runoff contest on Tuesday. The two garnered the most votes in a five-way primary race on May 8.

If "the scope of the investigation broadens to indicate there is wholesale fraud then we would go to the courts to take action, but I

don't see that right now," Brady said.

The superintendent said Wilson's office has thus far supplied him with three sworn depositions outlining the illegal practices, but George Guzman, a campaign coordinator for the Wilson campaign, said has an additional six statements.

Guzman added he was still checking with other residents who have filed for the ballots at the county clerk's office to determine the circumstances under which they were sought.

Both Wilson and Guzman contend that Brennan workers and other supporters of the administration of Mayor Steve Cappiello are undertaking a widespread effort to illegally solicit the absentee votes.

(Continued on page 4)



## 4 compete in Hoboken runoff vote

By William Taft

Elsewhere in Hudson, elections are over until fall, but on Tuesday Hoboken will have its third election in five weeks and an important one which might ultimately have consequences for the entire county.

That event is a runoff of the contests for councilman in the city's 5th and 6th wards which were inconclusive in the regular councilmanic election May 8.

The council candidates were not involved in Tuesday's primary election.

In the 5th Ward, Councilman Martin J. Brennan has formidable opposition for reelection in the person of E. Norman Wilson Jr., director of Hoboken's Organization Against Poverty and Economic Stress.

In the 6th, Councilman Nunzio Malfetti is opposed by Edward A. McLaughlin, the man he unseated in the last ward election in 1975.

Brennan is also the council's president (elected by the councilmen themselves) and is considered a spokesman for Mayor Cappiello, the city's Democratic leader. Wilson, of course, takes an anti-Cappiello stand.

While Malfetti contends he is not anti-Cappiello but simply "independent," the mayor has endorsed McLaughlin and is doing all he can to get Malfetti off the council. The mayor had also supported McLaughlin in his losing race for reelection four years ago.



Martin Brennan

Nunzio Malfetti

Edward McLaughlin

E. Norman Wilson Jr.

A runoff is needed because no candidates received a majority of the votes cast in either of the two wards five weeks ago.

Wilson polled 680 votes to Brennan's 865 but this did not give him a majority because three other candidates in the race also received votes.

Another close election gave Malfetti 392 votes to McLaughlin's 344, but here also two other candidates got votes.

If Wilson and Malfetti were both to win, this would mean that three of Hoboken's nine councilmen were not aligned politically with the city's political leader, inasmuch as one of those reelected May 8, Councilman Anthony Romano, is already in that category.

A fourth councilman, Louis Franccone, likewise reelected May 8, cannot be counted on as a Cappiello follower, since the mayor neither sided with nor against him in the election.

Thus the defection of any one of the five councilmen in the Cappiello bloc could conceivably cost Cappiello control of the council. Since Cappiello is also a Hudson County freeholder, the loss or diminution of his Hoboken power base could possibly cost him his county job and the county government patronage that goes with it, such as the power to name one of the county's assemblymen.

Brennan, who works nights as a printer in Jersey City, has held public office for almost 30 years. He became secretary to the county clerk in 1951, and in 1953 was promoted to special deputy county clerk, a position he held until 1963.

Appointed as Hoboken city clerk in 1964, he served only briefly, resigning in 1965 because he learned the fulltime job would cost him his union pension rights.

Brennan ran unsuccessfully against 5th Ward Councilman Francis Finnerty in 1967, then came back four years later to unseat Finnerty.

When the council held its routine reorganization after that election, Brennan, backed by Cappiello, was named president.

Four years later, running for reelection, as ward councilman, Brennan was forced into a runoff by Marc Cerrone, whom he then defeated.

Wilson is the son of E. Norman Wilson, who started in the Hoboken city attorney's office as a city attorney from 1964 to 1973.

The son was appointed HOPES director by then Mayor DePascale in July of 1968.

Wilson Jr. ran for councilman-at-large on a slate with DePascale, who was running for reelection, in 1973. DePascale and the rest of his ticket lost to the Cappiello team, but Wilson got enough votes to require a runoff, which he lost.

Malfetti became a public figure in 1969 when he single-handedly conducted a drive to petition for a referendum on whether the city should es-

tablish a crosstown bus line, obtaining several thousand signatures. The referendum was held, the voters voted for the bus line, and it was set up and still exists.

McLaughlin has a supervisory position with a trucking company. In 1971 he ran for councilman as an independent and defeated the incumbent, John Palmieri, who was backed by the Hoboken political organization. Malfetti was also a candidate in that race.

Two years later McLaughlin ran unsuccessfully for mayor. Then in 1975 when McLaughlin ran for reelection Cappiello's banner he lost to Malfetti.

See HOBOKEN—Page 3

## Block association charges harassment

By DIANE CURCIO

The Hoboken 1st Ward Block Association has filed a complaint charging malicious prosecution by a property-owning couple who had charged the association president with trespassing.

Thomas Newman, president of the block association, contends that Ernest and Lisolette Lieber brought trespassing charges because the association prompted the state inspection of their properties, which resulted in 700 violations being found.

"I am taking this action against the Liebers because I think it is about time the people in the 1st Ward stood up to the kind of abuses they have been laying on," Newman said. "The trespassing charge they made against me was an attempt, plain and simple, to intimidate the block association from making complaints about the way they run their buildings down here. We have got to let them know that we are fed up with this and will no longer tolerate their tactics."

Mrs. Lieber conceded that Newman never trespassed, but said the charge was brought against him as head of the block association.

Fourteen Lieber properties were inspected by state officials on Feb. 9 following repeated complaints by the block association.

Mrs. Lieber said block association members conducted unofficial inspections of the rooming houses. She added that the trespassing charges against Newman were dropped after her lawyer advised her to withdraw the case from the Hoboken court and bring the charges to a higher court instead.

Newman just "wants to make headlines because he needs money for his new project," Mrs. Lieber said.

The block association is completing renovations on two three-family homes on Garden Street. The project was partially funded by \$40,000 state grant received through the Hoboken Community Development Agency.

Newman said the block association is dedicated to improving the ward's housing, and have planned the renovation of a 10-family tenement as the next project.

Newman said the 1st Ward has been targeted by the state Department of Community Affairs for a Neighborhood Preservation Program. Under the program, the association has reached an agreement with the local community development agency to undertake a systematic housing code enforcement in the area, Newman said.

But the Liebers contend that the block association wants "the codes to apply to everyone but themselves." Mrs. Lieber said one house in the Garden Street project lacks a fire escape.

Newman said the safety structure will soon be added to the house.

