

# Vezzetti shaking up City Hall

by Margaret Schmidt

## Administration unveils reorganization plan

Hoboken's new administration has unveiled a reorganization plan they believe will be more efficient and cost-effective.

While eliminating two directorships and decreasing the mayor's salary, the plan also calls for some new jobs and some salary raises.

Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for Mayor Tom Vezzetti and new executive assistant, said the changes balance out to keep the budget the same. Savings will come through attrition as retiring employees are not replaced, she said.

The plan was devised primarily by Fabiano, Annette Illing and Gerard Costa, Fabiano said,

and was the result of Vezzetti's calls for streamlined government. Vezzetti was not involved in drawing up the plan, but reviewed it, she said.

Edwin Chius, business administrator under former Mayor Steve Cappiello, said the plan seemed feasible. He met with Fabiano several times to help the transition.

The changes will have to be put to the council. Amendments to the budget must be approved before most of the plans can begin.

Under the new government, the city would have three key

directors: community development, business administrator and public works. The only other department head would be the city attorney.

There are six directors under the current municipal plan.

The two positions to be abolished are public safety and revenue and finance. The public works director will replace the current title of director of environmental services and facilities.

Woeckner, new city attorney, the Vezzetti administration hasn't named department directors. About 25 persons have sent resumes for the business administrator spot, and five are being interviewed for public

The reorganization would also move health, welfare and recreation from environmental services to the business administrator. Aside from Fred

Woeckner, new city attorney, the Vezzetti administration hasn't named department directors.

About 25 persons have sent resumes for the business administrator spot, and five are being interviewed for public

works, Fabiano said. She was unaware that progress had been made in finding a director for community development. The persons taking the three posts may get raises from the current salaries, she added. The increases would be incentives for highly qualified people to take the jobs.

New positions to be put before the council are Fabiano's executive assistant post, a mayoral aide and an assistant for the new rent levelling officer.

New clerks and secretarial

jobs will be filled by transferring current workers. Figures on the changes will be available in about two weeks.

Fabiano said, noting that Vezzetti has yet to appoint a business administrator. Chius will stay on until July 12, she added, and an interim administrator will be assigned if the appointment isn't ready by then.

Preliminary figures show the following decreases: the mayor's salary is slated to drop from \$42,350 to \$35,000; the public safety director's salary was \$37,620, and the revenue and finance director's salary was \$34,200.

The increases are:

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Fabiano's job with a salary range of \$30,000 to \$38,000; mayor's aide, a post for Vezzetti supporter Michael Acquaviva, with a salary range of \$1 to \$5,400; public works director, \$32,000, with a possible raise; a change in the rent levelling officer's salary from \$17,500 to a

possible \$15,000 to \$22,000 when Lourdes Arroyo takes over; possible raise of the business administrator's \$42,882, and a salary for Luigi Percontino, to be named to the new post of assistant to the rent levelling officer.

In a related development, Woeckner has named four of

the five assistant attorneys. Tom Galligly and Ross London will remain in the department and Frank Marciano and Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. will join, he said. A final assistant, who may also serve as prosecutor in municipal court, should be named by next week. Woeckner is also seeking to

have city attorneys represent the rent control board, parking authority and housing authority. The positions are currently given to private consultants.

Woeckner said once he gathers financial evidence to support the change, he will ask the mayor and council to eliminate the consultants.

### Council backs new mayor

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken City Council in its first organizational meeting Tuesday night approved the new mayor's proposals by at least a five-member majority.

It also approved Vezzetti's choices to fill two vacancies on the nine-member body. Councilwoman Mary Francome, formerly a staunch supporter of ex-Mayor Steve Cappiello, proved to be the deciding vote as she swung toward Vezzetti.

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Admiring crowd displays the V-for-Vezetti and V-for-Vezetti sign.

## Faulty regulator blamed for seven main breaks

By Paul Ciolery

Water woes continued for Hoboken residents yesterday when the seventh water main to rupture in eight days disrupted service to the surrounding area of Park Avenue and 14th Street.

There was no report of how many customers were affected. However, water was still shut off last night along 14th Street from Park Avenue to Washington Street, city officials said.

City spokesperson Laurie Fabiano said a water pressure regulation problem was the cause of all seven breaks. She said water pressure in the lines has been reduced until the regulator at the water pumping station in Jersey City is fixed. "Until it is fixed, we will have

someone constantly monitoring the system," Fabiano said.

She said parts needed to fix the regulator have been ordered and the equipment should be repaired by Thursday.

Fabiano said she was unsure how much all of the breaks have cost the city. "We're still adding that up," she said. Fabiano said that Department of Public Works supervisors will begin tabulating all of the overtime hours they approved after all of the breaks are repaired.

She said she did not know if the city will attempt to recoup some of the money from Jersey City since it was that city's regulator that caused the problem. Hoboken and Jersey City get their water from the same reservoirs and use many of the same pipes and pumps.

The first in the series of breaks was last Tuesday at Seventh and Clinton streets. Two Department of Public Works employees, supervisor Roy Haack and crew chief Fred Moret, were injured when the street collapsed on them while they surveyed damage to the water main. Neither man was seriously injured although they both required brief hospitalization.

Along with the breaks at Park Avenue and 14th Street, and Seventh and Clinton Streets, water mains also ruptured at: First Street between Willow and Clinton; at Seventh and Washington streets; at Ninth and Washington streets; at 10th Street between Park Avenue and Willow Avenue and at Seventh and Park, Fabiano said.

## Vezzetti names group to study CDA operation

Housing consultant Michael Coleman will head a transition team evaluating the Hoboken Community Development Agency.

Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for new Mayor Tom Vezzetti, said Coleman and the group will study the CDA structure and evaluate its program.

No new director has been named to head the agency.

## Hoboken passes 60-day building moratorium to slow development

By Margaret Schmidt

A two-month building ban may go into effect in Hoboken next month.

An ordinance to stop the issuance of building permits to developers constructing or rehabilitating more than three residential units could become law Aug. 6.

The City Council voted to introduce the measure at Wednesday's meeting and will vote to approve or disapprove it July 17. If approved and signed by Mayor Tom Vezzetti, it would become law 20 days later.

The moratorium is designed to slow development and give the city a chance to devise ways to halt displacement of the poor and middle classes and to establish a trust fund for affordable housing.

It will also give officials an opportunity to study the effects of development on the city's infrastructure.

The compromise measure was introduced by Councilman Pat Pasculli and seconded by Councilman Joseph DellaFave, said City Clerk James Farina.

It called for a 60-day ban because it was determined a longer moratorium may not be legal, said new city attorney Fred Woeckner.

Vezzetti, Second Ward councilman until his inauguration July 1, and Pasculli had fought the shorter bans proposed in the last two months and submitted ordinances calling for 120- and 180-day bans.

A moratorium was originally proposed in May by then-Mayor Steve Cappiello. It called for a

45-day halt on the issuance of building permits. In two months, several ordinances for varying time spans have been proposed but none has been introduced. Each has been tabled for 30-day study periods.

Apparently no research on the housing policies has started. In a related development, city construction code official Al Arezzo said last week that the number of building permits requested has greatly increased since the May 14 election in which Cappiello and Vezzetti took the most votes and headed into a runoff.

They steadily increased through the June 1 runoff and reportedly peaked July 1, when Vezzetti took office.

No figures were available as the requests have been so great

that paperwork has fallen behind, Arezzo said.

He attributed the increase to developers being unsure of what actions Vezzetti will take. The new mayor campaigned on a platform that displacement must stop. He blamed the situation on developers using loopholes and illegal tactics to "rape the city."

The housing boom in Hoboken has often been blamed for escalating rents and market values. Loopholes in the old rent control law were most often pinpointed.

Vezzetti, when asked about the increase in building permits, said he isn't against development but he believes it should be carried on so that Hoboken residents can stay in their city and not be forced out by greed.

## Broken meter pleas may not 'fix' tickets

By Paul Ciolery

Although notations on the top of parking tickets read that parking meters were operable when citations were issued for overtime parking, letters have been sent by the Hoboken Parking Authority to Municipal Court asking that the tickets be dismissed because the meters were not working.

None of the tickets have yet been adjudicated, according to court records, and Municipal Judge Peter Giordano could not be reached for comment.

Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the parking authority, was at a loss to explain how the "error" could have occurred.

He said the writing on the top of the ticket was that of one of his employees, Dennis Haggerty, but that the wrong letter apparently had been sent to the court. The letters were signed by Hottendorf.

An exact number of how many such mistakes were made was not available. But, sources at City Hall, who provided photocopies of the tickets and

letters, said there were two to three dozen letters and tickets. "I don't know how it could have happened. To tell the truth, I don't read the letters. I just sign them," Hottendorf said.

"We obviously made an error. I don't know if the wrong letter was typed or if the wrong information was written on the ticket," Hottendorf said.

All of the letters in question were written more than one month ago and Hottendorf said a new procedure for checking citizens' meter complaints and reporting them to municipal

court has been put in place and said he believes the system will clarify the confusion.

He said whenever a motorist complains about one of the city's 804 parking meters, a repairman is sent to check the meter. If the repairman finds the meter is not working, it is noted on a form which is then sent with the ticket to Municipal Court.

The month-old procedure is not very much different from the way the authority has documented meter repair since

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## 4th main breaks in Hoboken

By Paul Ciolery

Another water main ruptured in Hoboken yesterday, the fourth since Wednesday, interrupting water service to residents between Eighth and Ninth streets along Washington Street.

The other breaks occurred Wednesday at Seventh and Washington, First and Clinton, Seventh and Clinton. Two city employees were injured repairing the break at Seventh and Clinton.

Department of Public Works Supervisor Roy Haack suffered leg and shoulder injuries and crew chief Fred Moret had a leg injury Wednesday when a portion of Clinton Street, near Seventh Street, collapsed. Moret was working underground on a pipe when the street where Haack was standing fell on Moret.

City crews were working to repair the breaks yesterday. It was not known when water would be restored to the residents near the Ninth and Washington street break.

### Broken meters

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1975. A separate sheet of paper now tells the court exactly what was previously written on the top of the ticket.

Hottendorf said he was unaware of the contradiction in his correspondence and that he had not been notified of it by Municipal Court. "They never call me. I get my information from the media," he said.

## Hoboken council will meet P.A. in closed session

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken City Council will meet with the Port Authority in a closed meeting July 30 to discuss the proposed \$800 million redevelopment of the city's waterfront.

Officials said the meeting must be closed to the public because real estate acquisitions and financial negotiations will be discussed.

It couldn't be held in open and then closed sessions, they added, although some of the aspects to be discussed seem general enough to warrant opening according to New Jersey's sunshine law.

"It's all tied together," said al Samperi, assistant director or economic development at the Port Authority. He added that trying to separate topics into closed and public sessions could lead to "distorted" discussions.

The nine members of the City Council requested that the Port Authority sit down with them for an update on the redevelopment and passed a

resolution that the meetings be closed to the public.

Although the resolution refers to "the acquisition of real estate" as a main purpose of the meeting, most officials questioned said they believe the session will be a "briefing" of the council, particularly for the three new members who began their terms July 1.

Mayor Tom Vezzetti, who as Second Ward councilman constantly called the Port Authority negotiations "secret" and criticized what he considered being "kept in the dark," will also attend the meeting.

Samperi said he understands the P.A. will give the council a general overview of the project, tentative schedules, what work has to be done before construction begins and where the city and the Authority stand in negotiations.

Councilman Pat Pasculli agreed that the meeting will include an update and said informational meetings for the public

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## Hoboken council will meet P.A. in closed session

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will be scheduled.

Meanwhile, Council President E. Norman Wilson, who represents the Fifth Ward, said the meeting will also include a discussion of the Department of Agriculture building on the piers. The city owns most of the property slated for the redevelopment, and the Agriculture building — where officials had tested incoming fruits and vegetables — is in the middle of it.

According to the state Open Public Meeting Act — the so-called Sunshine Law — public bodies may only meet in closed sessions to discuss several defined areas. Include in them are matters involved the

purchase, lease or acquisition of property with public funds and the investment of public funds when disclosure could adversely affect the public interest.

It also mandates that the public body indicates when the discussions will be disclosed. The resolution permitting the meeting said the information will be made public "as soon as practicable and in the best interests of the citizens of Hoboken."

The Port Authority has proposed redeveloping the now-idle Hudson River waterfront to include an office complex, marina, park space, parking, about 1,500 units of housing, a research and development center and arts facilities.

## Vezzetti to create seven advisory boards

HOBOKEN—A total of seven new citizen advisory boards will be established under the administration of Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti, his top spokeswoman said yesterday.

There will be separate boards to deal with the municipal budget, recreation, culture, economic development, housing, children and youth, and civic pride, according to Laurie Fabiano, executive assistant to Vezzetti.

The boards, consisting of between nine and 15 members, will

determine the needs of the community and assess the performance of city government in those seven areas, Fabiano said.

The boards also can recommend changes in both policy and staffing of various government agencies. The members will serve on a volunteer basis, she said.

Vezzetti, who defeated Mayor Steve Cappiello in last month's mayoral runoff, often complained of the lack of citizen review committees when he was a 2nd Ward councilman. — Brad Kelly

## Non-nuke firm didn't bid on police radios

By Paul Ciolery

A communications company that already has a service contract with the City of Hoboken would have been eligible for a contract that is now being held up because the low bidder manufactures parts for nuclear weapons.

However, the company, Tactel of Jersey City, did not bid for the estimated \$18,000 contract to upgrade the Police Department's radio system, said

Tom Hall, company representative.

A 1984 ordinance prohibits the city from doing business with any company even remotely involved with nuclear weapons. City Business Administrator Ed Chius said the bids from Motorola and General Electric, both defense contractors, were rejected and that the city will have to rebid the open-ended contract for unit prices of

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radio base stations and accessories.

Chius said that, when the city readvertises for bids, the specifications will include information on the city's anti-nuclear ordinance.

Hall said Tactel was not aware that the bids had been advertised and may bid when it is readvertised. Tactel is not involved with the manufacture of nuclear items.

The city's police radio system needs upgrading because there often is interference on the airways, blocking emergency and other communication. The interference often comes from as far as Bridgeport, Conn., police officials said.

Thomas Meehan, president of the Hoboken Police Benevolent Association, said the

radio situation is "distracting and dangerous." He said the system has "dead spots" where radio transmission is not possible from certain sections of the city.

Hall said he has made recommendations to the city during the past year about ways to improve the power of the radios. He said the radio room should be moved closer to the antenna because "large amounts of power are being lost in that long cable." He also suggested a tone system for the radios so that interference from other cities will be blocked out when Hoboken needs to use the radio.

He said that, with what he called a "private line" tone system, priority would be given to the closest and strongest radio, therefore, Hoboken and other cities would not "step on" each other's communications.



## Cappiello, in effigy, present at inaugural

By Margaret Schmidt

Steve Cappiello attended the inauguration of Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezetti yesterday — well, sort of.

A tenant group of women from a newly formed 11th Street Organization made a papier mache effigy of the cigar-smoking former mayor and brought it to ceremonies on the Hudson River waterfront after parading it along Willow Avenue and Washington Street.

"This is Cappiello saying goodbye," said Vezetti-supporter Yvonne Izzi as she pointed to a black bag the effigy carried.

Izzi, Maria Marraro and sisters Carmen and Martha Sierra pooled their talents to make the effigy and hoped to get some response on inauguration day.

Some people smiled, Izzi said, and others looked away.

One Vezetti supporter said he thought the idea was "tacky." Cappiello, who ended 12 years as mayor yesterday, was absent from both daytime and evening ceremonies in which Vezetti took his oath of office, first from City Clerk James Farina and then from Gov. Thomas Kean.

He was on hand, however, for the inauguration of Jersey City Mayor Anthony Cucci. Cappiello, a former county freeholder, had supported Cucci in the battle against their common political enemy, former Jersey City Mayor Gerald McCann.



A proud Tom Vezetti displays the first promise he kept as mayor of Hoboken. After swearing-in ceremonies at City Hall, Vezetti received the sign as a gift. While campaigning he promised to change the sign around the clock at the City Hall entrance from "Welcome to Our City Hall" to "Welcome to Your City Hall."

Photo by Woody Manning

## Sky sign: 'Congratulations Tommy'

By Paul Clery

Two rock bands, a swing group and a salsa-reggae band filled Pier A with music before and after Tom Vezetti was sworn in as mayor of Hoboken last night.

The diversity of the bands' music perhaps mirrored the more than 2,500 supporters of Vezetti who jammed the pier to see Gov. Thomas Kean swear in the man who won the office on June 11 by a slim 341 votes over a three-term incumbent.

There were the haves and the have-nots in the crowd. Also, as Rabbi Jeff Marker of the United Synagogue of Hoboken remarked during his invocation, the crowd had "believers, the non-believers and those who are not sure."

One thing they all had was their new mayor, Vezetti. Vezetti, the man who campaigned

tirelessly with a bullhorn on Washington Street.

The election was a battle and it ended, as the governor pointed out, 122 years to the day that the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War began. It too was the turning point, he said, as yesterday was a turning point for Hoboken.

Kean said the election was a victory for the people and for affordable housing because former Mayor Steve Cappiello, "the last mayor — he forgot" about the people.

When he addressed the crowd, Kean's first words were: "Mayor Tom Vezetti. I like the sound of that."

The crowd cheered.

There would be much cheering this night, for the battle had been long and the lone survivor of the Cappiello years, Councilman Robert Ranieri, was having his party a few blocks away, away from those he had battled

throughout the election fight.

Larry Blaustein knew this was going to be a party. He left his Manhattan job early to get a front row seat. He arrived about 5 p.m., he said, for a celebration that began shortly before 7 p.m.

Then the governor swore in Vezetti. The new mayor's brother, Robert, held the Bible. Then Vezetti spoke to his people, one of whom was holding a Cappiello puppet above the crowd.

"Welcome to your new government," he cried out over the loudspeakers. "Thank you for sharing this incredible moment in my life. Your love and support boggles my mind."

A small plane flew overhead with a trailer: "Congratulations Tommy."

The 57-year-old mayor spoke of his lifetime in Hoboken, the good times of the busy piers and of the industries that had closed. But now, Hoboken, his city, was

"now in the midst of an uprising that many of us have been left out of."

Vezetti said that those who had been left out were the ones who elected him, "an honest man in a corruptible profession."

He said the campaign had been the most exhausting task of his life and that, through it all, he had not been perfect. "But we always landed on our feet because we are honest people," he said, as a New York City fireboat jetted plumes of red, white and blue water into the air from a few feet out in the Hudson River.

Vezetti echoed the governor in that now is the time for the city to put the battle behind it. "Now is the time to heal the wounds of this very long campaign. I take my oath of office very seriously."

He ended the talk and embarked on his term by reaffirming something that he continually told the electorate during the campaign.

"Remember, please. It's always a pleasure."



The new Vezetti bloc on the Hoboken council embraces Mayor Tom Vezetti, second from left. The council members are, from left, Councilwoman-at-Large Helen Cunniff; Councilman-at-Large Pat Pasculli; Second Ward Councilman Joseph DeLaFave; and Sixth Ward Councilman Angelo Valente.

Photo by Woody Manning

## Kean vows his 'full and wholehearted support' during the Hoboken inaugural

By Margaret Schmidt

Gov. Thomas Kean pledged yesterday to support Hoboken's new mayor, Tom Vezetti.

"You have my full and wholehearted support in the tasks ahead," he told Vezetti and about 2,500 spectators during swearing-in ceremonies on Pier A of the Hoboken waterfront.

Before he administered Vezetti's oath of office, Kean, a Republican seeking re-election in November, stressed that development must be undertaken with compassion.

Vezetti, who said he considers himself an Adlai Stevenson Democrat, had used the same tack in his campaign for mayor. He was elected June 11 in a runoff against three-term Mayor Steve Cappiello during whose administration the city saw a growth in housing and at-

tendant gentrification.

Kean and Vezetti are to meet next week to discuss state programs that may help Hoboken, said Angelo Valente, a Vezetti supporter, close to Kean, who is a political consultant to the New Jersey State Republican Committee. He was appointed interim Sixth Ward councilman yesterday to fill the term of seat of Vezetti's running mate Pat Pasculli who was elected councilman-at-large.

Vezetti hasn't endorsed either Kean or Democratic gubernatorial candidate Peter Shapiro.

Robert Ranieri, the only successful candidate on Cappiello's ticket and a Democratic assemblyman seeking re-election, has endorsed Shap-  
Ranieri said he expected Shap-  
ro to swear him in, but Shap-  
ro said he couldn't make it because of family obligations.

## Residents of Kearny, seeking Kean's help, protest outside rites

By Paul Clery

Kearny residents protested outside the Hoboken inauguration festivities yesterday in hopes that Gov. Thomas Kean, on hand to swear in Tom Vezetti as mayor, would help stop the storing of radioactive material at a Kearny landfill.

"The governor would not come to us so we are coming to him," said Eileen DeRay.

The seven protesters were not permitted on the pier but protested outside the fence. Kean said he had not seen the protest.

Group leader Margaret

Hallaway said radon, which is being trucked in from Essex County, will be stored at least until the end of the year at Second Street and Central Avenue.

"It's destroying our little town. Nobody wants to develop in Kearny now," she said.

Kean said radon is being safely stored in drums and will be moved to Washington state.

"We're paying a lot of money to have it stored in Washington."

He said that, as long as the radon stays in the drums, it is safe. Hallaway said the potential for problems is great. "We already have three garbage dumps. Now we have this."



Gov. Thomas Kean, left, congratulates Hoboken's new mayor, Tom Vezetti, before administering the oath of office at inauguration ceremonies on Pier A last night.

Photo by Woody Manning



Hoboken Councilman-at-Large Robert Ranieri takes the oath of office yesterday from City Clerk James Farina as wife, Ellen and son, Robert Jr., hold the Bible. The swearing-in ceremonies were before a standing-room-only crowd at City Hall.

Photo by Woody Manning

## Office building given approval

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken Planning Board has granted preliminary approval to an eight-story office building planned for the waterfront.

Plans for the building at 2 Hudson Place were approved on the condition that developers Gerald Baker et al and an adjoining property owner work out an agreement. The neighbor has complained that an eight-story building will block sunlight to a \$50,000 rooftop greenhouse he installed, said Michael Ocello, board chairman.

The office building recently gained the approval of the city's Historic District Commission.

The design has been scaled down to fit into the historic district. Whereas it was originally going to be 11 stories with smoked glass and a three-story arcade, its appearance will now be more conventional with brickface and no arcade.

It is, however, three stories higher than permitted, officials said.

The board has asked for written communication from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey that the plans will fit in with the P.A.'s proposed \$600 million waterfront development.

In other business, newly appointed member John Grotto joined the board, Ocello said. Grotto, who had been an alternate but never showed last year, was appointed last month by then-Mayor Steve Cappiello, the chairman added.

The board also discussed planned revisions of the city's master plan and may have a final draft ready for the City Council by September, Ocello said.

The revisions are being drawn by the consultant Ralph Salomon.

## Hoboken official punished on tickets

By TOM DIPIAZZA

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Parking Authority Director Joseph Hottendorf will be suspended without pay for two weeks for showing a lack of good judgment in his handling of parking tickets he and a friend received.

A special meeting of the authority was held last night to review the possible mishandling of parking tickets by Hottendorf or other authority employees. John B. Muciaccia, acting chairman of the authority, said four commissioners met for 2½ hours before reaching a consensus.

"We determined that Joseph Hottendorf had done nothing unlawful," Muciaccia said. "But we felt that certain things he had done showed a certain degree of a lack of judgment and imprudence and were perhaps unwise."

The commissioners also decided to review the "scope and authority of the position of executive director," and the communications between the director and the Municipal Court.

The special meeting was called after The Dispatch reported that Hottendorf and a friend were parking their cars at 14th and Hudson streets, where no parking signs were posted. The tickets received for the apparent violations were forwarded to Municipal Court with an attached letter from Hottendorf explaining that the tickets were void because the signs had been posted illegally.

Hottendorf attended last night's meeting, according to Muciaccia. The director presented documentation to show that the no-parking signs on the two streets never were properly approved, Muciaccia said.

The commissioners last night also considered the discovery in May by Municipal Court Judge Peter Giordano that 167 parking tickets had been voided improperly by authority employees. Hottendorf could not be reached for comment last night.

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## TICKETS

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night. The suspension is to take effect Aug. 14, Muciaccia said.

Several matters now before the authority require the attention of the director, he said. He also wants to give the fifth commissioner, Chairman Richard Eversen, an opportunity to review the case. Eversen is on vacation.

The suspension will cost Hottendorf — who makes \$40,000 a year — \$1,528.

Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti called the commissioners' decision "a tap on the hand." He said he would ask the city attorney to review the case.

"The decision is a farce. It is a disgrace to the City of Hoboken," he said. "The man should be fired immediately."

Muciaccia said the executive director's authority will be reviewed, because it may be the cause of the problem which developed.

"We think that this problem began because the executive director may have gone beyond the scope of the authority of his job," he said. Most of the commissioners last night expressed the belief that the executive director should not be in a position to void tickets through correspondence with the Municipal Court, he said.

## Attorney named for rent board

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HOBOKEN—Tenant lawyer Ray Korona has been appointed attorney for the Rent Leveling Board, a mayoral spokeswoman said yesterday.

The 39-year-old Newark attorney has represented tenants in many tenant-landlord disputes in Hoboken and other Hudson County municipalities.

Earlier this year, Korona successfully argued that a \$394-a-month rent increase for a Hoboken apartment was unconscionable. Superior Court Judge Kevin G. Callahan, who heard the case in Jersey City, allowed a rent increase of \$45 a month.

Korona was also instrumental in developing an affordable housing plan for Hoboken. The proposal, submitted to former Mayor Steve Cappiello earlier this year by the Campaign for Housing Justice, a tenant-advocate organization, calls for the creation of an affordable housing trust fund to which residential developers would contribute.

Laurie Fabiano, executive assistant to Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti, said yesterday she hoped Korona will "dig in and help solve the housing problem" with other members of the administration.

Korona said he would help the administration carry out its policies of creating a pro-tenant rent control ordinance and established affordable housing.

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Commissioners voted to suspend Hottendorf for two weeks without pay for showing poor judgment in handling the parking tickets. The commissioners also determined that Hottendorf had done nothing illegal.

Hottendorf has said authority employees were only following the orders of past Municipal Court judges when they voided tickets by making notations at the top of them.

He has also said it is not his responsibility to take down no-parking signs that have been illegally posted.

## Hoboken's water main breaks traced to Jersey City

By ELIZABETH MOORE

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The string of water main breaks of the past week has been traced to a single problem — in Jersey City, the Mayor's Office said yesterday.

The Department of Public Works has traced the troubles to excessive pressure in the city's water lines

caused by a damaged regulator at the point of origin in Jersey City, said Laurie Fabiano, executive assistant to Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti.

The DPW hopes to have the damage repaired by Thursday, Fabiano said.

Hoboken purchases its water from the Jersey City Water Department, which supplies water to Jer-

sey City residents and businesses as well as those in a number of other municipalities.

The Hoboken Water Department has declared the regulator problem "an emergency situation," Fabiano said. He said repairs are being held up while replacement parts are sent for.

In the meantime, there is no

guarantee that another main somewhere in Hoboken will not burst. But DPW staff will be monitoring water pressure around the clock in an attempt to prevent further ruptures, Fabiano said.

There have been seven water main breaks since last Tuesday, three of them in a single day. Residents were forced to draw water from a city-supplied truck for up

to 24 hours when service was interrupted. The single water truck was inadequate at one point when two blocks were without service at the same time.

Two DPW employees, supervisor Roy Haack and crew chief Fred Moret, were injured Friday while repairing damage at a break at Seventh and Clinton streets.

Pressure in the Hoboken system was apparently so high that even new pipes from recent repairs to the underground system burst, Fabiano said.

No assessment has been made yet of the total cost of Hoboken's water troubles, nor is it clear who will pay for them. Haack is expected to submit a repair estimate to the city tomorrow.



## Hoboken tries to cut ticket backlog

By Paul Cleary

Failure to appear in court notices have been sent to 1,000 scofflaws who have amassed a combined total of more than 11,000 parking tickets written by Hoboken police, said violations bureau chief Marion Roland.

Those receiving the notices, about 70 percent are Hoboken residents, are ordered into court July 11.

The notices Monday are the second wave of letters in an attempt to catch up on the backlog of 300,000 unpaid parking tickets, Roland said.

A mailing of 2,500 failure to appear notices were mailed in April and resulted in the city collecting \$60,000 in fines in one month, she said. Roland said the city has not had a problem collecting fines from moving violations and driving while intoxicated suspects.

Roland said failure to respond to the notice sent Monday will result in the driving licenses being revoked.

Three full-time employees have been hired and two cash registers have been purchased to handle the expected high volume of work, she said. "We've set up a mini violations bureau on the third floor of City Hall," she said. The violations bureau main office is on the first floor of City Hall.

The letters were prepared for mailing by Computil, a Clifton company hired to begin collection on the 300,000 back tickets. Computil keeps 15 percent of the money it helps collect, she said.

## Study for firemen

Four study sessions designed to aid those who will take the Civil Service test for the Hoboken Fire Department will be held this month, according to Capt. Michael Wladich, recruitment coordinator.

The first session will be held July 10 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Hoboken High School at Ninth and Clinton Streets.

According to Wladich the class will provide information on basic test-taking tactics and those attending will have an opportunity to take practice tests. Students from Stevens Institute will also be on hand to assist with the mathematics problems.

All of the 400 people who have filed applications to take the test may attend any of the four sessions. The others are scheduled for July 18, July 22 and July 25.

## Watchdogs organize

Hoboken Alert, a new citizens watchdog group, will hold its first meeting Tuesday at 8 p.m. at St. Peter and Paul School, Fourth and Hudson streets, Hoboken. The meeting is open to the public.

Helen Manogue, who ran unsuccessfully as an independent candidate for the city council, announced election night that she planned to form a new citizens group. She had stepped down from her post as chairman of the Hoboken Environment Committee, another citizens group, to run for public office.

"There is a great need in Hoboken," said Manogue, "to provide accurate information and comment to the citizenry. Citizens not only deserve, but have a right to know the facts, undistorted by politics, so that they may participate more directly in government."

## Washington was in Turtle Club

The Turtle Club, Hoboken's oldest known club, boasted George Washington as an honorary member when it was founded in New York in 1786. Other members included Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr.

Between 1820 and 1830 the Turtle Club met monthly in shady Turtle Grove, a part of Elysian Fields. Members dined on turtle soup, rum punch, brandy, and water.

## Dickens in Hoboken

The author Charles Dickens lived in Hoboken for a short while during 1842.



Virginia Felton participates in an EKG project during a chemical engineering lab at Stevens with professor Don DeWitt.

## Women's program gets national attention for Stevens Institute

By Pat Donnelly

Eight years ago when Stevens Institute of Technology instituted its Women in Engineering program it was considered a trend setter in encouraging equal opportunities in a traditionally male field.

Today, the summer program for female high school seniors has grown to an enrollment of 165, with students from all over the country.

Divided into groups of approximately 40 students, they live on campus for a week while they attend lectures, participate in laboratory work and go on field trips. All of the activities are designed to give the young women a look into various types of engineering.

