

Hope for a brighter holiday

Brothers still confined to burn center

By LENA H. SUN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Paulie Rodriguez will be spending Christmas in the hospital where he has been a patient for the last two months since his apartment home was destroyed by a suspicious fire on Columbus Day.

But his holiday will be brightened by local residents who have called St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston where the 6-year-old boy and his 4-year-old brother, Frankie, are hospitalized, to offer their help following an article in The Dispatch about the brothers last week.

"We've been bombarded with calls by people who saw the article and apparently want to do something for those kids," Pat Schidid, administrative assistant for the 12-bed burn unit where Paulie is being treated, said Friday, the day after the article appeared.

"I hope they will keep doing that because the response has really been amazing," said head nurse Sue Tracey, referring to the callers. "When they call, they say they saw the pictures of the kids in The Dispatch and we try to put them in touch with the right people. One person said they wanted to buy one of those radios with the headphones for Paul."

Paulie, who was burned on 60 percent of his body and also suffered severe smoke inhalation in the fire at 67 Park Ave., is listed in critical but stable condition.

Because of the severity of his burns, the boy is suffering intense physical and psychological pain — a pain that has been described by doctors as the worst kind there is. Doctors have not completed the necessary skin grafts, and Paulie is expected to remain at the unit through the end of the year.

His younger brother, Frankie, who was burned on 30 percent of his body, has been transferred out of the unit, and is recuperating in the hospital's pediatrics unit.

The fire that consumed the five-story tenement building where Paulie and Frankie lived with their two

other brothers, mother, and stepfather, also took the lives of two other young children.

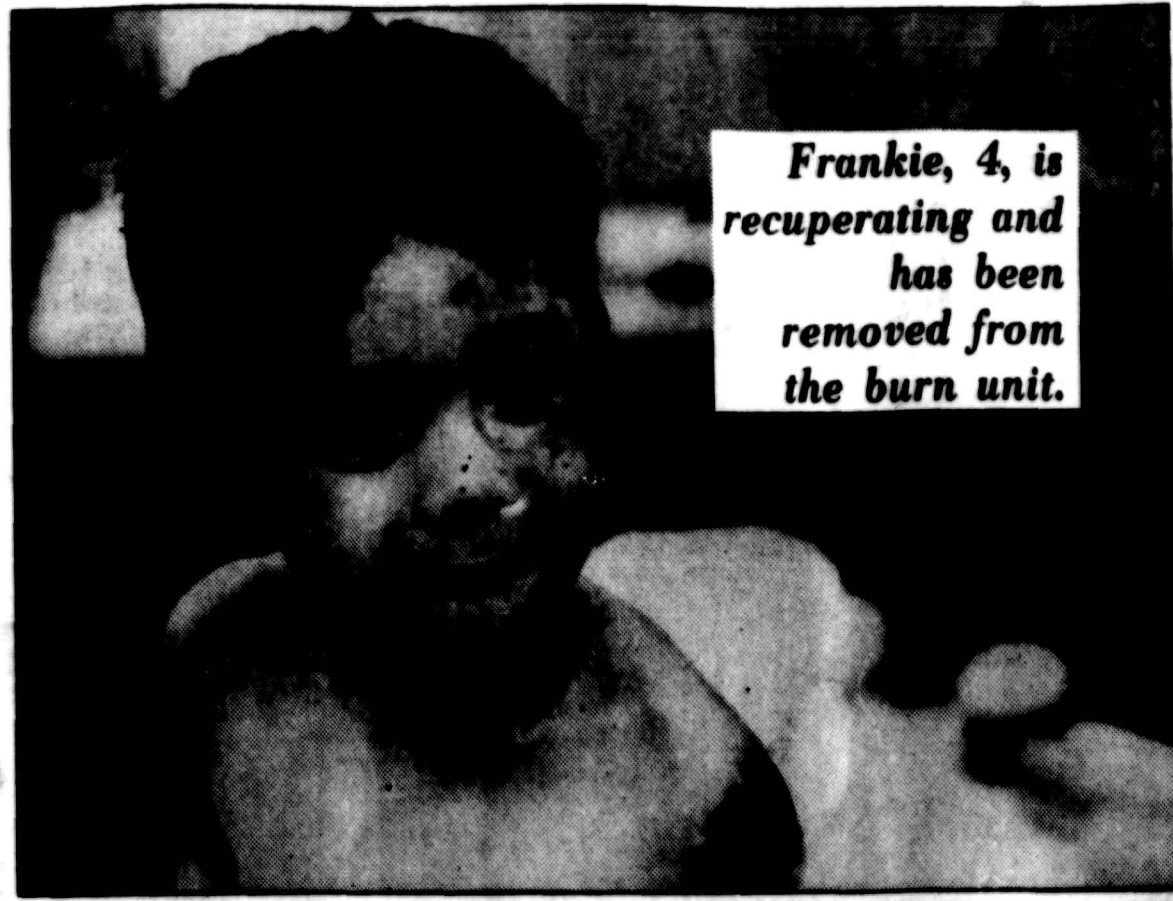
With the exception of the boys' mother, every member of the family was burned in the fire, but only Paulie and Frankie are still in the hospital.

The fire was one of the three major fires, all termed arson, that have ravaged this city in the last two months, killing 15, injuring dozens and leaving numer-

ous families homeless.

Hospital social worker Harlene Golden said the family recently found an apartment in Jersey City.

"I know they have beds," she said, "because the boys' tutor (provided by the hospital) has been raising a collection in her church to get them furniture. But as far as clothing goes, especially for the boys, I'm sure they can use anything. They lost everything in the fire."



Frankie, 4, is recuperating and has been removed from the burn unit.



Paulie Rodriguez sits up in bed to enjoy his meal.

Cappiello wants to hear Cablevision complaints

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today urged residents who have complaints about the service provided by Cablevision of New Jersey, which is a Hoboken-based company, to supply him with information concerning their problems so that he can present them at a state hearing on the firm's service in Hudson.

The Office of Cable Television, Board of Public Utilities, state Department of Energy, will hold a public hearing at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the West New York town hall to hear comments from subscribers of the service and city officials.

A spokesperson for the BPU said the hearing has been requested by West New York officials as a result of complaints from subscribers in that town.

He noted that a hearing was held last summer

in North Bergen following complaints. This hearing Tuesday is a follow-up to see if Cablevision complied with the state's recommendations and to listen to additional gripes, if there are any.

"We held the hearing in the summer and are returning because the complaints we received against Cablevision were greater than in other parts of the state," said the spokesman. "Municipal officials also requested the hearings."

Some of those complaints included installation of service, programming, deposit returns, to name a few, he said.

According to Cappiello, he has received the same complaints from local residents. He urged subscribers to write, call or visit the City Clerk's office with complaints so that he can present them at Tuesday's meeting.

Hoboken due to settle neglect case

The Hoboken City Council is expected to vote on a resolution at 7 p.m. tomorrow that authorizes an emergency appropriation of \$410,000 which will be reflected in the 1982 municipal budget.

Out of that amount, \$107,000 is to be paid to the family of Pedro Munoz of Bridgeton as a result of a one-year litigation case.

According to Edwin Chius, business administrator, a \$100,000 judgment was awarded to the survivors of Munoz in Superior Court, plus \$7,000 interest, which came about as a result of members of the family

filing brutality charges against the city.

Legal documents revealed that following the arrest of Munoz and a 16-year-old juvenile on Aug. 24, 1977, Munoz died in an auto accident in Newark.

His survivors claimed that the arrest in Hoboken led to the man's death. It was charged that Munoz was assaulted by local police.

A jury found that the police were not guilty of brutality charges, but the panel found the city guilty of neglect. As a result, the jury awarded the family of the deceased \$100,000, plus \$7,000 interest.

Munoz originally was charged with leaving the scene of an auto accident and assault on a police officer. The charges were dismissed in municipal court, however.

Hoboken is self-insured.

The city also has to pay \$15,000 in legal fees for the police officers involved. This is in accordance with a contractual agreement between the city and the PBA, Chius said.

The city also needs emergency funds for the following:

- \$40,000 medical services for employees hurt on the job.

- \$84,000 for dental and prescription plan which has risen 40 percent this year.

- \$10,000 for baler fees. The city now dumps in the Meadowlands.

- \$35,000 for utilities.
- \$30,000 for gas and fuel oil.
- \$40,000 for hospitalization and major medical plan for active employees, and \$2,000 for the inactive ones.

- \$38,000 interest on the bond anticipation note.

A resolution adopting specifications for collection and removal of garbage is expected to be acted on.

Hoboken seeks Green-Acres deal

By Peter LaVilla

Kennedy Stadium, owned by the city of Hoboken, and adjacent Columbus Park, owned by the county, are being considered for major renovations, provided the stadium is turned over to the county to administer.

City and county officials yesterday toured Columbus Park. It was determined that before federal funds could be applied for to renovate the park, Kennedy Stadium must be included to sweeten the pot for Green Acres aid.

The stadium, which had been owned by the Hoboken Board of Education, was turned over to the city to maintain. The reason for

that was the board was not eligible for Green Acres funding but the city is.

However, since the county can match more federal aid than the city, Mayor Steve Cappiello said he would have no objections to turning over the stadium to the county.

According to Cappiello, who also is a freeholder, Columbus Park is only 1.6 acres, far less than what other communities have in county recreation facilities.

"Hoboken is being shortchanged," said the mayor. "With a population of some 43,000 people, all we got from the county is a 1.6 acre park. We are

tight for space and therefore suffer from the loss of recreation programs."

Aaron Schulman, county administrator, who joined city officials on the tour, agreed with Cappiello.

"There's no doubt that Hoboken needs more recreation facilities," Schulman said. "Perhaps we can change all that with the help of the expansion and federal funds."

James Farina, director of parks and recreation, said it would take about \$1 million to accomplish everything the city sought.

He said he'd like to see the grandstands rehabilitated and moved back about 40 feet which would result in additional space for other recreation programs at Kennedy Stadium.

Farina also said new lights would have to be installed, the locker rooms and toilet facilities need upgrading, and more playground equipment installed in Columbus Park.

Freeholder-elect John Spinello, who also toured the park, said no action on the proposal will take place until after the new freeholders hold their first meeting in January.

Demonstrators ejected, 2 arrested at Hoboken City Council meeting

By Earl Morgan

Angry shouts, chanting demonstrators, arrests and accusations that the mayor and City Council are the "tools of the real estate interests" marked last night's council meeting in Hoboken.

Tenant groups showed up at the meeting to protest what they termed the council's inaction in passing a smoke detector ordinance or preventing arson, or providing housing for tenants who have been burned out of their homes.

A Brooklyn attorney and a member of one of the tenants' groups were arrested because, according to police, they were yelling and disrupting the meeting after they and approximately 100 demonstrators were ordered out of the session at City Hall.

Tenant leaders claimed that when the lawyer, John Zorinsky, asked a plainclothes police officer for his identification, the cop placed him under arrest. The second man arrested was Keith Pavlick of Hoboken.

The tenants' groups included the All Peoples Congress, the Emergency Coalition to Save Rent Control and Por La Gente.

That the demonstrators planned to attend the council meeting was no secret and a contingent of police, both in plainclothes and in uniforms, ringed the chamber to watch the standing-room-only crowd.

The trouble began when Tom Soto, of the All Peoples Congress, attempted to address the council while another man was speaking.

When Council President Walter Cramer told him that he would have to wait until the items on the regular agenda were disposed of the crowd began to chant, "Let him speak."

Shortly after that, Cramer ordered the room cleared of the demonstrators. The police moved the people outside.

Inside, Sister Norberta, leader of Por La Gente and a member of the city's rent board, sparked a debate when she claimed that neither the council members nor the mayor made any statement about the victims of a recent spate of arson that

have swept through the city leaving 15 dead and scores of others homeless.

Cramer heatedly replied that he did not attend any of the prayer vigils held after the deaths because Sister Norberta and others in Por La Gente, had accused the council of "murder."

After the agenda was completed, the demonstrators were allowed to return to the meeting. Several of them were on a speakers' list.

The speakers hammered away at the arson and what they termed "renaissance" of Hoboken, which, they said, is a plot to "increase the profits of big landlords, real estate companies and banks on the backs of the poor."

"The only way you can vindicate yourselves is to repeal vacancy decontrol," Soto said. He was referring to an ordinance passed several months ago that allowed a landlord to give a 25 percent rent increase to new tenants.

Elizabeth Copeland read an open letter to the mayor and city council enumerating 12 questions of tenants groups, ranging from how many suspicious fires have occurred in Hoboken in the last five years to whether councilmembers, the mayor or other public officials have ties with banks, developers or real estate interests in the city.

Cramer adjourned the meeting when David Axlerod refused to take his hat off before addressing the council. "We have a rule that anyone addressing the council must take his hat off." Women are not bound by the rule, Cramer said.

Blight tag for Hoboken area dropped

By ROY KAHN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Many parts of the city could meet the state's criteria for a "blighted" designation, and the 30,000-square-foot area bounded by Second, Third, Clinton and Willow streets is just one of them, says a planning consultant.

At a meeting of the city planning board Tuesday night, consultant Harvey Moskowitz suggested, and the board agreed, that the city should abandon plans to "blight" (or designate blighted) the Willow Street area, which includes 10 tenement buildings.

"There are very large areas in the city that qualify for blight," said Moskowitz.

"It is my opinion that you can't just look at an area. You have to look at it in the context of the city."

The recommendation and the board's decision came after the tenement owners, who charge that the city is treating them unfairly, protested the plans to blight their buildings. The move would have allowed the city to put the buildings up for sale without the owners' consent.

"There were a lot of people on the street watching this story," said Daniel Janssen, who owns three of the buildings and was one of the more vocal landlords contesting the city's plan. "It is a very dangerous situation when, just because of

someone's inclination, you can lose your property."

He said Applied Housing, the largest developer in the city, has expressed an interest in expanding its Willow Street development. He said that is what prompted the city to consider blighting the area.

Janssen claimed the problems with the buildings hardly warranted blighting as they are "cosmetic" and, he said, easily fixed. In his report, Moskowitz said the problems are far more serious, allegedly involving fire code violations, rotted window frames and electrical systems which need repair.

Moskowitz said the \$35,000 Janssen

indicated he is prepared to spend should cover "about half of what has to be done."

Moskowitz admitted, however, that it was landlord protests that prompted the city to review its decision to blight.

He said it was only after the landlords began to protest that the city decided to come up with a rehabilitation plan which included them.

Moskowitz added, however, that he did not know whether the city has a developer in mind, when it decided to blight the area. "I think they just wanted to continue the rehab effort that had been started on the east side of the street."

Deputy chief's post open

Hoboken public safety officials will be meeting next week to determine who should be promoted to deputy fire chief.

James Giordano, director of public safety, said he's received certification from Civil Service that a list is available to choose from.

A recent test was held for the post and 15 persons are eligible for appointment. However, only one will be selected, if the public safety committee goes along with the plan to fill the vacancy, he said.

"First, I have to see if we have the money in the budget," Giordano said.

Hoboken's fire department table of organization calls for four deputy chiefs. The job pays up to \$33,929 annually, he said.

Potential conflict of interest threatens 4th official

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A scheduled vote tomorrow night at the board of education meeting to hire Councilman Thomas Kennedy's wife to add his name to the list of councilmen who could find themselves enmeshed in a conflict of interest when voting on school board monetary issues.

The expected appointment of Kennedy's wife to a clerk's position with the school board and the recent appointment of City Council President Walter

Cramer to a \$38,000 post as the board's business administrator come at a time when the board is requesting the City Council's approval of a \$9-million bond issue for capital improvements.

Councilman Louis Francone is the head of the board's maintenance department, and Councilman Anthony Romano made a lateral move from the business administrator's post to become assistant to the secretary of the board of education.

Kennedy and Cramer said they don't believe they will have to abstain when

voting on monetary issues involving the board. Cramer denied that voting on a budget that provides money for his salary and money that he will administer is a conflict of interest.

Kennedy, who works for the CETA program which is destined for the federal aid, denied that voting on the school board budget which would include his wife's salary is a conflict of interest.

Holding the dual positions, according to the state Department of Education, does not necessarily constitute a conflict of interest.

"There is nothing in law to prevent

them from holding (the two) positions. Where a conflict of interest exists can only be determined by a judge," said Bill O'Donnell, spokesman for the department.

He added, "The general yardstick is whether someone benefits directly or indirectly from the position. If they were just voting on their salaries, that's one thing. But if they're voting on the entire school budget, that is something I don't know — it's a gray area."

Cramer, in his position as president of the City Council, votes on the budgets of the school board. He also appoints mem-

bers of the council to the Board of School Estimate which is responsible for overseeing money requests from the board to the city.

Cramer said last week he would have to check with the law department to determine if he would be allowed to vote. He explained, "I will follow past practices. I think 'they' (Francone and Romano) voted on the past school board budgets."

While Romano and Francone could not be reached for comment, Kennedy said he remembered that both councilmen had voted on board of education matters.

Kennedy declared that Francone and Romano voted recently in closed caucus to approve the \$9-million bond request from the school board.

At least one civic figure, Tom Vezzetti, has gone a step further in examining the relationship between the councilmen and their jobs. Vezzetti said yesterday he has taken the issue to the Hudson County prosecutor.

"If four city councilmen have to abstain from voting in City Council meetings on school board financial matters, it is denying their constituents equal representation under the law," Vezzetti said.

Hoboken collects tax arrears of \$1.1 million

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken has collected \$1.1 million of \$1.6 million in outstanding tax arrears from home and property owners.

"And we don't intend to stop until we've collected just about every penny owed to the city," said Bernard Scrivani, director of revenue and finance.

Scrivani, who took over as director just about a year ago, credited various city departments working together to make the collection program work, and the public for cooperating.

"It was rather simple," he said. "I sent out notices to delinquent home and property owners and informed them that they were behind in their tax payments. I asked them to cooperate with the city and we would cooperate with them. It worked rather successfully."

The \$1.1 million, he said, will go into the city's treasury to help support the 1982 municipal budget, he noted.

In his letter and phone calls to delinquent

property owners, Scrivani said he pointed out that the city assesses an 8 percent interest charge for taxes owed up to \$1,500 and a whopping 18 percent for anything over that amount.

"I explained to them that no matter what the problems we can work it out if we sit down and talk it over," he said. "I also pointed out that failure to pay taxes could result in the loss of property as a result of the city putting a tax lien on it."

The city is holding a tax title lien sale at 10 a.m. Dec. 16 in the municipal building on delinquent property and most of it equals the \$500,000 that is outstanding, Scrivani said.

Hoboken's tax rate is \$138 per \$1,000 assessed valuation and is one of the highest in the state. The city's annual tax collection is about 86 percent.

"Everyone knows that the better the tax collection the better it is for the city's financial stability," said Scrivani. "And we're working toward that goal."

Hoboken city employees call off work slowdown

A major job action by the Hoboken Municipal Employees' union was averted the last minute yesterday when more than half of the city workers received their clothing allowance in accordance with a two-year agreement with the city.

Judge Fitzgibbons, president of the 200-man union, said employees were set to demonstrate in front of City Hall at noon today and conduct a work slowdown had not the city released checks for some 120 uniform union workers.

"Under the agreement with the city about 120 union employees are supposed to receive \$200 in clothing allowance," said Fitzgibbons. "The city waited until the final hour to pay us. We were all set to hold a ma-

nor job action that would have crippled municipal services."

Edwin Chius, business administrator, said the checks were scheduled to be released earlier but a last minute spot check showed that someone in the payroll department forgot to signal the computer not to deduct social security taxes from the clothing allowance.

Fitzgibbons also stated that his union felt slighted because his organization was the last to receive the allowance.

"We have to live in Hoboken in order to work in Hoboken and other unions don't have to abide by that ruling," he said. "We feel that we shouldn't be treated like second class citizens. We live here and pay our taxes."

Hoboken PBA's leader renews drive for shotguns

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—For the second time this year, PBA President Thomas Meehan has asked the city to put shotguns in one-man patrol cars.

Meehan said the police union will present the issue of shotguns and an additional \$11 pay per shift for men who work the one-man patrol cars to an arbitrator on Wednesday.

Meehan said yesterday the police need shotguns in their cars because of the growing menace of terrorism in the United States and their present weapons would be no match for those of terrorists.

A local community leader rejected Meehan's rationale for the weapons, saying there have been no incidents in Hoboken which showed police needed the weapons. And one city official agreed.

Meehan said eight months ago that the issues were scheduled to be arbitrated, but the city asked for a postponement. He said he hoped the city would be prepared for the arbitration this time.

Mayor Steve Cappiello could not be reached for comment, but Business Administrator Edwin Chius, a close confidante of his, said he was unaware that arbitration is scheduled for Wednesday. Chius said that he is unaware of any situation that showed the police need the weapons.

In May, Meehan said shotguns were needed in the city's one-man patrol cars because of the approach of summer. Meehan said then that, with budget cuts, the city would face trouble from unemployed youths, particularly the large Hispanic population.

In May, Cappiello said the city did not face any trouble from the Hispanic community and he rejected the call for the high-powered weapons.

Juan Garcia, head of the only Hispanic counseling agency in Hoboken, Citizens United for New Action, said he also was unaware of any situation in the city that would make Meehan request shotguns.

Garcia added, "I'm not condemning police in Hoboken. But if they carry shotguns in their cars when there is no real need to, then they will be the terrorists, because that will terrorize the community."

Eighty landlords to get summonses

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today ordered summonses be issued to 80 landlords "as a start" who failed to register with the city on how much rent is charged to tenants in compliance with the recently approved rent control ordinance.

According to Cappiello, the regulation is to prevent landlords from kicking tenants out of their apartments in order to take advantage of the vacancy decontrol clause which is part of the ordinance.

Under vacancy decontrol, landlords can jack up the rent by 25 percent before the new tenant moves in.

Community groups in Hoboken urged city officials not to pass the rent ordinance for fear that landlords would oust poor people in order to get higher rents.

"That's why we put the registration clause in the rent ordinance," said Cappiello. "We want to make sure that landlords don't push poor people out in order to raise the rents. We gave landlords 30 days to register with us. Those who failed to comply are now facing court appearances."

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80 landlords who failed to register to get tickets

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Cappiello said violators face between \$100 and \$500 fine in municipal court if proved guilty. Under the rent bill, landlords cannot raise the rents higher than what the Rent Control Leveling Board allows annually. Vacancy decontrol can be implemented only when a tenant voluntarily moves or ordered by a magistrate, he said.

"A landlord cannot chase a

tenant out for no valid reason,"

Cappiello said. "And the landlord cannot expect to raise the rent by 25 percent in order to get the higher rate. If anyone tries, we'll stop him. And if anyone is experiencing that, he should come into the City Clerk's office and register a complaint."

The mayor said the 80 landlords facing summonses are those who own more than five units. Owners with lesser units are next, he said.

Hoboken policemen want same benefits as firemen

The Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association said the city gave the firefighters' union more in contract benefits than the cops and a grievance is expected to be filed with the state.

Thomas Meehan, PBA president, said the city approved a prescription plan for retiring firemen, agreed to a cash lump sum in retroactive pay upon retirement, and six additional vacation days a year for firemen with 15 years or more service.

He said the PBA should have gotten the same benefits. James Giordano Public Safety Director, said the PBA never negotiated for those benefits. Therefore, he said, they didn't get them.

See POLICEMEN—Page 17.

Monroe St. building termed a 'time bomb' by angry residents

Hoboken residents living at Fourth and Monroe Streets say they are living next door to "a time bomb that's about to explode at any moment."

That's what residents told Mayor Steve Cappiello and a group of city officials about the conditions at 401-03 Monroe St.

"We fear for our lives," one irate resident said. "There are fires there, tenants fighting, and thousands of health and safety code violations. We want something done."

The two buildings are occupied by 16 families, according to the mayor. The property is under a tax title lien for delinquent taxes, he said. The owner died and the rents are being paid directly to the city, he added.

"I don't know what can be done but I know the city will do everything within its power to allay the fears of the residents," said Cappiello.

Cappiello said he will meet with James Giordano, director of

public safety, and Fire Chief James Houn, to setup a plan to deal with the problem.

He said efforts are being taken to abate the code violations.

Meanwhile, police are investigating a fire at 401 Monroe St., which is being termed "suspicious."

According to police records, there were two separate fires in the building when the fire department responded to an alarm Friday.

A baby car seat was on fire in one section of the four-story wood frame building, and a cardboard box in another section, they said. No injuries were reported.

Bethlehem Steel may leave Hoboken

By Peter LaVilla

Is Bethlehem Steel contemplating a move from Hoboken because of the lack of work, high taxes and wages?

Richard Blackington, manager of the Hoboken operation, refused to talk about rumors that have surfaced around City Hall.

He also declined to talk about Bethlehem's pending appeal of a tax assessment, reduced from \$6.4 million to \$5 million by the County Board of Taxation. Bethlehem wants it lowered still further.

Mayor Steve Cappiello has called a special closed-session meeting with the City Council tonight to discuss just that issue.

The subject of the rumored pullout from

Hoboken is expected to come up, but Cappiello refused to discuss it with the press.

Cappiello would not confirm or deny that he had heard the rumors.

Philip Dittmar, president of the union that represents Bethlehem employees, said "It's news to me."

Meanwhile, Cappiello said Bethlehem plans to appeal the county tax board's decision to grant the firm a \$1.4 million reduction in taxes.

He said the company is seeking to bring the assessment down to about \$2 million, thereby bringing about a total reduction of \$4.4 million.

The county had found Bethlehem's property to be worth \$6.4 million but reduced it to \$5 million in accordance with the way the city puts a value on

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Bethlehem may leave Hoboken

Continued from Page 1

property, he said.

Bethlehem, he said, is taking the appeal to the state's Tax Court. No date has been set for a hearing. The city contends the value of Bethlehem's property is \$15 million, he noted.

"No matter what happens with the tax appeal, I would not like to see Bethlehem Steel move out of Hoboken," Cappiello said. "And I will do all that I can to see that does not happen."

He said that the council feels the same

Name 3 students winners in fire prevention essays

Three elementary students in the Hoboken school system were named winners in the fire prevention essay contest, George Maier, superintendent of schools, said today.

The winners and the schools they attend are: Ana Dolores Segovia of the Kealy School;

Melissa McCormick of Calabro School, and Bachmai Ho of Rue-Demarest School.

Nicholas Spina, coordinator of language arts, and a judge for the contest, said the winners will receive plaques for their achievements.

Hoboken directors boost budget requests

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken department directors have requested \$700,000 over last year's budget funds to operate next year, and although city officials say that the requests are not exorbitant, it's unlikely the directors will get everything they've asked for.

Edwin Chius, business administrator, said the requests are from the six department heads, including his office, and do not reflect pay increases for city employees, except for contractual agreements for increments and longevity.

The \$700,000 is some \$200,000 over what the state cap allows Hoboken, he said. Therefore, he said, he and the mayor and city

comptroller will be sitting down to make cuts in the director's requests to stay within the cap.

The directors got \$16.7 million in operating expenses for 1981.

About half of the \$700,000 came from the public safety department, he said. The funds are earmarked to buy about 20 new patrolmen and new police cars and equipment, according to the business administrator.

The director of health and welfare is seeking to purchase more recreation equipment and expand programs. Chius said he'd like more funds to improve the city's health and insurance plans.

The law department's request is slightly higher than last year and the department of revenue and finance will need additional

funds for reassessing property in the city, he said.

"It's surprising but the requests by the directors this year are not exorbitant and pretty reasonable," said Chius. "That does not mean they will get everything they've requested."

"We have to stay within the state cap, so we'll review the request line-by-line with the directors to see where we can cut. We may have to do some adding, too. Pension costs are expected to rise in 1982 and we'll have to make provisions for it."

Between now and Feb. 1, a municipal budget will be prepared for the City Council to review, he said. A public hearing on the completed budget should be ready for March, he added.

Officials' wives seek Hoboken school jobs

The Hoboken Board of Education is expected to decide at 8 tonight whether to hire the wives of two city officials as parttime clerical aides, a fulltime job for the mother of the board president, and to grant a Hispanic group permission to use the high school auditorium to discuss community problems.

The wives of Councilman Thomas Kennedy and James Giordano, director of public safety, are among seven candidates who have applied for the parttime clerical positions.

The job pays \$5.50 an hour and those hired will

be used as part of a clerical pool, a board spokesman said. The clerks will be paid only when they work, the spokesman said, and when work is available.

Phyllis Wendelken, whose son Robert is president of the board of education, is being considered for the post as school matron. The fulltime job pays \$8,700 annually.

Mrs. Wendelken had been a teacher aide since 1976 but recently was laid off because of budget problems, the spokesman said.

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Officials' wives seek Hoboken school jobs

Continued from Page 1.

The board also will consider the appointment of six teacher aides to be paid \$25 per day.

A group called Citizens United for New Action (CUNA), has asked for permission to use the high school auditorium between 5 and 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

The decision on that is expected to go right down to the wire like the last time when three trustees voted in favor, three against and one abstained.

CUNA is the group which led a march on City Hall last month to protest the recent wave of fires and the implementation of the vacancy decontrol ordinance.

Anthony Romano, assistant secretary, and a city councilman, will try again to obtain a leave of absence as board business manager.

The board appointed him assistant secretary when it created the job of business manager and administrative

director for Walter Cramer, who also serves as president of the City Council.

Edwin Sticker, principal of Wallace School, is expected to notify the board of his retirement in February.

30 landlords are due in court

Thirty landlords are scheduled to appear in Hoboken municipal court Monday, Tuesday and Dec. 21 to explain why they failed to notify the city as to what rent they are charging their tenants.

The 30 are part of 80 landlords the city sent summonses to last week because they failed to provide the city with the information in accordance with the rent control ordinance, according to Anthony Amoroso, city clerk.

Violators are subject to \$100 to \$500 fine if proved guilty, he noted. The hearing is at 9:30 a.m. Mayor Steve Cappiello ordered the summonses be issued

when it was learned that many landlords had ignored the city's request. He said additional time was granted to landlords and yet they still failed to respond.

According to the mayor, the regulation is to help prevent landlords from evicting tenants in order to take advantage of the vacancy decontrol clause which permits the owner to raise the rent by 25 percent before a new tenant moves in.

Cappiello vowed that this would not happen, and he has urged tenants experiencing that problem, to register a complaint with Amoroso. The city, he said, will act on the complaint.

School board jobs a 'family affair' in Hoboken

By John Watson

Despite complaints and accusations of nepotism and undue political influence, the Hoboken Board of Education last night voted to provide jobs for the wives of two city officials and the mother of the board president.

The board passed a resolution creating a pool of clerical workers and named Evelyn Giordano, the wife of Public Safety Director James Giordano, and Maryanne Kennedy, the wife of Councilman Thomas Kennedy, to the pool.

Phyllis Wendelken, the mother of school board President Robert Wendelken, was appointed school matron by another resolution. None of the board members voted against hiring Mrs. Wendelken. Steve Block abstained and Wendelken answered "present" during the roll call vote.

Joseph DellaFave, a Hoboken parent, criticized the three appointments as "political." "For all the good this board has done, the old-time practice of political appointments still prevails."

See SCHOOL — Page 44.

School board jobs a 'family affair' in Hoboken

Continued from Page 1.

In response, Wendelken said: "To a point we have come a long way. People who have political connections should not be denied their constitutional rights to a job if they are qualified for them."

At the end of the board meeting, Block, the trustee who abstained, said he agreed with DellaFave's assessment of the appointments. "It's widely known that the board continues to favor family and political associates over other applicants," he said.

"It's a great source of frustration to me," he continued, "there's a continued propensity on the board to view its responsibilities in terms of patronage more highly than being fair to all applicants."

Wendelken said the clerical pool jobs were posted and everyone interested had an opportunity to apply.

He said the matron's job also had been posted. When questioned about how his mother was selected, he referred to her "prior good standing" last year before she was laid off from her job as a teachers aide. He forestalled further questions about the hiring by determining it to be a personnel matter whose "rationale is not to be discussed publicly."

The board also hired nine teachers aides and stirred more criticism from former aides who were not rehired. Gloria Olmo, an aide who was laid off in June, said the rehiring was not done by seniority. Some of the rehired aides had more than Ms. Olmo's two-years of experience, but

others had none. She said the new people had "godfathers" to ensure they were hired.

Wendelken said "seniority is considered" when aides are hired, "but it is not binding on us."

Thomas Vezzetti, a Hoboken resident, also criticized the hiring of city and board officials' relatives and claimed it constituted a conflict of interest. As a result of last night's action, four council members are either employed by or have relatives employed by the board.

Walter Kramer, city council president, is the board's business manager. Councilman Anthony Romano is assistant to the board secretary and Councilman Louis Francione is head custodian, according to Vezzetti. Now that Councilman Kennedy's wife is a school employee, a total of four

council members would be in conflict of interest if they voted on issues affecting the school board.

Vezzetti took his complaints yesterday afternoon to Hudson County Prosecutor Harold Ruvolet Jr., who asked that they be submitted in writing.

In other business, the board granted permission for Citizens United for New Action (CUNA) to hold a meeting Sunday at Hoboken High School. The Ellis were permitted to use the Wallace School gym Dec. 19.

The Board approved the soliciting of bids for a firm to remove asbestos from schools and changed its scheduled Jan. 12 meeting to Jan. 13. A special Dec. 22 meeting was authorized to award a contract for custodial work at the high school.

A boy played with matches—now 6 families are homeless

An 11-year-old Hoboken boy was accused of setting fire to a mattress in a vacant apartment at 512 Observer Highway yesterday which left six families homeless, police said today. No injuries were reported.

Fire officials say the blaze is under investigation. Police officials say the youth who caused the fire was playing with matches and term the fire an accident.

Capt. Patrick Donatucci, detective commander, said the youth admitted setting the mattress ablaze by accident, not intentionally.

Therefore, he said, no criminal charges were preferred. He said the county prosecutor's office has been notified as to what occurred.

According to Deputy Fire Chief Richard

Tremittedi, the two-alarm fire occurred at around 11:30 a.m. on the top floor of the building.

"The fire spread so rapidly because of the wind that had not occurred across the street from the Observer Highway firehouse, there might have been injuries," said Tremittedi. "The fire was well-involved when the second alarm was sounded. Our men did a good job in containing the blaze."

He said damage to the building was so severe, the 20 people living there will not be allowed to return to their homes.

This is the third major multiple fire to hit Hoboken within the past two months. The other two claimed the lives of 15 persons and left hundreds homeless.

Hoboken cracks credit card ring

Hoboken police believe they have broken up an alleged stolen credit card ring with the arrest of four persons.

Capt. Patrick Donatucci, detective commander, said that while the investigation is continuing, it is believed that the four suspects' method of operation consisted of breaking into cars and rifling the glove compartments in search of credit cards.

Donatucci said that when the four men were arrested, police found 14 credit cards on them which belonged to residents throughout Hudson.

The four men were identified as Stephen Hammond, 23, address listed as 150 Wegman Parkway, Jersey City; Anthony Harris, 19, and Philip Seams, 32, both of East Orange, and Sean Avant, 22, of Newark, Donatucci said.

9 merchants tagged with litter tickets

Hoboken police began enforcing the city anti-littering ordinance with the issuance of nine summonses to merchants along Washington Street.

