

## Accord may avert fireman bias suit

By Robert Larkins 2/21/80

The prospects are growing that part of a pending suit charging bias in hiring and promoting firemen will be settled without a trial — but for that to happen the City Councils of Jersey City and Hoboken would have to play an important role.

firemen's jobs because it emphasizes a written test that doesn't measure what is directly related to job performance.

Negotiations are under way to settle the initial appointment aspect of that suit, without a trial, leaving only the issue of promotions for the court to resolve.

Here's what the consent order proposed by the federal attorneys

See CITIES — Page 15.

## Keep rolling

There were to have been four 25-story apartment houses in Hoboken's Marine View Plaza when the project got under way 13 years ago. Two were built.

The other pair never materialized, mainly because the first two quickly shaped up as losers.

Years passed. Then, in a brief time, much of Hoboken's housing was greatly improved, and became attractive. For young couples, moving to Hoboken became the thing to do.

Marine View Plaza is now fully occupied and there is a waiting list for apartments.

Two blocks from the city's PATH terminal, 180 units of former tenement housing are being rehabilitated. They will be gobbled up as fast as they become ready, and they, too, will have a waiting list.

The two unused sites in Marine View Plaza are still vacant. With apartments in such demand, why not mount a real campaign to get those sites developed?

## Mercado now steers city's motor fleet

By DIANE CURCIO Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Police Sgt. Mario Mercado will be sworn in today as the acting superintendent of the city's motor fleet. With the appointment, Mercado also becomes superintendent of the new central garage now under construction.

The garage superintendent position has been the focus of a bitter rivalry between public safety and public works departments here. Both departments, which formerly operated separate garages, have been vying for command of the new facility.

The City Council reached a compromise last month that apparently satisfied both sides. The council determined that the superintendent will be from public safety department but public works department will be in charge of the building.

Mercado has been the unofficial superintendent of the garage since the summer. Public Safety Director James Giordano said yesterday "there is an improvement in the availability of police cars" since Mercado has been in charge. "It's the first time that I can remember all three city sweepers in good working order," Giordano said.

Public Works Director Andrew Amato would only say yesterday, "Things are working out okay."

Giordano said Mercado is to be appointed in an acting capacity because the state Civil Service Department requires the test be given for the position. He said his office will notify Civil Service of Mercado's temporary appointment and await scheduling of an examination.

A Civil Service spokesman said yesterday the test will probably be held in five to six months.

Giordano said he is confident Mercado will place first in the test. The director said the position pays \$21,134 yearly.

Mercado is an 11-year veteran of the police force.

The sergeant said he has operated a mechanics business here for 16 years. Mercado said he successfully completed a one-year course at the Ford Motor Corp. and 14 courses at the General Motors Training Center in Summit.

During his 20-month stint in the U.S. Marine Corp., Mercado served as sergeant in charge of a maintenance platoon.

The city motor fleet is comprised of 168 vehicles, Mercado said. While the new garage is under construction, the city is using the giant Port Authority warehouse on Pier A as a temporary garage.

## Vandalism at center called 'inside job'

By DIANE CURCIO Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—City police said yesterday the destruction of beauty pageant scenery stored at the multi-service center was an "inside job" unlike two previous break-ins at the facility.

Cardboard scenery was made by the Young People's Action Organization for tomorrow night's teenage beauty pageant at the high school. The scenery was kept in the office of Maurice Fitzgibbons, coordinator of many programs for teenagers.

Members of the teen organization found the ruined scenery when they returned to the facility at 134 Grand

St. Wednesday night to put the finishing touches on it. The youths reportedly had worked three weeks on the giant cardboard palm trees to decorate the stage for the pageant.

Fitzgibbons said there were no signs of forced entry in his office. The intruder apparently used a key to open the office, Fitzgibbons said. He could not speculate on who might have a key to his office.

Fitzgibbons' statements support the police theory that the incident was an "inside job" done by someone with access to the building.

Fitzgibbons said several gallons of paint were stolen from the office.

Several weeks ago, a color television was stolen from the center. The thieves gained entry by throwing cobblestones through the window of the day care facility housed in the center.

During the summer, \$3,000 worth of sound equipment was stolen from the center. The equipment was used at Studio 134, the center's teen disco. Following that incident, a guard was hired to patrol the center at night.

City Business Administrator Edwin Chius, who supervises maintenance of the building, said he thought the destruction of the scenery was the result of an internal feud at the center.

## The waterfront

There is a gleam in the eye of the Port Authority that augurs well for the Jersey City-Hoboken waterfront.

The P.A. is talking about 2,200 units of luxury housing and "at least" one hotel on a site stretching from the Holland Tunnel north to Castle Point in Hoboken.

This is part of the site which another developer is considering for a shopping center, hotel and residential complex.

Mayor Thomas F.X. Smith is open to any and all suggestions and, as he carefully notes, all this is in the very preliminary stages.

Apparently the P.A. is more interested in marketing the waterfront site than in developing the plan itself, but that is no problem. The P.A. is not exactly a shrinking violet and its considerable marketing skills are more than welcome on our waterfront.

We have been treated to so much pie in the sky on our waterfront that it would be a real treat to get a little meat and potatoes proposal for a change.

One of these days, someone is going to walk into City Hall with a waterfront proposal that includes a financial commitment. Until then, let us be a little restrained about accepting another helping of pie in the sky.

## Cop vet of 39 years leaves Hoboken force

By PETER BEGANS Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Detective Commander Edward Sheehy, 62, who once served as acting police chief, stepped down yesterday after more than 39 years on the force.

"He was 100 percent policeman," said Police Chief George Crimmins Sr., who took over for Sheehy in 1970. "I was proud to have him as commander of the detectives."

Sheehy was named acting chief of police for 18 months from 1968 to 1970 after Chief Ambrose Ryan died. Sheehy finished second to Crimmins on the Civil Service exam for captain, though he had come out first in the sergeant and lieutenant tests he took on the way up.

Sheehy, though an even-tempered man with a good sense of humor, was known as the last of the rebels on the Hoboken police force. He was the last of 19 police officers who rebelled against low pay, poor working conditions and political appointments to the force in the late 1960s. Sheehy was suspended at the time, but reinstated afterward.

In 1951, Sheehy was selected to attend the National Academy, a school run by the FBI, to study crime detection for use on the Hoboken force.

He was named captain in 1961. For a time he served as commander of the uniformed men before moving on to detective commander and acting chief.

Recently, Sheehy took up the violin, an instrument he first learned between baseball practices at St. Michael's High School. At times he would sit in his office in the basement of City Hall and listen to tape-recorded violin music. When three violins were reported stolen in the city last September, Sheehy took a special interest.

Sheehy lives with his wife Lorraine in the uptown section of Hoboken. His son, John, is a lawyer in the state Attorney General's Office, while his daughter is a teacher on the Jersey shore.

Sheehy will be replaced by Capt. Russell Sweeten, currently the uniform commander. Capt. Anthony Rinaldi will take Sweeten's place.

## Hoboken will build second parking lot

A move to create a second municipal parking lot in Hoboken was launched today by Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

Chius said four adjoining city-owned lots are available on First Street from Park Avenue eastward toward Garden Street. He said parking was the best possible use since no prospective purchasers bid on them at a recent auction of city-owned property.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Parking Authority called it "a great idea," adding "I would jump at it."

The authority already operates an off-street lot at 11th Street and Willow Avenue, opened only a few weeks ago.

Chius said he would try to get money through the city's Community

Development Agency (CDA) to finance the First Street project.

The lot at Willow and 11th has 23 spaces, all rented by the month.

Hottendorf said there is room for 26 or 27 spaces on the First Street tract.

He said he believed the First Street parking lot project was in line with a plan by Mayor Cappiello to revitalize the rundown First Street shopping district.

## Who says artists have to starve?

By Marian Courtney

Images of starving or dilettante artists living off someone else's sweat are dissipated by hard-working Richard Kocher and Fulda Guada of Hoboken.

They're launching successful full-time art careers by working full-time also at so many other occupations that it's a wonder they have energy to lift their brushes.

They've also renovated a house at 140 Garden St. for themselves and two tenants and they've bought two more, which they plan to remodel as well.

Yet lift their brushes they do, and they create work that is energetic, inspired and original. They sell enough of what they do to anticipate a future in which they'll be able to do nothing but paint.

Kocher combines contemporary airbrush techniques and a subtle use of strong pastel hues with abstract design concepts that now are considered traditional in modern art.

The effect is an abstract-geometric pattern that is strikingly effective. Much of his work remains in California, where he sold it before moving to the East Coast several years ago.

Miss Guada's work — pure

abstraction in bold colors — is larger in scale. She's done an outdoor mural for the back wall of the Beat 'n Path Restaurant in Hoboken as well as a number of well sized paintings.

Meanwhile, they work at other jobs. He works as a mason in Hoboken, and she works as a word processor in a Manhattan office.

"It happens this way," Kocher says. "We use the money we earn to buy materials to renovate our houses (doing all the work themselves) so that we'll eventually have enough income to dedicate ourselves completely to art."

They started with one house — the one they live in — and when the top two floors were rented, they refinanced the mortgage to buy the other two houses.

The reason they're able to do so much is that their lives have been busy.

Kocher was a student majoring in social science at Stanford University when he took an exchange semester in Vienna and met some of the finest artists in the city. He helped one set up a studio and helped another airbrush the interior of a discotheque.

When he returned to the United States, he was an artist,

## This time Cappiello grilled by 7th graders

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello was put on the spot yesterday — not by the press or irate constituents, but by a seventh-grade class at Hoboken's Demarest School who grilled the mayor on a wide range of subjects in an hour-long question-and-answer session.

Sandra Huggins, 13, asked the mayor whether he felt women should be drafted if there was to be another draft.

"Young ladies have a particular place in society, and I don't believe it's in combat," the mayor responded.

"Maybe I'm old fashioned but there are certain chores for women and certain chores for men."

He said would have no objection, however, if women were to volunteer to sign up in the army in a non-military capacity, the mayor added.

But 14-year-old Steven Otomanelli asked: "What about the women who want to be policemen, firemen and even longshoremen?"

"There should be certain areas that men and women can apply for," Cappiello replied.

But the mayor said he did not believe it would be feasible for women and men to be involved in all duties as men do.

"Our bodies are different," he continued. "I don't think a woman has the stamina to climb a ladder 40 feet high. Women should become brides and the mothers of children."

Teacher Elizabeth Strong asked the 21 pupils, about half of them boys, whether they agreed with the mayor's statements. Almost all raised their hands in agreement.

Fourteen-year-old Ernie Torres wanted to know from the mayor why there was so much garbage in the Hudson River.

The mayor explained that efforts were currently going on to clean the river but that barges from New York with garbage on them were dumping in the ocean, and occasionally the wind would blow garbage off the barge.

"I learned to swim in the Hudson River when I was a boy," the mayor related.

"I don't know how I survived." Those days, there were no pollution control efforts.

Julie Cruz, 13, asked the mayor how he felt when he was first elected mayor.

"At first I was elated but then the phone in my house started ringing all the time," the mayor joked.

Cappiello also used his time in Mrs. Strong's class to tell the children about his new campaign to clear litter from the city's streets.

He said that he knew the children wanted more recreational opportunities but that the cleaning of Hoboken's streets had to come first because too much garbage creates a health problem.

The mayor asked how many of the youths would be interested in participating in a sweep-up campaign in the spring. All nodded, indicating agreement.

The mayor's visit came about after a number of the children in Mrs. Strong's class really went to his office and invited him to the class.

## Hoboken area may see sweeper

Tomorrow for the first time in a year and a half, the streets of Hoboken's western section will be swept by one of the city's mechanical sweepers.

Mario Mercado, Hoboken's garage superintendent said today that the section will also continue to be swept on a daily basis after Wednesday.

Mercado said the city is now able to include the western part of the city because two mechanical sweepers are now operating the second having been put in operation yesterday. Previously the city had only one operating due to mechanical troubles and inexperience on the part of the Public Works Department drivers.

## Come on over

So Greenwich Village is subsidizing Hoboken's municipal parking garages!

More than 300 Villagers now park their cars in Hoboken's garages near the PATH terminal, contributing \$10,000 a month to Hoboken's revenues.

Why? Try to park in the Village, day or night, and you have your answer. The \$35 a month the Villagers pay in Hoboken is a bargain compared to the Manhattan garage fee.

New Yorkers already knew about the better deal they can get by renting Hoboken apartments. Now they have found out about the parking garages. What will be next?

Better keep an eye on Hoboken, Mayor Koch!

## Do something

Hoboken officials did not take seriously our recent warning against leaving the city's Multi-Service Center an easy target for vandals and thieves.

As a result, the scenery for Hoboken's Miss Teenage pageant, created painstakingly by young people over a period of three weeks, was destroyed during early evening hours when the big new building was unguarded. This was but another in a string of such incidents.

No one is responsible for security at the center, which is one of the most useful public facilities to be found anywhere. One of the offices housed there is the city's CETA which provides security services elsewhere. Perhaps this agency could be drawn upon to provide security at the center.

If not, let the city officials come up with some other solution, not just look away and pretend the problem is not theirs.



Fulda Guada, left, admires the painting of Richard Kocher on the right, while Kocher admires her painting.



## 7 Hudson communities to get more aid

TRENTON — An Assembly committee last night released for a vote a revised utilities tax formula which would increase assistance to seven of the nine Hudson County communities receiving such aid.

Under the legislation, Jersey City would get an additional \$1.1 million from gross receipts utilities taxes while West New York and East Newark would lose funds.

A Jersey City spokesman said he was pleased that the legislation has been placed in position for a floor vote on Thursday when passage is considered certain. The measure would then be returned to the Senate for approval early next month.

While Jersey City will benefit, Mayor Anthony DeFino of West New York was far from happy. "I'm looking for additional state aid — not less," said the angry mayor. He said he would contact Hudson County officials to get some kind of explanation of how his community would get less under the formula, approved by the Assembly Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee.

The legislation increases the Municipal Tax Assistance Fund from the \$17 million approved by the Senate last month, to \$26 million under the latest compromise version which also increased the number of communities receiving aid from 135 — 337 statewide.

It achieves this broader base of support by raising the ceiling on tax from \$900 to \$700 and by tapping \$11 million from the \$22.4 million Gov. Brendan T. Byrne inserted in his 1980-81 budget from general revenue funds.

Once again, the politically deft hand of Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith of Jersey City left its imprint on the re-cast legislation which also enjoyed the behind-the-scenes support of Assembly Speaker Christopher Jackman West New York Democrat, and Assemblyman Robert Janiszewski of Jersey City.

Smith met with Jackman and the committee chairman, Assemblyman Richard Van Wagner, D-Monmouth, a Jersey City native, to hammer out the key amendments approved by the committee last night. The committee then voted out the entire three-bill package with some Republican support.

The amendments mean that Jersey City will now annually receive \$2,901,670 instead of \$1,876,000 in the Municipal Purpose Tax Assistance Fund, which replaces the accelerated gross receipts tax payment program which expired last December 31. This plan itself was engineered by Smith to counter the loss of federal anti-recession funds.

The fiscal good news also extends to Bayonne which will receive \$510,830 instead of the \$330,000 projected in the senate version; North Bergen will derive \$227,130 as opposed to \$153,000 in the senate version; Hoboken will realize \$484,150 as opposed to \$319,000; Union City will benefit by \$500,150 as opposed to \$387,000; Weehawken will receive \$70,840 as opposed to \$45,000.

But, because of the amendments, West New York's fund aid will drop to \$419,520 from the

\$530,000 it would receive under the senate version and East Newark will receive \$3,320 instead of the \$7,000 listed in the Senate passed version.

Harrison, Kearny and Secaucus are not included in the Municipal Assistance Program since they have power generating stations. Nevertheless, all 12 Hudson communities can look forward in 1980 to increased revenue from the Public Utility Gross Receipts and Franchise Taxes, because of its annual growth.

Here are the comparison for Hudson municipalities in their actual 1979 taxes and their estimated yields this year under the tax:

East Newark, \$74,000 in 1980, \$68,000 in 1979; Harrison, \$5,468,000 in 1980, \$5,071,000 in 1979; Kearny \$10,865,000 in 1980, \$10,216,000 in 1979; Secaucus \$822,000 in 1980, \$760,000 in 1979; Bayonne \$2,259,000 in 1980, \$2,097,000 in 1979; Jersey City, \$21,054,000 in 1980, \$19,677,000 in 1979; North Bergen, \$1,760,000 in 1980, \$1,628,000 in 1979; Guttenberg, \$142,000 in 1980, \$131,000 in 1979; Hoboken, \$963,000 in 1980, \$890,000 in 1979; Union City, \$1,137,000 in 1980, \$1,051,000 in 1979;

Weehawken, \$300,000 in 1980, \$277,000 in 1979; West New York \$818,000 in 1980, \$756,000 in 1979.

Smith is still banking that the legislature will enact the three measures and Byrne will sign them before the March 10 deadline requiring the municipalities to present their 1980 budgets to the public. The mayors want to be able to anticipate the Municipal Purposes Tax Assistance Aid in striking their budgets.

Van Wagner indicated a willingness to consider future utility tax growth after 1981 in the reduction of individual utility bills. This amendment was considered by the committee but not formally put to a vote. The present legislation, for example, would have reduced individual monthly bills for homeowners by 93 cents or roughly \$10.80 for the year.

The revamped legislation boosting Jersey City aid to \$2.9 million is expected to strengthen the city's bargaining hand with its 13 municipal unions which have gotten restless waiting for formal offers from the city. Their contracts expired December 31.

## Hoboken seeking state aid to set up 7 bus shelters

Some Hoboken bus riders may be getting a bit of relief in inclement weather. The city has applied for state funding for the construction of seven shelters.

If the funding is approved, shelters would be located at: The Northwest and Southeast corners of 15th Street and Willow Avenue; northeast corner of 14th and Park; North side of Observer Highway on a line with Henderson Street.

Also, the northwest corner of Observer Highway and Willow Avenue; northeast corner of Observer Highway and Washington Street and the south side at Hudson Place and River Street.

James Caulfield, Hoboken consulting engineer, said the state has allocated money for 800 shelters throughout the state this year through the transportation bond issue.

Caulfield said he did not know when the state would make a decision on Hoboken's application but he said the shelters are supposed to be constructed by the end of the year.

The engineer added there was no limit as to

how many shelters Hoboken could apply for. But, he said the locations picked were felt to be the only ones where a shelter would be suitable.

Caulfield said it was decided that no shelters would be placed on Washington Street because of complaints from merchants.

## Reevaluation talks held in Hoboken

Three tax assessors discussed the problems involved in the reevaluation of all Hoboken property for tax purposes last night at a conference with members of the City Council.

One councilman said it was a general discussion of bringing all property up to true market value but no decision was reached. Participating with the council were the three city assessors, Woodrow Monte, Andrew P. McGuire

and Frank Bucino. Prior to the tax discussion, members of the council's Recreation Committee, headed by Councilman Thomas

Kennedy, conferred with Mayor Steve Cappelletto, Councilman Robert Ranieri and James Farina, director of Health and Welfare.

A spokesman said various recreation plans were discussed and will be reported to the council at its caucus next Monday.

Several matters involving Public Safety personnel were also discussed by the council at the closed meeting. It was reported.

## Form new preschool group

Hoboken children 3 to 5 years old can be registered in a new Uptown Preschool Story Group today and tomorrow at the city's Uptown Recreation Center, 13th Street and Willow Avenue, it was announced by James Farina, Hoboken health and

welfare director.

The group will meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the center.

There will be group games, films, arts and crafts, music, stories and trips.

## 3-alarm fire leaves 17 homeless

By DIANE CURCIO Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Fire officials are investigating the cause of a three-alarm fire which raced through an eight-family tenement yesterday morning, leaving 17 people homeless.

Two firefighters, a policeman and two tenants suffered minor injuries during the blaze.

Fire Capt. Eugene Failla sprained his right ankle and firefighter Joseph Catalano was overcome by smoke while fighting the blaze at 230 Bloomfield St., according to reports. Patrolman Thomas Suters, who helped evacuate the tenants, also suffered smoke inhalation.

Two tenants, Isencio Soto and Roman Gutierrez also suffered smoke inhalation. Public Safety Director James Giordano, who was at the scene, said the brick building was engulfed by smoke. Giordano said a fire of this nature often causes extensive damage, but due to the fire department's quick action few were injured.

The injured were treated at St. Mary Hospital and released. Firefighters rescued an 80-year-old woman who was trapped on the second floor of the four-story structure. The firefighters guided Catherine Mikaloukas, down the fire escape to safety.

Fire officials said the blaze started in the collar and spread vertically through the pipe recesses to the roof. The cause is undetermined and under investigation, according to fire officials.

The four-story structure housed seven adults and 10 children. The children's Red Cross chapter provided shelter for the homeless at the American Hotel here on River Street. Joseph Lecowitch, Red Cross executive director, said the victims will remain at the hotel again tonight.

The alarm was registered at 1:38 a.m. followed by a second and third alarm at 2:08 a.m. and 2:40 a.m., respectively.

Twenty-three firefighters operating four engine companies and two truck companies reportedly battled the blaze.

The building is owned by Bruce Russo. Michael Curcio, chief housing inspector here, said his inspectors found three pages worth of assorted violations during a Jan. 23, 1978 tour of the structure.

However, Curcio said, all the violations were corrected by June 1978. Since that time, he said his office has not received any complaints concerning the building.

While the firefighters were combating the 230 Bloomfield St. blaze a small fire in the hallway of 222 Bloomfield St. erupted. Fire officials reportedly dispatched several firefighters from the three-alarm blaze to extinguish a small garbage fire.

## Council cancels of property

By DIANE CURCIO Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—High-ranking administrative sources claim the City Council has decided not to order a total re-evaluation of the city's assessments.

The Council met behind closed doors with the three-member city board of tax assessors Monday night to discuss the proposed re-evaluation.

Administrative sources claim the City Council was not persuaded by the arguments brought by the board of assessors.

Re-evaluation is often a politically volatile issue. Although a re-evaluation is aimed at distributing the tax burden equitably, someone always pays more than his previous tax bill while others pay less and some stay the same.

Board president Woodrow Monte and Council President Walter Cramer expressed conflicting views of the meeting. Monte, a staunch advocate of re-evaluation, said he was "encouraged" by the meeting. Cramer said the board answered the council's questions on the re-evaluation but said no decisions were reached.

Monte argues that a re-evaluation will cure the financial ills facing the city. Last year, Monte reassessed the city lands bringing them to true value. Monte said the board canceled the land reassessment because a total re-evaluation was not forthcoming. The board president said he took this action in anticipation of a total re-evaluation in 1980.



DRIVE FOR VESTS — Thomas Meehan, left, president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, accepts one of three bulletproof vests bought by Hoboken teachers through a bulletproof vest drive. Holding the vest with Meehan is Superintendent of Schools George Mater and Ann Murphy, a Demarest School teacher involved with the drive which raised over \$500.

## Hottendorf sees stadium used for two more sports

The Hoboken High School stadium, now used only for football and baseball, could easily be redesigned to additionally provide playing fields for two more sports, Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the city's parking authority, said today.

One of the latter would be a soccer field, the other either a Little League baseball field, a softball field, or a practice field for Police Athletic League (PAL) football.

The city is woefully short of both parking and outdoor game facilities. Hottendorf got into the recreation picture when it became necessary for him to defend a plan to create 90 new parking spaces on Observer Highway, after city recreation officials tried to persuade the city council to cut the number to 40 so as to provide a practice field for PAL teams.

The seating stands at the high school are in bad shape and need repair, says Hottendorf, urging that the city tear them down and buy portable stands instead. The latter could be moved around to accommodate whatever sport was in season.

At present there are stands only on one side of the school athletic grounds, and these are so situated that they waste playing space — aside from the fact that they are unsuitable

for viewing baseball since they are along the outfield extending from the third-base line — Hottendorf contends.

Portable stands could be arranged so as to have separate seating for rooters of the home and visiting teams, he adds.

The state pays up to two-thirds of the cost of such improvements, according to Hottendorf.

Disputing critics' claims that his proposal would take "three years," Hottendorf maintains it could be accomplished "in a month."

The design he espouses would provide a soccer field of at least the minimum official dimensions, plus regulation football and baseball fields, and would allow room for a fourth field.

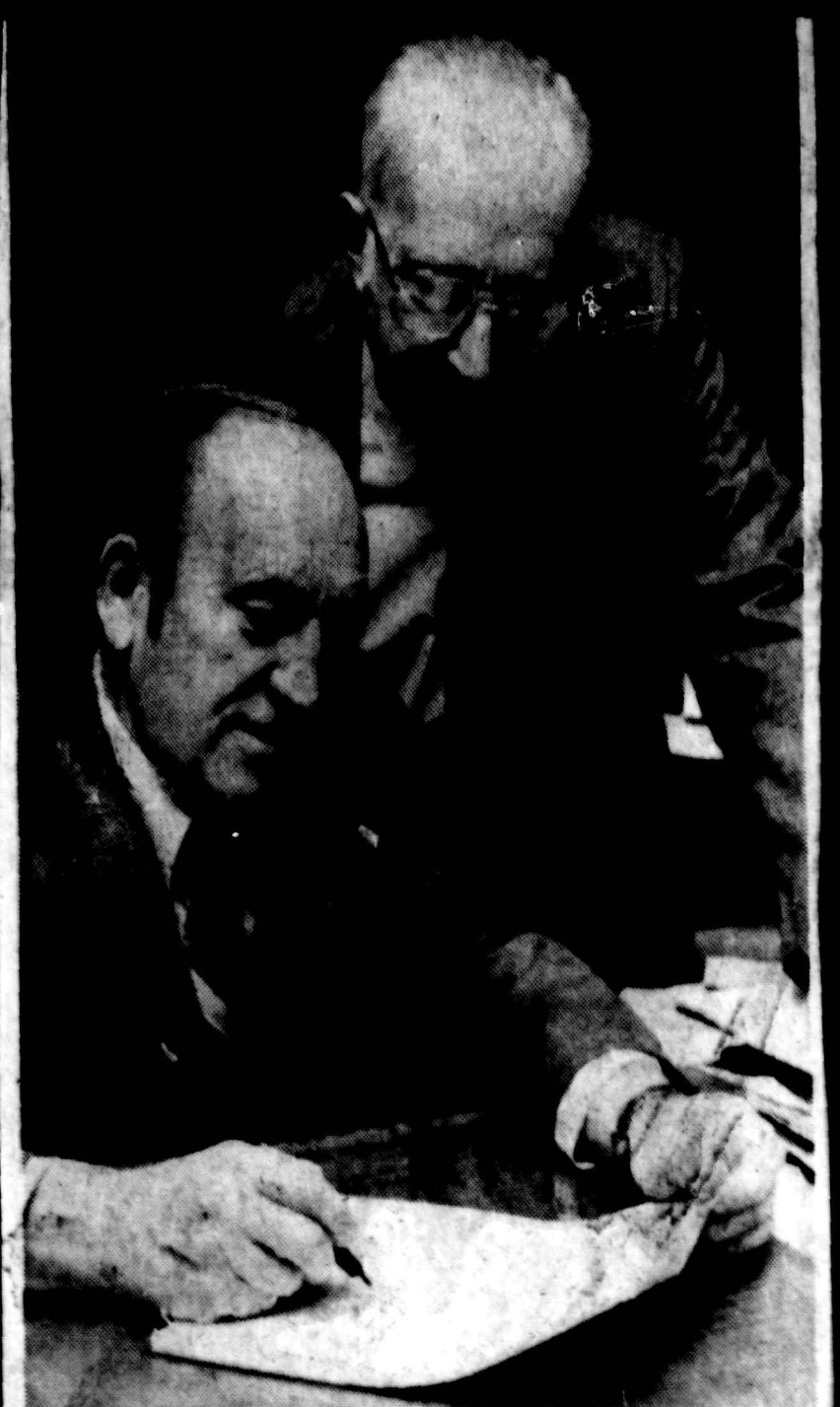
The fourth could be laid out for Little League baseball, to supplement the city's existing and overworked Little League field. Or it could be a softball field.

Lastly, in Hottendorf's design, it could be a practice field for PAL football, thus satisfying those who pressed to have such a field included in the Observer Highway development.

Hottendorf presented his plan to the city councilmen last week and elicited some interest on the part of some of them, but no action was taken.

## 2nd sweeper to be back

For the first time Monday, two Hoboken sweepers will be cleaning the streets at the same time, Mario Mercado, Hoboken's new garage superintendent, promised today. Mercado said the reason only one sweeper has been going out — and sometimes none the last few weeks — is that the new sweeper driver needed additional training. Mercado said two back-up drivers will get some road training in the next few weeks.



SETTING AN EXAMPLE—Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, seated, launches National Letter Writing Week (next Monday through Saturday) by writing a letter of his own as Al Lambrose, superintendent of postal operations, indicates his approval. The observance is being sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service.

## Litter brings lot of rage to Chius

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius is disgusted with garbage and litter but this time it's not the garbage and litter that one often finds on the streets of Hoboken.

It's the garbage and litter lying right in front of the entrance to Hoboken City Hall.

Chius said he has had to tell the four maintenance workers assigned to City Hall countless times to clean up the outdoor accessway to City Hall.

"They keep on telling me the high winds blow the garbage there after they cleaned up," Chius said. "It's either that or it's going in one ear and out the other."

Discussing the city's recent drive to crack down on litterers Chius said he doesn't see how the city can ask everyone else to clean up when the city isn't doing its part.

Chius said he has ordered the maintenance men again to make sure there is no garbage and litter outside City Hall.

The Business Administrator said he is now going to wait and see if the maintenance men comply with his most recent order before taking any disciplinary action against them.

## Hoboken ponders teen center

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina said today he would be looking over city-owned buildings in the next few weeks to see if there is any possibility of turning one of them into a teenage recreation center.

Farina said if he can find a building that could be renovated it might be possible to obtain a federal grant to pay for renovation costs to convert the building.

He said it might be possible to obtain CETA funding to staff the center. Farina said he doesn't want to house the teenage recreation activities in the Downtown Recreation Center, which is scheduled to be renovated with federal funds, because the teens want their own place.

## Zoning panel recommends Hoboken keep lower profile

Lowering of the allowable height of new buildings in two residential areas of Hoboken is recommended by a committee appointed to study the city's new zoning ordinance.

The committee would also end the current provision which permits waterfront buildings to go higher if the developer provides recreation space.

At the time the existing zoning ordinance was passed last spring, there were a number of objections by local groups, but Planning Board Consultant Ralph Seligman said an or-

dinance had to be put on the books immediately.

The City Council approved the ordinance with the condition that a committee be set up to recommend amendments.

The report recommends in Hoboken's R-1 area, which is bounded by Fourth Street, Park Avenue, 14th Street and the river that the present height limitation of eight stories or 80 feet should be lowered to five stories or 50 feet.

In the R-2 residential district, which lies immediately to the south of

R-1, the report recommends the prevailing height rule be changed from 10 stories or 100 feet to six stories or 60 feet.

The prevailing rule under the current ordinance only applies if 80 percent of buildings on a block are within one story of the height regulations.

However, the committee recommends the 80 percent ratio be changed to 60 percent, which would further impose limitations on high-rise buildings.

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The report recommends for the waterfront district that provisions be eliminated from the present zoning ordinance to allow the construction of high-rises in return for recreational space.

The current ordinance sets a 35 foot maximum on new construction on the waterfront but allows a developer to exceed the limit by donating recreation space. For each 10 feet the contractor exceeds the maximum height limit, he is required to provide improved recreational space equal to 3.5 percent of the gross residential floor area added.

For example, if a 40 story tower were to be constructed on the waterfront containing 10,000 square feet of residential space per floor the

developer would have to donate 14,000 square feet of open space — a little less than one-third of an acre.

The report also recommends that any waterfront development proposal contain a site plan stating the effect it would have on the entire district.

Rick Cohen, a member of the committee, who was a representative of CIVIC, Citizens Involved for the Viable Improvement of their Community, said the consensus was that the changes in the waterfront zone would "hopefully make the city see the need for a comprehensive waterfront master plan to replace current piecemeal planning."

The new amendments to the waterfront zone, however, would not prohibit high-rise development since the council could amend the ordinance.

The proposed amendments to the

zoning ordinance would have to be approved by both the Planning Board and the council.

Serving on the committee besides Cohen were Business Administrator Edwin Chius, Historic Commission representative, John Tyrell, Environmental Committee representative, John Sullivan, CIVIC representative, David Johnson, Planning Board consultant, Ralph Seligman and Councilmen E. Norman Wilson Jr., Sal Cemelini and Anthony Romano. Wilson chaired the committee.

The proposed amendments were reached by consensus, but the councilmen did not vote because they felt there would be a conflict of interest since they might have to later vote on the proposed changes at a council meeting.

## The big ones

We've said it before, and we're saying it again... and we'll keep on saying it until the message sinks in.

Mayor Cappelletto's latest battle plan for all-out war on littering fails to target the biggest offender.

