

OCTOBER 1986

THROUGH

MARCH 1987

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Another Styled-by-HANSON feature — this alphabetic index for your convenience

P.A. questions Hoboken OK for project

By Jim DeRogatis

The developers behind the

proposed Court Street Plaza project will meet with Port Au-

thority officials tomorrow to discuss the impact on traffic in downtown Hoboken.

The Hoboken Zoning Board of Adjustment was expected Monday to vote on plans by

West Bank Construction to build a \$70 million, 18-story condominium project at the site of the ShopRite supermarket.

But John Donovan, director

of community relations for the P.A., read a letter requesting a postponement of the vote so that more traffic impact studies could be completed, and the vote was rescheduled for Oct. 28.

He said the agency just "wanted some more time" to meet with Gans and Vallone and "put their traffic studies together with our traffic studies and see what we come up with."

Zoning Board Chairman Frank Cameron, who has said he supports the Court Street Plaza plan, said the Community Development Agency has also hired two consultants, David and Elizabeth Vandro, to study traffic in the southern section of the city, especially along Observer Highway.

Meanwhile, negotiations between the P.A. and the city continue for the P.A.'s waterfront project. Representatives of the agency met with the city negotiating team of CDA Director Michael Coleman, City Council President E. Norman Wilson, Councilman Robert Ranieri, and attorneys Stanley Tannenbaum and Peggy Black yesterday.

The P.A. presented the city with a proposal for a restated lease to the city-owned piers nearly a year ago. The lease is the key document that will determine the amount of revenue the city receives and the control it can exercise over the project.

The City Council will vote on rejecting the P.A.'s offer tonight. City officials have opted to negotiate with the P.A. on a point-by-point basis rather than present them with a counteroffer.

The negotiating team presented the P.A. with a list of 12 control demands last week to insure that the city will have a voice in the development. Donovan said yesterday's session dealt with the issue of control and "substantial progress was made," although he would not elaborate. Both sides have asked that the states of negotiations remain confidential.

Coleman has said that if the team reaches an agreement on controls with the P.A., it will be announced to the public. Any agreement between the negotiators and the agency is subject to final approval by the City Council and the mayor.

Top cop charges political meddling

By Jim DeRogatis

The Hoboken police chief criticized the public safety director yesterday for attempting to "interfere politically" with the workings of the police department.

Chief George Crimmins charged that Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., the city law director and public safety director, has attempted to wield "political influence in the police department" and is guilty of overstepping his duties as director by conducting a "special investigation" into illegal gambling.

D'Amelio denied the charges and said Crimmins "doesn't like someone stepping on his toes."

D'Amelio announced last week that with the help of two Hoboken police officers he had conducted an investigation into what he said were hundreds of video "joker poker" machines being used throughout the city for illegal gambling.

D'Amelio said the investigation was conducted by the public safety office with help from Detective Eugene Drayton and Capt. Steve Darago of the Anti-Vice Squad.

But Crimmins said "neither of these two police officers... were assigned by me to such an investigation." He said that only the police chief has the

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Top cop charges political meddling

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right to assign police officers and only the chief can authorize such an investigation.

Crimmins said he requested and received written reports from Darago and Drayton. Copies of the reports obtained by The Jersey Journal indicate that the police officers did not witness any illegal gambling, contrary to D'Amelio's statements.

In a memorandum to Crimmins, Darago said that D'Amelio had shown concern about the gambling machines but "there is no special investigation being conducted by myself or the Anti-Vice Squad at this time as indicated in Director D'Amelio's letter."

Drayton, in a memo to Crimmins, wrote that he "was never assigned to the aforementioned investigation." He said that, on his own time before reporting to work, he and D'Amelio visited luncheonettes and bars and observed people playing the machines.

"I did not observe any illegal gambling taking place because if I did I would have made an arrest on the spot," Drayton wrote.

Drayton, a member of the Hoboken Board of Education, served for several years as the plainclothes officer responsi-

ble for keeping order in the municipal court and for escorting prisoners from the cell to the courtroom.

Crimmins said yesterday that Drayton has been reassigned and will work in uniform in the traffic bureau, writing tickets as part of an effort to crack down on overtime parking on Washington Street.

Drayton said yesterday that he received a letter from Hudson County Court Administrator Brian Clark stating that he could no longer work in the courts because he was an elected official.

But Drayton, who is black, questioned Crimmins' reasons for assigning him to the traffic bureau, calling it "political retribution" and saying that the move has "racial overtones." He said he plans to take a leave of absence tomorrow.

The chief said the move was "for the betterment of the community" and was "not punishment" for any action by Drayton. But, he added, "Drayton failed to notify his immediate supervisor about (D'Amelio's) investigation, which is not proper protocol."

Crimmins said he gave Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale copies of the memos from D'Amelio and the two police officers. DePascale

said he could not comment on the matter at this time.

According to Crimmins, D'Amelio's investigation was an attempt to interfere politically with the department. "He's an attorney with no police experience, he should not be conducting investigations," Crimmins said.

But D'Amelio said he believes he has the right to conduct investigations as public safety director.

He said he became interested in the video machines after receiving anonymous phone calls and decided to investigate the matter himself because of allegations that members of the Police Department were involved in the illegal gambling.

D'Amelio said the allegations proved false. However, Crimmins said the law director should have contacted the Hudson County prosecutor or state attorney general if he heard

such allegations.

"Maybe the chief doesn't like that I'm getting involved at this level," D'Amelio said. "Maybe I'm stepping on his toes."

D'Amelio assumed control of the public safety department several weeks ago after the City Council passed an ordinance removing the department from the control of business administrator Edwin Chius.

D'Amelio said he had "a good relationship" with Crimmins "until I requested certain information about his department concerning cars and vacations."

The director said the chief was angry at him because he attempted to save funds by limiting the use of city-owned cars.

"I have the utmost respect for Chief Crimmins. He is an excellent chief and there is nothing I would do to override his powers," D'Amelio added.

Vezzetti wants jump on next year's budget

By Bill Campbell

Members of the Hoboken Mayor's Budget Advisory Committee will meet tonight to begin hammering out a 1987 spending plan — just two months after the 1986 budget was adopted.

The meeting is in response to a letter from Mayor Thomas Vezzetti requesting that a 1987 budget be started as soon as possible, according to Business Administrator Edwin Chius.

The letter, dated Sept. 5, instructed Chius to reconvene the 16-member committee to begin reviewing next year's city, school and county budgets, which make up the municipal tax rate.

"Additionally, I would like to see a three-year financial plan formulated for the city," Vezzetti said. "I realize that this plan could not include anything based on school board or county finances as they are out of our control."

The three-year plan, which was required after the city agreed to accept \$800,000 in Distressed Cities aid, will be

prepared once state auditors review municipal finances, Chius said.

He said he hopes the BAC can "set budget mechanisms" by Nov. 15 to allow the administration to present the spending plan to the council on Jan. 15, 1987.

"We would like to hold to the January deadline, but there is a crazy situation with state aid and I think federal aid will be non-existent," Chius said.

Chius added he was "doubtful" the city could anticipate \$1.13 million in back railroad property tax, although the funds were approved last week by the state Assembly's Appropriations Committee.

The funds, which were anticipated and later removed from the 1986 budget, must still be approved by the full Assembly, Senate and Gov. Thomas Kean.

Chius said the advisory committee will also study city personnel reductions as part of a "reorganization of city government."

Last August, layoff notices were issued to 69 municipal em-

ployees as the city faced its worst fiscal crisis since 1983. The council and the administration wrangled over the \$27 million 1986 budget before the state agreed to bail out the city.

At \$216 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, Hoboken residents have the highest tax rate in the state. The city is attempting a revaluation of property in an attempt to increase rates and reduce the tax rate.

Chius said the committee, which was formed last November, would play a more "proactive" policy-making role than last year because "now they can start from scratch."

He said the BAC, which meets in sessions open to the public, will meet at 7:30 in City Hall.

Chius said the committee members include: Joseph Scordato, Steve Block, George Vallone, Bill Perry, Michael Irwin, Bill Swan, James Vance, Mike Grato, Kathy Lawton, Frank Mooney, Joseph File, James Fisher, Michael Bavaro and David Costello.

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THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1986

UPFRONT

Vezzetti gets firmer stance

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti may still not be atop the political situation, but his size 13 EEE's are on a lot firmer ground than they were only a few weeks ago.

Then, Vezzetti had the support of only two of the eight City Council members (there is one vacancy), his control of the executive branch was tenuous and he was threatened by a recall movement.

Now there are only three of eight council members definitely opposed to him, and by Election Day he may have six supporters on the council.

He has fired Law Director Sal D'Amelio, whom many saw as the major roadblock to whatever Vezzetti tried to get through, and this time the mayor has enough council votes to make it stick. The last time he fired D'Amelio, it was overridden by the council.

As for the recall? Vezzetti, who didn't think it was going anywhere from the start, thinks it's dead. But its leader, Councilman Robert Ranieri, took an unexpectedly bright view of the week's events.

What happened in a week's time is that Vezzetti regained the support of former ally Councilman Pat Pasculli and Councilman Dave Roberts in the move to fire D'Amelio. Combined with the votes of Councilman Joseph DellaFave and Councilwoman Helen Cunniff, steadfast Vezzetti allies, that was one vote more than enough to enforce the termination.

Pupils, parents berate ed board on school closing

By James Kopchains

The Hoboken Board of Education hearing last night on the possible closing of one of its elementary schools was an explosion, not a thoughtful exchange of ideas.

Over 600 adults and children filled the Hoboken High School auditorium to give the board their opinions about the closing. The majority shouted, jeered and berated the board.

In particular, the crowd opposed the reported closing of the Demarest School on Fourth and Garden streets. Although the board members have not officially picked Demarest as the school most likely to be

closed, published reports have indicated that Demarest is the leading candidate for closing.

Most of the 25 speakers at the hearing commented on Demarest even though Joseph Rafter, who heads a committee looking into the closing, said the board had made no decision on any school and asked that the speakers address themselves only to whether any school might be closed.

According to Thomas September, an art teacher at Demarest, most of the fear among parents and teachers over its closing concerns splitting up the students into several schools. Parents, he said, did not want to have to send their

students to a school different from the one the child had been attending.

The board nearly voted to close Demarest in August because of falling enrollment at the school, formerly the city's high school. Although the school has a maximum capacity of 975 students, Superintendent of Schools Walter Fine said the current enrollment is only 274.

The board believes it could save \$350,480 annually by closing the school and laying off non-educational personnel. In addition, the board could help to relieve its financial condition by selling the four-story

See PUPILS — Page 15.

Stevens OKs Hartz waterfront pact

By Jim DeRogatis

The Stevens Institute of Technology Board of Trustees has approved an agreement to allow Hartz Mountain Industries to develop the school's waterfront property.

Robert Mitchell, a spokesman for Stevens, said the 35-member board on Monday approved a partnership between the school and the Secaucus-based development firm. Stevens announced two weeks ago that it had entered a partnership with Hartz, pulling out of the Port Authority's proposed \$600 million waterfront development.

Hartz has proposed building two 300,000-square-foot buildings, commercial facilities, and parking to serve as a research and technology center on Stevens-owned land on the waterfront near Seventh and Eighth streets.

Robert Hand, vice president for external affairs at Stevens, said Hartz offered the school "a more favorable economic package" and would develop the waterfront sooner than the P.A. The Board of Trustees concurred with Hand's opinion when they ratified the agreement with Hartz.

Mitchell said representatives of Hartz spoke to the board before the vote, outlining their goals for the waterfront. The company, which was responsible for developing parts of the Meadowlands and is currently working on projects in Weehawken and Jersey City, has not yet presented specific plans or models of the Hoboken project.

Martin Gold, a spokesman for Hartz, said the company has hired the architectural firm of Wallace, Roberts, and Todd of Philadelphia to complete the

plans for the Stevens waterfront. The same firm was responsible for planning the Lincoln Harbor development in Weehawken.

Gold said Hartz will seek to "maintain the quality and character of the area and make the project an extension of the campus." He said efforts will be made to keep the height of the buildings to a minimum to preserve the view of the waterfront from Stevens' campus on Castle Point.

Mitchell said plans developed by Hartz will have to be approved by the Board of Trustees. The plans will also be subject to approval by the Hoboken Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Neither Stevens nor Hartz have released information on the exact cost of the project, but Hand estimated the price tag at \$120 million.



Photo by Roy Groething

Hartz Mountain Industries will develop waterfront piers owned by Stevens Institute of Technology at Seventh and Eighth streets.

Pupils, parents berate ed board

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building to a private developer for officer or condominium development.

However, several speakers, most notably Michael Coleman, director of community development, and Laurie Fabiano, an aide to Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, urged that the board consider using the Demarest School, if closed, as a mixed-use community arts and recreation center.

One speaker, traffic crossing guard Margaret O'Brien, cited the original lease for the Demarest School land. According to her, the site was given by E. A. Stevens in 1857 for the express purpose of building a school.

To insure this, she said, the lease specified that for 999 years the land could not be used for any purposes other than for a school.

Board members said they doubted this provision would stand in the way of disposing of the building should they choose that.

Rafter said that his committee will consider the public's comments before arriving at a recommendation for the board later this year.

Bill giving \$1M rail money to Hoboken advances

TRENTON—Hoboken's request for \$1.13 million in railroad funds from 1982 and 1983 moved closer to approval yesterday as the state Assembly Appropriations Committee voted to release legislation on it.

The committee voted 10 to 0, then sent the bill to the Assembly floor for an anticipated vote next week. If the measure passes the Assembly it will go on to the state Senate.

The bill, sponsored by Jersey City Republican Assemblyman Charles Catrillo, authorizes the payment of funds for Class II railroad property in Hoboken that was once owned by Conrail and is now owned by the state Department of Transportation. While no money was given to Hoboken when Conrail owned the prop-

erty, the state can give money in lieu of taxes.

"We were confident we would eventually get the funds," said Laurie Fabiano, executive secretary to Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti. "That was the point of including them in last year's budget, to prove that we were entitled to the money."

The Vezzetti administration included the payments in its 1986 budget but had to rework the budget when it was learned the money wouldn't be

forthcoming this year. The money, if approved by the Legislature, would go into the 1987 budget and perhaps help reduce city taxes, Fabiano said.

Catrillo stressed that he didn't consider the measure a "bailout bill."

Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius appeared in Trenton to testify before the committee but wasn't called. The bill was pushed through hurriedly as the committee neared its recess for a floor quorum call.

Council facing sewage crisis

By Bill Campbell

Spurred by reports that the Hoboken secondary sewage treatment plan will be bypassed next year for state and federal grants, the Hoboken City Council is expected to meet next week to discuss the project.

Municipal officials, fearing the loss of more than \$20 million in project funds, have requested a meeting with representatives of Mayo Lynch & Associates, the project's design engineer.

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham said she was warned Tuesday by state Department of Environmental Protection officials that there "has been no marked progress by Mayo Lynch" to revise design documents.

The DEP bypassed the project, which also serves Weehawken and Union City, for funding in fiscal 1986 because the design application was not "biddable" or "constructable."

Councilman Dave Roberts, who also attended the meeting with state officials, said the council should meet in special session "to determine a course of action."

"Decisions need to be made very soon and the council has to have some answers," he said. Mayo Lynch has until Oct. 31 to submit environmental and cost estimates to the state.

Manfred Gans, a Hoboken engineer who also attended the Tuesday meeting in Trenton, urged the city to "engage" the engineering firm of Lawler, Matusky and Skelly to assist in the project design.

"The only hope for meeting the Oct. 31 deadline and the conditions (for funding) is to closely collaborate with the Hudson County Utilities Authority and to engage Lawler, Matusky and Skelly," Gans said.

See COUNCIL — Page 38.

Council facing sewage crisis

Continued from Page 1.

in his report of the meeting. Gans also said he could "guarantee" implementation of a controversial sludge handling plan by the end of this month. Joseph Lynch, president of Mayo Lynch, said reports on the sludge plan, which is being prepared by Hoboken Waste Water Management, will not be completed until November.

Seamus Cunningham of Mayo Lynch said the firm has requested meetings with representatives of the council, the Vezzetti administration and the DEP. "We welcome any kind of work session to discuss technical issues and deadlines," he said. "We have asked everyone to come here and review the plans, but no one has ever done so."

Cunningham said representatives of the firm were neither invited to the meeting with the DEP and the Hudson

County Utilities Authority nor did Gans review project design plans with Mayo Lynch officials.

"However, our intention is not to fling mud, but do a job," he said.

Gans said he developed his conclusions during discussions with state officials and by "viewing the task of getting the job done."

He said the city would lose funding, which amounts to 75 percent of the project cost with the "innovative" sludge handling plan, if the October deadline is missed.

"What struck me as funny was why the project is so damn late," said Gans, who is president of Technology Evaluation & Development Associates. "One thing you don't do in a big project like this is let the pressure build up."

Mayo Lynch has requested that the city urge the HCUA, the

designated county sewerage agency, to amend its sewage plan to allow off-site sludge disposal. Lynch has maintained the firm will meet the October deadline if the plan is amended.