William Van Wie, director of public works, said today that the nine summonses were issued to merchants for not keeping their sidewalks clean and blocking the passage way with merchandise.

The merchants face a Dec. 28 court hearing on the complaints, he said.

Violators face between \$50 and \$200 fine if found guilty, according to the ordinance.

"I hope the judge fines the violators so we can let the people

know that we mean business," said Van Wie. "All we're looking for is a little cooperation on the part of the merchants and the people to help keep Hoboken clean."

The city began its crackdown last week, following a meeting with the president of the Hoboken Merchants Bureau, Van Wie said.

The meeting, he said, was to explain the city's intent and to solicit cooperation from merchants.

Public Safety Director James Giordano issued an order to the police department to begin issuing summonses to violators.

Hoboken Council will act on street for Stevens

The Hoboken City Council will decide at 7 tonight on giving Stevens Tech a portion of a dead-end street at River and Sixth streets for private use.

The institute requested the property but officials decline to say what the street would be used for. A spokesman for Stevens said the area is being used by motorists who double-park their

vehicles there, and that presents a traffic hazard for emergency vehicles.

He said if Stevens is given the street, it would maintain the property and patrol it. The other portion of the street fronts the school's athletic field, the spokesman said.

The council also will act on an easement that would allow the

construction of a light wall at the Grand Hotel. A public hearing will be held on that issue.

The appointment of Louise Picardo as tax collector is expected to be acted on. Also, the appointment of Councilman Anthony Romano to the city's Housing Authority, to replace Councilman Sal Cemilli, is up for a vote.

Thursday, December 10, 1981

Insurance purchasers get refunds

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Customers who bought auto insurance from Victor Gorri's Uptown Services, the insurance agency suspected by state officials of not sending in premiums, will be getting their money back, according to state officials.

Gorri ran Uptown Services Insurance Agency at 1037 Washington St. until two weeks ago when the state asked him to appear in Trenton and explain his business practices.

The state charges Gorri did not send insurance premiums to the New Jersey State Insurance Plan, leaving without insurance clients who thought they were insured.

"Mr. Gorri appeared in our office on Monday and agreed to make restitution," Thomas Hooper, spokesman for the state Department of Insurance said yesterday.

Hooper said the total amount of restitution was in the neighborhood of "several thousand dollars," but no date had been set as to when he (Gorri) would pay back the money.

"I guess he'll pay them back when he scrapes up the cash," Hooper said.

Twelve complaints were lodged with the Department of Insurance by Dispatch readers who bought insurance from Gorri, Hooper said.

The department will be taking administrative action to revoke Gorri's insurance license. "He can either defend himself or accept the revocation," Hooper said.

Gorri closed down the agency after being notified by state officials that they wanted to talk to him. Hooper said Gorri appeared in Trenton following a Dispatch article last week detailing the Department of Insurance's charges against him.

At least one client, Freddy Rojas, a Hoboken resident, said he was dissatisfied with the state's action in collecting his money and criticized the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office for not filing a criminal complaint against Gorri.

Rojas, a Hoboken resident who paid Gorri \$230 for his car insurance Oct. 1, said yesterday he needed his money to buy new insurance.

After being told by the Department of Insurance to file a criminal complaint with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, Rojas said he was told by the prosecutor's office that "he didn't need to, since the money was being paid back."

Hudson County Prosecutor Harold Ruvolet Jr. could not be reached yesterday for comment on Rojas charge.

However Hooper said he was advising those who wanted to press criminal charges to file them with Ruvolet's office, since the Department of Insurance is not empowered to take on criminal complaints.

Attempts to reach Gorri for comment were unsuccessful. His business phone has been disconnected, and his phone in Guttenberg, identified by Hooper as being his residence, is unlisted.

A bonding company will pick up tab for that Hoboken dinner

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken taxpayers won't be footing the bill to wine and dine board of education trustees and members of the City Council next week at the Clam Broth House — a bonding agency that wants to help the city obtain \$9 million for school renovations is reportedly picking up the tab.

However, while no one is saying who that New York bonding agency is, it was learned that there is a move afoot to reject the offer.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said he will urge the council not to accept the offer because he feels it is wrong to be hosted by an agency that is trying to sell the city on an idea.

The council is expected to vote on a resolution at 7 tonight that authorizes the scheduled closed-session meeting between the council, the board of education and the bonding agency.

Ranieri said he'd like to keep the meetings with all prospective agencies doing business with the city on a professional level. He said he favors the meeting either at the board of education office or City Hall.

James Farina, a board trustee, said he will recommend to the board president that a letter be sent to the bonding agency to advise it that the meeting be held in the board conference room.

The meeting has been set for 7:30 Tuesday. The board has a 7 p.m. special meeting that night to award a maintenance contract.

See BOND — Page 55.

Bond agency will pick up dinner tab

Continued from Page 1.

Efforts to obtain the name and address of the bonding firm for comment proved futile when Walter Cramer, president of the council and business manager and administrator to the board of education, refused to talk to reporters.

George Maier, superintendent of schools, and Thomas Gallo, board secretary and state assemblyman, were unavailable for comment.

According to Ranieri, the bonding agency that gets the award, is expected to receive \$370,000 or 3 percent discount for

underwriting the \$9 million proposal.

"I feel doubly-strong that we should not be influenced by this firm or anyone else who wants to do business with the city," said Ranieri. "I would prefer the meetings be held in a professional manner, open to questions, answers and discussions."

The board has not awarded a contract to any specific bonding agency, although it has had preliminary meetings with representatives of several firms.

The \$9 million is expected to be used to major renovations to most of the schools. Some 18 months ago the board sought \$32 million for renovations.

Probe Hoboken fire

The Hoboken Fire Prevention Bureau today is trying to determine the cause of a three-alarm fire yesterday which damaged the Merrin Electric Co., 1114 Clinton St.

Fire officials were unable to sift through the rubble yesterday because of heavy smoke brought on by the smoldering fire.

Some 50 firefighters were on hand to contain the blaze in the two-story brick building. No injuries or damage to neighboring buildings were reported, according to fire reports.

The investigation is expected to determine whether the fire was suspicious, officials said.

Prisoner puts the bite literally, on cop

A Hoboken police officer, who received the department's Medal of Honor after he stopped a bullet as he attempted to foil a liquor store holdup some 10 years and still on the job today with the bullet lodged in him, survived another incident yesterday.

Vincent Pasculli, while putting a female prisoner in the jail cell until her court papers could be

processed to send her to the county jail, was bitten on the left shoulder.

The bite by Minerva Quinones, 23, address listed as 1312 Bloomfield St., penetrated his skin and it required treatment at St. Mary Hospital, according to police records.

"Pasculli survived a shooting which left a bullet next to his spinal cord, a stabbing, and now a bite by a prisoner," commented Desk Lt. Peter Romano. "The man is a survivor."

Ms. Quinones was charged with simple assault, police said. She had been

arrested and found guilty of making terrorist threats, they said. Initially, she was arrested when she threatened to burn a man's home, police said.

She was being held in custody until she could be transported to the county institution. Pasculli was treated and returned to work after that, police said.

5 fined for failing to register rents

Hoboken Municipal Court Judge Rudolph Nadeo fined five landlords \$20 each in court cost for failing to register with the city the amount of rent they charge their tenants.

The regulation is in compliance with the city's rent control ordinance. Five other landlords who faced court action yesterday sought and received an extension on their hearing.

Nadeo said last week he

would assess the court cost to some 80 landlords who were issued summonses for failing to comply with the ordinance.

See Editorial: PROTECTION On Page 16.

He also requested that an additional 30 days be given to some

800 landlords who have not responded to the city's request to register.

He asked that letters of notice be sent out to those who have not registered with the city. After the 30-day extension, violators who come before Nadeo will be hit with a fine of between \$100 and \$500 if proved guilty, the judge announced last week.

The judge said he has

received complaints from new landlords about not being notified of the ordinance.

Meanwhile, landlords are mounting a move to force the city to charge the \$10 registration fee to the tenants, and making the tenants responsible with letting the city know what rent the landlord is charging them.

A landlord, who asked not to be identified, said it is just as easy for the tenant to notify the

city as well as the owner. He said the landlords feel their rights are being violated because they are being forced to do something that is not entirely their fault.

Hearings will be held today and next Monday for the landlords who were issued summonses.

Poor meeting on problems

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—It's being called "a meeting to create a viable force to give people a voice in running the city" and even more starkly, "a meeting for survival."

A leading organizer said Sunday's meeting sponsored by Citizens United for New Action at 6 p.m. at Wallace School will be a major effort to create a citywide organization to help deal with a host of problems that have been plaguing the city's poor.

"People have their backs against the wall. This meeting is not only to deal with arson, it will also deal with people getting huge rent increases, it will deal with people getting evictions," Juan Garcia said yesterday.

Garcia said that Sunday's meeting was requested by the community weeks ago in the wake of 15 suspected arson-related deaths in October and November to "organize the community for survival."

"I want to emphasize that this is not a political

event," Garcia said. He added, "There are people who feel that in this city they have no voice to influence the decisions that are being made. Sunday, we hope to make a viable force for people who have no voice."

Garcia claimed that, for years, people have been afraid to speak up, and the pressure has been building. He called there were "fears of City Hall, fears of the welfare office, fears of the police, fears of the landlord."

"People are coming together now because they fear arson more than their old fears," Garcia said.

Another organizer said one of the group's activities will include setting up ward committees throughout the city.

CUNA had originally scheduled the meeting for two weeks ago. However, the board of education had refused to give the group permission to use the Wallace School until its meeting Tuesday night.

Protection

When Hoboken passed its vacancy rent decontrol ordinance, tenants representatives were assured there would be protection for tenants against landlord gouging.

Tenants quickly pointed out that under the old rent control law landlords were required to post their rents with city hall so that there could be an official record of the basic rent, but most landlords didn't file their rents at city hall and the city did virtually nothing about it.

There were assurances that that would not happen under the new ordinance. Landlords were given a deadline for filing. The deadline was extended and then summonses were issued to some of those who did not file.

The first of those warrants were returnable to court yesterday, today and the following Monday. The fine for failing to file is between \$100 and \$500. City officials are on record they want the ordinance enforced.

There can be no protection of the law without enforcement of the law. That thought should be in the mind of the judge when the landlords face him.

Tenant group organizing fight against their fears

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—"Overcoming the fear" is how Juan Garcia described the meeting Sunday that brought 130 people together to formally organize the Ana Mercado Organization of Renters.

"People had fears of the welfare department, fears of the police, fear that whenever we do something there might be violence. But people have overcome those fears," Garcia said.

Garcia said yesterday that two major factors have led to the organization of the group: The 15 suspected arson-related deaths and the vacancy decontrol law, which he says "is evident in the number of evictions going on in the courts."

Tenant advocates have charged that the vacancy decontrol law, allowing landlords to increase the rent on an apartment by 25 percent once it becomes vacant, has stepped up harassment of tenants.

At the meeting on Sunday, about 35 people signed up for the ongoing "working committee" that will be divided according to wards.

Garcia insisted that the group is not political. He also explained that the association is not a duplication of Citizens United for New Action, a community organization.

"We're looking for something out of the community that we (CUNA) can belong to," Garcia explained.

Landlord exemption to face test

Hoboken's rent control ordinance, which grants landlords a 13-month exemption from the law provided the owners spend 100 percent of the total property assessment value on repairs, will be tested at 8 p.m. Thursday.

Bernardine Van Carpels, administrator of the Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board, said the owner of 816 Willow Ave. has made application for the exemption.

If granted, the owner can raise rents on the 10 tenants living there to whatever he wants during the 13-month period, according to Mrs. Van Carpels.

"Under the new rent control ordinance, if a landlord's property is assessed at a certain amount and he decides to make repairs on the property equal to what the property is assessed at, then he is entitled to an exemption application," she said.

"That's the regulation." The landlord must make the repairs in compliance with city regulations and do it before the application is sought, she noted.

Under the new regulation, every tenant must derive benefits from the renovations, otherwise the exemption grant is rejected, Mrs. Van Carpels pointed out.

The panel also will decide on whether to grant the owner of 823 Washington St. a 25 percent hardship increase.

According to the administrator, the owner requested the increase to meet expenses. Four families will be affected by the results.

Hoboken moves to stop NY trash dumpers

HOBOKEN—Don't dump on us! That's the message William Van Wie, the public works director, is sending to New Yorkers faced with a garbage strike who might consider dropping their trash in the Mile Square City.

Van Wie said yesterday he is working with Public Safety Director James

Giordano to set up special measures to guard against illegal dumpers.

"With the strike going on over in New York, we want to make sure none of the commercial places think they can dump their garbage here across the Hudson," Van Wie said.

The city has had a continuing problem

with illegal dumpers under the 14th Street viaduct and in the city's industrial section. Several months ago, the city cleaned up a stockpile of garbage under the county-maintained road, only to have new garbage dumped there days later, despite the presence of police patrols.

Residents have complained that

illegal dumping has caused the area to become a breeding ground for rats. Van Wie recently began issuing summonses to building owners who have trash in the front of their buildings as part of a get-tough program to get the city clean.

— Chuck Sutton

Hoboken ward lines will be reviewed at public hearing

Whether re-warding of Hoboken is really rewarding or subject to criticism will be determined when the city's ward commission conducts a public meeting at 6:30 Monday night at the Hudson County Board of Elections office in the county administration building.

The public and all elected officials are invited by the commission to attend the session, where further preparations to change the boundaries of Hoboken's wards will be discussed.

Obviously referring to some previous criticism of proposed changes, Joseph T. Brady, county elections superintendent and registration commissioner, explained the realignment of boundaries is being done in accordance with the official 1980 census. In following Faulkner Act guidelines for such changes, he said they are necessary due to a population variation of 60 percent between the ward with the least and the ward with the highest population. Ordinarily, a 10 percent variation is allowed.

So far, ward boundaries in Bayonne and Weehawken have been changed by the Hudson County Board of Elections and respective city clerks, comprising ward commissions. After Hoboken's ward boundaries are changed, work will begin to revise election district borders in Bayonne and Weehawken, in time for next May's municipal elections in both municipalities. Hoboken's election district boundaries will be changed later as well as ward and district borders in Jersey City.

Those four communities are the only ones subject to these changes.

Citizens' group to aid poor with problems

The Citizens United for New Action (CUNA) of Hoboken is holding a public meeting from 6 to 9:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Hoboken High School to help the city's poor with problems ranging from housing to employment and rent increases.

Juan Garcia, head of CUNA, said the main objective is to find out what some of the problems are, and direct the issues to city officials.

"Basically, we know what the problems are," he said. "We want the poor to help us help them with their housing problems, their rent problems, eviction problems. Then, we want city officials to address themselves to those problems and correct them."

CUNA is the group that led a citywide march recently to bring to light the recent deaths of 13 persons in fires attributed to arson. The group also is opposed to the rent decontrol vacancy ordinance.

Hoboken Council sits on CUNA funds

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The City Council has put the budget of Citizens United for New Action on the back burner because of the organization's recent political activities, Mayor Steve Cappiello said yesterday.

"I've been informed by the council that they have postponed funding CUNA because of their political activity and they have deviated from the services which they were founded to perform," Cappiello said.

Juan Garcia, a CUNA spokesman, questioned the motives of the council and

the mayor in tabling the measure.

"We're not going to just sit around and let arsonists burn down our community, or allow dislocation of people with evictions. We're not about politics; we're about survival," Garcia said.

At Monday night's council caucus, the measure approving the city's share of the Hispanic counseling agency's budget failed to win approval.

Meanwhile, an official of the state's Office of Hispanic Affairs, David Matos, is to come here tomorrow to mediate

between the city officials and the agency.

An official of the state Division of Youth and Family Services had threatened to withdraw state support of the agency unless the city lived up to its funding commitment.

Garcia said yesterday that CUNA expected about \$24,000 from the city through the Community Development Agency, and \$82,000 from DYFS.

"If we don't have money to pay our bills, we'll have to close," Garcia said. He said CUNA is the only Hispanic

counseling agency in a city with 17,000 Hispanics.

"They're telling us if we want our funding, from now on we have to keep our mouths shut. I'm just not going to sell out that cheap," Garcia said.

Garcia added that if there is a political conflict in funding CUNA that the city should also question its funding of Hoboken Organization against Poverty and Economic Stress, a social service agency run by City Councilman E. Norman Wilson.

School board to treat Hoboken Council?

By Peter LaVilla

Is the Hoboken Board of Education planning to wine and dine the City Council next Tuesday at the Clam Broth House in an attempt to get the council to go along with a proposed \$9 million bond issue to repair all city schools?

The council is meeting at 7 p.m. tomorrow to vote on a resolution that authorizes the closed session meeting with the board members to be held at the Clam Broth House.

The board of education voted last week to meet with the council to review the bonding proposal for a second time, but no meeting place was designated.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said he felt that there are enough office spaces in city hall and in the school system where both agencies could meet.

"If they want to go out after the meeting for a drink or something to eat, then let them," commented the mayor. "I don't think they should spend taxpayers' money for something like this. The board doesn't have to impress anyone. We're all working toward the same goal."

Council president Walter Cramer, who also serves as board of education business manager and administrator, said he just learned of the meeting place yesterday.

James Farina, director of health and welfare, who also is a school trustee, said he remembers voting in favor of a meeting, but he doesn't remember it being held at a specific location.

See SCHOOL BOARD — Page 2.

School board to wine, dine Hoboken Council?

Continued from Page 1.

Councilman Robert Ranieri, said he would prefer to meet with school trustees in city hall or the board office.

"If we're going to talk business then it should be in the board office or city hall," said Ranieri. "If they want to host us, then that's something else. The council is not footing the bill."

The board of education, which is an autonomous agency, wants to do major renovations to city schools, but it is up to the council to authorize the raising of the funds.

The funds can be raised through bonding. The board wants \$9 million. The city has a bond indebtedness of about a \$3 million currently. The maximum the city can borrow is about \$8 million.

Bonding representatives as well as the architects are expected to be on hand to explain to the council the procedure for raising the funds and what renovations are contemplated.

A preliminary meeting on these matters was held last month in the board of education office.

USS New Jersey gets Hoboken CPO

A native of Hoboken, Larry Ogledzinski, a Navy machinist's mate is among 89 men who were selected from 4,000 to be a member of the new crew of the battleship USS New Jersey.

In October Ogledzinski and 88 other Navy men will report to Long Beach, Calif., and begin getting the New Jersey ready for her 1983 recommissioning. At the time it will be the only active battleship in the U.S. Fleet.

"The real challenge will be getting all the old machinery refitted and working again," the 19-year Navy veteran said.

The machinery that Ogledzinski is likely to be working on includes eight boilers, four propellers, supporting pumps and equipment and miles of pipes, tubing and wire. Much of the ship's main propulsion system will be replaced or refurbished during the \$330-million reconstruction.



Larry M. Ogledzinski Assigned

The materials may be new but the configuration of the propulsion spaces will not be much different from when the ship was first commissioned in 1943. The New Jersey saw action in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam conflict.

Her recommissioning in the year of her 40th anniversary is part of President Reagan's plan to increase the number of Navy ships to 600 by 1990.

Ogledzinski, a chief petty officer, remembers the first time he saw the New Jersey on Armed Forces Day in 1960. For something to do on a Saturday afternoon in May, he and friends went to Bayonne Naval supply center and took a tour of a big gray ship.

"When you're 15," Ogledzinski said, "you're easily impressed by that awesome piece of machinery. I didn't know at the time that the ship was BB-62, the New Jersey."

When Ogledzinski reports aboard in October, the first thing he intends to do is to take another tour of the ship and then get to work getting her into shape.

"It's part nostalgia, part being from New Jersey and just plain pride," Ogledzinski said as he tried to explain his reason for requesting duty on the New Jersey. "It's a great feeling to know you're going to be a part of a new battleship generation."

Hoboken seeks grant for park at terminal

By Peter LaVilla

The Hoboken Community Development Agency has asked the state for a \$425,000 grant for the development of an outdoor recreation park and conservation area at the proposed Erie-Lackawanna Pedestrian Plaza.

A spokesman for the CDA said the funds are part of an \$850,000 project which is to be shared equally by the state and federal governments.

The project is part of an overall development of the Erie-Lackawanna Terminal. Millions of state and federal dollars are expected to be pumped into the plaza development.

Among the tenants will be Hoboken Stages, an \$8 million project, privately-operated, with a modern studio for movie and video production.

The City Council voted its approval for the application of the grant.

The CDA spokesman said the plaza will include a passive park, trees, shrubs, benches and the retention of the exterior in its original form, if possible.

"Since the Erie-Lackawanna site has been designated a historic property, we have to come as close to the original form as possible when restoring it," the spokesman said.

Hoboken urged to set up housing court

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A city councilman has urged Mayor Steve Cappiello to establish a housing court here to mediate the problems between landlords and tenants.

Fifth Ward Councilman E. Norman Wilson Jr. formally proposed instituting a housing court in a letter mailed Thursday to the mayor.

The idea of a housing court was first proposed by Hugh Hotem of the Hoboken Homeowners Association at Wednesday night's City Council meeting.

Hotem asked the council to institute a court similar to the one in Jersey City to mediate the problems of landlords and tenants "before they (the problems) get too big."

"There is a great deal of division and polarization between landlords and tenants," Wilson told Cappiello in his letter urging the city to adopt the idea.

Wilson said the housing court would be established "not only to enforce the housing and rental laws, but act as mediator in landlord and tenant disputes."

Meanwhile, Fred Bado, director of the city's community development agency, said yesterday that the much awaited housing counselor who will advise tenants and landlords of their rights will not be hired until the first week of the new year.

Wilson's proposal has been met with mixed reaction.

Sister Norberta, spokeswoman for For La Gente (For the People) said she would go along with the idea "as long as a tenant has the right to bring a landlord to that court."

Juan Garcia, spokesman for Citizens United for New Action, has doubts about the idea.

"They had a housing court before, but they dropped it because it didn't work," he said. "It also would depend on who the judge would be."

Cappiello could not be reached yesterday for comment, nor could it be learned why the city housing court was dropped last year.

Fatal fire probe continues, Hoboken blaze rehab threat

While Jersey City officials continue their probe into the death of a 49-year-old man in a fire yesterday, Hoboken officials are probing a blaze that threatened to kill a rehabilitation project.

According to Jersey City Fire Prevention Bureau Chief Robert Shortell, Raymond Carvin came home to his fourth floor apartment at 84-86 Waldo Ave. at about 1 a.m. and the blaze broke out apparently about a half hour later.

Carvin was found lying on the bedroom floor by firefighters and was taken to the Medical Center where he was pronounced dead at 2:40 a.m. "We think it started in the couch and we think he tried to put out the fire," said Shortell, "but we still have to wait for the autopsy report."

The building that burned in Hoboken, at 215 Willow Ave., was part of a 62-unit rehabilitation project scheduled to be started shortly after the beginning of the new year.

Joseph Cicala, developer-coordinator for Applied Housing Corp., which owns the row of eight buildings on Willow Ave., said his firm is in the process of closing the mortgage with the Depart-

ment of Housing and Urban Development for about \$4 million.

"The fire definitely caused a lot of structural problems internally at 215 Willow Ave.," said Cicala. "We don't know what effect it had on the neighboring buildings. It's hard to say right now what effect the fire will have on our redevelopment plans. We'll just have to wait and see."

The row of eight buildings has been vacant for some seven months. They were boarded up and a picket fence reached almost the length of the block to seal off the buildings from intruders.

Joseph Barry, president of Applied Housing, said it took his firm seven months to win a court judgment from the previous owners before he could take possession of the property at the original contract price.

The city's Fire Prevention Bureau and the police arson squad are trying to determine if the fire was the act of an arsonist or whether it was accidentally touched off by vagrants or juveniles, police said.

See HOBOKEN—Page 25.

Hoboken, Jersey City blazes under probe

Continued from Page 1

Heavy smoke billowed from the Hoboken building and blanketed the city shortly after 1 p.m. The heavy smoke hampered firefighters but the fire never was out of their control, according to fire officials.

Several hundred people milled around to watch the action and traffic was snarled for at least six blocks, police reported.

Yesterday's fire was the fourth major multiple alarm blaze to hit Hoboken in two months. Thirteen people were killed on Oct. 24, two died Nov. 21, and hundreds have been left homeless.

Meanwhile, in Jersey City, patrons of the Commuters Bar, a Journal Square-area tavern which Carvin frequented, were in a state of shock after they learned of his death.

"When I got the call (that Carvin had died)," related the owner, Frank Hughes, "I nearly died. It's terrible."

"He was so easy to get along with," said Frank Quilty, a former city councilman. "Everyone that knew him liked him. . . they had to like him."

Hughes said Carvin had been coming to his bar for the past "couple of years" and, since he lived alone, he considered the fellow patrons as his family. "But, that's the way the gang is up here — like family," he said. "When he walked in he made

sure he said hello to everyone in here before he sat down," recalled Quilty. "He was the kind of fellow you'd really be proud to say was your friend."

Hughes said Carvin had worked as a parole officer for the state before problems with his heart caused him to retire. He said he performed a variety of odd jobs, including "pinch-hitting" every once in a while as a bartender at the Commuters if someone was out sick.

The tavern owner said Carvin "had a lot of time on his hands" and would always volunteer to help out. He recalled he just recently accompanied him to a cemetery to lay wreaths on the graves of Hughes' relatives.

"If you said 'go to Hoboken,' he'd go to Hoboken," related Hughes. "If you said, 'go to Chicago,' he'd go to Chicago. That's just the type of guy he was."

"If you could describe a gentleman, that was him," said a patron.

The last time that Carvin, who another patron called a "sweetheart of a guy," was in the neighborhood bar was the afternoon before he died.

"He was here yesterday (Tuesday) and he said, 'I'm gonna have a drink for the holidays,'" said a somber Hughes. "I know the gang around here will miss him."

Christmas slay suspect to surrender

By WILFREDO FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The suspect in the Christmas Day murder of a 30-year-old city resident found beaten to death in her home here is expected to turn himself in this morning, police reported yesterday.

Victor Torres, a Hoboken resident who is believed to be in his early 40's, is said to be turning himself in to police in connection with the death of Mary Torres, who police say was his girlfriend.

Stephen Schaeffer of Jersey City, attorney for Victor Torres, said yesterday he has not spoken directly with his client but had spoken with a member of his family who told him Torres would turn himself in today. Schaeffer declined to comment further until he had spoken with his client.

Police said Mary Torres was found in the bedroom of her apartment at 564 Observer Highway at about 6 p.m. on Christmas Day.

She was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Mary Hospital at 6:15 p.m. Hospital authorities did not know if she died while in the ambulance or if she was already dead when police found her fully-clothed body sprawled on the bed.

Detectives said that witnesses had seen Victor Torres leaving the building at the time of the murder and that he was believed to be her boyfriend.

Police believe Mary Torres' killer beat her with his fists. It was not immediately known who called the police or if anyone in the building had heard any noise during the attack.

Hoboken keeps Hispanic unit funds on hold

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto and city officials met with state and federal representatives on Hispanic affairs to try and resolve the funding delay for Citizens United for New Action, a community group which provides counseling and other services to Hispanic youths and families.

Cappelletto met for two hours behind closed doors in City Hall with David Matos, of the state Department of Hispanic Affairs for Gov. Brendan Byrne and Ada Santiago Montano, community relations service coordinator for the U.S. Department of Justice, to iron out the problem.

CUNA receives \$77,000 annually to run the Hoboken service. The city's Community Development Agency gives \$23,000 toward the program,

the state Youth and Family Services provides \$54,000.

It's the city's share that is being challenged and questioned by CUNA and the state.

According to Fred Bado, director of the CDA, his agency is holding up the funds because the city has several questions it would like answered with the youth counseling program. He declined to reveal what those questions are.

City, state and federal officials agreed to meet again before the new year to try and resolve the problem, according to Matos. He said representatives of CUNA will be asked to attend that meeting to answer any and all questions concerning the youth counseling program.

See HOBOKEN—Page 10.

Way set up for gripes against police in Hoboken

Hoboken residents who want to file brutality charges against a city police officer or make a complaint against him on his attitude, will be able to do so by visiting police headquarters and filling out a civilian complaint application starting Jan. 1.

James Giordano, director of public safety, said he is implementing the new program because his office has received complaints against police of-

ficers and to improve the relationship between the police department and the public.

"There's a third reason, too," he said. "We want to start recording the complaints because we want to learn if the person being charged is a repeater or if the person making the complaint is a chronic complainer."

Patrolman Thomas Meehan, president of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, said his

union will take a wait-and-see attitude on the proposal. "It may be helpful to us or harmful," he said. "We'll just have to wait and see what will happen."

Giordano, meanwhile, has appointed Lt. Frank Turso of the detective bureau, to head up the complaint program. Turso, he said, will investigate all complaints and work closely with the law department.

Here is how the program is expected to work:

A person files a complaint with the desk officer. The complaint is then forwarded to the chief of police, the detective commander and Giordano.

Turso picks up on the investigation and a decision is made whether to pursue legal action or hold a police departmental hearing on the officer involved. Another option is to dismiss the complaint, he said.

Stevens Tech loses first round of parking bout

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The card at Wednesday's City Council meeting featured Stevens Tech versus Hudson Street residents. The residents won.

With the tabling of Stevens' request to gain possession of a portion of Sixth Street east of River Street, the residents, who complained that they would be deprived of parking spaces, won the first round. It is up to the City Council if and when a second round takes place.

The council also voted not to join the board of education at the Clam Broth House to discuss the board's request for a \$9 million bond issue.

The tab for that dinner was to have been picked up by Matthews and Wright Inc., the consulting firm for the bond issue. Matthews and Wright is also under consideration to underwrite the bonds.

Several Hudson Street residents took the floor to attack the request for "vacating the street by Stevens."

Opposition centered around the bitter feeling that Stevens "does not live up to its community responsibilities," and would eventually use the area for parking by students, excluding residents.

Stevens officials argued that they wanted the street for safety purposes. Charles Smith, Stevens' security chief, said that double-parking congestion in the area would prevent fire engines from entering.

Some area residents were outraged when Hoboken Parking Authority Chairman Richard Eversen, who is also a dean at Stevens, argued that rather than preserve the area for parking, the school should get the land for a pedestrian mall.

However, Councilman Anthony Romano, along with other residents, pointed out that in 1964 the city sold a parcel of land to Stevens that the school said it needed for a research center that would pay taxes to the city. The center, Romano said, was never built.

On the scheduled dinner meeting with the board of education, the council voted not to accept the board's invitation. "That just isn't the place" to conduct the city's business, Ranieri said.

Jersey City fire kills man; Hoboken site burns

Local 'clubhouse' in empty building destroyed by flames

By WILFREDO FERNANDEZ
and ROY KAHN
Staff Writers

HOBOKEN—A three-alarm fire in the downtown section of the city yesterday afternoon charred an abandoned building that was earmarked for a housing development project.

Fire officials said the fire began in a second-floor apartment at 215 Willow Ave. at about 1:18 p.m. and spread quickly to the top two floors of the four-story building.

Police said the fire was under investigation and that children were seen running from the building shortly before the blaze began. One investigator said children probably caused the fire.

No injuries were reported and the fire was brought under control by about 3 p.m., Deputy Chief Ray Aiello said.

The building had been boarded up for more than a year. Neighbors said two old men may have been living inside. At least one mattress was found inside the charred tenement, officials said.

But last night police would not confirm that squatters had inhabited the building.

Neighborhood children playing in the street adjacent to the smoking building said it was a local hangout for two competing "clubs" who fought each other with pellet guns.

The children said the building was a "clubhouse" that they could enter through a loose fire escape in the rear. They have been playing in the building with friends for more than a year.

The burnt building is owned by Joseph Barry, president of Applied Housing, a major landowner in the city. His firm has used federal money to make large-scale renovations of deteriorated housing.

Barry could not be reached for comment but Carl Schaeffer, an attorney who spoke with Barry yesterday said 215 and four other buildings on the block had recently received final approval from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for subsidized renovations.

Aiello said the firemen fighting the blaze were hampered by a 6-foot fence that they cut. Electricity at the adjacent building at 217 Willow Ave. and three other buildings on the street was temporarily cut when the fire burned through the main line feeding the building.

However, repairs were made before nightfall and no residents were relocated.



Photo by Bill Bayer

HOBOKEN FIREMAN peers out from window of building gutted by fire yesterday.

Bus driver found dead in apartment blaze; heart attack blamed

By BARBARA DEMICK
Staff Writer

JERSEY CITY—A 47-year-old school bus driver died early yesterday morning after he apparently suffered a heart attack trying to extinguish flames that broke out in his fourth-floor apartment.

Raymond Carvin of 8486 Waldo Ave. was found dead on the bedroom floor of his apartment. All the faucets had been turned on, indicating that he had attempted to quench the fire, fire officials said. Although the results of Carvin's autopsy were not yet available, one firefighter said he had recently been treated for a heart condition and probably was killed by a heart attack.

The fire is still under investigation, but the city's bureau of fire prevention says he believes it to have been caused by accident.

The fire broke out shortly before 1 a.m. yesterday morning in the four-story brick building, which houses 24 families. The blaze was brought under control within a half-hour. Carvin was rushed by ambulance to the Jersey City Medical Center where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

No other injuries were reported, but one family living directly below Carvin's apartment was forced to vacate because of water damage. The family is staying with relatives.

Detective Raymond Ryan of the public safety director's office said Carvin lived by himself in the two-room apartment and was apparently a loner.

Meeting doesn't settle counseling group's funds

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—After a two-hour meeting with state and federal officials yesterday, Mayor Steve Cappelletto has not yet decided whether or not the city will fund the only Hispanic counseling agency in town.

"It was a very amicable meeting," Cappelletto said after the meeting with David Matos of the state Office of Hispanic Affairs and a representative of the Community Affairs Department of the U.S. Justice Department.

"When I meet with the council, I will report to them the attitude of the funding sources and ask them for their opinion," Cappelletto added.

The controversy surrounding the funding for Citizens United for New Action, Inc. emerged last week when the City Council failed to put the funding on its agenda. The mayor cited the recent political activity of the agency as the block to its funding.

Juan Garcia, spokesman for CUNA, has denied that the agency has been involved in political activity, saying instead that their actions in the anti-arson and the anti-vacancy decontrol movement were "survival actions."

Following the meeting with the mayor, Matos said he was pleased about the outcome and was going to

be setting up a meeting with the mayor and Garcia to settle the issue of the funding.

Matos said he spoke with various state agencies yesterday and reached an agreement with them that they will fund CUNA through September 1982, regardless of the city's decision on the funding.

Cappelletto said meeting with state, federal officials was amicable

Up until yesterday, some \$53,000 of CUNA's fund from the state was contingent on the city providing \$23,000 in matching funds.

Matos said an agreement reached with the Department of Youth and Family Services yesterday will allow CUNA to receive the state share, even if the city refuses to fund the agency.

"Last year they took my salary away from the agency and I didn't complain. But this is money for the kids; they're hurting them," Garcia said.

Hoboken keeps funds for Hispanics on hold

Continued from Page 1

"The city, I'm told, wants to evaluate the contract with CUNA," said Matos. "We're all working toward trying to resolve the problem. The city's share to CUNA is vital to the existence of the program."

The state official ruled out political interference as the reason for the delay of funding by the city.