The main thrust of his attack is to have police give out summonses when they see someone discard anything on the street or sidewalk. From past experience, it seems safe to predict that not many such summonses will be issued.

But there is a sure way to produce an avalanche of litter tickets in only one day. And that is: have plainclothes cops follow the garbage collection trucks.

Although the men who pick up Hoboken's garbage are not responsible for all the city's littering, they sure do create a lot of it.

Watch the way they make a mess by spilling part of the trash on the way from the sidewalk to the truck. They should be ticketed every time they do it, the same as anyone else. Catching them would be easy.

How can the war on litter succeed when these prime culprits are exempted?



# 3-alarm tenement fire forces 12 into the cold

Cause of the blaze thus far not known

By DIANE CURCIO  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A three-alarm fire erupted in a fourth-floor apartment of a five-story tenement yesterday, forcing the evacuation of 12 people.

Deputy Fire Chief Edward Fitzsimmons, who commanded the first fire-fighting crews on the scene at 633 Willow Ave., said, "Flames were coming out of the windows on the fourth floor when we arrived and before we could turn around the winds carried it to the fifth floor."

Fitzsimmons said the blaze started in the fourth floor apartment on the tenement's north side. He said he did not know the cause of the fire.

Fitzsimmons said the firefighters entered the fire-engulfed apartment by a rear fire escape. He said eight adults and four children living in the structure were not evacuated and were uninjured.

The fire alarm was reportedly sounded at about 3:30 p.m. yesterday. Fire-fighters atop two aerial ladders aimed jets of water into the fourth and fifth story apartments until the blaze was extinguished one hour later.

Hudson County Red Cross volunteers were on hand to help fire victims find refuge.

For the past 15 years, Ralph Coppola, who operated a general store on the ground floor, has owned the structure.

Coppola, who lives around the corner at 611 Park Ave., said his wife told him there was a fire in the building. "I came with a fire extinguisher ... but then I saw this," he said, pointing to the flames coming from the fourth and fifth floors.



Hoboken firefighter prepares to climb a ladder and extinguish a blaze at 633 Willow Ave. yesterday.

Photo by Ted Russell

## First scofflaw arrested; merchant to leave Hoboken

The owner of a Hoboken floor covering store became the first parking scofflaw to be arrested as the city's drive on scofflaws continued. An angry Omar Gonzales who owes G's Floors at 526 Washington St. said the city's action against him is the last straw and he is moving his store out of Hoboken. Gonzales did not spend any time in jail since Hoboken detective Jackie Howe and Carman LaBurno brought him right in court after they picked him up at 10:30 a.m. yesterday morning.

Gonzales told Acting Municipal Court Judge Chris Pappas he didn't have the money on him to pay the tickets and Pappas gave him until 4 p.m. to pay up or else face time behind bars.

The scofflaw came in around 3 p.m. and paid approximately \$750 for 160 outstanding parking tickets dating back to 1977.

If their thermometer reads below 55 degrees — the required

See TENANTS—Page 25.

Up until today, it turns out, Hoboken landlords could get away with giving proper heat only between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. because those are the only hours the city's inspectors who check on heating complaints work. Learning of this, Acting Municipal Court Judge Chris Pappas told The Jersey Journal today that he

had issued Goodman a summons for lack of heat in Meehan's apartment in a building Goodman owns at 109 Washington Street.

Meehan had claimed a lack of heat in his apartment at night but said health inspectors told him they could not check it then since they only worked during the day.

Pappas then dismissed the case because he said it was only Meehan's word against Goodman's and Meehan did not have any proof.

Continued from Page 1.

temperature at night — Pappas said the residents can file a complaint at the court clerk's office and the landlord will be hauled into court.

Pappas made the statement after he dismissed a case against landlord Ben R. Goodman who also serves as Hoboken Planning Board chairman.

Hoboken Patrolman Thomas Meehan, who is also the Policemen's Benevolent Association president,

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Continued from Page 1.

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## Hoboken gets surge of energy from the crisis

and more riders will be switching to our railroads and the many bus lines that terminate in Hoboken, both connecting with the PATH trains."

And that, in turn, will make real estate in Hoboken more valuable, resulting in more revenue for the city to spend on improving itself, Cappelletto contends.

"People will use the Hoboken terminal not only to get to New York but also to transfer to buses to go to other places in our surrounding area, such as Union City," he continued.

The passenger traffic generated in and out of the terminal, Cappelletto says, "will result in more jobs and thus improve our employment situation."

How so?

The terminal is going to be developed with stores, entertainment and other amenities, to make it an attractive place "to spend some money" as well as time.

Actually, a grand design is under way to put to new use the entire Hoboken waterfront from the terminal as far north as Stevens Institute, Cappelletto continued. The plans are being drawn by a professional engineering concern paid by the Port of New York Authority and the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

And according to Cappelletto, the plans are nearing completion.

They take in the Port Authority's three large piers, idled by the trend to containerized shipping, and the burned-out Fifth and Sixth Street city-owned piers with their immensely valuable riverfront location.

"We are counting on being able to bring about a development of the waterfront which will bring us tax revenue and jobs," the mayor says.

Meanwhile, Hoboken's housing revival, which has attracted so much attention during the '70s, is continuing into the '80s, Cappelletto points out.

"Our program of rehabilitating older buildings which are structurally sound is still going on," he says, but he hopes that the '80s will also see some new residential construction.

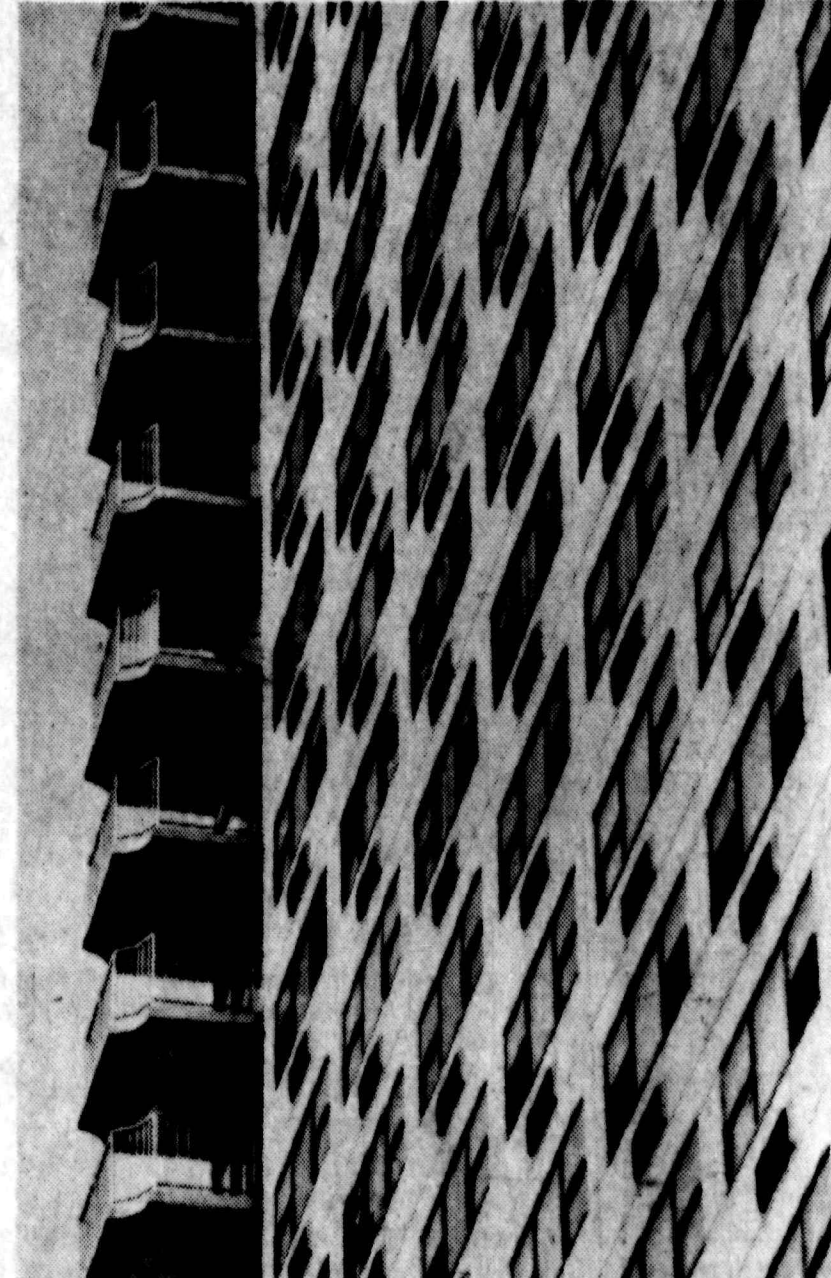
The latter would bring in full real estate taxes, whereas in "rehabbed" buildings the

owner makes lesser fixed payments in lieu of taxes — in effect, receiving a subsidy.

"I would like to see rehabbed every unit that can be rehabbed," Cappelletto says, "but I would also like to see some new residential construction, both apartment houses and one-and-two-family houses as land becomes available. (Land becomes available as dilapidated tenement houses are demolished.)"

Cappelletto is also counting on Hoboken benefiting by a change in the attitude of the state government toward urban areas. Until now, official policy has favored the suburbs "where everything they have is practically brand new," whereas Hoboken has had to contend with problems due to neglect in the past.

With "continued pressure" on the governor and legislature, he believes, state revenues "will be distributed more fairly."



The modern facade on this apartment building in the Grogan Marine View Plaza is indicative of Hoboken's surge of energy.

## Consider it

Does it make sense to consider Mayor Cappelletto's proposal to revive the Hoboken-Manhattan ferry, remembering that the ferry was discontinued back in 1967 precisely because it was financially a loser?

Yes, it may make sense.

The volume of vehicular traffic has increased to the point where Holland Tunnel traffic is sometimes backed up three or four miles, as Cappelletto points out.

The ferries in use in 1967 were built in 1909 and were not efficiently designed for trailer trucks or, for that matter, for any modern vehicular service.

Gasoline is so expensive and in such short supply that waiting lines three or four miles long at the tunnels are a colossal waste. The resulting air pollution nullifies much of today's efforts toward environmental protection.

Because of the enormous cost, there will be no more vehicular tunnels or bridges across the Hudson in this century.

The need to conserve energy will increase, not decrease, during the rest of this century. We discontinued ferry service which was designed for the 1890s. Perhaps we should take a long, hard look at ferry service designed for the 1980s.

Just because Mayor Cappelletto is not a professional transportation specialist, it does not follow that his proposal is worse than no solution at all, which is what we get from our unimaginative experts.



Steve Cappelletto  
Cities grand design

Hoboken will move ahead in the 1980s because of the continuing energy shortage, says the city's mayor, Steve Cappelletto.

A contradiction? Not at all, Cappelletto avers. The skyrocketing price of gasoline, the depletion of available oil supplies, while no blessing for the country as a whole, he says, will enable Hoboken to fulfill its underused potential.

That potential, Cappelletto opines, is due to its geographic location, a mile from Manhattan's skyscrapers. Because of this location it is already a transportation terminal for suburban trains, bus lines and the PATH rapid transit lines linked to New York City's subways.

Here is where the energy shortage comes in: It will give a tremendous impetus to an increased use of mass transit.

People who now drive to and from work through the Lincoln and Holland tunnels will switch to public transportation funneled through Hoboken's terminal.

"A year and a half ago gasoline was 50 cents a gallon, and six months from now it will be \$1.50," the mayor predicted. "This price is prohibitive for long suburban trips, and more

## Girls' sports cited as Hoboken need

Organized sports programs for teenage girls and a combination roller and ice skating rink are two projects that could contribute greatly to Hoboken's recreation programs, the city's Recreation Commission was told last night.

A group of nearly 50 residents, including teenagers, gave their opinions at a meeting at the Public Library. They said girls' sports programs, both indoor and outdoor, are lacking. They also felt the city should look into the idea of skating facilities at the city-owned pier on Fifth Street.

Suellen Newmann, chairman of the commission, agreed that Hoboken youngsters have to go out of town for skating. She said money has already been spent on feasibility studies through the Model Cities program.

"It's been researched but never got off the ground," she explained.

Some groups complained that the gymnasium at the Multi-Service Center is being neglected and not kept in good repair. They also felt a new, indoor recreation site should be considered at the former firehouse at Fifth and Grand streets.

Others at the meeting felt lighting was badly needed at the Little League field, Fourth and River streets, to get maximum use of the facility.

Two members of the City Council, Robert Ranieri and Thomas Kennedy, attended the session. Mrs. Newmann said the opinions heard at the meeting will be forwarded to James Farina, director of the Health and Welfare Department, which has the responsibility for recreation.



Mario Mercado, left, takes the oath of office from Mayor Steve Cappelletto of Hoboken as superintendent of the city's new centralized garage.

## New chief mechanic wants to get Hoboken rolling

Hoboken's new garage superintendent Mario Mercado said today it will take him approximately four months to put all the city's public works and public safety vehicles into shape.

Mercado said, of the city's 186 vehicles, approximately 35 are not running.

Mercado was appointed yesterday as superintendent of maintenance for the two departments.

Mercado had been in charge of repairs to the public safety vehicles and received praise for his work. At the same time there has been constant criticism of the repair of public works vehicles.

Mercado said one of his first acts will be to appoint a foreman to coordinate a maintenance schedule. Mercado said he will make the appointment early next week.

Public works employees will also log their mileage. In the past, Mercado said, there have been almost no records kept.

Mercado said he would also like to talk to Mayor Steve Cappelletto about an incentive system for mechanics.

The top pay for a mechanic now is slightly less than \$10,000, Mercado said, and he said there is no real incentive for an employee to do a good job.

Mercado said he would also like to start a defensive driving course for the operators of public works equipment.

"There have been numerous unreported accidents with the public works equipment," Mercado said. "Right now the average life is two or three years. With proper driving and maintenance, it can last seven or eight years."

## Hoboken hotel seen in P.A. plan

A hotel as well as industrial development is slated for the Hoboken waterfront, according to a development plan now being proposed by the Port Authority, a high Hoboken City Hall source said today.

The plan, which covers the development of the waterfront from the Holland Tunnel northward to Castle Point in Hoboken, also calls for the construction of 2,200 units of luxury housing.

But, the source pointed out almost all of the housing would be in Jersey City.

Meanwhile, Mayor Steve Cappelletto said he is very enthusiastic about the plan but cautioned that a preliminary feasibility study hasn't been done yet.

Cappelletto said he feels the combination of the Port Authority, Hoboken and Jersey City all working together would help attract developers for the plan.

The mayor also said he agrees with Jersey City Mayor Thomas F. X.

Smith and is against a permanent waterfront authority with powers to make decisions about land use.

Cappelletto said he feels Hoboken officials should be the ones to decide how to use their own land and not some authority with broad powers.

## Cramer wants council poll on city reassessment

Hoboken City Council President Walter Cramer will poll City Council members at Monday night's caucus on reassessment of all property.

If the vote is in favor, Cramer will seek immediate council action on revaluation. If the vote is negative, Cramer said it can be dropped right at the caucus.

Cramer said he doesn't believe council members have made up their minds.

Cramer himself said he saw some merits as well as some drawbacks.

While Cramer said the revaluation would lower the tax rate and might attract new industry to Hoboken, he said, it might also place an unfair burden on homeowners.







# Four families win 5-year struggle for HUD funds

By PETER BEGANS  
Staff Writer

**HOBOKEN**—Four families that were refused relocation payments for five years, because the Community Development Agency (CDA) here charged they were illegal aliens, yesterday received \$4,000 apiece by order of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The recipients were among only a handful of individuals to be denied relocation money in a massive renovation of deteriorated housing in the city over the past decade.

The family members had recently laid siege to the CDA offices at Washington and Newark streets, appearing every day to ask if their money had been approved.

Officials of HUD in Washington had ordered the agency to pay the money at the end of November, but CDA workers blamed the most recent delay on City Council approval of the checks and the poor health of CDA Director Fred Bado.

But the case goes back five years, when apartments on Clinton Street between Eighth and 10th streets were taken over and renovated by Applied Housing Associates, a firm which has renovated more than 1,000 units in the city. Families living in the renovated housing generally receive federal subsidies. They pay 25 percent of their income and the government pays the rest.

When families are displaced by renovation, they have a choice. They may move back into the units when they are completed, or they can take a \$4,000 relocation payment. The money is intended as a rent subsidy or for use as a down-payment on a home.

The families which received the relocation payments yesterday were denied them five years ago because CDA officials argued that they were illegal aliens. The families said they were in the middle of changing their residency status from temporary to permanent residents

at the time, with an eye toward becoming citizens.

However, after lengthy consideration, HUD officials ruled that it makes no difference what residency status individuals have — if they are displaced because of renovation, they are entitled to relocation payments.

Newark HUD officials gave Bado their ruling more than a year ago, but CDA appealed to Washington. "It was an unclear policy," Bado said yesterday. "If

it were a clear policy, it would have been decided immediately."

"We felt you had to be a legal resident of the United States or New Jersey to receive the money," Bado said.

The four families, three from El Salvador and one from Honduras, complained they had been given a runaround by CDA. They complained they were told to come to the office numerous times, and then received word that the checks

were not ready.

Lilian Lopez said she had to appear at CDA so often she lost her job for taking too much time off. All the adults in the families except Lopez and another woman work, they said. "We're not on welfare," one stated.

Two of the families have remained living here, while one has moved to Union City and the other to Weehawken.

Yesterday, the families all expressed happiness that their long wait is over. "We feel the pressure is off us after so many years," Sonia Hernandez said.



**HOBOKEN SPELLERS**—Robert P. King, chairman of the Hoboken Knights of Columbus and organizer of its annual spelling bee, congratulates winners of the event. Finalists of the bee, which was held in the Knight's new headquarters on Adams Street, are, from left, Anne Persantoni, 13, third place; Elizabeth Dugan, 13, second place, and Beth Marozzo, 13, first place.



**THANKS, OFFICER**—Liquor store owner Richard Landenberg presents Hoboken Patrolman John Picurro, left, with a bullet-proof vest in appreciation for the officer's actions on New Year's night when Picurro, patrolling a walking beat, found the Washington Street store window broken and helped the owner secure the shop until Patrolman Ed Cummins, right, arrived from a nearby post. Watching Presentation is Patrolman Thomas Mosher, head of the Hoboken Patrolman's Benevolent Association.

## Toughest critic gets Hoboken school job

By Randolph Diamond

The Hoboken Board of Education's most vocal critic, Thomas Vezzetti, won't be able to attend its regular meetings any more.

Vezzetti has been hired by the board to teach an adult education course which meets Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The board ordinarily meets at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Vezzetti, 51, will be paid \$8 an hour to teach a course examining the operation of various city agencies and institutions in Hoboken, according to School Superintendent George Maier.

Maier denied that Vezzetti's hiring was an attempt to silence the critic.

"I could not think of anyone better suited to teach such a class," Maier said.

The superintendent said that for a long time he had had the idea of forming such a class to acquaint the public with city institutions and agencies and that Vezzetti's extensive knowledge of Hoboken history and government should make him the ideal teacher.

Vezzetti, a Hoboken native who holds a master's degree in history, said his working for the Board of Education won't stop him from criticizing its policies and programs when he feels something is wrong.

"I can still write letters and attend the board caucuses on Thursday nights," he said.

Vezzetti said his course will not only teach adult students about what

the various agencies and institutions do but also what they don't do but perhaps should be doing.

He said the politics of the various agencies and how they are affected by the various people in charge of them will also be examined. This, he added, will include the Board of Education.

Vezzetti said the course will probably not start for about three months because it will take him that long to prepare the curriculum. He said he will be paid while he works on the curriculum and will do such work during the hours the course would normally meet.

Vezzetti, who has also been a constant critic of the city government, was hired by the Hudson County CETA program a few months ago and assigned to Hoboken City Hall.

He said the work he does in his CETA job involves checking to see that Hoboken's streets are clean, and looking out for potholes and missing "sewer plates" on the streets.

That job, however, Vezzetti said, is scheduled to end in mid-March.

## State lends \$1 million to Hoboken factory

By William H. Taft

A \$1,000,000 loan to a Hoboken clothing factory to enable it to expand across the street was announced today by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

The factory is owned by the Alorna Coat Corp. which occupies most of the block bounded by 15th and 16th streets, Willow and Park avenues, fronting on Willow.

According to John J. Horn, chairman of the state agency, the loan

will finance the purchase of a 52,000-square-foot building on 77,500 square feet of land on 16th Street and Willow Avenue.

The project is expected to create nine new jobs within two years, Horn said. The loan was arranged through the sale of the authority's tax-exempt bonds to the Bankers Trust.

"This project represents an expansion of the company's operations and will include the purchase and installation of equipment used in the clothing manufacturing business," Horn said.

## \$108,000 cut from Hoboken state school aid

By Ronald Lehr

Hoboken's school district must absorb a projected deficit of \$108,000 in transportation costs because Trenton changed the formula for reimbursing local districts for busing handicapped students.

Veteran board member Otto Hottendorf, however, held out some hope that the district might recoup some of the loss through lobbying efforts by the New Jersey School Boards Association.

"A state audit projected a \$300 million deficit in the governor's budget so they started cutting programs," said Hottendorf, who

serves on the association's executive board.

"The attorney general was kind of tricky, though, in the way he interpreted the reimbursement formula, which says that districts shall be compensated for 90 percent of all expenses in the districts' last year."

"Well, it seems the attorney general decided that 'last year' could mean any previous year in the history of the district and the state arbitrarily came up with a reimbursement level for two years ago," noted Hottendorf.

What that means for Hoboken, according to Lehr, is that the district will have to absorb the deficit.

See ALTERED — Page 4.

## Cancel

Mayor Cappiello has made a mistake in ordering his police to stop giving littering summonses to the city's Housing Authority while continuing to ticket all others who litter.

Such partiality strengthens the not uncommon belief that bureaucrats take care of their own at the expense of the taxpayers, voters and the mass of residents who are outside the government structure.

The mayor says the housing authority cannot put out the garbage of its housing projects at the time required by the city ordinance because its maintenance workers have a union contract excusing them from working any hours but 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Well, that's too bad, but the ordinance has been on the books since last March, and the authority members should not have signed such a contract or should have made some other arrangement since then.

It is unjust to discriminate against other landlords who may have a similar maintenance problem.

Enforcement of the ignored littering ordinance was the mayor's idea and it was a good one. Why spoil that good work by exempting an offender just because it is a government agency?

Especially a government agency that isn't bright enough to research the law when negotiating a contract with its workers!

Continued from Page 1.

According to Anthony Curko, internal auditor for the Board of Education, is that instead of getting a \$248,000 return on anticipated expenses of \$257,000 for transporting students, the board can only figure on netting \$128,500 from Trenton.

The difference must be made up from the board's operating budget for 1980-81, said Curko.

Another educational program being stripped of funding by the state, Hottendorf related, is the one for "gifted and talented" students, part

of the state-mandated "Thorough and Efficient" policy. "The state has cut out every single dollar in appropriations for that," he said.

But Francis McGorty, assistant superintendent, told parents attending last night's Demarest School board caucus that the board is "committed to a limited, exploratory gifted and talented program (on the elementary school level)" for now with some local funds.

Conceding the possibility of teacher layoffs in the fall, George Maier, district superintendent, said that in June, 1975, the district's 7,100 students were taught by 470 instructors, while this year, he said, enrollment is down to 6,100 but there are 472 teachers.

"I don't know whether we can afford to continue at that level (with the same number of teachers)," Maier said. "Somewhere along the line, we have to rationally look at classroom size."

More information about the board's figures on teachers and all employees will be made available to the public on March 13 when the Board of School Estimate will convene an 8 p.m. hearing on the district's proposed budget.

## Hispanic Information Center in Hoboken to close March 17

Hoboken's Hispanic Information Center will close March 17.

Ralph De La Pena, who ran the one-man office, has been notified that the funding for his Hudson County CETA position has been terminated because of cutbacks in the federal program.

"I'm shocked," said an angry De La Pena, speaking from his one-room office on the fourth floor of city hall. "My office has been the link between the Hispanic community and city hall. Now there will be nothing."

De La Pena said he has helped more than 1,000 Hoboken Hispanic residents with all types of problems in the three years he ran the center.

"I have found jobs for more than 300 local residents in private industry, more than the entire CETA program has done for Hoboken residents," De

La Pena said. "This is the reward for a job well done."

De La Pena, who was classified a CETA supervisory employee, called his layoff "discriminatory."

"I'm not as well politically connected as other employees in the central office," De La Pena said. "It's all politics. Do you see any of these CETA jobs ever advertised in the newspaper?"

De La Pena, who has been a supporter of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, admitted politics helped him get his position but he said he worked hard to serve the Hispanic community.

"I've been trying to meet with Ed Ferrelly (Hudson County CETA head) for the last year-and-a-half to discuss my program and even improve it," De La Pena said, "but he wouldn't return any of my phone calls."

Farrelly said De La Pena's termination was for one reason only — a 25 percent reduction in the county CETA program's budget — and that De La Pena was one of 20 administrative employees who were axed.

"It was a matter of priorities," said Farrelly. He said De La Pena served only the Hoboken community and his position was considered less important than that of employees who worked in the central CETA headquarters and dealt with residents from different Hudson communities.

Farrelly denied he had not talked to De La Pena in the last year-and-a-half.

"I talked to him on at least three occasions and my office door was always open," he said.

Farrelly said there is a possibility De La Pena as well as other laid-off

employees could receive other CETA jobs.

"We're trying to do what we can for them," he said.

And he said if De La Pena feels his layoff is unfair he can file a grievance.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said De La Pena did an excellent job but said the city just doesn't have the money to put him on the payroll. De La Pena was paid \$13,000 a year.

Cappiello said he has asked De La Pena to look into the possibility of obtaining some other type of federal funding for his office but De La Pena said he is not very hopeful.

"I don't know what I am going to do," he said. "I can't just close this office. I have a commitment to my people."

But De La Pena said he doesn't have the money to work free.

## Cappiello sees victory in war on litter

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he feels the city is much cleaner since the war on litter started.

But the mayor said the battle is far from won. He said there are still landlords and individuals who are not complying.

"The enforcement will continue," he said. "This has to be a constant battle."

Cappiello said he has talked with school officials about the importance of teaching children not to litter and he believes that is now being emphasized in the classrooms.

Meanwhile five more landlords were fined \$50 each in court for having improperly bagged garbage or litter lying outside their buildings.

Those fined were Margarita Allica for a building at 320 Madison St., Charles Denny for 610 Washington Street, and R and G Realty for 205 8th Street. Peter and Catherine Lisa for 901 Park Ave. and Marineview Towers Management Company.

Also fined \$50 for garbage lying outside their premises was the Vir-murco Co. at 158-166 14th Street an Hoboken Auto body at 610 Jackson St. The Uptown Lunch Restaurant at 1202 Washington St. was fined \$50 for leaving a refrigerator outside their store.

## 'Tattoo' to be filmed in Hoboken

Bruce Dern has been signed for the lead role in the new movie, "Tattoo," which will be filmed in Hoboken the week of March 31.

Details on the Hoboken locations were not available, but Joseph Friedman, executive director of the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission, said "Tattoo" is about a soldier who returns home from Japan after becoming skilled in tattooing.

The female lead for the film, which will also be shot in Atlantic City, was not announced. Joseph E. Levine is the film's producer.

## Improper garbage disposal costs Hoboken landlords

Three Hoboken landlords have been fined \$50 each in Municipal Court since the city's crackdown on sanitation violators started.

Louise Clem, who owns a building at 56 Third St. was fined for improper bagged garbage outside her building.

A. Cramer, who owns a building at 1036-1040 Willow Ave., and landlord

John Nege who owns a building at 1103 Garden St., were both fined for having demolition containers outside their buildings without permits.

Meanwhile, Albert Chichizola, the city's chief maintenance worker, said his men were not responsible for garbage in front of City Hall.

"My men sweep the entrance to the hall a number of times each day

but the wind blows the garbage lying in front of stores on Washington Street to the hall entrance," he said.

"It's not our fault that the merchants don't clean up."

Business Administrator Edwin Chius had criticized the city's maintenance personnel.

"We do our job," Chichizola said. "He had no right to criticize us."

## Hoboken sweepers hit new snag

Hoboken's mechanical sweepers aren't cleaning the western section of the city.

Mario Mercado, the city garage superintendent, ordered the sweeping halted in that section because it wasn't doing any good.

Mercado said most of the streets don't have warning signs regulating parking. Without those signs, cars cannot be ticketed.

"Motorists aren't moving their cars and the sweeper can't clean the street," he said.

The western section has not been swept in years. Mercado had targeted it for cleaning on a daily basis.

Meanwhile, Edwin Chius, business administrator, said 400 poles are expected by the end of the month which will enable the city's division of

traffic and signals to post the area. Chius said the city has received an initial shipment of 100 poles.

The signs were scheduled to go up last summer but the traffic division ran out of poles.



# De La Pena raps treatment

The soon-to-be determined director of Hoboken's Hispanic Information Center, Ralph De La Pena, said today he was "treated like a criminal" when he turned in his timecard at the Hudson County CETA headquarters in Hoboken on Tuesday.

De La Pena, a CETA supervisory employee, said he noticed a note on a desk to call a security guard if he came in. The guard escorted him in and out of the personnel office, he said.

He felt his treatment was due to the fact that he had criticized the CETA decision to lay him off through a story in The Jersey Journal. Edward Farrelly, county CETA director, was unavailable for comment.

De La Pena said his office helped

thousands of Hispanic residents over the past three years and that a link with the community and City Hall has now been broken. De La Pena was notified that he was being terminated because of a cutback in federal funding.

Although the Information Center is closing, another agency, the Hispanic Counseling Center, is getting back on its feet in the wake of the firing of the director and the resignation of its two counselors.

Two new counselors have been hired to staff the center and a search is on for a new director, according to Juan Garcia, executive director of Citizens United for New Action (CUNA) which sponsors the center through a \$50,000 grant from the state Department of Youth and Family Services.

Garcia said the new counselors, Jose L. Melendez and Mildred Gerardino, are both bringing expertise in a number of different areas to the program.

He said Ms. Gerardino is teaching sewing and fashion design courses in addition to doing counseling while Melendez will shortly be starting photography and arts and crafts classes in addition to counseling.

Garcia said Ms. Gerardino is attending the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, taking fashion design courses, and St. Peter's College in Jersey City for social work and urban education courses.

Melendez, he said, had attended college for a year and a half and expects to return to take social work courses in the fall.

While neither of the counselors has a formal degree in counseling, Garcia said both of them have good counseling skills and relate well to the children in the program.

"Their hearts are in the right place," said Garcia. "I picked the counselors this time for how they related to the youth, not for their degrees."

Garcia said the center is currently servicing 37 youths between the ages of 5 and 16 on a regular basis in addition to countless youths on a drop-in basis. He is now seeking referrals from the school system.

Garcia said he is voluntarily serving as director of the agency until a permanent executive director is chosen.

Rosa Velasquez, the center's former director, had been fired in early January by Garcia and the CUNA board of directors. The center's other two counselors then resigned in protest.

Garcia had claimed Ms. Velasquez had been "unsympathetic and uncaring" about the young people enrolled in the program and was a "dictator."

But Ms. Velasquez said Garcia tried to undermine her authority, was lax in youth guidance and allowed CETA employees to do personal business while they were being paid to do agency work.

# Sewage? Hoboken says, 'Sue'

By Tom Golodnik

The president of the Hoboken City Council has suggested that several Hudson Street homeowners who have complained about sewage backing up into their basements sue the city, even though he doesn't believe the clogged drains are the city's responsibility.

Walter Cramer, the council president, listened to the complaints at last night's meeting, but read several letters from city officials that claimed the sewage problem was the homeowners'.

He told them that, despite this position, the city had spent \$5,000 trying to resolve the clogged drains, but

would not spend any more unless the homeowners prove the city responsible.

He told them to bring the matter before the city's housing court and outlined for them the information they should present in making their case.

The residents claim that on several occasions they have had plumbers clean their drains only to find that the lines appeared to be clear out to the connection with the city's main.

But, they still have raw sewage emptying up into their basements, with the backed up water frequently

deep enough to extinguish furnaces and hot water heaters. The city believes the five affected homes have a common drain in their backyards that connects to the city's pipes. Public works officials insisted that an inspection of the city's main showed it to be open and flowing.

Connections up to the city's main are the responsibility of the owners and are not routinely serviced by city crews, the law department said.

In other action at the meeting, the council postponed action on an ordinance on water rates that was proposed by the council's three-man water committee. The ordinance was presented to the council for the first time last night and Cramer suggested it be tabled until the full council has had an opportunity to review it.

The council accepted three bids on improvements to the Little League field at Fourth and River streets. The

See SUE CITY — Page 28.

## Hoboken

# Hoboken expects state funding to aid in repaving city streets

Hoboken has applied for a state grant of \$263,000 to repave almost three miles of streets. The funds are available due to the passage last November of the state transportation bond issue which provides money for road repavement throughout the state, according to James Caulfield, Hoboken consulting engineer.

Caulfield said that he expects at least half of

the city's application will be approved.