Cunningham said she was told by DEP officials Bob Kotch and

Steven Betz that "amending the plan would be raising a red flag that the engineer is not prepared to complete the application."

"The problem is that everyone knows that there is a problem," Cunningham said.

NEXT 2 GAMES

Hoboken High fans to get temporary bleachers

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The Board of Education will pay \$8,000 to provide high school football fans with bleachers — at least for the next two home games.

In a special session Monday night, the board voted to accept G&R Sports Inc.'s \$8,000 quote. The Staten Island firm is expected to begin installing the steel supported bleachers at John F. Kennedy Stadium today.

Because of state-mandated bidding requirements, the board could not solicit and accept temporary

bleacher bids in time for Friday's game against Lincoln High School of Jersey City, according to board Secretary Anthony Curko. The state does not require a public bidding process for expenditures of \$8,100 or less. Consequently the board decided to solicit quotes for providing bleachers from Friday to Oct. 10.

The board also authorized soliciting bids for the rental of temporary bleachers from Oct. 23 until the end of the season, Nov. 20.

On Thursday, the board ordered Hoffman Chair and Tent Co. of 5520 Jefferson St. in West New York to remove temporary bleachers the company had installed just 24 hours

earlier. At the time, several board members and school administrators said the bleachers — which had wooden supports and were held together partially by twine — were unsafe.

But Charles Hoffmann, president of company, denies the charge. He said he has been installing the bleachers for 25 years, has never had a problem with them and carries \$2 million liability insurance.

The three companies asking to solicit quotes for Monday's award were Chair Hire Co. of Paterson; Thomas A. Deming Co. Inc.; and G&R, Curko said. Although Deming's offer was about \$650 less

than the accepted \$8,000 G&R estimate, Curko said the board was not satisfied with the Deming bleachers' wooden supports.

"The board was more concerned with the safety factor," Curko said in explaining the selection of the higher priced quote.

Chair Hire declined to submit an estimate, Curko said.

Bids for supplying temporary bleachers from Oct. 23 through Nov. 20, will be advertised on Friday, Curko said. All bids will be due Oct. 13, and the board will choose a vendor at its regular public meeting the following night, he said.

RARE VICTORY

Vezzetti sacks safety director

By JANET WILSON
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti scored a rare political victory yesterday by firing Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., the Law Department and Department of Public Safety head he had tried to ax once before.

"He's uncooperative," Vezzetti said last night. "We could not see eye-to-eye on anything, and I fired him."

The dismissal comes on the heels of an increasingly bitter and public feud between D'Amelio and Police Chief George Crimmins. The mayor apparently was able to bring around two of the six City Council members who had stymied his first attempt

to dismiss D'Amelio in August. The council has 20 days in which to vote to veto the firing, but sources agreed last night that this is highly unlikely.

"It's very unfortunate, but the administration must be unified," said Councilman Patrick Pasculli, who originally recommended D'Amelio for the post. "There are crucial projects and deadlines facing us."

"I am sure the reason for the firing was because I stepped on the chief of police's toes, and those of his political friends," D'Amelio said. "But I'm not lying down and playing dead. They forget, I'm a lawyer." See SAFETY, Page 10

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1
D'Amelio said he is considering suing, and pledged that he will find out why certain council members apparently have changed their minds about him since August.

D'Amelio has been under fire from Crimmins because he is conducting an independent investigation on why there are so many video games used for gambling in the city. He said the investigation will continue, and go to higher levels of enforcement. He also said he has two other investigations under way, one concerning drugs and another on illegal gambling.

Vezzetti originally had tried to oust D'Amelio this summer by charging him with a conflict of interest. D'Amelio's father owns a large tract of land on which a developer hopes to build twin high-rise condominium towers. The developer must obtain permits from the city, and D'Amelio can be required to question such plans in his capacity as chief attorney for the city.

This time around, the mayor gave no in-depth reasons for the dismissal. A police squad car circled the city last night, dropping off a simple one-page announcement of the firing at council member's homes.

Some members of the council said they are concerned about imminent deadlines this month on applications for federal and state aid on a huge secondary waste treatment program — which in turn is holding up development projects — and "crucial" negotiations with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey about waterfront development. Such matters all have been D'Amelio's responsibility.

"That's why it's so irresponsible to fire me," said D'Amelio, who has a large role in developing the ap-

plication for the sewage funds. "I've been working for a long time, and that information can't just be passed along."

The council can block D'Amelio's firing only by mustering at least a two-thirds majority — or six votes — to retain him.

"I think we were able to change people's minds," the mayor said. "Talk to Helen Cunningham, Joey Della Fave, Patty Pasculli, David Roberts and E. Norman Wilson."

"I really don't know what triggered this," said Wilson, the council president. "At 2:30 on a Friday afternoon, I got a letter from D'Amelio saying he's resigning Jan. 1. At 4:30, I got an urgent message at my home saying, 'call the Mayor's Office, he's firing somebody.' Out of the clear blue."

Both Pasculli and Roberts were at City Hall for several hours yesterday. Roberts said he had been trying since Wednesday to intervene when he learned that Vezzetti was thinking of firing D'Amelio again. He said he persuaded D'Amelio to resign rather than be fired.

D'Amelio said he had submitted a letter of resignation effective Jan. 1, but Vezzetti told him that was not good enough.

"He would not follow the instructions of the mayor, so he was fired," Roberts said.

Roberts said several council members and Vezzetti would meet last night and today to pick a successor. No one would speculate on who will replace D'Amelio, but the newfound unity of Vezzetti and the council may be tested quickly.

"The mayor has the full power to decide, but I would think he would take into consideration the views of the people who can overrule him if he does not listen," Roberts said.

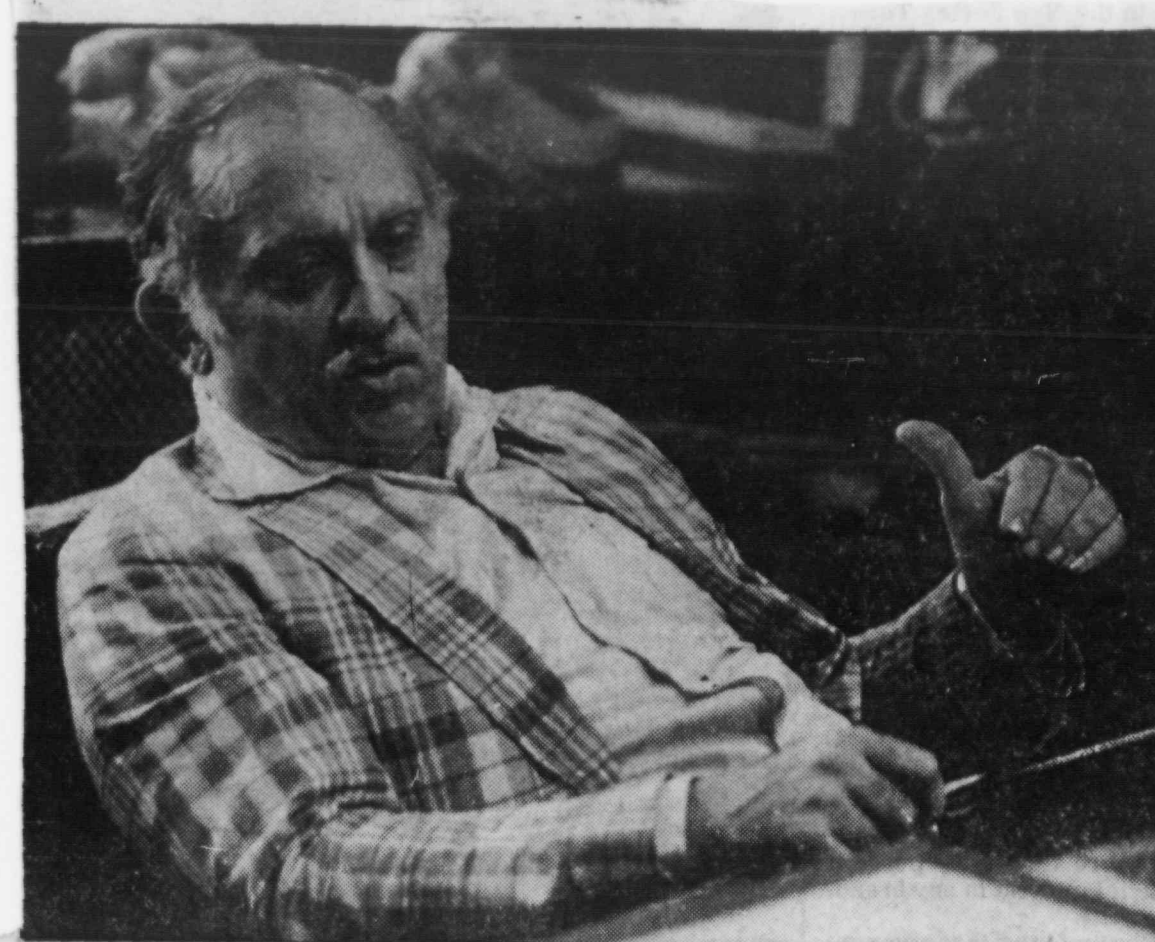


Photo by Wally Hennig

Vezzetti fires D'Amelio

By Jim DeRogatis

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti fired embattled Law Director Sal D'Amelio Jr. yesterday, just hours after D'Amelio tendered his resignation.

D'Amelio presented the mayor with a letter of resignation yesterday morning, saying that he would leave Jan. 1. But Vezzetti, who has strongly criticized D'Amelio, said that the date was "unacceptable" and fired the law director effective Oct. 23.

Yesterday marked the second time in three months that Vezzetti fired D'Amelio, but it is the first time that he has

had the support of the City Council. Five of the eight council members have indicated they support the mayor's actions.

D'Amelio, 28, has been shrouded in controversy since he was appointed by the mayor in January. Vezzetti has charged that the law director's behavior has "been riddled with conflict and failure to represent the public interest."

D'Amelio said he would be glad to be "relieved of the pressure" of serving as the director of the law and public safety departments. He said he wanted to resign in order to spend more time with his wife and nine-month-old son.

Vezzetti said that, although D'Amelio tendered his resignation effective Jan. 1, "I believe it is in the best interest of the city for D'Amelio to leave within the 20 days as prescribed by law."

"Since D'Amelio was appointed, we have not enjoyed a cooperative nor confidential working relationship," Vezzetti said.

"I am particularly not satisfied with the way he has handled the secondary sewage treatment project, his involvement in the public safety division, and his representation regarding housing issues."

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Vezzetti fires D'Amelio

Continued from Page 1.

D'Amelio has defended engineering consultants Mayo, Lynch & Associates, although Vezzetti has criticized their handling of the sewage crisis. D'Amelio also opposed the anti-warehousing legislation sponsored by members of the Vezzetti administration.

Police Chief George Crimmins has also been critical of D'Amelio, and lashed out at the law director earlier this week for conducting a "special investigation" into what D'Amelio called hundreds of illegal video gambling machines throughout the city.

Crimmins charged that D'Amelio was guilty of "politically interfering" in the police department.

D'Amelio said he believes that the investigation into the gambling machines is a reason for his firing. "I am shaking someone's tree and they don't like it," he said.

D'Amelio said he intends to pursue the investigation and said that "several big arrests" will be forthcoming, although he refused to give specifics.

"If what he says is true, I hope he goes to the prosecutor or the attorney general," Crim-

mins said. "He's an attorney, he knows what he should do."

D'Amelio said he had hoped to continue serving as law director until Jan. 1 in order to "wrap up" work on several suits concerning the sewage plant. He added that he hoped to finish several investigations as public safety director, although he did not give specifics, and said he hoped to reorganize the vice squad before leaving.

D'Amelio said he decided to resign after being approached by Councilman Patrick Pasculli. Vezzetti has often said that he appointed D'Amelio because of Pasculli's urgings.

Pasculli broke with the Vezzetti administration shortly afterward, but recently realigned himself with the mayor and agreed to support D'Amelio's firing.

A two-thirds majority of the council would be needed to overturn D'Amelio's firing. Council members Pasculli, David Roberts, Joseph Della Fave, and Helen Cunningham have said they will not vote to overturn the mayor's order. One other council member also said

he would not oppose the move.

D'Amelio said he will resume his private practice, possibly in partnership with assistant City Attorney Fred Bado.

D'Amelio served as law director for 10 months. He was appointed Jan. 9 to replace Fred Woekener, who broke from the administration and resigned six months after Vezzetti was elected.

Vezzetti originally fired D'Amelio because of what he called a conflict of interest concerning the \$25 million Presidential Towers condominium project. D'Amelio ruled on matters pertaining to the Zoning Board of Adjustment while it was in the process of voting on the condominium project.

Prior to being appointed law director, D'Amelio was a partner in the development company behind the project. He said he resigned when he was appointed, but his father continued to hold an interest in the development.

Vezzetti did not say who will be D'Amelio's replacement. He said he intends to search for a candidate that is "acceptable to both the administration and council."

Panel wants P.A. off Hoboken piers

By Jim DeRogatis

The Mayor's Waterfront Advisory Committee requested yesterday that the Hoboken City Council pass a resolution demanding the Port Authority abandon its lease on the waterfront piers.

WAC made the request in an open letter to the council as a response to Councilman Robert Ranieri, who asked that the committee "develop a theory on how the council can terminate negotiations with the

P.A. and bring in another developer."

The P.A. has proposed a massive project on the waterfront with thousands of square feet of office and retail space, a hotel, a marina, and 1,500 luxury housing units.

The city is negotiating with the agency for a restated lease to the city-owned piers. The lease is the key document that will determine the amount of revenue the city receives from the P.A. project and the amount of control it can exercise.

Under the terms of a 1952 lease, the P.A. retains control of the piers until 2002. However, the lease provides that the agency operate a marine terminal, and a new agreement must be reached if the P.A. is to develop the property.

According to the letter from WAC, the proposed resolution "incorporates an extremely reasonable demand of the P.A. to simply abandon its claim to a leasehold on the Hoboken pier property."

"If the P.A. is truly negotiat-

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Panel wants P.A. off piers

Continued from Page 1.

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WAC has strongly criticized the P.A. as a developer, arguing that the city will not realize as much revenue from a P.A.-controlled project as it would from a project by a private developer.

The committee has also said the city will be unable to exercise control over the development because the P.A. is an autonomous agency not subject to state or local laws.

Tom Iling, a member of WAC, said the resolution proposed by the committee "would, in effect, make the P.A. a private developer."

WAC criticized city officials for negotiating with the P.A. before resolving the problem of the 1952 lease. A city negotiating team led by Community Development Agency Director Michael Coleman has been working on an agreement on controls with the P.A. for two weeks.

"Negotiations with the P.A. will continue to be ineffectual if the city continues to be embroiled in detailed discussions of the financial and

physical aspects of the P.A.'s proposed development plan before the P.A. has abandoned the 1952 lease," the letter states.

WAC also urged the city officials to ask that the bi-state legislation that created the P.A. be amended to make the agency responsible to city and state

laws governing development.

According to WAC, "the city should not make a useless attempt to correct the control problems with the P.A. by including unenforceable 'voluntary' control clauses in a contract; the source of the fundamental problem... is the 1947 bi-state legislation."

Vezzetti forges a working majority

By Bill Campbell and Jim DeRogatis

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The mayor has maintained minority support on the council since the second week after he took office in July 1985.

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On Election Day 1985, newly elected Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, center, celebrated with running-mates Councilwoman Helen Cunningham and Councilman Patrick Pasculli, right. Vezzetti and Pasculli may be together again after a year-long split.

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See VEZZETTI — Page 10.

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Roberts defeated Vezzetti-candidate Angelo Valenti in last November's special council election, but has often supported the administration and campaigned for the passage of anti-warehousing legislation and public safety reform, two issues supported by Vezzetti.

"Dave and I are intimate," Vezzetti said. The mayor has hinted that he will support Roberts in next May's ward council election.

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we're having too many personality clashes," Wilson said. "There's too much work to be done on the council, and we can't spend time discussing politics."

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The Vezzetti administration is considering hiring a new engineering firm to replace Mayo, Lynch. The mayor has often criticized Mayo, Lynch's handling of the secondary sewage treatment plant.

Once supporters of Mayo, Lynch, Roberts and Pasculli have voted against the firm in recent weeks.

Hoboken 'lifer' held in plotting prison break

A Hoboken man serving a life sentence in connection with the murder of his wife and unborn child is one of six Trenton State Prison inmates charged with planning an escape involving the launching of a firebomb, the murder of guards and a makeshift bridge to scale the prison walls.

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"Clearly, it was a daring and bold plot which had real and significant potential for serious injury and or death for two or more corrections officers in the prison," said Gary Hilton, assistant commissioner of corrections. "Our internal investigations have not dis-

counted the possibility that there was to have been some outside assistance in the way of a pick up vehicle."