CUNA officials have accused the mayor and council of playing

politics. "The city has raised several questions concerning the activity of CUNA and as a funding agent we have the right to evaluate the contract with CUNA," said Cappelletto.

CUNA has been very vocal over the recent rash of fires, the rent vacancy decontrol ordinance, the smoke detector regulation, and jobs and housing for the poor.

Cappiello seeks 3 piers from U.S. free of charge

By Peter LaVilla 8/2/81

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today called on Rep. Frank Guarini of Jersey City to seek legislation that would give Hoboken three federally-owned piers free of charge.

Cappiello also asked the Port Authority to help the city find a developer interested in converting the property into highrise condominiums, shopping mall, a marina, cultural and art facility and more.

A Congressional subcommittee last month granted preliminary approval for the return of piers A, B and C to city control, but the transfer of the ownership would come about if the city decides to buy the property.

The federal government would sell the property to the city for a price slightly less than market value. Final approval by the full Senate and House of Representatives is expected on the transfer.

However, Cappiello said the piers are the property of the city, and they should be given back without charge.

"The piers belonged to the city until 1917 when war broke out," said the mayor. "The

federal government seized them and used them during war time. Now they don't need them and they want to sell them back to us. That's not fair. The piers belonged to Hoboken first. We shouldn't have to buy them back."

The mayor said the city does not have the funds available to purchase the piers if and when the offer is made. No dollar figure was put on the piers by the federal government, he noted.

"We have ideas about what we'd like to see developed on the waterfront," said Cappiello. "We don't have the resources to do it, however. We feel the Port Authority would be the right source to approach. I've made contact with them and it's a wait-and-see situation."

It was Guarini who introduced legislation that led to the preliminary approval to transfer the piers to city control.

According to Guarini, the Port Authority, which has a 50-year lease with the piers as a maritime terminal, has agreed to the transfer to city control. The 50-year lease ends 2002.

However, there has not been any maritime activity on piers A, B and C in many years, according to Cappiello.

Volunteers seeking \$50,000 to send youths to camp

Five years ago, Hoboken stopped sending youths to Camp Tamaqua in Bear Mountain State Park for the summer because of a cutback in state and federal aid.

Today, however, even though there are hardly any government funds available, a group of Hoboken residents has banded together to raise \$50,000 to send about 100 youths to camp this summer.

The group, calling itself Camp Tamaqua Alumni Association, has some 200 volunteers working to put the program together, including numerous fund-raising events.

Leo Genese, who has been involved with sending those between the ages of 7 and 15 to camp for the past 30 years, called on the city to help support the goal.

"We're going to need donations from every possible source—the government and individuals, to achieve our goal of \$50,000," said Genese. "We're asking the people of Hoboken to open their hearts and help us."

Camp Tamaqua Alumni Association's address is 911 Garden

St., he said. Prior to 1976, the Camp Tamaqua program was funded by the Board of Education, the Community Development Agency, and HOPES.

Genese said the Board of Education cut out the aid because of its own financial problems, the CDA cut its assistance substantially, and HOPES has promised to renew its agreement with the program.

"It used to cost us \$60,000 to send 160 kids to camp for 10 weeks," he said. "That was five years ago. Costs have risen. But we'd like to try and send as many kids to camp this summer even if it's only 100 of them."

The youths usually sleep away at the camp for about two weeks at a time, he said, and are supervised by adults. They also receive three meals a day.

The recreation includes swimming, boating, hiking, arts and crafts and much more, he added.

This summer, if the necessary funds are raised, youths who can afford to pay will be asked to while those who cannot will not be turned away, he said.

Beating death suspect gives up

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer 12/2/81

HOBOKEN—Victor Torres, wanted in the beating death of his girlfriend on Christmas Day, turned himself in yesterday, accompanied by his lawyer.

Torres, 40, of 169 Ogden Ave., Jersey City, was booked on a charge of criminal homicide, police reported.

Police said Torres "had nothing to say" as he surrendered, accompanied by his attorney Stephen Schaffer. He was taken to the Hudson County Jail and is scheduled to appear today for arraignment.

Police said Mary Torres was found, apparently dead, fully clothed and sprawled on the bed of her 564 Observer Highway apartment at 6 p.m. by two friends, Pat Smith and Joann Sanchez of 169 Ogden Ave.

Detectives said witnesses saw Victor Torres, believed to be her boyfriend, leaving the building at the time of the murder. Police believe Mary Torres' killer beat her with his fists.

Police said Victor Torres was convicted in the 1966 slaying of Cesar Ortiz and served eight years of a 15-year sentence. —Chuck Sutton

Cappiello rings late bell for school workers

By Peter LaVilla 8/2/81

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello paid a surprise visit to the Hoboken Board of Education to tell the staff that he has received complaints of tardiness among school employees, in particular, the administrators.

School sources said that several administrators denied that charge vehemently. Efforts to reach Thomas Gallo, board secretary, and George Maier, superintendent of schools, were unsuccessful.

"I received complaints, as did the county superintendent's office, about school officials, ad-

ministrators in particular, who were coming to work late and leaving in the middle of the afternoon for the day," said Cappiello.

"I recommended to the administrators and the school board to tighten up on that practice," he added. "I want it stopped."

The mayor's meeting comes on the heels of his meeting with City Hall employees about the same subject—lateness.

Cappiello announced that he is having a time clock installed in the municipal building for city workers to punch in and out of work daily.

See CAPPIELLO — Page 38.

Cappiello rings school late bell

Continued from Page 1 8/2/81

He stopped short of recommending to the Board of Education, which, like the current system at City Hall, uses a daily time sheet as a way of recording who comes in and goes out, to have a time clock installed in the future.

City workers will begin punching the time clock next month.

"The Board of Education is an autonomous agency and I can't tell it what to do," said the mayor. "I can advise and make suggestions, but I can't enforce

the mayor appoints school trustees, however. He said Robert Wendelken, board president, was in attendance at the meeting and taking notes.

School sources say the trustees are privately undergoing an evaluation of all the duties of several administrators to determine if they are doing what they are being paid to do.

The study is reportedly concentrating on the office of the superintendent, board secretary, and business manager, the source revealed.

Councilman's redistricting fears eased

By CHUCK SUTTON Staff Writer 12/2/81

HOBOKEN—The first meeting of the Hoboken Ward Commission has been

called "fair and open" by one local councilman who was suspicious last week that new ward boundaries might be used against Mayor Steve Cappiello's foes.

"I will reserve opinion on the process until I see what new map they finally pick," 5th Ward Councilman E. Norman Wilson said yesterday.

Wilson had sharp words about the redrawing of ward lines when it was learned that the 1st, 6th and 8th wards may be the districts most affected by the changes.

These wards are represented by Councilmen Anthony Romano, Nunzio Malfetti and Wilson, who have been foes of Cappiello.

However, at the first meeting of the ward commission Monday night, six proposed ward maps were presented in a "fair and open" atmosphere, Wilson said.

The commission decided to have additional maps drawn up for another meet-

ing Jan. 5. The maps will be drawn to ensure that there is no more than a 10 percent population difference between wards.

It was noted Monday night that there were 50 percent more people in the present 4th Ward than the present 6th Ward.

At the meeting Monday, county Superintendent of Elections Joseph Brady explained that the Faulkner Act requires that Hoboken draw new ward lines every 10 years, according to population. Following the meeting, which was set up by the Hudson County Board of Elections, Brady said that City Council President Walter Cramer requested that statistics on minority population also be presented, as had been done with the redistricting in Bayonne and Weehawken.

HOPES hears child care food program to go on

8/2/81

The Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Economic Stress, Inc., has received word from the federal government that the child care food program will be funded as in the past.

E. Norman Wilson Jr., executive director of HOPES, said it cost about \$1,100 a month to provide a hot breakfast and lunch for 104 children who attend the Head Start program.

MaryAnne Palceski, program director, said all the meals are USDA approved and planned by a staff nutritionist. The feeding program is for about nine months, she noted.

Children who participate in the Head Start program are between the ages of 3 and 5, and are enrolled according to family size and yearly income based on federal guidelines, she said.

The children in the program receive the hot meals and take part in educational and recreational programs, she stated.

"Head Start operates educational, health, nutritional, mental health, parent involvement and comprehensive social service components," said Ms. Palceski.

"Children with special needs and handicaps participate in a mainstreaming curriculum. Program operations are Monday through Thursday. Fridays are parent, teacher and staff conference days," she concluded.

The HOPES program receives some \$250,000 in federal funds to operate, according to Wilson. That includes salaries for 22 employees, and the purchase of food and supplies, he added.

Ranieri wants '81 OT data

Councilman Robert Ranieri

of Hoboken has requested payroll vouchers for the entire year to determine how much overtime was paid out and to whom, and if the practice was abused.

Ranieri said he made the request following Wednesday's council meeting at which he asked that the payment in \$8,000 for overtime to employees during the week of Dec. 2 be tabled.

However, the city employees who put in for overtime during that period already have been

paid. City Clerk Anthony Amoroso said he may have to request the money be returned to the city, but Ranieri said all he wants right now are the documents to support the overtime request.

"I requested a written report on the accounting of all overtime paid in 1981," said Ranieri. "I'd like to determine if the funds were used for city purposes or used in payment to people in favor of other people."

The councilman said the

\$8,000 overtime payment for one week was "outrageous and intolerable."

"We, the council, complained in the past when we had to pay overtime of about \$3,000 to \$4,000," he said. "But \$8,000 in one week. That's intolerable."

Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Union, said the employees should be paid overtime if their supervisors authorize it.

"There shouldn't be any question about paying," the employees if they worked," he said. "They are authorized to work overtime by their supervisors. They should not have to wait for their pay."

Ranieri said he feels over-

time pay should not be given unless an emergency arises or a person has to work on holidays.

He said he will pass that word along to the mayor and department directors.

Hoboken city workers will punch time clocks

By Peter LaVilla 8/2/81

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today informed City Hall workers that they will have to punch a time clock each day starting next month.

Cappiello said he is having the time clocks installed to cut down on lateness and employees abusing the full day's work schedule.

Judge Fitzgibbons, president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association, the union which represents some 200 city employees, said he agrees with the mayor's proposal.

"I've received complaints about many city employees who reportedly come in late and leave the office early," said Cappiello. "Well, that's going to change."

"Starting next month, every city employee working in city hall, excluding police and other uniform employees, will have to punch a time clock."

"And that includes me," he added.

According to the mayor, each department director will be responsible for the employees under his supervision. He said he

will expect a progress report on the new system once it is put into effect.

"And I want it understood that if any employee is late for work, he or she is expected to make it up or we won't pay that employee for a full day's work," he added.

The new regulation is for those City Hall employees who work from 9-to-4, he said. They number between 35 and 40, he noted.

Currently, employees sign a time sheet in the morning, when

they go to lunch and return, and when they leave for the day. The department director signs the time sheet at the end of the week before it is processed by the payroll department.

"We're in favor of employees punching in and out each day," said Fitzgibbons. "It's the best way to correct the tardiness that occurs in city hall. It should be done throughout the city."

Cappiello said the time clocks have been ordered and will be installed shortly after the new year.

Agency moves its operations in Hoboken

The Hoboken Community

Development Agency has moved its entire operations from 84 Washington St. to the city-owned Multi-Service Center on Second and Grand streets and Mayor Steve Cappiello said that will save the city agency at least \$20,000 annually in rent.

Cappiello said the savings will be put into other city-run programs. He said he is meeting with Fred Bado, director of CDA, to decide where to move the agency and how to best utilize it.

The CDA is expected to pick up the cost for utilities at the center, Bado stated.

The local agency will occupy the first floor, once staffed by the CETA program, and the second floor which housed the mental health center. The latter agency moved into newer headquarters while the CETA program was phased out because of federal cutbacks, Bado said.

"We had to get out of our headquarters at 84 Washington St. because the new landlord told us he wanted to give us half the space we were occupying there and double our rent," Bado said.

"We met with the mayor, and since we are a city agency, we moved into the city-owned Multi-Service Center," he added.

Christmas killing suspect surrenders

A 42-year-old Jersey City man, wanted in connection with the death of a 30-year-old Hoboken woman, surrendered to Hoboken police yesterday accompanied by his attorney.

Police Capt. Patrick Donatucci, detective commander, said Victor Torres was charged with

homicide on the complaint of Detective Vincent Lombardi.

According to Donatucci, Torres allegedly assaulted Mary Torres, no relation, with his hands. The assault, he said, led to the death of the woman.

The alleged assault occurred on Christmas Day in the Observer Highway home of the deceased, Donatucci said. The detective commander refused comment on the particulars surrounding the case.

Torres surrendered to police in the company

of his attorney, Stephen Schaffer of Jersey City, Donatucci said.

The suspect was booked at Hoboken police headquarters and transferred to the county jail where he is being held without bail pending grand jury action.

Growing up in Hoboken

By Paul Drexel

Home could be the Pennsylvania Turnpike, Indiana's early morning dew, or even high up in the majestic hills of California. But then again, home could be Hoboken, New Jersey, a mile square city that has lots of early morning dew, but is far from up in the hills.

In fact, Hoboken is right down the viaduct from Jersey City.

Most people recognize Hoboken as the place where "On the Waterfront" was filmed or as the birthplace of Frank Sinatra. I guess if you've ever ridden the PATH trains from Journal Square to New York, you probably know Hoboken as that place where you catch the Conrail trains to head home.

Well, for me that little whistle stop between Jersey City and New York is much more; it is home. It's the city I grew up in and a place that holds many fond memories.

From the times I was on my knees playing "bottle caps" on the city streets, to the marathon games of stickball at the corner park, Hoboken was the place.

In my old neighborhood, fruit trucks would come around every summer afternoon. My friends and I would "borrow" a bunch of grapes and sit around talking about everything from the Knicks (those were the years of Dave DeBusschere, Bill Bradley, Willis Reed, Walt Frazier, and the high hickin' Dick Barnett) to the new girl on the block, Lori Rondononi. Gee! I wonder what Lori is doing these days?

I grew up in a cold water flat over a bar called the Uptown Cafe. That's not as unusual as you might think because every other corner in Hoboken has a bar on it.

Some of the blue collar workers from Maxwell House, Bethlehem Steel or any of the other factories in town were live-in residents at the "Uptown."

I really don't wonder what they're doing today; they're probably still sitting on the same bar stools.

I'll never forget those hot summer nights listening to the Jackson Five, The Four Seasons, and Freda Payne's smash hit "Band of Gold."

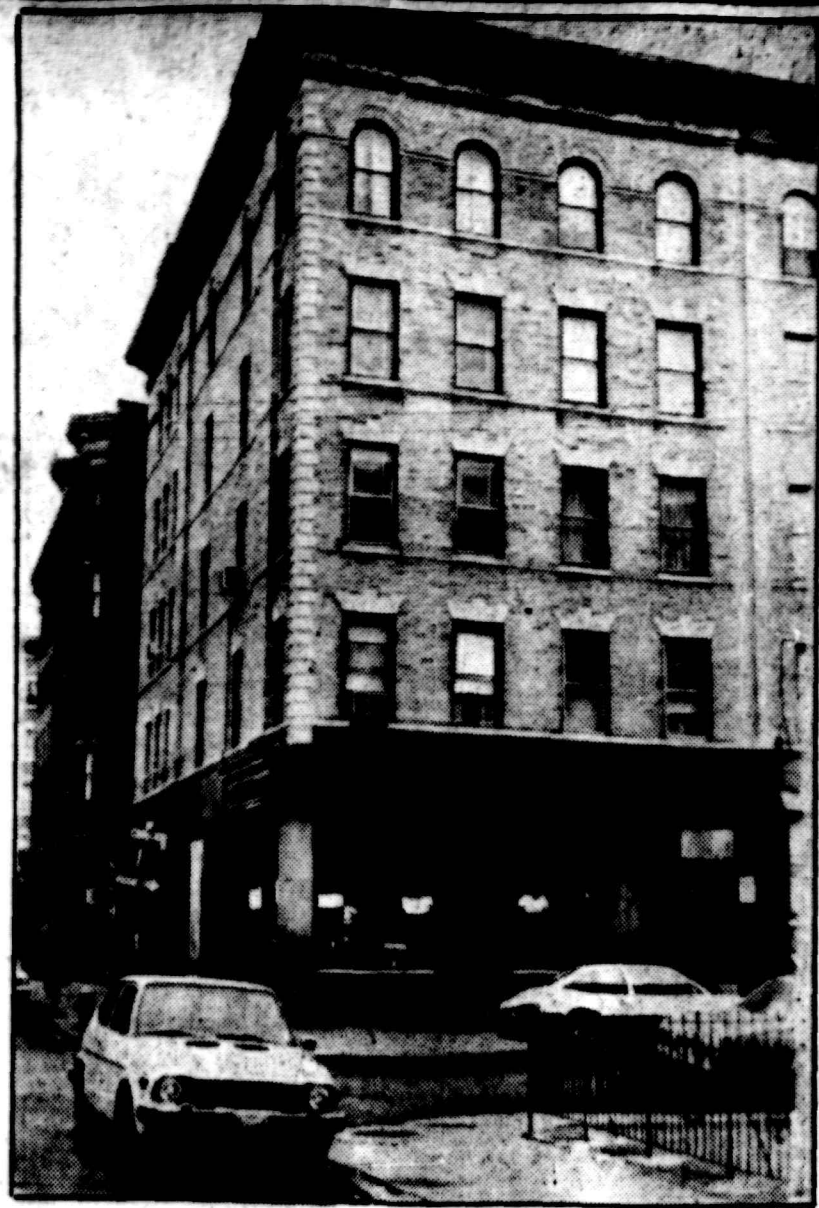
Around eight o'clock a Mister Softee truck pulled up and I'd get my usual vanilla ice cream cone with chocolate sprinkles. I can almost taste it now!

Afterwards, we would go down to the Hudson River, take in the New York skyline and watch the ocean liners head out to sea. Hey! Maybe that's where Lori is now!

Four years ago my family moved from the old neighborhood to a different part of the city. I still go back once in a while to visit old friends and share these endless memories.

The fruit trucks still come around on summer afternoons, even though Lori moved away. The Knicks now put a totally different team on the court, but thank God I can still get my vanilla cone on a summer night.

I guess most things are bound to change, but it is nice to know that a few remain the same. Especially that place I'll always call home.



Upstairs, over the Uptown Bar and Cafe at 935 Willow Ave., Hoboken, on the third floor — the last two windows on the right, to be exact — that's Apartment 3 F. And that was home for Paul Drexel.

Bado assails changing job requirements

The director of Hoboken's Community Development Agency blamed "constantly changing job requirements and duties" as the reason the job of tenant-advocate — approved by Mayor Steve Cappelletto almost two months ago — has yet to be filled.

However, Fred Bado, head of the CDA, said he hopes to meet with Cappelletto and members of the city council following tomorrow's 7 p.m. council meeting to further discuss the situation.

Bado said that every time the job description is finalized, tenants' group spokesmen demanded changes.

Repeated attempts to contact spokesmen for any of the city's tenants' groups were unsuccessful yesterday.

At the time the \$15,000-a-year full-time job was approved by the mayor almost two months ago the job description called for a person to act as a liaison between the city and tenants experiencing housing problems in the city.

While Bado added that "six or seven people" have applied for the job since its inception, he said that interviews have yet to be completed.

He said that while the applicant is not required to live in Hoboken, that was preferable, as was a bi-lingual person to fill the job.

No jail term for ex-radical on bomb charge

By John J. Farrell Jr.

Jeffrey Carl Jones, 34, one of the original members of the Weatherman Underground, has escaped a jail term for manufacturing explosive devices two years ago in Hoboken.

Superior Court Judge Geoffrey Gaulkin, before whom Jones pleaded guilty to that charge Nov. 4, fined him \$3,000 and placed him on 18 months' probation, directing that he spend six months of voluntary full-time service without pay at the Montefiore Hospital's child day care weekdays and emergency room service at the North Central Bronx Hospital

weekends. The judge had received letters from both Bronx hospitals' officials concerning the volunteer services.

Jones, a tall, blonde-haired defendant had earlier told the judge he would "like an opportunity to make a contribution to the community." After he emerged from the courtroom, he told a reporter he was glad he got that opportunity.

His community service is expected to begin after he appears Jan. 7 in Chicago to face an assault charge stemming from the 1968 Democratic National Convention as well as a fugitive charge. Jones appeared confident about the outcome, reporting he

had pleaded innocent.

Hudson County Prosecutor Harold J. Ruvoldt Jr. told Judge Gaulkin before sentencing that "some incarceration would be appropriate" as a result of the guilty plea stemming from a 1979 police raid on a Hoboken apartment where they reported finding a "bomb factory."

Morton Stavis, associated with Paul Castelleirox in representing Jones, declared Jones was appearing before Gaulkin as a first offender and was "no danger to society," explaining the former Weatherman works as a teacher-aid in a New York City child day care center. He said there is a shortage of

male teachers in that field.

Stavis revealed that the conservatively-dressed Jones recently married a co-defendant in the Hoboken case, Ms. Eleanor Stein Raskin. They have a 4½-year-old son.

The new Mrs. Jones was reported in November to be inheriting \$225,000 from her mother's estate.

In return for Jones' plea to the accusation that he manufactured explosive devices, the 1979 indictment against him and his new wife, alleging possession of bombs and explosives, was dismissed yesterday.

Stavis, explaining their absence from these parts since

1978, claimed negotiations were in progress with the prosecutor's office before their arrest by the FBI in New York as fugitives from Hudson County.

They were originally arraigned before Judge Gaulkin under tight security precautions with \$150,000 bail set for Jones and \$100,000 for his then-common-law wife after their October arrest. Jones and Ms. Raskin had used various aliases while fugitives, Ruvoldt explained at that time, when they were held for further investigation.

After a subsequent check by the FBI, which had rounded up several other radical figures in connection with an armored car robbery in Nanuet, N.Y., both Jones and Ms. Raskin were cleared of an involvement in that or other crimes. Stavis had claimed their arrest was based on "hysteria."

Yesterday, there was only the regular security in the courtroom, where numerous relatives and friends of Jones, including his new wife, gathered to see the sentencing.

Help!

Hoboken, according to its public works director, William Van Wie, has problems with its sewer system and an indifferent public. He is pleading with the public to help ease the sewer problem.

If people stopped littering, says Van Wie, garbage wouldn't find its way into the sewers, which are old and need some sprucing up.

He has called on the public and merchants to help. He plans to send public works spokesmen into the elementary and high schools to explain how littering can be prevented or reduced.

More anti-littering messages are to be produced in posters and brochures in several languages to carry the plea for cooperation to homes and public places.

Meanwhile, Van Wie is asking for money to clean up the sewerage. Finding and appropriating the requested funds could take some time in these days of fiscal belt-tightening.

But public awareness and cooperation with the anti-littering campaign could — and should — begin immediately.

Chius sets money, personnel goals

By Peter LaVilla

Edwin Chius is the youngest member of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto's administration.

At age 30, the business administrator has 40 employees under his supervision, a \$3 million operating budget, and several departments to direct.

His objective for 1982 is to manage with less money and personnel than in 1981.

"We've got less money coming from the state and federal governments next year and that means trying to manage with less money to operate," he said.

"Without money, it's almost impossible to hire additional personnel. It also will put a crimp in purchasing supplies and equipment in 1982," he added.

Chius' responsibilities include preparing the municipal budget, personnel director and purchasing agent.

"Putting the budget together is going to be especially painful because of the recent county ruling that gave Bethlehem Steel a \$5 million reassessment victory," said Chius.

"That money has to be made up from some other source of revenue," he continued. "We just can't overlook it and the ramifications it is going to have on the tax rate in 1982. The people of Hoboken do not want another \$26 tax raise."

As business administrator, it is his responsibility to sit down with department directors and go over their operating expenses.

The directors have requested \$700,000 for 1982, but the state only allows the city to spend \$550,000. It is up to Chius, the



Edwin Chius Looking ahead

mayor and City Council, to trim it down.

On the issue to reevaluate Hoboken property as ordered by the county board of taxation, Chius commented:

"Some people will like it, others will not. People just have to prepare for it."

The business administrator also is putting together a plan that would outline the entire personnel structure of city workers.

That plan is expected to include employee status, job classification and salary range, he added.

Chius has served as business administrator for slightly more than four years. He was graduated from Stevens Tech in Hoboken with a bachelor of science degree.

Radical gets probation

Hoboken bombmaker fined \$3G

JERSEY CITY—Weather Underground founder Jeffrey Carl Jones, once accused of operating a bomb factory, was fined \$3,000 yesterday and directed to perform volunteer work in a day care center and a hospital emergency room.

Superior Court Judge Geoffrey Gaulkin imposed the sentence on Jones, 34, as a result of his guilty plea Nov. 4 to a downgraded charge of manufacturing a bomb.

The former radical was placed on probation for 18 months and ordered to work six months at a day care center operated by the Montefiore Community Center in New York City and on weekends in the emergency room of North Central Bronx Hospital.

After the sentencing, Jones said he "felt very fortunate to get this opportunity instead of going to jail."

Hoboken lawyer Morton Stavis informed the judge that Jones recently married Eleanor

Stein Raskin, 35, his longtime companion and the mother of his 4-year-old son.

The woman, a former member of the radical group, was indicted with Jones in 1979 after a raid on their Hoboken apartment turned up detonators, timing devices, pipes and gunpowder.

Under a plea bargaining agreement, the original charges of possession of explosives and unlawful intent to use a bomb against Jones and his wife were dismissed.

The couple were arrested at their Bronx apartment Oct. 23 during a roundup of suspects linked to the Brink's armored car robbery in Nanuet, New York authorities, however, found no evidence they were involved in the holdup, in which two policemen and a guard were killed.

Hudson County Prosecutor Harold Ruvoldt Jr. asked the judge to impose some term of

incarceration because of the potentially violent nature of the crime.

However, the judge said he was swayed by Jones' renunciation of violence as a means of social change and because the couple were in the process of negotiating a surrender with Hudson County authorities when they were arrested.

Ruvoldt later said Jones' service in the emergency room would expose him to "the victims of violent crime, and quite frequently that is a much more moving experience than actual incarceration."

Jones was one of 11 radical members of the Students for a Democratic Society who prepared a manifesto calling for armed violence in the summer of 1969. The faction later became the Weathermen and went underground in 1970 to start a terrorist campaign in which more than 20 public buildings were bombed. —UPI

Cappelletto backing contract for CUNA for youth work only

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto said today he will recommend to the City Council that it approve the contract between the city and the Citizens United for New Action (CUNA), when it meets at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

However, Cappelletto said he is recommending the approval with certain restrictions.

"The \$23,000 that the city is contributing to the continuance of the program is to be used for youth counseling and not other activities," said Cappelletto.

"I was informed that CUNA was using the funds in the past to hold meetings in their office to counsel people on housing problems and rent-lord related problems," he continued. "We have city agencies for that. The funds are to be used to help youths."

The mayor had recommended that the city's share be held up until a meeting with state, federal and CUNA officials was held to clear the air on the issue.

All four parties met for an hour yesterday in the mayor's office and the issue was resolved, according to David Matos of the state Department of Hispanic Affairs.

Also in attendance was Ada Santiago Montare, community relations service conciliator for the

See CAPPIELLO — Page 10.

Cappelletto won't rule out layoffs in '82

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto today said he will not rule out layoffs of city workers in an effort to cut the 1982 municipal budget.

Cappelletto already announced that he will not hesitate to ask top city officials to take a pay cut if he cannot stay within the state cap.

Department directors have requested some \$700,000 to operate in 1982. The state cap for Hoboken is \$550,000.

"I'm not ruling out layoffs if the budget isn't trimmed," said Cappelletto. "The layoffs would affect cops, firemen and city workers. And I intend to ask the autonomous agencies to tighten up their belts, too."

The mayor said he requested a "ball park" figure of the 1982 municipal budget from the city comptroller by Jan. 15.

He said he wants some idea of what the budget will look like before he meets with the City Council to begin paring it.

"We mustn't forget that we stand to lose \$5 million because of the recent court ruling regarding Bethlehem Steel on property reassessment," said Cappelletto. "That's going to hurt us a lot next year."

The municipal budget in 1981 was \$19.4 million. Taxes rose some \$26 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The tax rate is \$138 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Cappelletto backs CUNA contract

Continued from Page 1

U.S. Department of Justice, CUNA officials, and representatives of the city and Community Development Agency.

Councilman Robert Ranieri, who was in attendance, said a resolution will be voted on Wednesday on the contract. He declined to say how the vote

would go.

"That's up to the council as a whole," he said. "We understand the mayor's position."

CUNA receives \$77,000 annually to run the Hoboken service. The city's CDA contributes \$23,000 toward the operation, the state Youth and Family Services provides \$54,000.

Hoboken brass may cut their own pay as example

By Peter LaVilla

High ranking city officials in Hoboken — including the mayor, department directors and police and fire superiors — will apparently be asked to take a 5 percent pay cut in an attempt to trim the municipal budget for 1982.

According to City Hall sources, the proposed cuts were discussed at a special closed-session meeting between Mayor Steve Cappelletto and the City Council.

Cappelletto would not comment on the discussions at the special meeting. However, it was learned that most of the meeting was consumed by the discussion of the proposed cut in pay and very little on Bethlehem Steel's plan to appeal a recent ruling that lowered its property assessment from \$6.4 million to \$5 million.

Bethlehem Steel is seeking to have the assessment lowered to about \$2 million.

See BRASS — Page 38.

Brass to cut own pay

Continued from Page 1.

The department directors requested some \$700,000 in operating expenses for 1982. The state cap limits the city to about \$500,000. That means \$200,000 will have to be cut from the requests in order to comply with the state cap.

Cappelletto said he met with his department directors yesterday to advise them of what the council had proposed to him during his meeting with them. He would not comment on what he informed the directors.

"I did tell them that we expect them to go over their budget requests with an eye towards cutting back," said Cappelletto.

Meanwhile, the mayor is

meeting today with all City Hall employees, excluding the uniform employees, to bring to rest what he terms "grumbling among the rank-and-file."

"I've been told that many city hall employees are grumbling and it is having a morale impact on the workers," said Cappelletto.

"I intend to let them know that no one in the city's employ is getting preferential treatment. All city workers must abide by the rules and regulations, no matter what political affiliations they may have."

"I'm also going to advise them of our plans to cut spending and I will seek their cooperation."

Historic Grand Hotel conversion OKed

By James Kopchans

Site plans for a \$1 million renovation of the old Grand Hotel in Hoboken have been approved by the city's planning board, clearing the way for construction to begin with its completion slated for autumn of next year.

The board also voted last night against declaring residential property along Second Street, Willow Avenue and Clinton Street blighted. In doing so the board accepted a review prepared by consultant Harvey Moskowitz that said the properties did not meet official blight definition of a blighted area.

With the hotel plan's approval, construction at the site is expected to begin within the month, according to attorney Harvey Gerber Jr., who represents the developer, Carmine Lemme.

Gerber and architect Joseph T. Vitullo represented the concern last night before the board.

The hotel, which is presently unoccupied, is located at 232-234 Hudson St. According to the plans, the building will be converted into 26 apartment units, according to Gerber.

Twelve of these units will be located on the ground floor of the building, Gerber said. A restaurant presently located there would be converted into apartments to do this, he said.

The estimated \$1 million cost for the renovations was arrived at by multiplying the estimated cost of renovation for each unit (about \$40,000 each) by the number of units, according to Gerber.

When completed, Gerber said the units will be rentals and luxury rentals, though he said decisions are still being made.

See HISTORIC—Page 25.

Historic Grand Hotel conversion OKed

Continued from Page 1

sions could be made in the future in changing the apartments to condominiums or co-op status. "That'll all depend on how the market is in a few years," Gerber said.

Concerning the residential properties declared not blighted, the members voted unanimously

after reviewing the consultant's report. The areas that were being considered for blighted were 200-212 Willow Ave., 300-316 Second St., and 205-209 Clinton St.

The decision had been the subject of great controversy among landlords and residents in the area. The planning board had

ordered the investigation into whether the area should be declared blighted because they border on other officially-declared blighted areas.

Landlords of the properties had claimed the board was just trying to blight the property and turn the buildings over to a local

developer. According to Edwin Chius, a member of the board, the Moskowitz report had recommended the properties not be declared blighted because there was evidence the owners were making repairs to the properties.

Local civic group fights funding delay

HD 12/19/81

By CHUCK SUTTON

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Citizens United for New Action, a local Hispanic social service organization, has called on state and federal officials to help resolve the problem of

receiving its budget allocation from the City Council.

"The administration is holding the Hispanic community hostage by holding back the funds that operate this agency," said Juan Garcia, a spokesman for CUNA, which provides counseling and other services to Hispanic youths in Hoboken.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said earlier this week that the city council told him they were holding up approval of their budget because of CUNA's political activity.

Garcia, commenting on the council's action, said, "They (the council) have told us if you are involved in stopping arson, if you're involved in stopping families from getting evicted, you can have the money."

"They aren't hurting me, Juan Garcia," he added. "I'm always going to be active in the movement here. But it is the kids who will be hurt when CUNA has to shut down."

Garcia met with David Matos of the state Department of Hispanic Affairs on Thursday, who said he will meet with the mayor to discuss the problem. Matos could not be reached for comment, but his office confirmed that Matos has met with Garcia.

Garcia said he was also contacted by the Justice Department, which expressed interest in the case. Garcia told the Justice Department that CUNA "may be on the verge of closing" if its budget is not passed soon.

Sinatra's Hoboken Four down to two

By FRANCES BURNS

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—In the 1930s Jimmy Skelly, Fred Tammy and Patty Prince were a singing group known as the Three Flashes.

In 1935 they took on a kid named Frank Sinatra as their driver. Frankie started singing with them and they became the Hoboken Four.

The group broke up in 1937. Skelly, whose real name was James Petroselli, got a job as a longshoreman and stopped singing professionally.

Skelly died on Tuesday. Today his friends will come to St. Francis Church here to say their last goodbyes.

Skelly, Prince (Patrick Principle) and Tammy (Fred Tamburro) were all a few years older than Sinatra.

"I'm the last of the Mohicans," said Tamburro, a dapper man in a gray suit, at Petroselli's wake Thursday.

Patty died seven years ago, two weeks after he retired from the Erie-Lackawanna. Tamburro said, "He was a wonderful dancer. He kept on singing and dancing after he went to work for the railroad, but Skelly never performed again except for his own pleasure."

He added, "Patty, Skelly and I were singing and dancing together at theaters all over for five or six years. We grew up together in the old neighborhood at Sixth and Monroe."

In 1935 the group got a job at the Rustic Cabin on 9th in Englewood, the biggest nightclub in New Jersey. Sinatra was the only one who had a car. "Frankie would drive us up there and then come and pick us up at 3 in the morning. The four of us would be singing together in the car and then Frankie joined the group," Tamburro said.

That same year, they took first place on the Major Bowes Amateur Hour, a well-known radio show. For a year and a half, the Hoboken Four, led by Tamburro, toured the country with Major Bowes. In 1937 Bowes told him to rest for a couple of weeks and then to get in touch.

"Major Bowes told me to get the group back together," Tamburro said. "I went down to Keansburg, where Patty and Skelly were working as waiters. They both had girls in Keansburg and they didn't want to go back on the road."