Mrs. Lieber said repairs are now being conducted on her property to correct the 700 violations found on the 14 properties.



THEY'RE OFF — Runners leave Hoboken High School stadium yesterday at the start of the five-mile mini-marathon. Participants competed in three divisions: grade schoolers, high school students and adults. The race was for Hoboken residents only.

## Hoboken takes \$12 off tax rate

By DIANE CURCIO

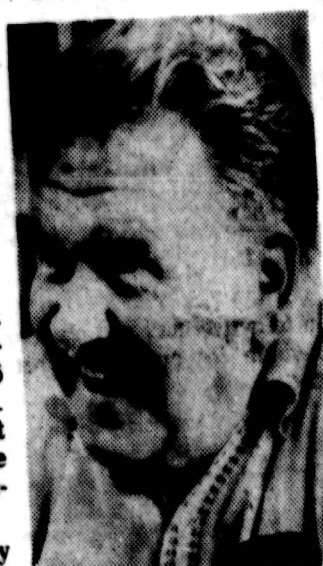
The Hoboken property tax rate, the highest levy in the county, has been lowered by \$12-15 per \$1,000 of assessment due to land assessment increases and reduced expenditures, City Council President Martin Brennan announced yesterday.

The new values work to discourage the holding of vacant land, according to Woodrow Monte, chief city assessor.

Furthermore, a small savings could be afforded to homeowners. Monte said, indicating the land has been brought to its "true value" by the new assessments.

Monte speculated that the eight-month reassessment amounted to a \$15 million gain for the city. Hoboken records show it has been 10 years since an assessment was conducted.

The Hudson County Board of Taxation has not yet calculated the exact rate, but has estimated the decrease in the "ballpark" of \$12-15.



Martin Brennan

A stable tax rate has been the promise of the administration of Mayor Steve Cappiello. When he took office six years ago the tax rate was \$108.69.

But to date, the rate has only fluctuated about \$1. According to the county board of taxation, the rate was \$107.30 in 1978. Jersey City ranked second in the county with a \$100.25 rate.

To explain the land assessment increases and their effect on the tax bill, Monte cited two hypothetical parcels of land, both the same size and assessed at \$5,000. An average house is then assessed at \$25,000, and constructed on one parcel.

In the case of parcels X and Y the land assessment is doubled to meet the "true value," Monte said.

The vacant land owner who faced a \$540 tax bill under the old assessment is now charged \$960 as calculated by a \$12 rate cut.

The homeowner was served with a \$3,240 tax bill under the former rate. The new rate, coupled with the boosted assessments, could bring a \$120 increase or a \$35 saving. The new tax bill depends on where the rate falls in the \$12-15 ballpark.

Monte said not all land assessments were doubled. "The hikes could be 50, 100 or 150 percent," he said.

The intent of the reassessment is to eliminate vacant land from the tax rolls. This action is meant to encourage people to build on the land, thus bringing more ratepayers and decreasing the tax rate even further. Monte concluded.

## Hoboken fluoridation referendum 'exercise in futility'

Hoboken voters will have a chance to speak out on water fluoridation, joining Jersey City in a referendum on the issue Nov. 6, but officials in the Mile Square city admit their referendum is unlikely to hold much water with the Jersey City Council.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello has thrown his political weight behind a council resolution that comes up June 20 to place the fluoridation question on the ballot in Hoboken.

Hoboken Council President Martin Brennan fired off a letter yesterday to the Jersey City Council, demanding that

Hoboken residents be given consideration in the decision on fluoridation.

Jersey City councilmen reached yesterday extended little hope to the Hoboken cause. Hoboken purchases its water from the Jersey City water utility, which began fluoridating water in 1973 but discontinued it last year after council members received complaints.

The council resolved to place the question on the ballot Nov. 6 in a non-binding referendum.

"We're not forced to follow the referendum," said Jersey City Councilman Anthony Cucchi.

Yesterday, "but I think we're almost obligated to do what the public dictates."

Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri said he would propose a resolution June 20 calling for the referendum in his city.

"We have to decide whether we want to buy water or a Three Mile Island cocktail," he said.

but Cappiello, Brennan and Ranieri admitted that the referendum in their city may be "an exercise in futility."

"Do they really care what Hoboken feels?" Brennan

asked. "They didn't care about us when they raised the rates."

"It won't have much direct impact," Cappiello said. "But our people should have the right to express how they feel. A lot of them want fluoridation."

"We may not have the right of determination," Ranieri added, "but we should have the right of expression."

Cucchi, for one, agreed.

"I think we've been remiss in giving the people of Hoboken, West Caldwell and Lyndhurst a say in all this," he said. "I apologize to the mayor and the people of Hoboken."

Councilman Cornelius

Parker said it would be "in the best interests of Hoboken and the other towns we serve to have their own referendum to help us make a decision."

But Council President Paul Cuprowski cautioned that while he would look at the Hoboken vote he'll be guided by the one in Jersey City.

"I'm elected by the people of Jersey City and I serve them first," he said.

Councilman-at-large Carole Conte said she doesn't care what the votes show.

"I've been against fluoridation all along and I'm going to

vote against it no matter what," she asserted.

Medical experts say fluoridated water is beneficial to the development of teeth in children. Opponents, many of them senior citizens, claim that adding fluoride to the water can cause damage to the bones and heart.

Ranieri and the Hoboken Environment Committee are planning a public forum on the fluoridation question for October and are trying to line up national consumer and health experts to address city residents.

## Lucille Cunningham, was Hoboken library director

Miss Lucille Cunningham, the director of the Hoboken Public Library, died Saturday at St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken. Miss Cunningham was born in Hoboken and was a lifelong resident there. She had been the library

director for many years. She was also a member of the American Library Association, the New Jersey Library Association and the Library Public Relations Council of New York.

A mass will be offered at Our Lady of Grace

Church, Hoboken, at 9 a.m. Wednesday with burial in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington.

The Lawton-Turso Funeral Home, Hoboken, is handling the arrangements.

CUNNINGHAM — Miss Lucille, on June 1, 1928, of Hoboken, died Saturday of Mrs. Josephine Cunningham and Miss Helen Cunningham. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from the LAWTON-TURSO Funeral Home, 631 Washington Street, Hoboken, on Wednesday at 9 a.m. for funeral services. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. Visiting hours, 1 to 5 and 7 to 10 p.m. Portals set on Court Street.