According to Doris Lunghard, the school's assistant director of women's programs, the students selected for the summer program have all demonstrated an unusually high aptitude in math and science, which makes them likely candidates for the field of engineering.

Among the scheduled activities, the group participates in eight laboratory sessions in engineering, computer science and management science and attends a panel discussion. Encounters in the dorm and their interaction with other engineering students on campus is also considered a valuable part of the summer school program, said Lunghard.

"It's given me a great overview of engineering," said St. Dominic Academy



Professor Don DeWitt reviews a problem at the blackboard with Denise Zdevarsk and Neeta Dharwan, participants in the Women in Engineering seminar.

senior Candice Alfaro of Bayonne. "I never really understood before what they (engineers) do or how they contribute to society."

Sandra Iannotti of Syoset, Long Island, said that she had spent the week investigating the various types of engineering. "I haven't made up my mind yet about which field I'll choose, but I know my decision will be easier and more knowledgeable."

Ann Howlett of Bridgewater was particularly impressed by the engineering students she met at Stevens. Their first hand knowledge of

the engineering programs at various schools will contribute to the decision in selecting a college next year. Lunghard said that the school has kept some statistics on the participants since its inception eight years ago. Ten percent of the Women in Engineering participants have entered related fields including math and computer science but the great majority, 75 percent, have pursued college degrees in engineering.

The Stevens program is supported by a tuition fee and by grants from eighteen corporations.

## Cocaine, numbers raids snare ten

By Paul Cleary

Ten people were arrested for cocaine possession and promoting gambling Monday during simultaneous raids at two locations in Hoboken and Jersey City.

The raids culminated a two-month investigation by Hoboken police and New Jersey State Police, said Hoboken Capt. Pat Totaro. Five of the arrested were given summonses and released and five were detained, he said.

Totaro said authorities believe they have stopped a gambling ring with an annual volume of \$400,000 and a drug supply operation that sold up to \$1,000 per day of cocaine.

Summoned and released were: Felipe Vicente, 54, of 502 First St., Hoboken; Emiliano J. Rivera, 47, of 650 First St., Hoboken; Julio Vazquez, 33, of 110 Madison St., Hoboken; Juan Cumba, 53, of 76 Bloomfield St., Hoboken; and Gomez Gonzalez, 52, of 18 Erie St., Jersey City. All were charged with possession of numbers paraphernalia, Totaro said.

Arrested and detained were: Teresa Gonzalez, 29, of 211

Adams St., Hoboken; Damian Borges, 49, of 111 Madison St., Hoboken; Ramon Gonzalez, 39, of 231 Grand St., Hoboken; Carmen Tavaraz, 41, of 246 Webster Ave., Jersey City; and Julio Montanez, 55, of 902 Garden St., Hoboken.

Teresa Gonzalez was charged with possession of a small quantity of cocaine and possession of illegal lottery paraphernalia. Borges was charged with possession of four grams of cocaine. He was bailed out of Hudson County Jail after posting \$5,500 bond. Ramon Gonzalez was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell. Totaro said 19 half-ounce packages of cocaine were found in Gonzalez' possession. He also was released on \$5,500 bond.

Tavaraz and Montanez were charged with promoting gambling.

Totaro said the Aquas Buenas Social Club at 500 First St., Hoboken, has been under surveillance for two months for both numbers running and drug sales. He said officers followed one of the arrested people to El Gallito Restaurant, 45 Cole St. in Jersey City. "When he went inside we went into both places," Totaro said.

## Homeless descend on Vezzetti to claim "promised" housing

By Paul Cleary

Hoboken residents in search of apartments arrived at city hall bright and early yesterday, attempting to collect on what they say Mayor Tom Vezzetti promised them during his election campaign.

At one point, 90 people were waiting for Vezzetti.

"Nobody here knows who I have to talk to. I came here because I was told to come today by people at the Vezzetti club," said Dorothy Torres who lives with her three children cramped into the apartment of a relative.

Maria Vunic and her three children were burned out of their 223 Madison residence on May 23. She, too, said she was promised an apartment. "Welfare wants to take my children from me since we don't have a place to live," Vunic said.

And there was Antonio Candelaria Torres who arrived at the mayor's office on behalf of his partially paralyzed daughter who has a retarded child. He said Vezzetti himself

had promised the woman an apartment.

Mayor spokesperson Laurie Fabiano said "probably not" when asked about 9:30 a.m. If housing applications would be available yesterday. None were handed out. She said she was unaware of any promises concerning housing. "In the past, getting an apartment was who you were connected to," she said.

When asked if any apartments had been promised by members of the Vezzetti camp, she said, "Not to my knowledge."

She said housing is one of Vezzetti's priorities. "We are looking into the process. Hopefully we'll find problems with the process so we can something. Many of these people (those who arrived at city hall) have been on waiting lists (for subsidized housing) for years," she said.

She said the Vezzetti team is studying three possible plans of action but declined to discuss them until a plan is formulated.

## Anti-nuke group to mark Hiroshima

The Hudson County Coalition for a Nuclear Weapons Freeze will meet July 11 at 7:45 p.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Eighth and Hudson Streets, Hoboken.

Plans for the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima will be discussed, including a candlelight procession and vigil

on Hiroshima Day, August 6.

Peter Bower, a long-time peace activist and professor of geology at Columbia University, will discuss the proposed "Star Wars" defense system and present a slide show entitled "The Dream of the Impenetrable Shield."

The meeting is open to the public.

## Perry gets DPW post, \$8,000 raise

By Rose Dager

James Perry, a fourth generation Hoboken resident was appointed yesterday as the city's new director of public works. Perry replaces William Van Wie, who resigned June 28 when former Mayor Steve Capiello left office.

Perry, 36, will assume his new post the first week of September at an annual salary of \$45,000, according to mayoral executive assistant Laurie Fabiano.

Van Wie earned \$37,000 a year before he began to receive his pension last year. Since then, he had been paid only \$1 in order to remain eligible for his pension plan.

Fabiano said the city approved the \$8,000 raise when it voted to make Public Works a separate department to handle infrastructure problems including water main breaks.

"We felt we had to increase the salary in order to get the person and caliber we wanted," Fabiano explained. "There are very critical problems that need to be addressed. We need a department capable of planning for the future. Hoboken has definite infrastructure problems as evidenced by the recent water main breaks."

Mayor Tom Vezzetti approved the appointment from his bed at St. Mary Hospital Sunday night when Fabiano brought him the news Perry had accepted the position.

Fabiano said Vezzetti and city council members sought a candidate with a track record for managing engineering problems, budgets, and personnel. Four others were interviewed for the spot before Perry applied nearly three weeks ago.

Perry, who originally inquired about an ad for Hoboken business administrator, has worked for 10 years as vice president of engineering and operations for Williams Real Estate Company in Manhattan. In that capacity, he has handled operations and engineering of New York City office buildings.

A St. Peter's College business management graduate, he also attended and taught courses at New York University's Real Estate Institute. He lives in Hoboken with his wife and two children.

Perry said his "loyalty as a lifelong Hoboken resident" led him to apply for business administrator before being considered for public works director.

"I was pleased Hoboken was soliciting responses for professionals rather than concentrating on political appointees," Perry said. "I'm glad we've gone beyond the normal routine."

Perry's parents, William and Mary, have been active in city government. His father is employed at Washington Savings Bank, while his mother has served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Hoboken Environment Committee, and Capiello's Waterfront Advisory Committee.

## Hoboken parking ticket snafu prompts meeting

By Paul Cleary

A special meeting to discuss personnel matters has been called for Monday by the commissioners of the Hoboken Parking Authority.

Acting Chairman Dr. John B. Muciaccia said the meeting was called in the wake of local press reports concerning the possible mishandling of parking tickets by authority employees and officials.

"We are very concerned about all this," Muciaccia said.

The latest snafu to surface at the parking authority was authority Executive Director

Joseph Hottendorf sending letters to municipal court asking that valid parking tickets be dismissed.

Hottendorf signed letters that stated that a motorist claimed that a ticket was issued to their car but that the meter was broken. The letter said the motorist was correct and that the ticket should be dismissed.

However, on the tickets in question, notations that the meters were operational were written across the top.

When quizzed earlier this week about the letters and notations, Hottendorf said: "We obviously made an error. I don't know if the wrong letter was

typed or if the wrong information was written on the ticket."

He also said: "I don't know how it could have happened. To tell the truth, I don't read the letters. I just sign them."

He explained that the parking authority has several form letters, including letters that ask that tickets be dismissed and letters upholding the contention of the citation.

Other press reports concerning the parking authority showed a pattern of tickets of well known citizens having tickets dismissed, parking in the same illegal space only to receive another ticket and having that dismissed, too.

## Final Hoboken attorney named to fill Law Department roster

Hoboken attorney Steven Zamrin has been appointed to the city's Law Department.

Zamrin, who has represented the Marineview Plaza Tenants Association in several battles with the state Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, will be an assistant attorney and prosecutor in

municipal court, said City Attorney Fred Woekener.

Also, Woekener has recommended to Mayor Tom Vezzetti that Zamrin be named attorney to the Rent Control Board.

Vezzetti, who became mayor July 1, stressed rent control in his campaign against three-term Mayor Steve Capiello. He promised to

strengthen the current rent control law and to work toward ending abuses through which tenants are illegally evicted.

The city Law Department is complete with Zamrin's appointment. The other assistant attorneys are Thomas Calligy, Rose London, Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. and Frank Marciano.



# Naming of CDA director is first test of Vezzetti promise to cut the "Bull"

By Margaret Schmidt

When Tom Vezzetti campaigned for mayor of Hoboken, he promised his new government would provide more and better services and be more responsive to the needs of city residents.

He pledged to cut out politics — "the bullcrap," as he likes to say — and get down to good government.

Perhaps the most telling test of his word will come when key directors are named, particularly the director of the Community Development Agency.

In office more than a week, Vezzetti has yet to name a CDA head, business administrator or public works director. He and supporters say the delay — in comparison to other administrations that make top appointments on inauguration day — is due to a genuine search for competent people.

Others fear it's due to political infighting and a lack of qualified candidates.

The CDA post seems furthest from being filled, officials said, noting its importance to the city.

"There's no deadline for this," said Gerard Costa, a member of Vezzetti's transition team. "It will take as long as it takes."

Councilman Joseph DellaFave, head of the CDA subcommittee on the transition team, added that he hopes some guidelines will be set up by the end of this week as to what kind of person is wanted, what will be done between directors and when someone will be named.

The CDA is somewhat separate from city administration in that its budget comes mostly from grants. Operating expenses are paid through that budget rather than from the municipal budget.

A child of federal Community Development funding, the CDA has a wide range of programs taking in housing, economic development and recreation, for example. It is also involved in planning the redevelopment of the Hoboken waterfront.

The range permits the office to have a substantial impact on the city in areas from day care to senior citizens and park repairs to affordable housing.

"It's extremely important," Vezzetti said. "Through it we can get the money to help us change the city around."

The proposed 1985-86 CDA budget is \$1.5 million. Current Director Fred Bado said there is also about \$2 million available that was committed to Hoboken over the years but unspent.

Other funding sources could match the \$1.5 million, he added. "It's a year-to-year thing," he said, explaining that funding can go up or down according to available grants and according to needs. For example, a one-time project, such as the planned restructuring of several roads in the northwest section of the city, gets one-time funding.

Bado, head of the agency under former Mayor Steve Cappiello, described his job as having three components — administration, planning and supervision.

The director, in his administrative role, must look over the fiscal mechanism and management procedures, deal with audits, monitor programs and collect data, he said. In the planning role, he must identify problems and create solutions according to available funding. Finally, he must supervise the 20-member staff that works out of 124 Grand St. and oversee programs.

The qualifications a person needs to run the CDA are unclear.

Bado, a lawyer, said that most community development directors have at least college degrees, and some have advanced degrees, in urban planning, public administration or economics. Some are architects, he added.

DellaFave, having studied the CDA as the subcommittee head, noted that the team hasn't clarified all of the qualifications yet but the director may not need as much technical background as he had originally thought.

In terms of personality, however, the candidate must be a "spirited professional who is in tune philosophically with the new administration."

Housing consultant Michael Coleman, who headed the agency's predecessor, Model Cities, agreed that a priority is loyalty to the mayor.

The CDA director, he said, has to be able to carry out the mayor's policies and programs. The two should have the same intentions and goals in mind.

He added that the position should be held by someone aggressive and creative who could bring a fresh spirit to the agency that some have criticized as being too laid back.

Candidates for the job seem scarce, although the subcommittee has been reluctant to divulge information and has stressed that it has gathered information but hasn't reached active recruiting yet.

DellaFave and Costa said four persons in the community have so far applied for the \$35,000-a-year job.

Most often named as possible candidates are Coleman and Vezzetti-supporter Steve Block, an educator.

Coleman said that while he is interested in working with the agency and helping it in a consulting capacity, it isn't possible for him to take over as full-time director because of his private business.

Block has indicated he wants the job. Some sources point to his closeness to Vezzetti and aggressive nature as pluses in a job that entails working within a mass state, federal guidelines. They also note his desire for reform government as a qualification for the post, particularly in creating solutions to the housing crisis.

Other sources, however, say he is too "volatile" for the directorship and would be better as second-in-command.

Bado will be leaving the job, sources said. However, it hasn't been made official yet.

"I've been told," the director said, "that absolutely no decisions have been made."

# Attempt to quash tickets leads to suspension of Hoboken parking chief

By John Petrick

Hoboken Parking Authority Executive Director Joseph Hottendorf will face a two-week suspension without pay starting Aug. 14 for showing "imprudent judgment" in some of his duties, according to parking authority members who held a special meeting last night.

The meeting was called to scrutinize reports in the press concerning Hottendorf's sending letters to the Municipal Court asking that valid parking tickets be dismissed.

"In our opinion, we have found nothing unlawful in what the executive director has done, but the consensus is that some of his decisions were unwise, imprudent and showed a lack of judgment," said Dr. John B. Muciaccia, acting chairman.

Muciaccia said there will be an immediate examination of the scope and authority of the director's position and that "procedures of communication between the executive director and Municipal Court concerning inoperable parking meters will be looked at."

He said the suspension will begin in mid-August because there are "other pending matters that need immediate attention" by the parking authority.

The members held a closed session for about two hours to examine evidence by the press and Hottendorf regarding his handling of the parking tickets. "We have taken this matter very seriously and given it great scrutiny, having wrestled with it for some two hours," the acting chairman said.

Hottendorf had signed letters stating that a motorist complained of being unfairly ticketed because the parking meter was broken. According to the letter, the motorist was correct and the ticket should be dismissed.

But on the tickets in question, notations that the meters were actually operational were written across the top.

According to other press reports, there has been a pattern of well-known citizens having tickets dismissed, then parking in the same illegal space, only to receive another ticket and having that dismissed also.

Hottendorf refused to comment on his suspension. While Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti expressed appreciation to the parking authority for looking into the matter, he had stronger words for the executive director after the meeting.

The mayor said the situation reflected "a terrible tragedy on Hoboken," and showed that the "parking authority is not doing its job correctly." He even suggested that Hottendorf be fired for his actions, adding that the parking authority's plan to evaluate the executive director's position is "asinine. They're playing games," he said. "This reflects on me and my administration, and I am really shocked by it."

Muciaccia said he could not pinpoint when the results of the evaluation would be ready.

# Hoboken shelter shut for month

H.D. 7-12-85  
HOBOKEN—About 20 homeless people will have to find a new place to sleep for the next month while a shelter here is closed for maintenance.

The shelter, operated by the Hoboken Clergy Coalition at 800 Bloomfield St., closed yesterday and is not scheduled to reopen until Aug. 19, according to Sister Norberta Hunnewink, director of the shelter.

"We need to do some fixing up, and also we just need a break," Hunnewink said.

She said the shelter staff had tried to place as many residents as possible in housing or other after shelters, but some residents did not want to go anywhere else.

The shelter is allowed by state regulations to give 50 people overnight accommodations, and it still has another 50 to 60 people a day in its soup kitchen, which also will close, Hunnewink said.

Joseph Lacovitch, executive director of the Hudson County Chapter of the American Red Cross, said the closing may put some strain on other shelters in the county.

"I would imagine there could be increased need," Lacovitch said. The Red Cross runs its own shelter system through a network of area hotels, sheltering 50 to 70 people a night, Lacovitch said.

"We run to capacity every night," he said.

There are no municipal or other government-run shelters in the county.

— Brendan Noonan

# Anti-nuke law hobbles Hoboken cops

By Paul Cleary

Some nights, when an emergency call is broadcast over the Hoboken police radio for an officer to go to a residence on "Willow," the correct "Willow" might take several hours to reach.

As it happens, there is a Willow Avenue in Bridgeport, Conn. and because of antiquated Hoboken equipment, the Connecticut calls are often picked up in Hoboken, blocking local radio signals.

To purchase new equipment and upgrade the system will not be very easy. Most major communications companies, such as Motorola — the maker of the current systems — manufacture parts for nuclear weapon guidance systems. A city ordinance enacted last year prohibits the city from doing business with corporations that even remotely participate in the nuclear arms race.

"There's no penalty for violating the ordinance. But I don't want to go against the spirit of it," acting city business administrator Ed Chius said.

Hoboken police officers have been complaining about the radios for the last few years, said Hoboken Policemen's Benevolent Association president Thomas Mathan. "A lot of static comes over the system. It blocks out the voices. It's distracting and dangerous," he said. He also said there are dead spots where radio transmission is not possible, in certain sections of the city.

Meehan said there have been instances in which police have needed assistance but radio contact was not possible because of the dead spots, static or transmissions from Connecticut. No major injuries have resulted.

He said officers have also responded to locations in Hoboken they thought had been dispatched locally but actually were for Bridgeport officers.

Police Chief George Crimmins said he is aware of the problem but does not believe that it is a dangerous situation. However, he said new radios will help with the efficiency of the department. He was unsure when the radios would be installed.

In fact, installation of the radios is almost two months behind schedule. Officers were so fed up with the system that an arbitrator was called and he agreed that a new system was needed. On Feb. 16 he ordered that the new system be installed within 90 days.

That raised another problem. There was no money in See ANTI-NUKE — Page 6.

# Anti-nuke law hobbles cops

Continued from Page 1

the budget for a new system that will cost an estimated \$18,000. On June 30 the City Council approved money for the system but now Chius says he'll have to reauthorize for bids because of the nuclear-free zone restriction. The ordinance states that the city "shall not do business or award any municipal contract to any person, firm, or organization engaged in the production of nuclear weapons or components."

Chius said future advertisements for bids will include information on the nuclear-free zone and its restrictions.

# Vezzetti's condition better

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti, who was hospitalized Friday after his doctor discovered an irregular heartbeat during a routine physical examination, is "doing very well, making progress and improving every day," according to an official of St. Mary Hospital.

Dr. Richard Hermann, Vezzetti's physician, said Friday that Vezzetti's irregular heartbeat may have been caused by stress.

After a long, strenuous campaign, the mayor's term began July 1. "What he needed most was rest," Sister Felicitas said, adding that it is likely Vezzetti will be released in a week, as originally expected.

# Hoboken seeking cost estimate of revaluation

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken officials are seeking cost estimates of a revaluation update as they work to meet a July 16 deadline to report to the county tax board.

Three city councilmen and the tax assessor were among officials who met with a representative of Real Properties Appraisers, a Cinnaminson, N.J., company that recently did a spot-check of the 1983 revaluation of Hoboken property.

The revaluation was in moratorium for nearly two years, but has been mandated by the state.

Representatives of the administration of new Mayor Tom Vezzetti met with the county tax board last Wednesday and were given two weeks to decide a course for implementing a

revaluation. Most properties are currently assessed at far below their market values in Hoboken where real estate has been booming in recent years. It isn't unusual, for example, to find a brownstone assessed at under \$20,000 selling for a quarter of a million dollars.

Charges against Landmark Appraisal Company of Perth Amboy, which did the 1983 study, led to the commissioning of Real Properties to check the results.

In a report dated May 29, Real Properties said Landmark's reassessments were equitable.

Tax Assessor Woodrow Monte has recommended that the city opt for an updating of the Landmark figures, now two years old, rather than begin a new survey that could take two to three years and cost \$500,000.

At yesterday's meeting with

Joseph Pizzoli of Real Properties, at which the representative explained the May 29 report, officials asked the company to prepare an estimate of the cost of an update.

Other estimates will be sought, said Councilman Pat Pasculli.

Also attending were Councilmen E. Norman Wilson and Angelo Valente, Deputy Assessor Frank Bucino, Tax Collector Louis Picardo and City Attorney Fred Woekener, officials said.

The meeting was closed to the public.

Many in the community fear the revaluation will increase their tax bills to a point they couldn't afford.

Some have argued, however, that the more quickly a revaluation is implemented, the less effect it will have on individual tax bills.

# Mayor meets press

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti was scheduled to meet with members of the press this morning for the first time since he was hospitalized July 12.

Although he was transferred to a regular room from the hospital's intensive care unit earlier in the week, his doctors have refused to allow

the mayor to have visitors except for family members and an occasional member of his staff.

Stressing the fact that rest is imperative in the treatment of his heart ailment, the doctors have allowed Vezzetti to meet with reporters for just 30 minutes.

# Ballot fraud charge probed

By GAIL FRIEDMAN  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Federal and state law enforcement agencies have launched a criminal probe into charges of absentee ballot fraud in the May 14 city election, a deputy attorney general confirmed yesterday.

Under an order issued nearly a month ago by Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys of Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City, copies of absentee ballots and related materials have been released to the U.S. Attorney's Office and the state Division of Criminal Justice, said David Dembe, the deputy attorney general.

He said the fraud charges had

been lodged by Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti before the city election. Vezzetti, then one of four mayoral hopefuls, had claimed voting ad dresses such as empty apartments, garages and nonresidential buildings. Also at issue is the validity of some ballots cast by voters who reportedly were ill or out of town, said Dembe.

The 800 sealed absentee votes were impounded by Joseph T. Brady, county superintendent of elections, after the May contest and have remained uncounted.

Dembe said access to the ballots was sought first by the state division, and later by the U.S. attorney, but no charges have been filed as yet. "They're both trying to decide what to do about it," he said.

The ballots might be opened for

examination, but probably will not be counted, said Dembe, because they would not change the results of the election. In the municipal race, with 12,000 votes cast, all four contenders failed to tally the 50 percent plus one vote needed to win the mayoralty outright. Vezzetti went on to defeat incumbent Steve Cappiello in the June 11 runoff.

The National Committee for Honest Elections, a voting watchdog group, last month examined a random sample of 500 ballots cast in the city election, deeming 59 fraudulent. The committee reported its findings to county, state and federal authorities.

Brady also had begun an investigation into the absentee ballot fraud allegations.

# City to reassess again

Hoboken will update its 1983 real estate revaluation program, according to Fred Woekener, law director.

Woekener issued a letter Friday to the Hudson County Board of Taxation stating that the city has decided to review an assessment made two years ago that was deemed unsatisfactory shortly after its completion.

The city hasn't decided on a company to conduct the new revaluation. Woekener said, but the money for the survey has been allocated from the 1986

budget. Woekener called the revaluation a "priority matter."

"We'd like to get this solved as soon as possible," he said. "The figures from two years ago are stale because there's been a tremendous increase in property values in residential and commercial properties."

"This updated evaluation will benefit small homeowners because commercial properties will now pick up a larger share of the tax burden."

# Vezzetti again seeks DPW chief

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti's administration again is looking for someone to head the city's Department of Public Works following James Perry's resignation a day after his appointment.

Perry, a lifelong city resident who supported Vezzetti in the municipal election, said he gave up the \$45,000-a-year position for financial reasons.

Laurie Fabiano, executive assistant to the mayor, said Perry's resignation was a surprise and a disappointment to Vezzetti.

Perry said he could not afford to give up his position as first vice president of operations and engineering for the Williams Real Estate Co. of New York City.

Perry previously had indicated he would quit the position if he was not granted a leave of absence.

# Vezzetti's condition 'greatly improved'

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti, who has been in St. Mary Hospital for about a week, is out of the intensive care unit and has improved greatly, his doctor said yesterday.

Dr. Richard Hermann of Hoboken said Vezzetti, who was sent to the hospital because of an irregular heartbeat, has responded to medication well. Hermann also said Vezzetti's heart rhythm has returned to normal. The mayor was moved out of ICU Tuesday and was placed in the Special Care Unit.

"His prognosis is good. His condition is greatly improved," Hermann said.

Vezzetti's executive assistant, Laurie Fabiano, said it is not certain when he will be released. "The problem now is trying to keep him there," she said, explaining that the recently sworn-in mayor is eager to go back to his job.

# Bishop Mahurter Shelter closing down for 'vacation'

By Margaret Schmidt

The Bishop Mahurter Shelter for the homeless in Hoboken will close today while staffers vacation. It will reopen Aug. 19.

The shelter, run by the Hoboken Clergy Coalition, is making arrangements for any persons who regularly spend their nights at the facility and desire aid, said director Sister Norberta Hunnewink.

She added she wasn't "at liberty" to discuss arrangements for the 50 to 60 people who eat dinner at the shelter each night.

Meanwhile, Mayor Tom Vezzetti said he would contact city welfare agencies to see if any measures could be taken.

The shelter, which opened in March 1983 in response to the growing plight of the city's homeless, takes in 20 men and women each night.

It operates in the basement of St. John's Church, Third and Bloomfield streets, and is open 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

The facilities include ladies' and men's rooms, each with showers, a kitchen, an eating area that becomes the sleeping area and a room for the

homeless to sit and watch television.

Although a court order prevents the facility from taking more than 20 persons in to sleep, "We feed whoever comes to the door," Sister Norberta said.

The break will be an opportunity to do some rehabilitation, such as painting, the director added, "but mostly it's just to give the staff a chance to get away."

Sister Norberta and a maintenance person work at the shelter and two supervisors are on duty each night. There are also approximately 155 volunteers a month, Sister Norberta said.

The shelter closed both the summers of 1983 and 1984. In 1983, it needed to bring the base ment up to construction codes and in 1984 it closed for repairs.

# Water main breaks dampen holiday

## Hoboken's infrastructure crumbling

By Margaret Schmidt and Blanca Quintanilla

Three water main breaks in less than a day kept Hoboken employees working into the July 4 holiday and left dozens of families still without water for hours on Wednesday.

According to a spokesman for Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, all water service was restored Wednesday night.

Two Public Works men were injured late Tuesday when part of a street collapsed as they repaired a main.

The first break was at Seventh and Clinton streets Tuesday afternoon. While Superintendent of Public Works Roy Haack and crew chief

Fred Moret worked on the line, the street collapsed, trapping them in a ditch.

Emergency crews rescued the men from the mud-filled hole and took them to St. Mary Hospital. Haack was treated for an injured right shoulder, Moret

suffered a chipped ankle bone, officials said.

Early Wednesday morning, breaks occurred at Seventh and Washington streets and at First and Clinton streets.

Water was restored to the Seventh and Clinton area by Wednesday.

Laurie Fabiano, a Vezzetti spokesman, said the area surrounding First and Clinton streets had water.

"We even had a truck with water while the crew was making repairs," she said.

Fabiano said the city had crews from the Water and Sewer

Department working at the three locations, along with a private contractor.

The aging water and sewer systems have been often denounced in recent years.

Estimates of the numbers of people affected weren't available.

Fabiano said it was just a coincidence that three water main breaks happened at the same time.



# City's YMCA plans expansion of its physical fitness operation

By Rose Duger

It's no secret that many Hoboken businesses have changed their marketing strategy to accommodate the city's newer residents. Food stores featuring pricey imported cheeses and coffees are thriving. The city's restaurants have increased in number and variety and even the corner bodegas now stock Perrier and the Village Voice.

Now another longstanding Hoboken tradition, the YMCA at 1301 Washington St., plans to respond to a decade-long fitness boom that has swelled membership and income by 40 percent. The Board of Directors has planned to embark on a \$500,000 project to convert the present weight and wrestling rooms to a modern fitness center, responding aesthetically to the adage "Spirit, Mind, Body" embossed in the tile walls surrounding the swimming pool for the last 58 years.

Still in its early planning stages, the remodeling calls for a women's athletic club with private sauna, weight room, and locker room. Men currently have similar facilities for a businessmen's club at \$245 per year, which includes private

lockers, towels, laundry service, sauna, and weights.

Women's membership, which accounted for 15 percent of total membership a decade ago, has more than tripled to make up 46 percent of current members.

"It's just phenomenal when you compare traffic here now with the way it was 10 years ago," said Wesley C. Leverich, YMCA director for 27 years. "The city's gentrification has gentrified the YMCA. Young professional people who have moved here from New York are very health and exercise conscious."

In addition to the new women's center, the 26 by 58-foot weight room will be condensed, but modernized with air conditioning installed and new carpeting covering the bare floor. Equipment for pumping iron will include the present barbell sets and a Universal machine donated by Frank Sinatra's mother 10 years ago.

The board will probably finance the reconstruction by accumulating budget reserves and organizing special donation drives, according to Leverich. The remaining funds will come from bank loans.

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Longtime Hoboken residents needn't worry that the ultra-modern facilities will change the YMCA's track record of serving the community. With annual fees set at \$160 for men and women, prices won't mirror those of more exclusive health clubs.

In addition to the pool and weight rooms, other activities

and sports offered are handball, basketball, jogging, volleyball, and boxing. Trained professionals teach organized exercise classes such as gymnastics and fitness and aerobics.