Skelly came back to Hoboken, where his brother got him a job on the docks. He married and had a family. Patty Principle went to work for the Erie-Lackawanna. Tamburro and Sinatra kept singing.

Sinatra went on to fame and Hollywood. People at the wake wondered if he even knew his old friend had died.

And now, the last of the Three Flashes, Fred Tammy, is the last of the Mohicans.



Photo courtesy of the Petroselli family

THE HOBOKEN FOUR when they were touring with Major Bowes in the mid-30s. From left are James Skelly, Patty Prince, Frank Sinatra and Fred Tammy.

More city recreation is director's top aim

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken, which is slightly larger than one square mile, not only lacks much needed housing and green grass, but because of its size, the city is in dire need of recreational facilities.

That's why James Farina, director of the city's health and welfare, is making recreation his number one priority for 1982.

"I've requested some additional money in the 1982 budget to help upgrade the existing recreation programs," he said. "Hoboken, because of its size and density, has very little space to grow. That's why I want to try and do the best with what we've got."

The Kennedy Stadium/Veterans Field, which is used seven days a week, is not being used at night because there is no lighting.

According to Farina, that's going to change, and he has requested funds to have the lighting installed. That means that programs can be developed for evenings.

Columbus Park, which



James Farina Sets priorities

is adjacent to the stadium, is county-owned. However, county officials are looking at the possibility of taking over the day-to-day operation of the stadium and pumping additional funds into the recreation programs there, the director said.

"I'm also meeting with several volunteer organizations that are active in sports and recreation," he said. "They seemed to be organized and could be helpful to the city it is planning and programming in the future."

City welfare comes under his supervision. In the past year, his office was responsible for cutting the welfare rolls from 1,200 to about 600 by catching frauds on the payroll.

"We will continue to monitor the welfare rolls and put people to work if they are capable of it," he said.

Some of his other objectives for the new year is to make sure that smoke detectors are installed in every multiple dwelling and to establish an emergency shelter station.

Farina, a director for slightly more than four years, is married to the former Patricia Amoroso. They have one son.

As head of the health and welfare department, Farina operates with a \$700,000 budget. Some 60 employees come under his supervision.

Housing forum planned in Hoboken

The Hoboken Environment Committee will hold a two-day housing forum in late February to bring together the city's housing groups in an effort to share ideas and initiate action.

The HEC has asked prominent figures in the community to act as facilitators of the forum. They will be headed by Michael Coleman, former director of the Hoboken Community Development Agency. The executive director of the forum will be Gerard Costa, adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University and the former director of Hoboken Head Start.

All factions will be heard at the forum and the HEC hopes to produce a written report defining the major issues in housing and assigning them priorities. The tentative date for the meeting is Feb. 26-27.

Dario wants his job back at Hoboken school board

By Peter Hallam

Ronald A. Dario, who is being removed as administrative principal of the North Hudson Jointure School in February, is seeking his old job back with the Hoboken Board of Education.

Dario, who is also a Union City commissioner, has sent a letter to the Hoboken school board asking that he be given his old position back as of Feb. 18, the day after he is scheduled to leave the jointure school.

Prior to becoming the administrative principal at the Jointure Commission's school for the handicapped in April, Dario was the grants manager for the Hoboken Board of Education. That position was never filled following Dario's departure.

Dario does not have tenure in the grant's post but does in other teaching and administrative posi-

tions he held prior to taking that job. However, Dario's letter does not stipulate that he is looking for any specific position, just that he wants to be reinstated to his "old post."

According to Dario, he lost the post with the jointure commission because of his rift with Union City Mayor William V. Musto. Dario is an announced candidate for re-election next year and says he won't be running with Musto on a ticket backed by him.

Dario said that he expected to be given a position with the Hoboken school system by virtue of his tenure. But that could depend on the relationship between the Board of Education and Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Musto and Cappiello are close political allies and the possibility exists that the Union City

The faded image of doctors making house calls will be revived today in Hoboken when doctors from St. Mary Hospital will begin visiting the elderly and incapacitated in their homes.

Those patients, registered in the hospital's Family Practice Center, but who are unable to

make it to the center, will receive visits from resident doctors, Dr. Henry Wager, acting director of the center, announced.

"St. Mary Hospital is the one hospital in the state that is conscientiously establishing a program" of house calls for senior citizens, Wager said.

Resident doctors of the Family Practice Program will rotate house calls on their own patients, Wager added.

Members of the program are: Drs. Carlos Cane, Aristides Ruiz, Robert Verdon, Richard Hermann, Carmine Mastrolilo and Atisak Sapaying.

The senior citizens who will receive home services will be determined by their age, condition and needs.

Elderly persons who think they might qualify for the program in Hoboken should call the hospital.



Dr. Richard Hermann, chief resident in the Family Practice Program of St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, kicks off a new house calls program by making the first visit to a local senior citizen.

Officials keep watch as tenant cites 'squatters'

Hoboken city officials have agreed to take a wait-and-see attitude on a complaint by a Jersey City landlord who claims a family of five is living in his building without heat, hot water and electricity, and without paying rent for over a year.

Mayor Steve Cappiello said he received a complaint from an unidentified man about the living conditions at 127 Harrison St.

Cappiello contacted the health department and urged that the situation be checked out. Two health officials attempted to talk to the tenants but the residents refused to come to the door, he said.

"Unless and until the owner takes action, we can't act," said the mayor. "However, we will continue to monitor the situation for the benefit of the community."

A spokesman for the health department said he spoke to the owner of the building, Warren George Corp., and was informed of the situation at Harrison Street.

"The landlord said he allowed the family of five to move in on February, 1980, for \$100 a month, provided the tenant

pays for the heat, hot water and utilities," said the health department spokesman.

"In October of that year, the landlord asked the tenants to leave so he could make renovations," he continued. "The family of five are still living there. The owner claims they are squatters."

Police Chief George Crummins said his department will not act unless the owner gets court approval to evict the tenants. Even then, he said, it would have to be a court-appointed constable who would do the paper serving. The police department would lend assistance, he added.

James Farina, director of health and welfare, said if the city acted on the situation now, the city would be held for libel.

He also said the city would be held responsible for relocating the tenants.

Hoboken council critic tells Kean of 'conflict'

A Hoboken council critic has written a letter to Gov.-elect Thomas Kean and the state attorney general asking for an investigation of alleged conflict of interest involving three councilmen who also are employees of the Hoboken Board of Education.

Thomas Vezzetti, who was denied a similar request by Hudson County Prosecutor Harold Ruvoldt Jr., said he is taking his complaints to the state level.

According to Vezzetti, he feels Councilmen Walter Cramer, Louis Francone and Anthony

Romano are in conflict because, as council members, they vote on their salaries at the Board of Education.

"And that includes pay raises," Vezzetti said.

Ruvoldt, in a letter to Vezzetti, said he found no criminal cause to conduct an investigation. Francone is in charge of the maintenance crew in the school system, Romano is assistant to the board secretary, and Cramer is business manager and administrator.

See CRITIC—Page 7.

Continued from Page 1

Cramer, who is council president, said he feels there is no conflict because he and the other two councilmen do not make policy as board employees.

"This issue has been legally challenged in other communities

and proved not to be illegal in terms of a conflict," said Cramer. "We are not in conflict."

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House calls set for seniors

1/4/82 JS

Students to hear talks on careers

Students at Hoboken's Wallace School will have an opportunity throughout next month to consider what career they would like to follow in their later life, announced a school spokesman.

Patrick Gagliardi, vice principal, said there will be a series of programs at the school throughout February during which speakers in various professions will address the students.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, who is also chairman of the Hudson County Board of Freeholders, will be among those who will visit the school and discuss a career in community service.

Others will include professionals in the fields of journalism, playwriting, law, medicine and architecture.

Board public caucus set

The Hoboken Board of Education will hold its regular monthly public caucus at 8 tonight following the 6 p.m. executive session at its offices at 1115 Clinton St.

The caucus will precede the organization's regular monthly

meeting on Wednesday at the same location. The schedule for Wednesday's meeting is 6 p.m. for the executive session and 8 p.m. for the public meeting portion.

According to Thomas A. Gallo, board secretary.

Hoboken council stalls on CUNA funding

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Once again the city has held up approval of its share of the financing for Citizens United for New Action Inc., the only Hispanic youth counseling agency in Hoboken.

The resolution approving the \$23,000 budget was to have been placed on tonight's City Council agenda, but it was set aside by the council "for further study" during its Monday night caucus meeting. The council is expected to pass an estimated \$5 million temporary budget for the city tonight, and adopt a permanent budget by March 28.

The council was concerned by two issues relating to CUNA, Councilman E. Norman Wilson explained. First, the council did not have enough information on the agreement reached between the city and the state regarding CUNA, and secondly, the council was bothered that only one of CUNA's five paid staff members live in Hoboken.

"One of the biggest things was 80 percent of the people working on the project not coming from the city. If you're talking about a community-based group, you've got to have more of the people from the area involved," Wilson explained.

Juan Garcia, executive director of CUNA, said he was under the understanding that as a result of last week's meeting with the state, all problems revolving around the city's support of the program had been resolved.

None of the salaries for CUNA's staff are paid out of the city's share of the organization's budget. They are paid out of a \$51,000 grant from the state Division of Youth and Family Services.

CUNA's funding has been held up for several months. Both city and council officials charged that CUNA's political involvement had violated its contract to provide youth counseling services.

Wilson said neither Community Development Agency Director Fred Bado, who presented the resolution to the council nor Councilman Robert Ranieri, could elaborate on the details of the agreement with the state. Both had been present at the meeting in which an agreement was reached between CUNA, the state and the city.

Garcia said every time there has been a vacancy in the agency the positions have been advertised in the local newspapers. Of 14 people who have worked at the agency over the last two years, six have been local residents, he added.



Photo by Chuck Zoeller

JUAN GARCIA, executive director of Citizens United for New Action, Inc., in his office yesterday. The City

Council has opted to delay the granting of \$23,000 to the group pending further study.

Scrivani has resolved to up tax collections

By Peter LaVilla

Bernard Scrivani has made two New Year's resolutions. The first is to collect as much tax revenue as possible to hold the Hoboken tax rate down, the second is raise the tax collection rate from 86 to 90 percent.

People who know Scrivani will tell you that when the director of revenue and finance for Hoboken says he's going to do something, you can bet your last dime on it that he will accomplish it.

On the job only a year, Scrivani was responsible for collecting \$1.1 million of \$1.6 million from delinquent taxpayers.

His approach to the matter was rather simple. He gathered all city departments responsible for collecting back taxes, put together a letter and mailed it to the delinquent taxpayers.

The message simply stated that the city was seeking their cooperation in



Bernard Scrivani

Vows to do better

paying the amount due. It worked.

"It's not an easy thing when you're trying to collect money from people," he said. "However, if you take the time to explain to them that it's going to help them in the future if they pay their taxes now, they respond."

"I noted that the city assesses an 8 percent interest charge for taxes owed up to \$1,500 and 18 percent for anything over that amount."

"I also pointed out that if everyone pays their taxes, and on time, the tax rate is supported for the coming year."

Scrivani is no stranger to city government or finance. He served as city councilman for 16 years prior to his recent appointment as director.

During public office, he was employed for 46 years at S. B. Penick, a supplier of pharmaceuticals. He was a sales representative and later manager of customer service for the firm.

A graduate of St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City, he is married to the former Inez Cosentino. They have no children.

Scrivani is charged with the responsibility of the following departments: treasurer, payroll, assessor, tax collection, revenue and finance. He has about 20 persons under his supervision.

Cappiello to chair freeholders

By BARBARA DEMICK
Staff Writer

JERSEY CITY—Hoboken Mayor and Freeholder Steve Cappiello was unanimously elected as chairman of the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholders yesterday as the county held its annual reorganization meeting which abounded with gift-giving and proclamations of county unity.

In other shifts in the county government, outgoing Freeholder Chairman Morris Longo was sworn into office by Superior Court Judge Thomas O'Brien as county register, while West New York Mayor Anthony DeFino was sworn in for his second term as surrogate.

Also at yesterday's meeting, two new freeholders were sworn into office. One was North Bergen Mayor Anthony DiVincent, who took the 7th District seat held by his mayoral predecessor former Mayor Peter Mocco. The district includes parts of Union City and North Bergen.

A newcomer to elected office, John Spinello was also sworn into the 2nd District seat, vacated by Longo who represented Jersey City's Greenville and West Side wards. Spinello, 46, is owner of a West Side liquor store and delicatessen and until his recent election to the freeholder's seat, held the job of division chief of county parks.

A third newly-elected freeholder, 27-year-old Joseph DiNardo of Kearny, was absent from the ceremony because he was homesick with pneumonia.

Freeholder Harry Massey of Jersey City was elected vice-chairman of the nine-member board.

At their first meeting, the new freeholders board approved a \$28 million temporary budget to sustain the county until adoption of the permanent 1982 budget. The board adopted several other resolutions before moving on to the more pleasant business of speeches. New Year's salutations, mutual congratulations, and the exchange of flowers, envelopes, and other gifts in the politician-packed chamber.

Attending the ceremonies, Jersey City Mayor Gerald McCann, who was reportedly pushing for a freeholder from his city to become chairman, said he did not mind having a chairman from North Hudson. "We agreed we would share it over the next three years," said McCann, referring to the chairmanship. "What matters is having five votes. It doesn't matter who the chairman is as long as we have unity."

See CAPPIELLO, Page 7



Photo by Bill Bayer

NEWLY SELECTED Hudson County Chairman of Freeholders Steven Cappiello, who is also mayor of Hoboken, chats with North Bergen Mayor Anthony DiVincent, left, and Jersey City Mayor Gerald McCann, right, during a break yesterday after the county freeholders were sworn in yesterday in Jersey City.

CAPPIELLO

Continued from Page 1

"Money" is the biggest problem facing the county, said Cappiello, a second-term freeholder who will serve as chairman for one year. Citing this weekend's shooting of a Jersey City police officer at the Holland Tunnel, he called for more assistance from state police and from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

"The hardest job is trying to bring about some kind of friendly relations with the community structures in the county," he said of his new job after the ceremonies had finished. Noting that his district includes Hoboken, Union City and Weehawken, he promised to work for South Hudson as well as North Hudson, and for all communities in the county.

But, DiVincent said he was happy to have a chairman from North Hudson and said he hoped the freeholders would support projects important to his community, such as obtaining county police protection for Kennedy Boulevard and more money for his township's Braddock Park.

The freeholders serve for three year terms. Newcomer Spinello said yesterday he was recruited to run for office by Mayor McCann and Bayonne Mayor Dennis Collins. A graduate of Jersey City's Lincoln High School, Spinello attended college in Kansas for two years. He lives in Jersey City with his wife and two children.

Hoboken 'getting sites checked' on detectors

Hoboken's chief building inspector says his department is "moving right along" in checking the almost 3,000 multi-unit dwellings in the city for compliance with the state smoke alarm mandate — with a full one-third of the buildings in the city having been inspected already.

"We're doing the best we can," said Michael Curcio, chief building inspector in the city, who added that he is patiently sifting through the piles of paperwork on his desk on the city's multiple dwellings to gauge the smoke alarm compliance rate.

Although he did not have a percentage on the number of buildings in the city which are in compliance with the law, he said it was "substantial."

According to the year-old

mandate, landlords in dwellings of four or more units must place battery-operated alarms in all apartments and electrically-operated alarms in all access areas such as hallways and basements.

Meanwhile, Mayor Steve Cappiello added that plans to have a city ordinance mandating smoke alarms in multi-dwellings to back up the state ordinance, is still "status quo."

He added that the city mandate is being held up since Hoboken might be held responsible if there was a fire in a building that was supposed to have smoke alarms but did not.

He stressed however, that it was a "big question which we are concerned about and are all doing our best to expedite."

Hoboken hires tenant activist after 2 months

Hoboken now has a tenant activist at long last.

Fred Bado, head of the Community Development Agency, announced that he has hired Robert Schachter, a Hoboken resident, for the job, which had been unfilled since the position was approved by Mayor Steve Cappiello almost two months ago.

He will begin his duties Monday, Bado said.

Bado further added that Schachter, in his early 20s, is no stranger to this type of work, having served as a volunteer for the New York Environmental Protection Agency for a short time.

The tenants activist, who will earn \$15,000 per year, is supposed to act in a liaison capacity between tenants and landlords to solve housing problems, Bado

had explained earlier. Schachter, according to the CDA head, most recently worked as a salesman for The New York Times and attended classes at New York's New School. He is also bi-lingual, and a graduate of Glen Rock High School.

The position of tenant activist had been unfilled for almost eight weeks for a variety of related reasons, according to both the mayor and Bado.

The mayor blamed a lack of specifications set up at the beginning of the job's creation for the delay, while Bado blamed tenant activist group members who continually wanted the job description changed for hampering the hiring process.

At most, seven people applied for the job, explained Bado.

Cappiello pushes Kean for more state patrols

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello has asked Gov.-elect Thomas Kean to press for more State Police and Port Authority Police patrols along the access routes to the tunnel connecting Hudson County to Manhattan.

Cappiello said local police have had to bear the major burden of responding to emergencies in these areas. He cited the shooting of a Jersey City policeman near the Holland Tunnel on Saturday, and the injuries suffered by a North Bergen cop last year during a traffic mishap on a Lincoln Tunnel approach.

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius, who accompanied the mayor to the meeting in Trenton yesterday with Kean, said the new governor did not make any firm promises, but expressed an interest in the

problems outlined by Cappiello. Cappiello discussed the prospect of continued state support for the development of the old Erie Lackawanna rail terminal, Chius said.

Cappiello said he wanted to impress upon the governor the importance of appointing local residents to serve on state agencies that regulate local activities. Outsiders, according to Cappiello, "have no real feeling for our area's problems and needs."

Kean indicated he was willing to meet with other urban leaders as he implements and develops his urban policy.

Kean met with mayors from across the state as he spent lunch with the New Jersey Conference of Mayors. Cappiello is vice president of the conference.

Employees and city officials near pact-talking stage

Representatives of Hoboken's 200-member Municipal Employees Association and city officials could sit down to discuss the union's new contract "in just a few days."

That word comes from Councilman Robert Ranieri who is acting as the city's representative in the negotiations, which began six weeks ago.

The union members, who make up all city municipal employees except firemen and police officers have been working without a contract since midnight Wednesday according to Jude Fitzgibbons, union president.

Ranieri explained that before

meeting with union representatives he must first meet with city negotiators to discuss "where we are going financially."

The councilman expected to do that "today." If financial matters could be hammered out at this time, a meeting with union representatives would follow "in a few days," said Ranieri.

One thing which Ranieri said could hold up negotiations is if city officials can't make cuts in the proposed budget for fiscal 1982 which is currently \$700,000 above last year's figures, said the councilman.

He added that the mayor and

business administrator are currently meeting with department heads to see where some budgetary changes can be made. City officials are expected to present the proposed budget for 1982 on Jan. 17, according to Ranieri.

Meanwhile, Fitzgibbons said that his union members are seeking improved health and dental plans as well as an optical plan. While the union president admitted his membership is seeking an across-the-board pay increase, he did not want to release the figures "at this time."

Union members are seeking a two-year contract.

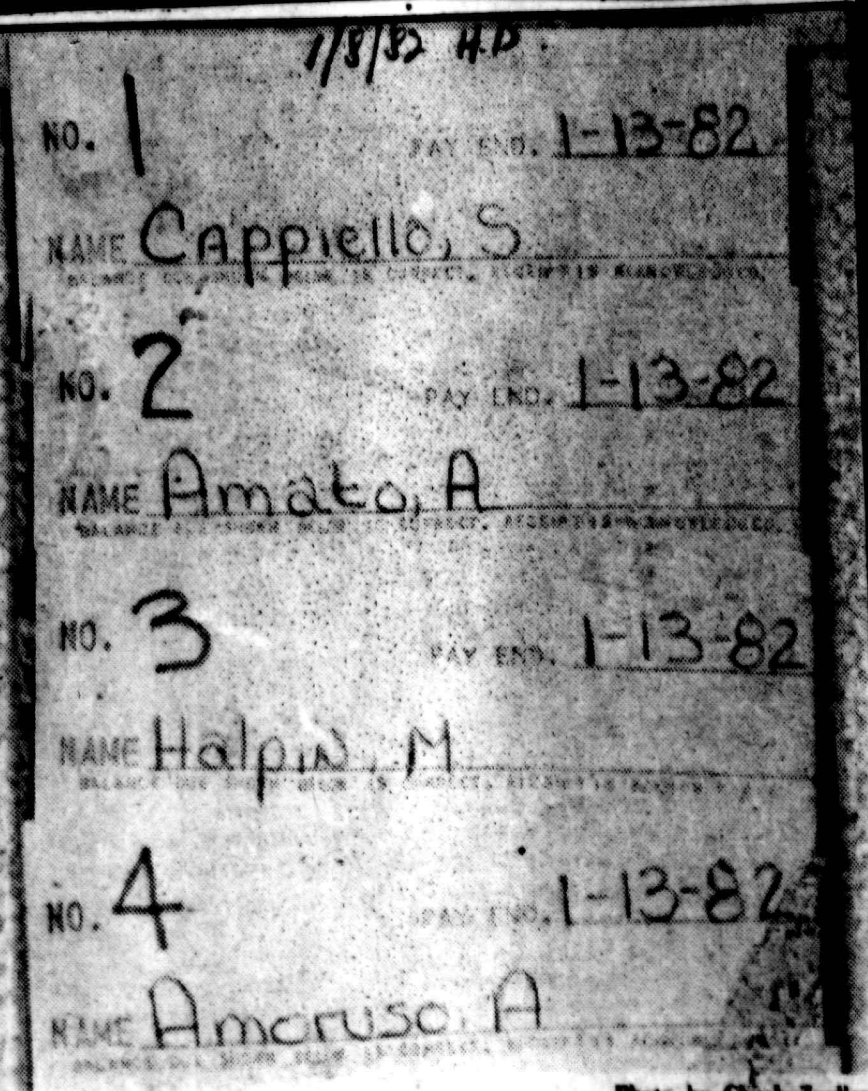


Photo by Chuck Zoeller

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello's name heads the time card rack.

Mayor punches in

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Even the mayor is doing it.

Yesterday marked the official inauguration of the city's much-heralded time clocks. The clocks were installed by Mayor Steve Cappiello to improve the efficiency of municipal government.

Even Cappiello has a time card, and Public Works Director William Van Wie said the mayor punched in for the first time yesterday, 20 minutes early.

"All city employees have time cards, except for the city clerk and the legal staff. It's for better efficiency, to make

sure employees are giving the city the hours they're being paid for. I have to punch in and out as well," Van Wie said. Cappiello had announced some time ago that he would install the clock as a way of ending employee abuses.

Several employees were coming in late, punching in early, and taking long lunches. There had also been controversy last year over public work crews taking long breaks in the morning and afternoon.

Before being appointed director of the department, Van Wie ended those abuses when he was assigned to the garage as Cappiello's aide.

Why 'tenant activist' post unfilled

"It was the lack of specifications right at the very beginning that caused this problem."

That's the response from Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello regarding why the position of tenant-activist — okayed by him almost two months ago — has yet to be filled.

Earlier, Fred Bado, director of the Community Development Agency, (CDA) who is responsible for filling the position, blamed the two-month wait on "constantly changing job requirements and duties."

Bado has said that every time the job description was finalized,

tenants' group spokesmen demanded changes.

Whatever the reason for the delay, Cappiello was scheduled to meet with Bado to discuss the empty \$15,000-a-year post.

The mayor announced that it would be filled as soon as possible.

Bado has said that "six or seven persons" had applied for the bi-lingual position but that interviews were yet to be completed.

The tenant activist is supposed to act as a liaison between tenants and city officials regarding housing complaints, according to Bado.

Fish or no fish, Hoboken's water safe to drink

Yes, you can go near the water in Hoboken.

The director of the Jersey City water department, which supplies Hoboken with water, made this announcement yesterday after receiving proof of the purity of Hoboken's water supply from Jersey City's acting chemist.

According to Charles Catrillo, the director, "we have made tests of Hoboken's water and there are no bacteria or hazardous materials present."

Catrillo said that special added tests were made of the Hoboken water supply Thursday following an announcement by city Councilman Robert Ranieri that "thousands" of tiny

fish were found in a Hoboken water main break at Second and Madison streets over the weekend.

Ranieri arranged for the opening of a fire hydrant in the hope of producing some fish for a New York television crew yesterday, but no fish appeared. He instead showed off some fish that had been found earlier in the week.

A Jersey Journal photographer also waited with public works department employees at the first hydrant near the break yesterday in the hope of getting a picture of any of the fish said to be in the water.

The workers did not open the hydrant until later, when the TV crew arrived.

Hoboken's chief cop on long leave

Hoboken Police Chief George Crimmins is on vacation and isn't expected back until June.

According to acting Police Chief Patrick Totaro, Crimmins had decided to use up his accrued vacation time in one long block. He said the chief will be returning in June.

Also, Totaro denied rumors that have been surfacing that Crimmins had actually quit the post after getting into an argument with Mayor Steve Cappiello. Cappiello was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Totaro said he spoke to Crimmins and was assured that the chief would return in about six months. He said he speaks with Crimmins at least once a week.

Meanwhile, Totaro said he is meeting Thursday with Public Safety Director James Giordano, and all the police captains, to review several personnel changes.

He would not comment on what those changes are until he discusses them with the top level of officials.

City mulls duties of housing counselor

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Now that the city has hired a housing counselor, the problem will be defining his duties, according to Fred Bado, community development agency director.

"I think that there are some grey areas. This is a new position here in the city. I guess it will be defined by what problems are brought forward," Bado said when asked about the scope of the job.

Following an eight-week search, Hoboken resident Robert Schachter was hired for the position. Despite weeks of advertising the position in local papers, Bado said only seven people applied for the position.

Mayor Steve Cappiello, prodded by tenant activist groups, directed Bado's agency to create the position. Tenant groups have argued that since the passage of the vacancy decontrol ordinance and the tightening of the housing market, they needed a counselor to advise them of their rights.

However, Cappiello decided that the counselor must advise both landlord and tenant. Tenant groups have insisted that Cappiello stick to his original promise to supply the city's tenants with someone who would assist them.

Sister Norberta, who led the fight to establish the position, could not be reached for comment about the hiring.

Bado said Schachter, who is bilingual, would start on Monday, Jan. 18, but if the arrangements haven't been made for his office space in City Hall by then, he would start the following Monday.

Bado added that the new counselor, whose salary has been set at \$15,000, would be working during the day and at least one hour a week.

Hoboken may abolish Dario's old job

By James Kopchans

The Hoboken Board of Education now wants to abolish the position that Union City Commissioner Ronald Dario had once held — just before Dario comes back to reclaim it after being fired as principal of the North Hudson Jointure School.

The board is scheduled to vote Wednesday on reinstating Dario after only eight months of a requested two-year leave of absence.

At the meeting though, the board is scheduled to consider abolishing the position Dario held prior to the leave, coordinator of the early learning and after-school intramural and enrichment program.

Should the board abolish the position, Dario would return to the system as a driver education/physical education teacher, in which he has tenure.

In calling for abolishing the post, Superintendent of Schools Dr. George Maier said that in the eight months that Dario held the post prior to the leave of absence he had not shown any reason why the position was needed and why it should continue.

"As a result of the eight-month probationary period, I feel that it didn't warrant the continuing of the position," Maier said at the board caucus last night. "But, if Mr. Dario can provide proof, then let him provide it and I'll consider it."

Dario had been fired as principal of the Jointure School in November, a move that he blamed on political pressures stemming from his split with Mayor William V. Musto in Union City.

See DARIO — Page 28.

Continued from Page 1

"I need the paycheck," Dario said at the caucus last night. Though he receives a \$7,500 yearly salary from his commissioner's job, Dario said that with a family that is not nearly enough to live on.

Dario had worked for 18 years as a teacher in the school system before he was named to the coordinator's position in September of 1980.

He left the position in April of last year to accept the principal's job, according to Dario. Neither Dario nor Maier would discuss the salary for either the coordinator's post or the teacher job.

Dario said he would meet with Maier before Wednesday to offer proof why the post should remain. "I would hope they would leave the position open for another three to four months until the end of the school year," he added.

In other action at Wednesday's meeting, the board is expected to authorize sending a \$2.9 million preliminary budget to Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Louis Accella for his approval. Though the budget will be reviewed by the board after Accella returns it, Maier said it is already within state budget cap limits.

Kean will visit Hoboken in the spring

Gov.-elect Thomas Kean will be visiting Hoboken in the spring.

That's the word from Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello, who invited the new governor to visit the city during a half-hour meeting between the two at the state house in Trenton on Thursday.

Cappiello was there as vice-president of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities along with other members of that organization gathered for a "get-acquainted" meeting with Kean. He was accompanied by Edwin Chius, city business administrator.

Besides inviting Kean to Hoboken, the two also discussed municipal housing problems, increased communication between municipalities and the state, as well as ways to increase ratables in the inner city.

Cappiello said that Kean suggested that all city mayors

meet with representatives of their biggest businesses to discuss ways of improving and expanding their input in cities such as Hoboken.

"I agree with this suggestion and will set up the meeting promptly," said the mayor yesterday, who added that he already had been thinking along those same lines.

A discussion of "red tape" problems was also on Thursday's agenda said Cappiello, who added that the new governor promised to do "all he could" to see that the common problems between the state house and all state municipalities are kept open for a free and easy dialogue.

On the housing front, Cappiello said that although Kean didn't get specific about state aid for housing in Hoboken, the new governor assured Cappiello that he was "fully aware" of Hoboken's housing shortage and would do all he could to see the situation corrected.

To lend truck to Hoboken

Hoboken Public Works Director William Van Wie has yet to join the North Hudson Public Works Council but his municipality is reaping some of the benefits of his anticipated membership.

Some day this week Union City will be sending its jet sewer cleaner truck to Hoboken to help resolve a problem it is having at its sewage treatment pumping station.

According to Van Wie, an air bag that is used to control the flow of water has broken and must be replaced. But before that can be done, the line in which the new air bag will be placed must

be cleaned out.

"We don't have the kind of equipment needed to perform that kind of cleaning," said Van Wie. "So I inquired with Commissioner (Robert C.) Botti in Union City if he knew of any towns that did and would be willing to lend it to Hoboken for a day or two." As it turned out, Union City had it and was more than willing to lend it to its neighboring municipality.

Fish pose no peril

Jersey City officials say minnows in Hoboken water supply are no danger, but one Hoboken councilman is not satisfied

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The Jersey City mayor's spokesman said yesterday tests indicate that the presence of fish in the water the city supplies to Hoboken does not present a danger to residents. However, one Hoboken official said he is not satisfied with Jersey City's response to the problem.

"Lab records show that this particular sampling has been free of all pathogenic bacteria," Thomas Golodik, spokesman for Mayor Gerald McCann, read yesterday from a report on Hoboken water sampling released by the city's chemist, Olek Drydzora.

Golodik said the report made no mention of the fish.

"Glad to hear that. It is reassuring. Only what happens when the fish die? Do they disintegrate and come through the water taps?" asked Councilman Robert Ranieri, who heads the public works committee of the Hoboken City Council, responding to the report.

Both Jersey City and state officials said yesterday that it is normal to have small fish survive in a water system whose source is a reservoir.

"That's not unusual. Tiny Achigans fish are not uncommon to be found in water main breaks," William LaFie, supervisor of the state Department of Environmental Protection's Portable Water Division, said yesterday. His division oversees water supply testing.

However, Ranieri said the Hoboken chemist has identified the fish not as Achigans, but as fresh water herring.

"If the state thinks it is so common to have small fish in the water system, why did they mandate Jersey City to build a filtration plant which caused our water rates to quadruple?" Ranieri asked.

Ranieri said local officials investigating the matter now theorize that filters along the main line from the reservoir were left open for a considerable length of time.



Photo by Bill Boyer

ROY HACK of the Hoboken Water Department holds beakers containing fish caught in the city's water pipes.

ANOTHER FISH STORY? Minnows in Hoboken water line

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The discovery of thousands of tiny silver-colored fish in the city's main water line during the weekend has prompted an investigation to determine whether they present a health hazard.

Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, who chairs the City Council's Public Works Committee, and Public Works Director William Van Wie have asked Health Director Patricia Mitten to test the water.

Ranieri said he also has asked Mitten to present her findings to the state Department of Environmental Protection, Charles Catrillo, director of Jersey City's water department, which sells Hoboken its water, also has agreed to conduct tests on the water to verify its purity.

The schools of fish, smaller than minnows, were

discovered in a main pipe that broke during the weekend.

"I have had people complaining of discolored water, an oily substance in the water, and a small like cod liver oil coming from the water," Ranieri said.

"My suspicions are that when the aqueduct broke near Pershing Field Reservoir, they supplied us with untreated water," the councilman charged.

Catrillo acknowledged that there was a possibility that some of the water may have been supplied by the Pershing Field Reservoir. He said Jersey City is normally supplied with treated water.

"We have to look into it. It just may mean that we have fish that are able to withstand chlorine. Absent someone in the health department saying there is a health hazard, we don't see any danger," Catrillo

said.

Asked why Jersey City is not taking action to ensure that the water it is selling is safe, Catrillo agreed to test the water supply. He said he would release the results of the study today.

Catrillo has found the incident somewhat funny. "Well at least we're not charging them for the fish," he joked. "At least they didn't get any great white whales."

Ranieri was not amused by Catrillo's sense of humor.

"They're making light of a complex situation. It wasn't long ago that Hoboken was thinking of severing its purchasing from Jersey City and going with two other vendors. One must always treat customers with courtesy and politeness," Ranieri said.

Continued from Page 1

He said city officials have continually stonewalled his attempts to get a private bathroom by saying that the city hall is a public building and that they have no control over who comes in and out of it.

In a disgusted tone, the union president added, "You can bet if it was one of their relatives, they would make sure they had a private bathroom in here."

Repeated attempts to contact city officials were unsuccessful.

Female workers want a private rest room in Hoboken city hall

By Mary Fitzgibbons

The president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association says he's planning to file a grievance with the city on behalf of 44 female employees at city hall who have been fighting for years to have their own private bathroom.

Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Municipal Employees Association, said he would continue this fight at the next city council meeting if necessary in order to insure the privacy and health safety of the employees.

Presently the 44 employees who work throughout city hall must share one bathroom on the second floor with all visitors and transients who come into the building. The bathroom has two toilets.

"It's a terrible situation," said the union president. "The women here have told me that outsiders come in and wash their hair and sometimes even their laundry here. No one should have to put up with that."

Fitzgibbons said, however, that this is not the first time he has waged this fight on the part of the 44 female employees.

See REST ROOM — Page 8.

To review bid

The Hoboken Historic Commission meets at 7:30 tonight in City Hall to review an application for exterior painting of 306 Washington St.

Asks extension

The Hoboken Board of Adjustment meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday to consider an application by the Community Development Agency to extend the rear yard of the recreation center at 117 Jefferson St.

Unico session

The Hoboken Unico meets at 6:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Park Casino in West New York.