He said the state will make a decision on Hoboken's application by mid-March and construction could get under way shortly after that. The city would pay a small share of the cost. For example, if the city's full \$263,000 request were approved, Caulfield said, the city would pay a little more than \$29,000.

The streets the city has requested be repaved are River Street from Hudson Place to 4th Street, Washington Street from 8th to 11th Streets, Hudson Street from 2nd to 3rd Streets, Bloomfield Street from 9th to 13th Streets.

Also, garden Street from 8th to 14th Streets, Park Avenue from 11th to 12th Streets, Willow Avenue from 10th to 11th Streets, Clinton Street from 9th to 11th Streets, Adams Street from 12th to 13th Streets, Jefferson Street from 9th to 12th Streets, Jackson Street from Paterson to 1st Streets, and 1st and 3rd Streets from River to Hudson Streets.

Also, 4th Street from River to Hudson Streets and from Clinton to Grand; 6th Street from Clinton to Grand, 10th Street from Hudson to Washington, 13th Street from Bloomfield to Park Avenue and from Clinton to Madison, and 12th Street from Adams to Madison Street.

# Hoboken plans field on Hudson St. tract

Hoboken is attempting to provide more recreation for its youth.

The city plans to create a temporary softball and practice field on a vacant lot next to the Parking Authority garage at Third and Hudson streets.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today the field will be in addition to the temporary field that will be created next to the Hoboken sewage treatment plant.

Fred Bado, Hoboken Community Development director, said the new field will only be temporary because of plans by the Knights of Columbus

to build a senior citizens highrise on the site.

Bado said the temporary field could be ready by next month.

Meanwhile, he said the city is considering renovating an old firehouse at Fifth and Grand streets for use as a teenage recreation center.

Bado said he expects it would cost \$5,000 to renovate the building. The firehouse now, is being partially used by the Hoboken CETA program.

Bado said a decision on whether to renovate it will be made in the next few weeks.

# Sewage may be pumped by hand

After spending almost \$75,000 to repair the Fifth Street pumping station, the Hoboken City Council now fears the station, which pumps sewage to the 11th Street treatment plant, may have to be operated by hand instead of automatically.

At last night's caucus, councilmen questioned Andrew Amato, the public works director, about rumors the plant would have to be attended manually, but Amato could not give a definite answer.

He said he has requested an answer to the question from the city's engineer, Maurer Lynch and Associates, and hoped to have a reply by tomorrow's council meeting.

The council was asked, in a letter from the Hoboken Taxi Association, to consider raising fares in the city from \$1.50 to \$1.75, because of increasing gasoline and other costs.

The council will consider an additional \$24,000 in sewer cleaning work to be performed by Axon Industrial Corp. at 14th and Grand streets and on Ellow between Fourth and Eighth streets.

The mayor has proposed the names of seven persons for the new zoning board of adjustment. Five of the members served on the old five-member board. They are Frank Camerone, named to a term of four years, Salvatore DeGennaro, Sergio Germinari and James Gray, all three-year terms and Timothy Calligy, two years. The new members are Mary Perry and Michael Cirelli, both two-year terms. Size of the board was changed by state statute recently.

# Hoboken tries to cure project garbage woes

A meeting has been set up for Monday at 10 a.m. between Hoboken Housing Authority officials, The LaFare Sanitation Co. and public works director Andrew Amato to stop the problem of garbage lying all day outside authority buildings.

The authority had been hit with at least 50 litter tickets by the police department.

Mayor Steve Cappiello had said

that the problem was that authority maintenance men only worked during the day and the LaFare Company picks up garbage early in the morning before the maintenance men are on. Cappiello said today that it may be possible to have the LaFare Company pick up the authority's garbage at the end of their route. By that time, Cappiello said, the maintenance men might be on duty.

## Petition protests hiring hall move

# Longshoremen swim against tide

By DIANE CURCIO  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Longshoremen are circulating a petition to protest the possibility that their hiring hall, operated by the bi-state Waterfront Commission, will be moved from here to Port Newark.

Rudy Capello, business agent for the International Longshoremen Association Local 2, headquartered here, said 500 out of 800 local longshoremen have signed the petition.

The hiring hall at 111 Newark St. is where longshoremen report daily to "shape up," accepting job assignments distributed on a daily basis. For example, a shoredore operation notifies the waterfront commission that a certain number of men are needed at a facility on a given day; the commission then dispatches the necessary workers.

The petition drive was organized by the leaders of I.L.A. Local 2 and 1198, headquartered here, and Local 1198 of Bayonne and Jersey City. The petition capsules the longshoreman argument against the move in an eight-point statement which reads:

• At a time when our country is trying to conserve energy, this move would mean a greater use of gasoline plus the added expense of spiraling gas prices, along

with tolls, added insurance and wear and tear to our automobiles.

• Car pools would not be practical since all of the men have different seniority and categories. It would be possible that the driver of the vehicle could be ordered to work, leaving his riders with no way to return home.

• Mass transit would be a hindrance to the men who do not drive or own automobiles, because bus connections to and from Newark are poor. The trip would involve taking a bus and train — a two-hour journey one way.

• In bad weather it would be difficult to reach Newark on time (8:15 a.m.) Therefore, we would be debited (demerit points). Men are only allowed three debits before they are disqualified and lose their livelihood for a year or more.

• Recently, the Jersey City and Bayonne hiring halls were combined with Hoboken, leaving it as the only hiring hall in Hudson County. This center provides men for facilities in Weehawken, Jersey City, Bayonne, Newark, Elizabeth, Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island and Yonkers, N.Y.

• The majority of men who shape up at the Hoboken

center live in Hudson or Bergen counties and New York City.

• Moving the Hoboken hall to Newark would discourage shipping companies from coming to Hoboken to use the existing Port Authority piers.

• With this move, longshoremen and their families would incur added hardship and expenses. Capello said he hopes to submit the petition bearing the names of all 800 members of the I.L.A. locals to the waterfront commission, New York Shipping Association and to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Leonard Newman, executive director of the waterfront commission, said the agency is being forced to seek new quarters because the building owner wants to convert the structure to low-income housing.

He said his office is considering a move because much of the port operation is conducted at Port Newark. However, Newman said, he would listen to recommendations of the shipping association and the I.L.A., since both would be affected by any changes.

Newman contended that the number of men hired out from the hall here is minimal — 150, out of 2,500 workers recruited daily throughout the New York harbor area.

## Follow through

Hoboken's city administration is showing energy and initiative in finding new outdoor recreation locations in time for the summer.

Its latest move will indeed accomplish two worthwhile objectives at the same time. A field large enough for football practice — though not for regulation games — will be laid out inexpensively on a tract that has been vacant for ten years in the Marine View Plaza development because a skyscraper apartment house planned on the site did not materialize.

The tract can always revert to the use originally planned if the apartment house or a hotel proposed as an alternative eventually becomes more than wishful thinking.

No one should be justifiably annoyed by the noise and commotion the new field will occasion, since there are municipal parking garages on two sides of it and streets on the other sides.

To make good on this well conceived project, the city should proceed with the grading and surfacing without delay.

# Seniors get all breaks . . . 'broken promises, buses'

Irate Hoboken senior citizens say they are tired of broken promises from city officials and want the city's crosstown bus back in operation now.

"Just wait until the next election," said one elderly man who asked not to be identified. "We won't stand for this kind of treatment. The bus has been broken again for two months. It's too long."

The crosstown bus had been out of operation for more than a year because of mechanical problems and finally went back into service on Dec. 6. But a little less than a month later the bus was again out of operation. A short circuit in the heating system caused an electrical fire which burned the vehicle's electrical wiring.

Engine and exhaust problems had caused the bus' previous layover.

Mario Mercado, Hoboken's garage superintendent, said the wires in the bus had been replaced but he said now the bus' transmission has broken down. Mercado said he was unsure when the bus would be back on the road.

Meanwhile, Mercado said delivery of the city's new crosstown bus was expected within 10 days.

Mercado said it isn't his fault that the bus has been delayed. When the new bus arrives the old one is scheduled to be used as a spare.

"They can say what they want," said one elderly woman. "But if they really cared they would already have the bus back in operation."



FOR THE CORPS — Mayor Steve Cappiello, left, presents Thomas Vecchione, president of the Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps, with a check of ceremonies held at the City Hall. The \$25,000 check is the city's annual contribution to the corps, voted by the City Council.

## Problem 'solved'

A Hoboken city official has found a convenient way to end the city's embarrassment over its failure to require deposits from industrial water users as required by city ordinance.

For several years the city auditor, in his annual reports, has been calling attention to the fact that the city was not enforcing the ordinance and had not been for many years. After we published this fact — three months ago — the city decided to study the subject.

Under our prodding, the city has now found a way out. The city's "solution" is not to enforce the ordinance, but to abolish it!

Well, well, Hoboken. It must have taken a lot of study to come up with such a brainy solution!



## Filmmaker likes Hoboken scene



Filmmaker Alexander Roshuk, who plans to shoot a short film in Hoboken, reviews completed film for editing.

By James Kopchains

Alexander Roshuk is not a famous filmmaker... yet. But he has what he describes as the next best thing: drive, energy and a belief he will one day be recognized.

However, Roshuk is realistic about his present situation. "I have lots of ideas, but little money to do them with," he said. At present, Roshuk has been scraping together money and producing film shorts on shoestring budgets.

One of these will be shot next month in Hoboken, where Roshuk resided for more than two years before moving to New York. Titled "Getaway," the filmmaker describes it as "an escape story, but not in the usual sense."

The film, which he expects to run for about 30 minutes, is being partially funded by a \$3,000 grant from the state Council on the Arts.

The story is simple. The protagonist, John, is continually seen attempting to leave the city in a variety of ways. Each time, however, he is foiled and has to return to his empty apartment. Finally he attempts to walk out, but stops just short of the city border and turns around

realizing there really is no reason for him to leave.

Because the film is largely symbolic, Roshuk admits it is difficult to explain in words. "Though John is physically trying to get out of the city, the real escape is in his mind," he explained.

Roshuk admits he's very excited about filming in Hoboken. "It's such a colorful and friendly place, a very sharp contrast to New York." He said he was especially surprised to find the close, family-oriented neighborhoods in the city, which he found missing in New York.

In addition, the many Victorian-style homes and buildings make an excellent backdrop to the film, according to Roshuk. "Hoboken is just a visually exciting place," he said.

Though he plans to distribute it to several theaters and enter it in film festivals, Roshuk actually hopes the film will lead to work on bigger projects.

"I'm hoping some larger group will see the film and ask me to work on longer and more expensive films," he explained.

Roshuk works part-time as a video editor at the Young Filmmakers Center for the Video Arts in Manhattan. He is originally from Jackson.

## Rescue squad raps merger plan

By Randolph Diamond

The president of Hoboken's volunteer ambulance squad, Thomas Vecchione, said today his members would resign "in mass" if ordered to become part of the proposed joint fire communications system servicing Hoboken, Weehawken and Union City.

Picture on Page 2.

"There is no way we will become part of that system ever," said Vecchione. "My members and I won't stand for it."

Vecchione said if the ambulance squad became part of the joint communications system it would mean the end of its autonomy.

"The system will be funded by federal grants and we don't want the feds telling us what we can do," said Vecchione.

While the Hoboken ambulance squad would be glad to help Union City or Weehawken in emergency,

Vecchione said, the squad would not want to be obligated to service those communities.

He said two years ago the state Health Department had proposed that the downtown area of Hoboken be serviced by an ambulance squad from downtown Jersey City and that the rest of Hoboken as well as Weehawken be serviced by the Hoboken squad.

The plan was subsequently dropped. Vecchione said Hoboken becoming part of a joint communications system would be the first step in making that old plan a reality.

Officials from Hoboken, Weehawken and Union City have been working on a joint fire communications system for some time and yesterday Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello predicted a formal agreement could be signed in a month and the

service could get under way by summer. Vecchione said the Hoboken ambulance squad is supposed to be for Hoboken residents only.

The ambulance squad president also said the U.S. or the state could start coming up with standards requiring all ambulance drivers and attendants to be trained paramedics.

See HOBOKEN—Page 2.

Continued from Page 1.

Vecchione said most members of the ambulance squad are certified as emergency service technicians or have extensive experience in first aid but said they can't prescribe drugs as paramedics do.

"Paramedics are good," he said, "but I don't think our members should be forced to take the training. Some of our members are in the training now. But they're doing it because they want to do it."

Raymond Lax, Weehawken superintendent of signals who has played a key role in planning the joint communications system said he asked Vecchione to join the system but wasn't trying to force him to.

"If he doesn't want to join that's fine," Lax said. Lax said it had originally been planned to obtain some funds for the joint communications system from the Department of Health and Education and Welfare which would have required that the ambulance services be tied together to the joint communications system.

But Lax said it has been decided not to seek funds from HEW although he said other federal and state funds would be applied for.

Spokesmen for both the Union City and Weehawken ambulance squads said they wouldn't be able to decide if they want to be part of the joint communications system until they saw a firm plan for the system.

## Hoboken may get recreation center

The Boys Club of Jersey City may soon be operating a recreation center in Hoboken if Hoboken city officials can provide a suitable building for such a center.

David Messier, executive director of the Boys Club of Jersey City said the Boys Club would be willing to run a center in Hoboken as long as Hoboken officials could provide the building.

Peter Beronio, Hoboken Community Services director, said he is very optimistic a building could be found. He said several locations are now being

considered as a possible site.

If the site is found, Messier said the Boys Club would then conduct a fund-raising drive among local businesses and civic organizations to provide funds for building renovation costs and to operate the center.

Messier said the Boys Club would service youths from 7 to 19 in the proposed recreation center and would offer recreational activities as well as youth counseling.

He said the club became interested in serv-

ing Hoboken after hearing about numerous complaints from teen-age and civic groups about the lack of recreation for youth in the city.

"Hoboken is so close to Jersey City it just seems like a natural place for expansion," he said.

Messier said the Boys Club is currently finalizing plans for a \$1.2 million recreation center to be built on Grove Street in Jersey City. He said construction on the center should start by June and the building should be ready by December, 1981.

## Schools to offer more to gifted

By Randolph Diamond

A special enrichment program for talented and gifted students in the Hoboken school system will begin March 17.

Dan Binetti, coordinator of special education for the school system, said today that children chosen for the program will be taken out of their regular classrooms for half a day a week and will participate in the special enrichment classes.

Binetti said the enrichment clas-

ses will be offered in a number of different academic subject areas in addition to segments such as music and art.

He said students in the program will also be exposed to experiences outside school.

"If some students are interested in computers, then we might take them to Stevens Institute of Technology for a half-a-day where they could work with computers," he said.

Binetti said that probably from 2 to 5 percent of students in Hoboken

schools will participate in the program.

Binetti said a student would not have to be academically strong in all areas to be considered for the program.

"If they have strength in one particular area and interest they would be considered for the program," he said.

The program is being coordinated by teacher Pat Pope, wife of school board member John Pope. Mrs. Pope was relieved of her classroom duties in order to act as coordinator.

## Rue School seen left unrepaired

Hoboken's David E. Rue elementary school, closed since September because the building's brick is deteriorating, may continue in that condition indefinitely.

"There's a very distinct possibility that no money for Rue School will be set aside in the bond ordinance being prepared by the city for the

rehabilitation of the city's schools," a city official says.

The official, who requested anonymity, took part in a private meeting last night at City Hall involving the mayor, members of the City Council, the Board of Education, and the board's consulting engineers, Mayo, Lynch Associates.

A preliminary funding plan proposed the use of \$3.5 million to fix the Rue School and about \$8 million for repairs throughout the district but the city official says all parties are now "very close to a positive counter-plan that would narrow down those sums but keep the schools running, except possibly Rue School."

## Hoboken court defects cited

By Randolph Diamond

"Serious deficiencies" were found in the operation of Hoboken's Municipal Court during a recent inspection visit made by Hudson County's assistant court administrator, Brian Clark.

Clark said the "serious deficiencies" found included:

- A lack of support personnel for the court.
- Records being contained in file cabinets without locks.
- A lack of air-conditioning in the court, which can make it unbearable on hot days.
- Audio transcripts of court proceedings that were not clear.

Clark said there is a lack of support from municipal officials in the operation of the court.

"The same recommendations

have been made to city officials to correct deficiencies for a number of years but nothing has been done," he said.

Clark said on the day he made his inspection, March 5, there was absolutely no one in the court clerk's office while court was in session.

"There should be at least a secretary in the office to answer the phones and answer inquiries from people," he said.

Clark said there was no way to lock the metal cabinets where records were kept which could cause a security problem.

One of his main concerns, Clark said, was the lack of quality of audio recordings that contain the transcripts of court sessions. Clark said some of the tapes produced contain static. He said if one of the tapes had to be transcribed because

someone was appealing a case there is a possibility that testimony or a statement by the judge could not be heard.

He said if carpets and drapes were installed in the courtroom this would greatly improve the acoustics.

Clark said he has sent the list of deficiencies to Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello but has received no reply.

Clark said he could not order Hoboken to improve the operations of the court "but is relying on the good faith of city officials" to take some action.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said air conditioning will be installed in the courtroom by this summer.

He said he will be meeting the mayor to discuss the other deficiencies.

## Cappiello alarmed over budget

By Thomas O'Keefe

Alarmed that 1980 municipal budget requests are about \$300,000 over the state cap, or spending limit, Mayor Steve Cappiello has asked Hoboken councilmen to sit down with him tomorrow night to discuss cuts in spending.

The mayor hurriedly summoned department directors to a meeting yesterday when it became apparent that the present tax rate of \$94.19 per

\$1,000 assessed valuation could jump to \$127 if slashes were not made.

A spokesman said the mayor was disturbed as the figures were added up and immediately called the directors to a conference. Cappiello last night confirmed a meeting was held but declined to discuss what was said.

City officials said the increases could be attributed to several factors including higher school costs, the revaluation of land and arbitration awards granted employees by the

state's Public Employment Relations Commission.

The public safety department budget is the largest of all city departments, the spokesman said. Adding to the city's problems, he said, is a shrinking tax base and the fact that about half of the property in the city is tax exempt.

The Board of School Estimate is conducting a public hearing at 8 o'clock tonight on the school's 1980-1981 budget at the Board of Education administration building, 1115 Clinton St.

## Hoboken presents budget

By MARYANN JACOB

HOBOKEN—The Hoboken City Council last night introduced a municipal budget of \$17,004,351 at its public meeting.

The budget itself is \$5,000 less than the budget introduced last year, however, the amount to be raised by taxation has increased by \$1,119,777.

Last year, the amount of money to be raised by taxes was \$5,048,669. This year, the amount to be raised is \$6,168,446.

This represents an increase of approximately \$9.75 in the tax rate for \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

According to a message from Mayor Steve Cappiello, which was included in the prepared budget, the impact of county and school budgets is still uncertain.

However, the total tax rate increase will probably be an additional \$15 over last year, due to a loss of ratables.

According to the budget message, the loss of ratables is attributed to a reduction of assessments on almost every parcel of land in the city.

The budget originally prepared by the city administration was slashed by approximately \$270,000 by Business Administrator Edwin Chius before it was presented to the council for introduction.

Chius said the cuts were made throughout the departments and will result in "very few layoffs."

Some positions will be cut by attrition — not replacing workers who are retiring.

Other layoffs will come in seasonal areas, such as the parks and recreation departments.

No major permanent employees will be laid off, said Chius.

Nevertheless, he pointed out, no raises have been provided for in the budget, and if raises are required, layoffs may be forced.

## Gallo, Cilento to be honored by society

Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo and county Tax Commissioner Anthony J. Cilento, both of Hoboken, will be the guests of honor when the Madonna Dei Martiri Society of Hoboken holds its 53rd annual installation banquet and dance at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Archway Lounge in Secaucus.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello will conduct the group's installation, assisted by Vito Angione, master of ceremonies, and the Rev. Bertin Vesey, pastor of St. Francis Church in Hoboken.

Cosimo Brescia is chairman of the arrangements committee.

New officers announced are: Pantaleo DeSantis, president; Angione, vice-president; Mauro DePinto, corresponding secretary; Giovanni Petruzzelli, assistant corresponding secretary; Gennaro Capipelli, financial secretary; Nino Padula, assistant financial secretary, and Charles Ricciardi, treasurer.

Other officers are Anthony DePalma, first trustee; Francesco Altamura, second trustee; Vitanonio Giannotti, third trustee; Antonio Belgiovane, sergeant-at-arms; Sam Sciancalepore, director of hall, and James Lanzetti, publicity.

## Budget meeting scheduled

HOBOKEN—The City Council is expected to schedule a special closed meeting next week to discuss an impending budget crisis.

The proposed city budget is \$270,444 above the 5 percent budget caps imposed by the state. Furthermore, the budget outlays are expected to bring the current \$94.19 tax levy on every \$1,000 of assessed property value to about \$127.

City Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius refused to comment on how the city plans to resolve these problems. The city council is expected to set the date of the special closed session during today's meeting.

## Solution on garbage

Hoboken public works director Andrew Amato said today an agreement has been worked out with the La Fare Sanitation Co. which should solve the Housing Authority's garbage problems.

Amato said the city's garbage contractor has agreed to pick up the authority garbage at the end of the shift around 8:30 a.m.

The problem has been that the housing maintenance men come on duty at 7:30 a.m. and put out the garbage then. But the garbage men were making pick-ups earlier at the project.

Police had issued over 50 summonses against the authority for litter and sanitary violations. The summonses must be answered in court next week.

## Stevens gets allergy grant

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, has received a \$45,336 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Rep. Frank J. Guarini announced today. Dr. Baghar S. Manhas, of Stevens chemistry department, will be the principal scientist. The funds will be used to finance studies on beta-lactamase inhibitors. The grant was approved by Dr. Irving Delaphe, chief of molecular microbiology and parasitology, and Gary E. Thompson, grants management officer.

## Smoke alarm law douses Hoboken rule

Hoboken's tough smoke detector ordinance, which city officials worked on for over a year, has "gone up in smoke."

The ordinance, which was not scheduled to go into effect until April, 1981, will be superseded by a weaker state law requiring detectors, which will go into effect in July.

Ralph Pfleger, chief of the state Bureau of Housing, said the state smoke detector regulations, which were signed into law by Gov. Brendan T. Byrne last week, will make the Hoboken law "invalid."

Pfleger said the new state law will only require battery alarms in all multi-dwelling units because it mandates that the state uniform construction code be followed.

Hoboken's code would have required an inter-connected electric smoke detector system which had been manufactured specifically for the city by the Pyrotechnics Company in Cedar Knolls. Officials had estimated the detectors, which were to have been installed in the basement and on every floor of a dwelling with four or more units, would have cost \$25 apiece and would have been installed by the landlord.

The electrical units are generally considered by fire officials as more reliable than the battery units.

"All of our work is out the window," said James Giordano, public safety director.

The city ordinance had called for fines ranging between \$100 and \$500 for landlords who did not install the detectors. And if a landlord was found violating the law a second time, the ordinance called for a \$500 fine or a 90-day jail sentence.

According to Pfleger, the state regulations will not carry a set fine and the lack of a smoke detector will be classified as a housing violation that will be included with other violations found during tenant inspections.

The state usually gives at least a 60-day period to landlords to correct violations before imposing fines.

And because of its small staff, bureau officials admitted that it can often take years to catch up with some landlords.

Pfleger said the state will not make any special inspections to see if landlords have the smoke detectors. He said the detectors will be looked for when the state makes its inspection once every five years.

The state smoke detector law code will be stronger than Hoboken's in one respect. The code will require detectors in all buildings which contain three or more units while the city's required detectors in buildings with four or more units.

Pfleger, meanwhile, said he is studying the state code to determine how many smoke detectors to require per building.

Joseph LeFante, state community affairs director, is required by April 10 to issue rules and regulations specifying the number, location, maintenance and periodic testing of the smoke detectors.

Pfleger is drawing up those rules for LeFante.

Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, said if the City Council decides to adopt a new smoke detector ordinance which would be the same as the state's, then it could prosecute landlords.

Giordano said once the state law goes into effect he will consider introducing a new city ordinance.

## Up in smoke

Hoboken's tough smoke detector ordinance, in the making for over a year, apparently will never see the light of day. The ordinance, slated to take effect in April of 1981, will be superseded by the state law which will become effective in July.

The Hoboken ordinance followed long and tedious study by city officials and was much stronger than the one adopted by the state. The Hoboken ordinance also had teeth in it, with almost automatic fines and even jail sentences. The state code does not provide for special inspections or fines.

Perhaps for some parts of the state a tough smoke detector ordinance may not be necessary, but in cities such as Hoboken, which has more than its share of old tenements and fire traps, it is imperative that stringent measures be taken. After a series of disastrous and fatal fires, Hoboken knows only too well what a strong smoke detector law can mean in the future.

All is not lost, however. Hoboken can adopt a new ordinance which would be the same as the state's, and thus could enforce the code. The penalties would not be as tough as the original Hoboken ordinance, but at least landlords could be prosecuted for non-compliance. And hopefully, those human infernos of the past few years will be avoided.

## Cab fares

Just as is the case in other cities, Hoboken will soon permit its taxis to raise fares. The taxi-riding-public will pay a quarter more to be tacked on the present minimum of \$1.50.

There will be a public hearing in two weeks on the ordinance, and the public will have the opportunity to vent their displeasure at the hike, but, let's face it, nothing will change. The ordinance will almost certainly pass and the taxi riders will have to pay more.

So, while no one likes to pay more for any service, keep in mind it does cost more to operate a vehicle, including taxis, these days.



# Hoboken taxes would soar if budget passes

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Taxpayers face a more than 30 percent jump in their taxes this year if the recently introduced 1980 budget is approved by the City Council. The hike would make Hoboken's one of the highest-tax rates in the state.

Hoboken property owners, who now pay \$94.16 per \$1,000 assessed valuation will be confronted by an increase of \$33.16 in that rate, if the \$17,964,531 budget is adopted as introduced.

Mayor Steve Capriello said he expects the City Council to make cuts in that figure, although he does not know what cuts will be made.

Before being presented to the City Council, the original municipal budget was slashed \$270,000 by city business administrator Edwin Chius. Chius said the cut will not cause any major layoffs of municipal

employees, although some seasonal positions, such as recreation and parks, may be cut.

The \$17.8 million school budget adopted earlier this week by the board of school estimate was also the victim of cuts, reduced \$25,000 when proposed to the board of school estimate.

That cut lowered the amount to be raised by taxation to \$4,529,773, which represents a tax increase of 18.1 percent over last year's levy.

Asked what impact the tax increase would have upon Hoboken taxpayers, Capriello said taxpayers would probably express their feelings at the April 16 budget hearing.

The jolting increase in taxes resulting from the proposed budget could be attributed partly to a revaluation which failed in its intended purpose, and partly to a \$500,000 arbitrator's award made to city employees.

According to the mayor, a revaluation was made two years ago, in

hopes of stimulating development by property owners, rather than leaving valuable land idle.

With higher assessments on property, the tax burden would be spread out, and the rate would be lowered.

However, the desired effect was not achieved and the revaluation was reversed in 1979.

According to the mayor, Hoboken has a 56 valuation of land; the council did not choose to pay to have a full revaluation done.

By having a true valuation, the mayor said, the assessments would be increased by millions and lower the tax rate — but the burden of taxes would be shifted from business to homeowners.

"Our council feels this is not in the best interest of homeowners," he said. He said that the county tax board may think differently, and could order Hoboken to do a true valuation.

## City may cut links with auxiliary cops

Hoboken Mayor Steve Capriello said today he has been advised by the law department that the city should sever its ties with Hoboken's auxiliary policemen.

The mayor said the approximately 10 auxiliaries who patrol the housing authority projects at night are paid by the city. Capriello said this is so even though funds for the auxiliary patrolmen come from the housing authority budget.

The mayor said the city has paid the auxiliaries for years because the housing authority didn't have the data processing equipment available to issue their checks.

But the mayor said the law department told him if the auxiliaries are injured in the line of duty the city would be responsible.

The mayor said a meeting is scheduled today to try to resolve the situation.

# The promise of public housing — and the reality

By Randolph Diamond

Safe, clean and decent housing at a price low income families could afford. That was the promise of public housing.

But in Hoboken at the large Andrew Jackson Gardens Housing Project the promise has gone sour for many tenants.

Broken windows and graffiti line the hallways of the buildings in the 508-unit housing project.

Rats and roaches can be found in many of the apartments as can water leaks and holes in the wall. Showers that don't work and apartment windows that tenants say in some cases have been broken for more than two years can be found.

And then there are the unlocked front doors and the broken elevators. "Anyone who could afford to get out has gone," said Mrs. Millie Ottile, who has lived in the project for the last 22 years.

For the last nine days the elevator in her seven-story building at 300 Marshall Drive has been sporadically out of service.

Mrs. Ottile lives on the sixth floor. She works at a Hoboken company as a cleaning lady.

"I can't make it up those stairs more than twice a day," she said. "I go shopping and go to work but that's about it."

Actually Mrs. Ottile said the elevator hasn't stopped on the sixth

floor of her building in more than two years.

"It usually stops on the fifth floor and I walk up one flight of stairs," she said.

Ann Kenney also lives on the sixth floor.

"The problem is that the maintenance men don't fix anything," she said. "Tenants go down to the maintenance office to report problems but nothing ever gets done. We don't get any service. It's not right that just because we're poor we should be treated like garbage."

Mrs. Ottile and Mrs. Kenney showed a reporter the broken hallway window on the sixth floor.

"It's been like that for over a year," said Mrs. Ottile. "It was blown out during a storm."

But Mrs. Ottile and Mrs. Kenney are thankful for one thing — there are no broken windows in their apartments.

Their neighbor, Helen Kiloff, isn't so lucky.

She says she's afraid her baby boy will someday fall out of his broken bedroom window.

Mrs. Kiloff said her window was blown out by a storm a few months ago and despite call after call and visit after visit to the maintenance office, nothing has been done.

Anna Conner also lives at 300

See THE PROBLEMS — Page 23.



It's wishful thinking on the part of Mamie Portes and Albert Rosendo as they wait for an elevator in a Hoboken housing project. It won't come down — it's broken.

Continued from Page 1.

Marshall Drive. Two years ago a new shower was installed in her bathroom. Since then she says she has gotten virtually no cold water, only hot in the shower.

"I have to wash myself by hand," she said. "It's a hardship but I kept on complaining and complaining to management and nothing is done. I don't complain any more because they just don't care."

As Mrs. Conner spoke Virginia Moore was finishing her six children's laundry in the basement of 300 Marshall Drive.

"The clothes don't come clean from these machines," she said as she stood in a pool of water that had completely engulfed the area by the washing machines last weekend.

"We need help, someone has to help," she cried out as she removed the lice that had accumulated on her clothes in the washing machines.

Above the laundry room in a first floor apartment at 300 Marshall Drive lives Esther Rodriguez, with her three children, who says she gets virtually no heat in her apartment the entire winter.

"It's so cold in here," she said. "I'm worried my little baby boy is going to get sick."

Rats and roaches are another problem.

"They exterminate every month," said Carman Borjas, who lives on the seventh floor. "But it's too weak or something. It doesn't do any good."

Tenants say, however, that what worries them most are the gangs of youths that hang around the buildings at all hours of the day and night.

"We're scared to go outside our apartments to chase them away," said Mrs. Ottile. "They're not from around here. Gangs from Willow Avenue come to the building, write on the walls and make trouble."

Tenants said they call police when they hear the gangs and the police chase them away, but as soon as the police leave, the gangs come back.

The conditions at 300 Marshall Drive are typical of the conditions in each of the 19 buildings in the Andrew Jackson complex.

At 310 Marshall Drive, Esther Calilios has been circulating a petition demanding that the Housing Authority improve conditions. She has gathered signatures from just about every tenant.

Tenants in the complex say not all the problems can be blamed on management, that there are a few disruptive tenants who cause damage to their apartments and act like animals.

"When I first came to the projects they demanded two references," said Mrs. Ottile. "They screened the tenants. Now they don't seem to care."

Joseph Caliguire, executive director of the Housing Authority, dismissed the tenants' complaints.

"They're giving you excuses," he said. "For example, it's the tenants who break the windows."

Caliguire said there is at least one maintenance man assigned to each of the authority's two buildings, but they can't catch up.

"As soon as they fix one window another one is broken," he said.

Caliguire said the problem with the elevator at 300 Marshall Drive is due to vandalism.

"It will cost approximately \$5,000 to repair it," he said. "But the parts we need to fix it aren't immediately available."

Caliguire said he couldn't understand why some tenants' complaints had gone unresolved for such a long period of time but called them "isolated incidents."

He admitted there was a problem with youths hanging out in the hallways of the buildings but said tenants have not been willing to press charges against them.

State laws require buildings to have locked front doors and some type of intercom system but Caliguire said when the Andrew Jackson Complex was built in the early 1950s such a system was not required.

However, Michael Curcio, chief Hoboken housing inspector, said the housing authority would be violating state laws if it doesn't presently have such a security system.