A new yoga class begins Aug. 1. Taught by Agatha Kulichuk Smith, a certified yoga instructor at the Hewitt School in New York and the Perfectly Yours Health Club in Union City, the classes are designed to tone and relax the body through simple stretching exercises. The course will run five Thursdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. and 4:30 to

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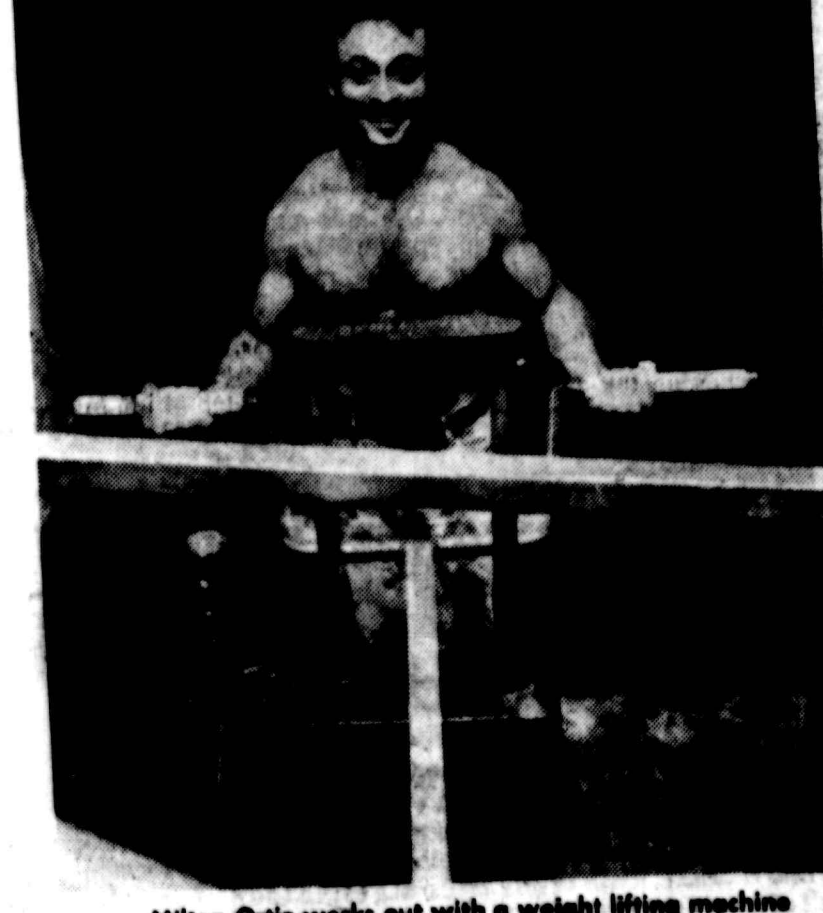
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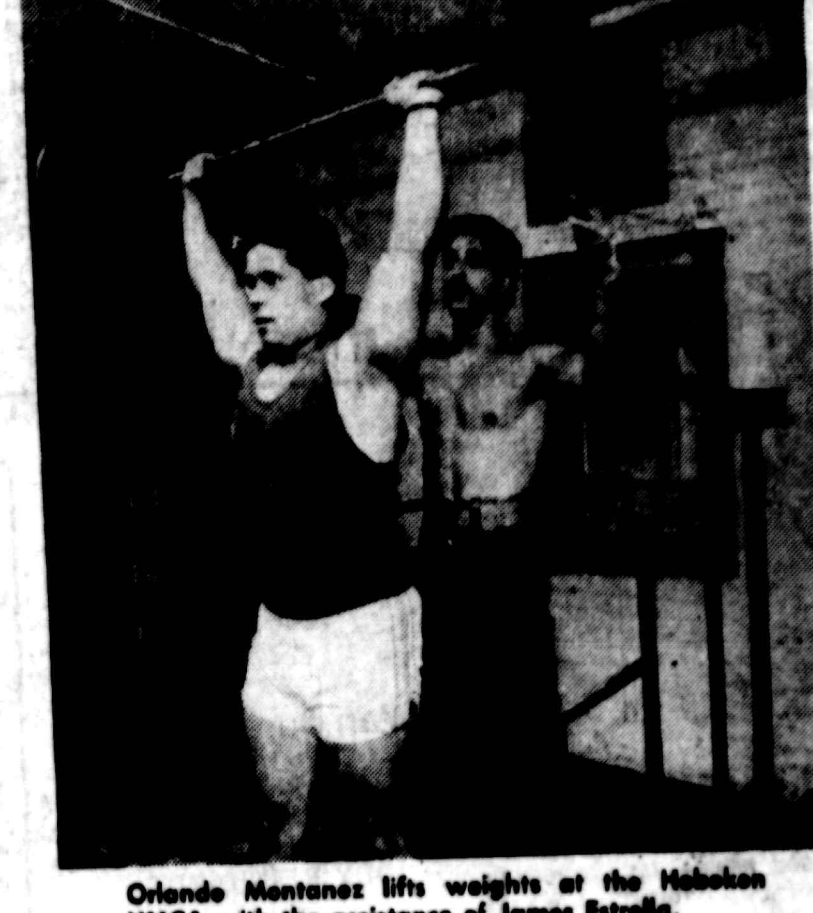
It replaced the Hudson Hut, an interim building at Hudson Square Park that served as an embarkation point for countless World War I soldiers travelling to Europe. At the war's end, a general sparked a drive to raise funds for the current Washington Street facility.



Wrestling techniques are practiced by Orlando Martinez and Joachim Baer who use the YMCA for their fitness routines.



Milton Ortiz works out with a weight lifting machine at the Washington Street facility.



Orlando Martinez lifts weights at the Hoboken YMCA with the assistance of James Estrella.

# Sculptor Blair finds Hoboken both a haven and inspiration

By Rose Duger

"I feel like I have to partake in this madness, this accelerated pace of hustle. It used to be artists gave up the world of materialism. A new car and house in the suburbs stood for things art couldn't support."

Hoboken sculptor Barry Blair, in a reflective mood, sat in the cobblestone courtyard adjacent to the Newark Street studio he shares with potter Ron Hine. His attitude toward today's art community — not bitter or critical, just striving to understand — seems to explain the nature motifs that have crept into his most recent works.

Branches, some tipped in gold, rise from pieces textured like rough rocks. Corals emerge as fossilized remnants in the stone. The natural effects emanate from Blair's favorite hobbies — escaping to a New York State retreat with his wife Maggie to read books on flowers and poetry by Walt Whitman.

"There used to be a time to find yourself, to develop your craft," he sighed. "Young artists today think if they don't make it by age 28, they're washed up."

"I just turned 40, and still feel I have time. Artists move toward the pinnacle of their

work, which comes in their 50's or beyond."

Blair's journey toward that elusive peak is marked by labor and his self-proclaimed rebellion. Battling against high school teachers who didn't understand his art talent while growing up in Clifton. Against the U.S. government, which tore him from art school to serve in the Vietnam War, although his buddies in college weren't drafted. Against a 1950's society that stressed the practical and steady jobs over the creative hit-or-miss art careers.

Through it all, he found encouragement from his father, a commercial artist who designed Hoboken's Maxwell House sign. His mother, too, attended art school, but gave up that career to raise her family.

Armed with talents culled from the best teachers at Newark School of Fine and Industrial Art and the Brooklyn Museum Art School — which he attended on a Max Beckmann Memorial Scholarship — the sculptor moved to Hoboken to etch out his career in art.

Now he draws his support from Maggie as he accepts larger commission works. He teaches at the Newark Museum Adult Arts Workshop, and creates smaller pieces for exhibitions.

His works have appeared at numerous galleries, including



These figures by Hoboken resident Barry Blair are among the sculptor's smaller works. One of his larger pieces, a 3,000-pound outdoor sculpture, is displayed at the entrance to the library at Stevens Institute of Technology.

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Several gold or multi-colored smooth pieces comprise his current Baityllos series. In mythical Greece, Blair ex-

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"I'm not finding the shipyard kind of experience here," he said, a hint of sadness tingling his voice. "That may be why I'm looking at nature . . . People see Hoboken, now as an extension of New York City, like the Upper West Side."

"But I'm not the kind of person to say I should be the last one in and shut the doors behind me. I want people to discover Hoboken just as I did in the '60's and '70's."

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Controversy also surrounded a report made by Parking Commissioner Richard England on behalf of Hottendorf. While the details of the report were not disclosed, it dealt in part with a

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Following the resignation, the Parking Authority commissioners noted their regrets over Hottendorf leaving his post after 10 years. "When Joe took this job the Parking Authority was a mess," England noted. "This

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"I'm very satisfied with the job I've done here," Hottendorf said. "This is my second job in 20 years. I cried when I left the last one, and I think I'll cry again."

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Hoboken Superintendent of Schools Dr. George Maier said yesterday that he plans to retire Dec. 31, ending a 33-year career in the school system.

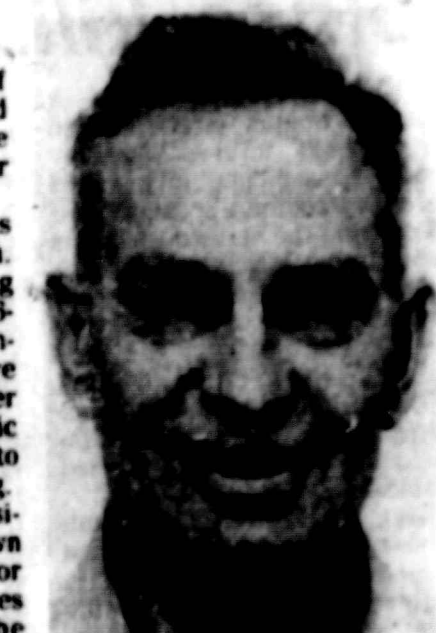
Maier cited health concerns as the reason for his decision. "As a result of the aging process, common to most 66-year-olds, my health is beginning to fail and so I plan to retire at the end of December," Maier said. He declined to be specific about his health other than to say nothing is seriously wrong.

Board of Education President John Pope was out of town and could not be reached for comment. Vice president James Monaco also could not be reached.

Mayor Thomas Vezzeiti said: "I wish George Maier a happy, healthy retirement. I look forward to seeing a competent person with vision in his position."

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## Hoboken foodmart angers neighbors

By Margaret Schmidt

The owners of a Hoboken supermarket are scheduled to appear in court Friday to answer charges that they are illegally allowing trucks to unload on Grand Street.

A summons issued July 3 by Police Officer Robert Castellano charges Foodtown allowed a delivery through the back door of the Seventh Street building, blocking the sidewalk.

The complaint was at the request of Grand Street resident Ann Olsen who has been protesting about a makeshift delivery area created during the construction of an addition to the building.

Although the complaint refers to one incident, Olsen has

a stack of photographs showing delivery vans, trucks and tractor-trailers along Grand Street.

Many of the trucks are shown double parked, thus blocking the one-way street, and others are blocking the fire hydrant on the corner. One truck is pictured facing the wrong way on the street, and most photos show crates stacked on the sidewalk.

"It's not fair to us," said Olsen, listing complaints that the trucks block traffic, take up parking spaces and create noise day and night.

She has collected 45 signatures from residents of every building from 608 to 704

See HOBOKEN — Page 9.

## Hoboken foodmart angers neighbors

Continued from Page 1

Grand St. on a petition complaining about the noise and traffic congestion. It also complains about garbage in the parking lot.

Olsen said she was particularly infuriated because the owners promised at a June 1984 Zoning Board hearing that the construction and new addition wouldn't affect the method for taking shipments.

Before the construction began, around February, Olsen said, deliveries were made to the store from its parking lot. The trucks went into the lot, unloaded and left. They didn't stand along Grand Street.

Al Arezzo, city building inspector, said last week that the loading area was obviously a violation or the police wouldn't have issued a summons. He added that the store doesn't have permission to put a garage door on the Grand Street side although the bay door would only be a larger version of the two doors now used for taking deliveries.

It is his understanding that once construction is complete, the trucks will again make deliveries from the side, he added.

Frank Camerone, chairman of the Zoning Board, said that his board could only take action if the back door deliveries continue when the construction is finished.

Meanwhile, owner Marty Vitale has requested that the City Council allow him to

put a loading bay on the Grand Street side of the building, said Thomas Vecchione, superintendent of the city's Signal and Traffic Division.

He will recommend that the council permit the trucks to unload from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, he added.

Vecchione will draw up an ordinance which will go to the state Department of Transportation for review. When the department approves the wording, Vecchione will get the paperwork back and submit it to the council for approval.

In the interim, Vecchione has had temporary "No Parking" signs posted in what he said are two legal parking spaces. However, three moderate-sized cars could fit into the space and as many as four compact cars. There are no meters.

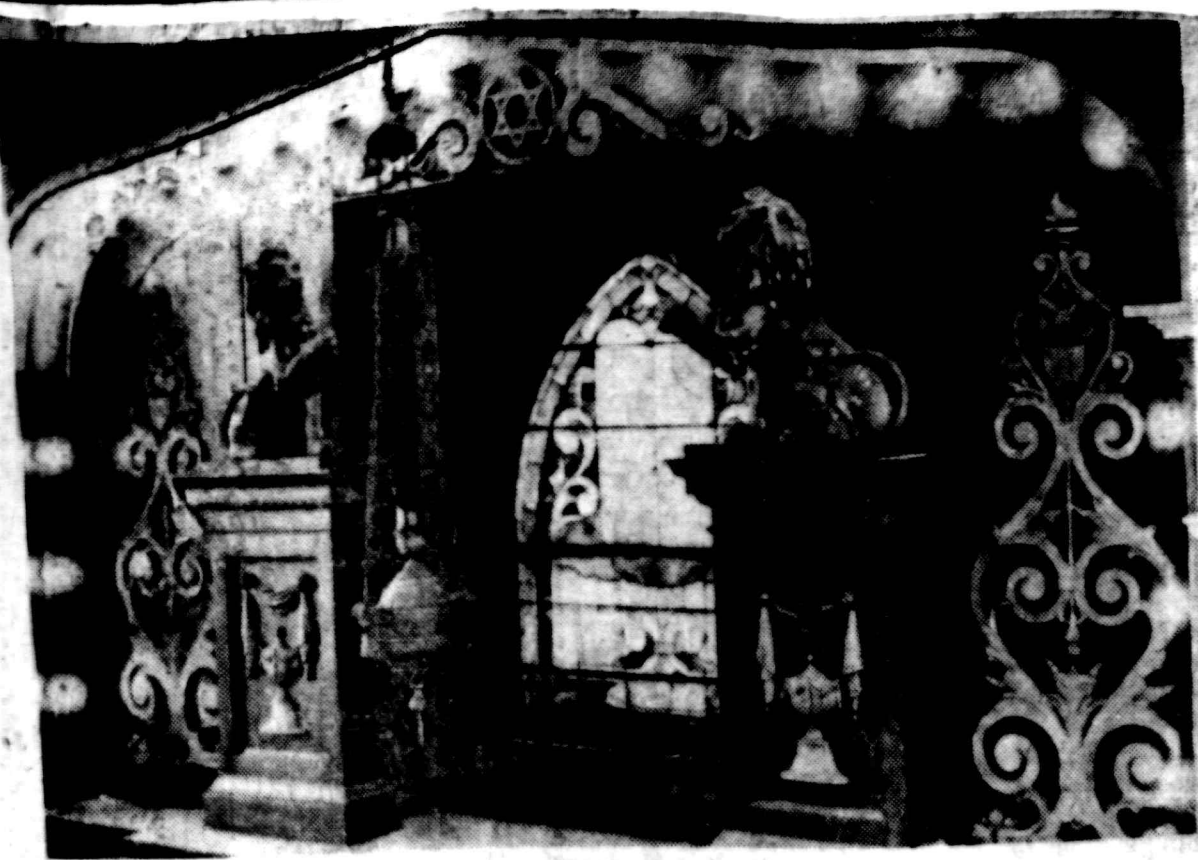
Vitale would not be reached for comment.

A spokesman for Mayor Tom Vezetti said that while the mayor's office sympathizes with the residents, it cannot allow Vitale to go out of business because he can't get his deliveries.

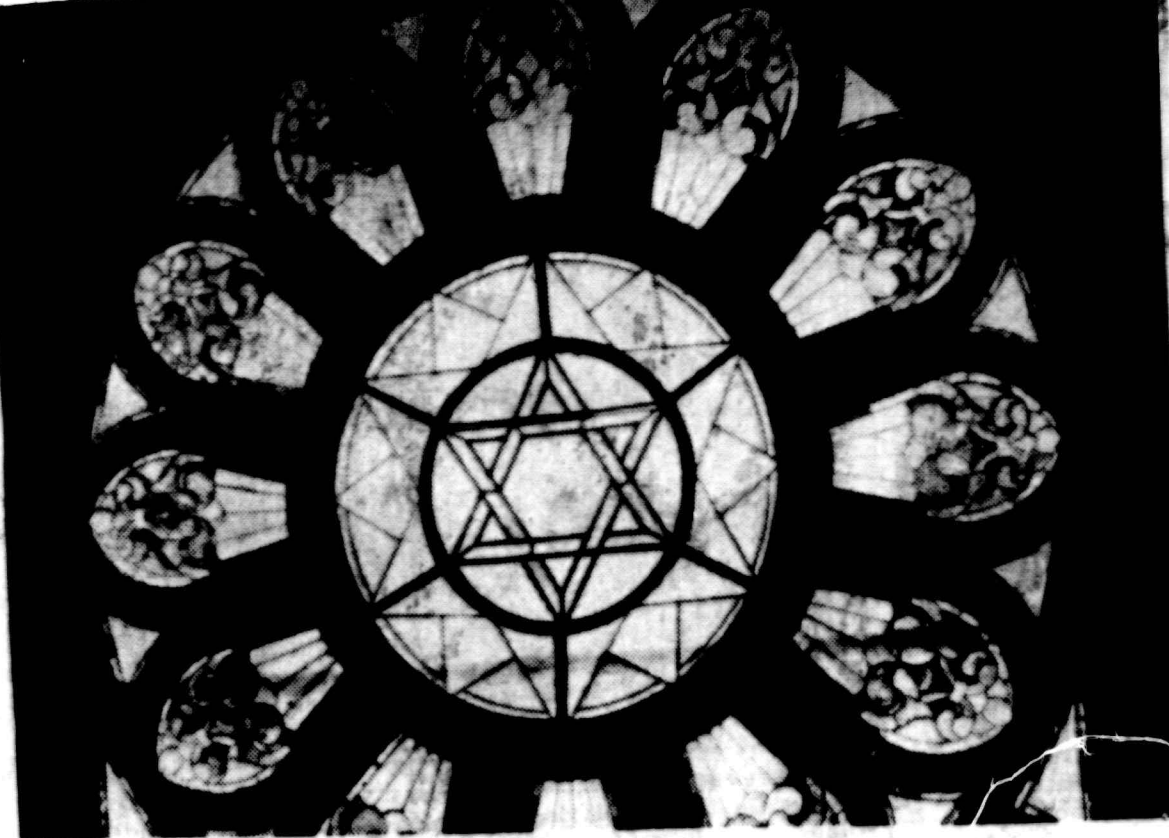
He noted Vitale has been asked to keep the trucks moving in and out quickly so they don't double up and to only have them come during the posted hours.

Vitale could not be reached for comment.

The hearing is set for 9:30 a.m. Friday before Municipal Court Judge Peter Giordano at City Hall.



A pair of lions stand guard beside a window in the synagogue, which is owned by the United Synagogue of Hoboken. The restoration of the stained glass windows alone is expected to cost \$50,000.



The Star of David is the focal point in this stained glass window which is earmarked for restoration along with the synagogue's other decorative features.

## Star of Israel Synagogue shining again in Hoboken

By Rose Duger

Hoboken's Star of Israel synagogue has seen little activity in recent years other than services each September for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Owned by United Synagogue of Hoboken, it stood unheated the rest of the year, a massive brick dust-collector filled with faded mementoes of a once-thriving congregation.

Now a new influx of Jewish families has arrived in Hoboken to carry on the tradition carefully preserved by a small core of members during years marked by dwindling membership. And with them comes a dedication to restore the beautiful synagogue built in 1915.

That means more than a simple dusting and sweeping job. Four years ago, the small congregation couldn't afford to heat the building. With stained glass windows already broken, walls and ceilings painted with beautiful murals of animals, clouds, and stars began to peel in strips large enough to leave bare patches on the walls.

Contractors hired last month started to cover stained glass windows with plexiglass to keep moisture out of the building. Windows were fixed and weatherstripping applied to guarantee a moisture-proof environment for future repairs.

"Right now we're just trying to tighten up the building's envelope," explained Martin Tuzman, a congregation member and architect with a New York firm. Tuzman has donated his time to oversee the project. "We're renovating a highly-visible area downstairs and plastering one bad area up-

stairs so we and the contractors know what things will cost and how tough the work is."

Joel Freiser, a former congregation president, estimated that complete renovations will total more than \$150,000. The board of trustees has pledged to raise \$100,000 in five years to get the project rolling.

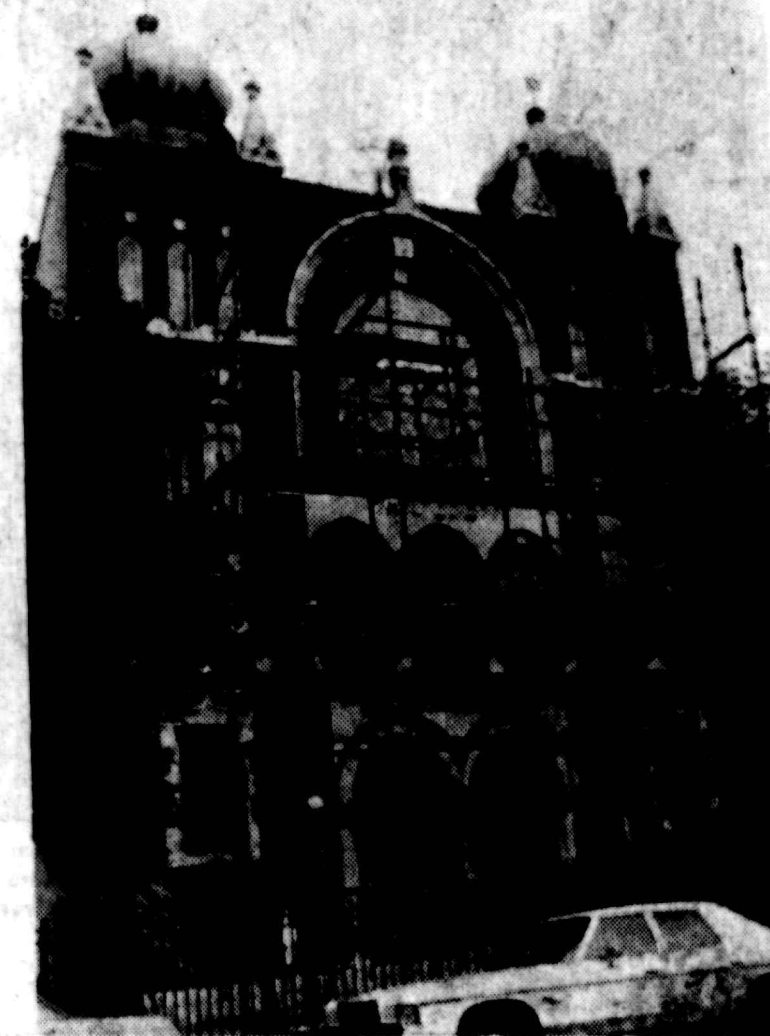
Already, the congregation has earmarked \$23,000 of its 1985 budget for capital improvements to the synagogue. Freiser said stained glass windows may cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000 to restore, while Tuzman targeted the plaster work at \$30,000.

One charming fund-raising tool has stood in the synagogue since the now-defunct Star of Israel congregation dedicated the building in 1915 after an 11-year fund drive. A pushke, or charity box, has a hole in the top for people to insert donations.

This model, a replica of the synagogue, lights from inside to show twinkling stained-glass windows. Tuzman hopes the wood model will prompt present members to make donations just as their Hoboken predecessors did.

Inside, the three-story building still contains many hints of the Orthodox Star of Israel congregation, which merged in 1947 with the Hoboken Jewish Center to form the United Synagogue of Hoboken.

Original solid wooden pews still remain in the second-floor 400-seat sanctuary, once reserved only for men. Women attended services in a third-floor balcony where antelopes and other animals — all Biblical references — pace the walls in faded murals.



Scaffolding across the front of the Star of Israel Synagogue in Hoboken is one indication of the renovation project which is expected to total more than \$150,000. The building has been used only for Holy Day services for several years.

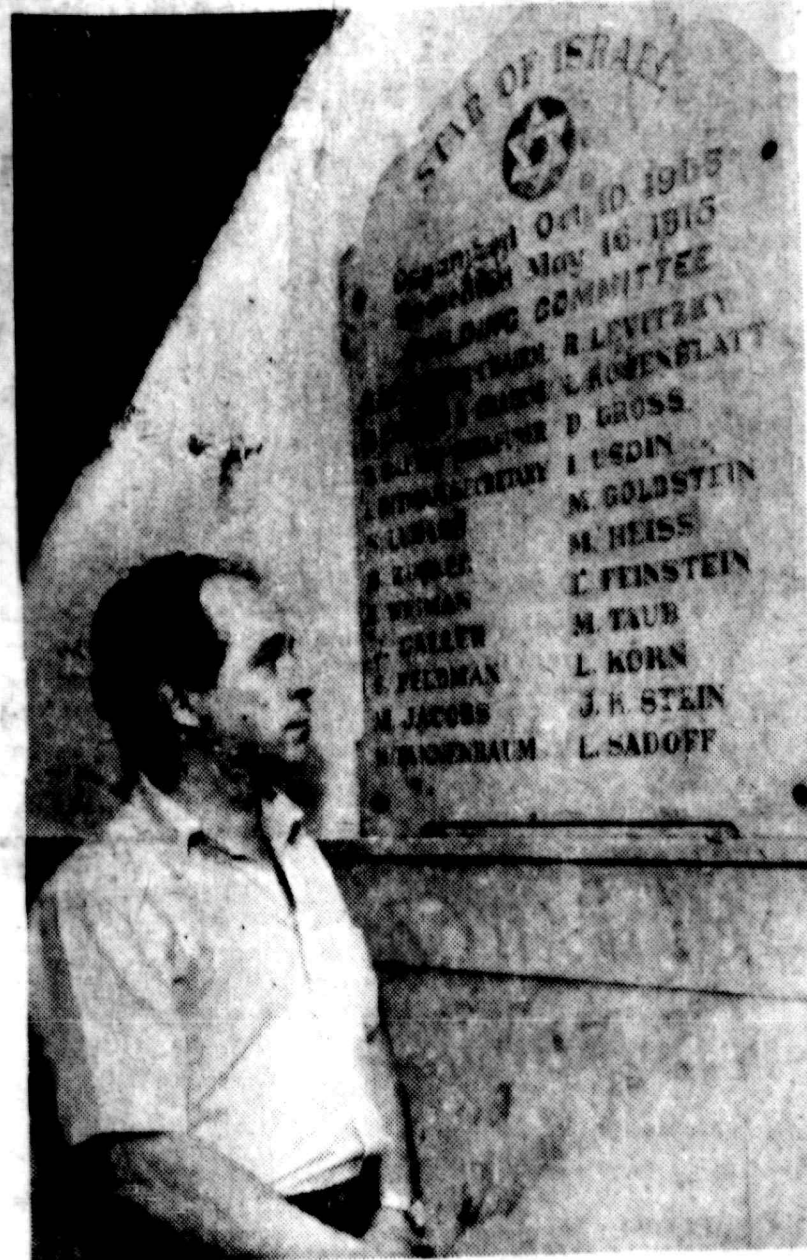
Freiser contacted an artist to restore the animal murals and a sky motif with clouds, the moon, and the sun covering the ceiling. At a cost of \$7,000, the intricate work may be completed by the High Holy Days in September.

Basically, once the building is structurally restored, we'll start to hold more frequent functions here," said Marvin Glazerman, congregation president. "Our immediate hope is to preserve the building intact by the end of the summer."

While the congregation

would continue to attend large events and weekly services at its present 830 Hudson St. site, it hopes to hold wedding, bar mitzvahs, concerts, and study groups at the restored Park Avenue synagogue.

"There was discussion for years about getting rid of the building," said Freiser. "The influx of Jewish families has brought new life to the community. We even have 12 babies now, and some young children. The synagogue is fortunate. This is a legacy the last generation has left for us."



Joel Freiser, a former president of the congregation, reads the list of building committee members responsible for the construction of the building in 1915.

Photos by Steve Golecki

## Parking probe is called for

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezetti has asked the county prosecutor to investigate the executive director of the city Parking Authority.

Vezetti, who took office July 1, called Prosecutor Harold Ruvoldt yesterday to ask for an investigation into the action of Joseph Hottendorf, executive director of the Parking Authority since 1975.

Ruvoldt, who declined to comment on whether an investigation will begin, confirmed that Vezetti had spoken with him.

The Parking Authority Board of Commissioners has decided to suspend Hottendorf, without pay, for two weeks beginning Aug. 14 after numerous press reports linked Hottendorf to voided parking tickets.

In calling for the suspension at a two-hour special meeting Monday night, the board said Hottendorf had exercised "imprudent judgment" in some of his duties.

Hottendorf has declined comment on Monday's proceedings, but has confirmed that the two weeks chosen for his suspension coincide with a

See PARKING — Page 12.

## Parking probe called for in Hoboken

Continued from Page 1

planned vacation. Asked about the possibility of the prosecutor's office investigating him, Hottendorf said, "I didn't do nothing illegal."

Meanwhile, Council President E. Norman Wilson announced he is calling for a council investigation of the "revelations" in the press.

Reports in The Jersey Journal have shown that on at least five occasions Hottendorf signed a form letter saying that a parking meter was inoperable although notations on the ticket indicate it was working.

Other reports have indicated Hottendorf and a friend have been parking in a spot on 14th Street and had tickets quashed because the "No Parking" signs were illegally posted.

In response, Hottendorf said yesterday that the former situation was a result of "sloppiness"

in his department, not an effort to "fix" tickets. He said new procedures called for by Municipal Court Judge Peter Giordano have lessened the likelihood of such mistakes in the future.

On the 14th Street situation, he said the signs are illegal because they are on a county road with only city approval. He went to court and won after his car was towed from the spot, he said, adding that the city council approved a reimbursement of his \$25 towing fee.

He said the responsibility for having the signs approved by the County Board of Freeholders or removed lies with the council, not him.

Hottendorf added that he showed the board of commissioners a "stack" of receipts for parking tickets he has paid over the years.

"I pay my tickets," he said. "I'm like anybody else."

Vezetti, a political enemy of Hottendorf for years, said yesterday that he and Councilman Pat Pasculli had warned the commissioners about the executive director. He said he was "highly annoyed" by what he considers a slap-on-the-wrist

suspension and indicated he believed a cover up was in progress. Asked about the financial ramifications of losing two weeks pay on his \$40,000-a-year salary, Hottendorf replied, "I'll survive."

Hottendorf was given a two-week suspension without pay earlier this week after parking authority commissioners decided some of Hottendorf's actions were "unwise, imprudent and showed a lack of judgment," said parking authority acting chairman John B. Mucaccia.

The suspension takes effect Aug. 14.

Mucaccia said he asked the Council to investigate Hottendorf, by coincidence, on the

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# County tax rate drops \$1.44; Hoboken's rate still to be set

By Ronald Leir

The Hudson County Board of Taxation yesterday struck tax rates for all but three Hudson municipalities, thereby clearing the way for revised third-quarter tax bills for most area residents.

The board is asking state director of taxation John Baldwin to extend the deadline for filing tax appeals by one month to September 15 to allow ample time.

County tax administrator Stanley Kosakowski said that because many towns were late this year in passing their local budgets the board was also late in fixing the local tax rates. The board has yet to certify budgets from Hoboken, Kearny and North Bergen.

The county government enjoyed a decrease in its tax rate of \$1.44 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, reflecting a nearly \$1 billion increase in rates and a slight drop in the \$79.8 million to be raised by taxation for county purposes. The county vocational school also showed a slight decrease in its rate.

On paper, Guttenberg shows a dramatic decline in its tax rate of more than \$35 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation but Kosakowski said this reflected only a newly completed reassessment of property values in the town and will account for little impact on local taxes.

Kosakowski offered this illustration: the average house in Guttenberg carried an assessment of \$40,140 — based on the

Taxing District	1985 (per \$1,000)	1984 (per \$1,000)	Increase + Decrease -	Ratio %
Bayonne	\$ 86.41	\$ 84.53	\$ + 1.88	46.45
East Newark	65.48	65.75	- 0.27	51.79
Guttenberg	28.48	65.62	- 37.14	123.38
Harrison	70.45	63.27	+ 7.18	42.78
Hoboken	138.85	138.81	+ 0.04	37.35
Jersey City	—	60.17	—	123.25
Kearny	—	55.82	—	60.73
N. Bergen	22.47	22.67	- 0.20	105.90
Secaucus	88.39	90.82	- 2.43	80.70
Union City	65.30	73.70	- 8.40	53.60
Weehawken	2.00	2.05	- 0.05	—
West New York	112.22	110.34	+ 1.88	46.40
Hudson County Co. Voc. School	8.74	10.18	- 1.44	52.70
Reassessed District	0.86	1.00	- 0.12	—
Reassessed District	—	—	—	—

presence of three 50-story condominium towers known as the Galaxy — and annual taxes of \$2,269. This year, the same average house takes an assessment of \$110,400 but taxes of \$2,250, he said.