## Wilson, Malfetti win runoffs

By Tom Goldik

Voters in Hoboken's Fifth Ward ended Martin Brennan's tenure as city council president last night when they voted instead to have independent E. Norman Wilson Jr. represent them. In the Sixth Ward, incumbent Nunzio Malfetti defeated former Councilman Edward McLaughlin in the other run-off election in the city.

Brennan lost by about 70 votes overall although Wilson outpolled him by nearly 300 votes on the machine totals. Of the 364 absentee ballots counted last night, 303 went to Brennan while Wilson received 61.

"The voters decided they didn't want me," said Brennan after last night's tallies were announced. "They decided they wanted a new face in

there. I won't answer the question, 'Why?'"

"I'm going to sit around in my backyard and catch up on some reading. I have no regrets about the outcome. I feel I served to my fullest capacity. The people in the Fifth Ward and in the city of Hoboken got their fair share of my worth."

"I really enjoyed every minute of it. I think I did my job. This is just one of those things that happen," Brennan said of his defeat.

In a statement made during his victory celebration last night, Wilson said that "the primary concern was that the people wanted their councilman to be visible. I intend to do that."

"The people of the ward felt as if they were kind of removed from

government."

He said that he did not run against Mayor Steve Cappiello, that he decided "just to run for councilman of the Fifth Ward. Later the election did take on other connotations."

Wilson, who is confined to a wheelchair, was the focus of a high-energy victory party outside his campaign headquarters at 204 Ninth St. He was pushed through the streets of the ward by a group of supporters while others cheered, danced and sang outside his headquarters.

Tallies for the other race showed Malfetti totaling 786 votes to McLaughlin's 600. In the machine tally, the incumbent scored 720 votes to McLaughlin's 439. Malfetti received 76 absentees while McLaughlin got 161.

Meanwhile, an investigation of some alleged absentee ballot irregularities in yesterday's election is continuing, said Joseph T. Brady, Hudson County elections superintendent and registration commissioner.

Some 131 complaints were received by the Hudson County Board of Elections and his office, resulting in approximately 18 applications for absentee ballots being rejected after investigation, he stated. Brady said the number rejected was about evenly divided between both wards.

Cappiello voiced disappointment over Brennan's defeat last night. "He was my major concern," the mayor said. "I'm sorry to see he didn't make it. He was a good public servant."

## Cappiello disappointed over election results

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he is "very disappointed" over the defeat of City Council President Martin Brennan and council candidate Edward McLaughlin in Tuesday's runoff.

"Brennan was a good City Council president," the mayor said. "The council president is usually unpopular because he has to take positions on issues. It opens him up to a lot of abuse."

Brennan lost in the Fifth Ward by about 70 votes in Tuesday's election although E. Norman Wilson Jr. outpolled him by nearly 300 votes on the machine totals.

In the other runoff race Sixth Ward incumbent Councilman Nunzio Malfetti garnered 786 votes to McLaughlin's 600.

The two losses were considered by political observers as a major setback to the Cappiello administration.

Malfetti and Councilman Anthony Romano of the First Ward had been the only Cappiello opponents on the nine-member city council. Another councilman, Louis Franccone, is not considered a strong Cappiello supporter.

The mayor said he felt Tuesday's result was an indication that the voters were not completely satisfied with his administration.

"I think one of the areas we're going to have to address ourselves to is to clean the city better," he said. "We are going to have to have stricter enforcement of our sanitary laws."

The mayor said he will talk to both Public Safety Director James Giordano and Public Works Director Andrew Amato about ways to achieve this goal.

## Hoboken's police approve new 7% pay boost pact

By a vote of 60-to-6, Hoboken policemen have ratified a new contract for 1979.

The contract is similar to the one policemen ratified last week. It calls for a 7 percent pay increase for policemen in 1979, a dental plan and a prescription drug discount plan.

Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association President Thomas Meehan said he is "very happy" about the new contract.

"I think it's a good contract," he

said. "It's the best we could have gotten under the circumstances."

The contract is expected to be approved at the next City Council meeting.

Meanwhile, negotiations between the city and its public works employees began today.

The president of the Municipal Employees Association, which represents the workers, is asking for a written contract for the first time.

## Hoboken class going Oriental

Spanish is a prime language at a third grade bilingual class at the Wallace School, Hoboken, but on Friday the classroom will take on a Chinese touch.

The youngsters are learning

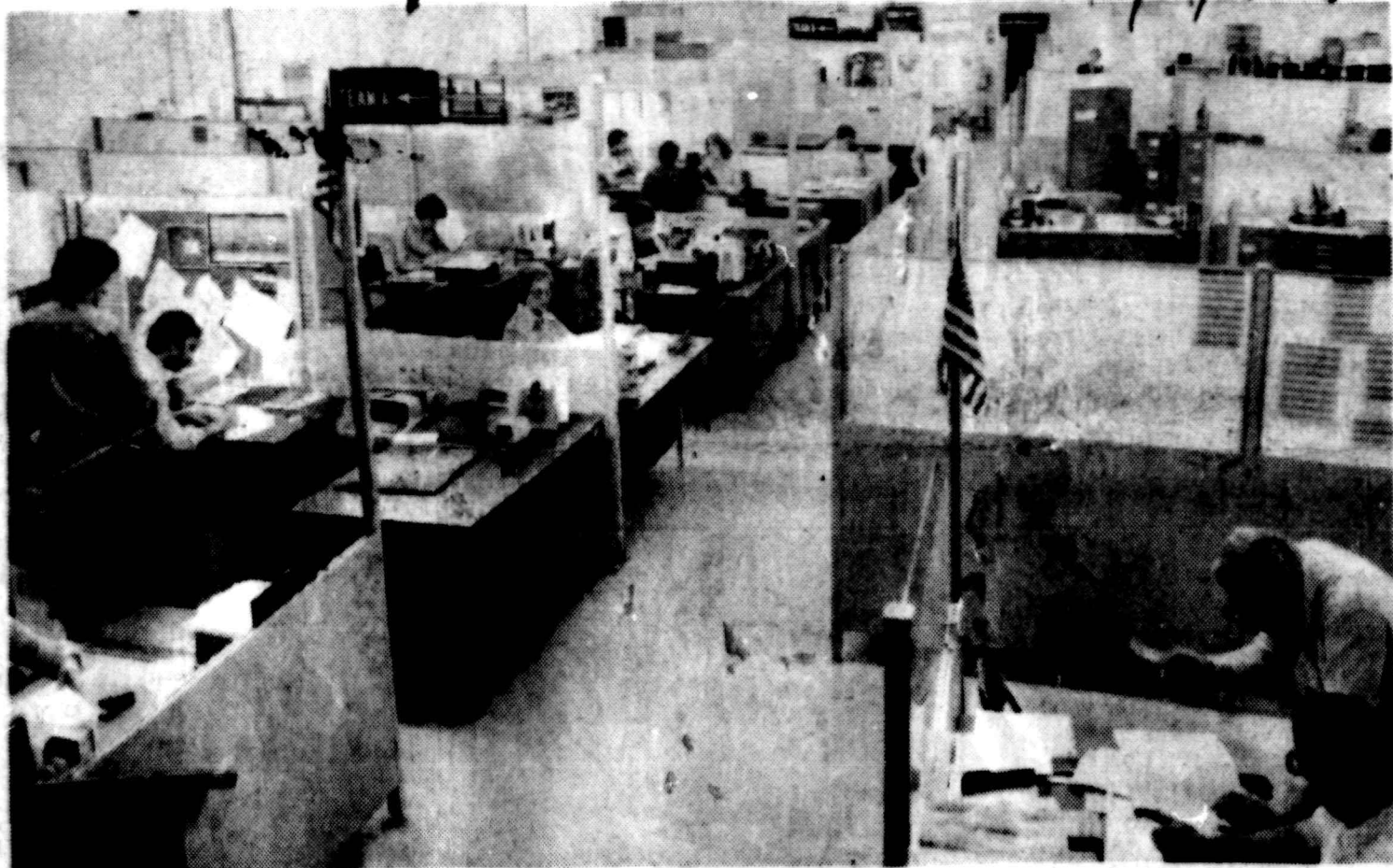
about people from other lands, and now that they are studying about China, the teacher, Gumerinda Ferrara, has arranged for them to try eating rice with chopsticks and to listen to Chinese music and songs.