Curcio said he is scheduled to do a state inspection of the Andrew Jackson complex this summer, but if he finds any tenants' complaints are justified in the meantime he will have housing authority representatives hauled into court.

But Curcio said he won't make any special inspections unless he gets complaints. And so far he says no one has complained.

"We provide fire-proof housing for poor families at low rents," Caliguire said. "These are families who now have a decent place to live."

## Ranieri may seek regional post

The name of Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert A. Ranieri is about to be added to those who are looking to replace Nicholas S. Mastorelli as executive director of the North Hudson Regional Council of Mayors. Mastorelli has resigned to become Hudson County administrator.

According to sources close to the council, Mayor Steve Capriello has indicated that he will recommend Ranieri for the post which pays approximately \$27,000 a year. Capriello

was not available for comment.

Ranieri declined to discuss the report.

Union City Mayor William V. Musto, chairman of the council, confirmed that Ranieri's name had been mentioned but only informally. Musto added that there are several candidates for the position now and that the number could reach eight or nine before the council makes a decision on Mastorelli's replacement.

Some of those who have been suggested for the job are Anthony Florio, assistant director; Terry Mirasola, executive secretary to the former director; John Connors, Gene

Martorony and Michael Leggero, executive director of the North Hudson Community Action Corp.

It was reported that a director may be decided upon when the council meets Wednesday. But, Musto said it was "highly unlikely."

"What we may do is take action" on formally naming an acting director for the program until a replacement has been found for Mastorelli," he said. If that should occur the acting director will probably be Florio, who has been filling the post with Mastorelli's guidance.

## NJ ed department OKs boarding up Hoboken school

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A letter from the state Department of Education sanctioning the closing of a city elementary school was received by the City Council but has angered Superintendent of Schools George Myer.

The letter, received yesterday by Mayor Steve Capriello's office, verified that Hoboken could use a state grant of \$1.1 million as it sees fit, and approved permanent closing of David Rue Elementary School on Second and Garden streets, Councilman Robert A. Ranieri said.

However, Myer said yesterday it is essential Rue School be reopened and that if declining enrollment should dictate a school's closing, an older school should be taken out of operation.

"There is no way we can do without the Rue school," he said.

Ranieri said the city asked if the \$1.1 million grant would be jeopardized if appropriations for school capital costs were cut from \$23 million to \$7 million in a proposed master plan.

The letter said the city would not be penalized because it decreased spending for schools, and approved the council's decision to keep the Rue School closed to avoid renovation costs.

The Rue School has been closed for two years and would require about \$3.9 million in repairs, Ranieri said.

"The school has been closed two years, and the (school) system has been functioning well," said Ranieri.

The letter also said no more money should be put into repairs on the Sadie Leinkauf Elementary School on Seventh and Jefferson streets, according to Ranieri.

Further renovations would "become questionable," according to the letter. Ranieri said because of the age of the building, it was unwise to pour money into renovation.

According to Ranieri, the closing of the Rue School could be one of the casualties of budget problems faced by the municipality.

The \$23 million appropriated for repairs and renovations was cut from the master plan to fit the \$7 million capital costs appropriations for schools because the city cannot afford its share of the \$23 million — approximately one-third of the entire cost.

"We're trying to arrive at a figure that's more logical for more important repairs," Ranieri said.

He said the \$7 million would go toward "basics" such as roof, windows and door repairs, and masonry, electrical, mechanical and plumbing work throughout the system.

Ranieri said, "Now that we know we're proceeding in the correct direction, we will have a meeting with the City Council."

The council will fix a final figure for school renovations, he said.

Myer said he felt the state's opinion that the Rue School be closed was made without sufficient input from local school officials.

"We live with the problem," he said. "Our analysis should be given greater impact."

He said the \$7 million figure for renovations could be misleading and appears to be a burden to taxpayers. He said \$2 million of that is a state grant, and two-thirds of the other costs are taken over by the state in a matching funds program for education.

Myer said the Rue School should not be closed because of overcrowding, and because the school, built in 1913, is newer and larger than several city schools.

When the Rue School closed two years ago, its approximately 850 students and 45 teachers were absorbed by the other schools in the system. With the influx of students, standard and substitute classrooms had to be used in those schools, Myer said.

According to Myer, education officials viewed the closing of the school as temporary.

With the possibility that it may be permanently abandoned, Myer said he is determined to keep the Rue School open.

## State agrees with Ranieri on closing of Rue School

Councilman Robert Ranieri of Hoboken said today the State Department of Education survey of the city's school buildings agrees with his conclusions that the David E. Rue School should remain closed and that no major repairs should be made to the Sadie F. Leinkauf School.

Ranieri, who has been doing research for the City Council to determine how much school repair work should be carried out, said he didn't know the opinions of the state coincided with his until he received a

letter yesterday.

Ranieri said he would recommend that the city consider a bond issue — not to exceed \$5,367,000, 66 percent of which would be reimbursed by state funds. He also noted that an outright state grant of \$1,123,000 was available to the city. In addition there is an allotment of \$880,000 in state money for vocational aid for the handicapped between the ages of 13 and 20. Under a 60-40 formula, however, the city would have to match it with \$770,000.

Ranieri said he was informed that

the state contacted Mayo Lynch Associates, a consulting engineering firm, on March 5, outlining its position. He questioned why there was such a delay in word getting to the council which must approve a bond issue for the work.

The Rue School has been closed for two years because of the need for repairs. Estimates were that it would cost \$3.9 million to put it back into shape. Another \$200,000 had been recommended for roof work at the Leinkauf School but Ranieri said the state felt putting major repair money

into that building was "questionable."

Ranieri said he would recommend to the council that the Board of Education sell the Rue building for private use, perhaps as an apartment house. There is a declining school enrollment, he said, and it is not needed.

The repair funds, he would recommend, should concentrate on other buildings for repairs to roofs, windows, electrical and mechanical work and plumbing.

## Dismissal of housing case called spur to abandonment

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina today blasted a decision Wednesday by Acting Municipal Court Judge Peter Giordano to dismiss a case against landlord Charles Porcuro because the landlord had sold the building after he was cited for housing violations by city inspectors.

"His decision gives landlords incentive to get rid of their property once they are cited for housing viola-

tions, and get away with it," Farina said. "It's an outrage."

"Landlords will now think they can let their properties go to pot and get away with it," he said. "I can't believe such a decision was made."

Porcuro had sold his tenement house at 324 Monroe St. in Hoboken on February 27 but had been cited for 100 city housing code violations on January 9, and subsequently again on January 18, January 30 and February 11.

Despite that the judge dismissed the case.

After the hearing, Giordano first told a Jersey Journal reporter that he

dismissed the case against Porcuro because a summons issued by Housing Inspector Ralph DeMarco was for inspection made after the building was sold. After being informed by the reporter that this was not so, Giordano called the reporter into his chambers a few minutes later and told him he didn't feel the owner should be fined if he no longer owned the property.

Giordano had been filling in for Acting Judge Chris Pappas who is now recovering at home after being hospitalized.

Pappas normally handles housing cases.

Hoboken  
Public Library  
week

Hoboken Public Library, 500 Park av., will celebrate "Library Week" on April 13 thru April 19. During this week the Library will also include "Amnesty Week" to all patrons that have overdue books. Three film showings will be held, April 16 at 11 a.m.; April 18 at 4 p.m. and April 23 at 7 p.m.



# Volunteers save Hoboken \$180,000, Vecchione says

3/25/80  
J-J

The Hoboken Volunteer Ambulance Corps contends it would cost the city seven times as much to operate a paid staff to man an ambulance crew.

The city contributed \$25,000 last year to the Corps — the maximum that state law permits. For a paid staff, Thomas Vecchione, president, has estimated it would cost Hoboken \$180,000. He based his estimates on 1979 statistics.

He broke down the estimated cost as follows: 14 men at \$10,000; purchasing of new vehicles annually, \$25,000; first-aid supplies and uniforms, \$10,000; and maintenance of building and equipment, \$5,000.

Based on last year's statistics, Vecchione said, the cost could be even higher.

The Corps responded to 5,978 calls in 1979 as compared to 5,628 in 1978.

Vecchione claimed every year the calls were increasing.

The Corps responded to 3,801 emergency calls, which includes calls to both Union City and Weehawken as called for under the mutual call agreement. Assistance to both Con-Rail and Port Authority facilities is also included.

Transportation calls are responsible for another 1,991 responses by the corps. This service provides non-ambulatory Hoboken residents to be transported anywhere in the metropolitan area, Vecchione said.

False calls for 1979 amounted to 154 and the corps was on stand-by at 32 fire scenes in order to provide the city's fire department with the best possible first aid assistance, Vecchione reported.

The Corps has a total membership of 50 persons, consisting

of 40 senior men, six women and four junior corpsmen.

Each member, before being permitted to ride on one of the three fully equipped ambulances, is required to complete the American Red Cross Standard First Aid course and the American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation course.

Within a two-year period the member must complete the remainder of his five points, which consists of American advance first aid, emergency child birth, light extrication and defensive motor vehicle driving.

Fifty percent of the Hoboken membership, according to Vecchione, have emergency medical technical training — 81 hours of classes as required by the state First Aid Council and Department of Health.

# Hoboken hit team news to cops

3/25/80  
J-J

Hudson County and Hoboken officials said last night they had no knowledge of a Hoboken-based murder-for-hire gang which an informant identified as the "hit" team that executed reputed Philadelphia mob boss Angelo Bruno on Friday night.

United Press International said a ranking organized crime informant reported the same "hit" team is being investigated by federal and local police for 18 professional killings in the greater New York area alone.

Hudson County Prosecutor James O'Halloran said, "I'm not aware of any Hoboken-based murder-for-hire

gang and I have no information about any gang with a connection in Hoboken."

Mayor Steve Cappiello commented, "I haven't the faintest idea of such a gang. It's like something you read about in books."

Public Safety Director James Giordano of Hoboken said, "It doesn't sound logical that something like this could occur and our detectives not be on top of it. We'd have to have a lot more proof."

But Detective Lt. Joseph J. Delaney, 44, an underworld expert with the Paramus Police Department

verified information obtained from the organized crime informant.

The informant said the investigators also were checking possible links to the assassinations of Carmine Galante, a reputed top New York mobster who was killed last July and Anthony "Little Pussy" Russo who was executed in his Long Branch apartment last April.

Bruno, identified by federal authorities as godfather of one of nine top U.S. mob families and the last of the old-fashioned dons, was executed gangland-style Friday night, two months shy of his 70th birthday.

An underworld informant told UPI, "I have heard it now from two different sources that a west side Manhattan 'hit' team with leadership connections in Hoboken took the order to kill Bruno."

Delaney, asked if his informant concurred, said, "That's uncanny. That is exactly what I have heard from my best organized crime sources."

He also confirmed there was a meeting between Galante and Bruno a week before the reputed New York mobster was killed.

Delaney was head of the Bergen County task force on organized crime and narcotics from 1974 to 1978 during which time he worked strictly undercover, producing 17 arrests and 185 indictments.

About 1,000 people, including the dons of other mob families, are expected to attend tomorrow's lavish funeral for Bruno.

# Public housing can be beautiful

3/26/80 J.J.

It seems as if a miracle has happened. It is an exception — a ray of shining light among the graffiti-filled buildings at the Andrew Jackson Gardens housing project in Hoboken.

Inside the seven-story building at 565 Harrison St. one sees no walls defaced by graffiti, and no broken hallway windows.

There are, however, paintings and posters hanging over the freshly painted walls of the building. There are curtains hanging on the various doors of the stairway.

And there is hope among the tenants that they can take control of their environment and make it a better place in which to live.

It all started on a Sunday afternoon two months ago when members of Por La Gente, a non-profit multi-cultural group dedicated to helping Hoboken's minorities, decided to do

something about the decaying conditions at the Hoboken Housing Authority's Andrew Jackson project.

In English "Por La Gente" means "For the People" and when the group was formed by members of St. Joseph's Church in Hoboken approximately one year ago it was decided that would be its purpose — to work for the people.

"We knew conditions were bad in the projects and getting worse," said Sister Norberta Hunnewinkel, a member of Por La Gente. "We just decided to go into one of the buildings at the Andrew Jackson complex and see if we could help."

Sister Norberta said the building at 565 Harrison St. was picked totally by random by her and other members of Por La Gente.

Members of Por La Gente saw graffiti scrawled on every hallway in the building as well as broken hallway

lights and windows throughout the structure.

"We then asked the tenants how conditions could be improved and they told us they wanted the hallways to be painted and new windows and lights to be installed," Sister Norberta said.

From here, the nun said, Por La Gente organized meetings with both tenants in the building and the Housing Authority management to decide how the tenants wishes could be implemented.

The Housing Authority agreed to donate the paint if the tenants would do the painting as well as install the new windows and lights and then guard them.

The tenants agreed and with moral support from Por La Gente the campaign to shape up their building began last month.

See PUBLIC — Page 28.

Continued from Page 1.

Working on their own time with help from members of Por La Gente, the painting began and the Housing Authority began to make the hallway repairs.

The painting and hallway repairs are now just about complete.

And now tenants are on the alert to make sure there is no vandalism of their building by area youths—as had happened before.

"Everyone is helping to keep this building together," said Patricia Morales, who lives on the second floor of the building. "This place looked terrible before. We're making sure this doesn't happen again."

"People are very surprised when they see this building," said another resident, Frank Heggs. "It's the only nice building in the whole apartment complex."

Another resident, Mario Rodriguez, said he is very pleased that everyone in the building is working together now, but notes there are still problems.

Part of the wall in his bathtub collapsed over a year ago and the hole is still there.

"I keep on calling maintenance, but they never show up," he said.

Other tenants in the building cite problems such as inadequate extermination services and water leaks in their apartments that they say the Housing Authority won't repair.

Their complaints are similar to those of other tenants in the project.

Jose Caliguire, Housing Authority executive director, has dismissed the tenants' complaints throughout the project as "nonsense" and "isolated incidents."

Meanwhile, Sister Norberta said she believes what has happened at 565 Harrison St. has helped the tenants realize that they have to assume responsibility for their own lives.

"That's what they have done by fixing up their building," she said. "I think the tenants have begun to realize that they have to do things for themselves, that people can't always be doing them for them."

She said she believes the tenants' lack of voice in housing authority policy is one reason the Andrew Jackson complex has fallen apart.

"It's a failure in the housing authority policy, tenants have never had a direct voice," she said.

Sister Norberta said Por La Gente will continue to work with the tenants but now wants to take on another building and help tenants there improve their living conditions.

# Hoboken offers Weehawken half the price to put out fires

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

4-8  
4/1/80

HOBOKEN—Mayor Steve Cappiello told Weehawken officials Saturday that Hoboken could provide fire department service to Weehawken for about half the cost the township would foot.

Although Cappiello said yesterday his offer was "light" and "off the cuff," he nevertheless confirmed reports of the offer.

"I told them I might want to take on their fire service for about 50 cents on the dollar," said Cappiello.

The mayor said he stopped in at the Weehawken Township Committee's budget workshop meeting Saturday afternoon to visit Mayor Wally P. Lindsey and others present at the meeting, and the fire department offer was not the primary reason for the visit.

Weehawken would probably contract with Hoboken, which would be charged with covering all fires in the

two communities, using equipment and manpower from both.

The reduction in cost would be accomplished by a dispersal of forces over the larger area and a use of manpower from both. But overall manpower would be reduced by dropping some unnecessary men through attrition or retirements, Cappiello said.

Weehawken would benefit from the proposed plan, said Cappiello, because it would operate at approximately half its usual fire budget, and Hoboken would benefit by increased revenues from Weehawken's payment for fire services.

Cappiello said all the mechanics of the plan had not yet been worked out, but he would want to sit down with fire and government officials from both towns to discuss it.

Weehawken would continue to maintain its firehouses, and some of its men would be included in the Hoboken service, he said.

The offer made to Weehawken is part of a concept of consolidation with an ultimate goal of joining up with other fire services in surrounding towns, said Cappiello.

The mayor cited a plan by West New York Mayor Anthony DeFino to form a North Hudson Fire Authority, comprising Union City, West New York, North Bergen, Weehawken and Hoboken.

The plan is made for these towns because they are contiguous, and benefit most from the consolidation, said Cappiello.

Cappiello said he would be happy to discuss a joint fire services plan with Weehawken, but would first want the consent of the other towns mentioned.

Such a plan would also have to be approved by state authorities, Cappiello said.

# The other cheek

4-8  
4/1/80

Hoboken's city administration may not approve of slumlords who commit hundreds of violations in their tenement houses and then get off the hook by telling the judge they have sold the building to another slumlord... but the city certainly doesn't do anything about the evasion.

The latest case was especially flagrant because the owner involved had already transferred the title to the building once before — to the same family — and subsequently had it transferred back to him.

Nevertheless, the judge ruled that since he does not own the building now, he cannot be prosecuted.

The Hoboken Law Department refused to try to upset the judge's decision or even to protest it and would not explain why.

The Law Department is answerable to the mayor. If the mayor really wanted something done, it is reasonable the Law Department would do something, such as seeking corrective legislation if that is necessary.

Permitting slumlords to make a mockery of the law and of the courts is not improving the image of Hoboken.

The offer made to Weehawken is part of a concept of consolidation with an ultimate goal of joining up with other fire services in surrounding towns, said Cappiello.

The mayor cited a plan by West New York Mayor Anthony DeFino to form a North Hudson Fire Authority, comprising Union City, West New York, North Bergen, Weehawken and Hoboken.

The plan is made for these towns because they are contiguous, and benefit most from the consolidation, said Cappiello.

Cappiello said he would be happy to discuss a joint fire services plan with Weehawken, but would first want the consent of the other towns mentioned.

Such a plan would also have to be approved by state authorities, Cappiello said.

# Company K, club or conspiracy?

4-8  
4/1/80

By Randolph Diamond

Is the Company K club the heart of the mob's activities in northern New Jersey as indicated in United Press International reports?

Or is it just a social club composed of "nice" people as its officers and some Hoboken officials insist?

Company K was an Army company made up of Hoboken residents during World War I. After the war the veterans formed their own social club with the same name.

The clubhouse has been located on the ground floor of a three-story

building at 525 Jefferson St. in Hoboken for the past 50 years and, while there are not many original World War I members left, the club has maintained a steady membership to drink, play cards and socialize with their old friends in the small quarters.

Sources, however, have told United Press International that the orders to kill mob bosses Carmine Galante in New York and Angelo Bruno in Philadelphia were carried out by a three or four-member gang whose leadership is based in Hoboken and which runs a hit team called "K

Company," reportedly responsible for 18 killings.

Is this hit team related to Company K? New Jersey Monthly, in its April issue, reports Company K is "the mob's action central in New Jersey."

"You can never tell who will walk in," the magazine says, "but sooner or later everyone who is anyone shows up."

And a high-ranking Hoboken detective, who asked not to be identified, said he believed the hit team was related to Company K.

See COMPANY K — Page 5.

Part of the wall in his bathtub collapsed over a year ago and the hole is still there.

"I keep on calling maintenance, but they never show up," he said.

Other tenants in the building cite problems such as inadequate extermination services and water leaks in their apartments that they say the Housing Authority won't repair.

Their complaints are similar to those of other tenants in the project.

Jose Caliguire, Housing Authority executive director, has dismissed the tenants' complaints throughout the project as "nonsense" and "isolated incidents."

Meanwhile, Sister Norberta said she believes what has happened at 565 Harrison St. has helped the tenants realize that they have to assume responsibility for their own lives.

"That's what they have done by fixing up their building," she said. "I think the tenants have begun to realize that they have to do things for themselves, that people can't always be doing them for them."

She said she believes the tenants' lack of voice in housing authority policy is one reason the Andrew Jackson complex has fallen apart.

"It's a failure in the housing authority policy, tenants have never had a direct voice," she said.

Sister Norberta said Por La Gente will continue to work with the tenants but now wants to take on another building and help tenants there improve their living conditions.

# Council gives Cappiello OK on school funds

4-8  
4/1/80

Members of the Hoboken City Council advised Mayor Steve Cappiello last night they generally favor a previously discussed plan to make up to \$7 million available for school rehabilitation work.

The mayor is expected to preside at a meeting of the Board of School Estimate tomorrow night. The estimate board controls the capital improvement funds.

Of the \$7 million, \$1,223,000 is coming into the city as an outright state grant. The city will then consider \$5.3 million in building funds, two-thirds of which will be reimbursed by the state. Another \$800,000 is available in state money for vocational funds to the handicapped.

The Board of Education is scheduling a special meeting tomorrow at 7 on capital improvements while the estimate board is to meet at 7:30 p.m. The school board will then hold its monthly public caucus at 8 o'clock at the Administration Building, 1115 Clinton St.

Council President Walter Cramer and Cappiello reported that the Park- ing Authority is seeking \$65,000 in the city budget for capital improvements. Similar funds last year enabled the authority to establish an off-street parking lot at 11th Street and Willow Avenue.

Cramer said the request will be kept in mind when the final closed budget discussions are next Monday and Wednesday.

# Levolor officials worried about parking safety at plant

4-8  
4/1/80

By Randolph Diamond

Executives of the Levolor Loretzen factory, one of Hoboken's largest employers, told Mayor Steve Cappiello yesterday that they are very upset over police ticketing cars parked outside their factory at Eighth and Monroe streets.

Cappiello said he had a meeting with the executives yesterday to try to resolve the situation and he expects to make a formal announcement soon on a solution.

The mayor said many of the company's female employees who work at

night are afraid to park anywhere but on the sidewalk right outside the factory. He said the women are afraid that they might be robbed or attacked if they have to talk a few blocks to and from their cars.

One solution, the mayor said, might be to have a policeman escort the women to their cars if they don't park right outside the factory.

Cappiello said company officials were given out to their employees because of a recent public statement by Joseph Hottendorf, Hoboken Parking

Authority executive director, that 54 metered parking spaces around Hoboken City Hall were being ignored by police.

Cappiello said Hoboken Public Safety Director James Giordano has ordered patrolmen to make sure tickets are given out for cars parked at those meters. The mayor said Levolor executives thought the criticism by Hottendorf concerning the lack of enforcement of those meters has made the police overzealous in ticketing cars parked illegally throughout the city.

Part of the wall in his bathtub collapsed over a year ago and the hole is still there.

"I keep on calling maintenance, but they never show up," he said.

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# Hoboken, Weehawken talk firefighting merger

4-8  
4/1/80

Weehawken and Hoboken are taking a look again at consolidation of their fire departments following a visit of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello to an informal budget workshop session of the Weehawken Township Committee. But decisions are still a long way off.

According to municipal sources, the Hoboken mayor suggested that his fire department take over Weehawken's fire fighting operations for an annual fee of about \$700,000. That is about \$300,000 less than what it now costs the township.

But Cappiello said that he did not propose a Hoboken takeover of the Weehawken fire department but a consolidation in which attrition would eliminate the men not needed.

"We are all in serious budget problems," said Cappiello, "and suggestions such as consolidation of fire services should be given very serious study."

The sources said that Cappiello promised to have a formal proposal delivered to Weehawken officials this week. But Cappiello said he did not plan to make a formal presentation or offer at this time.

"Before I could do anything like that I'd have to talk at length with my Public Safety people and the fire chief," he continued. "Then, we'd have to do the same thing with the weehawken fire officials."

Cappiello said that he thought consolidation was one way of cutting fire service costs without cutting efficiency. However, he believed he said, that a regional fire department was the most promising proposal,

rather than a consolidation of one or two municipalities.

West New York Mayor Anthony M. DeFino suggested recently the study and creation of a fire authority for all of the North Hudson area, continued Cappiello. "I strongly believe that this should be the ultimate goal and holds the most promise. And the North Hudson Regional Council of Mayors is the place to discuss the matter."

Recently, officials of Hoboken, Weehawken and Union City announced they were exploring the possibility of combining their fire communications services. Last year, Cappiello and Weehawken Mayor Wally Lindsey began discussions on a possible merger of the town departments.

Lindsey said, "While I agree with many progressive urban planners that the regionalization of some city services is the road of the future, I do not foresee an immediate merger of our township firefighters and any other town's fire department. We are looking into regionalization of communications and, in doing so, have prompted a rather elaborate study. Mayor Cappiello's informal proposal invited us to contract for our fire service coverage. The offer was a generous one but not entirely tailored to the needs of our township."

Weehawken's fire department has a fine record and a colorful history. Tonight's decision to reject the budget will limit future spending for equipment and manpower. It pushes us this much closer to regionalization."

Amnesty time set at library

Patrons of the Hoboken Public Library, 500 Park Ave., can return overdue books without paying late charges during the forthcoming Amnesty Week from April 13 to 19. During this time the library will also be celebrating Library Week.

# Company K, just a club?

4-8  
4/1/80

Continued from Page 1.

tified, said the Company K Club was visited often by waterfront mob boss Tim Fiumara, going back about two years. The detective reported that, at the time, police had the club under 24-hour surveillance.

Public Safety Director James Giordano said he planned no investigation of the UPI sources' information. "I don't believe it," said Giordano. "This gives a bad name to the whole Italian community."

The club has a liquor license and its ABC application on file at the Hoboken city clerk's office indicates that John Cappadona of Hoboken is the president. Treasurer is a Joseph Del Boccio of Hoboken. Two other officers listed are Anthony Miele of Cliffside Park and Eugene Gallo of Hoboken.

"I don't know anything about Philadelphia," screamed Cappadona in a telephone interview with a reporter. "And, I have no knowledge of anything. This is a social club, a

group of men. I work for a living and so do the men."

And, the club's treasurer, Del Boccio, sitting alone at a large table in the clubhouse, playing cards and smoking a cigar, showed a reporter the door after he heard the words "mob connection."

Hoboken Councilman Salvatore Cemelli is a brother-in-law of Cappadona. While not a member of Company K, Cemelli says he has attended its social functions. "So has Mayor Steve Cappiello," he said.

"These are family men," said the councilman. "Working class people. I think this is just something to sell newspapers. Let them name names."

Cappiello said he thought the idea of mob connections at Company K was "far-fetched." Cappiello said members of the club were mostly in their 60s, a lot of retired longshoremen and checkers as well as truck drivers.

# Crosstown bus running, for now

4-8  
4/1/80

Hoboken's crosstown bus is back in operation after a three-month layoff. But riders aren't counting their blessings yet—they know too well from past experiences.

The bus had been out of service for over a year prior to last December when it went back in service, only to break down just a month later.

"This bus is a lemon," said one woman rider. "It's going to break down again. I just know it."

"When this bus stays in service for more than a few days I'll start believing miracles can actually happen," said another rider, an elderly male.

The latest problem with the 1971 bus was a broken transmission.

Before that it was a short circuit in the heating system, which caused an electrical fire that burned the vehicle's wiring.

And before that it was engine and exhaust problems.

City officials have maintained a lack of spare parts for the bus as well as a shortage of city mechanics have been responsible for the long layovers.

City officials have ordered a new crosstown bus, but there has been a delay in delivery by General Motors, the manufacturer. The bus was supposed to have arrived three months ago.

When the new bus arrives, the old one is scheduled to be used as a spare.



## City awaits school cuts in Hoboken

Cuts are expected to be made in all municipal departments and the Hoboken Board of School Estimate is expected to shave the 1980-81 school budget when it meets next Tuesday night to head off a projected rise in the tax rate.

Municipal directors were told at a conference last night that budget requests will have to be pared. No formal action was taken, however, pending a continuation of the Board of School Estimate public hearing at the Administration Building, 1115 Clinton St. at 8 p.m. The board recessed after a meeting last Thursday.

Edwin Chius, business administrator, said the city has to cut \$270,644 from its budget in order to comply with the state cap law which prohibits spending more than 5 percent more than the previous year. Councilmen will go over budget figures again in a closed session Monday night. The present tax rate is \$94.19 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, who is chairman of the Board of School Estimate, told Thursday's hearing that he will ask the school board to cut its figures. "If the city has to make cuts, so should the school system," said Cappiello. Of the \$18 million school budget, \$4.7 million must be raised by local taxes.

Chius yesterday said one way for the city to effect savings is to transfer patrolmen in special details to walking posts. The state pays half of the salaries of walking patrolmen, he pointed out.

A few department directors felt it would be difficult to make cuts and James Farina, director of Health and Welfare, pointed out that his department lost four CETA employees during the past few months.

Farina was pleased, however, that the City Council last night awarded a \$30,000 contract for installing lighting at the Little League Field, Fourth and River streets.

## Hoboken faces layoffs, tax rise

By Randolph Diamond and Ronald Leir

Hoboken taxpayers face a \$33.16 per \$1,000 assessed valuation tax increase for 1980 even after city officials decide how to slash \$270,644 from an already bare-bones budget to comply with the state's cap law. The 1979 tax rate was \$94.19.

Mass layoffs loom for city employees and some school workers may also be let go.

"I'm going to have a drink," said a grim-faced Mayor Steve Cappiello after he looked over a draft copy of the budget in Business Administrator Edwin Chius' office.

"The budget is cut to the bone," said Cappiello who admitted there would have to be some layoffs of city employees. "Now is the time we're going to have to look at our priorities to see which services will have to be cut."

While refusing to pinpoint in what departments cuts would be made or how many employees would be laid

off, Cappiello said cuts in the police and fire departments would be his last choice.

A high City Hall source said that major layoffs would occur in both the Health and Welfare and the Public Works departments.

As things stand now, the city's proposed 1980 budget is about \$10.8 million but that amount is about \$270,000 more than that allowed under the state's 5 percent cap law, so city officials must find a way to trim the \$270,000 from the budget.

Chius figures rising municipal expenses could trigger a local tax increase reaching as high as \$13.50, higher school costs could account for an extra \$5 to \$6 and a change in the revaluation structure, an additional \$15.

Cappiello will meet the City Council at a special meeting today and set aside a portion of Monday night's City Council meeting to discuss budget cuts behind closed doors.

Cappiello said he will also ask the school board to cut its budget. "If the

city has to make sizable cuts so should the school system," the mayor said.

School Superintendent George Maier has said that 14 teachers, four administrators, and 10 bus drivers and maintenance personnel would probably have to lose their jobs.

The Board of School Estimate held a hearing last night on the proposed \$18-million school budget for 1980-81 of which about \$4.7 million must be raised by local taxation. But the board took no action. Instead, it voted to adjourn to Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the board offices at the Wallace School when its members are expected to effect cuts.

During the hearing, former school board trustees Donald Pellicano and Richard England urged against further cuts to the school budget, particularly in the area of maintenance.

Cappiello replied: "Paint on classroom walls can remain chipped and windows can stay in bad shape but you know what happens if you don't service teachers — you wind up in a strike or even a strike. What you have to do, in effect, is placate people who ultimately become part of your constituency."

## Hoboken school board of estimate adopts budget

By MARYANN JACOB and JAYE ANN TERRY

HOBOKEN—The board of school estimate adopted a \$17.8 million school budget last night, after slashing the proposed budget by \$225,000.

Meanwhile, Business Administrator Edwin Chius said a \$270,000 cut in the municipal budget will not cause any major layoffs of municipal employees, and will not alter a proposed increase in the present tax rate.

The \$225,000 lump sum represents a 6 percent cut in the proposed board of education budget. Board members still must decide where to make the cuts.

Robert Wendelken, board of education president and member of the board of school estimate, said the cuts must be made unilaterally. However, he said the board will attempt to avoid cutting instructional costs.

Originally, the board of education had presented a \$18,057,693 budget for the 1980-1981 school year.

The budget called for \$4,754,773 to be raised by local taxes, a 24 percent increase over last year's school taxes.

However, the cut made by the school estimate board lowers the amount to be raised by taxation to \$4,529,773, or a tax increase of 18.1 over last year's levy.

The board of school estimate, whose members include Mayor Steve Cappiello, Councilmen Bernard Scrivani and Sal Cimelli, Wendelken and school board member John Pope, voted unanimously to adopt the reduced budget.

The reduced budget calls for approximately \$700,000 more than the 1979-80 budget.

According to Wendelken, the board of education may appeal the cuts to New Jersey Commissioner of Education Fred Burke.

Wendelken said because he and Pope voted in favor of the slashed budget, they would both be excluded from voting with the school board for appeal.

## Home repair funds approved for Hoboken

Financing home improvements in Hoboken for limited income home owners is once again a reality after an agreement between Hoboken's Community Development Agency and the New Jersey Mortgage Finance Agency.

Fred Bado, Hoboken CDA director, said home improvement loans which carry a 3 percent interest charge, will be available to owners of one-to-four-unit apartments in Hoboken.

"An owner can install a boiler or convert it, abate code violations, rewire a house, add insulation, repair a roof, remodel a kitchen or do numerous other home improvements and take advantage of low rates," said Sal Santaniello, Hoboken housing and neighborhood preservation coordinator.

The income qualification for the program depends on the size of a family, Santaniello said. A family of four would be eligible if their income is less than \$19,400.

The Community Development Agency had been working with the Washington Savings Bank in obtaining loan for local residents wishing to make improvements under the home improvement loan program. But the bank stopped granting the loans in October after various rises in their interest rates.