Although Weehawken's rates remained the same, Kosakowski said "good management by the municipal administration" helped lower that town's rate by more than eight dollars to \$65.30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Miscellaneous anticipated revenues rose from \$3.1 million to \$3.9 million this year, delinquent taxes projected is down from \$200,000 to \$120,000 and surplus is up from \$84,000 to \$1.2 million.

The average Weehawken

homeowner will likely be paying about \$324 less in taxes this year — about 11 percent off last year's pace, Kosakowski estimated.

Said Weehawken Mayor Stanley Iacono: "For three years in a row, we've been reducing taxes through good financial management and solid administration with no cut in municipal services."

Other municipalities benefitting from lowered tax rates so far, are: Union City, East Newark and Secaucus.

On the other side of the ledger, Harrison — whose taxpayers historically have enjoyed tax stability — now suddenly finds itself with an increase of

See COUNTY — Page 25.

## County tax rate is down

Continued from Page 1

\$7.18 in its tax rate to \$70.45 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Last year's increase was less than a quarter but this year, taxpayers are being called on to absorb a more than six-fold increase in the amount to be raised for municipal purposes which, in Harrison, includes school costs.

Harrison's local tax levy jumped from \$131,383 in 1984 to \$860,502 this year. Much of that is going to pay the interest on bond anticipation notes to finance a \$5.4 million school renovation project. At the same time, the town lost a number of tax appeal cases, costing it more revenues.

The bottom line for Harrison residents is that the average homeowner is going to pay an estimated \$160 more in local taxes, according to Kosakowski. That's an 11 percent rise over last year.

Former Jersey City Mayor Gerald McCann had predicted a continued decline in taxes over the decade if he won re-election. He lost.

City residents enjoyed a decrease of nearly six dollars in the rate last year but this year find themselves with an increase of \$6.84 per \$1,000.

That means that the average Jersey City homeowner can expect to pay in the neighborhood of \$94 more in taxes this year, said Kosakowski. The state compelled the city to insert more money in this year's budget for the city Medical Center and Incinerator Authority.

Other communities experiencing a higher rate are: Bayonne, \$3.88; and West New York, \$1.88.



City Democratic chairman Maurice Fitzgibbons reviews plans for mobilizing Democratic voters in the November election.

## Dems chairman faces party rebuilding task

By Paul Cleary

The glitter of national politics, the idea of meeting national policy makers were stories that Maurice Fitzgibbons enjoyed hearing his brother Jude tell when he arrived home from Democratic fundraisers.

Now, the 30-year-old heads the city's recreation program and last month was elected Democratic chairman for the city. He also was elected secretary of the county Democratic party.

"Every November my brother Jude would go to these \$100 a plate dinners. One year he met Hubert Humphrey. It all seemed very exciting," Fitzgibbons said. But, after being involved in one losing campaign, he decided "to take it slow with politics." He finally plunged into the electoral process in 1981, winning a Third Ward committee seat.

"My mother is Italian and in those neighborhoods I played that up and in the Irish neighborhoods I played up my

last name which is Irish," he explained.

The door to door campaigning, he admits, was much easier than the task Fitzgibbons has before him, organizing city Democrats to bring out the vote in November for gubernatorial candidate Peter Shapiro who is pitted against a very popular incumbent in Gov. Tom Kean.

Another problem Fitzgibbons faces is stemming the Republican tide started when Republicans backed Tom Vezetti who won the mayor's office from a three-term incumbent. The mayor usually is the Democratic chairman for the city but when Vezetti was elected, committee people looked to Fitzgibbons.

Compounding Fitzgibbons' problems is the more than a dozen small political associations and clubs that have to be brought together.

"There was never a need for a Democratic Club, per se. The majority of this town has been Democrat. We just have to make

sure they get the votes out," he said. "Like say in Union City, they had the Billy Musto Club. We didn't have anything like that we looked to the mayor."

"We have to get all of the organizations under one banner. All the clubs have had their own leader," he said.

"This is becoming a Republican versus Democrat town. We were lax. We let down and left the door wide open. Now the Republicans won't make deals with Democrats (like they used to)," he said. And, the new Republicans are young.

To counter the tide, Fitzgibbons plans to start a new "young" Democrats club. The average age of the current member of the Hoboken young Democrats is about 35, he said. Fitzgibbons said he wants someone in their middle 20s to run the club and gradually become strong in local politics.

"Then we'll fight it out in the primaries," he said. And, fighting is exactly what he expects to do come November's elections.

## Hoboken parking probe to continue

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A City Council committee investigation into the operation of the city's Parking Authority is slated to continue despite the resignation of the authority's director.

Joseph Hottendorf yesterday said there was no connection between his decision to resign and the committee's investigation into the mishandling of parking tickets by himself and authority employees.

"Public life at first was very exciting. But the last three years have been boring," Hottendorf, who has been director for 10 years, said in an interview yesterday. He resigned after an authority meeting Tuesday night, effective Aug. 2.

He said his decision to leave the \$40,000-a-year position was made before the creation of a committee to investigate the authority and was the result of his desire to return to the private sector. He said he is joining a family mortgage business somewhere in New Jersey.

Hottendorf was suspended for two weeks without pay last month for See HOBOKEN, Back Page

## HOBOKEN

Continued from Page 1

showing poor judgment in his handling of parking tickets he and a friend received.

It was reported in The Dispatch that Hottendorf used illegally posted no-parking areas as private spaces for himself and a friend. Tickets issued to Hottendorf and his friend were sent to the Municipal Court with letters attached asking the judge to void them because the signs were illegally posted.

In another article, The Dispatch reported that hundreds of parking tickets had been voided illegally during a 17-month period by authority employees.

The articles prompted the city Law Director Fred Woekener this month to ask the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office to investigate the authority. Officials from the Prosecutor's Office yesterday would neither confirm nor deny an

investigation. A committee consisting of several council members also was established to investigate the authority.

"As far as we're concerned the investigation is ongoing," Councilman Patrick Pasculli said yesterday. "There are still questions unanswered," he added.

Council President E. Norman Wilson Jr. yesterday said the committee will continue to look into the operation of the authority and make any changes necessary to ensure that the mishandling of parking tickets does not happen again.

Hottendorf said he will continue to park at the illegally posted sign near his house on 14th Street until it is either taken down or approved by the proper authorities.

"I am not flaunting the law, I just want them to do it right," he said, referring to the city's Traffic and Signal Division.

## Marine View tenants win rollback of rents

TRENTON — The Marine View Plaza Tenants Association and its president, Thomas J. Illing, yesterday won their battle against a 13 percent rent increase on apartments in the Marine View housing complex in Hoboken, which were occupied prior to Feb. 1, 1983.

The Appellate Division, State Superior Court, reversed the decision by the New Jersey Housing Finance Agency and remanded the issue to the agency for redetermination in accord with its opinion.

The agency "must be certain to make detailed and complete findings of facts and conclusions of law in support of its ultimate decision," concluded the three judges.

The tribunal said the agency approved the increase without requiring the sponsor's strict

compliance with the agency's regulations.

The 13 percent increase was requested June 10, 1983, effective Sept. 1, 1983, to reduce the

long term debt arrearage and compensate for increased operating costs. Affected tenants were notified June 14, 1983.

## Hoboken should have housing fund; Official

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The city's law director believes the administration should pass an ordinance requiring developers to pay for affordable housing even though it would be challenged in court.

"I would encourage the city to put its own plan into effect even though there is a strong possibility it will be tied up in litigation," Director Fred Woekener said yesterday.

The City Council tonight is expected to place a 90-day moratorium on the issuance of building permits for residential properties to give the administration time to come up with a plan to create affordable housing. One of the possibilities being considered is the creation of an affordable housing trust fund to which residential developers would contribute.

Woekener said the admini-

See FUND, Back Page

escrow fund," Woekener said. "The sooner (an ordinance) is in place, the more money the city gets," he said.

The city's Law Department is keeping its eye on a state Superior Court case in Toms River in which several construction companies are challenging the legality of a Princeton ordinance requiring office developers to contribute to an affordable housing trust fund. The ordinance says the fund is a form of taxation and only the state Legislature has the power to tax.

Woekener said developers may argue successfully that the fund is a form of taxation and therefore is

illegal. On the other hand, he said a municipality may be able to convince a court it is meeting an obligation to provide affordable housing under the state Supreme Court's Mount Laurel decision.

"Both sides have strong arguments," he said.

Woekener said he believes the Legislature ultimately should be called upon to pass legislation enabling municipalities to set up a trust fund.

The creation of affordable housing became one of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti's themes when he ran against former Mayor Steve Cappiello in the June 11 runoff election.

## Petitions available

Petitions are available at the Hoboken City Clerk's office for council nominations in the Second and Sixth wards.

Signatures must be filed by Sept. 30 for candidates to be on the ballot in the Nov. 5 election, said City Clerk James Farina.

The special election will be held to fill seats now held by Joseph Della Fave in the Second

Ward and Angelo Valente in the Sixth. The two were appointed by the council July 1 when Second Ward Councilman Tom Vezetti became mayor and Sixth Ward Councilman Pat Pasculli became councilman-at-large.

The ward terms expire July 1, 1987.

## Marine View tenants win rollback

Continued from Page 1

comment upon documents in support of the application for rent increase.

Continued the court, "Such documents as the NJHFA's most recent maintenance and inspection report, the incomplete, unsigned and unapproved current annual budget, the incomplete certified annual audit and the incomplete monthly operating reports for the preceding three months are all essential to a meaningful review of the landlord's financial and monetary reasons for requesting a rent increase. They were examples of significant and prejudicial departures from the regulation."

The decision, said Hoboken attorney Steve Zamrin, who argued the case for the tenants association, shows that "the state agency cannot be callous and it must follow its own regulations."

He added that in the past the HFA, which was created to represent tenants, has consistently acted in favor of the owners of Marine View Plaza and disregarded its own regulations in doing so.

The ruling isn't necessarily "pro-tenant," he said. It's "pro-obeying the law," Annette Illing, a member of

the tenants association, said. "We were left there without knowing where to go forward or where to go backward," she said. "Whatever we would do we were always wrong" according to HFA officials.

Unless the HFA asks for a stay of the ruling pending appeal, rents should be rolled back to 1981 and 1983 schedules — depending on the different groups affected by the increase — said Zamrin.

He added that the agency has 20 days to file a notice of appeal with the state Supreme Court and then 10 days to file a brief.

## Hoboken increases school tax 72 cents

By MICHAEL COWAN

Special to The Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The City Council voted unanimously last night to raise 1983-84 school taxes by 4 percent to \$6.72 million from last year's figure of \$6.4 million.

The \$240,000 increase in school taxes means city homeowners will pay 72 cents more per \$1,000 of assessed valuation this year, according to Joseph Kean, the city's internal auditor.

Lisa said property taxes would jump by 14 percent to \$66.90 from \$58.37 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Councilman Patrick Pasculli said higher taxes would have a "substantial" impact on city homeowners. But he cautioned, "cutting the school budget any further would not be in the best interests of education."

He added that the council has expressed dissatisfaction with the salaries of Board of Education administrators, whom he called highly paid.

As a symbolic measure, the council voted to rescind the \$7,000 pay

raise which the school board had approved for Dr. George Maier, the superintendent of schools.

Maier, who expects to retire in December, currently earns \$74,817, according to Anthony Curcio, internal auditor for the school board.

Steve Block, a former school board member, also criticized the salaries of current administrators and accused the board of failing to address the problems of falling test scores and rising dropout rates in city schools.

John Pope, board president, disputed Block's assertions about the deteriorating state of the city's schools. Pope said the local schools are actually improving, and he accused Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti of "hiring his political cronies just to add to the payroll."

But Pasculli and Councilman Joseph Della Fave joined Block in voicing their dissatisfaction with the city's schools.

When asked what the outlook is for city schools to improve their record, Della Fave said, "a newly-appointed Board of Education will make the difference."

## He'll waive pay Chius eyed to head public safety unit

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—City Business Administrator Edwin Chius is being considered to head the city's Department of Public Safety, according to a notice for a special City Council meeting sent out to local officials yesterday.

The appointment will allow the city to hire 30 police officers next month, according to City Clerk James Farina.

Farina said the city cannot hire and demote police and fire officials, because it has a Public Safety Department with no director.

Although the council meeting has been scheduled for 4 p.m. tomorrow, it will have to be rescheduled to provide for the 48 hours' notice required by the state's Open Public Meetings Act.

James G. Jordano, the former public safety director, last month left the \$34,200-a-year post and returned to the police force. He was expected to be fired under the new

administration's plan to abolish the department and put it under the authority of the business administrator.

Although the director is gone, the department has not been abolished. As a result, the city cannot make police or fire personnel changes.

The state earlier this year gave the city \$723,000 to hire approximately 30 more policemen. The city hopes to make those additions soon.

Chius yesterday said he will take the appointment if it is approved by the council, but will not draw a salary.

"I can't collect two salaries. I don't want to work two full-time jobs," he said.

Chius, a staunch supporter of former Mayor Steve Cappiello, has continued to be business administrator under the new administration despite Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti's campaign pledge that there would be a clean sweep of city government if he were elected.



# Hoboken Council bans building for two months

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken City Council passed a 60-day building ban last night after listening to more than an hour of public comment. The ban is to take effect Aug. 6, but a representative of a group formed to fight the ban promised he will seek an injunction.

## Opponents of ban to seek injunction

more than three housing units. It also stops the development of vacant land for multiple dwellings. The measure is designed to slow development and stop displacement while the council devises methods to create more affordable housing in the city. "It is a strong measure," said Councilman-at-Large Pat Pasculli, sponsor of the ordinance, "and it is a measure we are prepared to defend."

He said the council needed to finally address the housing crisis and the problem of "rampant, runaway" what we call development.

The council struck down an emergency resolution to put the moratorium into effect immediately upon approval by Mayor Tom Vezzetti. Because only five members of the nine-

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# Hoboken Council bans building for two months

Continued from Page 1

member board voted for the resolution — a two-thirds majority is needed — the usual 20-day waiting period will be observed before the ordinance becomes law.

Attorney Richard Seltzer, a Hoboken resident with the Jersey City firm of Guarini and Guarini, called the moratorium "illegal" and vowed to take the mayor and council to court.

He said he spoke as a representative of Help Hoboken Housing, which he described as a group of architects, contractors, realtors and merchants involved with housing. The 60-member group formed Tuesday night in response to the ban proposal and has put together a legal defense fund to fight it, he added.

The lawsuit, he said, will be started "as soon as papers can be typed."

Aside from protesting what he called a violation of the state Sunshine Law and the "unreasonable, arbitrary

nature" of the measure, the suit will request damages against the city for any contractors or others hurt by the moratorium, Seltzer said.

Two city attorneys and a consultant assured the council a 60-day moratorium will stand up in court because it isn't too long. They called Seltzer's argument an attempt at intimidation and questioned his group's intentions.

"Now we start hearing from the developers," said Ross London, assistant city attorney. "Where have they been?"

Speakers on the moratorium either told the council that their businesses — and possibly their employees — would suffer because of the action or that it was about time the suffering of the poor was curbed.

Nicholas Reonati, president of Retondella Brothers contractors, told the council he has 13 employees who are Hoboken residents struggling to support families.

"What do I do for 60 days," he asked, "lay off my men?" Pasculli responded that his brother and father, both contractors in the city, had asked the same question and that he told them it was time to "bite the bullet."

People will have to make sacrifices, he said, but those who have been displaced by spiraling rents and booming real estate values have already made "the ultimate sacrifice."

One speaker said that the people complaining about the ban were the ones who have reaped the profits of develop-

ment in the last decade. Deborah Augsberger, a representative of the tenants' advocacy group, Campaign for Housing Justice, said that 60 days is a relatively short period.

"In 60 days, Hoboken won't be a foot farther from Manhattan than it is now," she said, referring to the fact that Hoboken property is so valuable because of its proximity to New York.

The building ban was suggested in April by then-Mayor Steve Cappiello.

He called for a ban during a campaign debate and sent a proposal for a 45-day measure to the council. It, and several other proposals by various council members, failed.

With First Ward Councilman Anthony Romano and Councilman-at-Large Robert Ranieri absent last night, the vote was 6-1 for the ban.

Voting for the ban were Vezzetti supporters Pasculli, Councilwoman-at-Large Helen Cunniff, Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave, Fourth Ward Councilwoman Mary Francone and Sixth Ward Councilman Angelo Valente. Council President E. Norman Wilson, who represents the Fifth Ward and is an independent, also voted for it.

Third Ward Councilman Sal Cemelli, a Cappiello supporter, voted against it. The 20-day waiver was supported by the five Vezzetti supporters with Cemelli and Wilson voting "no."

# Hoboken building moratorium passed

By DEBRA GERSH  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN — A 60-day moratorium on the issuance of building permits was approved by the City Council last night.

Salvatore Cemelli was the only councilman present to vote against it.

The ordinance is not scheduled to go into effect for 30 days; a resolution to make it become effective immediately upon mayoral approval failed.

The council's vote came after about an hour was devoted to a public hearing on the moratorium at the beginning of the meeting.

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One representative from a newly formed organization, "Help Hoboken Housing," who called the moratorium illegal, and then threatened the council with a lawsuit.

Councilman Patrick Pasculli said the moratorium "allows a cooling-off period, which the council feels is very necessary."

"After two years on the council I've heard the same rhetoric time and time again, but the previous council never had the courage to stand up to criticism," Pasculli said.

He said that if the moratorium is challenged in court, he is sure it has strong grounds on which to stand.

Criticism came from various areas of the community, including:

- Contractors who asked what they will do for 60 days.
- Businessmen who said there are other ways to provide low-income housing.

See BUILDING, Back Page

# Block to coordinate effort to create affordable housing

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti has appointed citizens' activist Steve Block as coordinator of the city's effort to create affordable housing.

Block, a top campaign worker and longtime supporter of the mayor, will act as a "conduit of ideas" to develop housing for low- and middle-income families.

Vezzetti has asked Block to submit a report before mid-September.

The City Council recently adopted an ordinance placing a 60-day building ban in effect beginning Aug. 6. The moratorium on building permits for any work involving more than three residential units was designed to give the city a chance to slow development and

devise an affordable housing plan.

"We are determined to reverse the devastating impact of Hoboken's accelerated housing market and ensure that everyone in Hoboken benefits by our economical and political rebirth," said the new mayor from a Sea Bright home where he is resting after a week in the hospital.

He said Block was appointed because he has been one of the city's "most consistent advocates of affordable housing."

Block, who said he was pleased to accept the challenge, stressed that he will act more as a researcher than plan formulator. He won't establish the city's housing plan, he said, noting that the mayor and council have that task.

Block will receive \$100 a day

in the temporary post and will work from City Hall. He said he hopes some money will be made available to hire outside consultants.

He begins Monday and expects he will be meeting with housing experts from various fields — including developers who are interested in "shaping a program that will benefit the community," he said.

The Vezzetti administration, which took office July 1, has been stressing recently that officials aren't against development but what they consider unbridled development that resulted in the displacement of many of the city's poor and middle class people.

Vezzetti, who was admitted to the hospital July 12 for treatment of an irregular heartbeat, expects to be back at City Hall on Monday.

See SCHOOL — Page 10.

# Pro-tenant attorney to get post

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in which tenants at 803 Willow Ave. fought what they considered an unfair rent increase.

Judge Kevin Callahan ruled for the tenants, saying that rent increases must take more factors into account than just the possible market value of an apartment, particularly in a booming real estate area such as Hoboken. Justification for a large increase, he said, must involve substantial benefits for the tenant, not just bringing a building up to code or rehabilitating it to increase its value.

The ruling brought out the standards to be used in evaluating rent increases, said Korona. The decision was published and is being used by others, fighting for tenants' rights.

Korona has also helped tenants organize and has negotiated some large settle-

ments between tenants and landlords. Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for Mayor Tom Vezzetti, said Korona will be asked to seek solutions to the city's housing crisis for the poor and middle classes.

"Ray Korona has acted in an exemplary manner in representing housing cases in Hoboken," she said. "Given his

past performance and the present situation in Hoboken, we feel he's the best man for the job."

Fabiano and Korona said the lawyer's views on affordable housing and displacement are in tune with Vezzetti's.

Woekener, who had recommended attorney Steve Zamrin for the job, said he was satisfied Korona will be a "fair" attorney

for the post. Zamrin, an assistant city attorney, has been named full-time prosecutor in Municipal Court. Woekener said, because both jobs would be too much for one person.

As attorney to the Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board, Korona won't vote on cases. His duty is to advise the board of the law.

# Pro-tenant attorney to get city rent post

By Margaret Schmidt

A pro-tenant attorney who won a significant case on rent increases is expected to be appointed to represent the Hoboken Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board. Raymond I. Korona, of the Newark firm Korona, Beides and Eaton, should be appointed by the council at its July 17

meeting, said City Attorney Fred Woekener.

His first duty will be to draft a notice to be included in tax bills going out this month that all landlords must comply with the new rent control ordinance and register their rents by Oct. 1, Woekener said.

Among the cases Korona has won for tenants in Hoboken is See PRO-TENANT — Page 8.

# Perry quits DPW

By Rose Duger

James Perry has resigned as director of public works, a day after Mayor Tom Vezzetti's administration announced his appointment.

Perry's letter of resignation, delivered to mayoral executive assistant Laurie Fabiano, cited financial reasons for his resignation.

"In meeting with the principal stockholders of Williams Real Estate Co. Inc.," the letter said, "it has been concluded that my present and future role in the organization's structure provides a financial position for my family which requires my withdrawal from the appointment as Public Works Director."

When reached by telephone yesterday, Perry declined to elaborate on his statement, saying the letter "speaks for itself."

The public works post carries an annual salary of \$45,000, reportedly less than Perry's salary as vice president of engineering and operations at Williams Real Estate Co. in Manhattan. Perry also wouldn't reveal his current salary.

Fabiano said Vezzetti was "very disappointed" when told of Perry's resignation while in his room at St. Mary Hospital.

Perry has offered his services as an advisor in the city's search for a new public works director. Fabiano added, "Although four other candidates have been interviewed, a special committee on public works, comprised of members of Vezzetti's transition team, will continue the search."

The city has set no deadline for finding a new director, despite Perry's original pledge to assume the post shortly after Labor Day. William Van Wle, former public works director, resigned June 26 when former Mayor Steve Cappiello left office.

# Council poised to cut his pay

By Bianca M. Quintanilla

The Hoboken City Council will vote on several ordinances tomorrow, including one reducing the mayor's salary and another setting a moratorium on building permits.

The City Council meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the council chambers.

According to James Farina, See COUNCIL — Page 8.

# Council may cut Vezzetti's salary

Continued from Page 1

city clerk, Mayor Thomas Vezzetti requested that his salary be cut from \$38,000 to \$35,000. "He (Vezzetti) thinks his salary is too high for a mayor so he is cutting it," Farina explained.

Public hearings on both ordinances are scheduled, along with a final hearing on an ordinance to abolish the Department of Revenue and Finance.

In its place, the councilmen will be asked to consider an ordinance establishing a division of revenue and finance in the Department of Administration.

If the council adopts the moratorium, and abolishes the Department of Revenue and Finance, and creates the division of revenue and finance, all three ordinances will become effective immediately upon approval by the mayor, according to Farina.

The council is also expected to appoint Louis Picardo as tax collector.

In addition to several appointments of council members to other city boards, a total of five ordinances will be introduced at tomorrow's meeting.

One of the ordinances deals with a code of ethics for elected officials. This ordinance would impose penalties for violation of such code.

The councilmen will also be discussing amendments to an ordinance that regulates, controls and stabilizes rents in multiple dwellings.

# DeFino, Vezzetti agree to disagree

By Peter Weiss

Mayors Anthony DeFino of West New York and Thomas Vezzetti of Hoboken may still not see eye-to-eye about Democratic politics, but at least they are talking civilly about the subject.

DeFino, the county Democratic chairman, called Vezzetti yesterday in response to the Hoboken mayor's charges that he was being shut out by the party leadership.

DeFino said he explained to Vezzetti that the Hoboken mayor couldn't be considered as part of the Democratic leadership as long as he opposes local Democratic candidates, specifically Assemblyman Robert Ranieri of Hoboken.

"If you're a Democrat who supports a Republican you're not a true Democrat," said DeFino. DeFino said Vezzetti conceded the point in regard to Ranieri, who is also a Hoboken councilman, and that they ended

the conversation cordially. DeFino said Vezzetti also apologized for accusing the West New York mayor of trying to undermine the Hoboken administration.

"I respect his position as mayor," said DeFino. Vezzetti, who was hospitalized later in the day, was unavailable for comment.

Meanwhile, the Hoboken Democratic chairman Maurice Fitzgibbons took issue with Vezzetti's statement that the mayor is the city's Democratic leader.

"The Democratic leaders are the municipal party chairmen," said Fitzgibbons. "Because he wins as mayor doesn't make him the leader. When he proves himself to be a good Democrat, I will recognize him as whatever he wants. I respect him as mayor but I don't respect him as a Democrat."

Fitzgibbons said he would welcome Vezzetti's support of the party and its candidates.

# Affordable housing tale of 2 cities

By MARITES CHICHICO  
Staff Writer

Mayors Thomas F. Vezzetti of Hoboken and Anthony R. Cucchi of Jersey City campaigned this spring on pledges to spread the wealth from development projects throughout their communities. But since their upset victories last month, both administrations have been grappling with ideas about how to follow through.

While Hoboken already has taken the first steps toward making developers share in providing affordable housing, Jersey City is going at a slower pace, looking to the state for help.

Two options are being examined closely: one to require residential developers to set aside a portion of their projects for low- and moderate-income housing; the other to set up a trust fund, out of contributions from the developers, for the construction or rehabilitation of such housing.

In Hoboken, a 60-day moratorium on building and construction permits was approved Wednesday night. Councilman Patrick Pasculli said a committee is being formed to formulate strategies on how to correlate development and affordable housing.

"Development has to be equitable to all income

groups," Pasculli said. "We hope to have some ordinance in place before the 60 days is up."

Cucchi throughout his campaign said developers should give something back to Jersey City. No one will be forced to give to the fund, he said, because that might be illegal.

Both cities are keeping close tabs on a state Superior Court case being heard in Toms River, where several construction companies are challenging a Princeton ordinance that set up such a fund. The companies are accusing the township of illegally levying a tax, which only the state Legislature may do.

Hoboken has taken a more aggressive stand than Jersey City regarding a housing trust fund. City Law Director Fred Woekener has said the city should pass an ordinance requiring developers to contribute, even though it may be challenged in court.

Pasculli said the city's position is on sound ground because it is "fighting for a good cause — to prevent the displacement of residents."

Meanwhile Jersey City's new director of housing and urban development, Richard Cohen, said a moratorium such as Hoboken's would not work for

Jersey City, because there are certain parts of the city where development must be encouraged.

The city wants the state Department of Environmental Protection to require waterfront developers to help provide affordable housing.

The DEP is empowered by a 1973 law, the Coastal Area Facilities Review Act, to require developers building more than 50 units along the seashore and Delaware Bay to set aside 10 percent of the units for low-income and 10 percent for moderate-income occupants.

John Weingart, director of the DEP Division of Coastal Resources, said the department is limited in what it can require waterfront developers to do.

The 1914 Waterfront Development Act limits its power to regulate, he said.

"The law is so narrow geographically (with DEP's jurisdiction extending only to within 500 feet inland), and allows for narrow interpretation."

Compared to CAFRA, which grants the DEP the power to "protect public health, safety and welfare," the WDA makes no provisions for "welfare," under which affordable housing has been categorized, Weingart said.



# 'Affordable housing' remains a dream as rent subsidies dry up

By Paul Clotery

News stories have detailed the plight of the homeless and the displaced. Politicians say that affordable housing for the people of Hoboken is a priority. But in a city where approximately 25 percent of its available rental property is federally subsidized low and moderate income units, statistics show that families are still being forced to live in cramped quarters or move from the city.

There are long waiting lists to get into subsidized housing and there is a waiting list to get

applications to be on a waiting list. There just isn't any affordable housing left.

Housing Authority Executive Director Dominic Gallo said the 1,350 units in the city housing project are filled and that the vacancy rate is only about two per month. His waiting list for apartments is 263 strong with 300 more names waiting to get on the list.

At Applied Housing, the other subsidized apartments in the city, there are 1,300 apartments with a waiting list of 500 names with an additional 1,500

names on file of people wishing to get applications. "Some of the applications go back to 1980. So, you can't say that they are all active applications," said Joseph Barry, of Applied Housing.

City officials are in a quandary because property owners and speculators have found that it is more profitable to convert existing apartments into high dollar condominiums instead of low or moderate income apartments.

Compounding the problem is that the city sold off most of its land and has little space for development of affordable housing. And, legally, there really is no way to force land owners to develop housing for anyone but the upper class.

Sixth Ward Councilman Angelo Valente said all of the issues are being studied by the new administration of Mayor Thomas Vezetti and that a plan of action will be penned within three months.

The council last week imposed a 60-day building ban which will take effect Aug. 6. The moratorium will prohibit building permits for construction or rehabilitation of buildings with more than three housing units. It also stops the development of vacant land for multiple dwellings.

The measure is designed to slow development and stop displacement while the council devises methods to create more affordable housing in the city.

According to statistics of the Hoboken Campaign for Housing Justice, there was a 6.4 percent drop in the Hoboken population between 1970 and 1980, from 45,380 to 42,460. However, the number of households increased 4.5 percent during the period, from 14,741 to 15,487. That suggests that families are moving out and more apartments are occupied by lone tenants or couples.

The Campaign For Housing Justice statistics also show that Hoboken residents who earned between \$5,000 and \$9,999 were putting out 30.3 percent of their income for housing. And, residents who earned less than \$5,000 were paying 67.8 percent of their income for rent.

That, says Barry, is the root of the problem. "There aren't hundreds of people living in the streets. But there are hundreds of households paying more than they can afford for rent or are being threatened with removal (because of conversions of aging housing stock into condominiums)," he said.

There is an acknowledged need for more affordable housing in the city. But, the question is where to put it and what type of housing should it be. The city owns 10 parcels of vacant land. Most of the plots are 25-feet by 100-feet. The largest piece of land is 29,390 square feet at 57 Park Ave. The area at one time was used as a park but is now vacant. Large plots of city land are at 150 to 166 Observer Highway, 200 to 208 River St. and 224 to 232 River St.