Fortune cookies also will be distributed. After tasting the Chinese delicacies, the Spanish-speaking students will resume learning about the geography and people of the Orient.



# CETA

Once it was a dream,  
now it's a nightmare



Rows of desks and partitions line the Hoboken offices of the Hudson CETA Consortium as the bureaucracy settles in for a day's work.

By Patrick Ford  
(First in a series)

The controversy surrounding the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act seems ready to explode.

Launched in 1974 to help the poor, the CETA program is floundering with a massive bureaucracy that has been unable to fulfill the lofty goals set by the act.

The state attorney general, the U.S. attorney, the FBI and a federal grand jury all are involved in probes of the \$51

million Hudson County CETA program.

The Department of Labor is investigating a "suspicious" contract for training services on which the county CETA consortium spent \$723,000 last year. Federal officials say this contract — and others — was procured without proper advertisement of bidding.

Critics charge the program is nothing more than an extension of the political patronage pad. CETA officials themselves have charged nepotism in at least two

cases, in Jersey City and Hoboken.

Although some 1,200 CETA employees were to be severed from the program by Sept. 30, the Department of Labor has issued new regulations that would allow Hudson to phase out the dismissals over a year's time.

CETA officials admit most of these workers are not much more prepared for permanent employment in private industry than they were the day they stepped into their CETA jobs. Advocates for the poor con-

tend that the mass layoffs further justify their claim that CETA is a "cruel hoax" on the poor, lifting their hopes about being trained for decent jobs and then failing to deliver.

The United States has spent \$85.8 billion on various manpower programs in the last two decades.

The idea has been to train the poor and hard-core unemployed, and to re-train blue collar workers displaced by automation, helping them survive in the modern job market.

See CETA — Page 4.

Continued from Page 1

The idea is a good one. The programs have not fulfilled it.

The effort began in 1962, when the Kennedy administration put through the Manpower Development and Training Act, designed to re-train workers who lost their jobs to the onslaught of new technology.

The "Great Society" of the Johnson administration saw a widening of the scope of manpower effort, leaning more towards training the unskilled, largely through the Job Corps.

But the massive spending — \$15 billion this year alone on manpower programs — did not begin until CETA, which Presidents Ford and Carter have used as a tool to combat cyclical unemployment.

As the spending mushroomed under Ford and Carter, the emphasis was placed on solving unemployment. That has happened at the expense of the training programs, the cornerstone on which CETA was developed.

The target of the manpower effort — the hard-core unemployment — has become more of a problem through the years.

In 1964, federal officials estimated that there were 380,000 hard-core jobless. Today, despite a tremendous boost in the number of jobs across the country, that figure has zoomed to 2.4 million.

Congress adopted significant changes in CETA in amendments signed into law by Carter

last October. These are designed to make the local sponsors of the massive decentralized bureaucracy more accountable.

But for now the controversies continue.

Speculation has been rampant over the last six months about the reasons for the frequent trips into Hudson County by FBI agents armed with subpoenas to cart away CETA documents.

Material has been subpoenaed by the state or federal government from the County Consortium, Hoboken, North Bergen and Jersey City.

The investigators refuse to comment on the probes, but in Jersey City officials admit they have uncovered fraud, mismanagement and nepotism in

the youth employment and training program.

The office of Sidney Pollack, supervisor of the DOL division that audits the Hudson County CETA budget, has completed the preliminary draft of its biannual audit of the county CETA program. The audit, which covers the period up to Sept. 30, 1978, will contain familiar criticisms, according to DOL officials.

"The audit again questions costs for traveling expenses, luncheons and petty cash outlays," one official says. "It's pretty much the same problem as past audits — lack of documentation and justification for expenses, traveling first class, lack of controls on expenses for upper echelon ad-

## Chius blasts Amato, sees 'chaos' in DPW

A lack of supervision of Hoboken public works employees has led to "chaos" in the Public Works Department, Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius charged today.

Chius said there is often no foreman supervising employees in the public works garage and consequently there is no quality control in the department.

The business administrator said the head foreman sits in the public works director's office in city hall where it is impossible to directly supervise the men.

Chius added he doesn't think Public Works Director Andrew Amato is capable of putting his department into shape.

"He doesn't have the ability to do the kind of supervision that is needed," said Chius. "He doesn't get along with the men or know how to motivate them."

Chius cited the breakdown of the city's cross-town bus as any example of inefficiency in Amato's department.

The engine in the bus burned out about five weeks ago and Chius said

he is sure it could have been avoided. "The drivers don't care and there is no one to supervise them," he said. "There is also no preventive maintenance on the vehicle."

Another example Chius cites is public works employees coming to city hall to pick up their paychecks.

"Why should all the individual employees come down when it would be easier to send one person to pick them up?" he asked.