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The inmates were identified as:

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'Lifer'

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Hoboken wins delay on bill for \$296,000

By JENNIFER FREY

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Vezzetti contracted Mayo Lynch to design plans for a \$60 million secondary sewage-treatment plant. But he is unhappy with the firm because the plans it prepared did not meet eligibility requirements set by the state Department of Environmental Protection that would have allowed the city to apply for \$24 million in federal grant money for 1987.

Vezzetti refused to authorize payment of the bill, even though the City Council had approved the spending, according to attorney William J. Scheurer of Jersey City, representing Mayo Lynch.

Scheurer told Humphreys the business would suffer financially if the bill is not paid.

In giving his opinion, Humphreys said the welfare of the taxpayer outweighs any consideration of hardship that may be caused for the firm.

Humphreys said his decision also was based on a statement by attorney David G. White of Summit, who said that Vezzetti has not yet reviewed the legal briefs.

White appeared in court yesterday, saying he thought he would be representing Vezzetti in the matter.

But published reports say Vezzetti hired a former state attorney general, Irwin I. Kimmelman, Thursday as special counsel for the sewerage project. Kimmelman, White and Vezzetti were all unavailable for comment, yesterday.

Seamus Cunningham of Mayo Lynch said his firm is still under contract with the city and is resubmitting design plans to the DEP in time to meet its Oct. 31 deadline for securing a 1988 construction grant.

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The proposed secondary level facility, which would remove 85 percent of the pollutants from wastewater, will be shared with parts of Weehawken and Union City.

5TH BOMB SCARE

Police evacuate Hoboken station

By TOM GISSEN

Staff Writer

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"The threat I made yesterday was a dry run. I was informed by

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BOMB

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my leader to have the real thing go off today at twelve. I represent Gadhafi and the Libyan Liberation Organization. This is Hoboken right? The bomb will go off at the Transit PATH."

The station was evacuated and searched. In the men's bathroom, police found another reference to the north African nation. Scrawled on a toilet paper dispenser in the third stall from the left was written, "Viva Libya. The real bomb will go off on Sunday October 5th here in the train station."

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The officer said nine NJT officers were joined by city fire and police in a fruitless search. The search lasted about 50 minutes, the officer said. During this time, the station was evacuated and no trains were allowed to depart. However, passengers were allowed off incoming trains and were quickly hustled out of the station, the officer said.

On Friday afternoon, Hoboken High School was evacuated after the school received a telephoned bomb threat.

Neither Hoboken Police nor NJT Police have made any arrests in connection with the threats.

HOBOKEN

Tenants go to court on housing ordinance

By JEFFREY HOFF

Staff Writer

An application by a group of tenants to join in the defense of a Hoboken ordinance prohibiting landlords to keep apartments vacant for more than 60 days is scheduled to be decided today in U.S. District Court in Newark.

The application is being challenged by the developers who sued the city, but not by the city which has decided to have an attorney experienced in housing issues aid the law department in defending the ordinance.

Carl Bisgaler, a Cherry Hill at-

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Bisgaler said he will not become formally involved in the case until after discussions planned for today with city attorneys Thomas Callagy and Fred Bado, who have been handling the case for the city.

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, who first argued in August that the city should seek outside help in defending the ordinance, said Bisgaler's hiring is not related to the dismissal of Law Director Salvador D'Amelio. Bisgaler was hired because of his experience in housing and constitutional law, she said, and because of concern that the city law department would not adequately defend the ordinance.

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Ira Karasick who, along with Jersey City Councilman George Aviles, is representing the Campaign for Housing Justice, said that if their clients are permitted to be defendants they will argue today that the temporary restraining order be lifted.

Panel wants P.A. off Hoboken piers

By Jim DeRogatis 8-9-86
The Mayor's Waterfront Advisory Committee requested yesterday that the Hoboken City Council pass a resolution demanding the Port Authority abandon its lease on the waterfront piers.

WAC made the request in an open letter to the council as a response to Councilman Robert Ranieri, who asked that the committee "develop a theory on how (the council) can terminate negotiations with the P.A. and bring in another developer."

The P.A. has proposed a massive project on the waterfront with thousands of square feet of office and retail space, a hotel, a marina, and 1,500 luxury housing units.

The city is negotiating with the agency for a restated lease to the city-owned piers. The lease is the key document that will determine the amount of revenue the city receives from the P.A. project and the amount of control it can exercise.

Under the terms of a 1952 lease, the P.A. retains control of the piers until 2002. However, the lease provides that the agency operate a marine terminal, and a new agreement must be reached if the P.A. is to develop the property.

According to the letter from WAC, the proposed resolution "incorporates an extremely reasonable demand of the P.A. to simply abandon its claim to a leasehold on the Hoboken pier property."

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Dispatch 10-11-86
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HOBOKEN

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WNY sewage plans filed

DISPATCH 10-7-86

By JEFFREY HOFF
Staff Writer

The engineering firm of Mayo Lynch and Associates filed final plans for the construction of a secondary sewage treatment plant in West New York yesterday with the Hudson County Municipal Utilities Authority.

The firm expects to file plans for North Bergen's plant today.

But plans for Hoboken's more innovative and more costly plant will not be completed by Mayo Lynch for another few weeks, according to Seamus Cunningham, a staff engineer. He said that a dispute over payment between the firm and the city is not the reason the plans are not ready.

Members of the Hoboken City Council, however, say payments to the firm have been withheld be-

cause of delays in completing the plans.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency requires that the three plants be completed by July 1, 1988. The towns missed a July 1, 1986 deadline for submitting plans that would have made them eligible for a state-administered grant covering at least 55 percent of the projects' costs.

Hoboken's plan initially was designed to serve Weehawken and parts of Union City as well. Weehawken has said it is considering dropping out of the project and developing a plant with the help of Hartz Mountain Industries. West New York's plant is designed to serve Guttenberg and parts of Union City. Mayo Lynch is the design engineer for all the projects.

The three plants are eligible again for funding in 1987. They face

an Oct. 31 deadline for the submission of information required by the state for the completion of environmental impact reports. Final plans for the projects are not due until May 7.

The Hoboken plant is the largest and most ambitious with its plan to convert the sewage sludge into pellets that can be burned as fuel for the generators on the site.

Robert Kotch, the construction grants administrator for the state Department of Environmental Protection, said that as an "innovative process" the pellet fuel system could be eligible for a 75 percent state subsidy.

Neither Kotch nor Cunningham would predict if any of the plants could be completed by the July 1988 federal deadline. But Kotch said that it is probably "no big deal" to get a court order extending the deadline.

Hoboken Councilman Joseph Della Fave said that the City Council received a letter from Mayo Lynch yesterday outlining a number of issues that must be clarified to meet the Oct. 31 deadline.

Earlier in the summer, he said that Mayo Lynch recommended the town not opt for the process which converts dry sludge to pellets. Mayo Lynch engineers told the city that the process is less efficient and less safe than traditional secondary treatment.

Della Fave termed these recommendations an "eleventh-hour presentation" and said that "a lot of the council members are in a state of confusion on this because the technical issues are complex."

The plant would cost some \$60 million according to the latest esti-

mate, Della Fave said, emphasizing that "it's the most significant project that we have ahead of us (in addition to the waterfront) but this is bringing great costs."

He said the council is concerned about meeting state deadlines so the city does not lose its eligibility for state assistance and become burdened with the entire cost of the plant.

The city has paid Mayo Lynch \$78,000 so far. But in June, Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti refused to sign a payment check, which the council had approved, for an additional \$296,000.

Della Fave, who along with Helen Cunningham voted against making the payment, said that he and the mayor want the final plans sub-

mitted to the state before the payments are made.

He said that Mayo Lynch is suing him, the mayor and Cunningham for not making the payments and for "malicious" and "defamatory" statements.

The West New York plant is expected to cost \$19 million and the North Bergen plant \$4.5 million.

Primary treatment of sewage removes 50 percent of the solid waste. Secondary treatment removes 85 percent.

The Hudson County Utilities Authority is responsible for reviewing each of the municipalities' plans and submitting them to the state.

Vezzetti seeking new Hoboken law director

10-7-86

By Jim DeRogatis
and Bill Campbell

Former Assistant City Attorney Bernard Kenny Jr. and Hoboken lawyer Peter Van Schaick are among the leading candidates to replace outgoing Law Director Sal D'Amelio Jr.

Mayor Thomas Vezzetti said yesterday that he expects to meet with Kenny, Van Schaick, and other candidates within the next few weeks, although he may not fill the city's top law post until after the November election for the First Ward City Council seat.

Vezzetti fired D'Amelio on Friday, just several hours after the controversial law director

Kenny, VanSchaick leading candidates

had tendered his resignation. D'Amelio had intended to resign effective Jan. 1, but the mayor called the date "unacceptable" and fired him effective Oct. 23.

Vezzetti had been at odds with his law director since a short time after he appointed D'Amelio in January. "Since D'Amelio was appointed, we have not enjoyed a cooperative

nor confidential working relationship," Vezzetti said. The mayor said he intends to appoint a new director of the law and public safety departments who is "sharp, capable, and who I have the utmost confidence in."

"I've had two strikes. One more and I'm out," Vezzetti said. "I want to make sure I

make the right decision this time."

Vezzetti's first law director, Fred Woeckner, split with the administration four months after his July 1985 appointment and resigned in January. D'Amelio, an assistant city attorney, was chosen as Woeckner's successor at the urging of Councilman Patrick Pasculli.

However, Pasculli and other council members grew dissatisfied with D'Amelio's stance on housing issues and the proposed secondary sewage treatment plant and with his handling of the police department. They backed Vezzetti's decision to fire him.

See VEZZETTI — Page 6.

Vezzetti seeking a new Hoboken law director

Continued from Page 1.

In a meeting with Vezzetti last Friday, Pasculli urged Vezzetti to hire Kenny, who served as a city attorney under former Mayor Steve Cappiello, sources said.

Kenny has been mentioned as a possible mayoral candidate by the forces working to recall Vezzetti. Kenny is an adviser to anti-administration Councilman Robert Ranieri and serves as a state Democratic committeeman.

Sources said the appointment of Kenny as law director would solidify Vezzetti's newly won "fragile majority" on the City Council and would possibly thwart the recall effort. "Bernie is a very nice guy. He's competent and qualified," Vezzetti said, stressing that he has made no official decision yet.

While several members of the council said they are considering Kenny, some members of the Vezzetti administration oppose the plan, citing past experiences with Woeckner and D'Amelio.

Members of the administration have mentioned Van Schaick, an attorney closely associated with tenants' rights and familiar with the anti-warehousing legislation, as an alternative to Kenny. "He's qualified. I'd like to meet with him," Vezzetti said.

"I'd like to hear a lot of different ideas before making my choice," Vezzetti said, adding that he would like to see a woman in the post.

Laurie Fabiano, executive secretary to Vezzetti, called



Bernard Kenny Jr.
A leading candidate

speculation about Kenny and Van Schaick premature and said the city has even hired a "headhunter" to conduct a search for qualified professionals.

"The speculation is not fair to those mentioned or those under consideration," Fabiano said. "It may be weeks before a law director is selected and a number of people are in contention."

"It's unfair to just say Peter or Bernie, although those are the two obvious names."

Neither Vezzetti nor Fabiano would divulge the names of other candidates for the job. Kenny and Van Schaick did not return requests for comments.

Ex-at'y general hired by Hoboken

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti yesterday appointed former state Attorney General Irwin Kimmelman as a special counsel to review the status of the city's secondary sewage treatment project.

Kimmelman, who served four years as the state's top law-enforcement official under Gov. Thomas Kean, will investigate "all aspects" of the \$60 million state and federal mandated sewage plan, said Laurie Fabiano, Vezzetti's executive secretary.

Vezzetti said he was "pleased" that Kimmelman accepted the post, claiming he is "the finest individual we could get."

Kimmelman, who was unavailable for comment, currently practices law in Roseland. He has served as corporate counsel for East Orange and as an attorney for Essex County.

Fabiano said Kimmelman was retained yesterday by Vezzetti on a "special services" contract and will receive less than \$7,500. She said the City Council Wednesday will vote on a resolution authorizing Kimmelman to perform legal services "at a salary higher than he is receiving now."

Kimmelman will also investigate the city's contract with Mayo Lynch Associates, the project's design engineer, as well as represent the city in any related legal proceedings, Fabiano said.

The Vezzetti administration has been critical of the quality of work performed by Mayo Lynch and is concerned that the proposed treatment facility will be bypassed for more than \$20 million in fiscal 1987 grants.

Fabiano said Vezzetti solicited legal references for a week before hiring Kimmelman.

The city next week is expected to renew sewerage-service agreements with

See EX-ATTORNEY — Page 12.

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Photo by Wally Hennig

Deputy Fire Chief Eugene Failla, right, lectures Hoboken first grade students Jose Acevedo, left, and Young Park on fire safety during a stop at the Calabro School, part of his Fire Prevention Week program. (Wally Hennig)

Fireman-teacher joins 2 careers in safety talks

By Jim DeRogatis

Hoboken Deputy Fire Chief Eugene Failla has worn two hats in two different careers as a fireman and a teacher. For the next two weeks, he'll wear both at the same time as he lectures Hoboken students on fire prevention.

Failla plans to speak to students at every public and private grammar and high school and daycare center in Hoboken this week, Fire Prevention Week, and next week.

A former grammar school

and high school teacher with a master's degree in education, Failla said he enjoys working with young people. His presentation to students includes films, a lecture, and handouts geared to different grade levels.

Nicholas Damiano, owner of the McDonald's Restaurant in Hoboken, is co-sponsoring Failla's educational presentations and has offered certificates for complimentary hamburgers to students who complete a fire drill in their homes.

Failla said he extended the traditional one-week period for

Fire Prevention Week to appear for the first time at day care centers and nursery schools throughout the city.

The deputy chief said he would like to expand the fire prevention program next year to include lectures and presentations at senior citizen centers in Hoboken, as well as at businesses and industries in the city.

Failla said he is willing to speak on fire prevention before any interested organizations in the city. For more information on the fire prevention program, contact 420-2259.

Ex-attorney general hired by Hoboken

Continued from Page 1.

Weehawken and Union City, which are also to be served by the Hoboken facility.

A previous agreement with those municipalities expired last summer after the project was bypassed for funding in fiscal 1986.

Weehawken officials reportedly have been negotiating with representatives of Hartz Mountain Industries to construct their own treatment

facility. Mayo Lynch officials have warned that environmental and cost estimates may not be submitted by the Oct. 31 funding deadline due to a delay by a project vendor designing an on-site sludge-handling plan.

Hoboken sources said the city is negotiating with the engineering firm of Lawler Matusky and Skelly to design the sludge plan.

Kimmelman is expected to advise the city on hiring a new project design engineer after reviewing design plans and funding schedules with local, county and state authorities.

"Our only goal is to insure that we receive all the grant

money we can," Vezzetti said.

The city must upgrade its current treatment facility to a secondary level, which removes 85 percent of pollutants from wastewater, by July 1, 1988.

10/8/86 Dis.

Lame duck promotes in Hoboken

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The ousting of Salvatore D'Amelio, the city's controversial law director and head of the Public Safety Division, took a new twist yesterday as D'Amelio promoted six ranking police officers against the wishes of the mayor and the chief of police.

Word of the promotions prompted Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti to suspend the law director immediately. However, D'Amelio said he is protected by Civil Service regulations and cannot be suspended.

"The attempt is null and void," he said.

On Friday, Vezzetti fired D'Amelio. But the same regulations that reportedly protect D'Amelio from suspension also require that the law director be given 20 days

notice before being fired. Consequently, D'Amelio's firing will not become effective until Oct. 23.

At 9 a.m. yesterday, the lame-duck law director promoted four sergeants to the rank of lieutenant and two lieutenants to captain.

D'Amelio said he may make further Police Department promotions before leaving office. He said he expects yesterday's promotions to become official as soon as the New Jersey Department of Personnel certifies that each officer is qualified for promotion. He said he foresees no certification problems and expects the official notice today or tomorrow.

He said he made the promotions as part of a necessary reorganization of the Police Department. D'Amelio wants to expand the Anti-

See LAME DUCK, Page 14

D'Amelio, fired, also suspended

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, fearing a series of eleven-hour promotions in the police department, suspended outgoing Law and Public Safety Director Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. yesterday "to prevent financial harm to the city."

Vezzetti, who last Friday fired D'Amelio pending a 20-day appeal, said the suspension was effective at 11 a.m. yesterday. He said the action stemmed from reports that D'Amelio planned to make "unnecessary and excessive promotions in the Police Division without necessary budget appropriations."

"It has been brought to my attention that you are preparing to act in your remaining days as director of law irresponsibly and to the financial detriment to the city," Vezzetti said in a memo to D'Amelio.

lio. "Therefore, I hereby suspend you . . . effective immediately to prevent financial harm to the city."

D'Amelio yesterday said he had no intentions of leaving his city post before Oct. 23, claiming "Vezzetti can't suspend me, he's fired me already."

He said he plans to promote an unspecified number of police officers without increasing their salary, "but if Civil Service won't allow it, there will be no promotions."

"I feel it's important for the guys down there (in the Police Department)," D'Amelio said. "The title will increase their morale and not hurt the city's pockets at all."