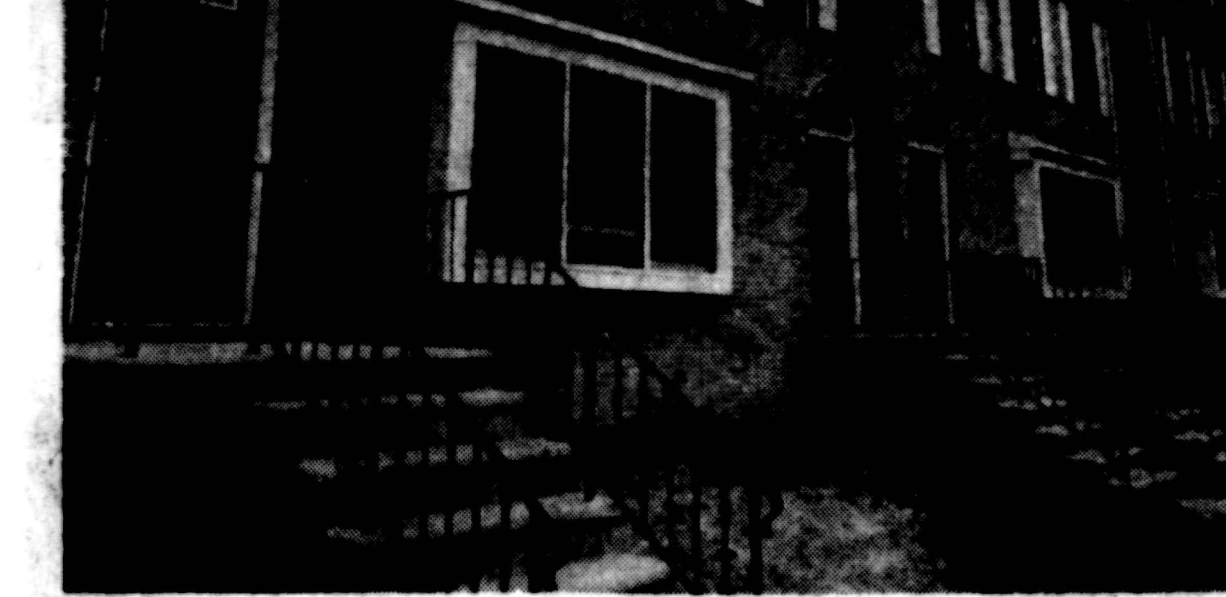
The other available land plots are at 600 Observer Highway; 67 to 69 Paterson Ave.; 458 Second Ave., next to a fire station; 302 to 304 Madison St.; 514 to 526 Madison St.; the corner of 16th and Jefferson; and 259 to 265 11th St.

While most of the land is not the city's best, it still would bring a high price on the market, anywhere up to \$25,000 for a small lot, said realtor Eileen Cappock.

The price would be higher if you had more than one lot and they were together. With one lot, there's not a heck of a lot you can do with it," she said.

Barry said that the market prices for land, should the city have to purchase land instead of using what is available, will make affordable housing impossible.

"Affordable housing cannot compete in this market. If we had all of the subsidy programs, in their heyday, available to us, the demand of the middle class (for housing and property) still would make low income housing



Along Grand Street between Newark and First streets is a model of federal and private money at work together. Caparra Homes is a project of two family homes that are owned by middle income residents and the top floor is rented to low income families.

impossible," Barry said. He said the popularity of the city, its close proximity to New York City, drives up the values of property and affordable housing is not cost effective.

That goes for converting existing structures into affordable units, too, he said. "When we started (Applied Housing) I bought a 10-family tenement for between \$25,000 and \$45,000 maybe \$50,000 a building. That 10-family tenement today, raw, will sell for \$200,000 to \$250,000, almost 10 times as much."

He said the cost per apartment has gone up "from the \$5,000 when we started to about \$25,000, just past the limit of what HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) will fund," he said. HUD will partially fund \$20,000 units. The only way to bring that cost down is by using city land. "The city owns land. The city has to commit certain of its land, if it wants to have affordable housing," Barry said.

Mayor Tom Vezetti said using city land is just one of the city's options. He said the city is also considering building on top of and adding to existing structures such as the Multi-Service Center at 124 Grand Street. However, he said no final decision will be made for about 60 days. He said a housing plan is being formulated and that it would be premature to comment on what the city may or may not do.

Once a decision on a course of action is made, deciding on the type of housing is crucial. There is manufactured housing and, of course, building from scratch.

Manufactured housing would be the easiest and quickest way to put up housing. The quality is good, depending on the company, but may not cost very much less than starting from scratch.

According to information provided by the Manufactured Housing Institute in Arlington, Va., in 1983 the cost for 1,035 square feet of manufactured housing was \$21,000. That translates to \$20.25 per square foot. The most recent statistics available were for 1983. According to the U.S. Commerce Department, it cost an average \$41.64 per square foot to build a house from scratch during 1983. The value of the land was factored into the \$41.64 average.

A manufactured home is a residence built in a factory and transported in one or more pieces to the site and placed on a permanent foundation.

Modular housing is basically the same as manufactured housing but is not built to National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

According to the MHI, 259,079 manufactured homes were shipped to dealers during 1983.

Jersey City has a project which was built during the early 1970s with money from the federal government's Operation Breadbasket. "It's a midrise of about 40 units," said Jeff Zak of Jersey City's Department of Housing and Economic Development. He said concrete forms were trucked to the site, at Kennedy Boulevard and Newark

yet been published to bolster his argument.

He gave a detailed description of test scores that have dropped as much as 20 percent in several of the city's schools as proof of a declining quality of education.

Block said reading scores in five of the city's seven elementary schools were down nearly 20 percent.

This is not a record any of us can be proud of," Block said. Block also criticized the ad-



A vast majority of the construction currently being done in Hoboken is similar to the Jefferson Trust Condominiums at First and Clinton streets. Permits to undertake similar construction have been barred for 60 days via a housing freeze imposed by the City Council.

Avenue, and housing was created.

Also in Jersey City is the Henderson Street South project where modular, manufactured single family homes were placed by a private developer. The 38 homes that were placed there averaged \$29,000 each at market prices in 1978.

Conversions of existing building stock is a possibility in Hoboken, but, as Barry said, costly. One area that could be examined is the development of underutilized school buildings. For example, Hoboken elementary schools Demarest and Rue are about half full, according to Board of Education reports. If the schools were combined, one of the schools could be converted into housing.

## School budget OK'd, Maier raise cut out

By Earl Morgan

The Hoboken City Council last night approved a \$5,631,909 appropriation for the city's 1985-86 fiscal year budget but chopped a \$7,908-a-year raise for the superintendent of schools from the school budget.

Board of Education President John Pope said he will recommend the board not use its right of appeal to the state Commission of Education to challenge the decision.

"We already have an agreement with the superintendent, but we can talk to him about it," Pope said.

With the \$7,908-a-year raise the salary of Superintendent George Maier, who is retiring, would have been \$74,917.20.

The resolution passed at last night's special meeting was

sponsored by Councilman Pat Pasculli, who said the superintendent's salary "is going through the roof."

Steve Block, an ally of Mayor Tom Vezetti and a school board critic, said one municipality in affluent Bergen County pays its superintendent of schools more than Hoboken does.

"In Passaic County, there are no school districts that pay superintendents as much as Hoboken does," Block said. "In Paterson," he continued, "The superintendent earns \$67,811 for a school district that's more than five times the size of Hoboken."

Block contended that while the superintendent's salary has gone up the quality of education

See SCHOOLS — Page 7.

## Lawyer gives local artists a chance to be seen

By Rose Duger

Hoboken artists have found a patron in attorney Frank Marciano. He offers them the next best thing to money — space.

Since his Newark Street law office opened in February, the storefront display window has showcased some of the finest works turned out by Hoboken artists. Marciano selects new displays every few weeks with Nancy Deihl, window curator who has organized exhibits at the Whitney Museum and Christie's Gallery.

"The selection doesn't depend on what Nancy and I like," Marciano said. "Some works have a real quality of depth that shows a creative energy. It's a shame because the art community produces so much work, yet it's hard to exhibit."

The demand for space is tremendous. But my window isn't a gallery. It's an alternate space open to professional artists who can make something pretty."

The most recent artist to "make something pretty" in Marciano's window, Celia Parker, created the illusion of an aquarium with fluorescent-colored fish suspended from the ceiling.

Marciano charges no rent for the space he provides. The window nurtures his enthusiasm

in the office. Between 75 and 100 original canvases of all sizes and shapes carpet a corner of his law office basement floor.

"Don't call my painting a hobby. It's an obsession," he

so popular that several artists displayed there received offers to buy their works.

"There have been offers, but the prices are so high," Marciano said. "These are serious

for the art community, a love born when two artists painted an oversized mural on the wall of his former Newark street apartment.

Each morning for four weeks, Kit Sailer and Michael Berman painted while hanging suspended outside Marciano's window. The mural, a brightly-colored surrealist image of an alley, inspired Marciano to start his mini-gallery located across the street.

"Kit and Mike would knock on my apartment door early every morning to walk out of my window and paint," he laughed. "They'd be out there all day. Sometimes I'd stick my head out the window to talk to them."

Now artists and passerby stick their heads in Marciano's office door to comment on the exhibits. He turns away many artists, preferring to open his window only to professional artists from Hudson County.

"I like to use Hoboken artists, but I can't say no geographically," Marciano explained. "A lot of artists have moved to Jersey City because of high rents in Hoboken. We're going against the pretension of New York City, though. They show whatever the current fad is, whoever's the hottest artist."

Although Marciano himself dabbles in abstract painting, don't expect to see his work exhibited

said. "But I'm a lawyer, not an artist. This whole office is my creation, and all of my energy goes into it. It's just satisfying to have something work so well."

His minigallery has become artists who don't have other jobs, who scrape together livings any way they can. I like their ability to paint and make money in all different strange ways."

## Ranieri selects old foe as Hispanic affairs aide

By Margaret Schmidt

Assemblyman Robert Ranieri has appointed a longtime political opponent as his legislative aide for Hispanic affairs.

Ranieri — who serves Hoboken, Guttenberg, Union City, Weehawken, West New York and parts of Jersey City — named Juan Garcia after meeting with him Monday.

Garcia, head of two Hoboken groups, Citizens United for New Action and Alliance of Tenants Organizations, approached Ranieri about the voluntary post and offered to put past difference aside, both said.

Ranieri and Garcia have had many past disputes and recently had a battle in a local newspaper through the Letters to the Editor column. Garcia charged that money Ranieri was seeking from the state for victims of an industrial fire would be better used for housing and asked "Where was Mr. Ranieri?" for several scenarios.

## Hoboken can't hire from 'biased' test

By GEORGE ANDREASSI

United Press International

NEWARK—A federal judge yesterday refused to allow Hoboken to hire new firefighters based on a civil service examination given in October 1982, which allegedly discriminates against minorities.

U.S. District Court Judge E. Lee Sarokin said the city had not proven it was in desperate need of additional firefighters.

Sarokin ruled applicants for the job would have to take a new civil service test before the city could hire any of them as firefighters.

Hoboken is barred from hiring firefighters based on the October 1982 test because the U.S. Department of Justice has challenged its validity in a federal lawsuit.

State civil service tests are used to rank the candidates for firefighter jobs in each municipality with a paid fire department.

The Justice Department's civil rights division claims the October 1982 test is invalid because it discriminates against minorities by

eliminating them from the field of job candidates at a twice the rate at which it eliminates whites.

The civil rights division filed lawsuits in 1977 and 1979 naming the state as a defendant along with cities with a lower percentage of minorities on the fire department than in the labor force.

Included in the suit were Hoboken, Jersey City, Paterson, Camden, Trenton and New Brunswick and other cities. The lawsuit continues as the validity of new civil services tests is debated.

A group of 20 men who applied for jobs as Hoboken firefighters based on the October 1982 test had requested that Sarokin allow the city to hire additional firefighters.

Sarokin said he sympathizes with the plight of the men who passed the exam and "stand on the brink of appointment."

But he said in his opinion, "Those affected will be required to take the test again and, therefore, they will have the same opportunity to be appointed as they now have."

See HOBOKEN, Back Page



Old public school number 8, the Sadie F. Leinkauf School, is being converted into luxury condominiums. The same principle could be used to create affordable housing. The city could merge the student bodies of two underutilized schools and convert the vacated school into housing.

## City will name 30 new cops with state aid funds

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken plans to use nearly \$1 million in state and local funds to hire 30 police officers.

The state is expected to pay \$732,353 toward the hiring and the city would contribute \$183,088, officials said.

The city is applying for supplemental Safe and Clean Neighborhoods funding after Gov. Thomas Kean approved the matching grants program specifically for additional police officers.

Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for Mayor Tom Vezetti, explained that the funds will also be used to outfit the new officers with uniforms, bulletproof vests, walkie-talkies and ammunition.

More than 60 men and women have applied for the new hiring. Police Chief George Crimmins said many, however, either decided against completing the battery of tests

needed to be on the list or failed early stages.

The final tests, psychological exams, are being given this week.

Once a list is compiled, the city may apply for the funds, Fabiano said.

It was unclear who would appoint the new officers.

According to city law, police and fire appointments are made by the director of public safety, Crimmins said.

However, the new administration plans to abolish the department of public safety and have the police and fire departments answerable to the business administrator.

Although former Public Safety Director James Giordano has resigned, no steps have been taken to abolish the department.

Fabiano said she would check with the Law Department to see whether the mayor or business administrator would make the appointments.

## Sunshine Law cancels meeting on sewage plan

By Anne Kornhauser

A special meeting of the Hoboken City Council was cancelled yesterday because the city clerk failed to give sufficient notice of the meeting to the press.

Under the New Jersey State "Sunshine Laws," public bodies must provide a "48-hour notice" for all meetings that are not regularly scheduled and an annual notice that lists the times of regular meetings.

The city clerk's office did

not notify the press of the meeting until yesterday.

The meeting was rescheduled for tomorrow at 4 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The agenda for the special meeting includes a presentation of a plan to build a secondary sewage treatment plant; an appointment of a public safety director; and a vote on a \$500,000 Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) for a proposed office building on Hudson Place.

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ministrators employed in the Hoboken school board. "Districts our size do not have a need for the equivalent of three assistant superintendents," he said.

Pope responded to Block's criticism by saying he did not know if the statistics are correct but that he would investigate. "I find what was said very disturbing," Pope said. in the city has gone down. He cited statistics he said have not





CHRISTMAS IN JULY — It may be summer, but Joey Matosic, left, and Matthew Ulrich of Hoboken make careful selections of toys they'd like to see during the holidays this December. The toys were displayed outside a store on Washington Street.

## U.S. aid earmarked for fixing city roads

By Rose Duger

Hoboken will receive a grant of \$720,000 from the U.S. Department of Economic Development Authority for a project to improve roads in the city's northwest industrial section.

Mayor Tom Vezzetti's office received word of the approval Tuesday from Rep. Frank J. Guarini, who backed the grant along with Gov. Thomas Kean, and Sens. Bill Bradley and Frank Lautenberg.

"We're very delighted," said Sixth Ward councilman Angelo Valente, who has worked at negotiating for the grant since July 1, when he took office. "This will help to bring back the industrial area of Hoboken and transform it into a vibrant section of our town. We're aggressively trying to protect industry in Hoboken."

Valente said the construction project, which will replace or reconstruct catch-basins to reduce flooding and rehabilitate streets, should create more than

100 jobs for Hoboken residents.

At a July 3 council meeting, three contractors bid for the project. Concrete Construction Co. of Hackensack placed the lowest bid at \$1,067,150, with Dell Contractors Inc., Paterson, at \$1,358,450, and Haskell Excavating Corp., New Brunswick, at \$1,407,595. The three bids have been referred to the Community Development Agency, which has taken no action.

The road area targeted for improvement will also provide a convenient access to the New Jersey Turnpike via Route 3.

Sited for reconstruction is Madison Street between Ninth and 15th, Monroe Street between Eighth and 11th, Grand Street between 13th and 14th, 13th Street between Grand and Madison, and Jackson Street between Eighth and Ninth.

Also, Jefferson Street between 14th and 15th, Eighth Street between Monroe and Jackson, Ninth Street between Madison and Jackson, and 11th Street between Madison and Monroe.

## Vezzetti to leave hospital Monday 2 weeks at home

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti is expected to be released from St. Mary Hospital on Monday.

Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for the mayor, said doctors also told Vezzetti yesterday that he will have to stay home two weeks.

Vezzetti was admitted last Friday when doctors detected an irregular heartbeat during a routine physical.

In the week he was hospitalized, Vezzetti reportedly ran the city from his bed.

Responding to concerns that no one with official status was attending to city business during the week, Fabiano said, "Tom is still conducting everything — he even did in ICU."

Councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri yesterday called for a full report of the mayor's office for the week.

Ranieri, an opposition councilman who is serving his fourth term and is also a state assemblyman, said he wants to know "who has been sitting in the mayor's chair, what meetings have been held" and what decisions have been made.

Fabiano said Ranieri was welcome to go to City Hall to get answers to his questions.

Vezzetti, who took office July 1, has yet to appoint key directors with the exception of Fred Woeckner, law director.

He didn't designate an acting mayor during his absence.

Further, Edwin Chius, business administrator under former Mayor Steve Cappiello, has agreed to act as interim administrator, but is vacationing until July 29. Fabiano said he may cut short his leave because of the mayor's illness.

Ranieri pointed to the lack of top officials at City Hall and complained that Fabiano might be running the city.

"The only one who seems to be minding the store, giving advice, is a young woman named Laurie Fabiano who is certainly inexperienced in municipal

## ShopRite mart staying in city

By Rose Duger

ShopRite in Hoboken is not closing. That word came from Sid Singer, part-owner of the Washington Street store, after he met with a representative of Mayor Tom Vezzetti to dispel rumors that the popular food mart was leaving town.

Angelo Valente, Sixth Ward councilman, met with Singer Monday in the council chambers at Vezzetti's request. Hospitalized since Friday, Vezzetti had originally planned to attend the session.

Singer said that despite offers from developers who wanted to build condominiums

on the site, he has pledged to keep his store in Hoboken. He and his brother, Martin, never discussed property values with developers, he added.

"ShopRite is absolutely staying," he said. "We haven't seriously entertained any specific offers at the moment."

In addition to the property remaining as is at 59 Washington St., Singer is considering two options. He may sell the air space above the store for developers to build housing, with the market remaining as a lower-level storefront. Or, if offered enough for the land, he could move the store to another Hoboken location, he explained.

ShopRite has been on the Washington Street site for 15 years after its predecessor, Singer Supermarket, on Washington Street between Second and Third streets, closed.

Valente said Vezzetti is "delighted" about the outcome of the meeting.

"This is one of the first things Tom spoke about doing as mayor," Valente explained. "We're very pleased, and want to work to keep other businesses in town."

Besides ShopRite, Hoboken has two Foodtown stores and various smaller specialty shops.

## Historic District panel approves 3 building changes

The Hoboken Historic District Commission approved three construction applications and recommended approval of a fourth during a meeting Tuesday night.

Claire Walter, a commission member, said that although only three of the seven commissioners attended the session, three proposed renovation plans were approved. Under the group's charter, each major construction project must get four affirmative votes, but minor renovations may be passed with less than four.

Jane Cho, owner of property at 330 Washington St., was granted permission to erect a sign. The matte black sign with white lettering will stand outside the new Jane's Boutique on Washington Street.

Emilio Amato also got the nod to renovate two buildings at 300-302 Hudson St. At 300 Hudson St., former site of a dry cleaning store, Amato will construct a realty office, while next door he will renovate the former bar for use as a residential unit. The board also granted permission for Amato to construct a penthouse upstairs in both buildings that won't be visible from the street.

Gerald Baker, owner of the Hoboken Land Building,

received permission to add two Victorian-style light fixtures to the building at 1 Newark St. facing the Erie Lackawanna Park and Terminal.

The three commissioners present recommended approval of additional plans submitted by Baker to construct an eight-story brick and granite office complex at 2 Hudson Place. Walter said the remaining four commissioners will review Baker's plans, with only one vote needed for final approval.

The board approved initial plans for Baker's building last month. Tuesday the three commissioners examined samples of brick and granite proposed for use on the facade.

In other business, the commission recommended contractors build a cornice at 262 Washington St. Owned by Robert Goodman, the building needs a new cornice because the old one has deteriorated and is a safety hazard, Walter said. In 1983, the commission granted Goodman permission to remove the old cornice provided he replace it with a new one.

In addition to Walter, commissioners present at the meeting were Helen Manogue, chairwoman, and Terry Castellano, Jerry Noriega, Fred Bado, Robert Ranieri, and Joyce Pyrelli were absent.

## Vezzetti to leave hospital next week

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti's heart was beating normally yesterday, his doctor said, as the mayor continues to rest and recuperate at St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken.

Vezzetti was admitted to the hospital Friday after his doctor discovered an irregular heartbeat during a routine examination.

Dr. Richard Hermann said Vezzetti suffered from the premature contractions of the ventricle, the bottom chambers of the heart. He also suffered from a quivering of the atrium, the top of the heart, he said. Hermann said Vezzetti's heartbeat was brought back into a normal rhythm with the use of a prescription drug, quinolate.

Hermann said the end

result of the premature contractions and the quivering was extra heart beats, which he said, could have been fatal if undetected.

He said the irregular beats were not present when he examined Vezzetti one week prior to the Thursday exam during which he discovered the irregular beats.

Vezzetti was very well, was out of intensive care and walking around his room, Hermann said. His visitors are still restricted and he is not permitted a telephone. "If we gave him a telephone he'd be on it all day and wouldn't be resting," he said.

He said Vezzetti should be released from the hospital sometime next week but was unsure which day.

## Vezzetti target remains temporary administrator

By Margaret Schmidt

A top Hoboken official who was promised a pink slip during the recent mayoral campaign will act as interim business administrator under the new regime.

Edwin Chius, business administrator under former Mayor Steve Cappiello, will continue in his post until another person is appointed, said Laurie Fabiano, spokeswoman for Mayor Tom Vezzetti.

Vezzetti, who was Second Ward councilman until his election to mayor June 11, had often promised Chius he would be the first Cappiello appointee to be fired when he took office.

Fabiano said Chius has been "a great help" in the transition between administrations.

"We've been working well together," she said. "He's been very, very cooperative."

Chius could not be reached for comment yesterday, but has previously said he would honor Cappiello's request that city employees be helpful in the transition.

Fabiano said the process of finding a new business administrator is a long one even though about 25 persons have applied.

The long list of applicants has made the search more difficult in a way, she explained, because each person has to be interviewed.

"We're interviewing every night," she said, adding that approximately 10 persons have

already met with the transition team.

The Vezzetti administration also has to fill the posts of public works and community development directors.

Fabiano had expected the public works spot would have been filled yesterday, but the top candidate for the post rejected the job.

The candidate, whom she declined to name, is a professional in private industry and decided he didn't want to move to a government job that can only be depended on for four

years, she said.

A transition committee will be formed to study the public works department, Fabiano added, so it can evaluate programs while looking for a director.

The post is empty because the former director of Environmental Services and facilities, William Van Wie, resigned when Vezzetti took office.

The director of the Community Development Agency, Fred Bado, is staying while the Vezzetti transition team searches for a new director.

## Forms in good supply but few apartments

Applications for apartments in the city's federally subsidized housing project will be given out July 25, despite few vacancies and a waiting list already 263 families strong.

Housing Authority Executive Director Dominic Gallo said persons who have not placed an application or who wish to check the status of an application already submitted should visit the project's Harrison Street community room on that day. He said a time for the session has not been decided but that newspaper advertisements will be placed announcing the session's time.

"It doesn't make sense at this point. But, it's the wish of the administration that applications be taken," Gallo said. "We have no choice."

## Cappiello seeking office for real estate business

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN — It wasn't long ago that then-Mayor Steve Cappiello found it difficult to get away from his City Hall office. Now he's having trouble finding an office for his real estate business.

After 12 years as the city's top public official, Cappiello is bringing his real estate license out of retirement to try his hand at private enterprise.

"I'm looking around to see if I can locate an office. I'm working out of my home right now," the 61-year-old Cappiello said yesterday.

Cappiello was defeated in the June 11 mayoral runoff by Thomas F. Vezzetti.

Cappiello said he never used the real estate license — issued to him some 20 years ago — while he was mayor.

"I would not sell anything during my term as mayor — now I want

to get out there ... start buying and selling for people," Cappiello said.

The former mayor said he is general manager of the Kirk Realty Co., a business he and Hoboken attorney Sam Marciano established the day each received his real estate license.

"It was used very sparingly," Cappiello said, referring to both the business and the license.

The company operates from Marciano's law offices at 55-57 Newark St., but Cappiello said he hopes to find a separate office for it soon.

While mayor, Cappiello often was accused, sarcastically, of owning half of the city's residential and commercial properties.

In a recent interview with The Dispatch, he said his property holdings — one-third of his 530 Adams St. home, two empty lots and a three-story apartment building — are worth \$150,000 to \$175,000. His wife is a partner in



Steve Cappiello Working out of home a corporation that owns two 10-unit apartment buildings on Hudson Street.

Cappiello said he has yet to make any money as a real estate agent.

"There is no money to be made in this business until you go out and work hard," he said.

## Vezzetti in hospital 'is doing very well'

Hoboken Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti was reported in stable condition last night after being hospitalized Friday for an irregular heartbeat.

"Tom is doing very well and is resting comfortably," said Laurie Fabiano, mayoral executive assistant. "He is better than (Friday)."

Vezzetti is in the intensive care unit at St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken, she said, and he may begin taking medication this week.

The recently-elected mayor is expected to stay in the hospital for about a week. Vezzetti will continue to make any pressing decisions and will remain in daily contact with his office, Fabiano said.

Vezzetti was admitted to St. Mary's after a routine medical examination on Friday revealed

an irregular heartbeat. His doctor, Richard Hermann of Hoboken, described the condition as "minor cardiac arrhythmia," Fabiano said.

Fabiano said it was not unusual for someone with this condition to be admitted to the hospital, to make sure the heartbeat is monitored.

An arrhythmia is an irregular heartbeat which, in the opinion of Vezzetti's doctor, is not dangerous, Fabiano said Friday. The 57-year-old mayor also suffers from high blood pressure, she said.

Fabiano said Friday the irregular heartbeat was probably a result of the mayor's busy schedule during his first month in office.

A statement on Vezzetti's condition will be released every 24 hours, the spokeswoman said.

## Vezzetti treated for heart ailment

Hoboken Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti was admitted to St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken yesterday after his physician discovered an irregular heartbeat during what a city spokesman called a routine checkup.

Mayoral executive assistant Laurie Fabiano said Vezzetti was admitted to the hospital's intensive care unit as a "routine procedure" for a hospital patient being checked for a heart problem.

She said Vezzetti's doctor, Richard Herman of Hoboken, described Vezzetti's problem as a "minor cardiac arrhythmia."

Fabiano said Vezzetti underwent a physical examination last week and that during a follow-up exam yesterday Herman suggested the mayor check into the hospital.

The 57-year-old mayor was conscious and talking, Fabiano said. Heart specialist Dr. J. Damle was handling the case, she said.

Vezzetti is expected to remain hospitalized for "about a week" but will be in daily contact with his office, Fabiano said. A statement on his condition will be released every 24 hours, she said.

An arrhythmia is an irregular beating of the heart.

Fabiano stressed that in the doctor's opinion, Vezzetti's condition is not serious. The mayor has suffered from high blood pressure for many years, he has said.

Fabiano said the irregular beat probably was caused by Vezzetti's busy schedule and long hours during and after the June 11 election in which he claimed his seat.

## Vezzetti runs city from hospital bed

By Rose Duger

Mayor Tom Vezzetti is conducting business as usual from his bedside in St. Mary Hospital as a Hoboken police officer stands guard outside his room in intensive care.

Laurie Fabiano, mayoral executive assistant, arranged yesterday to assign the guard to prevent people, who have been "literally sneaking up the back stairs," from seeing Vezzetti. The guard will remain on duty until Vezzetti is released.

Vezzetti's private physician, Dr. Richard Hermann, phoned Fabiano yesterday morning to report that the mayor is resting comfortably and should be released either today or tomorrow. Hermann and St. Mary cardiologist Dr. J. Damle prescribed medication to regulate Vezzetti's heartbeat. Fabiano said she also expects

them to recommend a strict diet for the mayor, who has a history of high blood pressure.

Hermann ordered Vezzetti into the hospital Friday after a routine physical indicated the mayor was suffering from cardiac arrhythmia, an irregular heartbeat. Tests done over the weekend revealed that Vezzetti's heart is in no danger, Fabiano said.

"He was lucky if he got four hours sleep the week before he was hospitalized," Fabiano explained. "There's a good chance this was caused by over exhaustion and overwork."

Only family members and Vezzetti's closest mayoral aides and council members have been allowed to visit him. Intensive care limits visits to 15 minutes. Fabiano said she saw Vezzetti several times to bring papers for his signature and discuss City Hall matters.

Hundreds of cards and letters have poured in to boost the mayor's morale, she said.

"He's fine and in very good spirits," Fabiano said. "He's been joking all weekend with doctors and nurses."

## Vezzetti out of hospital, lawyer is acting mayor

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti has been discharged from St. Mary Hospital and has named an acting mayor to handle city business until Monday.

Vezzetti, 57, who was admitted to the hospital July 12 for treatment of an irregular heartbeat, was released Monday night and is recuperating in Sea Bright, said mayoral spokeswoman Laurie Fabiano.

Dr. Richard Hermann ordered that Vezzetti convalesce away from City Hall for two weeks, Fabiano said, but the

mayor will be back on light duty next week.

Vezzetti appointed Law Director Fred Woeckner as acting mayor in a letter, Fabiano added. "As a technicality."

"He is still carrying on business as usual," she said of Vezzetti, because aides are taking work to him.

The mayor won't attend tomorrow's special meeting of the City Council or the Board of School Estimate. The council meeting has been called for 4 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the

school's budget, and the Board of School Estimate is scheduled to convene at 7 p.m., 1115 Clinton St., to discuss an overtime check and salary raise to Superintendent of Schools George Maier, who announced yesterday he will retire.

Fabiano and Woeckner both said they foresee no major decisions for the law director, who joined the administration this month, to make as acting mayor.

"There is nothing," Woeckner said. "That can't wait until Monday."

## Vezzetti takes 6-day leave of absence

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN — The city's law director yesterday was sworn in as acting mayor until Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti recovers somewhere on the shore from an irregular heartbeat.

The 57-year-old Vezzetti was released from St. Mary Hospital here Monday night and taken to an undisclosed location at the shore, according to Laurie Fabiano, a member of Vezzetti's transition team.

hospital's Intensive Care Unit July 12 after a routine physical examination detected an irregular heartbeat.

At Vezzetti's request, Law Director Fred Woeckner was sworn in as mayor at 3:30 p.m. yesterday by Assistant City Clerk Frank Fortunado.

Fabiano said Woeckner is expected to be acting mayor until Sunday. She said Vezzetti will resume the position on a part-time basis on Monday when he returns here.

Fabiano would not disclose where Vezzetti is staying while recuperating from hospitalization, and she requested that all questions be channeled through her.

Councilman Robert A. Ranieri yesterday said it was about time someone was in charge of city government.

"It only took us 10 days to realize we should have someone at the helm directing the ship," he said.

Last week Fabiano said Vezzetti was running the city from his hospital bed.



## Doctor expects to release Hoboken mayor this week

By TOM DIPIAZZA  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti jumped up from his hospital bed and unbuttoned his pajama top to answer a question about his health.

"See how much weight I've lost?" Vezzetti asked, showing off a leaner frame. "Beautiful. Beautiful."