Dealing ends; Cappiello named

Inside Scene

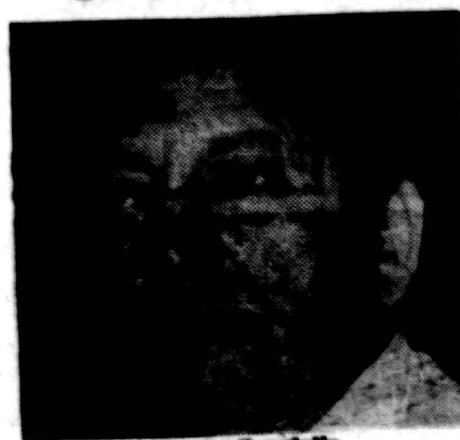
By RICHARD GOLDENSOHN

the fanciest offers said to have been made in exchange for a vote was to West New Yorker Joseph Simanovich.

It seems some of McCann's pals said they'd back him for Bill Musto's state Senate seat just in case things didn't work out in Newark. But Simanovich, who is trying to patch things up with West New York Mayor Tony DeFino, stuck with the North Hudson bloc and voted for Cappiello.

McCann barely salvaged the day by getting Massey on as vice-chairman. But even that may have cost him something. Frank Manzo now will have something to say about the next appointee to the Jersey City Board of Education.

Too bad one top man missed the meeting. We thought Prosecutor Harold Ruvolet Jr. would have enjoyed watching



Steve Cappiello the freeholders and politicians exchange flowers and pretty wrapped little packages.

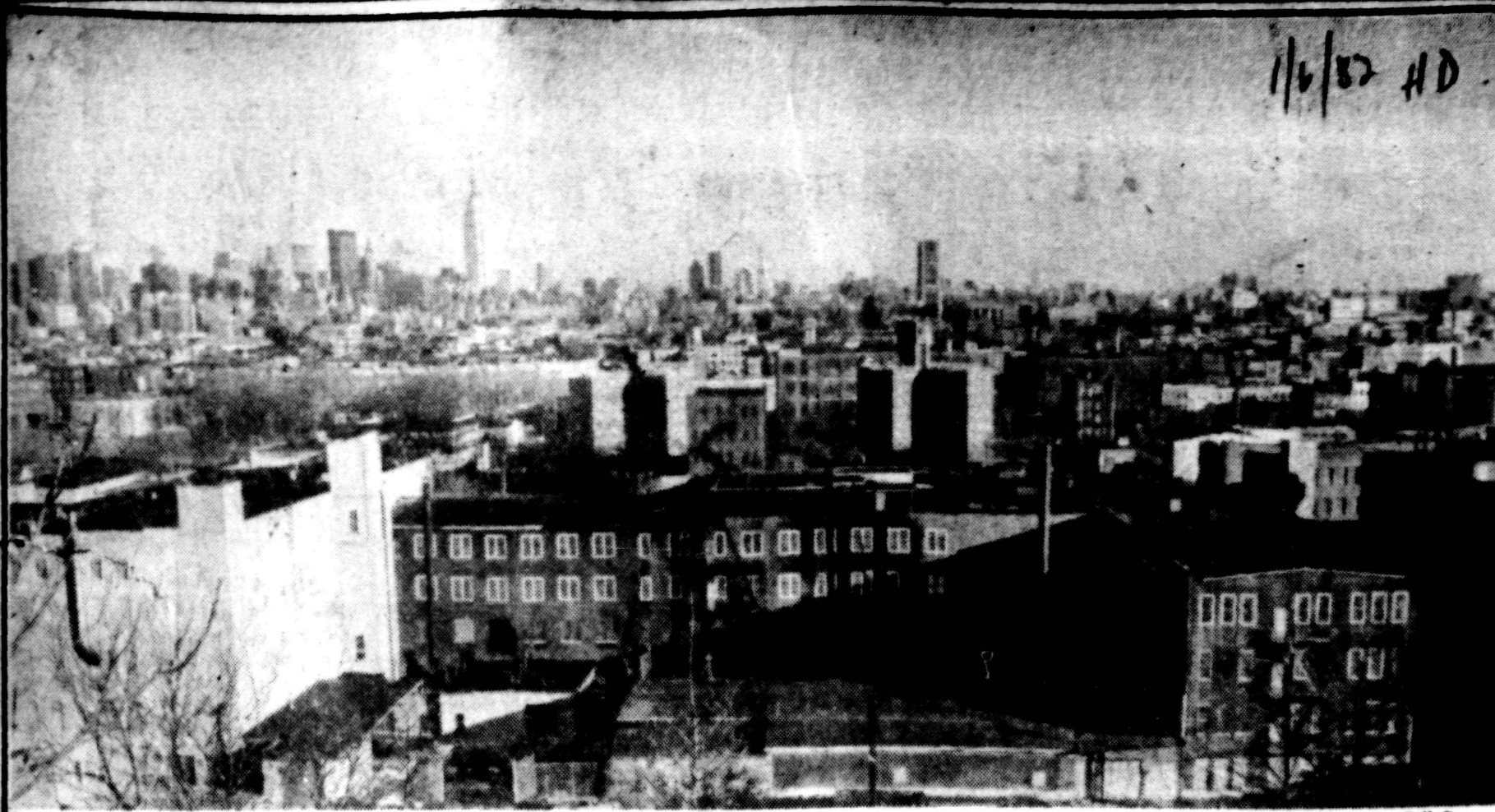
SCHOOL BOYS IN DISTRESS: The McCann people may have long faces about some recent setbacks, but McCann's down-to-earth, hard-working business administrator, Fred Tomkins, seems to find time for a touch of humor. A certain diminutive deputy mayor who had been requesting a desk for some weeks got his response from the business administrator: a kindergarten desk left

neatly outside the doorway to his office. Word is that he didn't enjoy the joke.

Speaking of that deputy mayor (Introcasso), who also happens to be board of education president, a few folks inside and outside the corridors of power are looking into residency requirements for school board members.

It seems that those sticklers in state government say you have to live in a municipality for two years to be named to the board, and this could be a touchy issue in coming weeks.

TOP OF THE LIST: Our pick for Mr. Popularity (for this week, anyhow) is the ever-beloved congressman, Rep. Frank J. Guarini. After many months of speculation among Jersey City politicians about which of a number of possible candidates McCann will pick in a campaign to oust Guarini from the 14th District seat, the pundits have concluded that Guarini himself is the man. He will stay. But, just in case the pundits are wrong or Gerry changes his mind (after all, he said he'd never support Guarini), the congressman seems to have friends just about everywhere — Hudson's budding Republican organization has been courting Guarini as well.



Hoboken housing, seen with New York City's skyline in the background, will be the subject of a citywide forum next month.

HOBOKEN HOUSING

Environment panel plans forum to air city's housing problems

By CHUCK BUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The Hoboken Environment Committee is calling for a forum on housing in the city "to provide an opportunity for all factions involved in housing to be heard with equality and justice."

Helen Manogue, chairwoman of the organization, said that the Hoboken Housing Forum will take place Feb. 26 and 27 at St. Peter and Paul School Auditorium, with Friday's session opening at 7:30 p.m.

"We're hoping for enough unanimity so that there will be certain courses of action agreed upon by the group," Manogue said.

The environment committee said it will invite all groups that have been active in the city's housing problems.

"The Hoboken Environment Committee believes that only through unity will there be found sufficient strength to deal with the housing problems that are daily in-

creasing due to the federal cutbacks in housing subsidy," Manogue said.

The committee said it has tried unsuccessfully in the past to get the city to hold the forum. The committee says that it will use funds from its annual Hoboken House Tour to finance the event.

"We're going to try to get the participants to prioritize the issues. Then hopefully we can agree on a plan of action," Manogue said.

She said that as one possibility the participants may decide to send a delegation to Washington or Trenton to lobby on behalf of the city.

Aiding with the conference are: Michael Coleman, former director of the city's community development agency; the Rev. Geoffrey Curtis, pastor of Holy Innocents Episcopal Church; Edwin Duroy, director of the city's bilingual program; the Rev. George Ligos, pastor of St. Peter and Paul Church; and Patricia Tuohy, rehabilitation specialist and developer.

Cappiello delays on union pacts

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is meeting with his administrators and financial advisers to go over the city's budget before beginning 1982 contract negotiations with three municipal unions.

"We've got to go over our figures, see how much money is available, and get all of our documentation together before starting negotiations," said Cappiello.

The mayor added that the city hopes to "keep the economic reins tight" in its negotiations with the three unions, the Policemen's Benevolent Association, the Firefighters Association and the Municipal Employees Association.

The unions are currently working without a contract, under the terms of their previous agreements with the city.

Although Councilman Robert Ranieri, the city's chief negotiator, had hoped to begin contract negotiations early next week, Cappiello said that the city is "not ready to make an offer as of yet."

Ranieri said that he is optimistic about the upcoming negotiations, adding "we have high hopes that the negotiations will be conducted in a friendly manner."

However, Patrolman Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken PBA, wasn't as optimistic about the negotiations, saying that the 1982 police contract "will probably wind up going to an arbitrator."

Council wants to know why CUNA hired outside Hoboken

By James Kapchans

The Hoboken City Council wants to know why a funded organization meant to help youths get jobs has decided to give most of its staff positions to out-of-towners.

The council had been expected to vote last night on supplying funding for CUNA to run the city's youth counseling service. However, the members decided at Monday's caucus to pull the resolution until it conducts an investigation.

Meanwhile, at last night's meeting, tempers flared as Council President Walter Cramer and Councilman Robert Ranieri got into a shouting match over a proposed plan for a Pathmark supermarket on 14th and Washington streets.

In calling for the CUNA measure pulling both Cramer and Councilman Anthony Romano said they were surprised to learn that its staff was

largely made up of out-of-towners.

"That's the first time we heard about it," Cramer said last night.

According to Cramer, the top four officials on the CUNA staff are reported as living in Union City and Jersey City. The lowest-paid staff member at \$6,500 per year is from Hoboken.

This especially angered Romano. "I can understand if there were no qualified persons in Hoboken for the job. Then they could scout the nation for someone qualified," Romano said.

"But from the salaries they receive I can't believe they can't find people qualified from Hoboken."

In funding CUNA, the city's Community Development Agency contributes about \$23,000 while the state Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) provides about \$34,000.

Concerning the Pathmark supermarket, Ranieri said the supermarket chain has been trying to gain a variance for property owned by the Hoboken Manufacturing Railroad Corp. at the site. That variance request has recently been rejected by the city's board of adjustment, a decision that the chain has said they would appeal to the council.

The two men apologized after the meeting for the outburst. Cramer explained that he did not want Ranieri to make statements on the matter since it was about to come before the council for a decision.

In other business last night, the council approved tax abatements to renovators of apartment buildings at Eighth Street and Willow Avenue and to the Universal Folding Box Corp.

Regarding the tax abatements, Ranieri ex-

plained the houses on 800-812 Willow Ave. had been granted an abatement of paying property taxes in favor of payments the renovators agreed to make in lieu of taxes.

Current taxes on the property are about \$14,000 per year, Ranieri said, but with the renovations being planned for it the taxes could rise to more than \$100,000 per year. Instead, the developers agreed to pay a sum based on a percentage of their rental income, he said, which would come to about \$29,000 per year.

Regarding Universal, Ranieri said the company had just finished putting a \$3 million addition to their plant. In exchange the city agreed to a tax abatement for five years with decreases of 20 percent each year from the 100 percent abatement the first year, he said.

Welfare client rolls cut almost 50% in Hoboken

The client rolls at the Hoboken Welfare Office have been cut almost in half since June, saving the city hundreds of thousands of dollars in welfare payments, since Robert Drasheff, became director of the office.

While seated in his office at 81 Adams St., the director discusses the shape of the program as he found it in mid-1981.

"It was out of sight," says Drasheff. "We had 780 clients which is twice the state norm, that meant that the city spent

about \$130,000 a month on that part of the budget."

Hoboken supplies 25 percent of the city's welfare costs with the remainder coming from the federal government, explained the director.

In just a few months, Drasheff, with the help of his staff, which includes two welfare investigators, cut the welfare rolls down to 406 clients. This now equals the state norm of less than one percent of the population of the city on city welfare, adds the director proudly.

(The Hoboken Welfare Office serves only single people and married couples in the city without children, explains Drasheff. Other clients are directed to the Hudson County Welfare Office.)

The seven-month director credits two reasons for his success in cutting the welfare rolls in half.

They are:
• Initiating a welfare program.
• Checking the addresses given by welfare clients for fraud.

"It's amazing just how many people were collecting welfare in Hoboken and didn't even live here," states the director, himself a Hoboken resident.

"As a taxpayer, I don't mind telling you I was outraged," he adds.

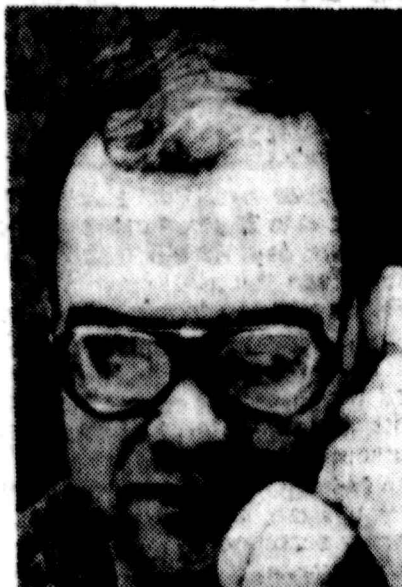
The welfare program — which requires welfare clients work for their money unless they can prove a disability — also cut the rolls back quite a bit.

"We found many people who were working at jobs where their income wasn't reported," says Drasheff, "so they were taken off

the rolls."

The director is quick to point out that the reason for his success lies in his having received the "total support" of James Farina, city health and welfare director who oversees the program; Mayor Steve Cappiello and the entire city council, the local assistance board, as well as his own staff.

And efficiency in the welfare office will continue promises the St. Peter's College graduate, when the Welfare Office computerizes the operations, a move which is currently in the works.



Robert Drasheff
Welfare watchdog



MOLLOY DAY — The Hoboken Kiwanis Club and the New Jersey Nets Basketball team are planning a Jerry Molloy Day, to be held at 2 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Giants Stadium and during halftime of the Nets and Dallas basketball game of the Brendan Byrne Arena, East Rutherford. Molloy, a Hoboken resident, is known as Toastmaster General and Mr. Basketball. Deadline for the tickets is Feb. 1. Tickets for the event can be obtained by writing to Hoboken Kiwanis Club, P.O. Box M 1091, Hoboken.

Dario given post — with a demotion

The Hoboken Board of Education last night voted to rehire Union City Commissioner Ronald Dario — but not in the job he left to take a leave of absence eight months ago.

The board abolished his position as the coordinator of the early learning and after-school intramural enrichment program and will bring him back as a high school driver education teacher.

In other business, the board voted to put off discussion on its temporary budget until Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Following the discussion there will be a closed meeting with the city council for discussion of a proposed bond issue to refurbish and renovate schools in the city.

Dario had worked for 18 years in the Hoboken schools as a physical education and driver education teacher before taking a

leave of absence to become principal of the North Hudson Jointure School.

He lost that position in November when the Jointure School Board fired him.

Dario claimed that both the actions were prompted by Union City Mayor William V. Musto because of his recent opposition to the mayor.

Dario plans to seek the Union City mayor's seat himself. He will return to work in Hoboken on Feb. 16.

"Obviously Musto had some influence in the decision," Dario said. "But, I'd like to say that I'm glad the Hoboken school board is allowing me to return. I've got to be realistic and realize that Musto will probably do anything he can to hurt Ron Dario. That's just the way things are."

Kiwanians to honor Jerry Molloy

By Peter LaVilla

It's hard to believe that anyone could keep Jerry Molloy quiet and in one place for a long period of time but the Hoboken Kiwanis Club and the New Jersey Nets basketball team will make that attempt.

The Kiwanis Club and the Nets are planning to hold a Jerry Molloy Day on Feb. 14 to say thanks to the Hoboken man who, over the years, has been known as Toastmaster General and Mr. Basketball.

A cocktail party will be held at 2 p.m. in the Giants Stadium and during the halftime between the Nets and Dallas basketball contest in the Brendan Byrne

Arena, a show will be staged to further honor Molloy.

Dr. Nathaniel Coyne, chairman of the event, and Sam Tridante, president of the Hoboken Kiwanis Club, are urging Molloy's friends to make reservations for the program before Feb. 1.

The 72-year-old Molloy, plagued with arthritis of late, has weathered a heart attack and stroke some three years ago, but it has forced him to retire from his coaching career and recreation coordinator.

Molloy was coach at St. Mary's High School in Paterson for 40 years. During that stretch, he served as recreation coordinator for Hoboken for 35 years,

and with St. Peter's College athletic department for 20 years. However, neither the heart attack nor the arthritis could keep him from making guest appearances throughout the country as toastmaster for no fee.

Prior to his heart attack, he used to do some 300 encores a year. Now, he says, he's down to 100.

Molloy has many friends throughout the state and nation, but he says he has only three main interests in life:

"My family, basketball, and Frank Sinatra."

Sinatra, a Hoboken native, has recorded 357 albums, and according to Molloy, he's got every one of them.

Efforts to contact Sinatra and invite him to the Molloy Day are being made, according to Coyne and Tridante.

Both officials said the public could attend either the basketball ceremonies or both events by mailing a check to the Hoboken Kiwanis Club, P.O. Box M 1091, Hoboken. Tickets for the game are \$10 each, while tickets for the game and cocktail party go for \$25 each, they said.

For \$1.10 a week you can have The Jersey Journal delivered to your home. Home delivery saves you time, effort and money.

Hoboken's school budget down, but tax bite higher

By Peter La Villa

The Hoboken Board of Education budget for the 1982-83 school year is down by \$1.8 million but the amount to be raised by local taxation is up by \$700,000 over last year.

The board is expected to meet at 5 tonight to vote on a resolution which recommends sending the budget to the county superintendent of schools for approval.

The total budget is \$21.9 million for 1982-83, while for 1981-82 the budget was \$23.7 million, according to a board spokesman.

However, the amount to be raised by local taxes is \$5.6 million as compared to last year's figure of \$4.9 million, the spokesman said.

The \$700,000 increase is for current expenses, such as salary increases, utilities, supplies and equipment, and capital outlay for the removal of asbestos in all schools, the spokesman said.

Part of the reason for the decrease in the overall budget is the fact that the board only has to appropriate salaries for teachers for 10 months rather than 12 months as in previous years, the spokesman pointed out.

That, he said, is a state mandate.

He also noted that the state and federal government pay up to 75 percent of the Hoboken school budget. The balance is raised through local

See HOBOKEN — Page 28.

Hoboken chief takes vacation

HOBOKEN—Police Chief George Crimmins has taken a vacation that will last until June, and in his absence, Capt. Patrick Tokoro has been appointed acting chief. Public Safety Director James Giordano said.

Administration officials were tight-lipped about the reason why Crimmins decided to take his lengthy vacation at this time. The vacation has been attributed to the unusual amount of vacation time Crimmins has accrued since joining the department 36 years ago.

"The mayor has asked that the city cut down on the people not taking vacation," said Edwin Chius, the city's personnel administrator.

Giordano said he did not know why Crimmins decided to take a lengthy vacation at this time. "He didn't give a reason."

Persistent accounts were circulating a month ago that Crimmins had a serious run-in with Mayor Steve Cappiello. However, those reports could not be confirmed.

Ranieri in OT crackdown

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri said he will ask the mayor to replace department directors if they cannot explain and substantiate the doing out of overtime, which for the week of Jan. 6 reached a high of \$10,000.

When the City Council meets at 7 p.m. tomorrow in the municipal building, it will vote to approve the payroll for that week which includes the overtime.

"I've requested from the city

clerk that he provide me with the names of the employees who received the overtime pay and their amounts," said Ranieri.

"I've also requested the directors who authorized the overtime to substantiate the performance of those who worked overtime," he continued. "It disturbs me greatly to see an amount of \$10,000 in overtime for one week."

According to Ranieri, the council recently was asked to

vote its approval of overtime in the amounts of \$8,000 and \$6,000.

"If we continue to pay out overtime like this we'll wind up spending \$500,000 at the end of the year," he commented.

The councilman claims that some city workers earn more in overtime by the end of the year than their actual salary.

The council also is expected to take action on approving overtime of \$3,868 for the week ending Jan. 13.

taxation, he said. The board also is expected to vote to abolish a post now held by Ronald Dario, a Union City commissioner, and announced candidate for mayor of the city. The position Dario holds, and on leave of absence from, is coordinator of the early learning and

after-school intramural and enrichment program.

The board spokesman said Dario is likely to be reinstated to his post as driver education/physical education teacher, in which he has tenure. Currently, he is on leave from that post, too.

Rent decontrol test put off 1/27/82 JJ

The provision of Hoboken's rent ordinance that allows temporary rent decontrol of a building that undergoes substantial rehabilitation will have to wait at least three more weeks for its first test.

The city's Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board last night continued until Feb. 16 a hearing on an application submitted by the owners of the building at 816 Willow Ave.

The ordinance frees a building from rent control for 13 months if the owner spends money on capital improvements equal to or in excess of the assessed value of the building.

Members of the eight

families currently living in the building fear that if the application is approved the landlord will raise the rents to levels they can not afford and force them to move out.

In order to qualify for the rent decontrol, the landlord must prove there are no housing code violations. The tenants, represented by Legal Services attorney Jorge Aviles, used photographs and wide-ranging testimony to bolster their claims that violations still exist.

Tenant testimony had not been completed when board chairman Michael Mastropasqua determined that the hearing would continue in three weeks.

In the board's second case last night, attorney Maureen Schweitzer, whose landlord was seeking a hardship rent increase for the building at 532 Garden St., attacked the application so sharply that the landlord said he was ready to drop the bid.

Landlord Jerry Facendola said he would "cool off" before continuing the application.

The board granted a continuance for the rent increase application for the building at 711 Willow Ave. to allow tenants to make a list of needed repairs. The landlord is to submit proof that the repairs were made by the Feb. 23 hearing.

Task force will tackle burglaries in Hoboken 1/29/82 H-D

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—An elite anti-crime task force will get the job of curbing the number of burglaries, which has risen significantly since 1979, according to the acting police chief here.

Patrick Totaro said yesterday that with the imminent reorganization of the department, the new task force will go into action next month.

Councilman E. Norman Wilson Jr. of the 5th Ward has been prodding the police department to create such a task force since September and he had written to Totaro Monday requesting that he consider the idea.

"I have been working on the reorganization proposal for three weeks. I gave Councilman Wilson's letter consideration, but we had been working on the proposal," Totaro said.

Police statistics show that in 1979, there were 628 burglaries; in 1980, there were 814; and in 1981, 864.

Totaro said the task force will concentrate on taking burglary suspects off the streets. "Lots of times we

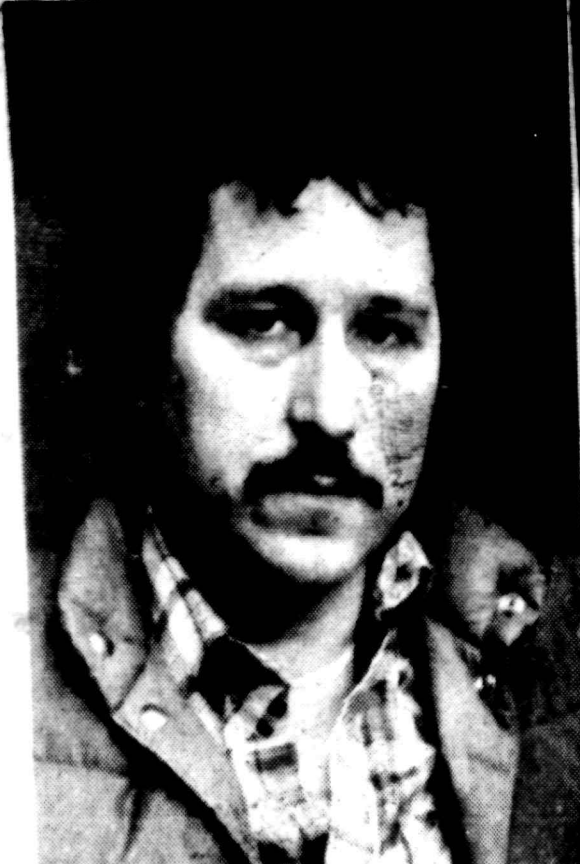
may have a rash of robberies, and when we arrest one guy, the rash stops. We can't prove this one guy is responsible for the rash — all we know is, when he is off the streets, the burglaries stop."

Totaro said the war on burglaries will involve closer communication between patrolmen on the streets and the special unit. "We had a task force several years ago that significantly reduced the number of burglaries," Totaro said. "We're looking to the re-establishment of the task force to do the same."

The acting chief, who will hold the post until June when Chief George Crimmins is scheduled to return from an extended vacation, said that there are several reasons for the increase in burglaries.

"Whenever unemployment goes up, crime goes up, too. You have heroin coming back, and people need money to support their drug habits," Totaro said.

He added, "With the problems of Hoboken's housing cost, you may have a guy sitting on the edge of being able to pay his rent and he decides to commit a few B&Es (break and entries)."



Patrick Totaro
Brings residents good news

Unchecked meters cost Hoboken \$100,000 1/28/82 JJ

By Thomas Rojas

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri says that the city has lost about \$100,000 in the past six months because parking meter charges are not being enforced.

"The city's metered parking program has deteriorated to a point of 80 percent inefficiency," he charged. "People know they can get away with parking in front of a meter all day long, because the meters aren't being enforced."

"So, the Parking Authority loses out on revenue from the meters, and the city loses out on revenue from violations."

Ranieri said that enforcement of parking meters has decreased steadily in the last six months, after federal cutbacks

forced the Parking Authority to let go of the CETA workers who had been working as meter maids.

The duty of enforcing parking meters now belongs to the Department of Public Safety, headed by director James Giordano.

"We don't have the personnel to launch a drive on parking meters alone," said Giordano. "But we're collecting as many fines as before because we're cracking down on parking violations when the sweeper goes out, and because parking fines were raised last summer."

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chiusi verified that revenue from parking violations has not decreased in recent months, primarily because fines were raised last August.

But Ranieri isn't satisfied. "Just because revenues in the violations bureau seem to be remaining steady, that doesn't mean that we can go on abandoning the enforcement of parking meters," he said.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Parking Authority, agrees with Ranieri that the meters must be enforced.

"I think Ranieri's estimate of a \$100,000 loss in revenue may be a little conservative," he said. "The meters haven't been enforced since the CETA cutbacks, but enforcing the meters is the city's responsibility, not ours."

Hottendorf cited a 1979 trust agreement between the Parking Authority and the city of Hoboken, in which the city agreed to "strictly enforce" all

the meters. "Although enforcement of the meters was supposed to be the city's responsibility, the Parking Authority agreed to handle enforcement beginning in June of 1979," he explained. "But we stopped enforcing them around April of 1980, when the CETA cutbacks came. Now it's up to the city."

Mayor Steve Cappiello agreed that the problem of enforcing the parking meters exists, and said he would set up a meeting to deal with the situation in the near future.

"We're going to try to work it out with all of the agencies involved — the Parking Authority, the Public Safety Department and the City Council," he said. "The problem has got to be resolved."

Hoboken to check city overtime 1/28/82 JJ

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri says that the city council will compare the weekly overtime payments to municipal employees with the overtime records for the same week last year to determine possible abuses by workers.

"We are going to check the overtime payments for each city department every week, then compare that overtime for the same week in 1981," explained Ranieri. "We want to find out if a pattern is developing. Is overtime being used to increase productivity in the city, or is it being used as an additional source of income for a privileged few?"

Ranieri claims that overtime payments to municipal employees have been increasing steadily in recent months. "I can't accept the proposition that certain departments consistently pay \$300 to \$500 a week in overtime," he said. "They show mismanagement by the department directors."

Recently, Ranieri criticized the city's directors when it was revealed that \$10,000 in overtime was paid to city employees for the week of Jan. 6.

However, it was later discovered that the \$10,000 represented overtime payments for three weeks instead of one, because the computer printout of the overtime payroll had been misread.

"Business Administrator Edwin Chiusi had told me that the computer printouts would be accurate," said Ranieri. "But they were not. In the future, the council will use the actual work sheets for each individual director to get a more accurate accounting of overtime payments."

However, Chiusi said that the computer printout sheets were "made according to the way Councilman Ranieri ordered them."

"If those sheets weren't accurate, it's because that's the way they were ordered," he added. "Now, if the council wants to check the weekly work sheets, they are welcome to them. But I think they will find that the overtime is justified. If streets need to be salted or a water main needs to be repaired, you sometimes have to pay overtime."

Denies overtime pay excessive 1/29/82 JJ

The president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association denies charges that city employees are receiving excessive overtime payments.

"I'm tired of hearing that city employees are getting too much overtime," said Jude Fitzgibbons, the union president. "Hoboken is a very old city, suffering through one of the worst winters in years. So, sewer lines and water main lines are going to need repairs, and that requires overtime."

Fitzgibbons made his remarks in response to charges by Councilman Robert Ranieri and others that municipal workers are guilty of overtime abuses.

Ranieri has said that the city council will review the overtime payrolls of each city department every week, and compare those payments with overtime records from last year, in order to check possible abuses by employees.

"I don't think that there are any overtime abuses going on," said Fitzgibbons. "But, if there are, I would like to sit down with Ranieri and discuss each case individually."

Fitzgibbons added that any overtime work being done by city employees is "for the public safety and health of the city."

"Our union represents 216 workers, and they all live in Hoboken," he observed. "When they work overtime, they are doing it for the good of their families and their city."

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chiusi agreed with Fitzgibbons that the higher overtime payments of recent weeks have been justified.

"When you have snow and cold weather, you have to pay overtime to clear the snow, and repair damaged lines," said Chiusi. "I don't believe the overtime has been unjustified."

Cops cleared of gambling charges 1/29/82 JJ

Hoboken Police Lt. James Peck and Patrolman Joseph Petrillo are today free of misconduct-in-office charges which were hanging over their heads nearly four years.

An indictment accusing them of the misconduct in failing to detect and make arrests in a gambling operation was dismissed yesterday by Superior Court Judge Thomas S. O'Brien on the motion of their lawyer, Patricia Costello, with the consent of Asst. Prosecutor John (Jack) J. Hill Jr. Miss Costello based her motion on the lack of

evidence and the long passage of time since their arrests, March 10, 1978.

Papers in the case indicated that Peck, then a sergeant, and Petrillo were in proximity to the alleged gambling operation, but were never seen doing anything illegal that would link them to it.

Both officers were suspended four-and-one-half days, but returned to duty. Peck on an assignment in police headquarters for seven months and Petrillo for nine months as radio dispatcher, before both were returned to regular outside duty.

Hoboken gets some good news 1/25/82 JJ

Hoboken officials have received good news from the city's Parking Authority.

According to Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Parking Authority, because of increased revenue the authority may no longer need the city administration's help in paying off

the interest on \$8.5 million in bonds, issued in 1970 to cover the costs of building three parking garages.

"If the city administration does its job, they will be making the last debt service payment to us on March 1," he said. "If they have to make any payments after

that, it will be as a result of the city's own mismanagement." Hottendorf explained that, in 1970, the Hoboken Parking Authority issued \$8.5 million in city-guaranteed bonds to build the three garages.

At that time, the authority agreed to pay a \$700,000-a-year debt service until the year 2010. Three years later, the city administration agreed to help the authority by paying a portion of the debt service every year.

Since 1973, the city has made two contributions to the authority's debt service every year, on Sept. 1 and March 1.

This year, however, the city will be making only one payment, on March 1, of about \$162,000. In addition, that payment — which will be about \$226,000 less than the city paid to the authority in 1981 — may be the last the city ever makes toward the debt service.

"Because of increased revenue by the authority, the city will probably no longer have to pay a portion of the debt service," said Hottendorf, who informed the city council of the

new developments at last week's council meeting.

"It's a big plus for the city," said Councilman Robert Ranieri. "The Parking Authority has been able to raise some funds and is now able to pay off its debts by itself. We members should be commended for it."

Public hearing slated on bilingual grant plan 1/26/82 JJ

A public hearing is scheduled at the Wallace School, 1100 Willow Ave., Hoboken, on Thursday, at 1 p.m. to review the new Title VII bilingual grant proposal.

The members of the Hoboken

Bilingual Parent's Organization will review the school board's proposal for the competitive grant, which provides bilingual teacher aides and central office support for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes.

Stevens technology building plans set 1/29/82 JJ

By John Kampfe

Plans are under way for the largest single project under Stevens Institute of Technology's \$42.3 million "Technology for Tomorrow" capital development program — \$15 million mechanical and civil/environmental engineering center.

Preliminary plans call for a 120,000 square-foot building which will contain air conditioned laboratories, classes, offices and support facilities," said Amy G. Bass, the Hoboken college's director of publications and news.

The building, which will be on the site of the old Navy building at Sixth and River streets, will house the mechanical and civil engineering departments, Ms. Bass said.

She explained that those departments, in conjunction with

the college administration, are currently studying which directions they will be taking in the future. She said the results of those studies are contingent on the actual design of the new building.

She did say that, because of the proposed building's southeast exposure, it is possible the college will make use of some opportunities for solar energy. She said that since the new building will have more space — the departments are now housed in "A" Building, the oldest on campus — it is quite possible laboratories that do not exist now will be included in the new structure.

Ms. Bass said a site plan study was conducted two years ago by the New York architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and it was decided the Navy building property —

located in the Lower Campus — would be the spot.

Some \$4.3 million from the Walker Trust Fund has been earmarked by the college's board of trustees for the engineering center. The fund was established in 1942 by the late Gertrude D. Walker, through a bequest from her father, William Hall Walker, an early benefactor of Stevens. The current proceeds matured upon the recent death of Mary Adams Hughes, the fund's life income beneficiary.

While the various departments are deciding which courses they will take in the future, Ms. Bass said the college is raising funds for the building and the rest of the "Technology for Tomorrow" program.

According to Ms. Bass, the engineering center is part of Phase II of the program, which is mainly devoted to building programs.

Among the programs instituted under the first phase was the renovation of the college's principal classroom facility, the Morton-Pierce-Kidde complex, the purchase of a million dollar computer, an undergraduate computer graphics facility, the development of the humanities department, a substantial endowment for scholarships and new faculty development and research activities.

Another project, which is being built now, under Phase II is a new \$4 million residence hall at Eighth Street and Castle Point Terrace.

\$19,882 energy grant given Stevens by U.S.

A \$19,882 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy Faculty Development awarded to Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, was announced today by Rep. Frank Guarini of Hudson County.

The award is part of a total of \$1.1 million being made to 51 colleges and universities throughout the United States. It is being matched by nearly

\$400,000 contributed by the universities and various industries nationwide.

The grants will provide workshops which will reach over 2,000 high school and elementary faculty members with an aim of improving energy knowledge and skills of teachers.

Dr. Richard S. Magee is in charge of the program.

Hoboken parking meters to take more, give more 1/26/82 JJ

Beginning next month, Hoboken residents and visitors will be paying more to park at meters, but they will be getting more time for their money.

According to Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Hoboken Parking Authority, the authority is raising rates and times on meters to encourage businessmen to park on side streets, and to make things easier for persons who park in front of a meter for long periods of time.

Hottendorf said that meters along busy Washington Street — which currently charge 10 cents for one hour — will be changed to 25 cents for 90 minutes.