Santaniello said the program was able to resume because of money made available throughout the NJMFA. He said the agency has \$15 million available throughout the state for home improvement loans.

## School budget cut to pare tax rise by \$1

The Hoboken Board of School Estimate last night chopped \$225,000 from the \$4.75 million that must be raised by local taxation to operate the city's public schools, but that will only reduce the projected \$33.16 city tax increase by one dollar.

So reported Mayor Steve Cappiello after the board's action, adding that even with the cuts, the school board's revised \$17.8 million budget will mean a tax increase of \$4 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The current rate is \$94.19 per \$1,000.

Elected city officials say the projected \$13.50 tax rise for municipal spending, meanwhile, is unacceptable and that more cuts — beyond the \$270,000 already pared to get the municipal budget with the state-mandated "cap" — will be made.

An additional increase of about \$15 is anticipated due to a change in the city's land revaluation system.

"I don't think our taxpayers could afford such an (overall) increase," said Cappiello. "It's still up in the stratosphere." It's now up to the city council to determine what they want to cut, he added.

Council president Walter Cramer said council members "just got our draft copies of the (\$17,864,840) budget yesterday (Monday)" and haven't yet considered areas where cuts could be made. The council may discuss that at tonight's meeting. An April 16 budget hearing is scheduled.

At its meeting last night, the Board of School Estimate struck \$4,529,773 as the amount needed to be raised by local taxation to support Hoboken's schools during 1980-81. That breaks down to \$408,961 for current expenses, \$78,762 for debt service, \$32,000 for equipment and \$10,000 for the running school for foreign born.

However, since the municipal budget, which will include school costs, runs on a calendar year and the school board operates on a fiscal year, only about half the \$225,000 cut will be felt during 1980. Since about \$100,000 in expenses equals \$1 on the tax rate, that means only about \$125,000 is being trimmed from the 1980 budget or about only one dollar on the rate.

"It's now the responsibility of the school board to do the business of finding those areas in its budget where dollars can be cut," said Cappiello.

George Maier, district superintendent, has already forecast that 14 teachers, four administrators and 10 maintenance men and bus drivers could be laid off.

Only two members of the public, Richard England, a former school board trustee; and William Rutherford, head of the Hoboken Teachers Association, spoke on the proposed cuts. Each urged the five Board of School Estimate members to reconsider.

England commended Cappiello for timing the overall local tax increase over the past eight years to just 13 cents per \$1,000 but he noted that during that time, the city's operational budget has risen by \$5 million "while the city's contribution to city schools has gone down by \$200,000."

"You're looking in the wrong area to save money," asserted England. Cappiello replied that he was simply trying to protect the "financial stability" of Hoboken homeowners during a period "when Hoboken has lost 30 to 35 percent of its tax base in the face of increased tax appeals by industries, including Maxwell House." The mayor also noted that binding arbitration awards has helped eat up any surpluses the city may have garnered.

## Authority may not assume responsibility of meters

Because of the work involved in developing two new off-street parking lots and planning for another, the Hoboken Parking Authority may not take over the responsibility this year of enforcement of the 54 meters around City Hall.

Joseph Hottendorf, the authority's executive director, said "our track record shows the authority does a good job" but added he did not want to take on the added responsibility until he was sure the authority could provide proper maintenance. The authority recently lost three CETA workers, he pointed out.

Hottendorf said he was pleased that meter revenue, which was \$30,178 a year in 1975, had risen to \$65,655 last year. "It's a good record that we want to continue," he said.

With the city divided into zones, the authority began taking over the responsibility of enforcement at the meters in 1975. Hottendorf said and the immediate area around City Hall is the only remaining zone in which the police department has responsibility.

He said he never complained to Public Safety Director James Giordano that police officers were using the meters around City Hall for daylong free parking. "All I know is there are cars there and there appears to be a lack of enforcement," he said. Giordano has maintained it's the authority's job to enforce the meters.

## Cops tell Hoboken '10% or else'

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association President Thomas Meehan said today his members will stage a "major job action" in mid-April if his local's demands for a 10 percent pay raise for this year are not met by then. The PBA's contract with the city expired on Jan. 15.

But, Business Administrator Edwin Chius said the city's budget doesn't call for any pay raises for employees because the city can't afford it. "We can't give them money we don't have," he said.

But, Meehan said he doesn't believe the city doesn't have the

money. "We had audits done of their budgets over the last few years and we've found unused money left over," he said.

Meehan said the policemen's move won't be a one-day job action.

"It's going to be a major job action that will seriously affect the city," he vowed. While Meehan refused to say what type of job action he was planning he said it would not stop until the city bargains in good faith.

Meehan said he has already called in an arbitrator to settle the contract dispute. The PBA head said he had scheduled four meetings with the city officials to discuss the con-

tract but city officials showed up at only one.

"There is no reason why we should have had to call in an arbitrator which will cost us and the city each \$250 a day," Meehan said. "We won't let them get away with this."

Chius said if Meehan knows where the unused money in the budget is he should not only let city officials know but the public too. "I would like him to document what he says," Chius said.

The business administrator admitted the city had cancelled out three negotiation meetings but said that was because all city officials were not available.

## Hoboken budget cut \$270,000

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius has cut approximately \$270,000 from the city's new budget without any major layoffs of employees.

He said however that probably five city workers will have to lose their jobs under the measure he and Mayor Steve Cappiello are presenting to the City Council.

The City Council will now have the option of cutting the budget even further, making some changes in the cuts or going along with them.

A \$33.16 increase in the tax rate from the present \$94.19 levy will still stand under the \$17,864,840 budget being presented to the council. Of the budget total, \$10,580,002 falls within the state's cap law.

Meanwhile, tonight the Board of School Estimate is expected to make some cuts in the Hoboken school budget.

The school budget accounts for only approximately 55 of the \$33 tax increase.

As the school budget now stands, 14 teachers, four administrators and

10 maintenance men and bus drivers are scheduled to lose their jobs. But, if the budget is cut more tonight, as expected, there will be even more cuts.

Chius said he was able to cut the \$270,000 from the budget by taking money from every department.

He said he made cuts in such diverse areas as the stationary supply for the city, increasing the length of time between window cleaning at the Hoboken Health Department building and cutting totally the city's capital improvement budget.

The business administrator said

the layoffs will likely be in the Parks and Recreation division.

But, he said he plans to evaluate each and every job in the city to see that everyone is working.

The City Council may discuss the budget at its meeting tomorrow night. The budget hearing, meanwhile, is set for April 16.

## 3 firms seek to rehabilitate 177 Hoboken tenements

Three developers, including the giant Hoboken rehabilitation firm, Applied Housing Associates, have applied to rehabilitate 177 Hoboken tenement house units under a federal housing rehabilitation program.

Applied Housing, which has already rehabilitated approximately 1,000 units in Hoboken, wants to rehabilitate 85 units in buildings that run from 1300 to 1312 and 1315 to 1321 Washington St.

The Seriale LTD Partnership, which includes Union City School Board President John Powers, Union City Commissioner Ronald Dario and developer Philip Seriale, has applied to rehabilitate 60 units in the buildings that run from 800 to 808 Willow Ave.

And a company called 1202 Associates, which includes Hoboken real estate broker Joseph Fox as one of its principals, has applied to rehabilitate 32 units in buildings at 1202, 1204, 1216 Washington St. and 208 Ninth St.

The proposals come under the Neighborhood Strategy Area program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD pays 75 percent of the rent for tenants

living in the buildings once they are rehabilitated under the Section 8 program.

Hoboken has been awarded an allotment of 900 units under the program to be spread over five years. This is the second year of funding.

Sal Santaniello, Hoboken housing and neighborhood development coordinator, to whom the proposals were submitted, said he will submit them to HUD by April 30. Santaniello said he expects HUD to approve all the proposals, probably by early summer.

Actual rehabilitation of the buildings, however, Santaniello said, is still months away.

Joseph Barry, president of Applied Housing Associates, said he doesn't see construction starting for at least a year.

Last year, Applied Housing Associates received approval from HUD to rehabilitate approximately 100 units on Willow Avenue between Second and Third streets under the program.

But the project has not yet started.

Last year's allotment of apartments was only 125 and Applied won over Seriale LTD, which had originally submitted plans to rehabilitate 800-808 Willow Ave.

## Rue School structure OK for renovation, despite state

By Randolph Diamond

A report released by the Hoboken Board of Education's consultant, Mayo, Lynch and Associates, shows that the Rue School is structurally sound, Hoboken Schools Superintendent George Maier said today.

Maier said the report, dated March 19, concluded that the vacant building's steel skeleton is in excellent shape.

Hoboken Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri had said Thursday

that a state Department of Education survey concluded that the Rue School should remain closed. It was closed two years ago because of poor conditions.

Ranieri has maintained that the Rue School should remain closed and he said today that the mayor and most members of the City Council agree with him.

Maier, said, however, that "because the Rue School is closed we

Continued from Page 1.

now have some special classes meeting in clothing areas and stockrooms. Is this what Ranieri wants to continue?"

Maier said members of the Hoboken school board also want the Rue School reopened.

The Board of Education is expected to vote on a plan calling for the renovation of the Rue School as well as other Hoboken schools tomorrow night.

Wednesday it will be up to the City Council and the Board of School Estimate to decide whether to go along with this plan.

## Few apply for rent subsidies

Two Hoboken agencies have been offering subsidies to low and moderate income families to help them pay their rent for almost a year now but so far there haven't been many takers.

Martin Corrado, Hoboken relocation officer, said the Department of Housing and Urban Development had awarded the Hoboken Housing Authority and the Hoboken Community Development Agency a total

of 120 Section 8 subsidies in 1979 to be used to help low and moderate income families pay their rent. But Corrado said there are still 85 subsidies left.

Under the subsidies, Corrado said, a family pays 25 percent of their total income as rent while the federal government pays the other 75 percent. For example, he said, if a family of four was making \$8,250 a year the rent would amount to \$125 a month.

Corrado said one of the reasons there may not have been many takers for the program is that a family must live in an apartment without housing code violations.

And Corrado said many of the apartments in Hoboken are sub-standard and do not meet these requirements.

Corrado said the subsidies are for five years but after they expire they will probably be renewed by HUD for another five years.

"As soon as we realized what was going on parade officials separated the tavern unit and the Hoboken units," he said.

Van Wie said, however, the tavern unit unsuccessfully tried to cut up in front of the Hoboken contingent. "I'm demanding an apology for the insult and abuse of our people," said Van Wie. "I've been organizing the Hoboken units in the parade for 12 years and nothing like this has ever happened."

Van Wie also said he was upset that marchers were ever allowed to drink beer in the line of march. "We wouldn't let them do that in Hoboken," he said.

And Cramer said he felt the mistreatment of the Hoboken contingent was "deliberate."

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said, meanwhile, he didn't think Hoboken treatment in the parade was intentional.



## Parking ban takes perseverance

By Randolph Diamond 8/3/80

What's the best way to avoid getting a parking ticket in Hoboken? Parking legally would probably be one good way.

But some Hoboken residents apparently feel they have a way to park illegally without being punished.

It is simple — take down the city's no parking signs which prohibit parking during the hours the mechanical sweeper is scheduled to clean the street. If there's no sign, you can't get a ticket.

And that's what a group of local residents have apparently done. Not once — but three times.

Thomas Vecchione, Hoboken director of traffic and signals, ordered his men to install some no-parking signs on Ninth Street by Hudson Street and Castle Point Terrace on Monday morning.

There weren't any no-parking signs on the street and the new shipment of poles had arrived. Vecchione hadn't been able to install any signs for weeks because of a shortage of poles.

His men installed the signs Monday morning and then left. Coming back a few hours later, however, all they found were holes in the ground. Barely believing their eyes, they went back to their shop and got new signs and poles and installed them.

## Hoboken cops ignore meters, says Hottendorf

By Randolph Diamond

Parking tickets have been given out only once in the last two years to motorists who park at the 54 meters around Hoboken city hall, Joseph Hottendorf, the Hoboken Parking Authority's executive director, charged today.

"There isn't any enforcement at all," said Hottendorf. "It's the police department's responsibility."

Hottendorf said many of the metered spaces were occupied by the cars of Hoboken cops who park free at the spaces for a full day.

Hottendorf said the meters not being enforced are located on Newark Street between Washington and Garden streets, First Street, from Washington to Bloomfield streets and Bloomfield Street from First to Newark Street.

He said the 54 meters were the last group of meters in the city his meter maid didn't enforce.

Hottendorf said the Parking Authority gradually started taking over the enforcement of the city's meters in 1975. He said he expects the remaining 54 meters to be taken over by the Authority by this summer.

He said the Authority was doing this on a voluntary basis to help the Police Department. He said an agreement signed by the mayor and Hoboken City Council in 1970 stipulated the Police Department would enforce parking rules at meters throughout the city.

James Giordano, Hoboken public safety director, said he didn't believe Hottendorf's statement that cars parked at meters near city hall had been ticketed once in two years.

"It's a cop-out," said Giordano. "It's his (Hottendorf's) responsibility to enforce those meters."

Giordano said he did not know anything about any agreement that made it the police department's responsibility to give out tickets.

But Hottendorf said he has written Giordano numerous times stating that the parking authority has not been able to expand its enforcement program to those meters.

again. They left again and came back a little while later to find the poles and signs missing again.

They decided to give it one more try. But when they got back Tuesday morning, the hole in the ground was the only thing visible to their eyes.

Upon orders from Vecchione,

they decided to give it even another try. But this time they called Hoboken detectives who are now patrolling the area looking for the sign stealers. And as of this morning the signs were still standing.

City officials are hoping the thieves will be found before they strike again.

## Hoboken's boiling over last place(ment)

By MARYANN JACOB

HOBOKEN—Heckled, abused and relegated to the tail end of Sunday's St. Patrick's Day Parade in Jersey City, Hoboken's marchers felt they were "deliberately ignored," according to a city official here. He said he demands an apology from their Jersey City hosts.

"This thing was an out-and-out insult to the City of Hoboken," said an angry William Van Wie, confidential aide to Mayor Steve Cappelletto and parade coordinator for the city.

According to Van Wie, he was told the city contingent of about 250 to 300 marchers would follow the Jersey City Brigade, which led off the line of march.

Instead, Hoboken's marchers were forced to stand on line and watch other contingents pass in front of them before they were given permission to move out.

The only marchers behind Hoboken, he said, were a group from a Jersey City bar, immediately followed by the street sweepers beginning clean-up operations.

He also said that Hoboken's marchers were heckled and insulted by other paraders, although he refused to identify them. The marchers shouted "some very nasty stuff," he said.

Reportedly, beer and bottles were thrown at some of the Hoboken marchers.

Van Wie called for an apology from Jersey City yesterday, although he did not make it clear who he wished would apologize. He was careful to point out that Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith was not being blamed.

Van Wie, who has served as city parade coordinator for the last seven years, vowed he would never again put together a delegation for a Jersey City parade.

Hoboken City Council President Walter Cramer, who marched Sunday, reported the Hoboken contingent was beset with abuse by customers of a Jersey City bar who he said were "rather rowdy and inebriated."

According to Cramer, the hecklers shouted, "Go back to Hoboken."

Hoboken's police delegation, apparently disgusted by the long wait, left the parade before Hoboken's turn to march came.

Cramer, too, was angry that Hoboken had been relegated to the end of the parade.

"We stood there, and saw Bayonne march by us, and we saw Union City march by us," he complained.

"We were deliberately ignored," he said.

Despite the turmoil among the Hoboken troops as they waited in line for their turn to march, all was peaceful by the time they reached the end of the parade at Journal Square.

Both Van Wie and Cramer insisted that the "insult" to Hoboken was not the fault of Smith, the honorary chairman of the parade committee.

Both said they faulted Gene Scanlon, operating head of the parade committee, for poor coordination of the event, and were also displeased by the work of his assistants along the parade route.

Scanlon could not be reached for comment yesterday.

## Resource center opens for parents

Parents who want to help their children do well in school — but don't know how — now have a resource. It's called the Parent Resource Center and its purpose is to help parents help their children.

The center, at Demarest School at Fourth and Garden streets, will be open Monday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and on Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Linda Erbe, coordinator of the center, said parents will staff the center on a volunteer basis and help their fellow parents.

Mrs. Erbe said parents in the center will be able to show other parents how to reinforce in the home

the basic reading and math skills being taught in school.

She said parents will be shown how to do this through simple games. "They can be taught how to turn every day home exercises into a valuable learning experience for their children," she said.

The center will be staffed by five parents at first, Virginia Mejias, Ellen Lopresto, Janice Loehwing, Mary DeGaeta and Madeline Schnabolk.

Mrs. Erbe said she hopes to involve more parents to volunteer in the center next September as well as to expand its hours.

## Layoffs loom in Hoboken to avert \$9.75 tax rise

The Hoboken City Council last night introduced its tentative 1980 municipal budget of \$17,984,531.35, of which \$6,168,666.01 must be raised by local taxation — \$1.2 million more than last year — but council president Walter Cramer says cuts will be made.

As things now stand, the tentative budget, which actually totals \$5,000 less than the 1979 budget, would mean a \$9.75 per \$1,000 increase on the local tax rate, according to city business

administrator Edwin Chius. This is for local municipal needs.

Meanwhile, at the city's Board of Education, whose 1980-81 budget has been struck at \$17.8 million, of which about \$4.5 million must be raised by taxation, board president Robert Wendelken says there will have to be more than the 28 employee layoffs originally projected by district superintendent George Maier.

Wendelken, making his comment in the wake of the Board of School Estimate's cutting \$225,000 from the

local tax levy, said the additional layoffs would come from every department in the district, from clerks to teachers.

See Editorial: START CUTTING On Page 18.

He said, though, he doesn't expect to know until April 30 — when the board is obliged to send termination notices to teachers — how many people would be affected.

Maier had predicted before the \$225,000 cut that 14 teachers, four administrators and 10 bus drivers and maintenance personnel would probably lose their jobs.

In another budgetary development, Otto Hottendorf, a school board member, says he'll recommend that

the school board "put into the revised budget the figure of \$246,000 for transportation costs, based on 1979-80 projected costs, instead of the figure of \$138,510 that the state Department of Education wants us to use."

"The law on transportation (reimbursement) says that the previous year's cost be used in computing the amount of state aid. By past practice, this has been last year's figure, thus making the higher amount mandatory. This will increase our revenues by \$108,000," said Hottendorf.

In a municipal budget message to members of the city council, Mayor Steve Cappelletto blames the bad fiscal situation on a "decline in state and federal aid in 1979 and 1980" and "a loss of ratables due to reduction of assessments on almost every parcel in the city."

## Start cutting

Even after trimming \$270,000 from the city's 1980 budget, preliminary estimates are that the Hoboken tax rate will jump an astronomical \$33 above the \$94.19 levy of the past year.

There's almost four weeks between now and April 16 when the City Council will hold its official budget hearing. By then, hopefully, the figure will be struck that Hoboken residents can live with. Otherwise there will be chaos.

Hoboken has been making great strides in coming back. Thanks to the brownstone revival, many young families have purchased homes and moved into the city. With the high cost of gasoline, hopefully many more suburbanites will find such cities as Hoboken good places to live.

But nothing will scare off prospective buyers of property like a high tax rate. They'll evaluate the high taxes against high gasoline prices and choose to go elsewhere. What's more, residents of Hoboken, as well as business and industry, could very well decide enough is enough.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto and the City Council must find ways to trim the budget . . . and trim it sharply. They can't use a scalpel either. What they need is a sharp axe that will chop away huge chunks of fat. It's the only way a reasonable budget and tax rate can emerge.

## Cappelletto asks review of permit fees

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto said today a review will be made of the city's permit fee schedule to determine if fees for the various permits the city issues should be raised.

Cappelletto said he personally feels the rates for city permits are too low.

"A hack license for someone to drive a cab only cost \$5, and a dog permit only costs \$2.25," the mayor said. "In many cases our fees for permits haven't been raised in 20 years."

Cappelletto said increases in permit fees could bring in needed revenue to Hoboken in these tight financial times.

He said he will have the city clerk as well as all department directors personally review the fees for permits in their particular department.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius said last year the city took in \$80,000 in fees from permits as compared to \$120,000 in 1978. Chius said he could not explain the decrease but said he would look into it.

## Hoboken faces service cuts or tax boosts

By MARYANN JACOB

HOBOKEN—Across-the-board salary cuts, layoffs and trimming of benefits could affect municipal employees as the city struggles to balance its budget, city officials warned.

"We're in for a difficult year," said Councilman Robert Ranieri, describing the belt-tightening that inevitably will take place as residents are presented with a possible 20 to 30 percent higher increase in taxes this year.

The potential increase of \$20.01 per \$1,000 assessed valuation proposed with the 1980 budget is an "impossible" figure to expect residents to live with, and must be pared down, he said.

"The choice here is to raise taxes and hurt the taxpayer," said Ranieri, "or else to cut the present cost of services or cut the services themselves."

Ranieri and city Business Administrator Edwin Chius agreed that citizens and city workers should be prepared for both cuts in services to residents and cuts in employment benefits to employees.

Cutting services might very well include layoffs. Reduction in salaries "from the mayor down" is a serious possibility, said Ranieri.

"There is a distinct possibility of across-the-board salary cuts, a potential cut in benefits, and/or cuts in personnel," he said.

The budget of \$17,984,531 is \$5,000 less than the one introduced last year, but the amount to be raised by taxation has increased by \$1,119,777.

This represents a tax jump of more than 20 percent; See HOBOKEN BUDGET, Page 4

## Where can forced-out tenants go?

Where do Hoboken families go when they're displaced because their buildings are about to be rehabilitated?

With Hoboken's housing shortage there don't seem to be any easy answers.

Currently buildings that run from 201 to 215 Willow Ave. are slated to be rehabilitated by Applied Housing Associates under a federal housing program. Most of the buildings have been condemned by the city and tenants have been given until April 14 to move out.

The tenants are entitled to \$4,000 in relocation costs spread over four years from the federal government but they must find an apartment without housing violations. But many of the families, especially those with two or more children say they can't find accommodations in Hoboken.

And even after the buildings are

rehabilitated, some tenants won't be allowed back in the buildings.

While there are now up to 10 people living in the five-room apartments in the decaying tenement houses, no more than six will be allowed in the newly rehabilitated apartments.

This, according to Sal Santaniello, Hoboken Housing and Neighborhood Development coordinator, is because federal regulations put a limit on the number of people living in apartments rehabilitated with federal funds.

Santaniello said HUD regulations prohibit children of different sexes from sleeping in the same room. He said when the Willow Avenue apartments are rehabilitated the largest unit will contain three bedrooms. But there are not even many of these. Santaniello estimates about 20 of the units will be three bedrooms, with the rest being one and two-bedroom units.

The housing coordinator said large units cut down on the number of units a developer can put in a project which makes the project less economically feasible.

"Families that are eligible will be given first choice in going back to the buildings," said Santaniello.

He said the Hoboken relocation office has temporarily relocated 12 of the families in buildings, but 16, mainly large families, remain. Most of the relocated families, he said, are now in other buildings in Hoboken.

"We will try to relocate as many families as possible in Hoboken," he said, "but some will be relocated elsewhere unless they are able to find an apartment on their own in the city."

"I've tried to find another apartment but there just isn't anything around," said Mrs. Peggy Jeffries,

who lives in one of the Willow Avenue apartments with her four children. "I've lived in Hoboken for 20 years and my children are attending Hoboken schools. I don't want to leave town."

And 52-year-old Moses Foster said they may have to carry him out of his Willow Avenue apartment.

"I looked at one apartment yesterday on Monroe Street that looked worse than a chain gang camp," he said. "I spent six months in such a camp and believe me conditions there were better than in the house I looked at."

Geraldine McDonald, another Willow Avenue tenant with four children, also hadn't any luck in finding an apartment.

"No one cares about us," she said. "Where are we going to go?"

## No funds for teen programs

Hoboken's teenagers, who have been clamoring for more recreational opportunities, are in for disappointment.

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director JAMES Farina said there is no money for teenagers in this year's city budget.

"It's unfortunate, but we just don't have the money," said Farina.

Farina said, however, there would be some teenager activities included in the city's summer program.

But Maurice Fitzgibbons, Hoboken's recreation coordinator, said those activities will be only for a

few hours a week.

"Teenagers will have nothing to do this summer," he said. "It's sad."

Farina said city officials are still talking to federal officials about obtaining grants to convert an old firehouse at Fifth and Grand streets into a teenage recreation center.

Fitzgibbons said even if those grants come through the firehouse wouldn't open until the summer of 1981 at the earliest.

Fitzgibbons, who coordinates the teenage programs in Hoboken, is scheduled to lose his job when federal funding for his position expires.

8/3/80 Continued from Page 1  
last year's tax rate was \$94.19, but the projected 1980 rate is about \$123.

Under the new tax schedule, according to Chius' computations:

- The owner of an eight-family building with two commercial stores on lower Washington Street will pay \$445 more in taxes this year.
- The owner of a one-family house on fashionable Hudson Street will pay \$2,091 in taxes, an increase of \$489 over last year's bill.
- A two-family brownstone on 11th Street will have its taxes increased by \$239.

Chius said that many residents have not realized the impact of the projected tax boosts, and advised that they check their assessments with the tax assessors' office to see exactly how much an increase they will be paying.

Also, city residents may have to brace themselves for a cutback in municipal services if they want to avoid the tax increase.

City employees may not take too kindly to the prospect of lowered salaries.

"I think that's insane!" said police union president Thomas Meenan.

"We want a raise; we don't want a decrease," he said. A decrease would have to be approved by union members, he said. "I know our membership will not agree," he said.

Inflation, felt at all levels, is one of the culprits in the budget problems. Hoboken is not the only municipality facing cuts in state and federal aid this year, an event the city had begun to rely upon.

Hoboken's financial problems were compounded with a \$450,000 salary increase awarded to city employees through arbitration last year. The city was forced to pass an emergency resolution for the money that was included in this year's budget, according to Chius.

A tax measure designed to raise land values to get more revenue for the town was unsuccessful, and had to be reversed, he said.

Last year, the tax assessor raised land values to induce development on unused property, which effectively lowered the tax rate around the city.

However, due to technical difficulties, the plan failed and the valuation was set at previous levels.

The present tax rate of \$94.19 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation had been more than \$14 lower last year, thus making this year's increase appear even more pronounced.



# Family

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1980

## International accent

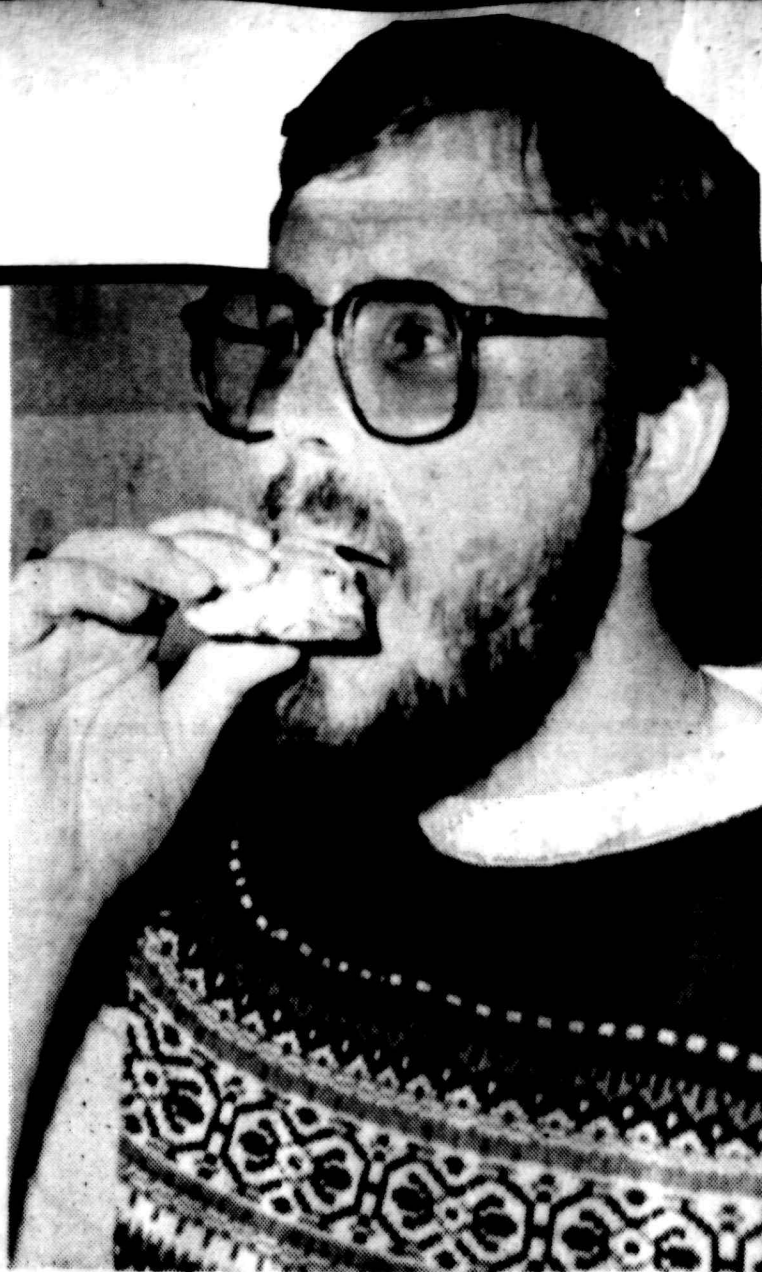
### Food and song in Hoboken



Indian bread is enjoyed by Indu Armani, left, and Kishori Shah at the international foods festival sponsored by the Stevens Cooperative School in Hoboken.



Spinach quiche is shared by Geoffrey and Amy Bass during the international foods festival at Jacobus Hall on the Stevens Institute campus.



Jamaican meat pie is consumed by Michael Mulligan, who was among those attending the Hoboken international festival.

By Catherine Lutz

International food and song provided an evening of merriment for parents, children and friends of the Stevens Cooperative School in Hoboken.

The school has embarked on a program of expansion beyond its present program, which goes up to second grade, and will add third and fourth grades next school year. Proceeds for the international

program will aid with expansion and provide scholarship funds.

The fare included matzo ball soup, Indian bread, Mexican cheese pudding, Jamaican meat pies, Greek pastizio and spinach quiche.

The recipes are contained in a cookbook compiled by the parents and illustrated by children of the school. The children also participated in the event by preparing a course of French fare for the event.



Cooperative cookbook was compiled by the Stevens Cooperative School as a part of its international food festival. Children of the school prepared one course for the occasion. Pictured with the book, which was illustrated by the children, are Joshua Lechner, Sarah Lechner, Lee Angelopoulos and Casey Chu, shown from left.



An event to remember and probably to be repeated, the Stevens Cooperative School's international festival drew a capacity crowd to Jacobus Hall on the Stevens Institute campus. Visitors sample international specialties prepared by parents and children.

## Parking 9/4/80

Mayor Steve Cappiello of Hoboken undoubtedly found out long ago that an official cannot please all his constituents. What one wants, another will not tolerate.

It is wise of the mayor to try to enforce the parking regulations uniformly. His city is desperately short of parking spaces. That means there is a lot of overtime parking, double parking . . . all kinds of illegal parking.

Selective enforcement in favor of one group or another . . . or spot enforcement in one location or another, breeds resentment and rightly so.

Understandably, motorists who have not been getting tickets become unhappy when a ticket shows up on their windshield. But the main concern of the mayor and the city council must be the non-discriminate enforcement of all parking regulations until additional parking spaces can be created.

Some good work has been done about planning for parking. More is needed.

## Settlement saves trustees \$27,000 4/1/80

The Hoboken Board of Education has settled for \$3,000 a claim that its ex-attorney — a relative of the claimant — had advised setting for \$30,000.

The board had even approved Robert W. Taylor's recommended settlement to Jean Caulfield, the sister of Christopher Taraboch, who had died of an apparent heart attack while at work as a school janitor in 1976.

Taraboch, who had been working for the school system for only three months, was the brother-in-law of Taylor.

The only thing that stopped Mrs. Caulfield from getting her \$30,000 check was action taken by Hoboken Revenue and Finance Director Frank Bartlett who would not approve the draft. Bartlett is the custodian of school money in Hoboken.

Taylor was subsequently dropped by the board. Meanwhile, Mrs. Caulfield hired her own lawyer and took the board to court. The school also retained a lawyer, John McAlevy.

The case was heard Friday in Workmen's Compensation Court in Jersey City. Judge Chester Sikinski advised Mrs. Caulfield that it would be difficult to prove her claim.

Her claim was that she had been receiving financial support from her brother and was deprived of that when he died.

The judge advised Mrs. Caulfield's lawyer and McAlevy to try to reach a settlement, and a while later the \$3,000 figure was agreed on.

## Hoboken working on low-rise housing plan 4/4/80

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken's Community Development Agency and the Hoboken Housing Authority are working on a proposal to develop a 500 to 1,000-unit low-rise housing complex for large low-income families in the area of the Jefferson Street Recreation Center.