Vezzetti, in an interview Saturday in his room at St. Mary Hospital here, reported that he has lost 26 pounds and feels "excellent." His doctor said he expects to release Vezzetti this week, although no date has been set.

Vezzetti was admitted to the hospital July 12, when a routine checkup revealed he had an irregular heartbeat. Dr. Richard Hermann described the 57-year-old mayor's condition as "very good."

"Everything has been corrected by medication," Hermann said Saturday. He added that Vezzetti has been told to spend two to three weeks recuperating at home before returning to City Hall.

Vezzetti is to remain on medication to help control his blood pressure and heart rhythm, Hermann said.

Hermann said he will give Vezzetti a diet and exercise program to follow, and said he has urged the mayor to slow his pace.

Vezzetti said that may be the most difficult of the doctor's orders to follow. "I don't know if I can keep within 100 percent (of the guidelines)," he said. "I'm a little wayward. I have to admit. But I'll keep within 95 percent."

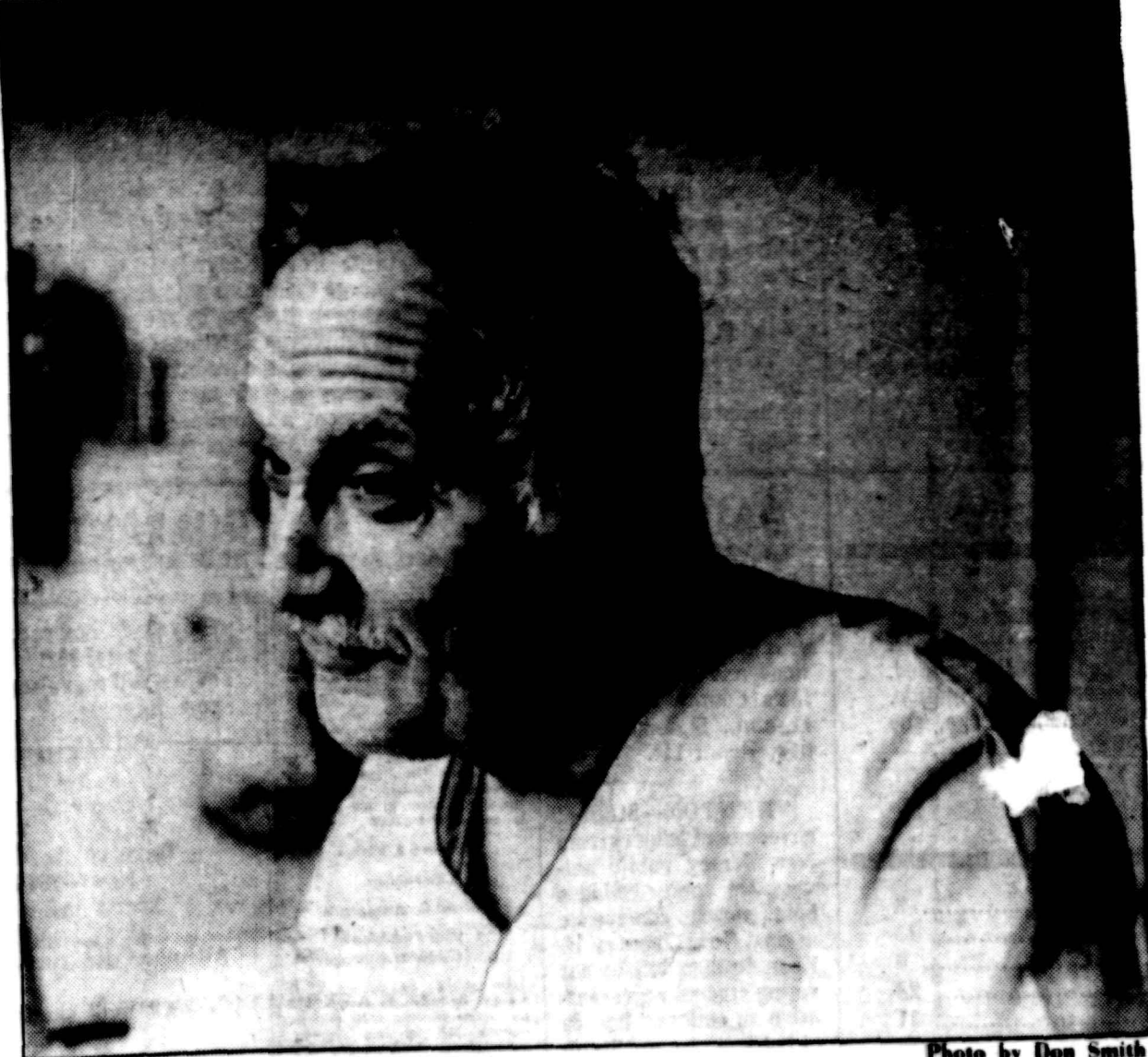
Hermann said Vezzetti, who defeated Steve Cappiello June 11 after an exhausting campaign, cannot work around the clock. The night before he was admitted, Vezzetti was out touring the streets until 1 a.m.

"That's what put him here to begin with," Hermann said. "I'm not going to see that happen again."

In an effort to give Vezzetti the rest he needs, he was assigned a room without a telephone. At one point, a city police officer was stationed outside his door to screen visitors.

No officer was present Saturday, but apparently one was not needed. A nurse abruptly ended a visit with Vezzetti, chasing three people from his room, including Charles Calabrese, a barber who had just finished giving the mayor a shave.

"That nurse, she's tough," Calabrese said as he left the hospital. "You have to give her credit. She takes care of her patients."



HOBOKEN MAYOR Thomas F. Vezzetti listens to a question in his room at St. Mary Hospital there Saturday.

Photo by Don Smith

## Vezzetti's back, feeling fine

By Margaret Schmidt

Tom Vezzetti is back at work. The new mayor of Hoboken, less than a week out of the hospital, was behind his City Hall desk yesterday.

Vezzetti, hospitalized 10 days with an irregular heartbeat and high blood pressure, spent this week resting in Keansburg and said he was in "excellent" health.

With his 5-foot, 11½-inch frame about 25 pounds lighter, Vezzetti said he has cut soda from his diet and is eating only two meals a day. He ate a light

fruit salad lunch as he spoke with reporters. "I wouldn't say I was close to death," he said "but let me say this: I didn't need too many more contributory factors."

Vezzetti, 57, blamed his illness on over-extending himself in the job he took over July 1 — after months of arduous campaigning against three-time Mayor Steve Cappiello.

"I gave my heart and soul," he said, "to the city." In a routine examination July 12, Dr. Richard Hermann became concerned about Vezzetti's heart and blood pressure and ordered him into the hospital immediately. Vezzetti was admitted to St. Mary Hospital's intensive care unit.

Medication has corrected the irregular heartbeat and brought his blood pressure down, the mayor said, noting that some medication may be discontinued.

Vezzetti was released from St. Mary last Monday and rested at a friend's home in Keansburg. He will be on a light schedule next week, putting in about three or four hours a day at City Hall. That doesn't include night meetings and the obligatory two-hour walk to and from his 14th Street home and

See VEZZETTI — Page 6.

## Vezzetti feeling fine

Continued from Page 1

City Hall, said Councilman Joseph DellaFave.

Vezzetti thanked the City Council for its "supportive" work in the last two weeks and the people who sent mass cards, letters and get-well cards.

The mayor appeared well but somewhat sluggish during most of the half-hour interview. He posed without a shirt, flexing his muscles to show off his slimmer physique. He said he has been sleeping more than he was used to.

Asked if he or his doctors are concerned he might be unable to complete the four-year term, Vezzetti said, "No, I want to run for office again. Are you kidding?"

Fred Woekener, Law Department director, will continue as acting mayor through Monday, Vezzetti said.



Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti flexes his muscles in his room in St. Mary Hospital. Stricken with a heart ailment on July 12, he is expected to be released today or tomorrow.

Photo by Ray Greening

## Vezzetti going home and hospital is glad

By Pat Donnelly

Officials at St. Mary Hospital are finding that having Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti as a patient is a bit like taming a wild pony.

So far they haven't managed to break him.

Despite his doctors' strict orders to curtail visitors and their refusal to allow a phone in his room, Vezzetti has managed to conduct business, contact city officials, and visit friends — sometimes by sneaking to a pay phone or shouting out his window.

On Saturday morning, he was with the press in his hospital

room for the first time since he was hospitalized July 12 for a heart ailment. He is expected to be released today or tomorrow.

Appearing trimmer (he has lost more than 20 pounds) and noticeably more relaxed, Vezzetti was energetic and animated during the brief visit.

He quickly attacked rumors that his aides, specifically city spokeswoman Laurie Fabiano, were conducting city business during his illness. He said that she has aided him in communications with city officials but that he has handled all of the official work.

See VEZZETTI — Page 6.

## Park facelift plan calls for return to Victorian look

By Rose Dager

The Hoboken Community Development Agency (CDA) will meet tomorrow with city residents to present revised plans for improvements to Church Square Park. The session will begin at 7 p.m. at the Hoboken Public Library, 500 Park Ave., opposite the park.

The 19th Century park is slated for a \$300,000 revamping funded by the CDA. If residents approve plans drawn up by Trenton-based architect Clarke and Caton, construction should begin by mid-October, said CDA director Fred Bado.

Slightly more than one-third of the cost will include straightening and re-paving paths that currently curve through the park at each of four corner entrances. Sidewalks are cracked and the concrete has become brittle with age.

Other specifications call for landscaping to remove stumps of fallen trees, removing existing sod and re-seeding lawns, planting trees and shrubs, and installing new fencing around the perimeter of the park.

The pavilion will also get a facelift, with basketball courts and playgrounds moved slightly to stress the building as the center of the park. Built in the 1880's by the Works Progress Administration, the structure has been painted and defaced by graffiti.

"This is a Victorian park," Bado explained. "It was originally a strolling park, with musical entertainment in the pavilion later. We hope to eventually bring back the musical entertainment."

Residents at two preliminary meetings earlier this year protested plans to straighten paths, saying the new layout would destroy the park's Victorian flavor. Bado said that reproducing and paving the curved paths in their current shape would use most of the money allotted for the project.

Architects' renderings now call for all paths currently entering the park to be preserved, but straightened slightly. Each will lead to an inner oval ring surrounding the center pavilion.

Bado said the revised plans also attempt to meld the activity-oriented east portion, which has basketball courts and play equipment, with the west portion, which still resembles its original 19th Century appearance. Play equipment will be relocated to ensure a division between areas for younger and older children.

An existing bocci court which has been used recently may be converted into a playground for smaller children.

If residents request no major changes in the revised plans, Bado hopes to submit the drawings to the city council for consideration at its next meeting. The council would then advertise for project bids, usually a month-long process.

"I'd like to have a majority of the work done by winter," he said. "If the winter is severe, we'd have to delay the remaining work until next spring."

Sixth ward councilman Angelo Valente suggested to Bado that the CDA present plans to city residents for approval before going to the council, the director added.

## Vezzetti steps into overtime dispute

Continued from Page 1

lawsuit instituted by former Board of Education member Steve Block, a Vezzetti supporter.

The case is scheduled to go before an administrative law judge in Newark on Sept. 18.

Vezzetti also plans to question the Board of Education's recent approval of pay raises for Maier and two assistant superintendents, Fabiano added.

Last week the board approved a raise for Maier from his \$67,000 annual salary to \$74,500 and from \$61,927 to \$65,700 for the assistants.

In a related matter, Vezzetti has called a special meeting of the City Council for 4 p.m. Thursday at City Hall to vote on the \$25 million proposed school budget for 1989-90.

The Board of Education and Board of School Estimate have already approved the budget.

Vezzetti, 57, who took office July 1, has been hospitalized for treatment of an irregular heartbeat since July 12. His doctor advised him to take at least two weeks for rest before returning to City Hall.

## Vezzetti enters overtime dispute

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken Board of School Estimate will discuss a controversial year-old overtime check to the school superintendent at a special meeting Thursday, 7 p.m., at 1115 Clinton St.

Mayor Tom Vezzetti, who is expected to be released from St. Mary Hospital today, plans to attend the meeting against doctor's orders, said mayoral spokeswoman Laurie Fabiano.

Vezzetti called the meeting to discuss what he considers pos-

sible "improprieties" of the school board in approving a \$5,484 overtime check to Superintendent George Maier last summer. Fabiano explained.

Maier hasn't yet cashed the check, which he has said was for work he did last summer to prepare for the reopening of the David E. Rue School and for the state's evaluation of the school district.

The check is the subject of a

See VEZZETTI — Page 6.

## Vezzetti is going home

Continued from Page 1

"With all her inspirational personality, I am still the mayor of this city," Vezzetti said.

On Friday, councilman-at-large Robert Ranieri called for a full report on the activities of the mayor's office during Vezzetti's illness.

"That's just Mr. Ranieri's double talk," Vezzetti said. "He's a councilman and an assemblyman and he never does his council job."

The appointment of city directors, the investigation of alleged improprieties by Hoboken parking authority director Joseph Hottendorf and an investigation into the salary increase awarded Hoboken superintendent of schools

George Maier will be "priority items" on his agenda when he is released, Vezzetti said.

Dr. Richard Hermann, Vezzetti's physician, said an additional convalescent period of two to three weeks will be necessary before the mayor is allowed to assume a full schedule at city hall. He indicated that a rest period in Hoboken was probably not possible for his patient.

"Not for Tommy. He'd find a way to sneak into city hall," the physician said.

The doctor, who was the chief resident in family practice at St. Mary Hospital before starting a private practice in Hoboken, said that stress was the greatest contributing factor to Vezzetti's heart condition.

## Successor to Hottendorf sought

By Margaret Schmidt

The Hoboken Parking Authority will advertise for an executive director next week.

The board of commissioners will conduct a professional search for the post vacated by Joseph Hottendorf on Tuesday, said Commissioners Dr. John Muciaccia and Don Pellicano.

Hottendorf resigned — effective Aug. 2 — in the midst of investigations by the county prosecutor's office and an ad hoc committee of the City Council.

The probes are into media reports linking him to voided parking tickets.

He has insisted he's done nothing illegal and said yesterday he had planned the move independent of the controversy.

The board voted at a special meeting July 8 to suspend Hottendorf without pay for two weeks beginning Aug. 14. It said the official had used improper judgment in some of his actions but wasn't guilty of any crime.

The investigations concern reports that Hottendorf asked

the municipal court judge to void parking tickets because meters weren't operable even though notations on the tickets indicated they were. Also, he and associates have had tickets voided after parking in an area marked "No Parking" on 14th Street because the signs aren't legal.

The five-member board of commissioners hopes to have a new executive director by Aug. 2 and might appoint an interim official if one hasn't been selected by then, Pellicano said.

Advertisements for the post will be placed in four local newspapers and resumes will be requested.

Among the qualifications the commissioners are seeking are knowledge of setting up a budget and handling financial reports, management skills and experience in dealing with elected

officials and the public, Muciaccia said.

Hottendorf, who was a banker before taking the executive directorship in 1976, was also hired after advertisements were run.

The Parking Authority, an autonomous body, appoints its own head. The commissioners can take recommendations from anyone but make their decision independent of the mayor and city council.

Hottendorf was being paid an annual salary of \$40,000.

In a related event, new Mayor Tom Vezzetti commented that he was "absolutely thrilled" Hottendorf was resigning.

A longtime political foe of Hottendorf, Vezzetti said the resignation marked a step "toward clean government" in Hoboken.

"They don't have to halt all construction to halt development," he said.

Superior Court Judge Joseph T. Ryan is scheduled to hear arguments on the group's suit next Tuesday, the day before the ban is scheduled to take effect.

Maurice said he will argue that the city could accomplish its housing goals without the construction ban and that his clients will be penalized in taxes, interest rates on mortgages and construction fees while being barred from "profitable use" of their properties.

## Council will hear sewage plant plan today

By Anne Kornhauser

A proposal for a secondary sewage treatment plant will be outlined today at a special meeting of the Hoboken City Council.

James A. Federline, Inc. will make a presentation at the 4 p.m. meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on a plan that has been submitted to the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The city is under a federal order to have secondary sewage treatment on line by July 1988.

The council is also expected to appoint Ed Chiusi to public safety director which will be an interim position un-

til the department is abolished.

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti, looking trim at first day back on the job after a brief hospital stay, said yesterday that the council will introduce an ordinance at the meeting to abolish the department, which he has called unnecessary.

Under the new arrangements, the police and fire directors would report to the business administrator. Chiusi is currently acting business administrator.

In other business, the council will vote on a \$500,000 Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) for a proposed eight-story office building at 2 Hudson Place, known as the Baker building.

## After 60-day moratorium expires

## Hoboken may buy empty property for homes

By JOHN O'NEIL  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Some of the vacant land and/or empty buildings affected by the city's residential construction ban may be bought by the city for low-income housing after the moratorium expires, city Law Director Frederick Woekener said yesterday.

The city also may try to acquire sites for housing projects by reclaiming land it has sold to developers who did not live up to the conditions attached to the sale, Woekener said.

Woekener defended the 60-day moratorium, which was challenged

in Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City yesterday, as essential to protect the city's options as the administration of Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti studies the shortage of housing here.

"We may have to take title through eminent domain to certain parcels," Woekener said. The city does not want to see some of the parcels built up while it "takes a look at what's going on," he said.

The moratorium, passed by the City Council July 17, would bar the issuance of building permits for residential construction while a task force develops recommendations for increasing the supply of low- and moderate-income housing.

An attorney for the coalition of contractors and developers seeking to have the moratorium declared unconstitutional called Woekener's comments "ridiculous."

"There's plenty of land available," said Alfred Maurice of Fairview, who represents the Help Hoboken Housing group. "There will be abundant land left after the 60 days. The impediment (to low-income housing) is not in these developments."

The coalition is a group of 25 contractors, suppliers of building materials, architects and others whose work is related to development. Maurice said yesterday the coalition objects to the moratorium

as being too broad.

## 'Toastmaster General now in intensive care

Hoboken's "Toastmaster General," Jerry Molloy is in critical condition today at St. Mary Hospital.

Molloy, 77, was admitted to the hospital July 22 for a possible stroke condition and was in the special care unit. On Sunday, he was moved to the intensive care unit after his condition worsened.

In May, the Boys Club and Hoboken Head Start Center on Jefferson Street were dedicated as the Jerry Molloy Youth Center. Molloy and his wife, Florence, attended the ceremony and were feted by a crowd of more than 200 friends and relatives.

A Hoboken native, Molloy was an after-dinner speaker at Hudson County events for years, often using his Irish wit to needle the honored guests. He was particularly well known in sports circles and had devoted much of his time to recreation programs for youngsters.

He is one of the founders of Hoboken's Little League teams



Jerry Molloy "Cricket"

and coached baseball at St. Peter's College and high school teams in Elizabeth and Paterson.

"He is one of the great Irish legacies of Hoboken," said Mayor Tom Vezzetti yesterday. "I certainly hope he will recuperate as soon as possible."



## Residents win two battles on Hoboken parking space

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken residents frustrated by inadequate parking won two battles last night when projects involving 25 spots were either defeated or tabled by the zoning board.

The board voted 5-to-0 to deny a variance requested by Waterfront Properties Inc. for 819-821 Washington St. and to table a discussion of James Caulfield's plans for 214-216 Willow Ave.

Parking in the city has become increasingly difficult as development continues.

Peter Fioretti, head of Waterfront Properties Inc., had brought the board a three-year renewable lease agreement for the 10 spaces he needed to provide but the board found it unacceptable.

"Scale your project down," board member Mary Perry told Fioretti when making the motion to deny the proposal.

Six uptown residents objected to the project, citing the already tight parking situation.

Maureen Singleton, a neighbor of the project and a local realtor, brought a 1981 study that showed the area was already overwhelmed with cars.

"I park in the bus stop," she said to illustrate the problem. Fioretti's proposal called for 20 units in a building that now serves 10 families, so the zoning board required him to secure off-street parking for the difference.

He originally approached the board with a lease agreement with Foodtown at Ninth and Clinton Streets, but the board rejected that because the

lot is already used by three restaurants.

Last night, Fioretti brought an agreement with Vincent and Florence Pasquale for 15 spots in a lot at 607 Willow Ave., six blocks away.

The neighbors argued that condominium owners may not want the added expense of off-street parking, especially several blocks away, and may refuse to participate.

They also questioned what guarantees could be given that the lot owners would not sell or develop the property.

"Until you provide adequate parking," said Alice Galsman, Singleton's partner, "please give us a break."

Singleton added, "After the building is done and the

See RESIDENTS — Page 25.

## Residents win two battles on parking in Hoboken

Continued from Page 1

developer is gone, we're the ones who are going to suffer."

Another nearby resident, Caroline Carlson, quoted the zoning law that says off-street parking should be within 800 feet of project site and warned the board that it would be unwise to act against that.

On the 214-216 Willow Ave. project, the application was tabled after a dispute over whether the developer should provide parking for the 15 dwelling units.

Eli Dresler, architect, and Leonard Franco, attorney for the project, argued that the project was exempt from the one off-street spot per unit rule because it was being planned for a mostly vacant lot.

They quoted an "in-fill housing" clause of the zoning ordinance but were challenged by Steve Block on their reading of the law.

Block noted that the or-

dinance states the exception is for buildings proposed on vacant land or as replacements for non-residential buildings. Because a one-family house is already on the site, he contended, the rule wouldn't apply.

Board attorney Peter Daglian refused to rule on the issue because he wasn't satisfied Block was technically an "interested party" allowed to speak.

"I cannot do that," he said, referring to an interpretation of the ordinance, "unless an interested party brings that up."

Board Chairman Frank Cameron promised to look into the matter himself, and member Salvatore DeGennaro moved that the application be tabled.

In other business, the board voted 4-to-1 with Marie Versaci dissenting to grant a variance to George Palermo for construction in the rear of 600 Washington St.

Palermo, whose son George

Jr. will live in the unit, arranged a lease agreement with Joseph Caporaso for a space in a lot at 600 Adams St., six blocks away.

The younger Palermo said he works until 3 a.m. and sleeps during the day so he prefers to walk six blocks than have to move his car for sweepers or run out to put money in meters.

The board okayed a development at 218 Clinton St. when James Caulfield showed parking for 70 cars, four more than required.

It approved an application by Eli Dresler when he, as owner, provided 100 percent off-street parking for a 38-unit development in an old factory at 1016-1024 Clinton St.

It tabled discussion of 205-207 Park Ave. after it was determined that site plans left in the building inspector's office for the public to view were incomplete.

## St. Ann's festival tries to top last year's guests

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken's annual St. Ann's Festival celebrates its 75th anniversary July 26 with the traditional mass, procession through the city and feast.

The novena leading up to the feast day begins Wednesday at St. Ann's Church, Seventh and Jefferson streets. The festival, which includes ethnic foods, games and amusements, will be July 23 through July 28.

Last year, the feast drew international attention when President Reagan made a campaign stop there. Hoboken native Frank Sinatra and New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean also attended.

Carol Branda, spokeswoman for the feast committee, said Reagan was invited this year again.

Other "surprise guests," she added, "will knock your socks off."

Rev. Vincent Liuzzo, pastor of the church, explained that the festival has become such a strong Hoboken tradition that people travel hours to attend the mass and procession. Some devotees from Italy even arrange their vacations so they can be in the city for the feast.

"It's really heartwarming," he said.

The tradition of the feast began in Italy, he explained, and came to Hoboken with immigrants.

The procession, in which parish women take turns carrying the image of the patron saint of women, is a recreation of an Italian tradition.

"It's an honor to carry the saint," Branda said, noting that more women usually ask to take part in the procession than there are spots for.

The women, preceded by a marching band and cannon blasts carry the saint throughout the city following an 11 a.m. mass which will be celebrated with Bishop Lawrence Graziano as the main celebrant.

The feast will be open all day July 26 and other days it will be 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Entertainment will include the Heartaches on July 23 and Shirley Alston, formerly of the Shirelles, on July 25.

Branda isn't worried about the weather for the feast saying that in her memory, even on rainy days, the sun shines when the statue is taken from the church for the procession.

"St. Ann," Liuzzo explained, "has never let us down."



The annual Feast of St. Ann, to be celebrated July 26, draws thousands to an 11 a.m. mass at St. Ann's Church, Hoboken. They then take part in a procession around the city in which parish women carry a 600-pound statue of the saint and many devotees pin jewelry and money to her mantle.

## Yearly procession honors a parish's patron saint

By RENEE M. LYNCH  
Special to The Dispatch

HOBOKEN—St. Ann's Church is planning a celebrated mass in honor of St. Ann today at 11 a.m., followed by a procession of women parishioners carrying a statue of the patron saint throughout the city's streets.

The mass is to be administered by the Franciscan Order of Capuchins; the main celebrants are Bishop Graziano and the Rev. Vincent Liuzzo.

Anne Russo, a parish spokeswoman, estimated that thousands will attend the mass.

"The church will definitely be filled to capacity, and some may have to wait outside to pay their respects to the saint," Russo said.

The parade scheduled to follow the mass marks the 75th year the church has honored their patron saint.

The 6-foot-tall statue of St. Ann was brought here in 1910 from Monte San Giacomo, a small town in southern Italy.

## Parish women to march four hours

The church, located at 704 Jefferson St., honors the saint with traditional Italian customs, which include a large parade and planned festivities.

Russo approximated that the entire procession, which begins outside the church, will take four to five hours. The women of St. Ann's are planning to march to 11th Street and then to Bloomfield Street before returning to the church.

According to the Roman Catholic Church, St. Ann is the mother of the Virgin Mary and the patron saint of women. Although men are not allowed to carry the statue during the procession, they are asked to pray to St. Ann in remembrance of their mothers and grandmothers.

The mass and parade are among the special events planned as part of the 75th annual festival, which began Tuesday. Games, rides, music, homemade foods and live entertainment are also featured.

The church is scheduled to conclude the week of entertainment late Sunday night.

Comedian Pat Cooper plans to make a guest appearance at the festival on Sunday at 7 p.m., near the church on Jefferson Street.

Disc jockeys from 2-100 Radio, the band Heartache and the lead singer of the Shirelles are among the celebrities that attended the festival this past week.

Last year the festival was honored with a visit from President Reagan, Gov. Thomas H. Kean, Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, entertainer Frank Sinatra and Archbishop Peter L. Gerety.

Proceeds from the festival benefit the church and its activities.

St. Ann's is scheduled to hold mass tomorrow at 7 p.m. and on Sunday at 7, 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m., and again at 12:15 p.m.

For more information, call St. Ann's Rectory at 650-1116.

## Hoboken mass draws throng

By NICK PARINOLA  
Special to The Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Hundreds of parishioners went home disappointed yesterday as rain and flooding postponed the 75th anniversary parade of St. Ann's Church.

"I am heartbroken that she didn't come out. As long as I am alive, I've never seen a rainy day on St. Ann's Day," said Maria DeCorgallo of Garden Street in Hoboken.

But according to the Rev. Vincent Liuzzo, pastor of St. Ann's Church on the corner of Seventh Avenue and Jefferson Street, the parade has been rescheduled. "The weather was bad, so we decided to postpone the parade until Sunday," he said.

And despite the bad weather, the mass honoring St. Ann, the mother of the Virgin Mary, went on as scheduled yesterday at 11 a.m. as several hundred parishioners flocked into the church to pay homage to the saint. The six-foot, 600-pound statue of the saint stood on the altar as people approached it, genuflecting, praying and pinning money on it before leaving.

Liuzzo added that, traditionally, only women will be carrying the statue, which will tour the city's streets beginning at noon tomorrow and returning to the church at 5 or 6 that afternoon.

The mass and parade are among the events planned as part of the 75th annual festival, which began on Tuesday and is scheduled to end tomorrow. Games, rides, music, food and live entertainment will also be featured.



Photo by Gary Hixson  
TRISH DeROSE of Hoboken lights a candle at St. Ann's Church there yesterday in honor of the mother of the Virgin Mary.

## Hoboken building ordinance draws fire

By BRAD KELLY  
Staff Writer  
7-2695

HOBOKEN—A 60-day moratorium on residential construction is "offensive" and "prejudicial," according to a local realtor who expects this week to join 25 other individuals in seeking a temporary injunction against the ordinance.

Realtor Michele Russo, in an interview yesterday, said the moratorium is not the answer to the city's housing crisis, and expressed fear that it could be extended.

Russo is a member of the Holy Hoboken Housing organization, a coalition of contractors, realtors, developers, architects and homeowners who have banded together to fight the moratorium. She said the 25 individuals who are expected to file for a temporary injunction this week in Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City are also members of the organization.

The moratorium, which is aimed at prohibiting the issuance of building permits for residential properties with four or more units for a period of 60 days, has come under fire for including vacant lots and industrial buildings.

"If I bought an empty lot right now, I couldn't get a permit to build a one-family home," Russo said.

She said she also thinks it is unfair to forbid a developer to convert a non-residential building into apartments or condominiums.

Realtor Eileen Cappelletti yesterday said she is not necessarily opposed to the moratorium, but opposes prohibiting developers from building residential units even if they are not displacing residents.

The City Council last week approved the moratorium. It is seen by its sponsors, Mayor Thomas F. Vezzeiti and Councilman-at-large Patrick Pasculli, as giving the city time to come up with a plan for affordable housing. But according to Russo, a plan can be worked out without the imposition of a building moratorium.

## Replacement of Hoboken police radios spurs dispute

By BRENDAN NOONAN  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Police who have been unwilling to swap out their Motorola radios for new guidance systems for nuclear missiles.

The head of the PBA last week blasted the guidelines, which forbid the city from awarding contracts to companies that participate in the building of nuclear weapons.

Police Officer Thomas Meehan, president of the PBA, called the ordinance "an insane thing" because it prevents the city from

buying radios from either Motorola or General Electric Co., the two largest manufacturers, which are both involved in the production of guidance systems for nuclear missiles.

The radios now in use pick up police transmissions from Bridgeport, Conn., which use the same frequency. Police Chief George Crimmins said last week he has been directed by the state Public Employees Relations Commission to replace the radios, but an ordinance passed last year makes Hoboken a "nuclear-free zone," blocking Motorola and GE from

winning the contract.

A state arbitrator, called in to mediate between the PBA and the department, ordered Feb. 16 that the new system be installed within 90 days, but the Police Department could not comply because of the ordinance. The department was not penalized.

"We've been using Motorola since I've been a police officer," Meehan said, but he added, "I don't care who they deal with."

Meehan rejected a suggestion by Judith Karpman of Hoboken Action for Nuclear Dismantment that the company that services the old radi-

os, Fidelity Communications Inc. of Jersey City, could make modifications to solve the problem.

"They can't even repair the radios," Meehan said.

Acting City Administrator Edwin Chius said last week that the unfilled \$10,000 contract will have to be put out for bids again, but Meehan urged that an exemption be made to the ordinance "before a citizen gets hurt or a police officer gets hurt."

"There are no fines involved," Meehan said. "You're not gonna hurt Motorola" by not awarding it the contract.

## EX-seminarian likens Vezzeiti to Saint Francis

By Paul Cleary

Some theologians may disagree with him, but Gerard Costa sees a bit of Saint Francis Assisi in Hoboken's new mayor, Thomas Vezzeiti.