"Currently, you pay 10 cents for an hour, but if you put a quarter into the meter, you still get an hour," he explained. "Now, it will be 10 cents for 30 minutes, but if you put a quarter in, you get 90 minutes. So, for the same quarter, you get an additional half-hour."

At the same time, meters from Hudson to Bloomfield streets and from Second to Seventh streets — which currently charge 10 cents for one hour and 25 cents for two hours — will change to 10 cents for one hour and 25 cents for three hours.

"Right now, people who park on Washington Street all day have to go out to the meter nine times a day and feed a total of 90 cents into the meter," said Hottendorf.

"Now, if you park on Washington, it will cost you \$1.50 a day to park. But if you park on a side street, it will only cost you 75 cents a day."

Hottendorf said the reason for the changes was to give Washington Street businessmen an incentive to park on side streets, thus freeing Washington Street for customers.

In addition, meters in the vicinity of the PATH terminal and the Clam Broth Restaurant

on River Street — which currently charge 10 cents for 30 minutes and 25 cents for 90 minutes — will be changed to 10 cents for 15 minutes and 25 cents for 30 minutes, for a maximum of two hours.

"We want to make things easier for the people who eat in restaurants in that area, so we're making it possible for them to park an extra half-hour without having to run out to the meter," said Hottendorf. "But we're raising the rate so people won't park there all day."

Hottendorf said the planned changes should go into effect by the middle of next month.

Civic League urges study on overtime 1/26/82 JJ

The president of the Hoboken Civic League, Salvatore D'Amelio, is calling on Mayor Steve Cappiello and the City Council to study possible overtime abuses by city employees.

D'Amelio said that the Civic League supports a recommendation by Councilman Robert Ranieri that the council monitor overtime records of municipal workers.

"I feel that the mayor and the city council should explore any possible violations of the public trust," he added. "The

HCL will closely monitor this situation and will take action if nothing is done to bring this situation into the light."

Recently, Ranieri criticized the city's directors when it was revealed that \$10,000 in overtime was paid to city employees for the week of Jan. 6.

However, it was later discovered that the \$10,000 in overtime payments covered three weeks instead of one. Ranieri apologized for the error, but said that the council would keep close tabs on overtime payments in the future.

Two dispute cop coverage in Hoboken

By Thomas Rojas

Patrolman Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association, charges that because of a manpower shortage there are times when only "two or three" policemen are protecting the entire city.

See Editorial:
WRONG!
On Page 10.

Meehan blamed that potentially dangerous situation on the city administration's reluctance to hire additional policemen, or pay current officers overtime.

However, James Giordano, Hoboken's public safety director, denies the patrolman's charges. He says Hoboken citizens are not being endangered because of a manpower shortage in the police department.

According to Meehan, it is not unusual for only two or three policemen to be assigned to foot or car patrol throughout Hoboken for a half-hour or more, while the remainder of the department is performing other duties.

"Just last week, there was one 40-minute period when a couple of men were transferring some prisoners to the Hudson County Jail," he explained, citing entries in the police blotter. "During that time, only two policemen were protecting the entire city. That kind of thing happens all the time, and, in a city this big, it can be very dangerous."

Meehan claims city officials could correct the problem by hiring additional police — or putting existing officers on overtime more often.

"There have to be more policemen out on the street," he said. "The city pays thousands of dollars in overtime to remove snow or fix a water main break, but they can't pay a couple of hundred dollars in overtime to the police to insure the public's safety."

But Giordano denied that there are periods when Hoboken — a city of more than 45,000 residents — is protected by as few as two policemen.

"I've never heard of that happening," he said. "There may be a beat-minute period when only two men are on patrol, but I'm not going to hire additional people just for 10 minutes."

Giordano said he has recommended to the city council that 20 additional patrolmen be hired, but he has no plans to pay more overtime to current officers.

Councilman Robert Ranieri said the administration would like to hire more policemen, but wondered if the city would be able to afford it.

"The total cost to the city of hiring a patrolman is \$30,000 per year, including all benefits," he said. "The answer to the problem might be an improved deployment of the police department."

THE CITY AS LANDLORD

Hoboken group sets rent strike

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The sign above the mailboxes reads "THIS BUILDING IS MANAGED BY THE CITY OF HOBOKEN BY VIRTUE OF TAX LIEN." Inside the hallway of 401 Monroe St. is another sign. Scribbled in black Magic Marker, it reads more simply, "HELP!"

Following through on this appeal for aid, the tenants reportedly have decided to hold a rent strike. A spokesman said they will pay no rent until the city has corrected all their complaints. They also will withhold the rent for the three weeks they lacked running water.

Tenants here say they are finally getting the help they need from the managers of their building — the city, which has begun the long-awaited repairs.

For three weeks, tenants have had to cope with sewage cascading from bathroom ceilings, with broken toilets and no water. The tenants charge that since they were without essential services, the city should have relocated them to temporary quarters until warmer weather permitted the necessary repairs. They contend that the least the city should have done is to provide them with an alternative source of water.

The city's director of revenue and finance, Bernard J. Scrivani, defended his department's handling of the crisis by saying the city did all it could to get the repairs done.

Tenants and the city say the problem arose when a pipe in the street broke, causing the pipes in the house to freeze, then break. Councilman Scrivani said the city could not find a plumber willing to make the repairs in the street during the cold spell. He said the city purchased heaters to thaw out the pipes in the basement. Work on the problem began recently when the weather warmed up.

The tenants involved live in a section of the city, close to the city's public housing projects, where there is the greatest concentration of Hispanics. Their leaders have charged that this is the part of the city where Hispanics are being forced to live after being displaced from the better Renaissance areas of Hoboken because their large families are not allowed in the rehabilitated housing.

The residents of 401 Monroe St. said yesterday that the last three weeks have been a housing and health nightmare. "I'd wake up in the morning and the sewage from upstairs would be in my bathroom. It got to the point where I couldn't even cook in the kitchen because of the odor," said Carmen Santiago, the spokeswoman for the tenants.

The tenants conceded that, for the most part, the city makes repairs when requested. They cited one apartment on the first floor in which wiring protruded from an opening in the wall. Scrivani said he had sent an electrician to repair the outlets and was surprised to learn the hazard still existed.

The residents charged that the city was not sympathetic enough to their conditions to take action that would head off health problems for some of the tenants.

Lillian Candelaria is Santiago's next-door neighbor.

"My little girl got sick because the odor was so bad. We called the city and they told us to try to move some place else until they make repairs," Candelaria said.

Santiago said the city did not offer to pay for the temporary relocation of the tenants, despite the alleged health problems that occurred.

Downstairs, on the first floor, Iris Velasquez said she returned from hospital surgery to find her bathroom in such unsanitary condition that it aggravated her illness. She said she, too, was told she should find temporary shelter at her own expense.

"I'm very sympathetic to the people who live there. They are human beings and they are entitled to habitable quarters," Scrivani added. He acknowledged that the tenants were not offered relocation benefits at the time.

He said the city would pay for relocation now if the tenants want to leave the building. The city reportedly will foreclose on the building in six months to assume ownership from the landlord who abandoned it.

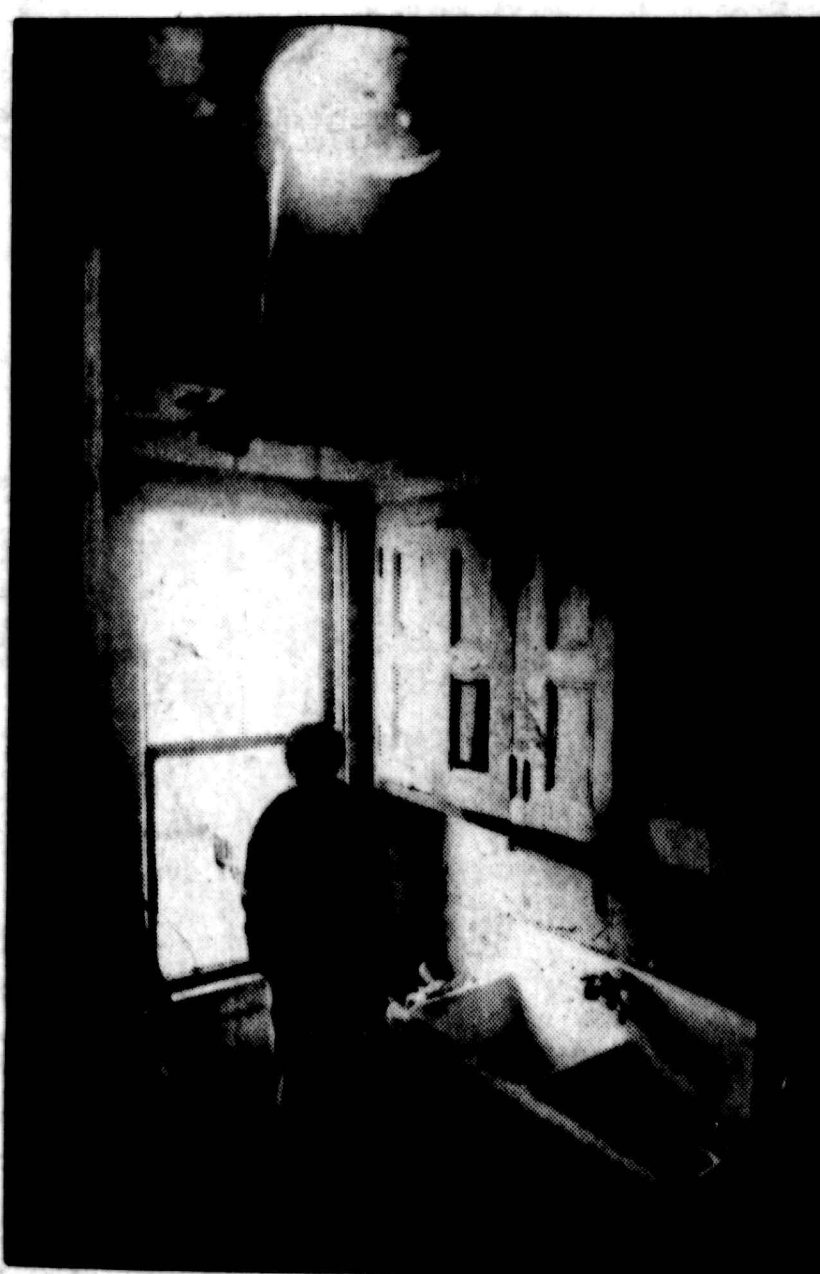
Scrivani asserted that with the housing shortage here, if the tenants relocate they will have to do so outside Hoboken.

The councilman was less sympathetic about the tenants' complaint that the city should have cleaned the sewage out of their apartments. "If my toilet bowl had broken, I would have gotten a mop and cleaned it up. They have to pick themselves up and do something for themselves, too."

Most of the tenants who live in the 100-a-month cold water flat (with heat, the rent comes to \$210), say they will now follow the advice of the graffiti on the wall.

They say they will help themselves now by exercising their "rights as tenants. We are not going to pay rents until the city fixes everything," Santiago said. The tenants also say they will not pay rent for the three weeks they did not have water and could not use their bathrooms.

"Do you know what it is like not to have running water and not to be able to use the bathroom in your house?" Candelaria asked.



"My little girl got sick because the odor was so bad. We called the city, and they told us to try to move someplace else until they make repairs"

— One of the tenants who lives at 401 Monroe St. in Hoboken. "Help" is scribbled on one of the hallway walls, pictured above, in the building where many of the apartments look like that of Roberto Ruiz, left. Photos by Bill Bayer

Wrong!

Ptl. Thomas Meehan, president of Hoboken's Policemen's Benevolent Association, is unhappy with the city's Public Safety director, James Giordano, for describing some department members as "lazy and lackadaisical."

Meehan says the director is criticizing all the men and he should avoid such characterizations and go after those who deserve that criticism.

Noting that despite a decrease in manpower the police are responding to more calls, Meehan implies a denial that some are lazy and lackadaisical.

Giordano's use of the qualifier "some" represents acknowledgement that the majority of the men on the force are doing their job. By ignoring that qualification, it is Meehan who is smearing the whole department.

Unfortunately, in the best of public service forces, there are those who are not exactly efficient. When department heads criticize them, it is not to smear all but to prod the dedicated workers to police their own ranks.

If Meehan is concerned about the reputation of policemen, he would be better advised to protect the majority and join in getting the minority to shape up instead of cloaking them in the respectability that is due the majority.

Hoboken tenants plan rent strike until building OK

By Thomas Rojas

Tenants of a city-managed Hoboken building who had been without water for about three weeks because of frozen pipes say that they will not pay rent for the three-week period — and they refuse to pay more rent until repairs are completed.

"We are not going to pay rent for the three weeks when we had no water and the bathrooms weren't working," said Carmen Santiago, a spokeswoman for the tenants at 401 Monroe St., who had been without water for about three weeks after water lines froze and exploded when temperatures dipped to around five degrees.

Workers for the city's Department of Revenue and Finance — which has managed the four-story building ever since its owners abandoned it last July — restored water to the building last weekend by pumping in water from a neighboring structure, at 403 Monroe St.

Repair work on the building's damaged water lines, which had been slowed because of the freezing weather of recent weeks, has

picked up in recent days because warmer temperatures have thawed out the frozen pipes.

However, Mrs. Santiago said that she and the building's other tenants would stage a rent strike until repair work was completed.

"We still don't have any hot water," she said. "And sewage is still seeping into all of the bathrooms."

Meanwhile, Revenue and Finance Director Bernard Scrivani offered to relocate the tenants to another building.

"The city is prepared to relocate the tenants to a building within a 50-mile area," he said. "I sympathize with tenants who live in unheated buildings like that one. But they have to realize that we've done the best we can. No plumber wanted to handle the project until the pipes thawed out."

Scrivani added that the tenants would not help themselves by staging a rent strike.

"We are using most of the rent money from that building to make repairs," he explained. "If we don't get the rents, we can't make the necessary repairs."

Stevens' parking dispute highlights council agenda

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—But can you parallel park on a cliff?

That will be one of the questions expected to be answered tonight at the City Council's regular meeting at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

The council will continue its hearing on a request from Stevens Technical Institute to close off portions of River Street for a pedestrian mall.

Several council members and residents from the Hudson Street area have opposed turning the property over to Stevens.

The opponents say that Stevens, to satisfy local zoning laws for a dormitory now under construction, will turn the property into parking spaces for its students.

Councilman Anthony Romano was assigned by Council President Walter Crammer to conduct a study of the parking problems in the River and Hudson streets area.

At the council meeting two weeks ago, Romano disclosed that he was dismayed with what Stevens considers to be adequate parking to meet the city requirement that the college supply one

space for every three students in the dorm.

Romano said some of the proposed parking spaces were on the side of a cliff. Stevens officials and residents are both expected at the hearing.

In other business, the council is expected to set Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. as the day it will hear an appeal from the zoning board on its rejection on a variance that would lead to the construction of a 24-hour Pathmark supermarket on 15th Street.

A resolution is expected to be presented that will enable the council to have a closed meeting at the request of Mayor Steve Cappelletto on Monday concerning negotiations with the city's labor unions.

Council President Walter Crammer is also expected to appoint a council member to meet with the mayor, city lawyers and the Hoboken Parking Authority to solve the issue of financing an uptown parking lot.

The standoff between the authority and the city has resulted in losses for the city estimated at \$100,000. Neither the city nor the authority have hired meter maids to check the city's parking meters.

Squatters evicted

Hoboken's Public Works Department has boarded up an abandoned building where two families of squatters had been living for several days — while stealing electricity from a neighboring building.

According to Public Works Director William Van Wie, squatters at 22 Madison St. had run a line into a neighboring building in order to steal its electricity.

"This had been going on for a few days," said Van Wie. "But now, the squatters have been evicted and the building has been boarded up."

Incentive grant is open to all

The Hoboken chapter of Unico National says its scholarship incentive grant is being offered to any high school senior who resides in Hoboken, not just students of Hoboken High School.

Any high school senior planning to pursue post-secondary education is eligible to apply, added a Unico spokesman.

CUNA chief says city will force layoffs

HOBOKEN—The City Council will force layoffs at the city's only Hispanic counseling agency by withholding funds for it, the agency's executive director said yesterday.

Juan Garcia of Citizens United for New Action said yesterday that if the agency does not get the \$23,000 promised by Mayor Steve Cappelletto, it will have to eliminate at least one job.

Ironically, the council says the funding resolution for its share of CUNA's funding has been tabled for two months because the agency does not have enough local Hispanics on its staff.

Other council sources have attributed stalling on the resolution to retribution for CUNA's involvement in past elections.

"We will have to terminate the leadership trainee position and possibly one of the counselors," Garcia said.

"We're not so much concerned about the positions as we are about the impact this will have on the children," Garcia said.

Garcia said the agency will have to rely on \$53,000 from the state Division of Youth and Family Services, resulting in fewer supplies and field trips.

Sewing and cooking classes will be eliminated in the

budget cuts.

"This isn't a Reagan budget cut," Garcia said. "The money is there. They just don't want to give it to us because we won't shut up about problems in our community."

"When you weigh the arson deaths, landlord abuses, \$23,000 becomes very little when they want us to shut our mouths."

"The city operates off of millions. All they were giving us was \$23,000. We only want what is supposed to come to the Hispanic community." —Chuck Sutton

Hoboken Lions to honor Cappelletto

The Hoboken Lions Club will hold its Charity Ball at the city's Union Club on May 16, in honor of Mayor Steve Cappelletto, the organization's "Man of the Decade."

All proceeds from the ball will go to benefit Lions Club charities and local organizations

in need, according to Nicholas Damiano, co-chairman of the event.

Damiano said that the club unanimously elected Cappelletto as "Man of the Decade" for his "untiring efforts in furthering the rebirth and resurgence of Hoboken."

Hoboken's disco for teens

By Mary Fitzgibbons

The lights, sound and sizzle found at one of New York's many discotheques and night spots has been imported across the Hudson to Hoboken's own Multi-124.

Located at the Multi-Service Center at 124 Grant St., the disco has the same atmosphere and disc jockey music as one of New York's best, according to Maurice Fitzgibbons, a club spokesman.

This club, sponsored by the city's Health and Welfare department is unique however, explains Fitzgibbons, in that only teenagers are invited to party. And the reason behind this is simple, he adds.

"Hoboken officials wanted to give city teenagers something to do," he explained "and this disco gives people a chance to get together while also providing jobs to teens who serve as waiters, doormen and hat check people."

The club, which holds dances once a month, (the next one is Jan. 23) has hosted such well known personalities as disc jockey Joe Causi and rock group "the Bangs."

They have also continued to draw the interest of city teenagers by hosting such special events as a Valentine's Day party, Halloween party and dance contests.

However, probably the best recommendation for the club is stated by Fitzgibbons when he said, "It just gives teens the chance to have a good time with their friends."



The staff at Hoboken's Multi-124, from left, Joey Cintron, Pedro Vives, Robert Sosre and Rene Cubero, get ready for another night of dancing and music at the club on Grand Street.

Cappiello calls meeting on development of lots

By Peter LaVilla

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello today called on the Hoboken Housing Authority to hold a special meeting with city officials to discuss the development of two vacant lots next to the Grogan Marineview Plaza for housing or commercial use.

Cappiello said he would like to see the property developed as soon as possible because of Hoboken's need for additional housing.

"I think we should meet," said the mayor. "I think the housing authority, planning board, law department, members of the City Council and community development, should sit down and get this project off the ground as soon as possible."

Joseph Caliguire, executive director of the housing authority, said the agency is eager to get started and that there are prospective developers interested in the property.

According to Caliguire, the hangup stems from the recent change in the city's zoning or-

dinance based on a state recommendation.

The ordinance prevents developers from building higher than 10 stories, he said. Before the change, the ordinance permitted structures to go as high as 25. The two highrises at Grogan Marineview Plaza are 25 stories each, he noted.

"What we are waiting for is the City Council to pass an amendment that would permit the property to be developed to the old form — at least 24 stories high," Caliguire said. "Developers are interested in that proposal. We've had many inquiries from developers."

The director said the property, which is located on Second and Third streets, between Hudson and River streets, could be used for housing, commercial

or both. At the agency's regular meeting yesterday, Councilman Anthony Romano was appointed to replace Councilman Sal Cemelli. Cemelli, whose term expires in 1984, cited health reasons for departure from the panel, Caliguire said.

On the way

The Hoboken Cultural Council is doing a great job mobilizing talent for its ambitious Celebration '82 which is scheduled to begin April 3.

For more than a year now the council has been enlisting the help of dancers, actors, painters and those interested in the arts.

All of them are preparing to show Hoboken — and everyone else — that the arts are alive and flourishing. More power to 'em.

Shakeup to hit Hoboken police

A shakeup in the Hoboken police department is being planned for Feb. 1, with patrolmen and detectives being reshuffled into different platoons.

In addition, the shakeup will put more responsibility on the shoulders of superiors, in particular, the police captains, according to James Giordano, director of public safety.

"Some of the men have become very lazy, lackadaisical too," said Giordano. "I think the change will help bring about a change in attitudes. It's good for

the department as well as the men."

The director said the changes were made with the cooperation of Chief George Crimmins, who is on a six-month vacation, and the police captains.

He said the captains will report to him and the chief. In the past, he said patrolmen were running to the mayor, chief and himself, when a problem came up.

"Now, the captains will have the responsibility of their particular departments and

everyone will be charged with taking their problems to the captain," Giordano said.

Another change will be in the shifting of desk responsibilities. Currently, a police lieutenant

means the desk. A sergeant will now assume desk responsibilities, he said.

The lieutenants will do patrol duty and be supervised by a captain, he added.

Hearing planned on store project

By CHUCK SUTTON

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—An appeal to the City Council by a group of developers seeking to put in a 24-hour Pathmark supermarket here provoked several minutes of heated exchange at last night's meeting.

The council, which was being asked to override a rejection by the zoning board, voted to hold a public hearing on the issue but did not set a date.

A development group that includes Pathmark and Hudson Manufacturers Railroad brought its two-year battle to get approval for a 15th Street Pathmark store to the city.

With the rejection by the zoning board, Councilman Robert A. Ranieri lashed out at "city bureaucrats" who he said have closed the door on this project, with City Council President Walter S. Cramer turning the verbal tables on Ranieri.

"I don't understand why the city would reject this project when our ratables are shrinking," Ranieri said. He later claimed that the Pathmark would mean between \$100,000 and \$200,000 in additional taxes, 300 jobs and 600 parking spaces.

As Ranieri continued to talk about the project, Cramer squared off with his colleague, objecting to the amount of time he was using to speak on the topic last night when there is still a full-scale hearing to be scheduled on the topic.

"You ought to grow up and stop kidding the public," Cramer told Ranieri. Ranieri retorted, "I think you're abusing your position and power."

As the meeting continued, the excitement cooled down. The council for the third time refused to approve overtime expenditures of several thousand dollars because of the failure of department directors to explain how overtime was used in their departments for the last three weeks. The council has been concerned with the recent overexpenditures, which were considered high.

During the meeting itself, there was no mention of the controversial Citizens United for New Action Inc. budget. But afterwards, several councilmen reiterated their views that they will not vote to fund the agency unless it is proven that the five professional staff positions couldn't be filled by local Hispanic residents. CUNA's funding includes \$51,000 from the state and an anticipated \$23,000 from the city.

Councilman Nunzio Malletti questioned why the council was picking on CUNA when employees of the community development agency for the city come from New York and Pennsylvania. Councilmen Thomas Kennedy and Anthony Romano pointed to one Hispanic woman in the room — the mother of two daughters — who they insisted could qualify for one of the five staff positions and who is now unemployed.

"You can't tell us there aren't Hispanics from Hoboken qualified to work there," Romano said.

Cramer noted that CUNA had become involved in the 1979 City Council election as an organization. At that time, CUNA endorsed candidates and held rallies. Another councilman interjected: "There are old wounds."

Female employees get own restroom

The 44 female employees at the Hoboken City Hall, who have been fighting to have their own private bathroom, have won the battle.

Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Hoboken Municipal Employees Union, said the city has put a lock on the bathroom on the second floor, and issued a key to every department for the women to use.

In the past, the bathrooms on the first and second floors of the municipal building were shared by both city workers and the public.

According to the union president, there were times when

members of the public would bring their laundry into the bathrooms, while others would do their bathing and wash their hair.

He said the first floor bathroom will be used by the public and the one on the second by female city workers. The union boss said the employees on the first floor agreed to trek up to the second floor in order to persuade city officials to provide the service.

"I want to personally thank Public Works Director William Van Wie for helping us achieve this goal and put an end to a terrible situation," said Fitzgibbons. "The director was very helpful to us."

This 'menu' serves Hoboken students educational 'food'

To restaurant-goers that folder on the table in front of them is simply a menu. But a menu has become an interesting and attractive educational tool these days in promoting basic skills in the Hoboken public schools.

Youngsters are being offered a colorful folder listing a wide array of fast food dishes, side orders, soups and beverages. The prices and a brief description of each item are also listed.

And, while the students are glancing over the menu looking for their favorite sandwich and the price, they are subconsciously taking part in an exercise in English, mathematics, logic and even an introduction to the metric system.

The novel approach to classroom work was prepared by Joyce Tyrell, mathematics supervisor in the public schools, and Dennis Sevano, supervisor of reading. They designed the colorful orange and yellow bill of fare especially for the Hoboken schools.

Superintendent of Schools George Maier hailed the idea.

pointing out that the menu could become a great new learning tool in everyday classroom work.

"Every youngster I've met seems to like a hamburger," said the superintendent. "Now, with the menu in front of him he'll be looking for his favorite dish, reading the description and checking the price. What he's actually doing, however, is expanding his learning skills and carrying out an exercise that stimulates his thinking in a number of areas."

"What it boils down to is a pleasant and subtle approach to learning."

The menu deals with names which are familiar to most students. Each of the main "grill" dishes is named after one of the city's schools. There is a "Wallace Burger," "Connors Chili Burger," "Brandt Bacon Burger," "Calabro Chicken on a Bun," "Kealey Klondike Pastrami," "Leinkauf Lightning Rod," "Demaret Double Deluxe," "Rue Ruben," and "Hoboken High Hoagie."

Accompanying the menu are a list of thought-provoking ques-

tions which the students are asked to answer. These represent the real reason for the menu approach and the answers indicate how much of the material the student has absorbed.

One question challenges the student to locate "the least expensive burger on the menu." The young reader is also asked to "put the types of burgers in alphabetical order," "make a bar graph of the prices of all sandwiches," and "from the menu, choose five words with three syllables or more." The student is also encouraged to think metric, with the question "How many centimeters are there in a foot-long hot dog?"

In all, 25 questions are asked. One challenges the student to "design your own menu."

Another tests his knowledge of his hometown and asks "How many Hoboken restaurants can you name?"

The superintendent predicted that the menu, with its unique approach to learning, could be a valuable classroom tool in the years ahead.

CUNA funding on council meeting agenda

By CHUCK SUTTON

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The controversial CUNA funding and an expected terse warning to city directors about overtime spending will be part of tomorrow night's City Council meeting at 7 p.m.

Fred Bado, director of the city's community development agency, made a presentation to the council at its caucus meeting last night regarding the employment policies of Citizens United for New Action Inc. CUNA is the city agency

which funds CUNA, with council and mayoral approval.

Two weeks ago, the council refused to take action on the city's share of CUNA's budget, charging that the Hispanic counseling agency did not employ enough local residents. The city's share of CUNA's budget is \$14,000.

Another council source said that the council's hesitation on funding the agency was based on CUNA's involvement in endorsing council candidates in elections three years ago. CUNA's budget "is salt on old wounds," the source said.

Juan Garcia, executive director of the agency, said he will be present at tomorrow night's council meeting. "I told CDA to put it before the council and not accept any more delays. If the council wants to reject the funding and hurt Hispanic youth in the community, let them go on record with their opposition," Garcia said.

The council is also expected to issue a terse warning to the city's directors about a \$10,000 overtime tab for the pay period ending Jan. 6.

For the last three council meetings, the governing body has refused to pass resolutions approving overtime that has been characterized as exorbitant. But since the overtime is already paid several weeks before the council receives a resolution, the rejection of the overtime is only symbolic.

At Wednesday's meeting, Councilman Robert Ranieri says he will, after consultation with the council, warn the directors that they should resign if they cannot operate within their budgets.

Group to confer tonight on emergency housing

A Hoboken citizens' group is scheduled to meet with city officials tonight to discuss the need for emergency housing for fire victims and persons who need temporary shelter from the cold.

Leo Genese, chairman of the citizens' advisory committee of the city's Community Development Agency, said that he will meet with members of the city council at 7 tonight at the Multi-Service Center.

In a letter to the council members, Genese points out that the outcome of tonight's meeting "could mean the difference between life and death" for residents who are left homeless by fire, or are

out on the streets during the cold winter months.

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri said that the need for emergency housing in Hoboken has increased recently, particularly in the wake of four arson fires that took 15 lives and left hundreds homeless late last year.

"They need is certainly there, but the question is whether the Red Cross has been doing an adequate job of handling the problem," said Ranieri. "But we are certainly going to meet with the advisory group and get their ideas."

The Multi-Service Center is located at Second and Grand Streets.

'Lazy' cop comment irks PBA

The president of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association objects to comments by Public Safety Director James Giordano that some members of the department are "lazy and lackadaisical."

"If Giordano feels that certain men are lazy and lackadaisical, he should go after them personally," said Ptl. Thomas Meehan, president of the PBA. "But he shouldn't criticize the entire department. We've done a terrific job, despite the shortage of manpower."

Meehan added that general performance records show that Hoboken police responded

to almost 7,000 more radio calls in 1981 than in 1980, despite losing about 40 men to retirement in the last three years.

"If the men are lazy, then why are we responding to more calls, despite a decrease in manpower," he said.

Giordano made those comments in explaining a planned reorganization of the police force. According to the plan, patrolmen and detectives will be reshuffled into different platoons, and more responsibility will be placed on the shoulders of superiors, particularly police captains. The planned changes are expected to take effect

next month. Contacted yesterday, Giordano reiterated his earlier comment.

"I still believe that some men are lazy and lackadaisical, and we plan to go after them by going ahead with these changes," he said. "These men are getting paid to do a job, and they should do it."

Meehan said that he had no objections to the planned police reorganization, adding that changes are needed to "keep the men from getting stagnant." He added that he objects only to Giordano's comments, not to the planned changes.

Cappiello says city can't afford shelter for fire victims

By Thomas Rojas

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello said he believes that church groups and volunteer organizations must shoulder most of the burden of providing emergency housing for fire victims and persons seeking shelter from the cold.

"It would be extremely expensive for the city to open up a shelter," said the mayor. "I would hope that church groups, the Red Cross and other voluntary organizations would be able to take care of most of the homeless."

Cappiello and members of the City Council had been scheduled to discuss the problem with the citizens' advisory committee of the Community Development Agency on Thursday night. However, the meeting was postponed because of the cold weather and re-scheduled for Feb. 11, at 8 p.m., at the Multi-Service Center.

Hoboken

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Cappiello and Councilman Robert Ranieri have both said that they are looking forward to meeting with the citizens' group to discuss the need for emergency housing in Hoboken.

That need has increased in recent months as the result of four arson fires that took 15 lives and left hundreds homeless.

Kiwanis session

The Hoboken Kiwanis Club will hold its next meeting at the Hoboken Public Library, at Fifth Street and Park Avenue, on February 4 at noon. The purpose of the meeting will be to dedicate the new Hoboken Kiwanis section of the library. In addition, Kiwanis Club secretary Francis J. Barre announced that Jerry Molloy Day will be held at Meadowlands Arena of February 14, prior to the Nets basketball game. Molloy, a Kiwanis member, is a former basketball referee. Tickets for the game are \$10, while tickets for the game and a cocktail hour are 25, according to Barre.

A proverbial lesson

'Experience a great teacher' to sage of Hoboken

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—He is a sage, a devoted husband, and the city's unofficial Department of Italian Affairs.

"I am also a staunch Democrat and a staunch supporter of Mayor Steve Cappelletti," James Lanzetti says proudly.

Lanzetti is a Hoboken institution. Working from his desk in Revenue and Finance Director Bernard Scrivani's office, he has served as the city's translator and interpreter for "the city's older Italian families" ever since 1945, when he first came to work in the city's building department.

Since his retirement in 1971, the 87-year-old Lanzetti has been providing his services free of charge. He has also been providing his proverbs about life, likewise without charge.

"True happiness is to no place confined, but still it is found in a contented mind."

Lanzetti has compiled his thoughts in the form of proverbs in an unabridged list he has compiled, complete with Italian translations.

Lanzetti says his service to the city and the community is what gives him his "true happiness." Included in his package of services are his adages.

"I am an extremely patient man. I have learned through proverbs that, if you argue with a fool, you are a greater fool. This is true, right?" Lanzetti asks with a smile.

How could anyone deny such a proverb? And so it is true with the other 800 wise sayings he has collected or written down based on his own experiences. Yet Lanzetti does not think of himself as a philosopher.

He offers two more proverbs: "Experience is a great teacher," and "Be moderate in all your undertakings."

"I am a compassionate man. Don't forget, I'm a founding from the New York Foundling Home. I am grateful for my life."

Unfortunately, Lanzetti's adoptive parents were poor and he was forced to leave school in the eighth grade for a job in one of Hoboken's factories, giving rise to the thought: "Education is the poor man's haven."

Lanzetti continued to pursue his education, taking courses in commercial law and accounting. His studying paid off, landing him jobs as a correspondent with the Italian-language newspaper Il Progresso and as director of the foreign department of the Stenick Trust Co.

But the job from which he has the best memories was the position his friend, former Mayor Bernard McFie, secured for him in 1943 as a clerk to two congressional committees, War Claims and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

"Before, if you gave a contribution to certain organizations or was active in them, you were branded a communist. But under the HUAC, they had to prove you were a communist," Lanzetti recalled.

His stay in Washington was cut short when his family enticed him to come back home. It was then that he began working for the city of Hoboken.

"At that time, a director would ask me to help translate documents, and I'd always have people coming in, asking me to serve as their interpreter."

This was at a time when Italian immigrants were coming to the city in droves. That's all changed now, Lanzetti explains, that there are few new immigrants, but he now serves the older families who still need his services. There have been other changes, too, that he has observed.

"You once could leave your door open, but now people are afraid to walk the streets. I'm not. I trained three years in ju jitsu—I can handle myself," the oldtimer notes.

There are other changes he has noticed. "It used to be that only millionaires could send their children to college. Now everyone can own a car and try to send his children to college. It is a financial hardship

on the parents. The child takes off on his own, and the poor parents are stuck."

Which led him to another proverb: "One father can support 10 children, but 10 children can hardly support one father."

There is another big change in the world of which Lanzetti has taken note. "Women in modern clothes, wow! Women and love are the most common themes of his proverbs."

"Wine, tobacco and women reduce men to ashes" and "A house without a woman is like a ship without a rudder."

For 26 years there has been a woman in Lanzetti's life, his wife, the former Mary Michitsch. His devotion to her, he says, is the basis for his contentment with life. "When I was young, I only thought of having a good time. Now I'm content, striving to be a good husband."

His office is no longer flooded with calls for translations. But Lanzetti continues to find a need for his services.