Fred Bado, CDA director, said today the two agencies have received word from some private developers that they would be interested in such a project. Bado said the two agencies are now working on a feasibility study.

The key to the whole project, Bado said, would be the awarding of a Section 8 subsidy to Hoboken.

Under that subsidy, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development pays 75 percent of the tenant's rent, which is based at

current market rates. This essentially enables the developer not only to build housing for low income families but to collect the rent it would bring on the open market.

Bado said the CDA would like a large family project in Hoboken because of the critical shortage of large family units in the city.

Bado said he expects to know by the end of the summer whether the project will be feasible and if the subsidy can be gotten from HUD.

## Boys Club submits formal rec center bid 4/5/80 J.S.

The Boys Club of Jersey City has submitted a proposal to Hoboken city officials to take over the operation of the Jefferson Recreation Center, once the now closed building is renovated.

Under the proposal, the Boys Club would run the programs in the building under a long-term lease agreement with the city.

The club, according to the proposal, would raise funds through contributions for the operation of the center, with Hoboken contributing a share if state grants were not available.

James Farina, Hoboken health and welfare director, said he was "very much in favor" of the Boys Club taking over the center's operation.

since Hoboken doesn't have the funds to run extensive programs there.

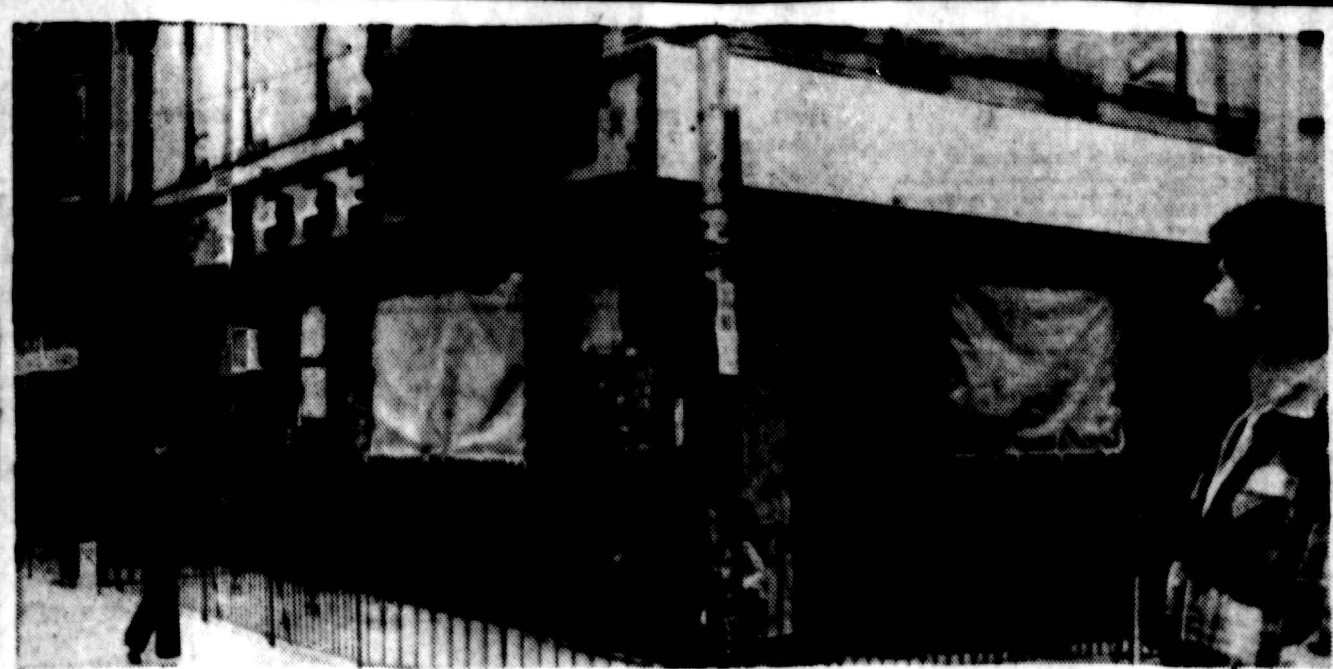
Hoboken has received a \$600,000 grant from the United States Department of the Interior to renovate the building, and renovation is expected to be started by summer.

The center is scheduled to be reopened to the public by next spring.

Farina said, however, before the city signs an agreement with the Boys Club he would want to make sure that the city's recreation department would have the option of running a few recreation programs in the building.

"We might want to offer a few of

See RECREATION — Page 6.



Thomas Krempa glances at the Hoboken factory of First and Bloomfield Street that is being temporarily changed to look like a porno palace for the new movie "Tattoo" that is being filmed.

## Movie set too explicit for Hoboken taste

Workmen covered up the signs showing an almost naked woman outside the "Porno Palace" at the corner of First and Bloomfield streets in Hoboken yesterday after receiving numerous complaints from local residents.

"Even a city inspector came by and wanted to know what was going on," said Ralph Frattinanni, who is supervising the construction of the store.

Both Frattinanni and his partner, Arne Olsen, were laughing about the whole thing.

For the "Porno Palace" is really a movie set to be used in the upcoming movie "Tattoo," starring Bruce Dern, which is to be filmed in Hoboken tomorrow night.

Frattinanni and Olsen are known

as construction grips — they build the sets that are to be used in the movies.

The "Porno Palace" is in reality a small clothing factory, Cary's Fashions, run by Ramon Padron for the last seven years.

About three weeks ago film executives asked Padron if they could rent out his factory for a night of shooting.

"I was really thrilled," he said. "It's going to be very exciting to see my factory in the movies."

The only thing actually shot at the factory will be the porno facade on the outside, according to a film company spokesman.

He explained that the interior of the "Porno Palace" has already been shot inside a Times Square porno store.

"It would have been too expensive to set up an entire porno store here in Hoboken so the interiors were shot in New York," he said. "But the story is supposed to take place in a city in New Jersey so we couldn't film the outside of the porno store in New York."

The spokesman said filming will also take place in a tattoo parlor which is currently being constructed in a vacant store at Hudson and Newark streets in Hoboken. He said filming in the tattoo parlor is scheduled to start Monday and last a week.

Besides Hoboken, the film is also being shot in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Jersey Shore and Japan.

Film crews should wrap up shooting by July and the film will be released sometime next year.

Continued from Page 1.

the city's recreation programs in the center," he said.

Farina said he wants to have a formal meeting with Boys Club officials and himself, the mayor and other city officials to try and reach a formal agreement.

If that agreement is reached, he said, it would then be up to the City Council to approve or disapprove of the agreement.

The Boys Club proposal calls for the city to pay the initial cost of equipping the Jefferson Street recreation center which the club estimates would be an absolute minimum of \$84,974.

However, Peter Beronio, Hoboken Community Services director, said there would be a possibility

of obtaining federal grants to equip the building.

The proposal estimates that it would cost a total of \$71,005 to run the center in its first calendar year of operation. Boys Club officials say they would apply for a grant for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to pay the operating budget for the first year.

That grant would be reduced by 20 percent each year for a period of five years until the Boys Club would assume responsibility for the operating budget, according to the proposal.

In the event the grant does not come through, the proposal calls for the city and the Boys Club to split in the first year the center's \$71,005 operating budget.

The share Hoboken would contribute would decrease by 10 percent

in the subsequent year for each of four years until the city was paying nothing towards the operating budget.

Boys Club Officials, in the proposal, say they would run the center six days a week, 52 weeks a year. Activities offered, they say, would include basketball, volleyball, soccer, floor hockey, paddleball, gymnastics, weight lifting, wrestling, boxing and karate in addition to arts and crafts programs.

The proposal states the Boys Club would be open to both boys and girls of school age but that boys would receive a special emphasis with regard to participating in program activities.

The Boys Club now operates programs out of two sites in Jersey City and is planning to start construction on a million dollar recreation center on Grove Street in Jersey City by the summer.



# Official favors Rue School renovation

By Randolph Diamond

If a Hoboken public school has to be closed, it should be the Thomas G. Connors School or the Sadie Leinkauf School, Hoboken Schools Superintendent George Maier said today.

But the Rue School, closed two years ago because of bricks falling from its veneer, must be reopened, Maier stated.

While the Rue School has space for 950 students, he said, both Connors and Leinkauf each accommodate only 650.

Without the Rue School, Maier maintains overcrowding in the Hoboken school district will continue.

And while he says the Rue School was closed because of falling bricks he said the building overall is in better shape than the Connors or Leinkauf schools.

To prove his points, Maier had the district language arts director, Nicholas Spina, take a Jersey Journal reporter on a tour of the three schools.

At the Rue School, Spina pointed out that there were 38 classrooms as compared to 28 in both Leinkauf and Connors. The classrooms inspected seemed to be in good shape.

"With renovation this school could be the showpiece of the system," Spina said.

The Connors School is considered by school officials to be in the worst shape of all occupied school buildings in the city. On the inspection tour a water leak was found in one classroom and broken windows in the next.

"The conditions here are lousy, to say the least," says principal Frank Chiochio.

Because of overcrowding some classes are forced to meet in storage closets. Mrs. Joan Murphy, a remedial reading teacher, conducts her classes in one of the storage rooms where the windows can't be opened.

"I don't know what is going to happen when it becomes very hot," she said.

Ten-year-old Danny Arocho said it's difficult to learn in that room. "I feel very closed in," he said, as the 10 other students in Miss Murphy's small room nodded in agreement.

Paint is peeling throughout the hallways and on the ceiling of the lunchroom.

## Pictures on Page 9

"Sometimes the plaster comes down on the children when they are eating," said a maintenance man.

But the Connors School does have one thing over the Leinkauf School. A gym — a makeshift one at best — but still a gym.

Leinkauf doesn't have a gym and its principal, Patrick Capone, said the school is so overcrowded that regular classrooms have to meet in the library.

Capone showed one classroom which two classes have to share.

"Now tell me if this is the way to teach," he asked.

"It's very hard for the students to understand what is going on," said teacher Maria Morales. "They get very confused."

But although the Leinkauf School was built in 1903 there are no visible signs of major deterioration.

School officials estimate the Leinkauf and Connors schools are over-enrolled by at least 100 students, even though the Hoboken school system has lost 10,000 students in the last 10 years, Maier said. He added he believes the current school population of 6,500 has begun to stabilize.

Tonight, the Hoboken Board of Education, the Board of School Estimate and the Hoboken City Council are all scheduled to vote on a plan to renovate Hoboken's schools. But before the plan can be voted on it must be decided which schools are to be renovated and which ones aren't.

Maier and school officials are currently proposing a \$7.3 million renovation plan which would include rehabilitation of most Hoboken schools, including the Rue School. Included in the plan would be the Wallace and Calabro schools and Hoboken High School.

Maier said he has the support of the Hoboken school board.

The Board of School Estimate has already scaled down a board proposal to renovate all the city schools and build a new one in the southwest section at a cost of \$18 million.

And Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri said he would recommend

that the city council consider a renovation plan not to exceed \$5,387,000.

The state is scheduled to reimburse the city for slightly over 60 percent of the total renovation costs and Ranieri has maintained the city can't afford to spend above the \$5 million figure.

Ranieri said he has the support of most Hoboken City Council members.

The councilman has maintained that the Rue School should be kept closed because of poor conditions but Maier has said a report from Mayo Lynch — the school board's consultants show that the school is structurally sound.

## Mayor Cappiello and the census

"Hoboken's population has always been a center of controversy," says Mayor Steve Cappiello.

In 1910, the official population of Hoboken was 70,324, the 80th largest city in the United States. For years our busy little city was the most densely populated area in the nation.

Then, in 1978, our population was estimated on one hand by the United States Census at 38,716 and at the same time 45,537 by the State of New Jersey.

"Our administration is committed to insuring that we get a fair and accurate census. CETA workers have begun identifying our housing stock and canvassing neighborhoods to spread census information."

"Hoboken needs a good census. We depend heavily on federal funds for a variety of services such as police and fire protection, health care, jobs, senior citizen activities, recreation and housing improvements. The size of these grants is in proportion to the size of the population."



"If we are going to continue being a provider of these services everyone in Hoboken has to remember: We're counting on you. Answer the Census."

## School board asked to waive retirement

The Hoboken Board of Education will be asked to approve a one-year extension of employment, effective July 1, for Louis Francone, maintenance supervisor, at its Tuesday meeting.

Francone, who also serves as Fourth Ward city councilman, will reach his 70th birthday this summer and, under state school law, he would have to retire unless the school board waived that condition for a one-year period.

The board is also due to consider a request by Thomas Vezzetti, a frequent speaker at board meetings, for a six-month leave of absence from his per-diem position with the adult education program, effective immediately.

In other developments, the board is being asked to:

- Authorize payment of \$8,494.52

to the law firm of Lowenstein, Sandler, Brochin, Kohl, Fisher and Boylan for professional services rendered to the board.

• Retain a psychological intern to assist in the special education department and work in conjunction with child study teams at an annual salary of \$12,400 to be funded under Title 6-B and pro-rated for the rest of the school year.

• Apply for grants to the Elementary and Secondary Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities for a gifted and talented elementary school program and for a high school television studio project and transfer two teachers to the central office to start a gifted and talented program.

• Approve compensation for various school activity advisers for services performed during the 9179-80 school year.

## Hoboken OKs cab fare boost of 25¢ within city limits

Hoboken cab riders will have to pay a quarter more for a trip within the city limits in 20 days now that the city council has voted to increase the flat fee from \$1.50 to \$1.75.

No one spoke against the revised fare at last night's public hearing enacting the new rate.

As expected, the council also approved an ordinance that gives a break to the Maxwell House Co. on Hudson Street by reducing by \$3 per 1,000 cubic feet the water rates charged to those city customers who use more than one million cubic feet every four months.

In other action, council president Walter Cramer said he's directing Business Administrator Edwin Chius to seek additional state funds for the Safe and Clean Streets program that would permit the city to station policemen in all city parks during the

summer months.

"Some of you may have heard that a woman got hit in the chest with a baseball recently in one of the parks," Cramer told a small audience last night. "I want to put a cop in each park starting in May from 11 a.m. to midnight so that our people's enjoyment won't be interfered with by rowdies," the councilman said.

Responding to complaints by Pat Caulfield, a tenant at Grogan Marine View Plaza, about poor maintenance at that apartment building, First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano called for a "full-scale investigation," but urged that tenants first "put their complaints in writing."

Caulfield, who said there have been problems in the building with water and elevator service, sidewalk and landscape deterioration, urged city officials to "exert pressure on our legislators to get the state House-

ing Finance Agency to terminate its contract with the owners because the present management firm isn't qualified to run the building."

Mayor Steve Cappiello said he had "insisted that the owners get a local management company in but apparently because the fees they were willing to pay weren't high enough, they got some company that is part of a large chain and Grogan Plaza is one of the smaller places this company manages."

In other business, the council voted 6-to-3 to authorize a \$305,000 bond anticipation note to finance land acquisition for the central garage, construction of an addition to it and new fire engines. Councilmen E. Norman Wilson, Nunzio Malfetti and Romano dissented.

## Cappiello vents his ire over cracks deriding city

Mayor Steve Cappiello yesterday told off some of the New York City bus drivers and captains ferrying bank employees into Hoboken about disparaging remarks about his city.

Some of the drivers and captains said publicly Tuesday that they weren't looking forward to their enforced daily stays.

One driver even called the city "totally devastated."

The charter bus drivers spend all day in Hoboken between bringing morning commuters from the Bronx and Queens to the PATH trains or the No. 63 buses and returning them at night. A consortium of New York banks is renting the buses to get transportation for their employees to work.

"I didn't appreciate the comments these people made about our city," the mayor said as he led a reporter to the Port Authority's Pier C where the buses were parked. "I'm going to set them straight."

"I'm the mayor of Hoboken," he told the drivers, "and I've heard that you're been making negative remarks about our city."

The shocked drivers from

Baumann Bus Co. in Queens denied they had made the remarks.

"It much have been bus drivers from another company that the consortium of banks is using," said one driver.

"It's not us," said another driver. "This pier is very clean and the police have been very nice to us."

"That's good to hear," Cappiello said. "We have a very nice town and we welcome everyone to Hoboken."

"The pier we're at we hope to turn into a mini World Trade Center. Our residents, of over 60 different ethnic groups, are very proud of the city," he said.

Later, without the mayor present,

the reporter found some of the bus drivers who had made negative comments about Hoboken on Tuesday.

But they also had an improved image of Hoboken.

"I see there is a lot of renovation going on," one driver said. "Well I still see a lot of vacant lots and buildings but I can see the people here are trying to turn their city around."

"It's not that bad a town after all," said another driver. "The people seem pretty friendly and the view of New York is great," he said. "At first glance it's easy to get a wrong impression about this city. But when you really explore it you find that it does have a lot of charm."

## Cappiello proposes Lorentzen parking

By Randolph Diamond

A solution may have been worked out for the parking problems of women night employees at Hoboken's Levolor Lorentzen factory but Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello says he wants to find out first if the solution is legal.

Cappiello said Thomas Vecchione, Hoboken director of traffic and signals, has proposed that the sidewalk outside the company's plant on Monroe Street be moved so it will

be right alongside the factory building.

Cappiello said this would allow for angle parking which would make it possible for about 30 cars to park outside the plant. At present there is room for about 15, he said.

Cappiello said the company would pay to create the parking spaces and he said he didn't know whether it was legal for the city to move the sidewalk. The mayor said he would meet with city Law Director Lawrence Florio during the next few days to discuss the matter.

He said he believed the creation of the extra spaces would satisfy Levolor Lorentzen executives who had been upset about police ticketing illegally parked cars on the sidewalk.

The mayor said the spaces, if created, would probably be reserved for the company's women employees who were afraid to walk a few blocks to their cars at night.

Bado said the continuing housing and neighborhood preservation programs in the coming fiscal year would include the home improvement, and tenant rehabilitation programs. He said the neighborhood business revitalization program and the commercial rehabilitation programs would continue and that funding for child care and the elderly, Hoboken family planning, a city recreational and cultural program and partial funding for the St. Mary mental health alcoholism counseling program would continue, too.

An example of the cuts in funding, Bado said would be in home improvement and tenement rehabilitation — a dip of \$200,000 from the present \$700,000.

## CDA plans to continue despite cut in funds

Hoboken's Community Development Agency plans to continue in the fiscal year 1981 the same programs it is offering now but with less funding.

Fred Bado, CDA director, said today the start of the fiscal year in August means the end of funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Bado said the CDA received more than \$3 million from HUD when CDA was formed in 1975. He said funds decreased each year under a five-year agreement. In 1979, Bado said, the CDA received \$600,000.

The CDA, however, Bado said, expects to receive approximately \$1.9 million in HUD funds from the county. He said HUD gives Hudson County (excluding Jersey City and Bayonne) a total of \$6 million in community development grants annually. Bado said last year Hoboken also received approximately \$1.9 million from the county.

## Boards ask \$7.3M for school facelifts

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The board of school estimate last night voted 4-3 to approve a school board resolution asking \$7.3 million for capital improvements in city schools, including \$3.9 million to renovate the now-closed David Rue School.

The resolution, approved by the school board at its 7 p.m. meeting, was forwarded to the board of school estimate at its 7:30 p.m. meeting.

The resolution was then sent to the City Council for its consideration.

School officials originally requested \$18 million from the City Council for capital improvements. That request, made in August, included the construction of a new school for \$6.9 million to take in pupils from three existing schools.

The City Council rejected the request and asked for a modification, which resulted in the \$7.3 million plan.

With this sum, school officials plan to

rehabilitate most of the city's schools, including renovation of the now-closed Rue School, and plumbing, roofing, electrical work, new doors and windows, and other repairs.

A dispute between the City Council and Superintendent of Schools George Maier has Councilman Robert A. Ranieri arguing that the Rue School, with a renovation price of more than \$3 million, should be permanently closed because of its poor condition.

It has been closed, because of needed repair work, including renovation of the building's brick veneer, for the last two years. Ranieri also noted that the state has already approved permanently closing the school.

But Maier insists the school should be renovated and reopened. He said the school, which could accommodate more than 900 students, is necessary to the city's school system. If closing down a school is necessary, he said, Rue should not be the one chosen.

## 'Deficiencies' still exist in municipal court

Hoboken city officials have done nothing so far to correct "serious deficiencies" in the operation of Hoboken's municipal court found during an inspection by Hudson County's assistant court administrator on March 5.

Yesterday morning, the court clerk's office was left unattended for almost the whole morning with no one to answer the phone or answer inquiries from the public while court was on.

In addition, only the bottom door to the office was locked and the office its unlocked file cabinets could easily have been entered by an unauthorized person.

Brian Clark, Hudson County as-

sistant court administrator, had found no one in the court clerk's office either the day he made his inspection visit and also cited the records being contained in file cabinets without locks.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said the city doesn't have the money to hire anyone else in addition to the two court clerks and an assistant who now man the office.

Municipal Court Judge Rudolph Naddeo said assistant court clerk Ray Casler had an emergency yesterday and had to miss work. Naddeo said when Casler is in, he usually mans the clerk's office while court clerk Pasquale Della Fave is in court.

Edwin Chius, Hoboken business administrator, said he suggested to

Naddeo last week that if Della Fave or Casler is sick he should take one of the seven temporary violations clerks hired recently out of the violations bureau and put him in the court clerk's office.

"They could do their work in the clerk's office while they man the phones and answer inquiries on the phone," he said.

Naddeo, however, said he didn't think the temporary violations clerks were qualified to man the court clerk's office.

Meanwhile, Chius said he is still planning to air condition the courtroom — which was another deficiency cited.

But Chius said he had planned to air condition the court all along.



BUSY LEARNING — Unmindful of the flaking paint on the wall next to him, Javier Nieves does his work in this classroom of the Thomas Connors School, Hoboken. The city and school board are considering improvements today.



READING CLASS — It used to be a storeroom but this is now a remedial reading classroom at the Thomas Connors School, Hoboken. It is one of the schools being considered for improvements today by the school board and the city.

## Hoboken hires 3 civilians to do police desk work

The Hoboken Police Department has hired three civilian employees to free cops for street duty.

James Giordano, public safety director, said two of the civilians will serve as switchboard operators while the third will become the police chief's secretary.

The civilians will be paid \$10,400 a year, considerably less than patrolmen.

Recently the Fire Department hired three civilians to act as dispatchers. The three had previously been on the CETA payroll and replaced fireman who used to act as dispatchers.



# Cappiello wants state in — as a partner

By Peter Hallam

Hoboken's waterfront is just over a mile and a quarter long — and solid gold in the eyes of Mayor Steve Cappiello. So it is little wonder that the mayor gets slightly apprehensive when he thinks about the state's plans to create a regional agency for its development.

"The waterfront is Hoboken's future," he said. "It's the last area of the city with the potential to meet all of our needs for new residences, be they residential or industrial, and the needs of our people for recreational sites and facilities. And Hoboken has to have a big say in that development."

Gov. Brendan Byrne's Hudson River Waterfront Plan-

ning, Study and Development Commission has been studying two proposals to create a regional waterfront agency. The favored one would be a board with wide-ranging powers over development similar to the Hackensack Meadowslands

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Development Commission. The second would advise and assist the local communities in their own development.

Public hearings will be held by the study commission on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Five Corners Library, Jersey City, and on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in

the Cliffside Park Municipal Complex.

Cappiello said he favored something among the lines of local representation but representatives of various state agencies also should be included.

"We who live here know best what is in the best interest of the community," he explained. "When the study commission makes its recommendations to the governor in June I sincerely hope that it is not for some autonomous agency that will exclude the municipalities from playing an active and vital role in the development, or from having some control over their destiny."

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Mayor Steve Cappiello  
Apprehensive

# Cappiello wants to buy sewer cleaning machine

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he wants the city to purchase a \$250,000 jet sewer cleaning machine.

Cappiello said the machine is needed to clean out Hoboken's sewer system and would be cheaper than if Hoboken contacted with a private sewer cleaning company.

Hoboken already has spent \$124,000 in a contract with a private company which cleaned out about 5 percent of Hoboken's sewers.

But the mayor estimates that to clean all of Hoboken's sewers on a private contract basis would cost the city as much as \$4 million.

Cappiello said the city could float a bond to pay for the cost of the machine.

But Councilman Robert Ranieri, chairman of the council's water and sewer utilities committee, said at least seven additional city employees would have to be hired to properly run the machine.

Ranieri said his committee will

be meeting shortly to try and determine if the city can afford the expenditure.

The city had purchased a vector jet machine in 1973 but the machine broke down due to poor maintenance by public works mechanic's at the time, according to Cappiello.

"They wrecked the machine," the mayor said.

Roy Haack, Hoboken Sewage Plant Superintendent, said it would cost approximately \$40,000 to fix the machine.

But Haack said the machine is outdated since it can't go into water as the new machine can.

# Stevens family reunion

The Stevens family, which traces its roots to Hoboken, purchased by its forebears in 1784 and builders of the first ocean-going steamship, the first locomotive and founders of the Pennsylvania Railroad, will hold a reunion at the college it founded on April 19.

Two hundred and thirty-five families, descendants of the Stevens family that also established the first college in the United States to teach mechanical engineering based on scientific principles, will attend the reunion at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. The college is located on the site of the original family estate on Castle Point.

Invitations have been sent to Stevens family members in 31 states, the District of Columbia, England, France, Spain, Mexico, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Rhodesia.

Among those expected to attend is Congresswoman Millie Fenwick of the Fifth District of New Jersey, a great-granddaughter of Edwin A. Stevens, founder of Stevens Institute. The state is also the home of 26 additional families descended from John Stevens, the family patriarch, who arrived in America from England in 1699.

The festivities will begin with cocktails in the Great Hall of the Samuel C. Williams Library at 4 p.m. Following will be a buffet dinner will be served in the library, after which Mrs. Fenwick will begin what is expected to be an evening of family fun, facts and fables about this or that ancestor. The evening will end with a fireworks display over Castle Point.

A string ensemble will play throughout the evening, and special exhibits and special collection rooms housing Stevens family papers, objects and inventions, and paintings and furnishings from the Stevens Castle will be open for viewing.

# Cappiello complains over \$285G aid cut

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Mayor Steve Cappiello has written Gov. Brendan T. Byrne complaining that the municipality has been shortchanged by a \$285,000 state aid cut as residents face a tax increase of 25 to 30 percent this year.

"Somewhere along the line, we didn't get a fair shake," Cappiello said yesterday.

State Sen. William V. Musto of Union City on Tuesday delivered Cappiello's letter to the governor, expressing the Hoboken mayor's displeasure and requesting a meeting with Byrne — "to ascertain what, if anything, can be done

to increase aid to the City of Hoboken and other municipalities which were adversely affected by the formula used for distribution of funds in 1980."

In the letter, Cappiello said: "I was stunned when I read the state aid figures have increased for Jersey City while dramatically decreasing for the City of Hoboken."

According to Cappiello, last year about \$22 million was distributed under the "Local Government Emergency Assistance Act of 1979."

Jersey City reportedly received \$2,318,120 and Hoboken \$771,460.

Under the Municipal Tax Assistance Fund, Jersey City is slated to receive

about \$600,000 more than it received last year, while Hoboken's share is to drop by \$285,000, said Cappiello.

"What really hurts is that \$27 million is being distributed in 1980 compared to \$22 million in 1979," said Cappiello.

He also told Byrne that during the past few years, Jersey City has received "Special Urban Aid" of \$1.5 million annually and expects an increase of \$50,000 in 1980.

"The taxpayer in Jersey City will receive a slight decrease in taxes in 1980 while the taxpayer in Hoboken is facing a 25 to 30 percent increase in property taxes," wrote Cappiello.

The mayor told the governor that

Hoboken's problems are similar to those of Jersey City and other cities in the state.

"I feel an equitable formula could be worked out so that no one is hurt as dramatically as Hoboken has been in 1980," said the mayor.

Cappiello said yesterday he hoped the state also would consider allocating some "discretionary" money to aid financially troubled Weehawken.

Concluding his letter to the governor, Cappiello said: "Specifically, I request your assistance, at the very least, to provide Special Urban Aid to the City of Hoboken in 1980 as has been done for Jersey City during the past few years."

# Hoboken and Boys Club agree

By Randolph Diamond

Officials of the Boys Club of Jersey City have agreed in principle to take over the operation of Hoboken's Jefferson Recreation Center, once the now-closed building is renovated.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he is very pleased with the proposal that Boys Club officials presented, and added he expected a formal agreement to be signed in the near future. The agreement would then be presented to the city council. Hoboken has received a \$500,000

grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior for the building's renovations expected to be started by the summer.

But Hoboken city officials had been concerned that there would be no money to operate the facility. However, the Boys Club submitted a proposal last week that calls for it to run the center and raise fees for its operation through contributions.

Hoboken is expected to pay the initial cost of equipping the Boys Club, which would total \$84,947 in addition to partial funding for a period of five

years, if the Boys Club is unable to obtain a state grant.

Boys Club officials estimate it would cost a total of \$71,005 to run the center in its first year and, if the grant doesn't come through, Hoboken would be expected to pay half the cost.

Hoboken's share would be reduced by 20 percent for each of the five years until it was paying nothing.

Boys Club officials have proposed to run a number of sports and arts and crafts activities in the recreation center which, they say, would be open six days every week.

# Cappiello says state favors Jersey City

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello has told Gov. Brendan Byrne he's upset that state aid has increased for Jersey City while "dramatically decreasing" for Hoboken and he wants something done about it.

Cappiello said in 1980, under the Municipal Tax Assistance Fund, Jersey City will receive \$2,904,676, which is almost \$600,000 more than 1979.

However, Hoboken, he said, will receive only \$484,000, a decrease of \$285,000 from 1979.

"What really hurts is that \$27 million is being distributed in 1980 compared to \$22 million in 1979," the mayor said.

Cappiello said it is unfair that Jersey City has been receiving special urban aid from the state for the last few years while Hoboken has been getting nothing.

Cappiello told Byrne that he wants to meet with him, State Sen. William Musto, local Assemblyman Thomas Gallo and Assembly Speaker Christopher Jackman to ascertain what, "if anything," can be done to increase aid to Hoboken and other

municipalities which were adversely affected by the formula used for the distribution of funds.

"As you know," he went on, "the problems of Hoboken are similar to those in Jersey City, Newark, Trenton and Camden, and I feel an equitable formula could be worked out so that no one is hurt as dramatically as Hoboken has been in 1980."

The mayor concluded his letter by stating that at the very least he wants some type of special urban aid similar to what Jersey City is receiving.

The mayor said it is unfair that Jersey City will receive a slight decrease in taxes in 1980 while the Hoboken taxpayer is facing a 25 to 30 percent increase in property taxes.

# Little Hispanic interest in CAC panel

There has been little interest among Hoboken's Hispanic community in membership on the Community Development Agency's Community Advisory Council despite extensive attempts by the agency to solicit Hispanic representation.

"We have tried everything to get the community interested," said Thomas Olivieri, the CDA's outreach worker.

The CAC acts as an advisory group to the CDA. The CDA is the local agency through which most federal money that goes to Hoboken is channeled.

The agency currently provides money for day care services, a family planning program, housing and neighborhood rehabilitation and industrial development.

Olivieri said most of these areas affect the Hispanic community greatly, yet the CDA has only received five nominations to serve on the 18-member CAC board.

The outreach worker said the agency ideally would like nine Hispanic members.

The federal government requires the CDA to have a CAC. There are now three members sitting on the

CAC. Most of the 15 other members had resigned last summer after a \$50 stipend was discontinued. There were three Hispanics on the old CAC.

Olivieri said he believes there are a number of reasons for the lack of interest by Hispanics on the board.

"Language problems and an unfamiliarity with government are two big reasons," he said.

Olivieri said many Hispanics are so concerned with just being able to feed and clothe their families that they don't have time for such duties as the CAC.



Photo by Bill Boyer

Vince Caputo, 72, looks out from his newsstand yesterday outside the PATH station in Hoboken.

# Vendor strikes news paydirt

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Business is brisk at the newsstand outside the PATH station here.

Harried commuters, many of them New York motorists taking the Hoboken detour to avoid the headaches of "Strike City," grab a morning paper before running off to catch a bus or a PATH train to New York.

Vince Caputo, framed by the papers and magazines placed about the stand and scarcely looking his 72 years, deftly makes change and deals out papers, candy and cigarettes, just as he has for the last 40 years in the very same spot.

"The strike has made no difference to me," he begins. Interrupted by a customer's query he answers "Sorry, lady — no more News."

The New York City transit strike has not affected his business, he said, fetching a pack of cigarettes and dropping the quarters into a little bowl behind the counter.

Although there is an influx of special buses carrying New Yorkers to the PATH trains which will take them to downtown or midtown Manhattan, many of his regular customers have found alternate ways to get to work, he explained.

"I'm missing 60 percent of my regular people," he said, but the new people going by way of Hoboken have filled in the gap. He said he is not exactly sure why the

regulars have switched to alternate means of transportation, but guessed that some found it easier to car pool and others may have been picked up by private buses hired by their employers.

The new people, going via Hoboken because of the strike, are now becoming acclimated to a new routine, although at first they seemed to be insecure, Caputo observed.