And, since the saint is the spiritual guide for the former seminarian, Costa, a member of the Vezzeiti transition team, likes the potential for the city. "Saint Francis always tried to separate substance from appearance. Tom Vezzeiti is a tangential, scattered person on the surface. The other mayor (Steve Cappelletti) was a three-piece suit, was easy going and looked like an administrator."

"Under of external veneer of chaos, Vezzeiti has always had an inner sense of what is absolutely good for Hoboken," Costa said.

Costa, who is working toward a doctorate degree in developmental psychology at Temple University in Philadelphia, is not a politician.

He does not want to be one. But, he said, an administration such as Vezzeiti's gives people with talent a chance to use their skills.

"Government needs some people to be non-politicians. Tom Vezzeiti will use the good talent around him," he said.

Vezzeiti said that Costa is one of those talents. As a member of the transition team, he is helping to evaluate candidates for the executive director job at the Community Development Agency. Eventually, Vezzeiti hopes to appoint Costa to the Board of Education.

"He just a very bright individual," Vezzeiti said of Costa.

Vezzeiti said that Costa cares about people and it appears that Costa has dedicated his life to helping. He has taught, he has been a researcher and knows he works with the mental, emotional and motor development of children from birth to age three years for the Associa-

tion for Retarded Citizens in Union City. He also works as a psychotherapist for the Community Mental Health Center at Christ Hospital in Jersey City.

His involvement with children has included being the first director of HOPES Head Start pre-school in Hoboken and organizing Head Start conferences for instructors.

Costa's commitment to people transcends the politics of city government. "Politics seduces people into believing that they can't do something. That's the most insidious thing about it," he said. Costa said he wants to be a part of a government where services are not dependent upon whom a person supports. "This concept of loyalty where you are expected to support someone you just can't support," is something that Costa is trying to shake from other people.

Often he has had to take an unpopular stand but because of his convictions, he stood firm even in his own house. He sup-

ported Vezzeiti while his wife supported challenger Tom Kennedy, to whom she is related. Costa said that both husband and wife understood the other's position. Under the election Costa unsuccessfully attempted to mediate between the camps.

"Only if you're connected, you survive. We've got to stop that. We can't have indentured servitude."

Costa believes that the Vezzeiti administration, via its dramatic contrast, can be nothing but therapeutic for the city, even if a few mistakes are made.

"Tom Vezzeiti is the most non-materialistic person. He doesn't get caught in the trappings that others do. This will be principled, honest government. The old Hoboken saw that he was courageous and was saying the things that they couldn't and rallied around him."

"For better or not, they found a home in Tom Vezzeiti."



Photo by Gary Hixson  
SORTING THROUGH PILES of unpaid parking tickets, violations clerk Marian Roland, left, and assistant clerk Elaine DePlato register names at the Hoboken Parking Violations Bureau yesterday.

## Hoboken scofflaw drive nets \$244G

HOBOKEN—A crackdown on scofflaws has netted the city nearly \$250,000 in just three months, but the Violations Bureau has only begun to scratch the surface, according to violations clerk Marian Roland.

"It's been very lucrative," Roland said yesterday referring to the crackdown that just last week brought in an average of \$10,000 a day.

Since the first delinquent payment notices were sent out three months ago a total of \$244,738 has been collected by the bureau, Roland said.

But she said it will take the bureau at least four years to get rid of a backlog of some 300,000 unpaid parking tickets that have been accumulating since 1970.

"We have only five employees. We've been told no overtime. It's penny wise and pound foolish," she said

referring to the apparent reluctance of the administration to expedite the enormous backlog, which reportedly represents at least \$1 million worth of uncollected revenues.

People with unpaid parking tickets are being sent a notice asking for payment in full. Roland said failure to respond to the notice can result in a scofflaw's driver's license being revoked by the state Division of Motor Vehicles.

A state law that took effect Monday enables municipalities to place liens against motorists' property, garnish their wages and ask the DMV to suspend their licenses if they have failed to pay even a single parking ticket.

There is a \$6 penalty attached to each overdue parking ticket.



# Builders want Hoboken moratorium overturned

By Margaret Schmidt

A coalition involved in Hoboken's housing redevelopment plans to go to court tomorrow seeking an injunction against a 60-day building ban set to become law Aug. 6.

Twenty-five plaintiffs — who include developers, real estate brokers, contractors, building suppliers, architects and building managers — are seeking the injunction and a show-cause order for what they consider a "wholly inappropriate" measure, said Hackensack attorney Alfred F. Maurice, who is representing the coalition.

The Hoboken City Council approved a 60-day moratorium for housing of more than three units at its July 17 meeting.

Acting Mayor Fred Woekener, director of the Law Department, said he was confident the city would have "no problem" showing the need for the moratorium.

"I don't think anybody can show that they're going to be irreparably hurt by this moratorium," he added.

In calling for the ban, the administration has cited a "public emergency" caused by rapid development and the displacement of many low- and moderate-income families.

The two-month period is intended to cool development while giving the city a chance to devise a housing program, Councilman Pat Pasculli has said. It is needed, he added, to prevent further displacement while the program is being developed.

The measure, Maurice contended, goes substantially beyond those purposes.

Maurice pointed to the fact that vacant land, where no displacement could take place, is included in the law as proof that the ordinance oversteps its cited purposes.

Woekener responded that although he doubts the step would be taken, the city included vacant land so that its power of eminent domain — to take over privately owned land — wouldn't be hampered.

The suit will have three major points, Woekener said.

First, the plaintiffs will contend that the ordinance should be avoided because of what they consider improper notification of the public hearing at which it was adopted.

The agenda for the meeting — which about 200 persons attended — was never published. However, the city contends it fulfilled its obligations under the state Open Public Meeting Act by notifying local newspapers of the meeting and publishing the ordinance in legal advertisements.

Second, the plaintiffs will say the ordinance is "arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable," Maurice said.

And, third, they will contend it amounts to an unlawful taking of private property rights.

Damages will be sought for anyone who suffers because of the moratorium should it go into effect, Maurice added.

"There is very little likelihood that the ordinance as written could stand up," he said.

One legal source who agrees with the administration that the moratorium is needed concurred with Maurice that the wording of the ordinance is weak.

"It's a public emergency," Woekener responded. "If the courts don't agree with that, that's beyond our control."

Maurice declined to name the 25 plaintiffs until the papers are filed.

The main plaintiff is Help Hoboken Housing, a group of about 60 developers, contractors

and others involved in construction who have established a legal defense fund to fight the ban. The other plaintiffs are businesses and individuals, Maurice said.

Woekener said he thinks the plaintiffs may be "overly concerned" about the moratorium and that their attitudes are wrong. He invited them — and anyone involved in Hoboken housing redevelopment — to help the city formulate a housing program and put it into effect.

Maurice will file the papers in Hudson County Superior Court, Jersey City. The request for a temporary restraining order could be granted immediately with a hearing on a permanent injunction to follow, or a judge could simply set a hearing date.



Photo by Victor Oshingko

WOMEN CARRY A 500-pound plaster statue of St. Ann as the parade portion of the annual festival honoring the saint gets under way off Seventh Street in Hoboken yesterday. Story on Page 13.

# Festival recalls old traditions

By ELIZABETH MOORE  
Staff Writer

The figure is only 4 feet tall, but weighs more than 500 pounds. It wears a garland of gold jewels, gifts from its devotees, who also pin money to its satin gown. President Reagan paid it a visit last year, and yesterday, as it has each year for 75 years, it paraded the streets of Hoboken, blessing Catholic homes.

The plaster statue of St. Ann, the Madonna's mother and the patron saint of pregnant women, was brought to America 75 years ago from Monte de San Giacomo, a small town in southern Italy. It is borne through the streets by women in the annual festival of St. Ann.

"I used to (help) carry it all around," said Millie Magliaro, 63, a Hoboken resident whose grandparents came over in the 1800s. "Now I've taken sick."

Magliaro and her sister were sitting with their grandchildren in the Monte San Giacomo Democratic Club on Adams Street, waiting for the procession to arrive.

The club was founded by and is mostly made up of immigrants from San Giacomo, which at one time organized the feast. It is a rest stop in the annual five-hour procession, where the statue is normally set down and free drinks and sandwiches are distributed to the marchers.



Photos by Victor Oshingko

FELICIA BARBRITO feels the burden of carrying the statue of St. Ann through Hoboken during yesterday's festival parade.

Hoboken has become a special place for the people from San Giacomo. "Half the town is here," noted Charles Totaro, the club's former president.

"Sandy Hooks," as the San Giacomo immigrants call

themselves, followed relatives to Hoboken from the 1800s till the 1960s, when living conditions in Italy became more tolerable. For the immigrants, the feast is a celebration of tradition, of their success as an Italian community in America.

The march began, as usual, shortly after noon at the end of Sunday mass at St. Ann's Church. Several hundred women and children gathered outside the church when the statue was brought out, but thinned considerably after two hours of walking through yesterday's heat.

The procession was informal, with marchers and spectators stopping to accept gifts and bless homes, to change bearers and wait while fireworks exploded in the streets ahead. The marchers chatted with spectators massed on their stoops.

"This is my number one land," Totaro said. "In Europe, our parents had nothing. Here, we can get an education for our kids."

"We got ahead," Magliaro said — as janitors, shoeshine boys,

seamstresses and factory workers.

Over the years, the festival has changed. Celebrants walked in the procession barefoot until a decade or so ago, according to Theresa Baracchi, who said she has watched the procession from the same Grand Street doorstep for 63 years.

People used to take off from work and give that day's pay to the Society of St. Ann. Totaro said. Church women used to go door to door collecting money for the festival, Magliaro added, but with the changing composition of Hoboken that is no longer practical.

And, Totaro recalled, the festival was a little bigger in the old days. "It's a different generation. This takes a lot of work. The younger generation looks for more entertainment."

But the older ones remembered, and many returned to pin money on St. Ann's gown. "They're here today," Magliaro insisted. "They have come from all over, our palsans."



ALTAR BOY Philip Scandigno, left photo, leads the St. Ann festival parade along a Hoboken street while, farther along the route, a boy reaches out from his perch to touch the saint's statue.



# Hoboken council balks at school budget

By Jonathan Moses

The Hoboken City Council voted 5-3 yesterday to table a vote on the 1985-1986 \$24.7 million school budget until Monday, because several council members charged that the Board of Education had not provided all the information

necessary for the council to reach a decision.

The budget should have been approved before July 1. It needs approval by the council before it goes into effect.

But council members associated with Mayor Thomas Vezzetti want additional information, including budget

worksheets, before they can make an "informed" decision.

That additional information was denied by John Pope, president of board, an appointee of former Mayor Steve Cappiello.

Pope said specific information about how money is spent is privileged to the school board and the council received all the

information required by state law.

The council, which funds about 30 percent of the school budget through city taxes, is informed of the size of the budget, the sources of funding, and the general area where the money is

See HOBOKEN — Page 12.

# Vezzetti now likes Chius — enough to keep him on?

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti spoke graciously last week of the interim business administrator but declined to say if he planned to keep him on the job.

"He's really gone out of his way," the mayor said of Edwin Chius, who was business administrator under former Mayor Steve Cappiello. "I can never thank him enough."

Chius was treasurer of Cappiello's reelection campaign and a top strategist. He also contributed financially to the effort.

While Vezzetti was Second Ward councilman — for two years before his June 11 victory over Cappiello — he often criticized Chius and stomped into his office to lambaste him. Chius, for his part, seemed to enjoy baiting Vezzetti with questions he knew the councilman couldn't answer.

On Friday, however, Vezzetti described Chius as an intelligent man who was doing a superb job. He said his former statements about Chius were strictly political.

"Politics is political," he said. "I went after Eddie

because of politics. I think his protection of the mayor (Cappiello) was not in the interest of the people of this city."

He quickly added that since July 1, when Vezzetti took office, Chius has cooperated fully.

"I give him credit," he said. The Vezzetti administration has yet to appoint several top officials including the business administrator, director of public works and community development chief.

Aides have reportedly interviewed several people for the

See VEZZETTI — Page 6

Continued from Page 1

spent, he said. Pope said this is also the only information provided to county authorities.

However, Pope said the worksheets were given to members of the Board of School Estimate. "In a spirit of cooperation," the board is made up of the mayor, two council members and two representatives from the Board of Education and must also approve the budget.

The board okayed the school budget in early March when it was still controlled by the Cappiello administration. New council members on the Board of School Estimate have not seen the worksheets and other materials used to prepare the budget.

At yesterday's council meeting the confrontation was

between Councilman-at-large Pat Pasculli, a member of the Vezzetti team, and Pope.

The council's legal advisor, Fred Woekener, told the members they had a legal right to any information concerning public funds.

He also told Pope the council might sue for the documents and asked him to avoid the embarrassment of a city suing its own school board.

Pope said he also might seek action from higher authorities. He told a reporter that if the school budget was not passed at yesterday's meeting he would go to county and state authorities today and ask them to force the budget on the city.

Pope also warned council members that if the budget is not passed soon schools might not open in September.

"I understand the urgency to make a decision on the budget,

but at the same time newly seated council people have not had time to make an intelligent decision," Pasculli said. He added that because decision had been denied they needed more time to get that information.

Pasculli expressed the need for policy changes in the schools. He charged that the school district emphasized the upper administrative echelons at the expense of the instructional levels.

That charge echoed a hotly worded letter sent to council members by Vezzetti, who wrote that the Board of Education has "served notice on the community that it is out of control," in what it spends for administrative salaries.

The controversy over administrative salaries extends from the recent pay hike for school Superintendent George Maier to \$74,500 from \$67,000,

one of the highest in the county. Pope called the council push for information a "witch hunt" against the current school administration and Maier, who says he will retire in December.

"A search for information is not a witch hunt," said Councilman Joseph Delle Fave, a Vezzetti appointment to the School Estimate board.

Councilman Robert Ranieri, a Cappiello holdover, urged that the budget be passed.

During a recess Ranieri said that it was too late to make any changes in the budget and predicted the present budget would eventually be adopted.

"Three months ago the budget could have been changed," Ranieri said.

"We shouldn't be in this position," Pasculli said. But he added that a budget should pass at next week's meeting.

# Hoboken nuke ban may be amended

Continued from Page 1

trouble has gone on too long. Radio transmissions are sometimes blocked by signals from Bridgeport, Conn.

Business Administrator Edwin Chius has recommended the Motorola bid be rejected and new bids solicited. He said the administration may decide to redesign the system and seek different contractors.

Hoboken Action for Nuclear Disarmament initiated the "nuclear free zone" ordinance last year by collecting nearly 3,000 signatures on petitions. The City Council adopted the ordinance last summer.

The ordinance requires that no nuclear weapons, delivery systems or components be produced or stored in Hoboken; no waste from the production of nuclear weapons or power be stored in the city; no research furthering the development of such arms be conducted; advance notification of radioactive waste shipment be given; and no business be done between the mayor and council and any company involved in the production of nuclear weapons or components.

Hoboken was the 62nd municipality in the nation to adopt such a measure.

# Hoboken has second thoughts on nuke ban

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken's "nuclear free" status may be modified by an amendment that the city's law department considers important to public safety.

City Attorney Fred Woekener said yesterday that he plans to ask the City Council to amend the "nuclear free zone" ordinance to permit exceptions to a ban on doing business with companies involved with nuclear weapons.

The suggestion arose after

The Jersey Journal reported that contracts to repair police radios were delayed because the lowest bidder, Motorola, is involved with national defense contracts.

Woekener said he believes an amendment should be drawn so the council could override the ordinance in cases where an "ongoing threat to public health and safety" was posed. He said he didn't know if the radio situation would be such an exception.

Mark Arnold, an attorney who represents Hoboken Action

for Nuclear Disarmament, responded that he doesn't believe the ordinance should be tampered with.

"Amendments to the ordinance should be very carefully considered since this was a voter-initiated referendum which was passed unanimously by the City Council," he said.

"In fact," he added in response to Woekener's "public safety" argument, "the ordinance is directed to protecting all of us from the very real threat of nuclear annihilation."

See HOBOKEN — Page 12.



# Laurie Fabiano, an ascending star in Hoboken's firmament

By Rose Duger

Pick any major Hoboken event in the past five years and you'll probably find that Laurie Fabiano was at the heart of it.

• Hoboken Celebration '82, a series of 250 cultural events in a three-month span culminating in a two-day waterfront festival.

• The Harbor Festival Foundation's July 4th celebrations in New York and New Jersey.

• The recent mayoral runoff election, which saw Tom Vezzetti defeat incumbent Steve Cappiello.

Now Fabiano, 28, has emerged from the midst of Vezzetti's administration, the calm eye in a tornado whirling through City Hall leaving a trail of government reforms in its wake.

A transition team member awaiting appointment as Vezzetti's executive assistant, she has made order from the chaos that erupted when the mayor was hospitalized soon after taking office.

Finding herself suddenly thrust into the spotlight as Vezzetti's official spokeswoman, Fabiano has drawn criticism from people labeling her as a political usurper.

"The general public has accepted me very well," she said shortly before Vezzetti returned to office on Friday. "Certainly there's been vocal opposition at City Council meetings. But I can't help but think a lot of that is sour grapes from people who resent the outcome of the election."

A self-proclaimed born organizer, Fabiano's cool professionalism stems from her

## NEW FACE at City Hall

love of Hoboken and her experiences in taking unrelated factions and tying them into colorful cultural events.

Although she's lived in Hoboken only six years, she expresses an affection for the area usually found in lifelong residents. Her grandparents emigrated from Italy to open a beauty salon on First Street and raise her father. The Cedar Grove native spent most of her weekends in the city as a child, a welcome change from the quiet.

"Hoboken to me was always so active compared to the suburbs," Fabiano said. "I thought it was exciting that you could walk right out to the corner store and buy milk, and that you could get on a train and be in New York in a few minutes."

But Hoboken's real drawing card for Fabiano, a Syracuse University graduate with degrees in sculpture and art history, was the wave of artists sweeping into the city before gentrification took hold. After extensive travel in Europe, she grabbed their coattails and landed in a Hoboken studio.

Like many artists, she led a hand-to-mouth existence, with friends often feeding her as she etched out a meager living as a part-time proofreader and sculp-

tor. Her sculptures on feminism and war—"they're black humor"—were her first attempts to gain recognition in Hoboken.

"I call them my 'comments on the media,'" she said. "Everything was so classic. I had a studio. It was very easy to live cheaply here."

That ability to live cheaply pushed Fabiano to take on the first of several large-scale projects, Hoboken Celebration '82. She tested her idea on then-Mayor Steve Cappiello, who embraced it as a way to build pride in the city.

Within several months, hundreds of people had volunteered their help. The artistic celebration also marked her introduction to Hoboken's political arena when she met Angelo Valente, now a Sixth Ward councilman who had volunteered as a teen involved in the Young People's Action Organization.

Fabiano worked on the project as president of the Hoboken Cultural Council without pay for two years, a position equivalent to a full-time job. She drained her bank account to pay the rent. The successful campaign catapulted Fabiano into her next position, deputy director of the Harbor Festival Foundation to

coordinate and advertise the popular July 4th celebrations in New York and New Jersey.

When the foundation parceled out its advertising to a public relations firm, Fabiano became a freelance consultant for large-scale projects, including a film festival in Milan, Italy. Then it was on to her father's engineering and manufacturing firm in Totowa six months ago, where she headed marketing operations in the power tool division.

Through her friendship with Valente, Fabiano's role in Hoboken politics had grown, as she organized his unsuccessful bid for a council seat two years ago. A Democrat, she even joined the Republican Party (Valente is a Republican) for a short while before changing parties again this year. She also drew on her artistic reserves to produce radio commercials, advertisements and graphics for Vezzetti's darkhorse win.

"I enjoy keeping a background role," Fabiano said. "I don't like going to clubs and meetings, but I'm constantly doing something, bringing together different factions and creating. 'Tom was one of the easiest people to have a campaign for. He's so good and colorful. He had a vision for Hoboken that was hard for most people not to share.'"

With Vezzetti hospitalized for an irregular heartbeat, Fabiano assumed an executive assistant's post—without pay—that has yet to be approved by the council. The job, which brings with it 20-hour days, is a combination advisor spokeswoman/organizer to help the mayor preside over a



Laurie Fabiano, executive assistant to Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti, looks up from her desk at City Hall.

new, and presumably more efficient government structure.

After the council's approval, her pay would be retroactive from July 1, the day Vezzetti's transition team took over at City Hall.

Yet unlike most of Vezzetti's closest advisors, Fabiano doesn't see herself joining the multitude of Hudson County residents who make politics

their careers.

"I'm not used to the political end of things, the stonewalling that goes on because people are interested in their own good rather than the good of the city," she said. "It's frustrating. But I love the challenge."

"I'll stay as long as Tom wants me to stay. I'm interested in politics only to see Hoboken get on the right track."

## Hoboken hiring rule criticized

By BRENDAN NOONAN

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The head of the firemen's union yesterday blasted a federal court ruling that blocks the city from hiring 18 new firefighters.

Based on the most recent Civil Service examination.

William Bergin, the president of the Hoboken Uniformed Firefighters' Association, said the "need is there" for additional manpower and will continue to grow as more personnel are pulled from firehouses to inspect construction sites on the booming waterfront.

The city had budgeted about \$216,000 for new firefighters and police officers this year, but U.S. District Court Judge H. Lee Sarokin ruled in Newark Friday that the Civil Service examination given in October 1982 discriminates against minorities.

"The whole concept of it smells," Bergin said. "These kids... have all gone through the same schools. He said he doubted that minorities would want any preferential treatment."

Sarokin ruled that all applicants for the jobs would have to take a new exam before the city could start hiring because twice as many minorities as whites failed the test used to rank candidates for firefighter positions.

U.S. Justice Department officials expressed concern last week that Jersey City would not meet its pledge to hire minority firefighters after 83 percent of the black candidates failed a psychological screening test.

Bergin said the standards on the Hoboken test had already been lowered "to an incredible level. Are you gonna want to have complete idiots on the job?" he asked.

The union leader asserted he had nothing against minorities working for the department, saying they were "neat as could be" and "proud of their job."

Bergin said the city had been through the hiring problem before, with rankings on exams being shuffled to allow the hiring of more minorities.

About 20 applicants who took the 1982 exam had asked Sarokin to let the city hire new firefighters, but the judge said the city had not shown it urgently needed them.

"It's really a crazy situation and these kids who need a job are caught in the middle," Bergin said.

## Cucci, Vezzetti plan meeting on water problem

By ELIZABETH MOORE  
Staff Writer

When the mayors of Jersey City and Hoboken meet for the first time in their roles, one of the main topics is expected to be two regulators under a manhole cover on Newark Avenue and a repair bill "in excess of \$300,000."

The two leaders must decide who is going to pay for a string of seven water main breaks in six days this month that flooded streets, knocked out water service to hundreds of Hoboken residents and left Public Works Supervisor Roy Haack injured.

Hoboken Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti, in an interview two weeks ago, likened the events to a "Pearl Harbor attack"—everything was caving in in Hoboken. Overtime hours and outside contractors' bills together amounted to a sum "in excess of \$300,000," according to Hoboken Law Director Frederick L. Wochnner.

There was no response to his comment yesterday from Jersey City Mayor Anthony R. Cucci.

The cause of the trouble, the Hoboken Mayor's Office said later, was a pair of pressure regulators the Jersey City Water Department uses to control the flow of water to its client, Hoboken. They were both out of order, standing in two feet of water, Vezzetti's office charged.

Hoboken contended that pressure coming out of the regulators, which had not been maintained for two years, was so high that pipes burst under Hoboken streets.

Jersey City "should make compensation" for the damage, Vezzetti claimed, since it was their pressure regulators that caused the damage.

But the Jersey City department, which had declared the problem an "emergency situation" and put employees on overtime repairing the regulator, refused to

accept financial responsibility for Hoboken's woes.

"It's not our fault the pipes broke," said department engineer Michael Barnes.

The department has been maintaining the regulators and has authorized \$10,000 worth of work to repair them "out of the goodness of our hearts," department head John O'Connor said. He said the work was done not because there was any contractual obligation to do so.

In fact, Barnes said, the regulators actually may be in Hoboken.

The Jersey City department also took issue with the contention that it was high pressure from the regulators that ruptured the pipes.

Low consumer demand because of the drought may have left too much water in Hoboken pipes, Barnes said, contributing to higher pressure. Or some "disgruntled Public Works (Department) employees" might have set off a "water hammer" effect by suddenly

opening and shutting a Hoboken fire hydrant, causing a surge of pressure in the pipes.

"Doubletalk is doubletalk," Vezzetti responded when presented with these arguments.

According to Wochnner, Jersey City has "conceded that they are responsible for the damages." He said Hoboken is considering filing a lawsuit, but said "we are holding off filing a claim" pending negotiations with Jersey City over future water rates.

"We will go in with the spirit of cooperation and good neighborliness," Wochnner said.

Vezzetti had planned to discuss the matter with Cucci three weeks ago at a planned introductory meeting, but Cucci canceled the meeting because of illness. Wochnner said, now that Vezzetti is back from the hospital, another meeting will be scheduled soon.

"I know Anthony just came in, and I don't want repercussions," Vezzetti said, "but we have to get this straightened out." Both mayors took office July 1.

The council appropriates funds, but only the board has the authority to use the funds as it deems fit, he said.

Wilson explained that \$7,000 had indeed been cut, and the decision of what else will be cut rests with the school board.

Pope said the board intends to discuss its response to the council's recommendation at its regular meeting Aug. 13.

Pope announced Monday night that the salaries of newly-hired board administrators will be lowered from current levels.

Pope also said that the new superintendent of schools, who is expected to take office at the end of the year, will be paid less than \$40,000.

## Hoboken council tables ed budget resolution

By PAUL FARRELL  
Special to The Dispatch

HOBOKEN—While one councilman called a letter from Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti "a declaration of war" on the Board of Education, the City Council voted to table a resolution to raise more than \$5 million for the 1985-86 school budget.

Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, who along with Councilman Salvatore Camelli and Council President E. Norman Wilson voted against tabling the resolution, said Vezzetti's letter created a confrontational situation between the council and the board.

Calling for "an upgrade in your oversight responsibilities," Vezzetti said the board has done nothing to address the problems of lowered

standardized test scores and poor educational performance throughout the district. Instead, Vezzetti said the board has created unnecessary administrative jobs and paid administrators more than the district actually can afford.

Vezzetti concluded his letter by calling for help in encouraging the board to conduct a search for "a new superintendent with a proven record of turning around an urban district."

Councilman Patrick Pasculli moved to table the tax resolution, saying the budget information provided by the board was inadequate. The resolution was needed for the school budget to be passed, thus allowing the county to set a tax rate.

"We cannot vote intelligently about the budget without a line-by-

line breakdown of the budget itself," Pasculli said. He said council members were not satisfied with "the bottom line numbers" they were given by board President John Pope.

But Pope said the information to which Pasculli was referring was "privileged."

"The state education commission has ruled that budget worksheets used by school boards are not for public dissemination," Pope said.

"They would not be in a better position to vote if they had the information they requested. What they have before them is more than enough to vote intelligently on," Pope said.

However, the rest of the council believed otherwise. Pasculli and

## Ranieri calls a mayoral letter a 'declaration of war' on the school board

colleagues Joseph Della Fave, Mary Frances, Helen A. Canning and Angela Valente voted to table the resolution until Monday night's meeting, at which they said they hope to have the information they requested from Pope.

Law Director Frederick Wochnner said information relating to the development of the budget is a matter of public record.

However, the tax rate issue still is undecided. Joseph Lisa, the

council's budget examiner, said that even if a tax rate were set this week, the money would not be available for use until late August or early September.

However, Pasculli said there have been budget deadlines in the past and said the city would not be confronted with a cash flow problem for several weeks. "We do not think it will have to come to the point of issuing tax anticipation notes to meet our bills," he said.

## School board walks out on Vezzetti

Continued from Page 1

aware of the "harassment" of the school board by the Vezzetti administration.

Vezzetti called the meeting to investigate charges that Superintendent of Schools Dr. George Maier was illegally paid

over \$5,000 for work performed during summer vacation.

Maier's salary is also at issue. The superintendent received a more than \$7,000 pay hike from \$67,000 to \$74,500 on July 17 and Vezzetti has charged that school administrative salaries are too high.

In a letter to the council, Vezzetti said the Board of Education has done nothing to remedy problems in the school district.

"Ignoring problems, creating and keeping unnecessary administrative jobs, and

paying administrative salaries far beyond our means represents nothing more than educational neglect and politics as usual," Vezzetti wrote about the Board of Education, which was appointed during former Mayor Cappiello's administration.

## School board walks out on Vezzetti

By Jonathan Moses

Members of the Hoboken Board of Education walked out of a Board of School Estimate meeting last night led by their president, John Pope, who charged that the meeting was illegal.

As the meeting opened Pope read a one page letter he sent to Mayor Tom Vezzetti, stating the meeting, which had been called by Vezzetti, was illegal. After he finished the letter he added,

"And therefore I am leaving."

He walked out followed by other members of the Board of Education.

The Board of School Estimate is made up of the mayor, two council members and two representatives from the Board of Education.

As Pope left the room the only councilman present, Joseph

Della Fave, responded by requesting the meeting be adjourned.

In the letter Pope cited a New Jersey statute which limits the purpose of the Board of School Estimate to considering requests for appropriations by the Board of Education.

"The district Board of Education has not requested the

appropriation of any additional funding beyond that appropriated for the 1985-86 budget," the letter read, explaining why the Board of School Estimate should not be asked to meet.

The 1985-1986 school budget was passed in early March by the Board of School Estimate then controlled by former Mayor

Steve Cappiello. It has yet to receive final approval by the city council, now controlled by Vezzetti.

Della Fave said after the meeting that he was not sure if the meeting was illegal since he was new to the board but added "if this statute (in the letter) is right then it (the meeting) is probably illegal."

He said he was surprised by the Board of Education action but added that the mayor would probably have withdrawn the request for the meeting if he had been informed of its illegality.

Vezzetti, who is recovering from a heart illness, was not present.

Pope said he specifically did not inform Vezzetti beforehand because he hoped a public walk-out would make the public

## Vezzetti calls P.A. project 'monstrous'

By Patricia Donnelly

Nine Hoboken officials and advisors attended an informational meeting at the Port Authority yesterday to review plans for the city's waterfront development project.

"The project is monstrous," said Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti. "Our infrastructure is falling apart now. What will it be like with the burden of all that development?"

Vezzetti said that his administration did not outline its list of proposals on the project but indicated that concern for the city's infrastructure and low-income housing will be among them. He also mentioned that the waterfront development project, which includes plans for high-tech buildings at Stevens and a new transportation center, do not yet include sufficient

ratables from the school and the state to please him.

Attending the meeting with Vezzetti were Councilmen E. Norman Wilson, Joseph Della Fave, Pat Pasculli and Helen Canning, executive assistant Laurie Fabiano, Community Development Agency Director Fred Bado and consultant Mike Coleman.

Vezzetti said no other meetings with the Port Authority have been scheduled yet.

Officials had declined to allow members of the press to attend the meeting because of their intention to discuss real estate acquisitions and financial negotiations during the session.

The Port Authority's proposed redevelopment plan for Hoboken includes an office complex, marina, park space, parking, and about 1,500 units of housing.