He said the suspension was "an attempt by the administration to politically interfere with my office — Vezzetti and the other Benedict Arnolds."

See D'AMELIO — Page 17.

D'Amelio, fired, suspended

Continued from Page 1.

Vezzetti last Friday fired D'Amelio just hours after the law director submitted his resignation effective Jan. 1. Vezzetti, who has been harshly critical of the law department and the director for several months, said the January date was "unacceptable" and fired D'Amelio effective Oct. 23.

The firing marked the second time in three months that Vezzetti has attempted to dismiss the embattled D'Amelio, who at 28 is the youngest corporation counsel in Hudson County. Unlike the first dismissal, the latest move is not expected to be overturned by the City Council, according to administrative and legislative sources.

Vezzetti said he and D'Amelio "have not enjoyed a cooperative or confidential working relationship." He said he was "not satisfied" with D'Amelio's ties on secondary sewage treatment, public safety and housing issues.

D'Amelio yesterday said the police promotions were part of a two-month review of

department organization. He said the plan includes expanding the Division of Enforcement and Public Education.

D'Amelio also contended that the department needs to maintain one uniformed police captain on duty during all hours. He said the policy was "the best way to improve morale in the Police Department."

"These guys never thought they would be promoted," said D'Amelio, who declined to name the officers. "Once we get the OK to waive the salary increase, I'll notify the chief."

The City Council, faced with a budget shortfall in 1986, slashed the Public Safety budget by \$325,000 last July through a reduction in rank. The move was applauded by critics of the department, citing a less than 2-to-1 ratio of officers to superiors.

D'Amelio said he would stipulate that the promotions not include a retroactive pay raise. He said the officers under consideration would likely fill titles vacated through attrition.

Police Chief George Crimmins said he has not spoken to D'Amelio "in over a week." He said he was "surprised" the public safety director would consider promotions "because the council's Public Safety Committee has been talking demotions."

"I don't find that morale is bad at all," Crimmins said. "I just feel that the younger (officers) may be upset because they may not be recognized for promotions within 15 years."

He said assigning a captain to around-the-clock duty would "cost the city a heck of a lot of money" because the move would "force" the department to adopt a 32-hour work week.

"Assuming the unions want everyone on a 32-hour week like Union City and North Bergen, we are going to have to appoint many more police officers," Crimmins said.

"But that's not my problem because Sal (D'Amelio) is the appointing authority," he said. "That's undisputed and I have no problem with that."

City Business Administra-

Checkout counters will be checking out

By Jeff Pundyk 10-8-86

The mayor is stocking up against the impending closing of the ShopRite, "the only place you can buy orange-raisin bread."

Three or four times a week at 11 a.m., Hoboken Mayor Tom Vezzetti leaves City Hall, crosses the street and enters the ShopRite. His home is crowded with packages of strawberry and banana Jello, 100 percent bran flakes, ShopRite quick rice, Aunt Millie's Mushroom Sauce, cans of pork and beans and pineapples — all the staples.

The mayor is stocking up against the impending closing of the ShopRite, "the only place you can buy orange-raisin bread."

"It's a tragedy," the mayor said. "A real tragedy." ShopRite on Washington and First streets in Hoboken is to be sold to make way for the Court Street Plaza development project that has yet to get approval from the Hoboken Zoning Board.

The developers have announced an agreement with ShopRite to buy the store for an

undisclosed sum. If it closes, there will be no full-service grocery store in that end of town. (A replacement supermarket is being discussed as part of the project.) And that, according to Vezzetti, will be a sad, sad, day for orange-raisin bread lovers in Hoboken.

Others, however, have mixed feelings. "It's very convenient," said John Duke yesterday as he sifted through chicken parts looking for dinner. "But the variety is not as great as some other stores. They're behind in

their techniques."

Duke, 27, is part of ShopRite's new breed of shopper — a newcomer to the city who stops in on his way home from the PATH Terminal.

If the oldtimers — shopping for families — pile their carts high with Wonder Bread and Sugar Smacks, the new breed uses no cart at all. The store's aisles are crowded with young people in suits and Reeboks carrying the Wall Street Journal under one arm and balance-

See CHECKOUTS — Page 17.

LAME DUCK

Continued from Page 1

vice Squad and increase the number of ranking uniformed officers patrolling the streets.

But other city officials argued that neither the promotions nor the reorganization are in the best interests of the city or the Police Department.

Vezzetti said he suspended D'Amelio at 11 a.m. yesterday "because he's trying to make all these promotions."

In a quickly drafted letter announcing D'Amelio's immediate suspension, Vezzetti accused the director of acting "irresponsibly, to the financial detriment of the City of Hoboken by making unnecessary and excessive promotions" in the Police Department without necessary budget appropriations.

Later in the morning, Police Chief George Crimmins said he opposes any changes in the Anti-vice Squad and he does not need additional superior officers.

"It is adequate, well-trained and doing a terrific job," Crimmins said "of the nine-man squad in charge of enforcing narcotics, prostitution, gambling and alcohol-related laws. The squad has been successful in making many narcotics arrests in recent weeks."

"I have not recommended promotions," he added.

Crimmins said he cannot use any more ranking officers.

"I'd have to create jobs for these men to fulfill their responsibilities, and, as of the present time, I have nothing," he said.

Under an ordinance enacted during the summer, the law director here also heads the Division of Public Safety and so possesses total authority over the hiring, firing, demoting and promoting of the city's uniformed employees. However, the police chief retains sole authority over the organization of the department and the assignment of its personnel.

D'Amelio said he sets the policy for the Police Department, but he conceded the chief has total authority over its day-to-day operations. D'Amelio said he wants Crimmins' "full cooperation" in implementing

his plans to enlarge the Anti-vice Squad and put more uniformed officers on the street.

"I'm going to ask the chief for all the help he can give me," he said.

But Crimmins, a veteran with 40 years in the local Police Department, said D'Amelio has not sought his advice or asked whether the changes are needed.

"I have not been in communication with the director for about a week," the chief said.

D'Amelio said his plans, which call for adding a Public Education Division to the Anti-vice Squad and ensuring there is a uniformed lieutenant or captain assigned to patrolling the streets "24 hours a day, 365 days a year," will not cost taxpayers any additional money.

"I got these guys to sign waivers," he said, explaining that the newly promoted officers have agreed to continue being paid under the pay scale of their previous rank.

He said the officers would receive non-retroactive raises only when the City Council determines it has the necessary funds. The city is currently in a serious budget crunch, with taxes having risen 33 percent last year to a countywide high of \$216 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Lt. Frank Turso, president of the department's Superior Officers Association, declined to discuss the specific promotions until they become official. However, speaking generally, Turso said, "We don't sanction promotions without raises in pay. We wouldn't want to start a precedent. But it's up to the individuals."

Promoted from sergeant to lieutenant yesterday were: James Berhens, Rafael Cruz, Edelmiro Garcia and Celestino Gasbarro. Lt. Frank Garrick and Peter Romano were promoted to captain.

It is unclear whether the promoted officers will be able to retain their higher rank after D'Amelio leaves office on Oct. 23. Under Civil Service rules, it is relatively easy to demote an officer if he has not held his rank for more than 90 days. Vezzetti, who opposes the promotions, will appoint D'Amelio's successor, who in turn will possess the authority to promote and demote.

Checkouts checking out

Continued from Page 1.

ing cheese, broccoli and virgin olive oil in the other. Some, shopping in bulk (two meals at a time), resort to using the red handbaskets.

"I can't remember the last time I shopped for more than two things," said one, a briefcase in one hand and a package of cheese in the other. "This is more convenient, but it's not a great store."

"I live down the block," said Jim Griffin, 33. "I have no place else to shop."

Griffin moved to Hoboken from Manhattan seven months ago "for the convenience." Now, his convenience shopping is disappearing to make room for more people like him to come over for the convenience.

"Another highrise," said Jeanette Whitehead, "that's all we need. Another highrise and no place to shop."

Whitehead is a Hobokenite since 1977, shops on her way home from the PATH three times a week.

"I surely will miss it," she said. "There's really nothing else around in this area and I don't like wasting a Saturday shopping."

"I hate this store," said Jeanne Svirchev. "They have a poor selection and are overpriced."

Svirchev, rooting through Aisle 3 in search of soy sauce, admitted, however, that she will miss ShopRite if it goes.

"I work half a block away so I come in once or twice a week," she said.

"I'm going to miss it very much," said a shopper who, caught buying marshmallows,

refused to give her name. "It's very convenient. The New Yorkers are going to miss it a lot."

There are two Foodtown supermarkets — one at Seventh and Clinton streets and one at Ninth and Clinton streets.

Although the ShopRite



Photo by Mark Wyville

This ShopRite store on Washington Street in Hoboken is expected to close.

closing won't take place right away some Hobokenites share their mayor's feeling of impending tragedy and are stocking up.

"It's the only place I can get Rock 'n' Roll Beer," said one regular. "I may have to move."

Name sewage panel after Vezzetti snub

By Peter Weiss 10-10-86

After three hours of closed door haggling, the Hudson County Board of Freeholders yesterday agreed on four new appointments to the autonomous Utilities Authority.

But while the freeholders put on a rare show of public unanimity on the appointments, their decision left Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti with a bitter feeling. He was at the meeting to urge a delay in selecting new members.

Vezzetti and Hoboken Councilwoman Helen Cunningham argued that a change in the Utilities Authority membership at this time might jeopardize a \$30 million grant application for their city's sewage treatment facilities.

But after the freeholders consulted with state officials and were told Hoboken's grant application would not be jeopardized, the appointments sailed through.

Despite the assurances from the freeholders, some of whom are his political allies, Vezzetti stormed out of the meeting following the vote. Before he left, he labelled the new appointments "a blatant and possibly corrupt influence-peddling move."

Vezzetti didn't name anyone in particular as the target of his allegations.

However, the political

atmosphere surrounding the Utilities Authority was apparent before the meeting began as supporters of Michael Schaeffer of Hoboken, one of the new board members, showed up to give him support against an expected attack by Vezzetti.

Meanwhile, Jersey City Mayor Anthony Cucci came to lobby for his nominees to the HCUA, including Schaeffer.

Schaeffer was named to replace Anthony Russo, the HCUA chairman.

Other appointments were Katie Harris of Jersey City, to replace Gabriel Calabrese; Cornelius Boule of Bayonne, to replace Frederick James; and Lawrence Cucchiara of Union City, to replace Eugene Harz.

The terms of all the members who were replaced had expired and they were serving on holdover status.

The freeholders have also asked to meet with the entire nine-member HCUA board and Executive Director Joseph LeFante to try to clear the air over several controversies that concern the HCUA, in particular, and sewage treatment facilities in the county, in general.

The new appointees are generally regarded as politically aligned with Cucci, Bayonne Mayor Dennis Collins and other leaders of the county Democratic organization.

In other business, the freeholders and County Executive Edward Clark agreed to meet with Cucci about a new police academy.

Cucci asked the freeholders about the possibility of renting some space at the county vocational school in Jersey City for temporary use as a police training facility. He said that without an adequate facility, the city Police Department faces a loss of accreditation.

Freeholder Roger Dorian of Weehawken countered with the suggestion that a county-wide police training site be established.

Sheriff Dominick Pugliese commended Clark and the freeholders for their interest, but wondered why they hadn't acted when he made a similar suggestion some 18 months ago.

The freeholders passed a resolution condemning Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone for his recent comments that the intellectual level of the United States is lower than that of Japan because of this country's varied ethnic groups.

Freeholder Elnardo Webster, sponsor of the resolution, said a copy is being sent to the Japanese consulate.

The freeholders also passed a resolution expressing condolences on the death of former Jersey Journal Publisher James Wear.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1986

tor Edwin Chius, a former public safety director, said Civil Service would not recognize the promotions without the pay increase. "I've attempted it in the past and they've told me the promotions can only stand if the funds have been appropriated for the salary increases," he said.

He said the department can

only promote officers on a temporary basis if they are to receive no pay increase.

D'Amelio said he asked the officers due to be promoted to sign pay waivers for Civil Service. He said the promotions are currently being reviewed by Civil Service personnel in Trenton.

MERCHANTS RELIEVED

Old sewer finally fixed

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Construction to replace a century-old main sewer line will leave a shop-lined block of Washington Street without parking and cost the city about \$12,000, but nobody seems to be complaining.

"We're very pleased that this bid came in about \$60,000 less than the next best bid," said City Councilman David Roberts, who is credited with spearheading the drive to replace the sewer, which runs from Sixth Street to Seventh Street.

Ambrosia Gabe and Sons of Jersey City is expected to spend between two and five weeks replacing the old clay line with one of cast iron.

Seymour Teller, who runs the Seymour Fur Shop, said he would have had to sell the shop and the 602 Washington St. building he bought in 1942 if the city had not replaced the sewer.

"We'd just have to walk out because these buildings weren't sellable," Teller said.

He said it would have been a terrible loss, but that there would have been no choice.

"Sometimes there was as much as six or seven inches of raw sewage in the basement, and the stench was unbearable," he said. "We were getting complaints from our tenants and our customers."

"They literally had feces in their basements," Roberts said of the plight of area homeowners.

The old sewer began leaking about 15 years ago, Teller said that for several years the building owners and merchants along the block became so desperate they paid private contractors to clean the city sewer line. But eventually private contractors told the merchants the decaying sewer line



Photo by John Decker

THE LONG-AWAITED WORK begins yesterday on a sewer running beneath Washington Street in Hoboken. The decrepit sewer, running between Sixth and Seventh streets, is to be replaced.

had become so fragile that cleaning it could cause it to collapse.

Roy Haack, director of the Department of Public Works, said that when he joined the department 23

years ago, one of his first assignments was to look into the feasibility of replacing the sewer line. Haack said no money had ever been allotted to repair the sewerage.

10/2/86 Dis.

Lame duck promotes in Hoboken

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

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See LAME DUCK, Page 14

D'Amelio, fired, also suspended

By Bill Campbell

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See D'AMELIO — Page 17

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Continued from Page 1.

Vezzetti last Friday fired D'Amelio just hours after the law director submitted his resignation effective Jan. 1. Vezzetti, who has been harshly critical of the law department and the director for several months, said the January date was "unacceptable" and fired D'Amelio effective Oct. 23.

The firing marked the second time in three months that Vezzetti has attempted to dismiss the embattled D'Amelio, who at 28 is the youngest corporation counsel in Hudson County. Unlike the first dismissal, the latest move is not expected to be overturned by the City Council, according to administrative and legislative sources.

Vezzetti said he and D'Amelio "have not enjoyed a cooperative or confidential working relationship." He said he was "not satisfied" with D'Amelio's views on secondary sewage treatment, public safety and housing issues.

D'Amelio yesterday said the police promotions were part of a two-month review of

department organization. He said the plan includes expanding the Division of Enforcement and Public Education.

D'Amelio also contended that the department needs to maintain one uniformed police captain on duty "during all hours." He said the policy was "the best way to improve morale in the Police Department."

"These guys never thought they would be promoted," said D'Amelio, who declined to name the officers. "Once we get the OK to waive the salary increase, I'll notify the chief."

The City Council, faced with a budget shortfall in 1986, slashed the Public Safety budget by \$325,000 last July through a reduction in rank. The move was applauded by critics of the department, citing a less than 2-to-1 ratio of officers to supervisors.

D'Amelio said he would stipulate that the promotions not include a retroactive pay raise. He said the officers under consideration would likely fill titles vacated through attrition.

Police Chief George Crimmins said he has not spoken to D'Amelio "in over a week." He said he was "surprised" the public safety director would consider promotions "because the council's Public Safety Committee has been talking demotions."

"I don't find that morale is bad at all," Crimmins said. "I just feel that the younger (officers) may be upset because they may not be recognized for promotions within 15 years."

He said assigning a captain to around-the-clock duty would "cost the city a heck of a lot of money" because the move would "force" the department to adopt a 32-hour work week.

"Assuming the unions want everyone on a 32-hour week like Union City and North Bergen, we are going to have to appoint many more police officers," Crimmins said.

"But that's not my problem because Sal (D'Amelio) is the appointing authority," he said. "That's undisputed and I have no problem with that."

City Business Administra-

In other business, the freeholders and County Executive Edward Clark agreed to meet with Cucci about a new police academy.

Cucci asked the freeholders about the possibility of renting some space at the county vocational school in Jersey City for temporary use as a police training facility. He said that without an adequate facility, the city Police Department faces a loss of accreditation.

Freeholder Roger Dorian of Weehawken countered with the suggestion that a county-wide police training site be established.

Sheriff Dominick Pugliese commended Clark and the freeholders for their interest, but wondered why they hadn't acted when he made a similar suggestion some 18 months ago.

The freeholders passed a resolution condemning Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone for his recent comments that the intellectual level of the United States is lower than that of Japan because of this country's varied ethnic groups.

Freeholder Elrnado Webster, sponsor of the resolution, said a copy is being sent to the Japanese consulate.

The freeholders also passed a resolution expressing condolences on the death of former Jersey Journal Publisher James Wear.