Amato refused to comment on any of Chius' statements. "At this point I would rather not say anything," he said.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said about two weeks ago that he would talk to city council members about hiring an interim administrator to run the public works department.

The mayor had said that he did not have full faith in Amato's ability to run it.

Amato and a number of his employees have been involved in a dispute, the last month the employees charging the public works director with harassing them. Amato is charging the opposite.

## They'll sweep a mile in Mile-Square City

Residents of Hoboken interested in helping clean up the city will get a chance tomorrow when the Coalition for a Cleaner Hoboken sponsors "Sweep a Mile Day."

Local residents will be provided with brooms between noon and 3 p.m. on Washington Street as the Coalition kicks off its campaign to clean up the city.

The entire length of Washington Street will be swept, according to a Coalition spokesman.

The spokesman said, "Sweep a Mile Day" will be just the first of many events the Coalition will sponsor to keep Hoboken clean. "We want to educate the public," he said.

## Panel to study McDonald's expansion

A proposal by McDonald's of building a 232 Washington St. is now Hoboken to build an addition to its present location at 234 Washington St. will be considered tonight by the Hoboken Historic District Commission.

A commission spokeswoman said McDonald's has proposed taking over the first two floors of an adjoining building at 232 Washington St. and creating a bi-level restaurant.

The spokeswoman said the building a 232 Washington St. is now four stories high and McDonald's has proposed to demolish the top two stories.

McDonald's needs permission from the commission to build the addition because the store is in the newly-created Hoboken Historic District.

The meeting will take place at 7:30 in Hoboken City Hall.

## Hoboken plans biggest summer program ever

The biggest summer recreation schedule Hoboken has ever seen starts June 25. Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina announced today.

For the first time, Farina said, there will be no duplication between the programs sponsored by the city and those sponsored by the federally-funded Community Development Agency.

In previous years, Farina said both the city and the CDA were unaware of each other's programs and there was a lot of duplication.

"Often we would be offering the same program as they were in the same place and at the same time," he said.

Farina said this year city officials and CDA officials sat down together with him and planned the recreation schedule together.

Farina said among the activities offered will be volleyball, a basketball league, body building, tennis and exercise classes, twirling, swimming, arts and crafts, movies and disco dancing.

## Hoboken city hall to be warmer

Hoboken City Hall employees won't have any more heatless days to contend with come next winter.

By this October a new two-zone boiler system will be installed in city hall, according to Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

The business administrator said a local firm, DeVivo Associates of Jersey City, has been hired to draw up engineering and design specifications for the new system and bidding on it will be taken after the next council meeting in June.

The current heating system has been constantly breaking down, leaving city hall employees without heat for periods of months.

Chius said even when the system has been working, other offices often don't get heat.

In addition, he said, the present system can't be turned off at night because the police station needs heat 24 hours a day.

"The old boiler is a one-zone system and you can't heat the police station without keeping on the heat in the rest of city hall," he said. "With the new system boiler we will be able to control each area."

In addition to the installment of new boiler, Chius said the cracked streets around city hall will be repaired over the summer.

The business administrator said the total cost of the new system and the street repairs will run between \$70,000 and \$80,000.

## Ranieri, Kennedy are frontrunners for council helm

By DIANE CURCIO

Some Hoboken political observers said yesterday Councilmen Robert Ranieri and Thomas Kennedy appear to be top contenders for the council presidency following incumbent Martin Brennan's defeat in the runoff election Tuesday.

Brennan's successor will be chosen at the 10 a.m. reorganization meeting of the council on July 2.

The post of council president can be a step on the road to higher office. Louis DePascale advanced from council president to mayor in 1969.

Ranieri possesses the finesse required of a council president to deal with the public, observers say. While Kennedy commands a popular appeal which could be an asset to the council president, both men have higher political aspirations, they say.

Kennedy has not disclosed his immediate goals, but Ranieri has set his sites on the state assembly.

Although Brennan worked at the business of being president, he did not capitalize on the job, observers said. This failing, coupled with his sometimes gruff nature and his low-key campaigning during the regular election, cost him the council seat, according to observers. Ranieri said he would accept the presidency if the job were offered him.

In challenging Assemblyman Gallo for the state post, Ranieri has apparently crossed Mayor Steve Cappiello, who has already endorsed the incumbent. Ranieri was elected councilman-at-large in 1973 as a member of the Cappiello ticket. But the councilman has often acted as an Independent.

There has been speculation that Ranieri could side with Councilmen Anthony Romano and Nunzio Malfetti and Councilman-elect Norman Wilson to form a minority coalition.

Wilson's election to the council threatens the majority grip of Cappiello. Councilmen Salvatore Cemelli, Bernard Scivani, Kennedy, Walter Cramer, and Brennan are con-

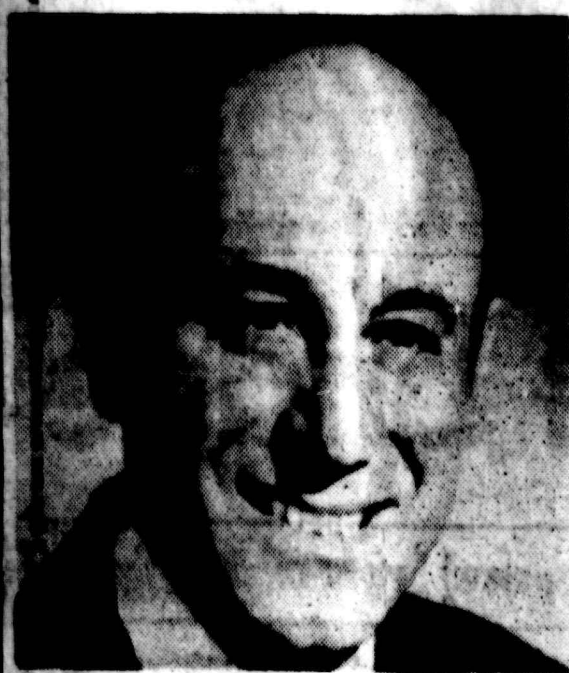
sidered loyal to Cappiello. Councilman Louis Francone has lately supported administration moves.

But during the 1973 mayoral race, Francone backed Romano in his unsuccessful bid. Francone's dual allegiance, plus the possible formulation of a minority coalition, has the earmarks of a politically volatile situation in Hoboken.