"When I leave the office, I am stopped before I get home by four or five people who need help."

The most common problems? "Rent control, immigration, jobs and Social Security. I usually refer them to the right agency and accompany them, or take them to Mayor Cappelletti."

It is the satisfaction of helping others that brings him to the office every day faithfully, as if it were a paying job.

"I'm the type of person who has to be active. When you're old, if you're not active mentally, you fall asleep."

It is hard leaving Lanzetti's office without a parting bit of advice, advice which of course, is true and all encompassing.

"The worst sin is to be in debt. Live an economic life within your means and take things in life as they come... that's life."



Photo by Bill Beyer

James Lanzetti at his desk in Hoboken City Hall.

Told to hire sewer plant operator

The state Department of Environmental Protection issued an order yesterday to Hoboken because of its failure to employ a properly licensed operator for its sewage treatment facility.

"For more than a year an unlicensed employee has been running the plant," said director Arnold Schiffman of the DEP's Division of Water Resources. Schiffman noted that the order requires Hoboken to secure a full-time licensed operator in 60 days of receipt of the order.

When reached for comment, William Van Wie, Department of Public Works director, referred all questions to Roy Haack, supervisor of the sewage plant. Neither Haack nor Mayor Steve Cappelletti were available for comment.

Failure of the city to comply with the order would subject the city to civil monetary penalties. Licenses are earned after working five or more years in a wastewater plant, passing a state examination, and completing successfully an advanced wastewater treatment course.

Brain food

The idea of food for thought is inescapable in considering a Hoboken public school project that is using school lunch menus as an educational tool.

Joyce Tyrell, mathematics supervisor, and Dennis Sevano, supervisor of reading, designed colorful orange and yellow menus for pupils.

Superintendent of Schools George Maier hailed the idea of telling the youngsters what there is to eat while teaching English, math and logic and even introducing them to the metric system.

Each of the main "grill" dishes is named after one of the city's schools. Accompanying the menu is a list of thought-provoking questions which the students are asked to answer. The replies are supposed to indicate how much of the material the student has absorbed.

The approach is an interesting one, and since everyone must eat, the exercises seem more relevant than some of the course materials, usually deemed required in curriculums.

Hoboken's experiment might be one for the county's other school systems to watch and adapt.

Guarini chides Bethlehem Steel for letting ship contract sink

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Rep. Frank J. Guarini's office released a letter yesterday that chided Bethlehem Steel for "lack of zeal and determination on the part of your corporate leadership in pursuing the (USS) Nitro contract," but a company spokesman said such a protest would have served no purpose.

The Jersey City Democrat called on Bethlehem Steel to reveal what plans it has for the Hoboken shipyard, given President Reagan's request to have Congress double its shipbuilding budget.

From its Bethlehem, Pa., headquarters, a spokesman for the company explained yesterday why it did not officially protest the Navy's decision to award the repair contract for the ammunition ship to Coastal Dry Dock of Brooklyn, N.Y., whose bid was \$2 million higher.

"The decision had been made not to protest the Navy's decision on the Nitro because such a protest would serve no purpose," he said.

The spokesman would not comment on future plans for the Hoboken plant.

The Navy's Sea System Command said Bethlehem Steel was not eligible for the contract because it did not pass a pre-award survey.

But another source at Bethlehem Steel said they were told that the company was bypassed because "the Navy decided it was in the interest of national security that the job be given to the other company."

Earlier this week an article in The New York Times charged discrepancies in the reporting of campaign contributions made by Charles Moranti, president of Coastal Dry Dock Shipyard, to the campaign fund of

Rep. Frederick W. Richmond of Brooklyn.

The New York Times article charges that Moranti, who raised thousands of dollars for the Brooklyn Democrat, obtained Navy repair contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars with Richmond's help. It is not known if Richmond helped secure the Nitro contract, however.

Guarini's letter, addressed to Bethlehem Steel President Donald H. Trautlein and dated Jan. 11, recounted the congressman's protests of the contract award.

"I am surprised that your company did not make a determined effort to have the awarding of the contract to the highest bidder," the letter said. "I am asking your support in maintaining Hoboken shipyards open, providing jobs for the hundreds of available workers of Bethlehem Steel Company who have indeed served many, many years."



Photo by Bill Beyer

A CRANE TOWERS over Bethlehem Steel's shipyard in Hoboken. The steel corporation came under attack yesterday for not fighting hard enough to get the contract to repair the USS Nitro.

Hoboken firm takes care of those staged effects

By Thomas Rojas

When most people see a Broadway show, they seldom notice the scenery or the electrical effects.

Ed Rush notices.

Ed, 49, and his brother, Ralph, 39, own and operate the Rush Scenery Co. in Hoboken, which provides scenery and electrical effects for stage productions throughout the area.

Although the shop has only been operating for about a year, it has constructed scenery and done electrical effects for the Red Parrot Disco in Manhattan, and has equipped 26 costumes with electrical effects for the recent "Disney World on Ice" show at the Meadowlands Arena.

In addition, Rush Scenery handled the motors, winches and pneumatics for the Broadway show "42nd Street" when it moved from the Winter Garden to the Majestic Theater.

And, most recently, the company constructed the scenery for "Encore," the 50th anniversary show at the Radio City Music Hall, which will open in Manhattan in March.

"For me, the exciting part about this business is being around Broadway and Off-Broadway shows," says Ed Rush. "The other exciting part is just making things work. People don't realize the preparation that goes into putting on the show."

Ed Rush has been "making things work" in the theatrical world for 27 years.

"I was born into this business," he notes. "My father was a stagehand for 60 years. So, my brother and I naturally got involved in the theater business."

Before opening his own scenery shop, Ed was a master electrician for stage productions. Among the shows he worked on were "Zorba," "Company," "Slough," "Tribute" and "On the Twentieth Century."

In "Slough," one of Rush's favorite shows, there is a scene where one of the characters fires a pistol at a plate, smashing it. "We got that effect by setting up a rat trap behind the plate, he recalls. "We would spring the trap automatically, and that would shatter the plate, making it appear like the bullet did it."



Ralph Rush, left, and his brother Ed, who own a scenery construction company in Hoboken, go over designs for a huge Spanish fan they constructed for an upcoming Radio City Music Hall show.

Although he worked on "Slough" for almost four years, Rush never saw the show from the audience.

"During every performance of that show, I was working the electronic switchboard," he explains. "So I never saw it from the front. That's one of the funny things about this business."

Does Rush believe that the public should be more aware of how effects are achieved in the theater?

"Not really," he says. "I don't think they should be shown all of the tricks. They should just enjoy the magic of it."

Rush says that the toughest part of his work is when the show is between jobs, and men have to be laid off.

"Oh, the layoffs are bad, and it's rough when you're involved with a show that bombs," he observes. "But I wouldn't do anything else. It beats working for a living."

Celebration '82 will open April 3 in Hoboken

By Thomas Rojas

On Jan. 2, 1981, the newly-formed Hoboken Cultural Council began preparations for Hoboken Celebration '82, a three-month festival of historical, cultural and artistic events to be held all over the city.

Now, a little more than a year later, the response has been far greater than even the most optimistic organizer could have hoped.

"We expected this to be a big project, but it has turned into something monumental," said Laurie Fabiano, president of the Cultural Council. "There are over 200 events planned already, and we expect at least 400 artists to participate."

Hoboken Celebration '82 is scheduled to begin on April 3, and will culminate in a two-day waterfront festival on June 19 and 20.

The celebration will include performances of theater, music and dance; exhibitions of all the visual arts; demonstrations of ethnic skills and crafts; film screenings; lectures and workshops; and walking tours of historic areas and businesses.

The events will take place all over Hoboken—from City Hall to the piers. There will even be displays of poetry and art aboard the Washington Street buses. And—what is most unique—the entire project will be free to the public.

"That's the miracle of it," said Ms. Fabiano. "All of the artists are performing for free, and we've raised production costs from local businessmen, the Port Authority and the city of Hoboken. But we still need a great deal of money and donations are welcome."

According to Ms. Fabiano, Hoboken Celebration '82 will feature "exciting and innovative" events in all of the arts.

In theater, "Stoop Life," a new play by Lou LaRusso, will be performed, as well as a play by the Puerto Rican theater group Nuestro Teatro.

In dance, the Jané Setteducato company will perform a dance piece that stretches across all of Hoboken, while the Tracy Everitt school of dance will do a dance version of the film "On the Waterfront."

In music, there will be performances by the Hoboken Chamber Orchestra and Manhattan Opera Association, as well as concerts of African, salsa, and New Wave music.

In the visual arts, there will be more than 50 exhibitions of paintings, drawings, sculpture and photographs. What's more, two sculptors will be using facilities at the Bethlehem Steel shipyard to construct steel sculptures for the celebration.

In poetry, there will be readings of poetry on labor inside local factories.

In addition, there will be film series, map exhibitions, performances by mime groups, even workshops on health care and stress management.

"This will be the first event of its kind in the country," noted Ms. Fabiano. "And it will be a one-time thing, because we could never put something like this together again."

For more information about Hoboken Celebration '82, contact the Hoboken Cultural Council at Port Authority Bulkhead Building "A," at Second and River streets.

Hoboken pageant moves to Stevens

The fourth annual Miss Teenage Hoboken beauty pageant will be held Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Ten young women, between the ages of 14 and 18, will participate in evening gowns, bathing suits and talent competitions, according to Angelo Valente, president of the Hoboken Young People's Action Organization, which is sponsoring the event.

Because of the increased demand, the pageant, which has been held in the past in Hoboken High School and at the Union Club, is being moved this year to the larger Stevens Center at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Judges at the pageant will include Diane Everett, the current Miss New Jersey World, and Vicki Certisimo, a former Miss Hudson County.

"The judges emphasize the girls' personalities in reaching a decision," said Valente.



Diane Everett
Miss New Jersey World

Entertainment at the pageant will be provided by the Kennedy Dancers of Jersey City, singers Diane Damitrie and Frank Conti, and the band Eden's Rival.

Tickets are \$5.

Fire victims forgotten

Tragedy site to be converted

By ROY KAHN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—It was nearly 15 weeks ago that a fire ripped through 1200 Washington St., killing 11 persons and leaving seven others homeless.

Police believe the fire was set, and the continuing investigation of the tragedy has, according to police detectives, held up an insurance payment of approximately \$100,000 to the former owner, Olga Ramos.

But the insurance money is apparently the only thing that has been delayed in the continuing history of a building that simmered in controversy for more than a year before it burned.

The charred hulk occupying a prime spot on northern Washington Street's "condo alley" was sold for \$50,000 in a deal concluded and filed with the Hudson County register on Nov. 30, five weeks after the fire.

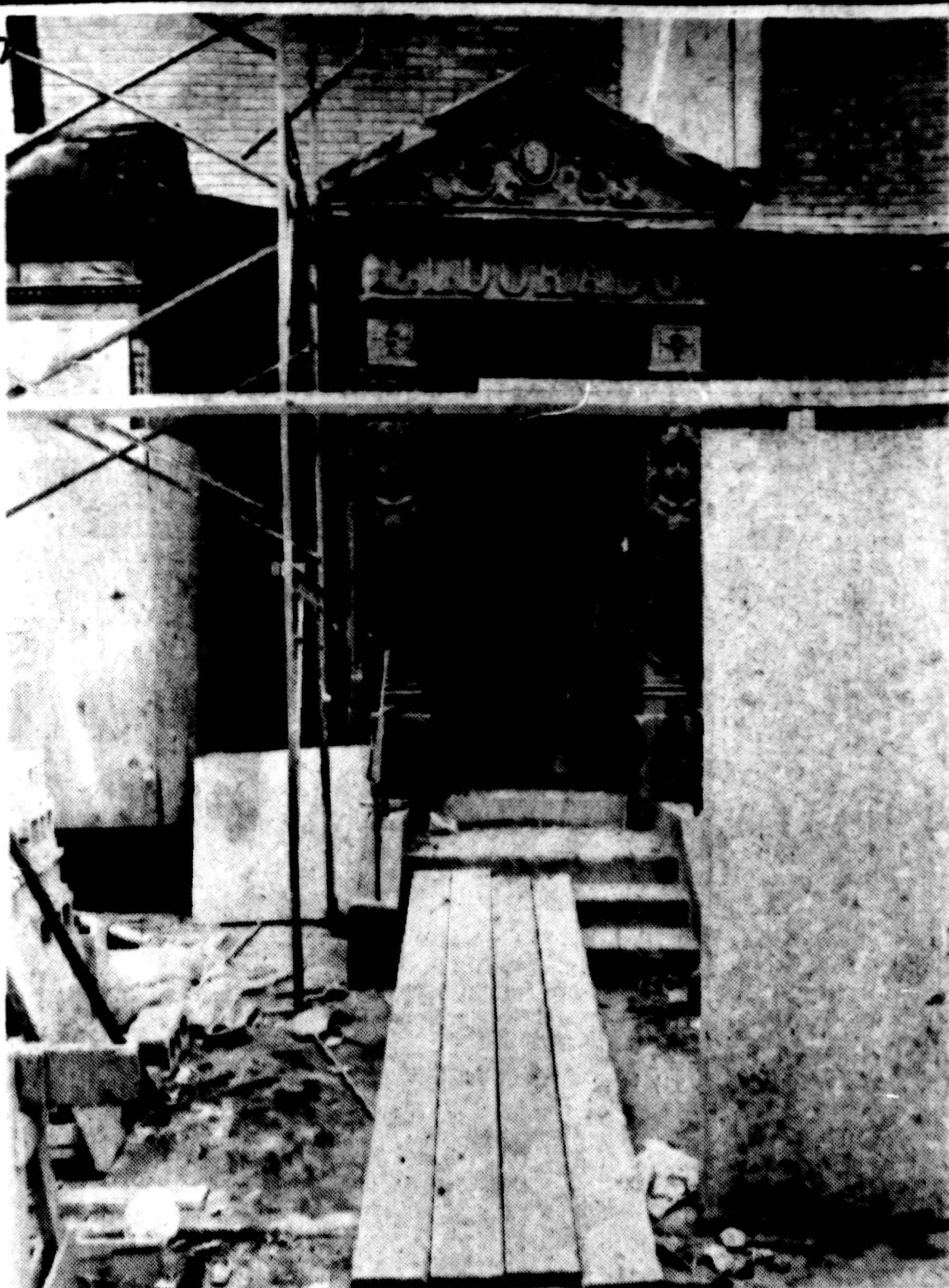
The new owner is El Dorado Associates of Hoboken. At least two of its principals, Joseph J. Fox and Murray M. Connell, also own 1202, the building next door. J. Fox Realty, according to city tax records, also has an interest in 1204 Washington St.

According to Connell, 1200 and 1202 will become one building, complete with an elevator, when construction begins in the spring. He said no determination has been made as to whether the units will be rentals or condominiums.

Regardless of what they become, the tale of 1200 Washington St. involves the stiff tenant rights advocates claim is creating terror in the lives of the city's poor.

Officials in Port La Gente and Citizens United for New Action have been voicing concerns that landlords, seeking greater monetary return from their buildings, have been harassing poorer tenants in the hope of forcing them out and replacing them with people who can afford

See TRAGEDY, Page 10



A FIRE ripped through this building at 1200 Washington St., killing 11 persons and leaving seven others homeless.

Photo by Bill Boyer

Continued from Page 1

higher rents.

For developers, a vacant building is worth more than one with tenants, explained city Tax Assessor Woodrow Monte. Calling it a "quirk," Monte said, "Everyone wants vacant buildings. You know the value of the building (1200 Washington St.), went up because of the fire."

The root of the phenomenon is twofold. First, state laws governing condominium conversions give existing tenants the power to hold off evictions and the conversion for up

to eight years. Second, according to Monte, developers can be saddled with costs of up to \$2,500 per unit in order to get out existing people.

"If the building is empty already, you've taken care of many hurdles," he noted.

Police said there is no evidence to indicate anyone conspired to burn out the tenants of 1200 Washington St. in order to facilitate a renovation.

But there is no debate that a suspicious fire topped off a year of bickering between landlord and tenants that included a \$50 rent hike

being refused by the rent leveling and stabilization board and one unsuccessful arson attempt. Tenants had also complained to rent board administrator Bernadine Van Carpel that Ramos "told them she would get them out, even if she had to burn down the building."

The scheduled renovations are something of which the former tenants will not be a part.

Of the 20 people who lived in the building prior to the Oct. 24 fire, two families (11 people), are dead.

Among the survivors, police said:

• Two Cuban refugees, Adolfo

Leiro and Esteban Blanco, are reportedly in California.

• Jennie Vega and her two children have been living with friends in Union City and are supposed to be getting a subsidized apartment in Hoboken in the near future.

• Ephraim Cruz is living somewhere in the city, possibly with friends.

• Luis Manuel Fernandez has disappeared.

• A New York University student and New York accountant who lived on the top floor have returned to New York.

Hoboken puts its garbage pact on hold

By Earl Morgan

The Hoboken City Council last night voted to table a resolution awarding a three-year, \$4-million contract for garbage removal to a private contractor while the possibility of the city handling garbage collection itself is investigated.

In other business the council passed an ordinance to appropriate \$360,000 for the preparation of a tax map as part of a revaluation of real estate taxes being initiated by the city.

The firm of Hudson Engineering and Surveying was awarded a \$60,000 contract to update and prepare tax maps for the city.

The council also voted to continue a hearing on a request by Stevens Institute of Technology which wants to obtain a portion of River and Sixth streets as part of a new dormitory being planned.

Dominic Casulli of the Hudson Street Castle Point Block Association asked that the council continue the hearing because he said he could prove that the

school does not have the parking required by city ordinance.

The council decided to table the resolution, awarding the garbage contract to LeFera Contracting Co., even though Councilman Robert Ranieri said a study he has conducted showed that it would not be feasible for the city to operate its own garbage collection.

After more discussion, Councilman Anthony Romano agreed to withdraw the resolution, that he introduced.

On the Stevens request, Councilman Romano said his investigation could not locate many of the 700 parking spaces school officials claim they have.

Michael O'Shea, attorney for the school, requested that the city grant the request. But after listening to Romano and Casulli, the council voted to continue the hearing at the next meeting.

The council also adopted a resolution accepting a portion of a \$51,000 grant from the state Department of Community Affairs to be split between Hoboken and Jersey City for aid to fire victims.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS CITY OF HOBOKEN HUDSON COUNTY, N.J.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to owners of Real Estate that assessments for taxes for the year 1982 have been completed and the assessors will meet at the City Hall, Washington and Newark Streets on:

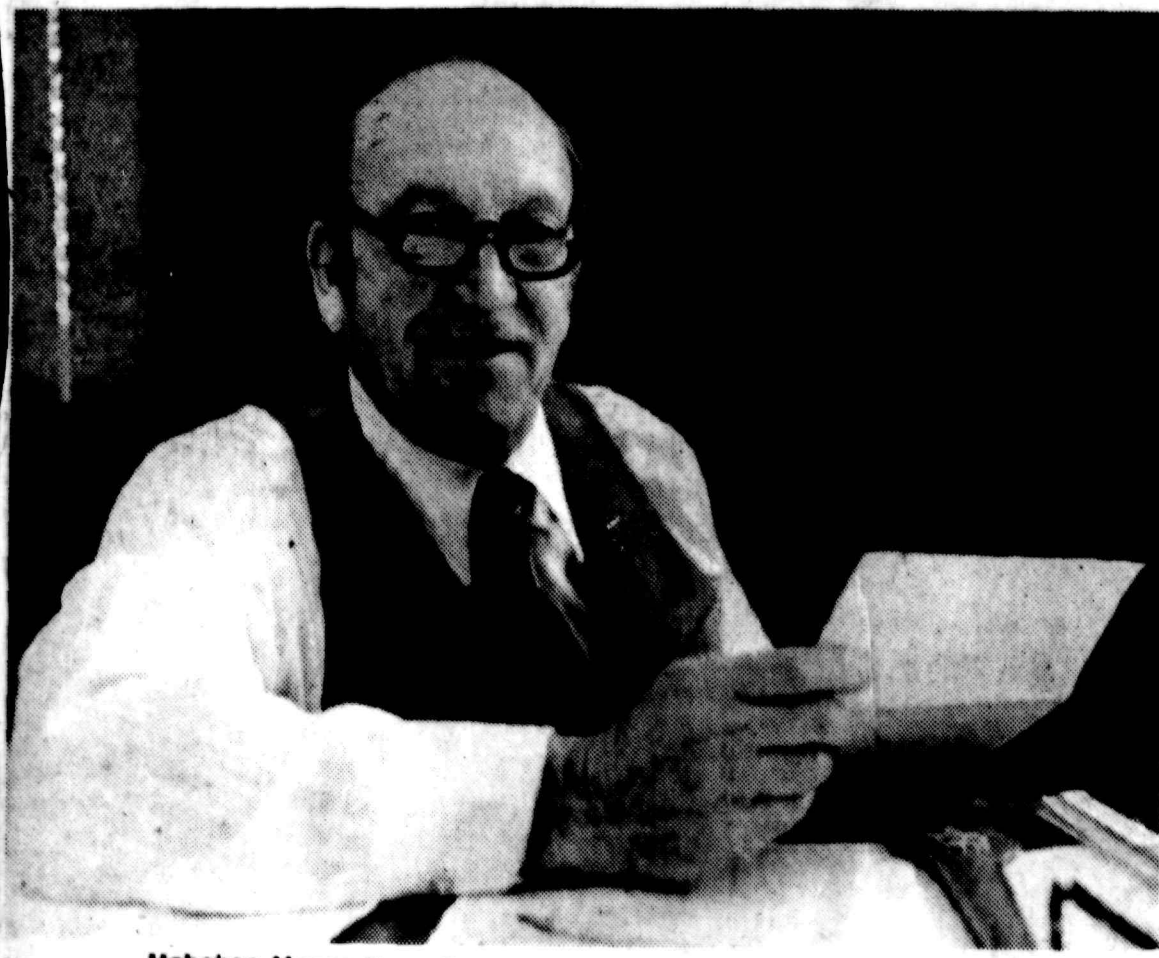
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1982
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

At which time interested taxpayers may examine their assessed valuation for the year 1982.

WOODROW S. MONTE
ASSESSOR

A conversation with Steve Cappiello

By Mary Fitzgibbons



Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello takes a brief pause from his busy schedule of his city hall office.

Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappiello is a man of reflections.

Sitting in his comfortable second floor office at Hoboken's city hall, the man who was elected to his third term as the city's highest official last May reminisces about his political life, future, successes and failures with a midday visitor.

"I guess the hardest part about being mayor, is that you can't please everyone, no matter how you try, explains the man who has held the job since 1973.

Another problem Cappiello mentions is the lack of free time — time that takes him away from his wife Dorothy and three children, Janet, 26, a nurse; Linda Lee, 21, who will be entering medical school in the fall, and namesake Steve Jr., 11.

In fact, Cappiello, who also serves as chairman of the Hudson County Board of Freeholders, reaffirms his earlier published statement that he won't finish out his third term, leaving it rather to "a younger man with new ideas who can serve the people."

Cappiello, who came to the mayor's job after being a policeman and serving as councilman for ten years, says he isn't interested in any other higher office, saying rather that he is "satisfied" with his current duties.

However, the future isn't the only thing on Cappiello's mind — the city of Hoboken is never far from his thoughts.

Gesturing out the window of his office, the mayor says he is happy with the revitalization of Hoboken but says the term often used for it — renaissance — isn't correct.

"Renaissance gives the analogy of a profit making scheme, which is incorrect," he states, "when I refer to the changes in Hoboken I call it a revitalization or even better — an improvement of quality of life, rather than a renaissance."

However, other thoughts, far less pleasant than the city's revitalization, also cloud the mayor's mind.

There are the large numbers of senior citizens in the city who can't find apartments and the events which he terms the "saddest and most tragic events that happened during my tenure in office" — last year's many arson fires and deaths.

Stating that the city's public safety officials are consistently doing "everything possible" to

solve the crimes, Cappiello says they continually "haunt" his thoughts.

"They were terrible tragedies, just terrible," states Cappiello in a voice filled with sadness.

Another, sad circumstance continues the mayor, is the lack of enough senior citizens housing in the city, a problem which is continuing, he says, with the advent of federal budget cutting programs.

"Senior citizens come to my office every day," adds the concerned mayor. "Sometimes there are as many as 20 people here daily. I tell them, 'Put your name on every application in every building, get on every list.'"

Mayor Cappiello says that he hopes to further discuss these problems with Gov. Thomas Kean, whom he has invited to the city in the spring for a visit.

The future of the city, the revitalization of homes, housing for the community's elderly, arson deaths and federal budget cutting programs — are just a few of the thoughts Hoboken's nine-year mayor must contend with on a daily basis.

Miss Teenage Hoboken beauty pageant a local "Happening"

The fourth annual "Miss Teenage Hoboken" beauty pageant will be held Feb. 13 at 8 p.m. at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Ten young women, between the ages of 14 and 18, will participate in evening gown, bathing suit and talent competition, according to Angelo Valente, president of Hoboken Young People's Organization, which is sponsoring the event.

Judges at the pageant will include Diane Everett, current Miss New Jersey World, and

Vicki Certisimo, a former Miss Hudson County.

"The judges emphasize the girl's personalities in reaching a decision," Valente said.

Entertainment at the Pageant will be provided by the Kennedy Dancers of Jersey City, singers Diane Damitrie and Frank Conti, and the band Eden's Rival.

Tickets are \$5.00 and are available at the door.

Hoboken's \$64,000 question stymies parking law

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The city ensnarled in a money dispute between the autonomous parking authority and the administration, has been losing an estimated \$100,000 in nickels and quarters from unenforced parking meters.

One councilman has called for a "meeting of the minds" to settle the dispute.

Parking Authority Chairman Joseph Hottendorff says the problem is that the City Council promised to

give the authority \$64,000 for its capital improvement fund. But the law department and Business Administrator Edwin Chius have refused to provide the funds, saying the council resolution is illegal.

If the council gave him the \$64,000, Hottendorff says, the authority could put it in escrow to build new parking lots up town. The authority would count the money as an asset and hire the meter maids it needs.

But Chius says, "That's illegal. That violates the state budget laws."

He also said that the money would be a "blank check" because the council did not specify how it was

opponents claimed the expansion would add to sewage, parking, and congestion problems in the residential area. The attorney for the group, Frederick Woekner, explained, "Our objections were primarily over the size of the project and the tripling of its staff. There is already a serious parking problem in the area."

He cited a city ordinance that he said requires two parking spaces for every hospital bed, and said the home only planned 25 parking spaces for 90 new patients and more than 100 new employees.

Wittenburg said yesterday that the nursing home does not have the same parking needs as a hospital

because its patients come in for long stays and many are without families to visit them.

The area's councilman, Thomas Hart, who voted with four others to overturn the variance, said yesterday, "It was one of the most difficult votes I've made. I voted because 98 percent of the residents of Hudson City were opposed, and I represent them. A five-story building would be inconsistent with the whole area."

But, he added, "I recognize that we have a severe need for nursing home care. It is an outstanding facility, and they have done nothing but good work. I was hoping the nursing home and residents would be able to reach an amicable agreement."

Seek funds to revive seniors' breakfasts

By Thomas Rojas

A two-year-old program which provided 65 Hoboken senior citizens with hot breakfasts every day has fallen victim to federal budget cuts, but officials are hoping to revive it.

According to E. Norman Wilson, executive director of the Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Economic Stress, the breakfast program, which was funded by a \$25,000 grant from the city's Community Development Agency, ran out of funds about two weeks ago and came to an end.

Under the program, 65 seniors received free breakfast every day at the Hoboken Elks Club.

The project was staffed by members of the HOPES Senior

Community Service program.

"I have received a number of letters from seniors who are disappointed that the program came to an end," said Wilson. "The program not only gave them a nutritional meal, but it made it possible for them to socialize and make friendships instead of sitting in a furnished room all day."

Wilson said that he plans to meet with Fred Bado, director of the Community Development Agency, about additional funding to revive the breakfast program.

"I haven't given up hope," he said. "If I can get another \$8,000, I can run the program for eight more months."

"This was a very important program, and it is typical of the kind of program that is being hurt by the federal budget cuts."

Historic unit OKs paint

The Hoboken Historic District Commission has approved an application for exterior painting on a storefront at 306 Washington St.

Also at Monday night's special meeting, the commission

had been scheduled to consider applications for alterations at 335 Washington St. and 132 Washington St., but the owners of the property did not send representatives to the meeting, and the applications were tabled.

Council OKs \$125,000 for Hoboken revaluation

By CHUCK SUTTON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The city's long-awaited property revaluation was given the green light last night with the approval of \$125,000 for the drawing up of a new tax map at last night's City Council meeting.

The meeting included the continuation of a hearing on a request by Stevens Tech to close off part of River Street, and a demand from the director of the city's Hispanic counseling agency that the city hear its budget request at the next council meeting.

Council critic Tom Vezzetti welcomed the approval of the funds that will begin the revaluation process, saying, "I've been told by the tax assessor that if we don't revalue this year, we will be paying \$200 per one \$1,000 of assessed value."

City taxpayers last year paid \$138 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, which is the highest tax rate in the state.

The council has been wavering on starting the evaluation in an effort to avoid the political consequences of higher assessments in a year before the municipal election.

On the matter of Stevens' request for possession of sections of River Street for a pedestrian mall, the council heard testimony from residents and members of the council. Citizens from the Castle Hill area voiced opposition to the plan, citing fears that Stevens would eventually use the property for student parking. The council adjourned the hearing until March 17.

The council was later called upon during the public portion of the meeting to pursue emergency housing for the poor who are without

heat during the winter months. Leo Genes, chairman of the citizens advisory board of the Community Development Agency, demanded that the council take on this problem with as much zeal as it showed in considering parking for the "politically powerful" Castle Hill residents.

In other criticism, the council was accused of holding up its \$23,000 share of the budget for the Hispanic counseling group. Citizens United for New Action Inc., by the group's

executive director, Juan Garcia, questioned by the council on whether the agency had attempted to hire local Hispanics. Garcia said, "Out of 14 ever hired by this agency, seven were from Hoboken."

The City Council has held "up" passage of the city's \$23,000 share. "The real question is not the money, but whether or not the council can shut us up from speaking out against arson, landlord abuses, illegal evictions, and the problems of our community," said Garcia.



Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo of Hoboken, left, is congratulated by Assembly Speaker Alan Karcher as he begins his sixth term as vice chairman of the Assembly Labor Committee in Trenton.

Russo Club to award Scholarships

A new scholarship will be presented to a much deserving Hoboken High School graduate in June.

The plans for such a scholarship are presently being implemented by the donor, The Anthony Russo Civic Association, Inc., who's standard bearer is the school district's Coordinator of Special Education.

Mrs. John Pope, a teacher of Hoboken's gifted and talented students has been named the chairperson of the scholarship committee.

According to Pope, "we have already started soliciting raffle chances for a weekend all expense paid visit to Playboy Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City for Feb. 19, 20 and 21." The drawing date will be Saturday, Feb. 13 at the Madison Hotel, Washington and 14 Street at which time a cozy St. Valentine's Day brunch is scheduled as the culminating event of the organization's fund raising program.

According to Russo, "friends of the education profession, service and fraternal organizations, City government, and general citizenry of the city have been contacted.

Positive responses have been elicited from many of the educators and most average persons on the street. However, many of the local organizations and those involved in city government have been somewhat less enthusiastic. Hopefully, the tedious job of governing and the bureaucracy of organizations are responsible for that, and a more positive response should be forthcoming.

"In the final analysis, our goal is to present a Hoboken High School graduate with a substantial size scholarship each and every year. If most of us help just a little, I am sure that our goal will become a reality."

Although this is only one of several civic projects the Russo organization has been spear-heading throughout the seven years of its existence, it is especially important to Russo because of the educational opportunity it represents.

Dr. George Maier, Superintendent of Schools, has been respectfully asked to advise the scholarship committee in the area of specific guidelines for potential recipients.

Arson site was for sale

Hotel to be vacant when deal settled

By ROY KAHN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The owner of a River Street hotel in which arson left two people dead Nov. 31 agreed in a sales contract signed six weeks before the fire to get most of the boarders out of the building.

The contract, signed Oct. 7, stipulates that the owner, Walter Bush Inc., was to "deliver the entire building in a vacant condition, subject to two (2) tenancy (sic) in the building at 63 River Street."

The \$625,000 deal, which would have transferred the five-story American Hotel, 76-82 River St., to Ray and Carmine Lemme, was supposed to be concluded on Feb. 1.

Carmine Lemme, a Hawthorne businessman, said yesterday that emptying the building was not a condition of the sale, and did not recall the clause in the contract. He said the fire has stalled the sale and he is awaiting a structural engineer's report on the damage before renegotiating the contract.

He said he had not spoken with Walter Buszack, who represented Walter Bush Inc. on the contract, since the fire. While Lemme said he intends to complete the deal, he suggested that the damage "could have a bearing on the price."

While Lemme waits, construction crews have been working. He said he knows nothing about the crews, which have been rebuilding the burned roof and removing debris from the interior, for about a month.

Buszack, reached at his home, would not comment on the work or the contract, but said the property "was sold three months ago," and suggested contacting his attorney.

John McAlevy, Buszack's attorney, said the work, being done with money from Buszack's fire insurance policy, was being done subject to the approval of the Lemmes.

"That's what the buyer wants," McAlevy said, saying he was not involved in the construction work. He said that from the street, "it looks like they are doing a hell of a lot more work than the fire indicated, but they are not doing a renovation of the hotel. They just want to put the hotel back in the condition it was in prior to the fire."

Exactly what is happening to the hotel is not clear.

The contract includes a rider that would facilitate the creation of condominiums, but Lemme said no decision has been made. Options, he said, included a commercial or office complex as well as condominiums.

The building, located across the street from the Erie-Lackawanna terminal and Hoboken PATH station, is considered one of the choicest pieces of property in the city, according to real estate agents.