Checkout counters will be checking out

By Jeff Pundyk 10-8-86

The mayor is stockpiling orange-raisin bread in the face of tragedy. The only place you can buy orange-raisin bread.

"It's a tragedy," the mayor said. "A real tragedy."

ShopRite on Washington and First streets in Hoboken is to be sold to make way for the Court Street Plaza development project that has yet to get approval from the Hoboken Zoning Board.

The developers have announced an agreement with ShopRite to buy the store for an

undisclosed sum. If it closes, there will be no full-service grocery store in that end of town. (A replacement supermarket is being discussed as part of the project.) And that, according to Vezzetti, will be a sad, sad, day for orange-raisin bread lovers in Hoboken.

Others, however, have mixed feelings.

"It's very convenient," said John Duke yesterday as he sifted through chicken parts looking for dinner. "But the variety is not as great as some other stores. They're behind in

their techniques."

Duke, 27, is part of ShopRite's new breed of shopper—a newcomer to the city who stops in on his way home from the PATH Terminal.

If the oldtimers—shopping for families—pile their carts high with Wonder Bread and Sugar Snacks, the new breed uses no cart at all. The store's aisles are crowded with young people in suits and Reeboks carrying the Wall Street Journal under one arm and balance

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LAME DUCK

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vice Squad and increase the number of ranking uniformed officers patrolling the streets.

But other city officials argued that neither the promotions nor the reorganization are in the best interests of the city or the Police Department.

Vezzetti said he suspended D'Amelio at 11 a.m. yesterday "because he's trying to make all these promotions."

In a quickly drafted letter announcing D'Amelio's immediate suspension, Vezzetti accused the director of acting "irresponsibly, to the financial detriment of the City of Hoboken by making unnecessary and excessive promotions" in the Police Department without necessary budget appropriations.

Later in the morning, Police Chief George Crimmins said he opposes any changes in the Anti-vice Squad and he does not need additional superior officers.

"It is adequate, well-trained and doing a terrific job," Crimmins said of the nine-man squad in charge of enforcing narcotics, prostitution, gambling and alcohol-related laws. The squad has been successful in making many narcotics arrests in recent weeks.

"I have not recommended promotions," he added.

Crimmins said he cannot use any more ranking officers.

"I'd have to create jobs for these men to fulfill their responsibilities, and, as of the present time, I have nothing," he said.

Under an ordinance enacted during the summer, the law director here also heads the Division of Public Safety and so possesses total authority over the hiring, firing, demoting and promoting of the city's uniformed employees. However, the police chief retains sole authority over the organization of the department and the assignment of its personnel.

D'Amelio said he sets the policy for the Police Department, but he conceded the chief has total authority over its day-to-day operations. D'Amelio said he wants Crimmins' "full cooperation" in implementing

his plans to enlarge the Anti-vice Squad and put more uniformed officers on the street.

"I'm going to ask the chief for all the help he can give me," he said.

But Crimmins, a veteran with 40 years in the local Police Department, said D'Amelio has not sought his advice or asked whether the changes are needed.

"I have not been in communication with the director for about a week," the chief said.

D'Amelio said his plans, which call for adding a Public Education Division to the Anti-vice Squad and ensuring there is a uniformed lieutenant or captain assigned to patrolling the streets "24 hours a day, 365 days a year," will not cost taxpayers any additional money.

"I got these guys to sign waivers," he said, explaining that the newly promoted officers have agreed to continue being paid under the pay scale of their previous rank.

He said the officers would receive non-retroactive raises only when the City Council determines it has the necessary funds. The city is currently in a serious budget crunch, with taxes having risen 33 percent last year to a countywide high of \$216 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Lt. Frank Turso, president of the department's Superior Officers Association, declined to discuss the specific promotions until they become official. However, speaking generally, Turso said, "We don't sanction promotions without raises in pay. We wouldn't want to start a precedent. But it's up to the individuals."

Promoted from sergeant to lieutenant yesterday were: James Berhens, Rafael Cruz, Edelmiro Garcia and Celestino Gasbarro. Lts. Frank Garrick and Peter Romano were promoted to captain.

It is unclear whether the promoted officers will be able to retain their higher rank after D'Amelio leaves office on Oct. 23. Under Civil Service rules, it is relatively easy to demote an officer if he has not held his rank for more than 90 days. Vezzetti, who opposes the promotions, will appoint D'Amelio's successor, who in turn will possess the authority to promote and demote.

Checkouts checking out

Continued from Page 1

ing cheese, broccoli and virgin olive oil in the other. Some, shopping in bulk (two meals at a time), resort to using the red handbaskets.

"I can't remember the last time I shopped for more than two things," said one, a briefcase in one hand and a package of cheese in the other. "This is more convenient, but it's not a great store."

"I live down the block," said Jim Griffin, 33. "I have no place else to shop."

Griffin moved to Hoboken from Manhattan seven months ago "for the convenience."

Now, his convenience shopping is disappearing to make room for more people like him to come over for the convenience.

"Another highrise," said Jeanette Whitehead, "that's all we need. Another highrise and no place to shop."

Whitehead, a Hobokenite since 1977, shops on her way home from the PATH three times a week.

"I surely will miss it," she said. "There's really nothing else around in this area and I don't like wasting a Saturday shopping."

"I hate this store," said Jeanne Svirchev. "They have a poor selection and are overpriced."

Svirchev, rooting through Aisle 3 in search of soy sauce, admitted, however, that she will miss ShopRite if it goes.

"I work half a block away so I come in once or twice a week," she said.

"I'm going to miss it very much," said a shopper who, caught buying marshmallows,



Photo by Mark Wylie

This ShopRite store on Washington Street in Hoboken is expected to close.

refused to give her name. "It's very convenient. The New Yorkers are going to miss it a lot."

There are two Foodtown supermarkets — one at Seventh and Clinton streets and one at Ninth and Clinton streets.

Although the ShopRite

closing won't take place right away some Hobokenites share their mayor's feeling of impending tragedy and are stocking up.

"It's the only place I can get Rock 'n' Roll Beer," said one regular. "I may have to move."

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tor Edwin Chius, a former public safety director, said Civil Service would not recognize the promotions without the pay increase. "I've attempted it in the past and they've told me the promotions can only stand if the funds have been appropriated for the salary increases," he said.

He said the department can

only promote officers on a temporary basis if they are to receive no pay increase.

D'Amelio said he asked the officers due to be promoted to sign pay waivers for Civil Service. He said the promotions are currently being reviewed by Civil Service personnel in Trenton.

MERCHANTS RELIEVED

Old sewer finally fixed

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Construction to replace a century-old main sewer line will leave a shop-lined block of Washington Street without parking and cost the city about \$122,000, but nobody seems to be complaining.

"We're very pleased that this bid came in about \$60,000 less than the next best bid," said City Councilman David Roberts, who is credited with spearheading the drive to replace the sewer, which runs from Sixth Street to Seventh Street.

Ambrosia Gabe and Sons of Jersey City is expected to spend between two and five weeks replacing the old clay line with one of cast iron.

Seymour Teller, who runs the Seymour Fur Shop, said he would have had to sell the shop and the 602 Washington St. building he bought in 1942 if the city had not replaced the sewer.

"We'd just have to walk out because these buildings weren't sellable," Teller said.

He said it would have been a terrible loss, but that there would have been no choice.

"Sometimes there was as much as six or seven inches of raw sewage in the basement, and the stench was unbearable," he said. "We were getting complaints from our tenants and our customers."

"They literally had feces in their basements," Roberts said of the plight of area homeowners.

The old sewer began leaking about 15 years ago. Teller said that for several years the building owners and merchants along the block became so desperate they paid private contractors to clean the city sewer line. But eventually private contractors told the merchants the decaying sewer line



Photo by John Decker

THE LONG-AWAITED WORK begins yesterday on a sewer running beneath Washington Street in Hoboken. The decrepit sewer, running between Sixth and Seventh streets, is to be replaced.

had become so fragile that cleaning it could cause it to collapse.

Roy Haack, director of the Department of Public Works, said that when he joined the department 23

years ago, one of his first assignments was to look into the feasibility of replacing the sewer line. Haack said no money had ever been allotted to repair the sewerage.

Name sewage panel after Vezzetti snub

By Peter Weiss 10-10-86

After three hours of closed door haggling, the Hudson County Board of Freeholders yesterday agreed on four new appointments to the autonomous Utilities Authority.

But while the freeholders put on a rare show of public unanimity on the appointments, their decision left Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti with a bitter feeling. He was at the meeting to urge a delay in selecting new members.

Vezzetti and Hoboken Councilwoman Helen Cunneen argued that a change in the Utilities Authority membership at this time might jeopardize a \$30 million grant application for their city's sewage treatment facilities.

But after the freeholders consulted with state officials and were told Hoboken's grant application would not be jeopardized, the appointments sailed through.

Despite the assurances from the freeholders, some of whom are his political allies, Vezzetti stormed out of the meeting following the vote. Before he left, he labelled the new appointments "a blatant and possibly corrupt influence-peddling move."

Vezzetti didn't name anyone in particular as the target of his allegations.

However, the political

atmosphere surrounding the Utilities Authority was apparent before the meeting began as supporters of Michael Schaeffer of Hoboken, one of the new board members, showed up to give him support against an expected attack by Vezzetti.

Meanwhile, Jersey City Mayor Anthony Cucci came to lobby for his nominees to the HCUA, including Schaeffer.

Schaeffer was named to replace Anthony Russo, the HCUA chairman.

Other appointments were Katie Harris of Jersey City, to replace Gabriel Calabrese; Cornelius Boule of Bayonne, to replace Frederick James; and Lawrence Cucchiara of Union City, to replace Eugene Harz.

The terms of all the members who were replaced had expired and they were serving on holdover status.

The freeholders have also asked to meet with the entire nine-member HCUA board and Executive Director Joseph LeFante to try to clear the air over several controversies that concern the HCUA, in particular, and sewage treatment facilities in the county, in general.

The new appointees are generally regarded as politically aligned with Cucci, Bayonne Mayor Dennis Collins and other leaders of the county Democratic organization.

Crime up 11 percent in Hudson

But down 18 percent in Hoboken

By Raul Vicente Jr.
and Silvia Ascarelli

Crime in Hudson County has risen 11 percent in the first six months of this year as compared to the same period last year, the State Police disclosed yesterday.

Statewide, the increase was 7 percent and was largely attributable, State Police said, to drug traffic in urban areas.

A mini-poll of police chiefs reveals that the rise in crime in Hudson County may be centered around two or three of the county's 12 municipalities.

In Union City, Police Chief Herman Bolte confirmed that the city has experienced an in-

crease in crime. He links it to the newest drug craze, "crack," and to prostitution.

He said the rise in statistics is due to the effectiveness of the city's crack squad, created to meet the problem. "Our new

crack squad is making arrests," said Bolte.

Better records of arrests and final disposition of cases are being kept to assist the department when applying for various law enforcement grants, he said.

"The numbers show up when you properly record them and make them available, as we have done," Bolte said.

Prostitution is also being hit hard, said the chief. He said both problems appear to be concentrated in five separate

locations, and the squads are focusing on those areas to keep the problem from spreading.

Bolte said he has set up a meeting with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office to develop a joint plan to tackle the problems.

Meanwhile, the opposite is the case in Hoboken, according to Police Chief George Crimmins, who yesterday cited an 18

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Crime up in Hudson

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percent reduction in crime in his jurisdiction.

Crimmins attributed the reduction to the recent placement of 35 new cops on the streets, ongoing in-service training, and "good formation" of the training bureau.

Sgt. Edward Mecca, Hoboken police records officer, said the number of violent crimes for the first six months of 1986 was 102, a drop from 113 in 1985. Non-violent crimes dropped from 1,042 to 853.

Crimmins also attributed the lower figures to Hoboken's changing population and to a better-trained community relations unit that deals with the new faces and personalities moving into the city.

Police Chief James Sisk said Bayonne has experienced a 7.7 percent increase in crime.

As in Union City, Sisk attributed the increase to drugs and said that other crimes that don't readily appear to be rooted in the drug problem eventually are linked to drugs, directly or indirectly.

Sisk said that in August of this year three more officers were added to the city's narcotics squad to identify drug users and make arrests.

He added that in many instances, crimes such as robbery, larceny and theft are committed to acquire money to buy drugs.

"Our stats are up because we've made more arrests in overall index crimes," said the chief.

In Secaucus, where thefts and burglaries into autos are

up more than 12 percent, Police Chief Alfred Cormann pointed to development in town.

"It's the same thing we always talk about," he said. "Every year, there's more parking lots, more retail stores, which are conducive to this type of crime."

The department's records show auto burglaries are up 12.7 percent, from 221 to 249 reports, and thefts are up 12.1 percent, from 431 to 483 incidents.

Burglaries into businesses were up 63.6 percent — from 22 last year to 36 this year — an increase which Cormann attributed in part to development and in part to a rash of burglaries in January and February.

At the same time, burglaries into homes dropped from 25 to 16 reports and robberies declined from eight to five cases.

Residents should not be alarmed by the increases, Cormann said. The town still has the county's lowest rate for violent crimes.

"Most of these crimes are not in our local streets but in areas which are more open to transients," he said.

Countywide, according to the state's statistics, violent crimes rose from 2,306 to 2,625 and non-violent crimes have risen from 14,547 to 16,139.

Total index crimes in the county rose from 16,853 to 18,764, according to the State Police.

Hudson had 20 murders, an increase of one over the same period last year; 91 rapes, an increase of 20, and 1,423 robberies, the largest increase of any crime the first half of last year,

when 1,114 robberies were reported.

There was a decline in aggravated assaults, 1,100 last year compared to 1,091 this year.

Arson rose, and every category of non-violent crime in Hudson County showed an increase, the State Police reported.

Hoboken taxpayers may get break

By Jim DeRogatis

The state Attorney General's Office is seeking to have the deadline for filing tax appeals extended for Hoboken residents.

Deputy Attorney General Harry Haushalter said yesterday that he will ask the Hudson County Superior Court to extend the deadline for filing tax

appeals from Sept. 15 to Nov. 1. Many Hoboken residents did not receive notice of their tax bills until after the deadline for filing appeals, Haushalter said.

At least one Hoboken resident, a member of the "Tax Busters" branch of Help Hoboken Housing, had been planning to file a class-action suit to obtain the extension.

According to Richard Selt-

zer, an attorney and spokesman for HHH, many Hoboken residents did not receive their tax-advice notices until after Sept. 15. The tax-advice notice informs a homeowner of the amount of his tax bill, even though the actual bill is sent to the bank that holds the mortgage.

Seltzer said many residents who would have appealed the

high tax bill were effectively "locked out" of taking any action because of the late mailing.

Hoboken's 1986 tax rate of \$216 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation is the highest in the state. While many homes are assessed at only 16 percent of their true value, condominiums are assessed at a rate as high as

See TAXPAYERS — Page 26.

Vezzetti cries foul as cop brass receive lame duck promotions

By Bill Campbell

Over strong objections from Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and some members of the City Council, embattled Law and Public Safety Director Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. yesterday promoted seven ranking police officers.

D'Amelio, fired last Friday by Vezzetti, said he received certification of the promotions from Civil Service yesterday.

"I beat them, I beat them," D'Amelio said of attempts by the administration to thwart the move.

D'Amelio said that Lts. Peter Romano and Frank Garrick were promoted to captains. Sgts. Euriel Lugo, Edelmiro Garcia, Rafael Cruz and Celestino Gesbarro and James Behrens were promoted to lieutenants, he said.

The officers signed letters instructing Civil Service to waive pay raises and retroac-

tive salary, D'Amelio said.

"We are improving morale in the Police Department and the city doesn't have to pay," he said.

Eventually, however, the promoted men will receive salaries at their new scales, officials said. It was unclear yesterday when that will happen, since the police contract is now being negotiated.

Joseph M. File of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Jersey City yesterday released a statement opposing the promotions in light of the city's financial and budgetary problems.

The chamber, which did a complete review of Hoboken government in 1985 and suggested an audit of the Police Department and the establishment of a table of organization, believes "the city cannot take on additional, unnecessary expenses," the statement said.

"The public and the busi-

ness community are being totally ignored" through D'Amelio's move, the statement charged.

Police Chief George Crimmins said he would not object to the promotions because "Sal is the appointing authority and there is no question about that."

He declined further comment on the moves.

Vezzetti lashed out at D'Amelio, claiming the director was "obviously playing games with the lives of the police officers."

"I think it is a disgrace that the director has gotten away with these improprieties that lead to hurting the police department," Vezzetti said.

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham said D'Amelio's actions "were a cowardly act done by a desperate man" and added that the promotions would hurt negotiations with the Police Superior Officers Association.

"As a council member, this is a signal to me to make promotions without pay raises," Cunningham said. "It was the union's decision not to help the other membership with the upcoming negotiations."

Lt. Frank Turso, president of the union, said he was "happy for the men" promoted but agreed the move may have set "a dangerous precedent."

"The union doesn't condone promotions without pay raises. However, we have no control over individuals who sign pay waivers," he said.