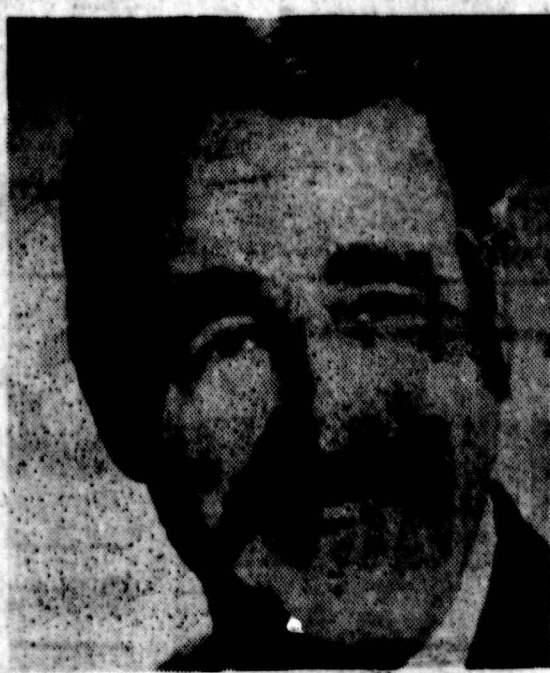
In recent weeks, Public Works Director Andrew Amato has been criticized as a poor administrator. But the director contends that his friendship with Wilson campaign manager Mark Cerrone prompted the accusations.

Amato yesterday asserted that his "only ties are with the mayor. Two years ago I made a commitment with the mayor and I intend to stand by it. But I don't know if the mayor believes me."

Cappiello said he had "no comment" concerning Amato's loyalty.



Robert Ranieri  
Would accept presidency if offered



Thomas Kennedy  
Hasn't tipped his hand

## Today's runoff tests Cappiello

The polls opened at 7 a.m. today in Hoboken's Fifth and Sixth wards, where runoff councilmanic elections will test the strength of the ad-

ministration of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello. In the Fifth Ward, independent E. Norman Wilson Jr. is going against

incumbent City Council president Martin Brennan, a strong supporter of the mayor, while in the Sixth Ward independent incumbent Nunzio Malfetti is running against former Councilman Edward McLaughlin who is supported by Cappiello.

Polling places will stay open until 8 p.m.

Meanwhile, Joseph T. Brady, Hudson County's elections superintendent and registration commissioner, today began touring the two wards, while declining comment on whether his entire investigation of alleged absentee ballot application irregularities will be completed by the end of the voting.

Brady did explain that his investigation was proceeding as fast as possible so valid absentee ballots could be counted.

Brady was assigned six state troopers and several deputy attorneys general in order to ensure an orderly election.

Judge Henry B. McFarland Jr. of Hudson County District Court went on duty at the county administration building to handle any election disputes the first six hours of the voting. Judge J. Leonard Hornstein of the Hudson County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court was assigned to similar duty for seven hours until 8 p.m.

As voters went to the polls, 664 applications for absentee ballots had been filed.

A total of 403 were for ballots for the Fifth Ward contest and 261 for the Sixth Ward runoff. The total includes regular civilian absentee ballot applications, whose deadline expired a week ago, those made by authorized messengers for persons taken suddenly ill or detained by other emergencies from going to the polls, and military ballot requests. The latter applications can be made up to and including election day.



ROTARY GUEST — Robert Mand, second from left, president of the Hoboken Rotary Club, welcomes Hudson County Executive Edward Clark as the guest speaker for the Rotary luncheon yesterday at the Clam Broth House. At left is Sister Grace Francis Stuber, executive director of St. Mary Hospital, while at right is Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello.



# Hoboken PW director expanding his power base

By DIANE CURCIO

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato is apparently taking out some political insurance. The much-criticized official is planning to expand his political organization. "I'm going to push my membership citywide," Amato said.

Political organizations or clubs are a way of life in Hoboken. A club serves as a social gathering place and a power base. Mayor Steve Cappelletto has an association, as do most other city leaders.

The strength of an association is measured by the membership.

The Andrew Amato Association, headquartered at 106 Madison St., boasts a membership of 120 people. The association sponsored Amato's wife in her unsuccessful bid for the 4th Ward council seat.

Yet in announcing his plans, Amato said he has no "personal political ambitions." The director said the "members will decide who they want to support in two years (the mayoral election)."

In 1977, the Amato association supported Cappelletto. Giant photographs of the mayor and Amato still decorate the walls of the club.

Upon beginning his second term, Cappelletto appointed Amato to the public works post. But in recent weeks, the director has been the focus of repeated criticism from councilmen, public works employees, and Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

Councilman Walter Cramer rapped Amato as an ineffective administrator. But the director said his orders were being undermined by top-level officials. The council resolved the situation by ordering the director to assert himself as the chief administrator of the department.

On the heels of the council mandate came accusations from

several public works employees, who claimed Amato was harassing them due to political ties with administration opponents. The director denied the accusations. And on Tuesday, Chius again assailed Amato as a poor administrator. Chius said he would approach the council to appoint an interim director.

Considering the circumstances, observers said Amato's plans to increase the club membership appear to be a form of political insurance. He is less likely to be replaced if he has a strong political club, according to this theory.

Amato said the membership drive would begin early in September.

## Hoboken freshmen to get crash reading training

By Ronald Leir

The Hoboken Board of Education will try to get about half of its incoming ninth-graders up to reading at high school level if the board's application for a \$15,000 state grant is approved.

Last night, the board authorized George Maier, superintendent of schools, to apply, on behalf of the district, for funds under the state Compensatory Education Research and Development program to set up a pilot remedial reading project.

Francis McGorty, assistant superintendent, said that 240 youths slated to enter high school this fall and whose

reading ability falls below secondary school standards would participate in the program. He said the figure represents about 50 percent of the high school's class of 1984.

McGorty said the grant money would be used to hire a reading teacher aide and resource materials for a reading lab. At least one reading specialist already employed by the board would be assigned to the program, he said.

Students would go through a 10-week cycle of work on basic reading skills. McGorty said would be closely tied to the material covered in their

regular English class.

"They'll get a complete diagnostic workup indicating their areas of weakness and a reading prescription detailing the type of remedial work they need to build up their reading ability," McGorty said.

The remedial work would be scheduled for the students' study period during the normal school day, he said.

"While we would hope that the lab work will enable the student to handle the regular work assigned in the classroom, ultimately, that job is in the hands of the student's English instructor," McGorty added.

In a related development, the

board authorized Maier to accept an invitation from the county schools superintendent's office to send 10 high school English teachers to a state Compensatory Education workshop on developing writing skills sponsored by the Education Improvement Center, a subsidiary of the state Education Department. Hoboken will be one of only four districts in New Jersey to participate, according to McGorty.