# 'Toastmaster General' Jerry Molloy mourned

By John Wargacki

Jerry Molloy, New Jersey's unofficial "Toastmaster General" and famed basketball coach and referee, died yesterday from a stroke in St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, at the age of 77.

Molloy, a lifelong Hoboken resident, was born in a private house at 4th and Clinton streets which was later torn down to make way for an apartment building. But that didn't force Jerry to leave his home — he rented a flat in the apartments. "I went up in the world," he used to quip, "to the sixth floor."

Jerry began coaching at the age of 22 when the late Msgr. James J. Carberry hired him to coach at St. Mary's in Paterson. When Msgr. Carberry was transferred to St. Michael's in Newark and later St. Mary's in Elizabeth, Jerry wound up working at the three schools simultaneously rather than leave any of them without his services.

That marked the start of Jerry's selfless relationship with young people — a relationship that continued through his life.

While getting more and more involved with the development of Hoboken youth programs, Jerry began officiating at college basketball in 1935, at the modest



Jerry Molloy, New Jersey's "Toastmaster General," who died yesterday in St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, at the age of 77.

salary of \$7 a game. Naturally, his witty antics followed him onto the court. Fans and players smile with memories of Jerry running across the floor and sliding in front of a player to make a call. One time a coach made the mistake of charging onto the court to shout at Molloy. "Don't try to match wits with

me," Jerry retorted. "You're unarmed."

Jerry coached at St. Mary's in Paterson for 40 years, and from 1950 to 1972 he coached basketball at St. Peter's College in Jersey City. When he wasn't coaching the older boys,

See HUDSON — Page 14.

## Molloy recalled as 'miracle man'

By Patricia Donnelly

They remember him for his love of sports and kids, his style, his twinkling eyes and his keen Irish wit.

And no one can seem to remember Jerry Molloy without adding a funny incident, incidents that seemed to spring up alongside him.

They remember Jerry Molloy as the miracle worker who could turn a routine testimonial dinner into a wonderful evening, the name that drew crowds and the sought-after master of ceremonies who volunteered his services time after time to raise funds for any charity, especially kids' sports programs.

"I first met Jerry when I was playing basketball at St. Peter's Prep with Wally Shell and he (Molloy) was the ref," recalled former Jersey City mayor and City Clerk Thomas F. X. Smith.

"His death is a great loss to the thousands of ballplayers whose lives he touched. If anybody deserved the title 'Mr. Hoboken' it's certainly Jerry Molloy, and even Mr. Sinatra would agree with me on that."

Another of the "kids" Molloy coached became the mayor of his city. Mayor Thomas Dunn of Elizabeth was a member of that city's St. Mary High School team where Molloy coached more than four decades ago.

"He was probably one of the best sports minds and the most popular dinner speaker ever produced by this state," said Dunn.

"He never said 'no' to any kind of charitable cause and he was a perennial speaker for our veterans organizations here."

In Hoboken, where municipal and little league field flags were flying at half mast and the recreation

center on Jefferson Street named for Molloy is draped in black bunting, public figures echoed the sentiment.

"He was one of the finest persons who ever lived in Hoboken and was our representative of good will all over," said Mayor Thomas Vezetti.

"Jerry Molloy is from an era that Hoboken will probably never see again," said former Mayor Steve Cappiello. "He represents the typical Irish American who lived every facet of life. He always had hope. He loved this city and its people."

Former assemblyman Thomas Gallo, whose friendship with Molloy spanned half a century, said that he and Molloy had enjoyed daily telephone conversations for years. "I loved him," said Gallo. "What else can I say?"

"Jerry Molloy did more for the kids of this state than any other individual," said state Sen. Christopher Jackman, who is preparing a resolution in Trenton commemorating Molloy's good works.

Molloy had served as a legislative aide to Jackman for several years, researching the problems of young people and senior citizens.

Hoboken Police Chief George Crimmins recalled Molloy's efforts on behalf of charities all over the state. "He had an above average dedication to the human race," said Crimmins, as he compared Molloy to Bob Hope's humor and generosity.

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## Hudson mourns Jerry Molloy, 77

Continued from Page 1.

Jerry could be found spending his time with children. Pop Warner, Biddy Basketball, and Little League Baseball are a few of the programs he brought to Hoboken.

Through the years, Jerry's tireless work in sports and his community earned him 53 plaques and awards that decorated his Hoboken apartment. Certainly one of his greatest tributes came on February 14, 1982, when Hoboken's Kiwanis Club honored him at the Meadowlands Arena on "Jerry Molloy Day" for his lifelong work with youngsters and handicapped children.

Since 1940, Molloy spoke at thousands of functions and dinners throughout the state. Master of the one-liner and friendly put down, no dignitary could escape his kidding. "I'm the Catholic and my wife is Protestant but we worship the same God . . . Steve Cappiello (former Hoboken mayor)." And of the Hoboken Police he noted, "They're the best that money can buy."

Even Florence, Molloy's wife of more than 40 years was fair game for his humor. When asked how she put up with his jokes for so long,

Florence said that whenever Jerry would crack a wise remark she'd sling one right back at him.

Despite thousands of speaking engagements over 41 years, Molloy never took a dime for his appearances, not even for travel expenses. Molloy said that he and his wife live "quite comfortably" on a city pension and their Social Security checks.

Jerry's numerous friends include Frank Sinatra, Phil Rizzuto and Sonny Werblin. On May 2 this year, almost 200 of Jerry's friends turned out to honor him at Hoboken High School for the dedication of the Jerry Molloy Youth Center.

For all of Jerry's fame around Hudson County and the state, he never had a lot of money. One of his favorite jokes was: "The priests take a vow of poverty, and I wind up living it." But when asked on May 2 why he didn't need it, "I have all of these dear friends here. I'm a rich man."

Mass will be said Monday at 9:15 a.m. in Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken. Burial will be in Holy Name Cemetery, Jersey City. Arrangements are by Earl F. Bosworth Funeral Home, Hoboken.

## Jerry Molloy, famed speaker, coach, dies

By BRAD KELLY

Staff Writer  
HOBOKEN—Hudson County yesterday lost a legend.

Jerry Molloy, affectionately known as the toastmaster general of New Jersey for his thousands of speaking appearances throughout the state, died early yesterday morning at St. Mary Hospital here.

Hospital spokesman Sam Alalouf attributed Molloy's death to complications stemming from a stroke he suffered last month.

"He was the most loved figure in Hudson County. He was our ambassador of goodwill," Jersey City Clerk Thomas F. X. Smith said yesterday.

He won't be forgotten. See Behind the Mike — Page 13.

Molloy was born and raised in the streets of Hoboken with the likes of Frank Sinatra. But unlike Sinatra, who left here years ago, Molloy remained and coached and refereed young Hudson County athletes.

The 77-year-old Molloy founded the Hoboken Little League and served for many years as supervisor of the city's Recreation Department.

Many of the athletes who learned how to play ball under Molloy's supervision would years later — as some of Hudson County's top public officials — get a few lessons in humility.

Some 33 years ago, Molloy at-



Jerry Molloy  
Was 'toastmaster general' of New Jersey

tended a Lions Club dinner and filled in for a speaker who never showed up.

"I told a few stories and it just went," he was quoted as saying in a 1981 interview with The Dispatch.

The burly, white-haired Molloy

would become the unofficial toastmaster of Hudson County, and then New Jersey, logging thousands of speaking appearances at banquets and awards ceremonies throughout the state.

"The guy had a genius for after-

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## MOLLOY

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dinner speaking. He was an absolute natural," Smith recalled. "I might of heard one of his jokes 300 times and I laughed 300 times."

Most of Molloy's jokes were aimed at his personal friends and local politicians, and it was often difficult to draw a line between the two.

"The mayors of Hoboken were his specialties," Smith said.

During a ceremony held three months ago to rename Hoboken's Jefferson Recreation Center the Jerry Molloy Center, Molloy told the crowd that he wished then-mayor Steve Cappiello would be made a bishop so he would only have to kiss Cappiello's ring.

Hoboken City Councilman E. Norman Wilson Jr. yesterday said Molloy didn't just have to be at a banquet to show off his storytelling prowess.

"Whenever he was on a street corner, a crowd would gather," he said.

Lud Shabshanian, The Dispatch sports editor emeritus, yesterday pointed out that Molloy spent most of his life in sports and recreation. Molloy coached both basketball

and baseball for St. Peter's College in Jersey City.

"He was a good referee," Shabshanian said, referring to Molloy's days as a high school basketball referee.

"He used to hit the floor . . . slide along and call a foul . . ." he said.

U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley, D-New Jersey, who stopped by St. Mary Hospital seven years ago to visit an ailing Molloy, said in a statement yesterday, "Jerry Molloy brought more joy to New Jerseyans than anyone else I can

remember. He was selfless, irreverent and beloved by all, including me."

Molloy is survived by his wife, Florence; a son, James of Hoboken; a sister, Agnes Carroll of Woodbridge; and one grandchild.

A wake will be held today at the Earl F. Bosworth Funeral Home in Hoboken between 7 and 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday between 3 and 5 p.m. and 7 and 9 p.m.

A funeral mass will be held Monday at 9:15 a.m. at Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken.

## Boys Club puts life into summertime

Hundreds of Hoboken youngsters are finding summer recreation opportunities right in their neighborhood at the local Boys' Club.

Open little more than a year, the center at 123 Jefferson St. averages 2,250 visits a month from youngsters from all over the city, including girls who take over the building on Thursdays.

Throughout the summer, Boys Club members participate in basketball, pinball, billiards, crafts' classes and field trips that fill the schedule — and the building — every day. Many of the youngsters who use the facilities after school during the school year are able to participate in a wider range of activities during the summer.

Hundreds of free city lunches are also distributed at the Boys Club on weekdays, as well as at other locations around the city.

The Boys Club is open from noon to 8 p.m., daily, and membership is open to youngsters ages 8 to 18 according to director Jay Fingerman.

## Hottendorf

Joseph Hottendorf has resigned from his post as executive director of the Hoboken Parking Authority.

He was under investigation by the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office and the city council for some procedures that are at least improper and possibly unlawful.

In one instance, he asked the municipal court to excuse tickets on working meters. When this was brought to his attention by The Jersey Journal, he said he didn't read every word of every letter he signed. A public official who earns \$40,000 a year should know that reading is indeed part of the job.

His other "impropriety" was equally disturbing. Using his knowledge of the law, he and his friends parked at certain locations around the city and when they were ticketed, Hottendorf had the tickets excused because the signs were illegally posted. Those who weren't his friends just had to pay their tickets.

Hottendorf has said that he will continue the practice of parking at such a location on 14th Street until the sign is removed. While the city should move swiftly in correcting this improper sign problem with the county, Hottendorf should contain his callous attitude on the subject.

Indeed, a parking authority director who approached Hoboken's serious parking problems with enthusiasm and a cooperative spirit could have been a key factor in resolving this long-standing problem.

It is unfortunate that while Hottendorf's record of making the parking authority a solvent operation is impressive, his negative attitude has pushed such achievements into the background.

The parking authority commissioners should conduct a thorough search for a director who will be scrupulously fair and respectful of the law.

## Building ban foes offer two plans

By Margaret Schmidt

A group formed to fight the 60-day building ban scheduled to take effect in Hoboken on Wednesday has made two proposals to ease the city's housing crisis.

Help Hoboken Housing, a group with more than 80 individuals and companies as members, proposed a construction loan program and a municipally run subsidized housing plan.

The group, which is among 25 plaintiffs suing the mayor and

the City Council and seeking an injunction against the ban, consists of local developers, contractors, architects, engineers, real estate businesses, stores and others who say they will be hurt by the two-month ban on building permits for construction or rehabilitation involving more than three housing units.

Attorney Richard Seltzer, a member of Help Hoboken Housing, said last week that the group plans to work out details of the proposals and bring them to the city "soon." Other

proposals are "down the pike," he added.

He called reporters, he said, to show the group was formed in good faith and intends to help in the city's effort to create affordable housing.

The ban was approved by the City Council on the grounds that development stop while an affordable housing plan is developed. Steve Block, a top supporter of Mayor Tom Vezetti, has been retained at \$100 a day to review

See BUILDING — Page 14.

## Building ban foes offer two plans

Continued from Page 1

proposals and report to Vezetti and the council by mid-September.

Seltzer disclosed proposals for lower-middle class and poor residents.

The first plan, he said, involves a pledge from HHH member Ernest Badaracco, head of Elysian Federal Savings Bank in Hoboken.

The bank would finance 100 percent of construction loans to the city to build condominiums priced at \$50,000 or less, Seltzer explained.

The city would be able to build on vacant land it owns or rehabilitate substandard buildings it may have, he said, adding that the bank would have a good measure of control in

choosing contractors, a provision he called routine.

Elysian Federal would then finance up to 90 percent of the mortgage loans to prospective homeowners so that down payments could be held to a minimum.

While the condos wouldn't have marble floors and baths or hot tubs as many of the luxury apartments now being built in the city have, Seltzer said, they would be "functional" and give the new homeowners rights and tax benefits.

Similar proposals by others are already being reviewed, said Laurie Fabiano, Vezetti spokeswoman.

The second proposal would serve the city's poor, Seltzer said.

Through that plan the city

would auction off its two most desirable pieces of property — a Marineview lot on River Street and a lot next to Columbian Towers at Bloomfield Street and Observer Highway.

The city would use some of the proceeds to construct housing for low-income families.

The balance of the funds would be invested at high interest rates and used to subsidize rents.

Fabiano and other sources said it seemed unlikely this plan would be used.

First, the city is reluctant to give up those or any vacant lots since they are considered key leverage in giveback plans through which developers would provide a certain percentage of low- and moderate-income housing in luxury projects.

And second, government subsidies with local funds may be unwise. Such a plan may have to go through state legislation to be implemented, sources said.

Fabiano and Block, however, were enthusiastic that HHH had begun work on proposals.

"I'm delighted," said Block, "to get concrete suggestions. I'm glad that people concerned about the problem are thinking about solutions."

Fabiano added, "Nothing is not going to be thoroughly looked at."

In a related development, a special meeting of the City Council is being arranged for Aug. 15 so the public can give input into the housing development plan, Fabiano added.

## Contractor named public works chief

By Margaret Schmidt

A Hoboken contractor has been named the city director of public works.

Peter A. Alicandri, a general contractor and head of the real estate firm Frater Associates, Hoboken, will start on the job Sept. 1, said mayor's spokeswoman Laurie Vezetti.

The salary range for the job is \$33,000 to \$39,000. Alicandri said, but Mayor Tom Vezetti will ask the City Council to adopt an ordinance raising the salary as high as \$45,000.

Alicandri could not be reached for comment yesterday afternoon.

The contractor is the administration's second choice for the post after James Perry, an engineer and fourth generation Hoboken resident, who accepted the post July 15 and resigned the next day citing financial reasons.

In a letter to Vezetti, he said that after meeting with principal stockholders of his employer, Williams Real Estate

Co., Inc., Manhattan, he realized his post "provides a financial position for my family which requires my withdrawal from the appointment."

Fabiano said the administration didn't think it necessary that the head of public works have an engineering background.

In fact, she said, Alicandri's varied background is what won him the job.

"We felt his varied experience would bring a lot to the job," she said.

That experience includes social work and a three-year stint — 1975 to 1978 — as director of student services, grants and special projects for Hudson County Community College in North Bergen.

Alicandri, 49, holds a bachelor of science degree from Holy Cross, 1958, and a master of science degree from Fordham University, 1968. Alicandri didn't know in what fields he studied.

Alicandri's planning and managerial background will be important to the job, Fabiano said, noting that the public

works director supervises the largest city department and has about 50 employees.

The public works appointment, as the Vezetti administration envisions it, has to be put to the council for approval. The municipality now has a director-less Department of Environmental Services and Facilities, which encompasses many divisions. Under the Vezetti reorganization plan, the DPW will basically preside over water and sewerage divisions and the public works garage.

Alicandri has lived in Hoboken 12 years. He and his wife have three children.

His father-in-law, Dr. Robert Goldmacher, recently retired as director of the electrical engineering department at Stevens Institute of Technology, Fabiano added.

The spokeswoman also said the city is looking into hiring a full-time engineer rather than hiring consultants as the policy is now. It is believed, she said, that having a full-time engineer will be more cost-effective than the consultants.



## Councilman, 22, calls support of seniors his 'hidden strength'

By Rose Duger

By spring, Tom Vezzetti had assembled all the tools necessary to win the city's mayoral election.

He had solid running mates, an appealing platform, and a bullhorn capable of blasting his personality to Weehawken. All he needed was a touch of divine providence.

Enter Angelo Valente, dubbed "The Archangel" by Vezzetti. A Vezzetti campaign strategist, Valente was recently appointed to fill a Sixth Ward council seat vacated when Pat Pasculli clinched an at-large spot in the runoff.

At age 22 and with an unsuccessful bid for a council seat (two years ago) under his belt, Valente exudes the self-assurance of a political wunderkind schooled in the intensity of Hudson County's political arena.

Despite a tough-to-crack shell of confidence, Valente admits that he still gets some flack about his youth. And about being a Republican in a city full of staunch Democrats.

The lifelong Hoboken resident shrugs off references to his party preference, a decision that landed him a job as consultant for the New Jersey State Republican Committee. Last fall he campaigned for Freeholder Roger Dorian, who ran against former Mayor Steve Cappiello. Dorian won the freeholder seat, and Valente enough admiration from Vezzetti to earn the council seat.

"I don't believe in party labels," Valente explains. "I think it's good to have a mix of independents, Democrats, and Republicans. Issues in local

government don't cross party lines. We all believe in the same things, like talking to the people."

A walk through Hoboken streets with Valente is like canvassing with a hand-shaking candidate, but this time the election is over. Senior citizens approach him on the street as they would a favorite grandson, asking for everything from lights in the park to advice on renovating their brownstones.

"I've got the name of that contractor you need," he tells one woman as he shakes her hand outside Church Square Park. Family friends pat him on the back and offer champagne at the opening of a Second Street Italian deli. He promises an uncle he'll call his aunt that evening. His grandmother even asks for help, and advises him after the council appointment to fix the pavement in the Fourth Street park.

"My hidden strength is senior citizens," he confides. "Hoboken is a generation town. A lot of people know my family. But I think once you reside in Hoboken, you're a Hobokenite. I've also been able to gather support from people relatively new in the city."

Valente's family roots sink 100 years deep in Hoboken, when relatives emigrated from Italy. He attended St. Francis grammar school and St. Joseph's of the Palisades High School, where he served two years as class president. He later earned a communications degree at Montclair State College, with an associate degree in public administration.

Valente viewed politics during his early teens as a way to speak out for expanded recreation programs when he and other Hoboken youths formed the Young People's Action organization. That group held plays in the Multi-Service Center, with the Hoboken Theatrical Ensemble, featuring more than 100 teens — including Valente — in musical numbers.

"Then came the reality of politics," Valente sighed. "I realized the city council had a lot of authority, a lot of power,



At 22, Angelo Valente is Hoboken's youngest member of the City Council. He was appointed to the position representing the city's Sixth Ward when Pat Pasculli won the council-at-large seat in the June runoff election.

Photo by Wally Koenig

## NEW FACE at City Hall

In order to see progress, I had to be up there at meetings fighting for what I wanted."

He glossed over college senate activities most young politicians derive into in favor of appearing at council sessions and organizing the Hoboken Neighborhood Alliance, a group that last year staged a tax revolt on the steps of City Hall.

They'd rather I went into plumbing. It's easier," Valente decided at age 20 to take a stab at the Sixth Ward council seat against Pasculli. He tallied 888 votes, not enough to win the election but certainly enough to make a runoff election and an impression on the political community.

"I was 20 years old and a Republican. Those were two things going against me," he laughed. "When I first started, the political pros in Hoboken thought I'd get 100 votes. A week before the election, they were afraid I'd win."

A year later Valente landed a spot as a commissioner with the Hoboken Housing Authority, and now names housing as his pet issue. But his interests also stray into other hot Hoboken issues, including waterfront development, recreation and education. Newly appointed to

chair the Transportation Committee, Valente says one of his first tasks will be to study signs throughout the city.

Valente's political convictions seldom drift beyond the boundaries of the mile-square city. When asked to expound on Republican politics he explains, "I don't agree with a number of Reagan's policies. But I don't like to discuss national politics."

For now, he has put an invitation on hold to study for his master's degree at Harvard University School of Government. The young councilman equates his own future success with how fast things improve in Hoboken.

"It's not easy," Valente said. "There's lots of aggravation, plenty of sweat and tears. But what a great feeling to see things accomplished in the city."

## Chamber of commerce study

## Hoboken told: Save money by spending

By BRENDAN NOONAN  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A report dissecting city government, from its Payroll Division to its sewage treatment plant, calls on the city to save money by spending money on some projects that the document says have been postponed too long.

The report, which has been in the making for a year, was made public yesterday by the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce in Jersey City.

Overhauling the city sewer system, which one chamber official said could cost \$40 million, is on the top of the list. The project would require the city to float a bond issue and move quickly to tap dwindling federal funds that might be available for such work.

"Most of the city's infrastructure is in total disarray," said Joseph M. File of Jersey City, the chamber's director of governmental research.

City officials hope the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey will pick up much of the tab for the sewer and water systems and hope increased tax revenue from waterfront development will ease the rest of the burden.

But File said the "previous administration was depending too heavily on waterfront development" to provide the revenue for necessary public works projects.

Much of the report was compiled during the final year of former Mayor Steve Cappiello's administration, which might have explained the upbeat mood at Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti's office yesterday. Vezzetti defeated Cappiello in the June 11 runoff election.

Some of the recommendations in the report, which city officials received shortly after Vezzetti took

office July 1, already have been implemented or are in the works. The report recommends abolishing the position of director of public safety — a move the City Council is trying to legislate with an ordinance, according to city spokeswoman Laurie Fabiano.

Other changes in progress include improvements to the computer systems in several departments and the elimination of the Finance Department, city Business Administrator Edwin Chius said. The latter move would merge payroll and personnel functions for the first time, Chius said.

But another suggestion regarding payroll — switching to bi-weekly paychecks — was unlikely to generate much support, Chius said. He called it a "union negotiating matter" that likely would lead to labor unrest if the city tried to implement it.

He said most of the recommendations probably would be well received, including the possibility of a large bond issue to pay for sewer repairs.

Chius said another source of revenue will develop in the next few years, when the city can implement the recommendation to renegotiate contracts with Union City and Weehawken for the treatment of sewage from those municipalities.

The contracts, negotiated in the 1960s with no increase for inflation, generate \$80,000 a year combined, costing the city "hundreds of thousands of dollars," Chius said.

Greater revenue will be welcome as the city seeks to meet demands from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to upgrade its dilapidated treatment plant, which has badly deteriorated floodgates.

"At high tide it's also treating the Hudson River," File said.

## HOPES gets \$76,000 grant

The Hoboken Organization Against Poverty and Economic Stress has received a \$76,000 supplemental grant from the federal government for its preschool program.

Councilwoman Helen Cunn-

ing, a member of the HOPES board of directors, said Congressman Frank Guarini notified her yesterday of the award.

The aid brings the total federal funding for the program to \$408,610, Cunningham added.

## Vezzetti: Building ban stays

By BRAD KELLY  
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti said yesterday his administration will not compromise on the 60-day residential building ban that is being challenged in the courts by a coalition of developers, real estate brokers and contractors.

The coalition has offered to drop its lawsuit as long as the city agrees to several changes in the current ordinance that places a ban on the issuance of building permits for vacant lots, industrial buildings and residential buildings with four or more units.

But Vezzetti, in a telephone interview yesterday, said he will not support the settlement.

"I'm not for it. I'm not for compromise. I (a settlement) is not coming out of my administration," he said.

The moratorium, passed by the City Council July 17, is intended to delay residential building construction until a task force develops recommendations for increasing the supply of low- and moderate-income housing.

The coalition will drop the suit if

filed against the city earlier this month as long as the city agrees not to extend the 60-day period, its attorney, Richard Seltzer, of Hoboken, said yesterday.

It wants the city to grant exemptions to developers who can prove the moratorium is causing severe economic hardship.

"A default in mortgage, employee layoffs ... are not what the City Council wants to perpetuate ...," Seltzer said.

He said the city also must allow various permits to be issued for residential projects that are currently under way if the developer can show that a delay would cause economic disruption or the layoff of employees.

The city must agree to remove vacant land and non-residential buildings from the current ordinance because "... there is no displacement that could occur," Seltzer added.

A source within the administration said he was opposed to the elimination of vacant lots and non-residential buildings from the ordinance. "We want to try to have

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## Vezzetti may get school board control

By Rick Teaches

The Hoboken City Council tomorrow is expected to introduce an ordinance that would expand the Board of Education from seven trustees to nine — a move designed to give Mayor Tom Vezzetti control of the board.

The council is scheduled to waive the mandatory 30-day waiting period on the ordinance, and introduce the measure at its 7 p.m. session in City Hall. A hearing will be held at the Aug. 21 council session.

If adopted, the ordinance would place a referendum on the November ballot.

Councilman Patrick Pasculli, a staunch Vezzetti backer, said the ordinance is "in urgent need for reform."

"There are some broad and deep-rooted problems in the board," Pasculli said. "It would allow for the addition of more manpower to attack problems and to, most importantly, try to

garner a majority (for Vezzetti)."

Pasculli said the system has problems in basic skills achievement scores, upper echelon administration problems with "inflated salaries" and duplication of duties.

"The City of Hoboken is in an emergency situation in terms of getting things done," said new Councilman Joseph Della Fave. "The intent is to expand the Board of Education of competent people. The educational system's a mess and something has to be done."

In Hoboken, as in several other Hudson County municipalities, the board is appointed by the mayor.

Meanwhile, during last night's caucus, the council heard a presentation from Federline Co. of Maryland which proposed privatization as a means of updating the city's sewage treatment facilities to meet a July 1,

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## Vezzetti poised to gain control of school board

Continued from Page 1

1988 federal mandate.

Tom Coyte of Federline told the council that its proposal calls for the "gasification" process for sludge treatment, which release no emissions into the atmosphere and utilizes the by-product as an energy creator.

Coyte said the by-product generated through the sludge treatment process could then be utilized for generating fuel which could be then sold by the city.

He proposed that the city, which currently lease equipment used at its treatment plant, be given a long-term purchase option on the equipment and enable the city to split the profits from the operation.

Coyte said the plant's "first

class job" currently has the potential to handle additional capacity and spoke of the possibility of the city handling wastes from other communities.

He said the plant currently handles 20,000 gallons a day with 60-70,000 gallons each day.

Coyte estimated the plant would cost the city about \$300,000 a year, while the Hudson County Utilities Authority plant would cost nearly \$1.3 million a year.

The city has been using equipment in the plant leased from Federline for the past 18 months.

He said the plant would be used as a model plant which would be used to market the process throughout the country.

He said the plan would give the city a \$25 million savings over the HCUA proposal.

"We're doing a job that deserves more than a three-year lease," Coyte said. "We're asking you to get forward with a long-term agreement."

"If the HCUA can come up with a better method, go right ahead," he concluded.

"I believe that it's a great contract," said Hoboken Sewerage Plant Supervisor Roy Haack. "It gives us the opportunity to take in outside customers."

The council delayed any formal action for the law department to study the proposal. The department is expected to give an opinion within two weeks.

## Chamber offers plan to streamline Hoboken

By Anne Kornhauser

The Hudson County Chamber of Commerce has issued an extensive report on Hoboken's city services that Mayor Tom Vezzetti says concurs with one of his principal campaign pledges: streamlining government.

Ellsworth C. Salisbury, president of the chamber, said at a press conference yesterday that the report was to recommend how to run Hoboken more efficiently and to help with the review of budget and management systems.

Salisbury said the key was a non-political partnership between private enterprise and city government, which members of Vezzetti's team said they were eager to initiate.

"We want to work with the business community," said Councilman Angelo Valente. Private business, he said, had expressed concern during the campaign that they would be ignored by the city. Valente said business represents a vital part of Hoboken's tax base and should be accommodated.

The 26-page report, which contains 30 recommendations on the organization and structure of Hoboken's government, was delivered to the mayor and council during their first week in office.

"We're thrilled with the report," said Laurie Fabiano, a spokeswoman for the mayor. Fabiano said the mayor and council were already working on

many of the report's recommendations.

"It follows suit with the thrust of Tom's administration — to bring qualified people to help implement good government," she said.

The report recommends, among other things, that the mayor and council:

- engage in long-term planning for capital expenditures and facilities modernization and replacement,
- centralize the city's resources,
- create a personnel department,
- computerize the city's departments and the payroll system,
- establish a bi-monthly (instead of weekly) payroll system,
- consolidate tax and water collection into one office,
- hire a public works director, and
- have an on-going review of all city services and departments.

Vezzetti yesterday said there was nothing in the report that he disagreed with. "We're taking the report very seriously," he said.

Fabiano noted that the administration had already begun to review the departments and had hired a public works director.

The report also recommended a re-evaluation of the city's real estate assessment which Fabiano called "a top priority."

To implement the numerous recommendations, Fabiano said the administration would concentrate on good government instead of political patronage, which she claimed was the trademark of the previous administration.

The chamber said it was looking for a non-political relationship with the city and Salisbury said he was pleased that communications had improved over last year. "Cooperation on the part of the city has improved markedly," Salisbury said.

Salisbury did not dismiss the possibility that the Chamber would help with funding some of the recommendations, but said that resource questions should be left to the mayor.

The research for the report was begun in early 1984 after the city and the Chamber agreed to the study. Last summer, an intern from Cornell University collected data on the city's departments and budget and filed a report to the Chamber's budget committee which went on to do further research.

Members of the budget committee included: Fred Hillier of Maxwell House, chairman of the committee; Phillip Bozola; Levelor Loretzen; Anthony Calabrese, of Washington Savings Bank; Donald Creighton; Dickson-Creighton; Jack Joel of United States Testing; Alan Preis; Touche Ross; and Paul C. Round, of DanDee Bag and Belt Co.

## Ranieri says mayor's aide post illegal, unnecessary

By Margaret Schmidt

Hoboken Councilman Robert Ranieri has called the creation of the post of executive assistant to the mayor illegal and unnecessary.

Ranieri, in a letter to assistant city attorney Frank Marciano, said the creation of the job, which goes to the council for vote tomorrow, would be unprecedented and against the state legislation setting up Hoboken's government.

Mayor Tom Vezzetti, who took office July 1, wants to create the \$30,000 to \$38,000-a-year position for transition team member Laurie Fabiano, who has acted as his spokesman

since he was elected June 11. Vezzetti has said the post is necessary because of streamlining he has proposed for the municipal government. The executive assistant would provide coordination among the departments, which will have greater responsibilities. Also, the employee will act as liaison between the mayor and eight advisory committees yet to be set up.

Marciano has said the post is permissible according to the Faulkner Act because the mayor's office is given the power to "establish, alter and abolish offices, positions and employments and to define the

functions of any position that is specified by the city."

The statute makes no mention of the post — a fact both the administration and Ranieri claim. The administration claims that since there is no mention, the job is allowable. Ranieri claims the opposite is true.

Ranieri further said that the job isn't mentioned in the statute because the intention of the law is to put most of the administrative powers into the hands of a full-time, responsible mayor. He attached a worksheet to his letter showing that no other city that has a full-time mayor and is in Hoboken's class has an executive assistant.