"I imagine this will hurt our position at the bargaining

table," Turso said. "Although I wish the promotions included raises, I simply can't blame the men."

D'Amelio said the promotions were "crucial" to his planned reorganization of the department, expanding the services of the Anti-Vice Squad to include public education and maintaining a uniformed captain on duty during all shifts.

"This finally gives us what we are looking for," D'Amelio said. "We have taken the department out of the dinosaur age without it costing the city a cent."

Councilman Pat Pasculli, who in June sponsored the ordinance placing Public Safety in the Law Department, said he is considering sponsoring a resolution instructing the council and administration not to recognize the promotions.

Vezzetti last Friday fired D'Amelio, contending he has "not enjoyed a good working relationship with the attorney. He said he was 'not satisfied' with D'Amelio's views on public safety issues and secondary sewage treatment."

Vezzetti fired D'Amelio effective Oct. 23. He tried to suspend the law and public safety director on Tuesday when he heard about the impending promotions, but found there was no mechanism in the law to allow him to suspend D'Amelio.

Taxpayers

Continued from Page 1.

25 percent. Many condominium owners have filed tax appeals, claiming they are unfairly burdened by the high tax rate.

By law, tax appeals must be filed with the Hudson County Board of Taxation by Sept. 15. Haushalter said he hopes the court will extend the board's deadline to Nov. 1.

"It's clearly appropriate to extend the deadline," he said. Haushalter said that if one person received his bill too late to file an appeal, "that's one too many."

Haushalter said he was waiting for information from city and county tax officials before making his request of the court. He could not say how many Hoboken residents received late bills but added that he believes it is "a substantial number."

The deputy attorney general advised Hoboken residents who wish to file an appeal to do so, even though they will not become official until after the court rules. Haushalter said he believes the extension will be granted "within a few days."

The Attorney General's Office began seeking the extension for Hoboken after it was approached by Newark tax attorney Saul Wolfe. Wolfe was hired by Catherine Hales, a Madison Street resident, to file a class-action suit against the city.

Hales claims she received her tax-advice notice several days after the deadline for filing appeals and was prevented from appealing.

Wolfe said he no longer plans to file the suit because of the attorney general's intervention.

Seltzer criticized Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and the City Council, blaming them for the late tax bills. Seltzer said the mayor and council "treated the budget like a political football" for several months, resulting in a delay in mailing tax bills until mid-September.

Tax bills are usually sent out in August, and tax-advice notices are sent to homeowners at the same time that bills are sent to banks holding their mortgages.

Council tables vote on P.A. lease

By Bill Campbell

The Hoboken City Council, acting on the advice of chief waterfront development negotiator Michael Coleman, agreed yesterday to table a resolution urging the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to abandon its lease on city pier property.

The council voted 6-to-2 to postpone action on the resolution, which also called for discontinuation of negotiations with the P.A. until the lease is terminated.

City Councilman Pat Pas-

culli, sponsor of the resolution, said the measure would have "sent a strong message to the P.A. of our desire to remove the burden of the 1952 lease agreement."

The P.A. is attempting to renegotiate the lease, which runs through the year 2002, in order to construct a \$500 million mixed-use waterfront development project. The lease currently stipulates use for marine terminal purposes.

The council agreed to discuss the resolution with representatives of the mayor's Water-

front Advisory Committee and the P.A. during a closed session on Oct. 30.

Dan Tumpson, a member of the WAC, warned that a lease agreement with the P.A. could result in "a shotgun wedding leading to 99 years of abuse."

The council also agreed, in a 7-to-1 vote, to hire the accounting firm of Ernst & Whinney to review the financial objectives of the P.A. project.

The move was strongly criticized by members of the WAC, citing a similar contract with the accounting firm which the council approved last year.

Coleman, the executive director of the municipal Community Development Agency, said the failure to hire Ernst & Whinney could set negotiation back "as far as months or a year."

He said the firm, which will receive \$45,000, will provide "strong financial information" on rent possibilities and in-lieu-of-tax payments to the city.

In other business, the coun-

cil unanimously approved a \$25,000 contract with former state Attorney General Irwin Kimmelman to review the funding opportunities for the city's proposed \$60 million secondary sewage treatment plant.

Public Works Director Roy Haack, who is administering the sewage project, said Kimmelman would review "conflicting documentation" on the status of the project.

He said Kimmelman will meet tomorrow with the project's design engineer, Mayo Lynch & Associates, and on Monday with representatives of the state Department of Environmental Protection.

The city is hoping to receive more than \$20 million in federal funding in 1987 for the state-mandated sewage facility.

Vezzetti can't get law chief out of his hair

By Jim DeRogatis

During the last two weeks, Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti has fired Law Director Sal Vatore D'Amelio Jr. and attempted to suspend him. Now the mayor is hoping D'Amelio will go on vacation.

Vezzetti sent the law and public safety director a letter yesterday advising him that "you shall immediately be on vacation leave pending your termination on Oct. 23." But D'Amelio replied that he has no intention of taking a vacation.

The mayor fired D'Amelio on Oct. 2, several hours after the law director tendered his resignation. D'Amelio intended to resign effective Jan. 1, but the mayor called the date "unacceptable" and fired him

effective Oct. 23. Vezzetti has charged that D'Amelio's behavior has been "riddled with conflicts and failure to represent the public interest."

The mayor and law director have been bitterly opposed since shortly after Vezzetti appointed D'Amelio in January. Vezzetti has strongly criticized D'Amelio's handling of the anti-warehousing ordinance and the secondary sewage treatment crisis, and Police Chief George Crimmins has charged that D'Amelio was guilty of "politically interfering" in the Police Department.

Vezzetti tried to fire D'Amelio in July, but the firing was overturned by a two-thirds vote of the City Council. The mayor's latest action has been

supported by five of the eight council members, however.

But D'Amelio has refused to leave his position quietly. On Thursday, the law director promoted seven police officers as part of a move to reorganize the Vice Squad.

The promotions were opposed by the mayor, members of the council, and the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce because of Hoboken's budget crisis and the already disproportionate number of superiors in the department.

The promotions were made without pay raises, but the men will eventually receive salaries at their new scale, officials said.

Representatives of the police officer's union criticized

the promotions, saying they could hurt the officer's bargaining position. The police officers' contract is currently being negotiated.

Vezzetti attempted to prevent D'Amelio from making the promotions earlier last week, and he suspended the law director on Tuesday. But the mayor admitted that the move was just a "gesture." D'Amelio refused to accept the suspension and said the mayor did not have the power to suspend him.

"They can't suspend me, they already fired me," D'Amelio said.

"I beat them, I beat them," D'Amelio said of attempts by the administration to thwart the promotions in the Police Department.

Vezzetti, fearing other

eleventh hour moves by the law director, issued his letter yesterday advising D'Amelio to go on vacation.

"He has time coming to him, he should take it," Vezzetti said. "I'm looking out for his own good. Isn't that nice of me?"

But D'Amelio looked at the move differently. "I am not going to take vacation leave and I intend to stay here to my last remaining day as director of law and public safety," he said in a letter to the mayor yesterday afternoon.

"If I am harassed one more time by you or your administration, I am going directly to the assignment judge for injunctive relief and damages. Your political interference with this office is causing the

city irreparable harm."

Vezzetti, however, said that it was D'Amelio "who is doing the irreparable harm."

"Who's done the political interfering? Who appointed the cops when he knew he shouldn't have?" Vezzetti asked. "It's him who's harassing me." D'Amelio said he did not intend to take any other action before leaving office. "I won't be making any more promotions," he said. "I did what I wanted to do. My job is done."

The mayor has not revealed his choice to replace D'Amelio and said he is "carefully considering" several candidates. Administration sources said that Assistant City Attorney Thomas Calligy may be asked to serve as an interim replacement.

Levies on condos taxing credibility

By Anthony Baldo

You know something's not right in Hoboken when an 800-square-foot condominium on Clinton Street carries a 1986 property tax bill of \$6,000.

"People have said that the condominiums in New York were more costly to buy, but they also have said that they've never been hit with the taxes they have in Hoboken," said Stanley Kosakowski, the tax administrator for Hudson County.

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Levies on condos tax credibility

Continued from Page 1.

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Hoboken has seen the condominium phenomenon up close. According to Kosakowski, 219 condo units were completed in 1983, while 130 were finished in 1984. In 1985, 433 condo units were completed, and another 450 are expected to be done by the end of 1986.

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School closing splits board

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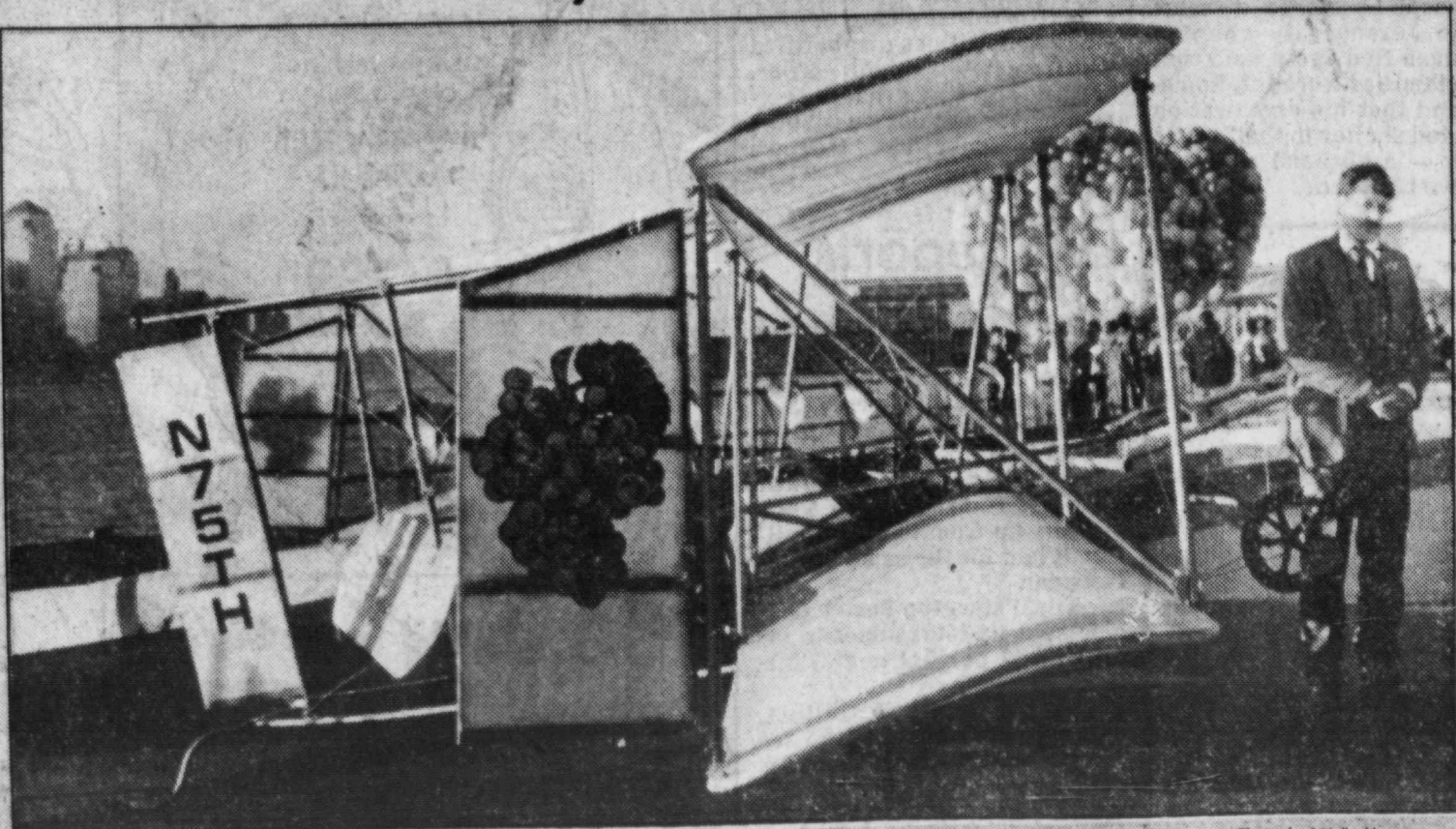
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See BIPLANE — Page 17.



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By Lawrence Babich and Earl Morgan

Three Hispanic trustees of the Hoboken School Board walked out of last night's regular monthly meeting to protest a 5-to-4 vote approving a resolution to close an unspecified elementary school in the city for "economic reasons."

Board members Alma Lugo, Raul Morales and Lourdes Arroyo, who opposed the resolution, walked out of the meeting together after the

vote was cast. The fourth "no" vote was cast by trustee Joseph Rafter.

Although the school was unspecified, among the approximately 200 people attending the meeting were parents from the Demarest School who said they believed the resolution was aimed at closing that school.

Board Trustee Gene Drayton said that if a school had to be closed, he would rather it be the Calabro School, observing that the school, which has an "open classroom setting," is a private classroom run with public funds, since students are chosen for the school by a lottery.

School enrollment in the

city has declined from 7,900 in 1973 to 4,100.

Lugo said she asked the board not to vote on the matter until more research could be done on possible uses for a closed school building and until the public has more input into the decision.

"We Hispanic board members left the meeting because

we were upset with the lack of sensitivity the other board members are showing to the parents and the children about this issue," Lugo said.

Lugo said the board had discussed the matter at a prior meeting but decided only to investigate the issue further.

"There has been no discussion since that meeting," Lugo

said. "We may have to close the school but I think we should know more about the impact of something like that."

"It's absurd to go ahead and take this position without adequate information," Rafter said. "We can solicit information from the community and we didn't have enough information on this."

Richard England, president of the board, was unavailable for comment.

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Biplane streaks across the sky

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and broke both legs and his collarbone.

Lloyd is hoping to reach Long Beach, Calif., on Oct. 29. Like Rodgers, he hopes to travel the 4,300 miles across the country in 49 days, stopping in the same cities where Rodgers set down.

Lloyd is eight days behind schedule because of weather problems, but he is still optimistic that he will complete the flight in time, according to David Arns, a spokesman for the Armour Food Company, sponsor of the re-enactment. Armour also sponsored Rodgers' flight.

According to Arns, a sudden gust of 35mph wind over Akron nearly sent Lloyd into a tailspin and he was forced to make an emergency landing on a golf course, much to the surprise of the golfers.

Arns said the only other problem during the flight, besides the inclement weather, was a blown spark plug that forced Lloyd to make an unscheduled two-day stop in Nebo. Lloyd was scheduled to leave the tiny town yesterday morning and reach Jacksonville, Ill., yesterday afternoon.

Lloyd's next stop will be Thompson, Mo., near the Mississippi River, roughly the midpoint of the journey across the United States, Arns said.

If Lloyd can fly for six days

asked.

He thought it would be nice if someone recreated (Rodgers') flight to celebrate the anniversary," Mrs. Lloyd said in Hoboken prior to the takeoff. "So he just went about doing it."

A graduate of Stevens with a doctorate in metallurgy, Lloyd said he wanted to take off from Hoboken because he was fond of the town and spent a lot of time here studying.

Asked why he is attempting to recreate Rodgers' dangerous flight, he shrugged and adopted the nonchalant manner of great aviators from Charles Lindbergh to Chuck Yeager.