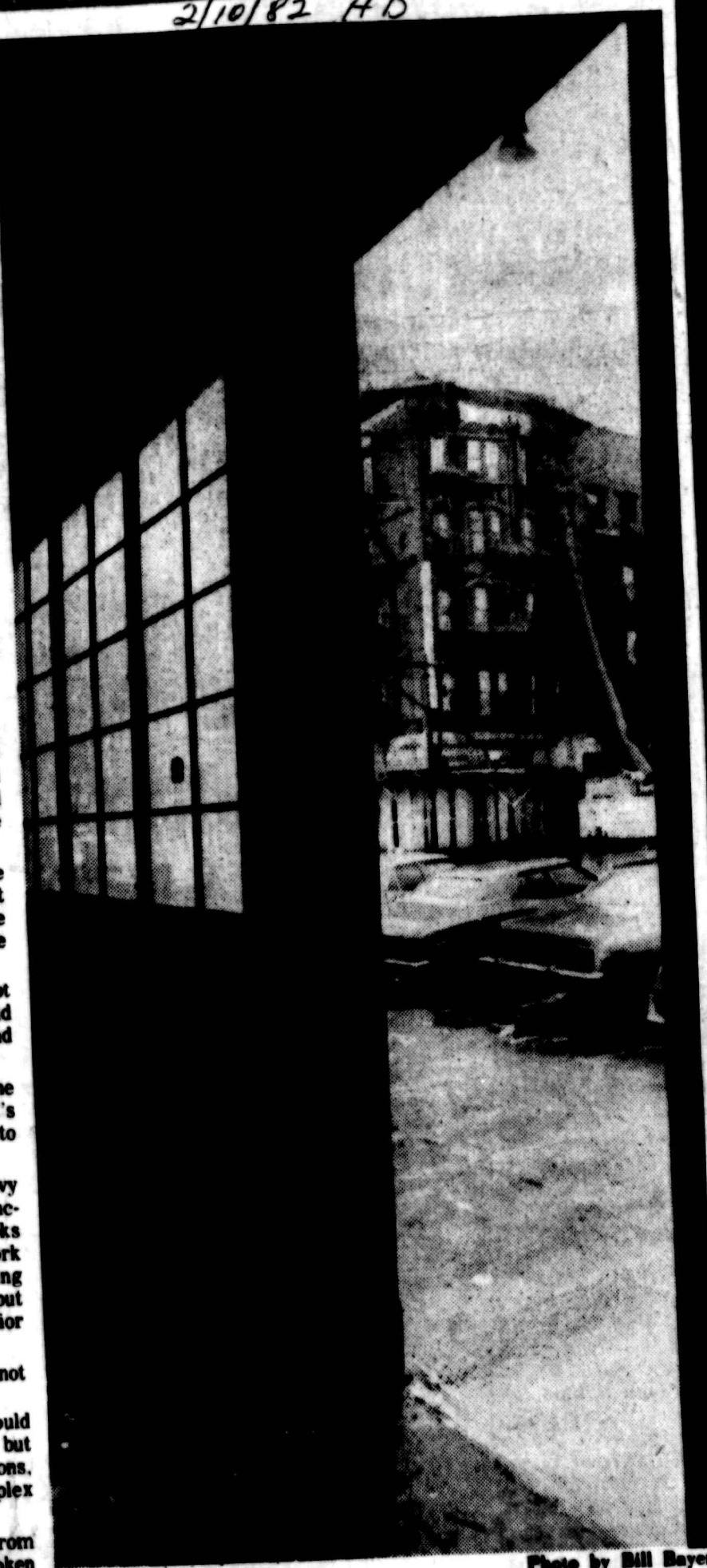


Photo by Bill Bayer
THE AMERICAN HOTEL as seen by commuters exiting PATH trains and buses every day in Hoboken.
See BOLD, Page 11

Jobless pay revision top Gallo priority

State Assemblyman Thomas A. Gallo of Hoboken, who was recently chosen for his sixth term as vice chairman of the Assembly Labor Committee, says that the committee is trying to work out a "firm but fair" revision of the Unemployment Compensation Law.

Gallo noted that New Jersey is facing a \$613 million debt to the federal government for the unemployment benefit loans granted under the Unemployment Compensation Law during the recession years of the 1970s.

Gallo explained that tax payments on those loans are coming due for the state's employers, regardless of the number of workers they have had to lay off. The Hoboken legislator added that some businesses are curtail-

ing shifts and others are considering moving out of the state citing unemployment payments as one cause.

"The pressure is on to make some changes even at a time when more and more breadwinners are losing the jobs," he said.

Gallo emphasized that the committee wants to insure that workers who are really unemployed through no fault of their own continue to receive sufficient benefits. But this should not blunt a person's search for a new job, he added.

Gallo said that the labor committee will be meeting with labor and industry in the near future to work out a revision of the Unemployment Compensation Law.

Ranieri wants to see if overtime increased

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri wants to see the total overtime payroll for 1981, as part of his campaign against excessive overtime payments to municipal employees.

"I have asked Revenue and Finance Director Bernard Scrivani for the final overtime payroll for 1981, and it should be ready soon," said Ranieri. "Once I see that, I will be better able to judge which city departments have been most guilty of excessive overtime payments."

Ranieri has charged that overtime has been excessive in recent months, and has said that some workers are consistently

doubling their salaries in overtime every week.

Others, including Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius and Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Municipal Employees Association, have countered that the overtime paid to city employees in recent months has been justified, primarily because of the freezing weather conditions.

Ranieri has also said that the council will review the overtime payrolls of each city department every week, and compare those figures with overtime records from last year, in order to check possible abuses.

Hoboken plot leads to NY raid

By ROY KAHN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The arrest of two men accused of trying to blow up a meat company here Sunday has led New York City and local police to a cache of weapons and bombmaking equipment in a Queens house. It was followed by the arrest of two more men and a woman.

New York City police reported last night that their arson and explosion task force representatives, under the direction of Hoboken detec-

tives, raided a house at 61-43 165th St., Fresh Meadows.

Hoboken police said the raiders discovered at least two .45-caliber handguns, six handguns, six rifles and black powder. Also found was a suitcase full of ammunition, scales and narcotics-cutting agents. The items were discovered in a third-floor apartment rented in the name of Daniel Kennedy, one of two men arrested here Sunday.

The address was given to Hoboken police

Sunday when they arrested Kennedy and Jerry Kolman after they allegedly planted a pipe bomb in Evergood Co., Inc., a meat provisions firm at 68 Adams St.

Hoboken police Sgt. Martin Kiely led the raid on the house last night after a search warrant was obtained at 6:45 p.m. Accompanying him were Hoboken Detectives Ernest Mack and Fred Ferrante and Neil Hunt, an arson detective from the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office.

See RAID, Page 5

Health Fair targets pre-school defects

Last year, a Health Fair sponsored by the Hoboken Board of Education and the HOPES Head Start program screened about 120 pre-school children for hearing, vision, and other health problems.

This year, planners for the program are hoping to reach even more Hoboken youngsters. "We want to reach as many children as possible," said Sue Gellert of the HOPES Head Start program, who is coordinating the Health Fair. "We are trying to find out if there are pre-school children in Hoboken who have any undiagnosed health problems that need looking into."

This year's Health Fair is scheduled for March 25 and 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and March 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A site for the March 25 screening has not been finalized yet, but the March 26 program is scheduled to be held at the Multi-Service

Center, while the St. Mary Community Mental Health Center will host the March 27 screening.

The Health Fair will offer the following free services, provided by trained medical personnel:

An intake process in which parents will be interviewed in order to get a general idea of the child's health.

The general physical examination of the child.

- Vision tests.
- Hearing tests.
- Speech and Language tests.

• Observation of the child in a playroom setting to see how he relates to other children, and to determine if he has any problems with motor skills or muscular coordination.

"This is just a first step," stressed Ms. Gellert. "We are trying to show parents where a child may need help. But the follow-up examinations are the

most important thing."

Last year, Health Fair staffers picked out pre-school children with undiagnosed heart murmurs, middle ear infections, and other problems.

"We want to give parents a sense of how their children are developing," said Ms. Gellert. "It would cost them hundreds of dollars to do this on their own."

Although last year's Health Fair was the first of its kind in Hoboken, this year's fair may be the last, unless additional funding can be found.

"Because of federal budget cuts, HOPES Head Start won't be able to fund the fair next year," explained Mary Anne Palcski, HOPES Head Start director. "But we're hoping to continue the program with the help of United Child Care Services. We hope this program will become a part of the community."

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the upcoming Health Fair, or desiring more information, should contact Sue Gellert, special needs/mental health coordinator for the HOPES Head Start program, or Daniel Binetti, director of the Office of Special Education in the Hoboken Board of Education.

Open pay talks in Hoboken

Hoboken officials are scheduled to begin formal 1982 contract negotiations with two municipal unions today.

According to Councilman Robert Ranieri — who will head the city's negotiating team, along with Mayor Steve Cappiello and Business Administrator Edwin Chius — the city will meet with representatives of the Hoboken Firefighters Association at 3:30 p.m., and with representatives of the Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association at 4:30 p.m.

At those meetings, the union presidents will deliver their formal requests to the city.

Then, on Thursday, city officials are expected to meet with the Firefighters Association at 3:30 p.m., and with representatives of a third union, Municipal Employees Association, at 4:30 p.m.

All three unions are currently working without a contract, under the terms of their previous agreements with the city.

Although the city had been scheduled to begin 1982 contract negotiations with the unions last September, city officials had asked for a delay in negotiations so that they could go over the municipal budget and prepare an offer.

The president of the Hoboken PBA is Thomas Meehan, while Jude Fitzgibbons heads the Municipal Employees Association. Michael Bavaro and William Bergin head the uniformed firefighters and officers branches of the firemen's union, respectively.



Photo by Bill Bayer
THE HOBOKEN Kiwanis Club recently held dedication ceremonies at Hoboken Public Library for a new section of books provided by the club. Shown at ceremonies are, from left to right, George Massarsky, program chairman, Janice Cooper, Cliffside Park Councilperson, Terry Sasso, library and Maurice Spagnoletti, Kiwanis Vice President.

Frankie, you're welcome in Hoboken!

By Thomas Rojas

Frank Sinatra may or may not be willing to come back to Hoboken, but Mayor Steve Cappelletto says that "Ol' Blue Eyes" is welcome to return to his hometown any time he wants.

"He's always welcome to come back," said Cappelletto. "We'd be happy to see him again."

Cappelletto made his remarks in response to the cover story in the current issue of New Jersey Monthly magazine which tries to explain why Sinatra has not returned to Hoboken — where he was born about 67 years ago — in more than 30 years.

In the article, writer Anthony DePalma suggests that Hoboken has "turned its back"

on Sinatra, pointing out that the city council didn't name a local street after the singer until 1979, and the city's public library didn't establish a Sinatra collection until after his mother's death in 1977.

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"Sinatra is a very busy man involved in a great many things," said the mayor. "He's in a whole new world now. I'm sure he'd just been too busy to come back."

Cappelletto added that he has been a Sinatra fan since the 40s, when the crooner performed with the Tommy Dorsey band.

"I saw him at the Paramount Theater in New York," he said. "And I still enjoy him."

Hoboken seniors get jazz old

The Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Homelessness (HOAPE) will provide an evening of jazz for seniors citizens. Norman Wilson, executive director of HOAPE, said that any senior citizen who is 65 or older should contact Harold Surles at the HOAPE office, the Multi-Service Center, weekdays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. The HOAPE staff was trained in case management by the Internal Revenue Service, according to Wilson.

State praises Hoboken schools

By Thomas Rojas

The state Department of Education, whose representatives recently conducted a three-day visit to Hoboken public schools, has praised the school system for its teaching of "The Three R's."

The state team conducted its evaluation on Jan. 26 to 28, concentrating on the school district's Basic Skills Improvement

Program, which involves the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic.

Now, Louis Acocella, Hudson County superintendent of schools, has notified Hoboken Superintendent of Schools George Maier that the state evaluators were pleased with every phase of the program.

In addition to praising the administration, Acocella commended Linda Erbe, the basic

skills program coordinator, as well as the parent advisory council, the school principals, and the teachers.

Maier said he was very pleased by the findings of the state team, particularly since Hoboken schools ranked last in a rating of county school systems only about three years ago.

"This proves that we have turned the school system around," he said. "The teaching

of reading, writing and arithmetic is the backbone of education. It's nice to know that the efforts we have put into this program have been recognized at the state level."

Maier added that the Basic Skills Program is part of the Thorough and Efficient Education project that is being carried out by all school districts in the state.

They want heat for tenants

By Thomas Rojas

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"I have talked to Councilman Thomas Kennedy about sponsoring the bill," he added. "Hopefully, it will be considered at the next council meeting."

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Plan shelter for fire victims

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cots into the Multi-Service Center," said Genese. "That building is there to serve the community and it seems like a logical choice for an emergency shelter."

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"Look at those people who got burned out on Garden St.," he said, referring to the recent fire that left two families homeless. "Those poor people had no place to stay."

Cappelletto has said that church groups and volunteer organizations should shoulder most of the burden for sheltering fire victims, because of the shortage of available city-owned space.

But Genese insists that it is the city's responsibility to provide emergency housing for fire victims.

"Hoboken is a city with substandard housing and loosely-enforced fire codes," he charged. "If the administration can't provide a safe environment for the citizens, then they should at least take responsibility for fire victims."

Demand shelter for fire victims

By Thomas Rojas

A Hoboken citizens' group has called on the city to open a temporary shelter for fire victims and persons without heat, but city officials aren't convinced that a shelter is needed.

The citizens' advisory committee of the Community Development Agency met with Mayor Steve Cappelletto, members of the city council, and other city officials Thursday night to discuss the need for emergency housing for fire victims and persons needing temporary shelter from the cold.

Leo Genese, chairman of the citizens' committee, argued that the city is responsible for providing emergency housing to the needy, and

suggested that the city-owned Multi-Service Center be used as a shelter.

But city officials have strong reservations about the idea.

"Officials of the Hoboken Chapter of the Red Cross have assured us that they have handled the problem of emergency housing," said Councilman Robert Ranieri. "In order for the city to open a shelter, we would have to be convinced that a shelter is necessary."

City officials suggested that the citizens' committee prepare a proposal explaining the need for a shelter, and specifying how many beds would be needed, and how much the shelter would cost.

Ranieri said that more meetings would be held on the problem in the future.



TOASTING THE MASTER — Hoboken toastmaster Jerry Molloy, right, is presented with a plaque by Hoboken Kiwanis Club President Sam Tridante during ceremonies honoring him on Jerry Molloy Day at the Brendan Byrne Arena in the Meadowlands. The Kiwanis group and the New Jersey Nets honor Molloy for sports and his long-standing role as toastmaster at many affairs.

Drive on to clean all of Hoboken

"Operation Clean Sweep," a campaign to clean every street in Hoboken, begins today.

Public Works Director William Van Wie said that about 14 city workers, three garbage compactors and a water truck will be cleaning Hoboken streets for at least the next week.

"The city doesn't normally clean the sidewalks, but we're making an intensive effort to

clean the city up," said Van Wie. "Our goal is to clean every street in Hoboken."

The clean-up campaign gets under way this morning, with street cleaners and garbage trucks — equipped with rakes, plastic bags, brooms and shovels — scheduled to meet at Washington Street and Observer Highway at around 9 a.m., then proceed north on Washington

Street, cleaning both the sidewalks and the gutters.

On subsequent days, cleaners will meet at the public works garage, on Willow Avenue and Observer Highway, and sweep all side streets. Then, if the weather isn't too cold, a water truck will spray the streets.

"We are asking for the cooperation of the public in moving their cars when the sweeper comes down the street," said Van

Wie. "Also, we're asking that they don't dump garbage on the streets and sidewalks."

Van Wie added that it will be up to the public to see that city streets remain clean after "Operation Clean Sweep" is over.

"Once the streets are clean, the public has to keep them clean," he said. "It's their city and everyone should take pride in it."

Hoboken fight on burglars succeeding

The Hoboken Police Department's recently-formed anti-burglary task force has already begun to show results, according to acting Police Chief Patrick Totaro.

"We already made a few arrests," said Totaro. "We're confident that the burglary rate is going to go down."

Totaro, who is filling in for the vacationing George W. Crimmins, said

that the task force was created in response to the rising burglary rate in Hoboken. Police statistics show that there were 828 burglaries in the city in 1979, and 864 burglaries last year.

Under the new Patrick Donatucci, chief of the detective bureau, said that the new task force will act as a deterrent to burglary.

"The burglars know we're out there," he explained. "When we see an

area that has been particularly hard hit by burglaries, we will concentrate on that area."

Donatucci said that burglary is much easier than it was a few years ago.

"Back in the old days, there was always a wife at home," he recalled.

"But now, because of the economy, the whole family works. That makes it easier for the burglar."

Hoboken toasts its Jerry Molloy

Traditionally, February 14 marks Valentine's Day. But, in Hoboken, Sunday will be significant for another reason as well.

Mayor Steve Cappelletto has designated Sunday "Jerry Molloy Day" in Hoboken, in honor of the Hoboken resident who, for most of his 72 years, has been known as Mr. Basketball and Toastmaster General.

Molloy was coach at St. Mary's High School in Paterson for 40 years. During that time, he also served as Hoboken recreation coordinator for 35 years, and with the St. Peter's College athletic department for 20 years.

In addition, Molloy has made countless guest appearances throughout the country as toastmaster, for no fee.

Cappelletto praises Molloy as a man who "has devoted his life to all youth in New Jersey" and "spread joy and happiness wherever he went."

To culminate "Jerry Molloy Day," the Hoboken Kiwanis Club and the New Jersey Nets basketball team will honor Molloy during halftime of Sunday's game between the Nets and Dallas at the Brendan Byrne Arena. There will also be a 2 p.m. cocktail party in Molloy's honor at the Arena.

The good-natured Molloy, who has been troubled by arthritis of late, claims to have only three main interests in life: "My family, basketball, and Frank Sinatra."

Hoboken's budget worries Ranieri

By Thomas Rojas

The future of Hoboken may hang in the balance when the city council acts on the city's 1982 municipal budget next month.

That's the word from Councilman Robert Ranieri, who warns that city officials are going to have to tighten their pursestrings considerably if the city is to avoid an economic crisis.

"Now is the time for strong leadership," said Ranieri. "The burden is on the administration to hold costs to a minimum, because Hoboken is in serious danger."

Hoboken's municipal budget in 1981 was \$19.4 million. Taxes rose some \$26 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, to \$138 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Ranieri said the city council hopes to maintain the tax rate as stable as possible, despite rising expenses and cuts in federal and state aid.

"Last year, the burden of government fell on the taxpayer and the rent-payer," he said. "This year, the burden is going to fall on the administration."

Complicating things further is the prospect that the city may have to make up a loss of about \$4.4 million, should the Bethlehem Steel Corp. win its appeal with the state Tax Board to reduce its property assessment by \$3 million. Earlier, the Hudson County Board of Taxation had reduced Bethlehem's property assessment from \$6.4 million to \$5 million.

Hoboken's growing financial problems have forced Mayor Steve Cappelletto to consider laying off city employees.

"We may have to let some people go," he said. "Every city department wants increases in operating expenses."

Meanwhile, Ranieri believes that Hoboken's fate may depend on the Board of Education's 1982 school budget, which is scheduled to be sent to the county superintendent of schools for approval next month.

The board has proposed a total budget of \$21.9 million, with about \$5.6 million to be raised by local taxes — an increase of about \$700,000 over last year.

It's who you know that counts

TRENTON — Among those named this year as aides to Hudson legislators are a school board president and a city commissioner in Union City, a Hoboken councilman, a former Weehawken township committeeman, the wife of the Hoboken mayor, the son of the Guttenberg mayor and an assemblyman's son.

Each legislator may appoint aides with a total maximum salary of \$25,000. The \$225,000 annual total for the nine Hudson legislators — in the Senate and Assembly — will represent one of the few sources of state patronage available to them during a Republican administration.

So far only four of the nine Hudson legislators have filed their lists of aides.

Of those four, only Assemblyman Thomas

Gallo of Hoboken reached the \$25,000 maximum in total payroll for aides.

The payroll for aides of Sen. William V. Mason of Union City, who is also Union City mayor, was \$16,000; for Assemblyman Christopher Jackman of West New York, \$16,000 and for Assemblyman Thomas Cowan Sr. of Jersey City, \$12,500.

Jerry Molloy, the popular Hoboken toastmaster, was on the payroll of both Gallo and Jackman at \$1,500 each.

Musto's payroll included Genieve "Joanne" Ghignone, school board president, at \$5,000; C. Harrison Hultman, a member of the city commission, \$3,500; Rosemarie Novembre, \$1,500; Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Hoboken Municipal

See IT'S WHO — Page 2.

Continued from Page 1

Employees Association, \$2,000; Concetta Wichert, wife of Union City commissioner Arthur Wichert, \$2,500, and Thomas Kennedy, \$1,500.

Kennedy is a Hoboken councilman, for which he receives \$10,000 a year — only \$105 a week, he asserted, after deductions — and is Hudson County CETA chief of security.

Included also on Gallo's payroll are his son Dominic

Gallo, \$3,000; Dorothy J. Cappelletto, wife of Hoboken Mayor Steve Cappelletto, \$2,000; Charles J. Pizzuta, a former township committeeman in Weehawken, \$1,000; Elizabeth LaBook, \$1,500; Paul Lanzo, \$3,000; Marilyn Garrick, \$3,500; Joan D'Agostino, \$2,000; Anthony D. Sacchi, \$2,500; Steven DeBari, \$1,500; Sergio Germinario, \$1,000, and John Altomare, \$1,500.

On Jackman's payroll are Steven Weil, \$1,000; Thomas Klein, son of Guttenberg Mayor

Herman G. Klein, \$1,500; Madelyn Tholer, \$1,000; Carol Bronsky, \$2,000; Francis Montione, \$1,000; Evelyn Ferry, \$1,000; Carmela Escudery, \$1,000; Mario Malavasia, \$1,000 and Marion Warns, \$5,000.

On Cowan's payroll are Estelle Lorraine, \$2,000; Maryjane Badach, \$5,000; Earl T. Brady, \$3,000 and Mary Alice Politics, \$2,500.

Legislators decide whether their aides will be paid monthly, quarterly or semi-annually.



LAST LOOK — Steve Ruchovansky, for right, an 11-year member of the Hoboken Ambulance Corps, takes a last look at one of the vans before going into retirement. Standing solemnly with Ruchovansky are from the left, Bob Davison, president, and Bill Matthews, a co-founder.

VanWie pushes keep-clean drive

Hoboken Public Works Director William VanWie plans to visit the city's schools in order to educate children on how they can help keep Hoboken clean.

"I'm going to speak to the board of education about setting up a program where I would go into the schools and ask for the cooperation of the children and their parents to clean up Hoboken," said VanWie. "If everybody pitched in, we could have a much cleaner city."

VanWie said that he is launching a campaign to educate the public that "this is our city

and it is our responsibility to keep it clean."

"People have gotten into the habit of putting their garbage out on Saturday night, even though it isn't picked up until Sunday at midnight," he added. "The garbage sits on the curb for 48 hours. If there's a wind storm, the litter blows all over the place, and if there's rain, it runs into the catch basins and we get flooded."

VanWie cited a city ordinance that requires garbage to be put out after 9 p.m. and no later than midnight on Sunday.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings.

"All I'm asking is that the public follow the rules," he said. "We'll hand out summonses if we have to, but I would rather have the public cooperate than have to threaten them with fines."

VanWie pointed out that city law also prohibits the sweeping of litter into roadways and gutters.

"Many people sweep their garbage out into the street and leave it there," he noted. "They should pick it up and put it into a receptacle. Also, they shouldn't

put anything into the catch basins besides water. Some people spill paint into the catch basins besides water. Some people spill paint and oil into the sewers, clogging them."

VanWie plans to enlist all of the city's schoolchildren in his clean-up campaign.

"If we can get all of the children to work as a team, we can see results," he said. "They can tell their parents, and soon everybody will be helping to clean up Hoboken."

Photo exhibit in Hoboken

Hopoghan, Hoboken's first photography gallery, will present the works of Leni Calabrese, Joseph Chanin, Barbara Dockter, Rohn Finard, Pamela J. Landau and Michael J. Musante at its inaugural exhibition, beginning Feb. 25. The gallery is the brainchild of two local photographers, Kathleen Eckles and John Mann, and is devoted entirely to photography. Work will not only be displayed there but an environment will be provided where photographers can discover and exchange new ideas. The six participants in the group show are all from Hoboken. The show will encompass diverse styles and subject matter, in both color and black and white. The show will run through April 4 and the gallery will be open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. It is located at 82 Hudson St.

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Hoboken seniors get tax aid

The Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Stress (HOPEs) will provide tax return assistance for Hoboken senior citizens. E. Norman Wilson, executive director of HOPEs, said that any senior needing help in preparing tax forms should contact Harold Sacks at the HOPEs office in the Multi-Service Center, weekdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The HOPEs staff was trained in tax form preparation by the Internal Revenue Service, according to Wilson.

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"Hoboken is a city with substandard housing and loosely-enforced fire codes," he charged. "If the administration can't provide a safe environment for the citizens, then they should at least take responsibility for fire victims."

Demand shelter for fire victims

By Thomas Rojas

A Hoboken citizens' group has called on the city to open a temporary shelter for fire victims and persons without heat, but city officials aren't convinced that a shelter is needed.

The citizens' advisory committee of the Community Development Agency met with Mayor Steve Capriello, members of the city council, and other city officials Thursday night to discuss the need for emergency housing for fire victims and persons needing temporary shelter from the cold.

Leo Genese, chairman of the citizens' committee, argued that the city is responsible for providing emergency housing to the needy, and

suggested that the city-owned Multi-Service Center be used as a shelter.

But city officials have strong reservations about the idea.

"Officials of the Hoboken Chapter of the Red Cross have assured us that they have handled the problem of emergency housing," said Councilman Robert Ranieri. "In order for the city to open a shelter, we would have to be convinced that a shelter is necessary."

City officials suggested that the citizens' committee prepare a proposal explaining the need for a shelter, and specifying how many beds would be needed, and how much the shelter would cost.

Ranieri said that more meetings would be held on the problem in the future.



TOASTING THE MASTER — Hoboken toastmaster Jerry Molloy, right, is presented with a plaque by Hoboken Kiwanis Club President Sam Tridante during ceremonies honoring him on Jerry Molloy Day at the Brendan Byrne Arena in the Meadowlands. The Kiwanis group and the New Jersey Nets recognize Molloy's zeal for sports and his long-standing role as toastmaster at many affairs.

Drive on to clean all of Hoboken

"Operation Clean Sweep," a campaign to clean every street in Hoboken, begins today.

Public Works Director William Van Wie said that about 14 city workers, three garbage compactors and a water truck will be cleaning Hoboken streets for at least the next week.

"The city doesn't normally clean the sidewalks, but we're making an intensive effort to

clean the city up," said Van Wie. "Our goal is to clean every street in Hoboken."

The clean-up campaign gets under way this morning, with street cleaners and garbage trucks — equipped with rakes, plastic bags, brooms and shovels — scheduled to meet at Washington Street and Observer Highway at around 9 a.m., then proceed north on Washington

Street, cleaning both the sidewalks and the gutters.

On subsequent days, cleaners will meet at the public works garage, on Willow Avenue and Observer Highway, and sweep all side streets. Then, if the weather isn't too cold, a water truck will spray the streets.

"We are asking for the cooperation of the public in moving their cars when the sweeper comes down the street," said Van

Wie. "Also, we're asking that they don't dump garbage on the streets and sidewalks."

Van Wie added that it will be up to the public to see that city streets remain clean after "Operation Clean Sweep" is over.

"Once the streets are clean, the public has to keep them clean," he said. "It's their city and everyone should take pride in it."

Hoboken fight on burglars succeeding

The Hoboken Police Department's recently-formed anti-burglary task force has already begun to show results, according to acting Police Chief Patrick Totaro.

"We have

already made a few arrests," said Totaro. "We're confident that the burglary rate is going to go down."

Totaro, who is filling in for the vacationing George W. Crimmins, said

that the task force was created in response to the rising burglary rate in Hoboken. Police statistics show that there were 626 burglaries in the city in 1979, and 864 burglaries last year.

Under the new

Patrick Donatucci, chief of the detective bureau, said that the new task force will set as a deterrent to burglaries.

"The burglars know we're out there," he explained. "When we see an

area that has been particularly hard hit by burglaries, we will concentrate on that area."

Donatucci said that burglary is much easier than it was a few years ago.

"Back in the old days, there was always a wife at home," he recalled.

"But now, because of the economy, the whole family works. That makes it easier for the burglar."

Hoboken toasts its Jerry Molloy

Traditionally, February 14 marks Valentine's Day. But, in Hoboken, Sunday will be significant for another reason as well.

Mayor Steve Capriello has designated Sunday "Jerry Molloy Day" in Hoboken, in honor of the Hoboken resident who, for most of his 72 years, has been known as Mr. Basketball and Toastmaster General.

Molloy was coach at St. Mary's High School in Paterson for 40 years. During that time, he also served as Hoboken recreation coordinator for 35 years, and with St. Peter's College athletic department for 20 years.

In addition, Molloy has made countless guest appearances throughout the country as toastmaster, for no fee.

Capriello praises Molloy as a man who "has devoted his life to all youth in New Jersey" and "spread joy and happiness wherever he went."

To culminate "Jerry Molloy Day," the Hoboken Kiwanis Club and the New Jersey Nets basketball team will honor Molloy during halftime of Sunday's game between the Nets and Dallas at the Brendan Byrne Arena. There will also be a 2 p.m. cocktail party in Molloy's honor at the Arena.

The good-natured Molloy, who has been troubled by arthritis of late, claims to have only three main interests in life: "My family, basketball, and Frank Sinatra."

Hoboken's budget worries Ranieri

By Thomas Rojas

The future of Hoboken may hang in the balance when the city council acts on the city's 1982 municipal budget next month.

That's the word from Councilman Robert Ranieri, who warns that city officials are going to have to tighten their pursestrings considerably if the city is to avoid an economic crisis.

"Now is the time for strong leadership," said Ranieri. "The burden is on the administration to hold costs to a minimum because Hoboken is in serious danger."

Hoboken's municipal budget in 1981 was \$19.4 million. Taxes rose some \$26 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, to \$138 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Ranieri said the city council hopes to maintain the tax rate as stable as possible, despite rising expenses and cuts in federal and state aid.

"Last year, the burden of government fell on the taxpayer and the rent-payer," he said. "This year, the burden is going to fall on the administration."

Complicating things further is the prospect that the city may have to make up a loss of about \$4.4 million, should the Bethlehem Steel Corp. win its appeal with the state Tax Board to reduce its property assessment by \$3 million. Earlier, the Hudson County Board of Taxation had reduced Bethlehem's property assessment from \$6.4 million to \$5 million.

Hoboken's growing financial problems have forced Mayor Steve Capriello to consider laying off city employees.

"We may have to let some people go," he said. "Every city department wants increases in operating expenses."

Meanwhile, Ranieri believes that Hoboken's fate may depend on the Board of Education's 1982-83 school budget, which is scheduled to be sent to the county superintendent of schools for approval next month.

The board has proposed a total budget of \$21.9 million, with about \$5.6 million to be raised by local taxes — an increase of about \$700,000 over last year.

It's who you know that counts

TRENTON — Among those named this year as aides to Hudson legislators are a school board president and a city commissioner in Union City, a Hoboken councilman, a former Weehawken township committeeman, the wife of the Hoboken mayor, the son of the Guttenberg mayor and an assemblyman's son.

Each legislator may appoint aides with a total maximum salary of \$25,000. The \$225,000 annual total for the nine Hudson legislators — in the Senate and Assembly — will represent one of the few sources of state patronage available to them during a Republican administration.

So far only four of the nine Hudson legislators have filed their lists of aides.

Of those four, only Assemblyman Thomas

Gallo of Hoboken reached the \$25,000 maximum in total payroll for aides.

The payroll for aides of Sen. William V. Masto of Union City, who is also Union City mayor, was \$16,000; for Assemblyman Christopher Jackson of West New York, \$16,000 and for Assemblyman Thomas Cowan Sr. of Jersey City, \$12,500.

Jerry Molloy, the popular Hoboken toastmaster, was on the payroll of both Gallo and Jackson at \$1,300 each.

Masto's payroll included Genieve "Joanne" Ghignone, school board president, at \$5,000; C. Harrison Hultman, a member of the city commission, \$3,500; Rosemarie Novembre, \$1,500; Jude Fitzgibbons, president of the Hoboken Municipal

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Employees Association, \$2,000; Concetta Wichert, wife of Union City commissioner Arthur Wichert; \$2,500, and Thomas Kennedy, \$1,500.

Kennedy is a Hoboken councilman, for which he receives \$10,000 a year — only \$105 a week, he asserted, after deductions — and is Hudson County CETA chief of security.

Included also on Gallo's payroll are his son Dominic

Gallo, \$3,000; Dorothy J. Capriello, wife of Hoboken Mayor Steve Capriello, \$2,000; Charles J. Pizzuta, a former township committeeman in Weehawken, \$1,000; Elizabeth LaBook, \$1,500; Paul Lanzo, \$3,000; Marilyn Garrick, \$3,500; Joan D'Agostino, \$2,000; Anthony D. Sacci, \$2,500; Steven DeBari, \$1,500; Sergio Germinario, \$1,000, and John Altomare, \$1,500.

On Jackson's payroll are Steven Weil, \$1,000; Thomas Klein, son of Guttenberg Mayor

Herman G. Klein, \$1,500; Madeilyn Tholer, \$1,000; Carol Bronsky, \$2,000; Francis Montione, \$1,000; Evelyn Ferry, \$1,000; Carmela Escudero, \$1,000; Mario Malavasia, \$1,000; and Marion Warns, \$5,000.

On Cowan's payroll are Estelle Lorraine, \$2,000; Mary-jane Badach, \$5,000; Earl T. Brady, \$3,000 and Mary Alice Politics, \$2,500.

Legislators decide whether their aides will be paid monthly, quarterly or semi-annually.



LAST LOOK — Steve Ruchovansky, far right, an 11-year member of the Hoboken Ambulance Corps, takes a last look at one of the vans before going into retirement. Standing solemnly with Ruchovansky are from the left, Bob Davison, president, and Bill Matthews, a co-founder.

VanWie pushes keep-clean drive

Hoboken Public Works Director William VanWie plans to visit the city's schools in order to educate children on how they can help keep Hoboken clean.

"I'm going to speak to the board of education about setting up a program where I would go into the schools and ask for the cooperation of the children and their parents to clean up Hoboken," said VanWie. "If everybody pitched in, we could have a much cleaner city."

VanWie said that he is launching a campaign to educate the public that "this is our city

and it is our responsibility to keep it clean."

"People have gotten into the habit of putting their garbage out on Saturday night, even though it isn't picked up until Sunday at midnight," he added. "The garbage sits on the curb for 48 hours. If there's a wind storm, the litter blows all over the place, and if there's rain, it runs into the catch basins and we get flooded."

VanWie cited a city ordinance that requires garbage to be put out after 9 p.m. and no later than midnight on Sunday,

and it is our responsibility to keep it clean."

"All I'm asking is that the public follow the rules," he said. "We'll hand out summaries if we have to, but I would rather have the public cooperate than have to threaten them with fines."

VanWie pointed out that city law also prohibits the sweeping of litter into roadways and gutters.

"Many people sweep their garbage out into the street and leave it there," he noted. "They should pick it up and put it into a receptacle. Also, they shouldn't

put anything into the catch basins besides water. Some people spill paint into the catch basins besides water. Some people spill paint and oil into the sewers, clogging them."

VanWie plans to enlist all of the city's schoolchildren in his clean-up campaign.

"If we can get all of the children to work as a team, we can see results," he said. "They can tell their parents, and soon everybody will be helping to clean up Hoboken."

Photo exhibit in Hoboken

Hopoghan, Hoboken's first photography gallery, will present the works of Leni Calabrese, Joseph Chanin, Barbara Dockor, Rohn Finard, Pamela J. Landau and Michael J. Musante at its inaugural exhibition, beginning Feb. 25. The gallery is the brainchild of two local photographers, Kathleen Eckley and John Mamm, and is devoted entirely to photography. Work will not only be displayed there but an environment will be provided where photographers can discover and exchange new ideas. The six participants in the group show are all from Hoboken. The show will encompass diverse styles and subject matter, in both color and black and white. The show will run through April 4 and the gallery will be open from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. It is located at 82 Hudson St.