Meanwhile, as the Hoboken district gets ready to end its junior high school system in September by moving to a kindergarten to eighth-grade and ninth to 12th-grade system,

the board last night sanctioned Maier's recommendations for more than 60 teacher transfers. Many instructional employees now teaching on the elementary school level but who hold certificates qualifying them for secondary-level teaching are being shifted to accommodate the influx of ninth-graders.

Three persons who board members said have secured elementary school teaching certificates were ordered removed from an April 27 employee termination list last night by the board. They are Kenneth Johnson, William Keller and Joseph Marnell. Only Zelma Lugo voted against the move.

She gave no reason for doing so.

The board also approved 13 appointments to the staff of the summer Accredited Evening High School, at \$30 per day. They are James McLaughlin, Joseph Corrado, Dennis Sevano and Lorraine Cutillo, all as English teachers; Dominick Manolio, Larry Sciancalepore and Patrick Gratale, as history teachers; Gerard Solleder and Michael Damata, science teachers; Frank Furman as business teacher; Ada Quintero, foreign language; and Gerard Kiely and Linda Tiscornia, three weeks each as math teachers. The program runs from June 15 to Aug. 6.

## Brennan snubs master plan bid

An invitation by Mayor Steve Cappelletto to the Hoboken City Council to meet in private with the city Board of Education to discuss the board's capital improvement master plan was publicly snubbed last night by outgoing council president Martin J. Brennan.

"We were supposed to receive a report from Kraft and Hughes, the Newark bonding consultants we hired, on what the impact on our tax rate would be from such a program, but I've never seen it and it wouldn't be fair to ask us to go into a meeting without all the facts and figures," Brennan said.

"Any councilman who'd attend this meeting without this information would be very foolish," added Brennan, who was presiding at his final City Council caucus, and possibly his last council meeting.

Brennan said he may be unable to make tomorrow night's meeting due to a change in his working hours.

Brennan added that city finance aides have provided "off-the-record" figures that projected an astronomical boost in the city's annual tax rate. We got scared and everybody ran away from it when we heard that."

The mayor replied that the master plan "has to be submitted by a certain date (July 1)," and that he wanted input from the council on it. He said the

meeting would be closed to the public "because parcels of land would have to be discussed."

Cappelletto refused to elaborate, but the mayor is known to favor a proposal contained in the present version of the master school plan that recommends closing the Connors, Leikauf and Kiely elementary schools and building a new facility in the area of the Connors School to handle students from the three schools.

One possibility attached to such a plan calls for the sale of the three schools for re-use in some other capacity, such as for development as residential facilities, according to Elizabeth Schoenwald, an employee of Mayo, Lynch Associates, the architects for the school board, who are drafting the master plan.

The cost for the new school facility, which could occupy as much as one square block and which is being designed for 1,300 pupils, slightly less than the current enrollment at Connors, Leikauf and Kiely, is pegged at \$10 million and capital repairs planned for various schools also included in the master plan are projected at around \$8 million, Ms. Schoenwald said.

The state would contribute two-thirds, or roughly \$18 million, while the local share would be around \$6 million, which would have to be bonded, she said.

## Bumper-sticker drive too fast for Romano

By DIANE CURCIO

A bumper-sticker campaign to draft First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano into the 1981 mayoral race is underway in Hoboken.

"Heaven Can Wait, Hoboken Can't, Romano '81" is the slogan rippling across the blue and white stickers. Romano claims the catchy banners were none of his doing.

"When people think enough of you to do

something, of course you feel proud, but it's too premature to make any commitments," the councilman said.

Romano said some of his supporters and friends were behind the campaign.

Having just been re-elected to the council for his fourth consecutive term, Romano said his first priority is to fulfill his duties as a councilman.

Romano waged an intense battle to oust Steve Cappelletto from the mayoral seat in 1977. Two top officials of the Cappelletto administration, Business Administrator Herman Bier and Public Works Director Raphael Vitale, even joined the Romano camp. Yet Cappelletto trounced Romano by a nearly two-to-one margin at the polls.

Cappelletto has occupied the driver's seat in Hoboken for the past six years, but

yesterday said it was too early to comment on the 1981 race.

Since 1977, the council has been dominated by members loyal to the Cappelletto administration. The mayor's faction is comprised of councilmen Walter Cramer, Robert Ranieri, Salvatore Cemelli, Bernard Scrivani, Thomas Kennedy and Martin Brennan.

The opposition ranks are occupied by councilmen Louis Francane, Nunzio Malletti and Romano. But the June 12 run-off election disrupted the balance.

With the election of Independent E. Norman Wilson to the Fifth Ward post, the political margins have narrowed to a potential 5-4 split on the council.

Although neither Romano nor Cappelletto have divulged their plans for the 1981 race, the possibilities for another clash between the old rivals is alive. Political sources have said Romano has approached Public Works Director Andrew Amato to join the opposition camp.

Amato has been the target of much criticism from the administration lately. But the public works boss has repeatedly said that his allegiance is to the mayor.

## Farina would have city take over JFK stadium

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today he wants to discuss with other city officials the possibility of the city taking over John F. Kennedy Stadium from the Board of Education and renovating it.

Farina said he has been informed by state officials that Hoboken could be eligible for Green Acres funds to renovate the high school field, but only if the city ran it instead of the Board of Education.

Farina said he has talked to Board of Education president Robert Wendelken about the matter in preliminary discussions and that the latter seems agreeable to the idea.

The board president said the Hoboken law department is now studying the matter

and the school board is waiting for a legal opinion.

Wendelken said he would not be opposed to a city takeover of the field but would want to receive a stipulation from the city officials that school teams would have first priority at the field.

Farina said renovation of the stadium would cost about \$250,000 and would include repaving the running track, fixing up the seating and improving the condition of the playing field.

"Under Green Acres funding the state usually funds half the cost of a project, but Farina said he believes the city could get some funds through the Community Development Agency to pay for the other half of the project.

## Amato ponders quitting job

Saying he could make more money "selling hot dogs," Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato says he will seriously consider quitting his job if things don't improve in his department.

Pointing to his \$200 weekly pay check, Amato said the various basales he has had with his men and some city officials during his two years in office "just isn't worth it."

"Everyone is always saying the streets aren't clean and blaming it on me," he said. "But some streets you can clean in the morning and then people will dirty them an hour later."

The Public Works Director said he never gets any credit for the positive things he has done in his two years in office.

"During the last snowstorm I was up for 20 straight hours directing our trucks," he said. "Because of me we didn't have to hire outside contractors like other cities."