"For the fun, what else?" he

Levies on condos taxing credibility

By Anthony Baldo

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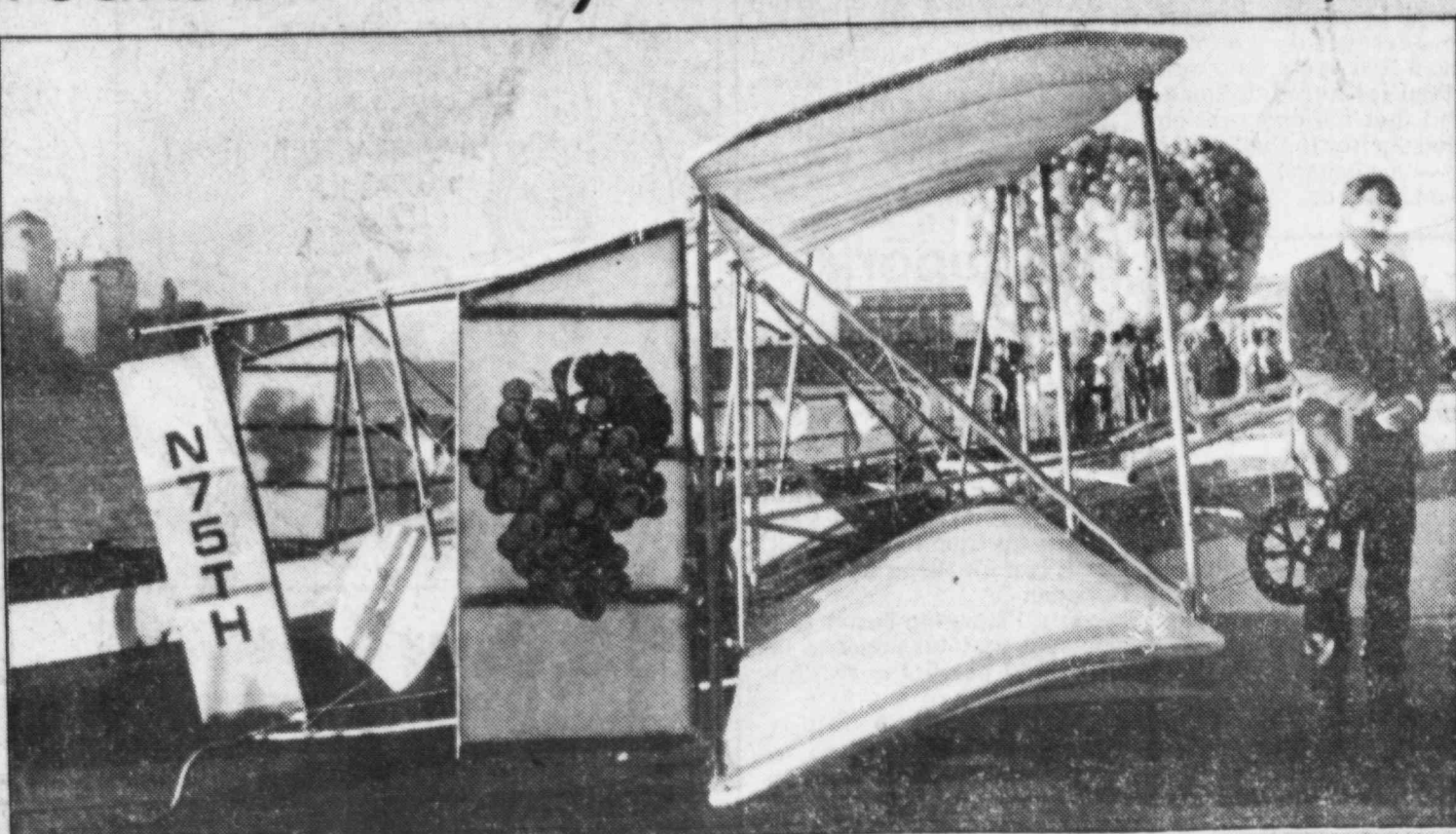
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"We Hispanic board members left the meeting because

we were upset with the lack of sensitivity the other board members are showing to the parents and the children about this issue," Lugo said.

Lugo said the board had discussed the matter at a prior meeting but decided only to investigate the issue further.

"There has been no discussion since that meeting," Lugo

said. "We may have to close the school but I think we should know more about the impact of something like that."

"It's absurd to go ahead and take this position without adequate information," Rafter said. "We can solicit information from the community and we didn't have enough information on this."

Richard England, president of the board, was unavailable for comment.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1986

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Biplane streaks across the sky

Continued from Page 1.

and broke both legs and his collarbone.

Lloyd is hoping to reach Long Beach, Calif., on Oct. 29. Like Rodgers, he hopes to travel the 4,300 miles across the country in 49 days, stopping in the same cities where Rodgers set down.

Lloyd is eight days behind schedule because of weather problems, but he is still optimistic that he will complete the flight in time, according to David Arns, a spokesman for the Armour Food Company, sponsor of the re-enactment. Armour also sponsored Rodgers' flight.

According to Arns, a sudden gust of 35mph wind over Akron nearly sent Lloyd into a tailspin and he was forced to make an emergency landing on a golf course, much to the surprise of the golfers.

Arns said the only other problem during the flight, besides the inclement weather, was a blown spark plug that forced Lloyd to make an unscheduled two-day stop in Nebo. Lloyd was scheduled to leave the tiny town yesterday morning and reach Jacksonville, Ill., yesterday afternoon.

Lloyd's next stop will be Thompson, Mo., near the Mississippi River, roughly the midpoint of the journey across the United States, Arns said.

If Lloyd can fly for six days,

he will be able to make up the lost time and reach California on schedule, Arns said. "I think it's reasonable to assume that he'll do it."

However, Arns stressed that "the main thing is to get him to California safely." Lloyd has stressed accuracy in recreating Rodgers' flight, right down to dressing like the famous aviator, but the modern pilot said he hopes to avoid duplicating Rodgers' numerous accidents.

Lloyd's wife, Susan, and Mike Sullivan, a friend and fellow worker at IBM, are following the pilot on the ground in a van stocked with spare parts and supplies. Susan Lloyd described her husband as an "aviation fanatic."

"He thought it would be nice if someone recreated (Rodgers') flight to celebrate the anniversary," Mrs. Lloyd said in Hoboken prior to the takeoff. "So he just went about doing it."

A graduate in metallurgy, Lloyd said he wanted to take off from Hoboken because he was fond of the town and spent a lot of time here studying.

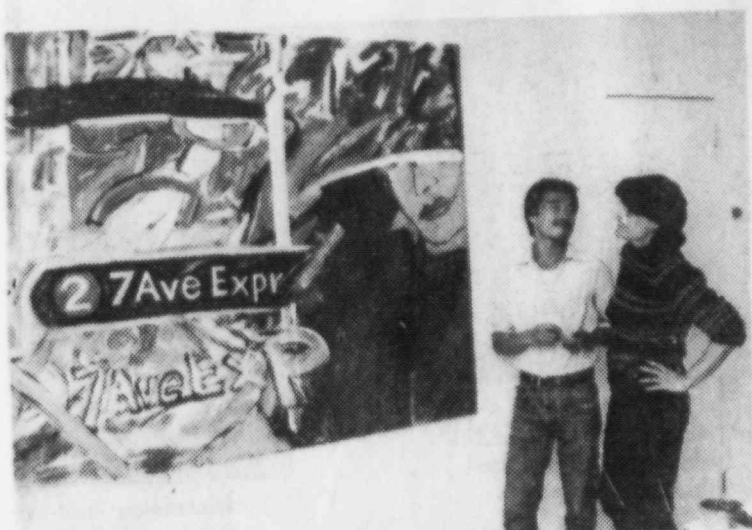
Asked why he is attempting to recreate Rodgers' dangerous flight, he shrugged and adopted the nonchalant manner of great aviators from Charles Lindbergh to Chuck Yeager.

"For the fun, what else?" he asked.



STRUTTING — The Hoboken High School cheerleaders and marching band were a big hit with watchers of yesterday's Columbus Day Parade in Jersey City. 8-8-10/12/86

Studio Tour along the Gold Coast



Artists Hiro and Terre Takeshito share a quiet moment in front of one of their works during the Hoboken Studio Tour yesterday.



Winifred McNeill chats with two guests who came to see her work during yesterday's Hoboken Studio Tour.



Hoboken political candidate Aaron Miranda-Forman views the work of artist Stephen Schofield during yesterday's Hoboken Studio Tour.



Gene Fellner explains his newest work to guests during the Hoboken Studio Tour held yesterday.

Photos by Mark Wyville

HCUA, engineer reach settlement on sewage plant

By Bill Campbell

The Hudson County Utilities Authority and the Hoboken engineering firm of Mayo Lynch and Associates have agreed to settle their differences over the design of Hoboken's proposed secondary sewage treatment plant, said Mayo Lynch attorney Marc Arnold.

The settlement, reached after the HCUA agreed not to terminate a contract with Mayo Lynch, allows the engineering firm to go ahead with design plans for the \$60 million treatment plant.

A complaint against the HCUA, filed in Superior Court Sept. 19 by Mayo Lynch, was dismissed on Sept. 29 by Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys following "an amicable" meeting with representatives of the en-

gineering firm and the county utility authority, Arnold said.

Arnold said the terms of the settlement prohibited a public announcement of the dismissal. "It was agreed we would not notify the press, but only respond to direct inquiry," he said.

Mayo Lynch had sought to enjoin the HCUA from seeking funding and authority to retain another design engineer for the project, and to prevent HCUA Chairman Anthony Russo from participating in the decisions of the agency.

Russo, who was ousted from his HCUA post during a raucous Board of Freeholders meeting last Thursday, told the Hoboken City Council on Sept. 18 that he and other utility commissioners would urge the freeholders to replace Mayo

Lynch with another design engineer.

He said he had "serious doubts" the sewage project would receive federal funding in fiscal 1987.

Arnold said that he and HCUA attorney John O'Donnell, under the terms of the settlement, had agreed not to elaborate on the statement.

O'Donnell could not be reached for comment.

Russo, who became a vocal critic of Mayo Lynch after the sewage project was bypassed for more than \$20 million in grants in 1986, and three other HCUA commissioners were removed from the agency last week.

Mayo Lynch, which also has filed lawsuits against Hoboken

See HCUA — Page 6.

HCUA, engineer agree

Continued from Page 1.

Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and four other city officials, must prepare and submit environmental and cost estimates by Oct. 31 if the project is to receive federal funding next year.

The engineering firm is suing Vezzetti, who has been critical of Mayo Lynch's municipal contract, to recover \$296,000 in payments withheld

by the administration.

David White, Vezzetti's attorney, said the mayor must appear before Humphreys for a hearing on Oct. 24.

The state Department of Environmental Protection has mandated that the sewage facility, which also serves Weehawken and Union City, be constructed and operating by July 1, 1988.

New book details Hudson history, business

By DOUGLAS LAVIN
Staff Writer

"Hudson County: The Left Bank," a new book which chronicles the county's history and which was sponsored by the county Chamber of Commerce, was introduced at a Secaucus luncheon yesterday.

The 117-page history, written by Joan F. Doherty, takes its readers from 1609, when Henry Hudson sailed up the river that bears his name, to 1985.

Doherty, a Jersey City native, has headed the New Jersey Reference Room of the Jersey City Public Library for more than a decade.

She wrote the history in only 10 months, she said, but she had spent 11 years researching the material.

"I was born in the Margaret Hague Hospital," she said, adding with a historian's instinct that the hospital was the first part of the Jersey City Medical Center. It was named after Jersey City Mayor Frank Hague's mother, and once had the lowest infant mortality rate in the world.

"I'm a Hudson County native. I love it. You can't get it out of your blood," she said.

The book focuses on the county's development in relation to New York, Doherty said, "on what fact-



Photo by Don Smith

AUTHOR JOAN DOHERTY, right, proudly displays a copy of her book, *The Left Bank*, a history of Hudson County, at yesterday's celebration in Secaucus. Also pictured are Joseph Lynch of Mayo Lynch Associates, Denise Arthur of Ready Personnel and John T. Clark of Hudson United Bank, chairman of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce.

BOOK

Continued from Page 1
tors kept it the lowly sister of New York for a number of years and what factors have helped it move beyond that."

"New York got the head start and once it got that start it never let up," she said. "That is why it is called the Empire State."

New York controlled all of the Hudson, preventing the construction of wharves on the New Jersey side as well as regulating all steamboat traffic, she said.

"The history is 35,000 words," she said "but you could have written 135,000 words and just begun to pierce the history."

"If you have anything to do with Hudson County it is a great book to have," said John Whitely, a spokes-

man for Jersey City's Christ Hospital, which is one of the book's sponsors.

The book traces the development of the area from the 1624 purchase of "Hobocan" a waterfront property to the current condominium boom.

The lavishly illustrated volume includes 41 pages of histories of some of the county's businesses and institutions, including Colgate Palmolive in Jersey City, Maxwell House Coffee in Hoboken, St. Peter's College in Jersey City and The Dispatch in Union City.

The institutions paid \$3,250 for each page of advertising in the book published by Windsor Publications, a California firm specializing in such local histories.

The \$22.50 book is available at bookstores throughout the county. This Friday, Doherty will be at Coles, The Book People, in Jersey City's Hudson Mall, to autograph copies of the volume.

The book's hundreds of illustrations were selected by Joseph C. Brooks, who worked until recently for the Jersey City Division of Urban Research and is now with New York City's Landmark Preservation Commission.

The corporate histories in the book were written by Anthony Amabile, a political consultant and publicist for the chamber of commerce. Representatives from most of the 28 corporate sponsors were at yesterday's Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Officials criticize police promotions

By Bill Campbell

In a memo to city police officers, Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and five members of the City Council have criticized the promotion of seven ranking officers as "politically motivated" and "neither financially nor managerially sound."

Vezzetti, who last week attempted to stop the promotions by suspending outgoing Law and Public Safety Director Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., said the memo was "formal notice" that elected municipal officials

disapprove of the director's actions.

The statement, which was distributed to council members Oct. 10 and issued to police officers earlier this week, was signed by Vezzetti and council members Joseph Della Fave, E. Norman Wilson, Dave Roberts, Helen Cunningham and Pat Pasculli. Council members Steve Capriello, Mary Francione and Robert Ranieri didn't sign.

Roberts, a member of the council's Committee on Public Safety and a vocal advocate of police "reform," called the memo "important" because it

memorialized the mayor's position in addition to a majority of the City Council.

D'Amelio, who was fired by Vezzetti on Oct. 3, contended that the promotions were "essential" to a proposed reorganization of the department. He said he plans to expand the duties of the Anti-Vice Squad and maintain a uniformed captain on duty at all times.

D'Amelio, whose firing is effective Oct. 23, promoted Lt. Peter Romano and Frank Garrick to captain. Sgt. Auriello Lugo, Edelmiro Garcia, Rafael Cruz, Celestino Gasbarro and

James Behrens were promoted to lieutenant.

"We wish to inform you of our grave concern regarding the recent promotions made by Director D'Amelio," said the statement issued by the mayor's office. "As you probably know, these promotions were made without the recommendation of either Police Chief George Crimmins or us, the elected officials."

"We fully recognize and respect your abilities, professionalism and value to our city."

See OFFICIALS — Page 7.

Officials criticize police promotions

Continued from Page 1.

However, such promotions at this time would be neither financially nor managerially sound.

"In addition, we disapprove of what appears to be politically motivated actions by the director. Now, as in the past, political promotions do little to boost the morale of all... and provide false expectations for our youngest officers."

The administration released the statement after Wednesday's session of the City Council. The council was to have discussed a "table of organization" for the Police Department, but held off action until November.

A City Hall source said the administration may demote the seven officers after D'Amelio

leaves his post later this month. The officers will be entitled to their "right to rank" if no action is taken within 90 days.

The appointments were certified Oct. 16 after the officers signed letters instructing Civil Service to waive pay, raises and retroactive salary, D'Amelio said. However, the officers will receive salary increases after financial restrictions are lifted from the Public Safety Department.

Last July, the City Council, facing a \$2 million budget shortfall in 1986, slashed the public safety budget by \$325,000 through a reduction in rank. The move was applauded by critics of the department, citing a less than 2-to-1 ratio of officers to superiors.

Hoboken Observer

OLG parish history—135 years of change

By Jim DeRogatis

The faces of the worshippers have changed many times and the neighborhood has flourished, declined, and been reborn, but for 135 years, Our Lady of Grace Roman Catholic parish has been strong in the center of Hoboken.

The first Catholic church established in Hoboken and one of the first and largest in the state, Our Lady of Grace will celebrate 135 years as an integral part of Hoboken history on Saturday.

Before OLG was founded in 1851, Catholics had to travel by horse and buggy to Jersey City or by ferry to Manhattan to worship. But by the mid-1800s,

the large influx of German and Irish immigrants, many of whom were Catholic, convinced church leaders that a parish was needed in Hoboken.

The Rev. Antonio Cauvin, a zealous Italian priest, founded the parish of St. Mary's, which would later be known as Our Lady of Grace, in 1851. Four years later, he built a small brick church and rectory that stood at the site of the present OLG grammar school, 400 Willow Ave.

Cauvin worked with the parishioners of OLG for 22 years, until his congregation outgrew his small church. In 1873, he purchased 24 city lots for \$47,000 with plans to build a grand church on the scale of

those he remembered from Europe.

The cornerstone of the present church was laid by Cauvin's successor, the Rev. Major Duggan, an Irishman. Duggan envisioned OLG as a cathedral and commissioned local architect Francis Himpler to design the building in a 13th Century German Gothic vein.

When OLG was completed in 1878, at a cost of \$100,000 it was considered the largest church in the state. It remains one of the largest today. Unlike most churches, where the pulpit is on the left side of the altar, OLG's pulpit is on the right, as is the case in a cathedral.

The church is capable of seating 1,400 worshippers under its majestic domed ceilings. The work of hundreds of artisans is in evidence throughout the building, from the flawless marble floors and altar to the ornate stained glass windows.

The work of the artists is especially evident in the hand-carved wooden statues behind the altar. The statues depict the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Francis Xavier, St. Peter, the Virgin Mother and child, St. Paul, and St. Ignatius Loyola.

The parish of OLG continued to grow through the early 1900s, even as other Catholic parishes were formed in Hoboken. The grammar school, originally started in 1864, thrived as the children of the new wave of Italian immigrants enrolled, and the Sisters of Charity began to serve the parish.

St. Mary Hospital, which was attracted to the site because of OLG, continued to grow, and Church Square Park was laid out and named because of OLG's towering presence in the neighborhood.

In 1953, Hollywood director Elia Kazan was attracted to OLG when filming his classic "On the Waterfront." The exterior of the church figures in a prominent scene in the film, although the interior scenes were filmed at St. Peter and Paul.