Many of these new customers apparently drive from New York state to Hoboken, park there and take public transit into Manhattan.

"The first few days they panicked," he said.

But with the strike now in its second week, people have become accustomed to the new route to the city, and commuter traffic flows smoothly.

"People seem to be laughing it off," he observed.

A lot of changes have occurred in Hoboken during the almost half century his newsstand has been there, said Caputo.

"I saw this place change three times," he said. The 1930s saw passenger ships visiting the nearby port, and a double-level trolley system was in use at what is now the PATH station. The trolleys were replaced by a double level for buses, and the double level was razed and replaced by the existing single-level station.

Hoboken, in spite of The Depression, was a better place in the 1930s, according to

Caputo. Brownstones housed the elite of Hoboken at that time, and now-seedy looking hotels were then rated first class.

It was during The Depression, after being laid off from his job at the National Biscuit Co. in Newark, that Caputo began almost half a century of business at his Hudson Place location.

He began selling newspapers and other newsstand items in a partnership with his father in 1931, working seven days a week from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Now, semi-retired, he works five days a week, from 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., closing up earlier if he feels like it.

Has retirement at 72 entered his mind? "No, no, no," he says vehemently. "People who retire die off."

The job, in which through the years he has met and talked to hundreds of persons on a daily basis, seems to satisfy him.

"It's a different thing all the time," he says. "It's not like being confined to a desk or operating a machine."

His eyes twinkle through gold-rimmed glasses. "You meet the grouchies and you meet the pleasant people," he says. His daily work is something he is determined to keep on with "as long as I feel good," he asserts.

He lives with his wife of 48 years, Rose, in Belleville. They have a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.

# Ends dream of seeing inn built

The Hoboken Housing Authority has virtually given up hope of seeing a Ramada Inn constructed at Second and Hudson streets and plans to advertise that the tract of land is available to any developer who has an acceptable plan for housing or a commercial project.

The authority announced last night that Bernard Kenny, who had plans to construct a Ramada Inn on

Second Street, between Hudson and River streets, would not agree to the timetable set by the authority. Kenny, who had been in negotiations with the authority for more than a year, held a Ramada Inn franchise.

The property measures 200 feet by 130 feet and, although Kenny never held an option on it, the authority said, he has been involved in drawn-out negotiations with authority

members over the Ramada Inn plan. Kenny was the developer for a new office building on First Street, between Hudson and River streets.

Also scheduled to be advertised for development are sections of cleared land on First and Second streets, on Grand, Adams and Jefferson streets, near the Marian Gardens apartments and the city's Multi-Service Center. Andrew Sherer,

authority chairman, said the authority would like to see the land developed for family dwellings.

Joseph Caligore, executive director of the authority and one of the members, was authorized to attend a conference in Arlington, Va., when operations of housing authorities will be discussed, including modernization programs and tenant participation.



## Hoboken may lay off 60 to 100 employees

By Randolph Diamond

Between 60 and 100 Hoboken city employees will have to be laid off after a decision by the City Council to cut \$500,000 from the municipal budget, a high city official said today.

In addition, at least 40 employees of the Board of Education will have to be let go if the school board agrees to a request by the City Council to cut \$500,000 from its budget.

The decision to cut \$500,000 from the city's \$17,844,531 budget and ask the school board to cut \$500,000 came at a closed session of the City Council on Wednesday night, said the official who asked not to be identified.

The official said school board members received a letter today from the council asking for the \$500,000 cut from the Board of

Education's approximately \$18-million budget.

Robert Wendelken, school board president, confirmed receipt of the letter but said he didn't want to comment until after talking with Mayor Steve Cappiello. The mayor was unavailable for comment.

The official said he feels the only way of averting the layoffs of city employees would be for some additional state aid to be received. He said this was not likely.

He said the number of layoffs of city workers could easily reach 100, depending on when it is decided to lay off the employees.

"If we lay off the employees by

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## Hoboken may lay off 60 to 100 workers

Continued from Page 1.

June it will be about 60 and if we wait until the end of the summer it will be 100," the official said.

The official said the city administration is thinking of waiting until the end of the summer because such employees as policemen and park workers are needed most during the summer.

"The crime rate is high during the summer and that's when the parks are most used," he said. "That is the time we can least afford to lay off employees."

A City Council member, who also

asked not to be identified, said the council felt it had no choice but to cut the money.

"We could not approve a city budget which calls for a \$29 tax rate rise," he said. "It's just unfair."

The councilman estimates the rise in the tax rate will go down at least \$7 with the cut in the city budget.

While taxpayers will still be paying an increase of \$2 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, the councilman said the actual increase will only be about \$7 per thousand.

The councilman said this is

because approximately \$16 of the increase is due to the cancellation of the city's 1979 land revaluation by the Hoboken Board of Assessors.

The councilman said the school board's cuts would have to be made voluntarily by the board because the Hoboken Board of School Estimate has already approved the school board's budget.

The city budget hearing, meanwhile, will be held Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the City Council chambers but the \$500,000 cut decision by the City Council will not be reflected in the budget at that hearing.

## Cappiello wants budget cuts reconsidered by council

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said today he felt the City Council's decision to cut \$500,000 from the city's budget is excessive and he wants the council to reconsider.

Meanwhile, Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association officials, upset over possible layoffs of patrolmen, have called a meeting for Tuesday night to vote on taking a major job action. The PBA has been without a contract since mid-January.

Thomas Meehan, Hoboken PBA president, cited the city's refusal to negotiate in "good faith" for a contract as another reason for the job action vote.

Meehan said he has received no formal word as to possible layoffs but he said if even one patrolman is laid off the city would be in a lot of trouble.

"We wouldn't even have to vote

on a job action," he said. "There would just be one."

A high city official, who asked not to be identified, told The Jersey Journal yesterday there would have to be a layoff of between 60 and 100 city employees because of the decision by the City Council to cut \$500,000 from the city budget.

Today Cappiello confirmed the cut had indeed been made and that a mass layoff of city officials would be necessary.

The mayor, however, said he wants the cut scaled down somewhat because the city needs to provide basic services.

"I hope the council will reconsider the cut," he said. "I agree a large cut has to be made, but we still have to run the city."

Cappiello said he had not decided on how much he wanted cut from the city's \$17,844,531 budget, but that he was leaning toward a compromise

figure, which would call for a minimum of layoffs.

The budget as it stands now, calls for a \$29 tax increase, but with the \$500,000 cut the increases would be about \$23.

The council decision to cut the \$500,000 cannot be made final until after Wednesday when the city's annual budget hearing is held.

The City Council has also informed the Hoboken Board of Education that it would like \$500,000 cut from the school budget.

If the board takes such action it is expected to mean the layoff of at least 40 employees in the school system.

Meanwhile, Meehan said that an arbitrator is scheduled to come into city hall in two weeks to try and arbitrate the contract dispute between the city and the PBA.

The PBA is asking for a 10 percent pay raise, while the city says it can't afford any boost.

## Cappiello sits down with teens over chairs

Hoboken City Hall was stormed by 25 teenagers yesterday protesting the lack of recreation as well as the city's decision to take all the tables and chairs out of their community disco.

Carrying signs saying "Teen Power" and "Hoboken doesn't care about its youth" the young people screamed, "we want Mayor Cappiello, we want Mayor Cappiello."

Cappiello, hearing the commotion, contacted Health and Welfare Director James Farina and they agreed to a meeting.

The youths said they were upset that the 300 tables and chairs were taken out of the disco by officials for a Police Athletic League function.

"We have no place to sit," they said.

Farina and Cappiello said the

PAL officials needed the chairs but made arrangements with other city agencies to supply chairs and tables for last night's affairs.

The teenagers also expressed concern about the lack of recreation and said they would be forced to hang out on the street come summer.

"The only thing we have now is the disco, said one teenager. "Now we hear that may end soon. All we're going to have to do this summer is to sit on the streets."

Farina agreed to meet with the teenagers next week to discuss their concerns.

## Bartletta expects to return to finance job in 3 weeks

Hoboken's Revenue and Finance director Frank Bartletta, 84, will be back at work in three weeks after a four-month absence due to a gall bladder operation, according to his wife Madeline.

Mrs. Bartletta said her husband is just waiting for his doctor's OK and is very eager to resume work.

Meanwhile, Mary Halpin, the mayor's personal secretary, said she expects to go back to work in about three weeks. Mrs. Halpin had a hip operation and is resting at home.

## Hoboken delays on school cuts

By Ronald Lair

The Hoboken Board of Education last night agreed to put off revising its 1980-81 budget to reflect \$250,000 in cuts ordered by the Board of School Estimate until a meeting scheduled for 8 p.m. on April 24.

Robert Wendelken, board president, said members needed more time to decide what areas of the budget should be reduced. That's expected to be resolved during an executive session that will begin at 8 p.m. the same night as the board meeting.

Will there be layoffs as a result of the budget parings? "Definitely," replied Wendelken. How many, though, are yet to be determined.

The first indication of the number of employees to be affected will come April 23 when George Maier, school superintendent, is obliged to send out termination notices.

Some or all of those dismissals can be rescinded by the board in the future.

Meanwhile, Maier says he's planning not to fill 12 teaching slots and four administrative positions that he expects will be vacated through retirement by June 30. Leaving those slots empty would save the board

more than \$300,000, he said.

Those administrators slated to depart this summer, according to Maier, are Arthur Calabro, student services director; Louis DePascale, labor negotiator; John Kane, a vice principal; and Al Drexel, art supervisor.

The board last night also deferred to its April 24 meeting the appointment of an auditor for the 1980-81 school year and voting on an audit report prepared by Matthew Pastore on the district's food services program.

Wendelken declined to make the audit available for inspection "because the board hasn't yet voted to accept the report — we've only received it at this point."

In other action, the board voted to:

- Refund \$12,359.57 to the state Department of Education as the amount of state aid left over from the 1979-80 school year from the district's Adult Basic Education Program. State officials ruled that Hoboken couldn't carry over surplus funds in that program from one year to the next, said Maier.
- Establish a new position, with no salary yet designated, of coordinator of early learning/after-school and extra-curricular enrichment over the protest of board member Steven Block, who said he was "vehemently opposed" but didn't say why.

• Approve the use of an elementary school year-end report form recommended by Block. The form requests elementary school principals to report to the board on student and teacher attendance, students, academic performance, parental involvement, educational improvements implemented and planned, physical plant needs, deficiencies noted in teacher evaluations and in the school lunch program and extracurricular activities available.

• Authorize payment of \$8,494.52 to the law firm of Lowenstein, Sandler Brochin, Kohl, Fisher and Boylan for services performed in negotiations with the U.S. Office of Civil Rights involving an order to the district to hire three women teachers and in rendering a legal opinion on a seven-member versus nine-member school board.

• Pay \$2,800 to 13 high school teachers for services performed as student activity advisers during the 1979-80 school year.

• Appoint Jean Policastro as a

clerk at \$5 an hour in the adult education program and name Thomas September as assistant track coach.

In other personnel developments, the board granted a one-year extension of employment, effective July 1, to Louis Francone, maintenance supervisor, who reaches the mandatory retirement age of 70 this summer, but whose termination is being waived for now by the board and approved by a 4-to-3 vote, with Block, Pope and Zelma Lugo dissenting, a six-month leave of absence for Thomas Vezzetti from his per-diem job with the adult education program.

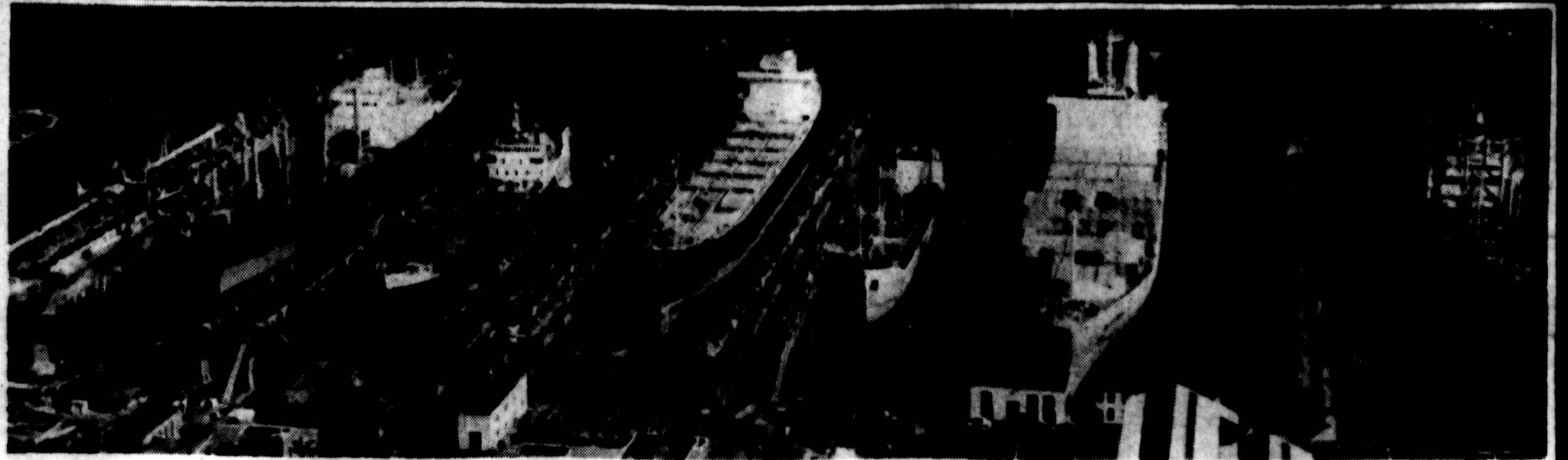
The board authorized Maier to apply to the state Department of Education for a grant to hire a \$20,000 Spanish-speaking vocational guidance counselor, a \$22,000 job placement counselor and to acquire \$160,000 worth of equipment and materials to set up a vocational education program.

Maier was also permitted to submit an application under Title 4 to retain a "desegregation specialist" at an estimated \$35,000 to test Hoboken youngsters in their native language to determine their eligibility for participating in bilingual education programs in the district.

Marlon Brando sat right here



MARLON BRANDO becomes the symbol of the changes in peoples' lives along the Hoboken waterfront in 1955.



THE WATERFRONT in Hoboken has changed over the past 30 years — and so have the people who live there.

## The road from Hoboken to Broadway

By BARBARA SWANN  
Staff Writer

"A lot of people came out of the docks with new dreams. They found new roads in their lives," Louis LaRusso II remembers. LaRusso should know: he was one of them.

In 1953, LaRusso was an 18-year-old longshoreman following in his father's footsteps on the deteriorating docks of Hoboken. It was in that year that life was abruptly altered for many in the closely-knit waterfront community. That was the year that "On The Waterfront" was filmed along the docks in the mile-square city.

Today, LaRusso is a prolific playwright (24 plays over 10 years coupled with a dozen movies) whose emergence coincides with Hoboken's own renaissance. But, it is the longshoreman's Hoboken of his youth, the memory of those tough River Street docks, that has provided the inspiration for most of the playwright's better-known works.

It is the year 1953 and the filming of "On The Waterfront" which is the basis for LaRusso's "Marlon Brando Sat Right Here." The new play opens Wednesday night at the Boltz Theatre across the Hudson River in New York's SoHo district.

It's about the effect of making the movie on the tough longshoreman community of River Street. The movie was shot in 1953 and released in 1954. This play is set in 1955 and it's about a movie that becomes the most successful movie and what it meant.

It's based on reality but woven with the

imagination," LaRusso says.

Paul Sorvino, a longtime LaRusso friend, directs and stars in the new drama. Sorvino's co-star, Janet Sarno, recreates the role of the Hoboken coffeehouse waitress "Gracie" she originated in LaRusso's "Knockout" last year on Broadway.

Gracie is a character based on the waitress who ran a favorite longshoreman's hangout which LaRusso himself frequented in his days on the docks.

In the new play, Gracie is waiting tables when her old boyfriend, Beep-ity-beep, shows up after an 18-year absence. As Gracie and Beep-ity-beep "try to get their thing together," 11 other characters pass through their lives. Together they tell the story of the changes brought about by the filming of the Brando movie.

"Marlon Brando Sat Right Here" is the sixth major production — four on Broadway — of a LaRusso play in as many years. Each year, starting with "Lamport Reunion" in 1975, producers have been bringing LaRusso's plays to the New York stage.

"I get most of my inspiration from having a romantic heart," LaRusso proclaims. "I get many more things than Hoboken. It's just that people like to produce my Hoboken stuff. Most producers feel that when I write about Hoboken I come closest to the formula."

LaRusso has just breezed into Michael's Pub — a chic little Hoboken restaurant with polished wood and Tiffany lamps which has apparently replaced Gracie's place as a LaRusso haunt. He

playfully teases the waitress about not missing his new play. Assured that she won't, he sits down to a beer and chicken marsala, a favorite.

LaRusso, who wrote the final draft for the screenplay of "Saturday Night Fever," announces that he is prepared to clinch a deal to write the new Rod Stewart movie. The papers haven't been signed yet but it looks certain, he says, that he will be writing the screenplay for "The Killing of George," named after the rock superstar's recording. He's prepared to start writing the movie next week — at the same time his play opens — and expects that the first draft will be completed in a month.

"I think it's going to be a big movie," LaRusso predicts.

LaRusso is also optimistic that still another new play, recently completed, will be produced this fall.

In the interim, he acknowledges a certain degree of nervousness over the imminent opening of "Marlon Brando Sat Right Here." He expects that it will do well, but then he's been disappointed by the critics before.

When "Knockout" opened last year, LaRusso and a host of friends celebrated at The Stork Club while awaiting the reviews. Certain it would win critical acclaim, LaRusso was unprepared for the panning it received. Nonetheless, the play continued on Broadway for another six months — bolstered by an extensive advertising campaign and a steady flow of enthusiastic theatergoers who decided to ignore the critics.

"It's never easy, but you get used to it,"

LaRusso says.

"The problem is I write straightforward tough drama to a community which is not ready to deal with it."

LaRusso works out of a refurbished row house on Willow Terrace in Hoboken. He lives there with his 16-year-old son of whom he is unabashedly proud.

After quitting the longshoremen, LaRusso joined the army and, upon his discharge, studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He tried acting, accepting a secondary role in "Hat Full of Rain" in summer stock. After the opening night curtain, he told the director that he was quitting. He played out the week and never returned to acting.

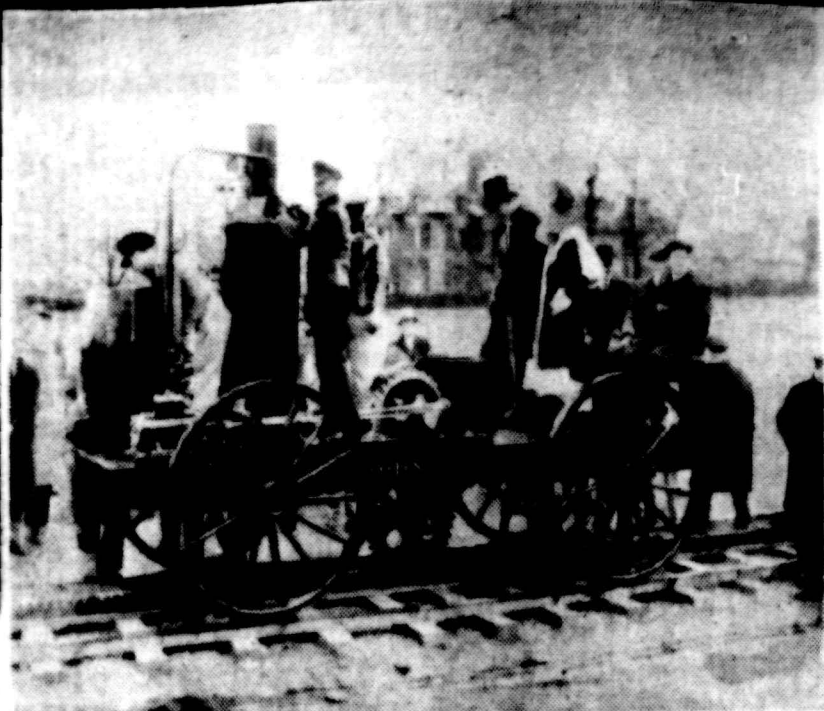
"Because I found it impossible to do as a young man. I have a great respect for actors," LaRusso says.

He hung around New York writing short stories and poetry — a "hobby" he took up when he was 5 years old. He then took off for Boston, worked successfully there as a salesman, married for awhile and had a son, Louis LaRusso III.

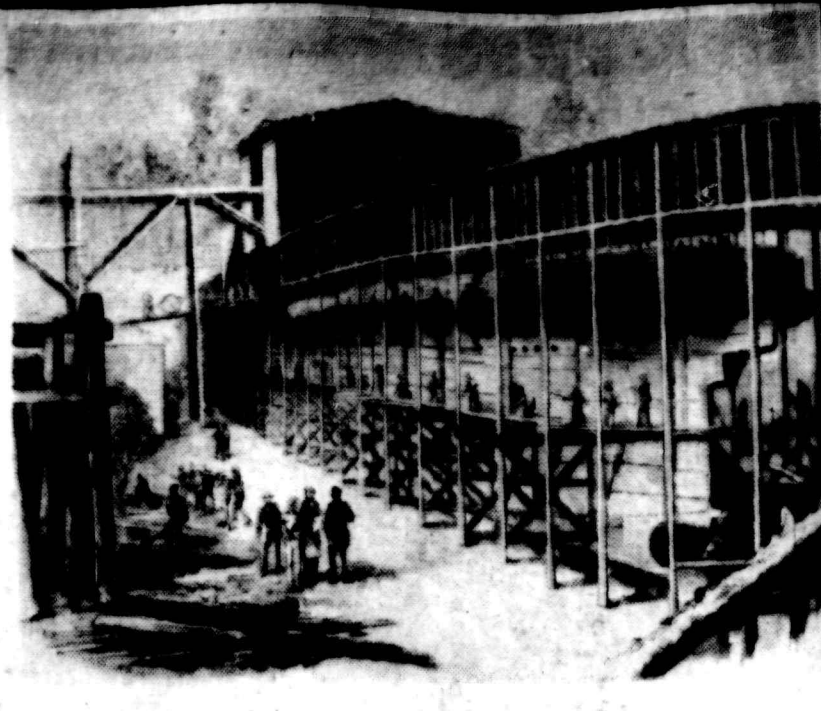
When he came back to Hoboken 10 years ago to bury his mother, LaRusso decided to return. He went back to Boston, liquidated his assets and came home on his 34th birthday.

LaRusso marked his return to Hoboken by starting to write plays. One of the dreams that grew out of the filming of "On The Waterfront" was LaRusso's — to write about 100 plays, all successful, during his lifetime. He's off to one helluva start.





Col. John Stevens built the first steam locomotive in 1825 and ran it on a circular track on his property at Castle Point in Hoboken.



The Stevens Floating Battery was an experimental ship designed and built by men in the Stevens family at their property on the Hudson River.

## Stevens family plans gathering of the clan

Descendants of the Stevens family, founders of Hoboken and Stevens Institute of Technology, will gather from all parts of the country — and perhaps the world — for a reunion Saturday at the college library.

The occasion is considered so prestigious that Gov. Brendan Byrne has proclaimed Saturday Stevens Family Day.

So far half of the 235 descendants from 31 states and seven foreign countries have accepted invitations from the college for a gathering that will begin with cocktails at 4 p.m. and wind up with a fireworks display after dark.

Introductory remarks by Richard P. Widdicombe, librarian, Dr. Kenneth Rogers, president, and a talk by historian J. Owen Grundy will be followed by a buffet supper in which most family members will be meeting each other for the first time. A string quartet will play throughout the evening.

Prominent among the guests will be Rep. Millicent Fenwick (R-5th Dist.), the great granddaughter of Edwin A. Stevens, founder of the college, and Mary Stevens Baird of Bernardsville, his granddaughter.

Altogether, 10 generations of descendants of patriarch John Stevens and his wife Rachel Cox, who arrived from England in 1689,

will be on hand to examine an exhibition of photographs and drawings of Stevens family inventions assembled by George Gill of Weehawken, a collection of old family photographs and a diagram of their family tree that will be 35 feet wide.

The founder of Hoboken was Col. John Stevens, grandson of the original patriarch, who also built the world's first ocean-going steamship, the Phoenix, and designed and built the nation's first steam locomotive.

His sons, Robert and Edwin A., were founders of the Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation Co.

John Cox Stevens, a horse-breeder and yachtsman, built the yacht that defeated English contenders in 1851 for a trophy now known as the America Cup.

It was a bequest in the will of Edwin A. that resulted in the founding of Stevens, the nation's first college to raise the teaching of mechanical engineering to an academic level.

Until the 1930s the college kept records of Stevens family members. Recent requests from historians and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. have encouraged college officials to fill in historical gaps and resume the business of keeping tabs on the descendants of its founding family.

## Tenement tilts to force her out

By Randolph Diamond

The tilting four-story tenement house at 65 Jefferson St. in Hoboken was condemned more than five months ago and at that time three and of the four tenants moved out.

But Adeline Becker refuses to leave. The elderly woman says the ground floor apartment and her dogs and cats are all she has.

And she says she knows she can't beat the rent — \$50 a month.

But Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said the structure is a hazard and has to be torn down before it falls down.

Martin Corrado, Hoboken's relocation officer, said Miss Becker would be entitled to \$445 in moving expenses and up to \$1,000 in rent subsidy money per year for four years if she moves to another apartment.

And Corrado said he has already found Miss Becker an apartment but she refuses to consider it.

"It's not that great an apartment," he said. "But compared to what she's living in now, it's a palace."

In her present quarters, there is no snow and Miss Becker has to take sponge baths.

There are broken windows throughout the building and the windows of her one-room apartment are boarded up.

She says she has lived in the Jefferson Street area her entire life though at 65 Jefferson St. only the last three years.

"My previous landlord wanted to raise my rent too high," she says. "So I moved out."

"No landlord will take my cats and dogs," she says. "If the city could find a place for them at the exact same rent I'm paying now I would move."

Miss Becker has never been married.

"I have enough problems," she says.

And he has held a number of odd jobs.

"I've done everything," she says.

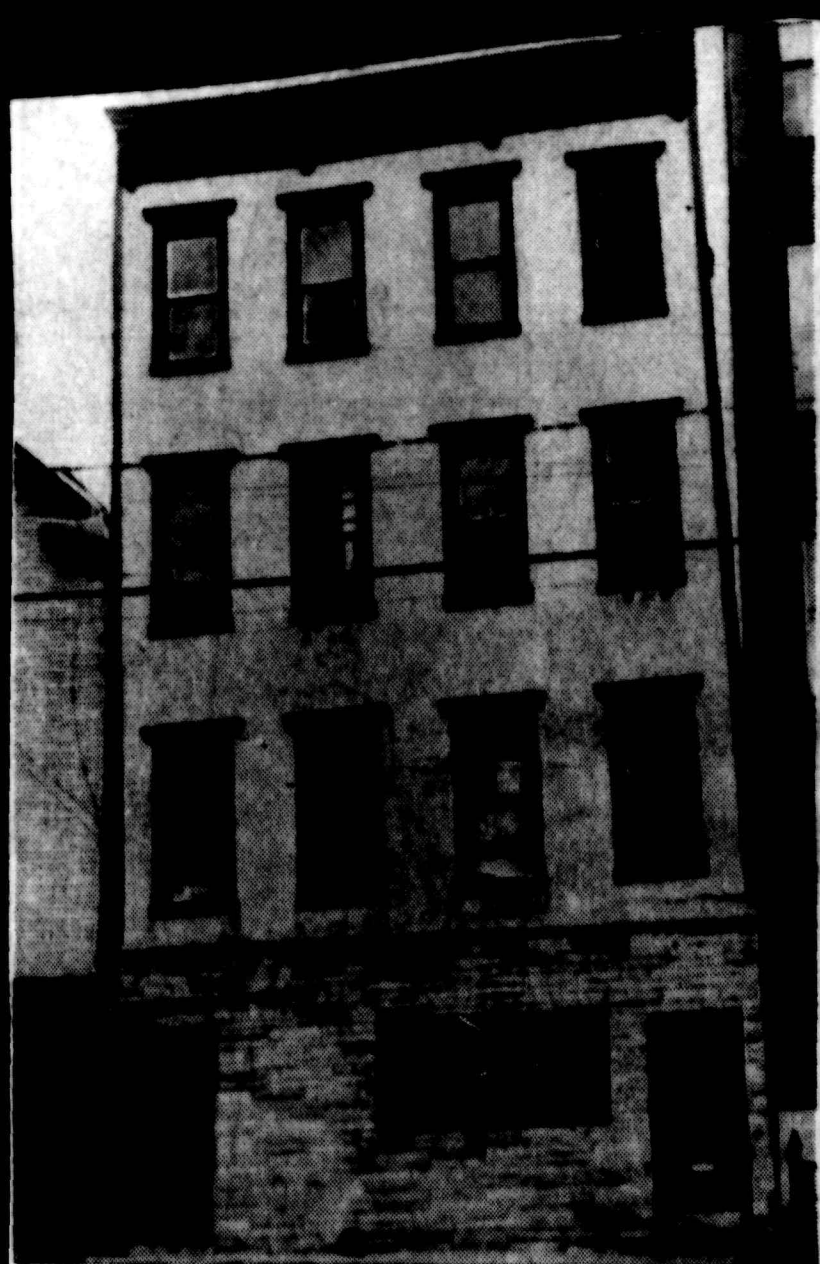
Cappiello says he's going to have the house padlocked in a few days if Miss Becker doesn't leave voluntarily.

What will she do then?

"I'll get a lawyer," she says.

"What else can I do?"

She has two cats and a dog and also takes in stray cats.



## Tenement tilts

The lone resident of this tilting Hoboken apartment house on Jefferson Street refuses to leave despite Mayor Steve Cappiello calling the structure a hazard. (Story on Page 22.)

## Special programs are abundant during National Library Week

By M.A. SENULIS  
Staff Writer

Area public libraries are joining more than 5,000 communities nationwide in observing National Library Week, April 13-19. The celebration, now in its 23rd year, is coordinated at the national level by the National Book Committee in cooperation with the American Library Association.

### Community spotlight

In Hudson County, the special programs offered by local libraries will include:

**Hoboken** — The library, at 500 Park Ave., offers amnesty on fines on all overdue materials returned during the week. In addition, coupons good for free french fries at the Hoboken McDonald's Restaurant will be given for books returned or taken out.

**Jersey City** — The library's "Big Blue" bookmobile will be stationed at McDonald's at 891 Communipaw Ave., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 16; anyone returning or taking out books will receive a treat at the restaurant. In addition to an amnesty on fines during the week, those returning books will get a free soda at the McDonald's on Journal Square.

**North Bergen** — The main library, at 8109 Bergenline Ave., features a screening of the film "Tut — the Boy King" at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 17. Book marks, book bags, and booklets on library services will be distributed throughout the week. The Lincoln Branch, 1406 67th St., as well as the main library are granting fine amnesties during the week.

**Secaucus** — The Happy Times Children's Theater Group of Rutherford presents two sketches, "The Story of Paddington Bear" and "The Three Bears," for pre-

schoolers at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 14, at the Plaza Center library. On Tuesday at 10 a.m., Thaddeus the Clown will perform magic tricks and balloon sculpture for children. The film "The Laughing Policeman" is screened at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Local third and fourth graders will vie for prizes in a spelling bee at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. On Friday, during "Librarians for a Day," high schoolers will assume positions on the library staff, at 3:30 p.m., O.T. Zappo, billed as the "Singing Troubadour," will entertain children with music and puppets. All week, there will be an amnesty on all overdue materials.

**Union City** — A puppet show for pre-schoolers at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 14, at the 15th Street branch. On Tuesday, the children's film "Make Believe Marriage" will play at 3:30 p.m. at the 43rd Street Main branch; the film rescreens at the branch library at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday. On Tuesday at the main branch, Union City teacher Louis De Congelio will demonstrate sign language at 7 p.m. On Friday, puppets entertain pre-schoolers at 10:30 a.m. The film "The Mouse That Roared" screens at 7 p.m. Both events are at the main library. There will be a fine amnesty during the week.

**Weehawken** — To encourage the public to get acquainted with its service, the library at 49 Haunhurst Ave., will serve cookies and punch through the week. There is an amnesty on all overdue books returned during the week.

**West New York** — The library, at 425 60th St., offers amnesty on overdue materials returned this week. Books donated by the public will be on sale during regular library hours.

In Bergen County, libraries featuring special programs during the week include:

**Cliffside Park** — Herpetologist David Holmes will speak on "Snakes, Lizards, Reptiles and Amphibians," at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 17 at the library, 500 Palisade Ave. His lecture, aimed at elementary school pupils, will feature slides and live demonstrations.

**Edgewater** — In addition to a fine amnesty during the week the library, at 49 Hudson Ave., will give each child who reads a book during the week a coupon redeemable in McDonald's french fries.