"I have built sewers with my bare hands and saved money for this city," he said. "I have done a lot of things. On my own time I have visited 265 families to find out what their problems are."

The Public Works Director said he was a successful businessman before he took the Public Works job and he still is.

"I do it because I want to do a good job, but not because of the money," he said.

Amato owns a garment factory in Hoboken.

During his two years in office Amato has been criticized by a number of different city officials and city councilmen who said he was not doing a good job in keeping the city clean.

During the last month a feud

erupted between Amato and some of his men.

A group of employees had charged Amato with harassing them because they had not supported his wife Florence in her recent unsuccessful bid to oust Incumbent Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francane.

The men said Amato would let members of his club go home early while making others work hard.

Amato meanwhile, said the men were making the charges because he had stopped them from goofing off and doing private jobs on city time as well as stopping them from stealing city equipment.

Both Hoboken Mayor Steve Cap-

piello and Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius have expressed confusion as to what is actually going on in the public works department.

Cappelletto has suggested the hiring of an interim public works director to put the department back into shape while Chius has said flatly he feels Amato can't do the job.

Amato has maintained the mayor knows he is doing a good job.

"In his heart he knows I am right," he recently said.

"Everything that goes on in my office is above board," he said. "I run an honest and clean shop and I am proud of it."

## Amato building club as 'job insurance'

Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato said today he still supports the administration of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto completely, but he has decided to turn his Fourth Ward political club into a city-wide organization.

Amato said his club now has 120 members. His goal is for a membership of over 300.

"I have been getting calls from over the city from people who want to join the club," he said. "We had to refuse them in the past because they didn't live in the Fourth Ward, but from now on they are welcome."

Amato's move to expand his club is seen by many Hoboken political observers as an attempt to broaden his power base in case the mayor or council members try to remove him

from his public works job. Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius has said he feels Amato can't do his job. Mayor Cappelletto has suggested the hiring of an interim administrator to put the department into shape.

Amato and a group of his employees also have been involved in a conflict the last month.

The men did not support his wife, Florence, in her unsuccessful bid to oust incumbent Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francane and they have charged Amato with political harassment since.

Amato said the men are just angry with him because he has stopped them from doing city jobs on private time, from stealing city equipment and from goofing off.

## Amato, men clashing again on harassment

A controversy between Hoboken Public Works Director Andrew Amato and a group of his employees heated up again today with the employees charging the public works head with continual harassment and the director countering, again, that the men don't want to do a full day's work and are stealing city equipment.

Six men, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of being fired, said they are tired of being harassed by the director.

"If we are stealing city equipment and leaving early as he says then why doesn't he prove it?" asked one man. "It's his friends who are leaving early."

Another man said he is constantly being harassed by Amato and being asked to do extra work by the public works director.

Meanwhile, Amato said he has discovered that two snow plow blades, each worth about \$1,000, are missing and he has strong reason to believe one of his employees may have taken them. "They just disappeared," he said.

The DPW men said they want to meet with the chairman of the Hoboken City Council public works committee, Walter Cramer, to explain what is going on.

"It's just terrible," said one employee. "I'm doing my job but I fear I will be fired any day."

The men who are charging Amato with harassment are all supporters of incumbent Fourth Ward Councilman Louis Francane. The public works director's wife, Florence, ran against Francane in the recent Fourth Ward council race and the men claim the harassment is due to the fact they did not support her.

An angry Amato countered that he is tired of the men lying and if they have any charges to let them make them in front of him.

"Let them come to me, there can even be a reporter present," he said. "I will see who is lying. I will take out their personnel records and you will see the number of times they have been suspended for goofing off and for doing private jobs on city time."

"No one is going to be fired," the public works director went on. "If they do a decent day's work."

## Washington Street trashed again

By Patrick Ford

The euphoria created by a community cleanup on Hoboken's main thoroughfare Saturday dissolved into disappointment by yesterday when bottles, cans and other refuse again lined Washington Street.

Picture on Page 2.

Heleen Manogue, who headed the "Sweep a Mile" cleanup campaign, which involved more than 80 persons,

said yesterday that negligence by city fathers negated the workers' efforts.

Members of the Coalition for a Cleaner Hoboken and other city residents cleaned the gutters and sidewalks along the entire length of Washington Street on Saturday. When the city's water truck sprayed the street afterwards, the result was "very positive," Mrs. Manogue said.

But, by yesterday, Mrs. Manogue said she was "disappointed" to find the city's main thoroughfare littered once again.

## Special inspector urged for 40 Hoboken houses

Special inspections of the 40 worst buildings in Hoboken's First Ward should be carried out by a special housing inspector, Thomas Newman, president of the First Ward Block Association, said today.

Newman and block association members released a six-page memo on their plan today which they say they will present to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

Newman said the association had made a list of the 40 worst properties in the First Ward, but said he would not release their locations at this time.

"I want to double-check the list for accuracy before it is released," he said.

Under Newman's plan, a special city inspector would make inspections of the buildings and there would be periodic spot checks on the inspection work by state inspectors.

Newman said he realizes the present city Housing Bureau is short of

staff, but said funding could be secured for a person to do the special inspections.

"Funding for a program of this sort would be available under the state Neighborhood Preservation Program budget," he said.

Michael Curcio, Hoboken Chief housing inspector, said Newman's program wasn't needed.

"When we receive complaints about conditions in a building we go right out and inspect a building and cite the landlord if necessary," he said. "A lot of times when we don't know about violations in a building, it's because no one told us about it."

Curcio's office inspects apartment buildings in Hoboken normally once every five years, but he said he will send his inspectors in immediately if he receives complaints.

"We are very competent to do inspections, I don't like my office being by-passed and going directly to the state," he said.

"The main reason," she asserted, "was that the city removed all the trash containers along Washington Street last year because they were getting overfilled with household garbage. What they should have done was emptied them more often."

Mrs. Manogue said the Coalition would meet today with city officials to demand more trash containers and to insist the containers be emptied twice a day.

The coalition will attend Wednesday's City Council meeting to ask that the police be ordered to par-

ticipate in the cleanup effort by issuing warnings to anyone seen littering.

"Even if they get the meter made to do it, that would be something," she said. "We're not looking for wholesale ticketing, but warnings should be sufficient."

Mrs. Manogue said many residents joined in on Saturday's "Sweep a Mile" cleanup as the volunteers made their way up Washington Street.

"It was a symbolic thing to get people to understand that they have to help by at least keeping their own property clean," she said.