**Fairview** — In addition to a fine amnesty during the week, the McDonald's in Cliffside Park has donated coupons for french fries to all who take out or remove books.

**Fort Lee** — The library, at 320 Main St., celebrates its 50th anniversary during the week. Special events include "An Evening of Improvisational Theatre with the Palisades Playhouse" at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 14.

**Palisades Park** — In addition to a fine amnesty during the week and coupons from McDonald's for french fries to all who return or take out books, the library features two special exhibits. Dolls from around the world and collected by Ruth Meyers of Palisades Park will be displayed. The New Jersey Guild of Doll Collectors has loaned a hand-made scale model of a general store during the American Revolution.

**Ridgefield** — The library, at 527 Morse Ave., will grant fine amnesty during the week. Persons taking out or returning books will receive coupons for french fries at McDonald's in Cliffside Park. A demonstration of the art of bonsai will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 17.

## Hoboken teenagers find disco hard on the feet

By MARYANN JACOB  
Staff Writer

**HOBOKEN**—About 12 local teenagers picketed City Hall yesterday afternoon, protesting, in general, a proposed cut-back in recreation programs, specifically, the disappearance of chairs from the teenage discotheque in the Multi-Service Center at Grand Avenue and Second Street.

The protesters headed down Washington Street to City Hall carrying picket signs and chanting, but were quickly ushered into the building by confidential mayor's aide William Van Wie and director of health, welfare and recreation James Farina.

The teenagers, whose number in-

creased to about 30, were seated in the courtroom and began to discuss the problem with the two officials.

Jimmy Suarez, spokesman for the teenagers, said about 180 chairs and some tables were taken from the room where the disco is held every Friday night, and weren't returned.

The teenagers had not been given any notice of the furniture's removal, he said.

The chairs were needed for a Police Athletic League (PAL) fund-raiser, which was also held last night, Farina said.

Farina tried to explain to the youths that projected cuts in recreation programs would be due to a "budget crunch" in the city.

Soon after, Mayor Steve Cappiello entered the scene, and told the teenagers that residents in the disco area complained of noise, screaming cars, and litter on the nights the disco is open.

Damages, such as ripped out plumbing, holes in the wall and graffiti on the walls had occurred in the center, most notably after Friday night discos, the mayor said.

Then, turning to the problem directly at hand, the mayor asked why chairs would be necessary at a dance; Cappiello said he would certainly not be sitting down at a dance.

"If we had people like you, we wouldn't need chairs," quipped Suarez.

The mayor promised he would check into how chairs could be obtained for the

disco, and promised to deliver between 75 and 100 chairs to the center in a city truck.

After the mayor and group had left, a skeptical Suarez intimated he doubted the chairs would actually arrive.

The spokesman's pessimistic observation seemed to hold true, at least in part. Suarez reported at about 5 p.m. yesterday that a shipment — consisting of eight chairs — had arrived at the center.

Suarez said the disco, which charges \$2 admission, would still be held, but that many would be disappointed and turned away by the lack of chairs which allows socializing or a welcome rest spot after a stint of dancing.

By Randolph Diamond

To avert the threatened layoffs of city employees, Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina has suggested that all employees take two weeks off without pay on a rotating basis.

"I would be glad to volunteer to do that," said Farina. "It's worth it to do it if we can avert the layoffs."

The threatened layoffs which city officials believe could affect between

60 and 100 employees comes as the result of a decision of the city council to cut \$300,000 from the city budget.

Farina said the city payroll runs about \$150,000 a week, which he said means his plan could result in a savings of \$300,000.

Farina also said if the city council is willing to consider Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello's position that the \$300,000 cut be lowered somewhat, all layoffs could be averted.

But Jude Filizola, a vice-

president of Hoboken's Municipal Employees Association, didn't take kindly to Farina's idea.

"I don't think we should have to pay because of the city's financial problems," he said. "Let the city officials work for nothing. They're always picking on the low-paid city officials, not the top brass."

Officials of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association and the International Association of Firefighters could not be reached for comment.

## Hoboken's Hispanic aide can't get state funds

It appears today that there is no hope of saving Hoboken's Office of Hispanic Affairs.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said that he had been informed by Joseph LeFante, commissioner of the state Department of Community Affairs, that funding for the one-man office is not likely.

Cappiello had contacted

LeFante's office after CETA funding was cut off for the office. He sought a state grant.

Ralph De La Pena, who headed the office, had been paid almost \$14,000 a year.

Cappiello said there is "absolutely no way" the city could pay De La Pena out of its budget. "We don't have the money," he added.

De La Pena had been manning the office, located on the fourth floor of City Hall, on a volunteer basis since funding was cut off last week.

But, he has said he will have to look for another job to support himself if he isn't paid soon.

## Hoboken will vote bonds for repairs to schools

The Hoboken City Council will introduce a bonding ordinance tomorrow calling for \$1,123,000 to be raised for repairs for four of the city's schools. A public hearing on the 1989 municipal budget will also take place at 8 p.m. in the Council chambers.

The \$1,123,000 in building aid is to be reimbursed 100 percent by the state. A council spokesman said the

governing body may consider at some future time whether to approve the approximately \$7 million which it originally had considered for school rehabilitation work.

Tomorrow night's ordinance calls for the \$1,123,000 to be spent on repairs for the Joseph F. Brandt, Daniel S. Kealey, A. J. Demarest and Thomas Connors schools. A council

committee, headed by Robert A. Ranieri, had originally set the \$7 million figure but it was reported that the council members felt at last night's caucus that this should be put off temporarily because of the city's financial condition.

In other business the council will consider the introduction of an ordinance setting up the position of coordinator of the Safe and Clean

Streets Program, a program funded jointly with state funds. Edwin Chius, business administrator, reported to the council that the state recommends a full-time administrator for the program which includes police and sanitation workers.

Hoboken shares the cost of the program on a 50-50 basis with the state. Chius had been handling its administration.

## Hoboken takes over meter maid jobs

For the first time in five years, meter maids enforcing the parking meters in Hoboken will be paid by the city instead of the Parking Authority.

Joseph Hottendorf, the authority's executive director, confirmed that the five meter maids had been shifted to the city. The maids were actually hired under the CETA program.

Hottendorf pointed out that the authority never had the responsibility for enforcement of the meters but took over the duty to accomplish two goals: improve revenue and ac-

celerate the turnover of meter spaces. Hottendorf said that when the authority took over enforcement in 1975, revenue from the meters was \$30,176 a year. It has risen steadily, he said, and last year almost \$60,000 was collected. Based on the past few months, he said, 1980 revenue could reach as high as \$120,000.

The authority did continue to repair and maintain the meters, he explained but any suggestions or complaints about their enforcement should be directed to the city.



## State tells Hoboken budget must be cut

By Tom Golek  
and Randolph Diamond

It will be a paring knife the Hoboken City Council takes to the municipal budget when it meets next Monday and Wednesday to trim \$570,000 the state has ordered removed.

What the council may wind up doing, however, is mixing up a whole new recipe — this time with fewer ingredients.

The state attorney general's office has ordered the city to include \$570,000 in urban aid within the cap portion of the budget. The money was originally thought to be exempt from the cap.

The bad news about that decision is that city officials claim the budget is already cut to the bone and reduction will mean services or people — maybe both — will have to go.

The council, which last week was strongly criticized by local officials when it announced intentions of trimming \$500,000 from the budget, can now point a collective finger of blame for reductions at the state.

The good news is that the state-ordered revision will mean less of a tax increase for municipal purposes than projected. Assuring the full

\$570,000 is cut to allow for the inclusion of the urban aid, the projected \$9.75 per thousand increase for municipal purposes would fall to about \$5, since every \$110,000 spent equals \$1 on the tax rate.

To that \$5 increase for municipal purposes will be added the city's share of county and school budgets, though the council has already said it also wants to see the school budget cut by \$500,000. That makes a tax rate increase of about \$24.

Continued from Page 1.

than to zero in on a large chunk here and there. "There'll be a disproportionate cuts this way," he explained.

Thomas Vizetti, who described himself as a management analyst, told the council at the public session it should try to get more productivity out of the workers they have and retire some of the older workers. But Cramer told him that since 1973 the number of city employees had fallen from 675 to about 525.

Richard England, a former member of the school board, criticized the lack of services in his neighborhood and predicted even more cutbacks with budget cuts. He suggested the council add to the budget in those areas where services are suffering.

Dr. Robert King proposed that everyone in the city take a \$10 pay cut, starting with the council, mayor and city directors, right on down the line. He called the idea "the most painless medicine the city could take." Cramer suggests that King might like to present the idea directly to the city's unions. Cappiello, gauging the tenor of the employees' response to the proposal, laughingly vetoed that idea because he said he'd rather "see King remain alive."

But City Council President Walter Cramer said the new rate should not be compared to the 1979 rate of \$94, which he called "artificial." That rate was struck after a property revaluation which saw a large number of successful challenges.

The city is returning to the valuation that the 1978 tax rate of \$108 was based on and 1980's possible rate of \$118 should some accurately be compared to this figure.

"I was shocked by the proposed rate increase," Cramer said, "until it was explained to me about the 1978 rate. But it's still too high. We'll never get industry to come in here with a tax rate like that and we may lose some. And we don't want people moving out, either."

Mayor Steve Cappiello said the budget was already very tight and the only fair way to approach it was to cut from every single line item rather

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## Council maps layoff details

HOBOKEN—The City Council is meeting this week to make final cuts of up to \$800,000 — most of which will probably come from layoffs — from its \$17,984,531 budget for 1980.

The council met in closed caucus last night and will meet again tomorrow night to consider how the cuts should be made.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said the cuts will probably result in between 40 and 60 municipal employees being laid off from their jobs.

Compared to last year's budget, taxpayers this year face up to a 30 percent tax increase, with a tax rate of approximately \$124 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

## Hoboken salaries slashed

Members of the Hoboken City Council, faced with a state mandate to reduce the 1980 budget by \$575,000, last night slashed 7 percent from salary accounts in each department and eliminated every unfilled job. They are expected to continue to search for reductions tomorrow.

The budget crisis developed when the state informed Hoboken that state urban aid funds must be included in the state mandated caps, or spending limits.

The original budget requests from departments would have jumped the city's tax rate from \$94 to about \$124 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. In their discussion last night, the council members referred to the 1979 tax rate as "false" because it was caused by a revaluation of property by an assessor. The \$107 figure of 1978 is more of a "true rate" they felt and the new tax rate could be expected to reach between \$110 to \$112 because of inflationary trends generally.

## Arrests in garage thefts called 'tip of iceberg'

By Randolph Diamond

The arrest of three Hoboken Public Works Department employees on charges of stealing materials from the city public works garage and selling them to a hardware store has been called "just the tip of the iceberg" by Mario Mercado, the city's new garage superintendent.

Mercado says a large number of public works employees are involved

and thousands of dollars of equipment and materials were stolen from the garage over a period of years.

Mercado said he expects Hoboken police to make more arrests as the investigation continues. Police estimated \$5,000 worth of equipment was stolen from the garage in the last three months.

Andrew Amato Jr., 22, a temporary foreman in the water department and a son of Hoboken Public

Works Director Andrew Amato, Anthony Ocello, a public works foreman, and Calvin Stevenson, a public works department helper on the CETA payroll, have been arrested so far.

"There has been a conspiracy to commit thefts that has gone on for years," said Mercado. "Now that I hold the position of garage superintendent I'm not going to let it happen any more."

Mercado was recently appointed superintendent of the city's central garage, now temporarily located in the Port Authority's Pier A while a new garage is under construction. Previously both the public works and public safety departments had maintained separate garages with Mercado heading the public safety garage.

Mercado said some city public works employees have had the attitude that a city job "allows them to go shopping at the city's expense."

"The city can no longer tolerate this," said Mercado. "Anyone who is caught stealing is going to be prosecuted."

Mercado said one reason the situation has continued is that the public works department has not kept

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an inventory of its equipment or materials.

"They can't even account for their own trucks; never mind anything else," said Mercado. "I challenge public works officials to show me a list of their equipment."

"A lot of people are not going to like what I'm saying," Mercado said. "But I'm telling the truth."

Director Amato, meanwhile, disputed Mercado's charge that his department does not keep an inventory of its equipment.

"We didn't have an inventory when I took over the department in 1977 but we do now because I ordered it," he said.

Amato said he did not want to comment on Mercado's other statements until after his son's and the other employees' trials.

## Health law makes tattoo shop taboo

By Randolph Diamond

The tattooing consultant to the film "Tattoo," now shooting in Hoboken, Huggy Bear Ferris, has become so impressed with the city that he wants to open a tattoo shop there.

Related story on Page 2.

But he said city officials won't let him.

"I went to the city clerk's office and they told me that the city fathers would never go for it. Tattooing is really a fine art and my shop would be a very classy operation," he said. "I'm very disappointed."

Ferris said a man in the city clerk's office told him while there were no laws on the books against tattoo shops in Hoboken, he shouldn't waste his time trying to set one up.

However, Patricia Mitten, Hoboken Health Officer, said there has been a health ordinance on the city's books for the last year prohibiting tattoo shops.

"They are not allowed here," she said.

"I really like Hoboken," said Ferris. "I can see the renaissance going on around here. It's a town that's coming into its own."

The tattoo artist has served as a consultant on a number of films and had served as personal tattooist to a number of motorcycle gangs in New Orleans.

## Directors say they can't cut in Hoboken

Some Hoboken department directors began taking a look today as to where they could make cutbacks after the City Council's decision to cut \$800,000 from the city budget.

But the problem is they're not finding too many places.

Officials have already estimated 60 to 100 employees would lose their jobs because of the council's decision. James Farina, Hoboken's health and welfare director said the housing inspection office is already short-staffed and couldn't afford to make any cuts in those areas.

"I would have to lay off some of my park maintenance men and recreation workers if there have to be layoffs," said a grim-faced Farina. "It's nothing I would want to do."

Andrew Amato, public works director, said he doesn't know where to make cuts in his department because there is no place to cut.

"I am already short of men," said Amato. "If I'm going to have to cut men then the services we can offer are going to be affected seriously." And James Giordano, Hoboken's Public Safety director, said he just doesn't see any place for cutbacks either.

"Cutbacks would seriously affect the quality of our police and fire service," he said.

All three directors said they will not take any formal action to cut their department budgets until notified by the council that they have to.

## Cops delay vote on job action

Hoboken's Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Thomas Meehan said today that a vote by his members on a "major job action" will be delayed until after an arbitrator comes in.

The arbitrator, Meehan said, is scheduled to sit down with the PBA and the city's negotiating team on Monday on a contract for this year.

Meehan said he wants to see what progress is made before the arbitrator before a vote on a job action. He also said he wants to see if there is going to be actual going to be layoffs of patrolmen

## Hoboken director's son held in materials theft

Continued from Page 1.

water department; Anthony Ocello, 60, of 300 First St., a public works garage foreman; George Ugarte, 32, of 96 Columbia Terr., Weehawken, and Florencio Opazo-Galvez, 51, of 139 Bloomfield St., Hoboken.

Police said Ugarte is one of the owners of the City Paint and Hardware store at 130 Washington St., and Opazo-Galvez is an employee there.

Capt. Russell Sweeten, detective commander, said the arrests climaxed a three-month undercover investigation.

Police said Detectives Karl Fause and Carmen LaBruno had the garage at Pier A under surveillance yesterday and saw Ocello and another man drive from the pier in a city truck loaded with tar paper and roofing cement. They later met Amato

who was driving his own van, police said, and the supplies were transferred to the van and taken to the hardware store.

Police said they recovered 11 rolls of roofing paper and 10 cans of the cement, valued at about \$300. What the suspects did not know, police said, is that the items were coated with an invisible liquid which showed up on their hands under an ultra-violet light.

Ocello was charged with larceny while Amato, Ugarte and Opazo Galvez were booked on charges of receiving stolen merchandise.

Mayor Steve Cappiello expressed shock over the incident and said Amato and Ocello will be suspended. Mario Mercado, the city's new garage superintendent, said the thefts showed lack of supervision in the department.

## Amato's son held in sale of city goods

By SUSAN KIELMAN  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The son of Public Works Director Andrew Amato was charged yesterday with selling \$763 worth of city property to a local store, officials said.

Andrew Amato Jr., 22, of 514 First St., was arrested for receiving stolen property. Amato Jr., a foreman at the Department of Public Works, was released on \$100 cash bail, police said.

Anthony Ocello, 60, of 400 1st St. was charged with taking 11 rolls of tar paper

and 10 five-gallon cans of roofing cement from a storage area on Pier A, police said. Ocello is a maintenance repair supervisor for the public works department, police said.

Also arrested were: George Ugarte, 32, of 96 Columbia Terrace, Weehawken, and Florencio Opazo Galvez, 51, of 139 Bloomfield St., authorities said.

Ugarte, the owner of City Paint and Hardware Store at 131 Bloomfield St., was charged with receiving stolen property, police said.

Galvez, an employee of the store, was charged with unloading the stolen property, police reported.

Police gave the following account of the incident yesterday:

Ocello took the property from the garage at 9:30 a.m., and turned it over to Amato Jr. The property was then sold to Ugarte at a cut rate at 10:30 a.m.

The material was stolen from a Port Authority of New York and New Jersey garage. The garage was being used on a temporary basis until the completion of

the city's new central storage garage.

All the suspects were released on \$100 cash bail promptly after their arrests around 2:30 p.m. yesterday.

During the past two years, Amato Sr. and Mayor Steve Cappiello have been at odds. Amato's wife, Florence, ran unsuccessfully for the City Council last May.

Amato's employment of his own son has been questioned by Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius in the past.

Neither Amato Sr. nor Cappiello could be reached for comment last night.

## It's Hoboken time to sweep again

Sweep-a-mile is on again tomorrow in Hoboken. Volunteers will sweep up debris and litter off 14th Street and on River Road. The city government will provide brooms, shovels and plastic bags.

The project is sponsored by the Coalition for a Cleaner Hoboken.

Along with it, a group of Boy Scouts has promised to sweep Washington Street, the scene of the coalition's first Sweep-a-mile last year.

As a feature of tomorrow's sweep, athletic and youthful members of the coalition will clamber up and on the serpentine rock formation overhanging River Road from Fourth Street northward to dislodge and remove debris and litter accumulated in crevices and on ledges.

Starting time is set for 10 a.m. Rain date is Sunday.

## Aide rehired, NAACP won't sue

The Hoboken Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has dropped plans to file a discrimination suit against Hoboken following the rehiring of the City Hall's only black employee.

Eugene Drayton, chapter president, said today he has told state NAACP officials not to proceed with

legal action because Anna Mae Lyons has been rehired.

Mrs. Lyons was rehired as a switchboard operator in the police department two weeks ago. She had been terminated in September from her CETA secretarial position in the mayor's office, where she had worked for three years.

Prior to that she had worked in the city's violations bureau as a temporary employee for nine years. She lost that job, however, when she did not pass a Civil Service test for her position and was bumped by someone who did.

At the time of her layoff from the CETA position Drayton had threatened the city with legal action if she were not rehired.

The NAACP president said he is pleased to see Mrs. Lyons back on the payroll.

"I think the mayor has shown us good faith," he said.

And Mayor Steve Cappiello said he is glad Mrs. Lyons is back, too.

"She was an important link between the City Hall and the black community," he said. "I'm glad she's back."



## Cappiello has hope for future state

By Joseph Albright 88 4/21/80  
TRENTON — Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today held out hope for state aid improvements starting in next year's budget but conceded there was nothing specific for immediate aid to lessen a 25 percent property tax increase projected in 1980 after conferring with Gov. Brendan T. Byrne in the State House.

As for "discretionary urban aid" help, Cappiello described Byrne as "absolutely non-committal."

Cappiello outlined two potential future revenue source possibilities:

- Hoboken Railroad Terminal expansion to provide the city with additional funds.
- Giving Hoboken some revenue out of ticket sales in the Hoboken Terminal.

Byrne said Transportation Commissioner Louis J. Gambaccini would contact him in a day or two, continued Cappiello, to discuss his proposal for Hoboken sharing in shop and rental expansion in the terminal.

The mayor recalled that a Hoboken Railroad Terminal Authority was discussed by Gambaccini to help the city in planning in a joint state-local authority subject to legislative approval.

Byrne made no comment on his suggestion that Hoboken share in terminal ticket sales, Cappiello reported.

The mayor was joined by Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius, Sen. William V. Musto, Union City Democrat, and Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo, Hoboken Democrat. Musto and Gallo will "research" the ticket-revenue sharing proposal, said Cappiello. It would require legislation.

As for any fiscal aid this year, the mayor said state Taxation Director Sidney Glaser would be in contact to discuss railroad taxes, which have dropped from \$628,000 to \$593,000.

Glaser also will discuss Hoboken's reduced aid under the municipal assistance or gross utility tax receipts legislation at the same time, the mayor said. Hoboken lost some \$275,000 this year.

Byrne thought the recently approved tax formula wasn't right, the mayor said. The governor was not hopeful on getting anything done to help 1980 budget problems," Chius commented.

Assemblyman Robert C. Janiszewski, Jersey City Democrat, a member of the Joint Appropriations Committee, promised to be on the lookout for additional funds for Hoboken once the panel begins its final three days deliberations on the appropriations act for the fiscal year commencing July 1.

The sessions were to resume today but will be postponed until early May, it was reported, to give the ad-

ministration more time to receive and study the various first-quarter tax receipts.

Janiszewski said the gross receipts formula provides for increased state aid to counter a local property tax increase. He predicted the aid "should be increased dramatically," and the state aid "will flow into Hoboken next year" under this formula provision. "Of course, that doesn't address the problem this year," Janiszewski conceded.

"Without increases in aid in the next few years, there will be severe cutbacks in services and personnel," Chius warned.

Cappiello admitted "We never can expect to get all the things we lost," which Chius said came to some \$500,000 in various state aid programs and \$2 million in federal grants.

Chius said Hoboken will be looking for its "fair share" in road aid from the state transit bond issue appropriation Byrne signed last week.

Byrne was described as "somewhat surprised to learn of the exceedingly high tax rate increase that has been projected," saying 12 percent of taxes in assessed value is "extremely high," Cappiello related. The present \$84 per \$1,000 assessment rate could hit \$122 per \$1,000 this year, Chius said, without some additional state aid in 1980.

## Hoboken school board balks at \$500,000 budget reduction

The Hoboken Board of Education, as expected, has decided not to go along with the City Council's request to cut \$500,000 from the 1980-81 school budget.

Board president Robert Wendelken said the board decision was unanimous at a closed meeting Monday night.

"We felt we couldn't cut any more without affecting the education of our children," said Wendelken.

The president said the board had already scaled down the budget \$1.5 million to comply with the cap law and is also agreeing to a \$225,000 cut beyond that by the Board of School Estimate.

The school board, he said, is expected to approve that cut at its meeting Thursday night.

The school board budget now stands at approximately \$17.6 million. City Council President Walter Cramer said he was very disappointed

about the board's action. And Mayor Steve Cappiello said he also disagreed with it.

But the mayor said he had appointed board members for their "independence, not to be political hacks."

The board's \$17.6-million budget will result in a \$4 per \$1,000 valuation tax increase for property owners. The total tax increase, minus any future cuts, would be \$22 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The 1979 rate was \$94.19.

## No Hoboken school cuts seen

Hoboken Board of Education members will probably not go along with the Hoboken City Council's request to cut \$500,000 from the school budget, board President Robert Wendelken said today.

Wendelken said he is personally opposed to the \$500,000 cut and said he believed most of the seven board members were with him.

The board is scheduled to meet in closed session Monday night to take up the issue.

The board does not have to go along with the council's request since the Hoboken Board of School Estimate has already passed the board's \$18 million budget.

"The board can't make cuts without affecting the education of our children," said Wendelken. "There is nothing to cut."

Wendelken said a \$225,000 cut from the budget made by the Board of School Estimate will already have

serious ramifications for the school system.

The board president said he also felt the state commissioner of education would also be very displeased if Hoboken changed its budget as this late date because it has already been submitted to him.

But Council President Walter Cramer called Wendelken's position "a lot of baloney."

"The council is cutting \$500,000 from the budget and the Board of Education should be willing to do the same," he said.

Cramer said while the Hoboken school system has lost 1800 students in the last 10 years it has kept the same number of teachers and administrators. In addition, Cramer said, the superintendent of schools and his two assistants make the highest salaries in Hoboken.

But George Maier, superintendent of schools, said that Cramer was

not correct.

Maier said the number of school administrators had been reduced by the eight in the last two years since he took over and that there are 20 percent fewer teachers being paid with city funds.

The only reason the number of teachers has remained constant, Maier said, is that a number of them are paid by federal funds.

As far as the salaries go, Maier said his salary along with that of his two assistants are comparable with the salaries of most school administrators.

Maier receives \$50,000 a year while the system's two assistants receive \$42,500.

The superintendent said he felt the \$500,000 cut would destroy the school system.

## Council may cut Hoboken school budget figure

If the Hoboken Board of Education won't cut its budget, the Hoboken City Council may do it, having dredged up an archaic law to support the action.

A special meeting of the City Council has been called tonight to decide whether to cut the school budget, City Council President Walter Cramer said.

Cramer said that after doing extensive research he has found a state education law which he believes allows the council to cut the budget.

A total of \$4.5 million of the board's almost \$18-million budget must be raised by taxation, Cramer said. That's in excess of 1.5 percent of the assessed value of all the property in the city, which Cramer said is the limit of the law.

George Maier, Hoboken schools superintendent, replied that the board would "definitely" appeal a council reduction of the budget. Maier said he doesn't believe the state education commissioner would permit the council to cut Hoboken's school budget because of the damage it would do.

The City Council has asked the school board to cut \$500,000 from its budget but it refused to.

## Hoboken hailed as film capital

The guest of honor, Gov. Brendan T. Byrne, didn't show up but 74 year old Joseph E. Levine, producer of the upcoming film, "Tattoo," didn't seem to mind and promised the film would premiere in Hoboken.

Levine, one of the film industry's last moguls threw a bash in Hoboken's Clam Broth House to salute Byrne and the New Jersey Film Commission for their help and cooperation in the production of "Tattoo."

The film, which stars Bruce Dern, is now filming in a makeshift tattoo parlor (formerly a vacant store) at Hudson and Newark streets in Hoboken.

Joseph Friedmann, executive director of the New Jersey Film Commission, apologized to Levine on behalf of the governor.

"The governor had an emergency in Trenton over the Casino Control Commission bill now before the legislature, and couldn't come," Friedmann told Levine.

Levine seemed to enjoy his bash, anyhow.

He chatted with Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello about Hoboken for about 10 minutes.

"Where were you when they made the movie 'On the Waterfront,' Levine asked the mayor.

"I was a policeman at the time," said the mayor, "who was fighting the political powers at the time back then," he said.

"Well you've certainly straightened things out," said Levine. "Now you're in charge."

"I certainly am," said the mayor.

Levine, when asked by a Jersey Journal reporter if the film would



Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, left, Bruce Dern and Joseph E. Levine discuss filmmaking at the Clam Broth House.

premiere in Hoboken, said "If you want it to premiere here, then it will."

Cappiello said he would enjoy having the film premiere in the city.

Levine said he would be glad to make the necessary arrangements and would have the proceeds for the film go to a charity of the mayor's choice.

"But the charity can't be you," Levine told the mayor jokingly.

Cappiello said that Hoboken had many problems but he would like the money to go to benefit youth athletic programs.

"If that's what you want, that's

what we'll do," said Levine.

Dern, also chatted with the mayor and told him he was really enjoying working in the city and inquired as to where the best place in the city was for jogging.

The mayor told Dern, who runs daily, that he would be more than free to use the high school athletic field for his daily exercise.

Dern said he had tried to run home to his apartment in Manhattan the other night after shooting but said he was stopped at the entrance to the Lincoln Tunnel by toll booth atten-

dants who told him pedestrians were not allowed in the tunnel.

Both Dern and Levine praised the cooperation they had been getting from the Hoboken police and city officials in shooting the film.

"Hoboken would be a perfect location for a film studio," said Levine.

Friedmann said later that six films have been partially shot in Hoboken in the past two years, more than in any other city in the state.

"This is the film capital of New Jersey," he said. "It's a charming city that has a lot of color."



OPERATION CLEAN-UP — Bill Perry and Molly Thompson, front and a crew of volunteers help pick up refuse strewn along River Road beneath the campus of Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken as part of the city's citizen-sponsored cleanup. Sweep-A-Mile held Saturday.

## Hoboken budget back to the drawing board

By MARYANN JACOB Staff Writer

HOBOKEN — The City Council presented its proposed \$17,804,581 budget for 1980 to residents at a sparsely attended public hearing last night.

At the close of the public hearing, Council President Walter Cramer announced that the council would meet twice next week to "redo" the budget.

Hoboken residents may have to pay an approximately 25 percent to 30 percent increase over last year's taxes to support this year's budget. However, the City Council hopes to slash that budget by more than a half million dollars before it is presented to the state.

The handful of citizens who attended last night's public hearing were concerned that even with a tax increase of

about \$23 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, no additional services would be provided.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius ventured that 30 employees may have to be laid off but said "that's a low figure."

Edward C. Babcock, representing the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce, said the organization had reviewed the Hoboken budget and, while understanding the city's fiscal pressures, found the large municipal tax increase "unacceptable."

Babcock suggested substantial across-the-board cutbacks in all city departments.

Another resident advised a salary cut of 10 percent for all municipal employees, starting with the City Council, the mayor and city directors.

"We hope to cut the budget by

\$800,000," said Kramer.

He said the cuts would lead to layoffs but declined to comment on the number of city workers who would lose their jobs.

Chius issued a memo to city officials yesterday concerning possible changes in budget, format advised by the state Division of Local Government Services.

Chius was told of the possible changes by Barry Skolowski, acting director of the state agency.

"...State Urban Aid in the amount of \$1,000,505.04 must be put in the 1980 budget within the five percent cap," said the memo.

However, \$400,171 can be excluded from the cap, according to Skolowski. The changes must be made by amendment before the budget is adopted.

The net effect of the two changes, said Chius' letter, is a reduction of \$979,304.04 in municipal budget appropriations and a corresponding cut of \$979,304.04 to be raised by taxation.

But according to Kramer, the council already had chosen to cut \$800,000 from the budget.

He said he had just received his copy of the memo and wanted to get an opinion from the city law department about whether the change requested by the state is binding.

Union City has received a similar message from the state government services division stating that certain items excluded from the cap in the city's budget should be included, or the budget could be rejected.

## New running track is now a shambles

By Randolph Diamond

Hoboken's new running track, only a month old, is already in shambles.

Garbage, broken glass, beer cans and even a tricycle wheel are lying on the track behind City Hall.

Fred Bado, Hoboken Community Development Agency director whose agency built the track, said today that the track's condition is "a shame."

Bado said his department doesn't have maintenance crews to clean the track. That is up to the city's recreation department, which has been asked to clean up the track a number of times, he declared.

Hoboken Health and Welfare Director James Farina, who heads the recreation department, said his men will start cleaning the track this week.

Farina said his crews hadn't cleaned the track because he was under the impression that it had not been officially turned over to the city.

He said that in that case the contractor might not be responsible if any "problems" developed.

But Farina said that he has now talked to the city's consulting engineer, James Caulfield, and that Caulfield has told him it would be all right to clean the track.

## Astrology workshop slated in Hoboken

An astrology workshop will be held at the Beat 'n Path Restaurant at 125 Washington St. in Hoboken from noon to 4 p.m. on four consecutive Saturdays, May 3 through 24.

Participants will work with their own horoscopes under the guidance of C. J. Puotinen, the instructor, who says both beginners and advanced students will benefit.

Registration will be limited to 35 persons. The cost is \$40 for the series.

A lecture series on psychic awareness and holistic healing by Don Lepore of Bayonne will be held at 8 p.m. on seven Tuesdays, beginning next week.

The series will include the use of auras, telepathy, clairvoyance, astral projection, media-

tion, hypnosis, reflexology, alpha mind control, bio feedback, color therapy, gem and music therapy, laying on of hands, chakra techniques and spirit communication.

## Hoboken school board to lay off 90 employees

By Randolph Diamond

Approximately 90 Hoboken Board of Education employees will receive "pink slips" in the next few days.

However, there is a possibility that a number of the 90 teachers notified of their dismissal will be rehired if federal funds come through, Robert Wendelken, board president, said today.

But Wendelken said there is virtually no chance that 25 board employees in non-teaching positions will be rehired, as well as another five teachers whose performances were judged unsatisfactory.

Among the 25 employees, Wendelken said, are janitors, bus drivers, truck drivers, a clerk and the

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entire staff of nine cleaning women.

Wendelken said the pink slips for the teachers had to be sent out by April 30 because if teachers aren't notified by then, they have to be paid for the following school year.

He said the board will know by mid-May what amount of federal funds will be received.

The board, he said, received \$1 million in federal funds last year, but he has already learned that there will be at least a \$190,000 cut.

Meanwhile the board has officially approved a proposal budget for the coming year which amounts to \$17,632,883.



A brand new running track behind Hoboken City Hall already is filled with debris.