The Rev. John Tully, who has been pastor of OLG for the last four years, jokes that many oldtime Hoboken residents were puzzled and angered by "On the Waterfront" because of its merger of the two churches.

Tully speaks with pride about the magnificent church building and notes that it has "held up extremely well considering its age."

"It is an amazing feat when you consider that each of these bricks was laid by hand," Tully says as he surveys the interior of the church. But he notes that it is not the church building that makes OLG such a strong parish.

"The parishioners here are very cooperative and they have a great loyalty to OLG," Tully says. "They are the most loyal and supportive people I have ever seen."

But as in all the parishes in Hoboken, Tully says the con-

gregation at OLG has changed over the years. The worshippers are no longer from one immigrant group but are a mixture of Germans, Irish, Italians, Yugoslavians, and Puerto Ricans.

The number of worshippers is decreasing, though. Tully says that the decline of Hoboken's neighborhoods in the 1960s and the gentrification of the 1980s have taken a toll on the number of parishioners.

"Some of the newcomers do come here to worship," he says, "but it will never balance out."

Sources predict that the Archdiocese of Newark will eventually be forced to close one of Hoboken's five Catholic parishes, but OLG parishioners remain optimistic that their church will continue.

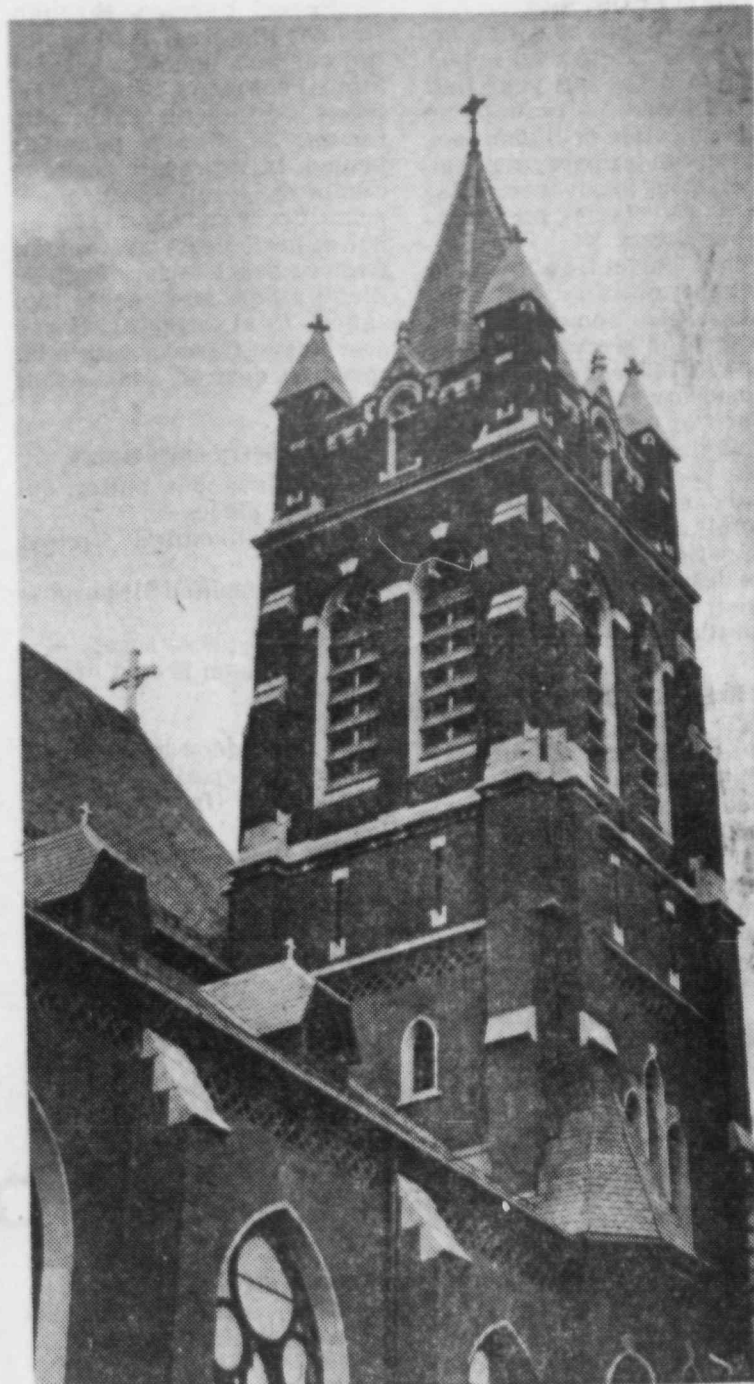
"I think OLG will always be here," says Mary Pendrick, a member of the church's anniversary committee. "The church is too big, we really don't need a building this big now, but it's too beautiful to ever tear down."

Pendrick, 50, says that OLG continues to be made of many strong, devoted families. "I was baptized in the church," she says. "I was married there, and my children were married there."

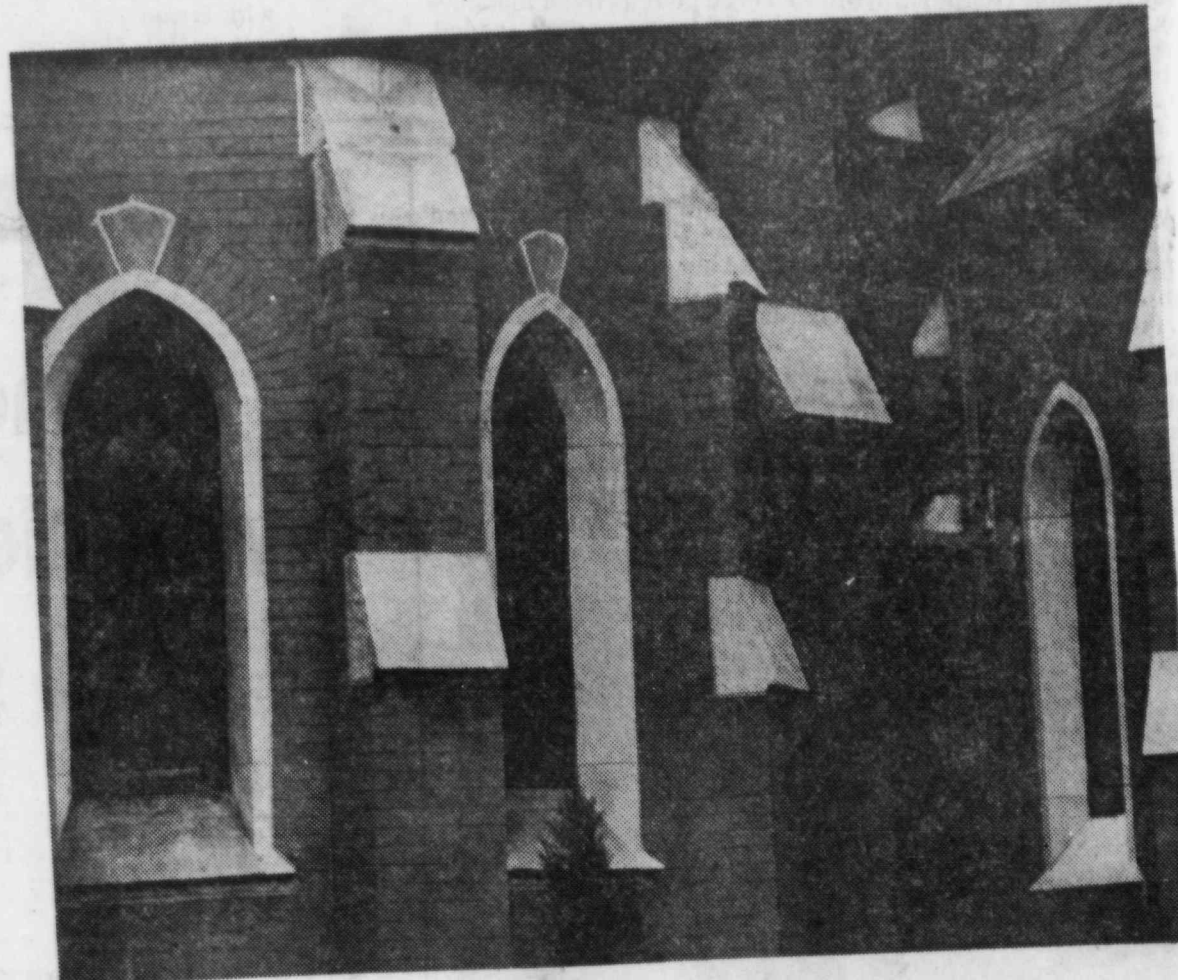
"The parish has changed and it has had its problems, but there are still many strong families."

Several hundred Hoboken families are expected to participate in OLG's anniversary celebration on Saturday. Bishop Jerome Pechillo, the vicar of Hudson County, will preside at an anniversary mass at 6:30 p.m., followed by a dinner-dance at the Holiday Inn in North Bergen.

For information about the celebration, contact 659-0369.



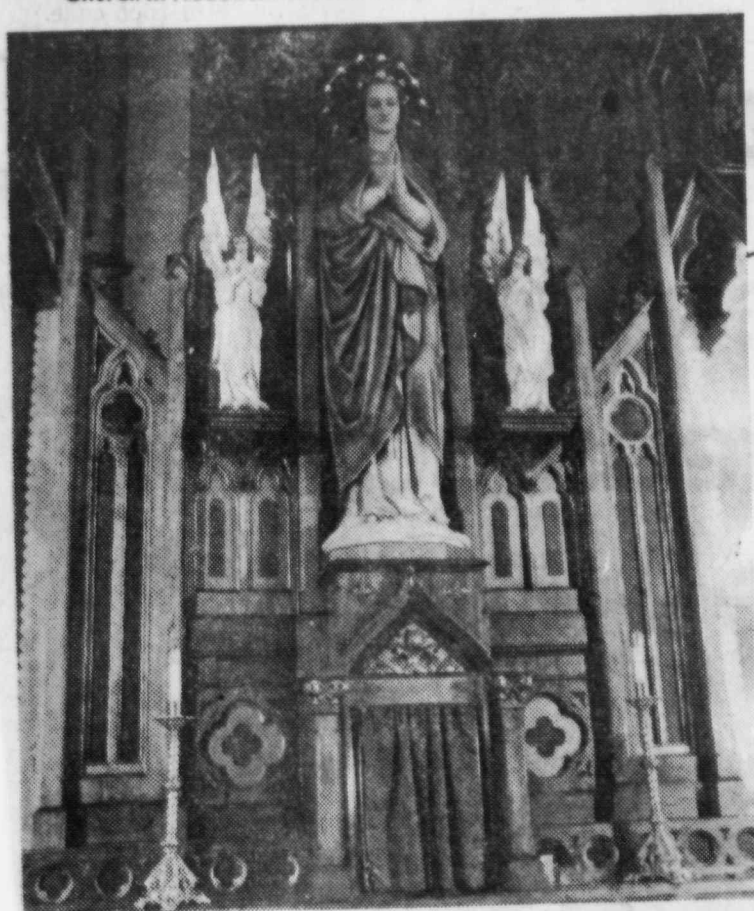
Fans of the movie "On the Waterfront" will recognize the exterior of Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken, which includes this German Gothic tower.



The church's exterior includes these Gothic keystone arches with buttresses.



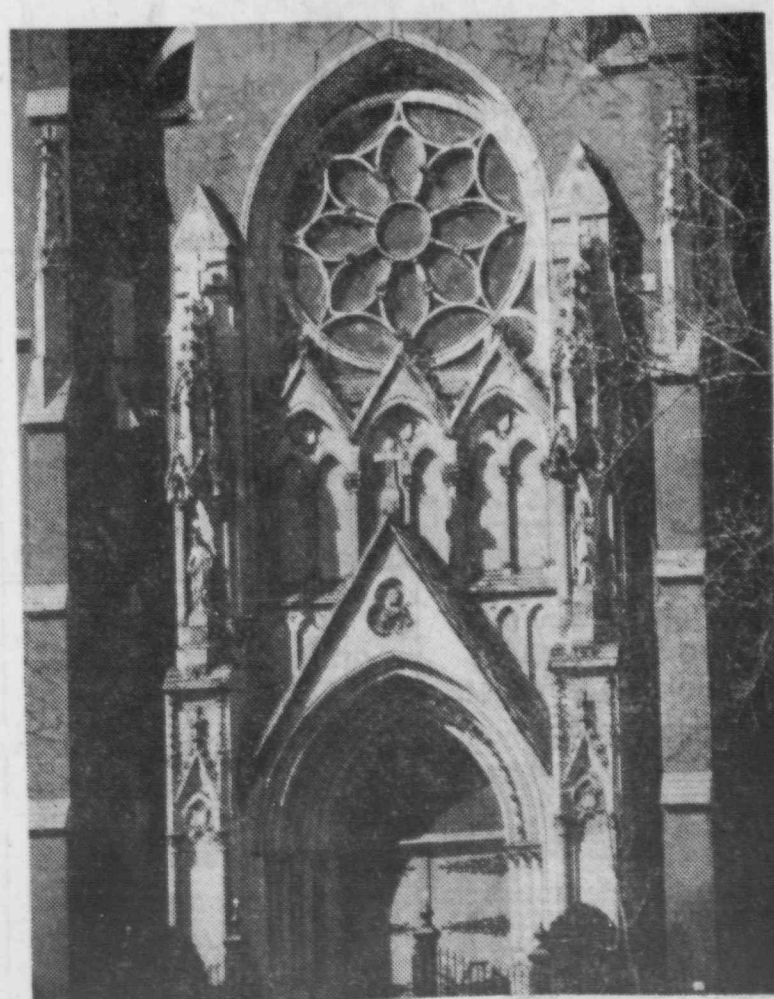
This is the original high altar inside Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken. The main altar is in the foreground.



The statue of the Blessed Virgin is one of several hand-carved works in Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken.



The Gothic interior of Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken surrounds seating for 1,400 parishioners.



A rose window dominates the entrance facade of Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken, celebrating its 135th anniversary Saturday.

DISPATCH 10/15/86

Hoboken asked to reassess

By JENNIFER FREY
Staff Writer

The Hudson County Board of Taxation passed a resolution yesterday asking the Hoboken City Council to appropriate \$50,000 to the city Assessors Office for a property re-assessment.

The move came a day after a Superior Court judge extended the deadline for Hoboken taxpayers to file appeals on their property taxes.

Also at yesterday's meeting, the tax board granted Bayonne a request to extend the 1987 deadline for finishing their property revaluation for a year.

Property values have not been reassessed in either city since 1970.

The tax board resolution asks

See REASSESS, Page 10

REASSESS

Continued from Page 1

Harry Haushalter, state deputy attorney general, to "compel" Hoboken to appropriate money to complete a reassessment that was abandoned earlier this year.

Stanley Kosakowski, of the tax board, said property in Hoboken is assessed on the average at only 14 percent of its true value.

Condominium owners are paying the brunt of the taxes because their properties are generally assessed at about 20 percent of their true value, while others are assessed as low as 6 percent, said Kosakowski.

A reassessment would assess all properties at 100 percent of market value.

While agreeing with Kosakowski that a reassessment is needed, Edward Chius, business administrator for Hoboken, said the tax board has no authority to compel the City Council to appropriate money.

Chius said he and the administration stopped the reassessment because the city assessor, Woodrow Monte, planned to hire James Mulroy, formerly of Landmark Associates of Perth Amboy, to do the job.

Chius said he and the administration objected because Landmark Associates was paid close to \$180,000 in 1983 to conduct a revaluation and did not do an adequate job.

"They did very little except cause a protest. They gave us nothing we can use," said Chius.

"Landmark did not visit many of the properties they revalued, Chius charged. Monte could not be reached for comment.

Kosakowski said the tax board wants a reassessment in Hoboken, which is carried out by the city's assessor, as opposed to a revaluation, which is done by an outside

firm.

However outside consultants often are called in to help a city assessor complete a reassessment.

Kosakowski said he is not recommending any particular consultant.

Chius said the city wants a revaluation, done by a reputable firm. "Hoboken is a unique situation and deserves to be looked at carefully," Chius said. "Every block is different. The assessment would be almost as complicated as in New York City."

Chius said property values in Hoboken are spiraling at a quicker rate than anywhere else in the country.

Since 1982 property values have tripled, he said.

In 1970, when properties in Hoboken were last assessed, there were virtually no condominiums, Chius said. Today 1,000 of the 16,000 taxable units in the city are condominiums.

Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys of Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City Thursday extended the deadline from Sept. 15 to Nov. 3 for Hoboken property owners to file appeals on their 1986 taxes.

The decision was based on taxpayers' complaints that they did not receive their tax bills until after a Sept. 15 deadline for mailing them.

Kosakowski said they received about 100 appeals.

Bayonne was granted an extension on their revaluation, which is already underway, but will not be completed for the 1987 tax year as planned.

Marvin Eger, business administrator in Bayonne, said the city hired an outside firm to conduct a revaluation, but will not have the new figures until October 1987.

Board rejects Lisa resignation, but he's firm

By Jim DeRogatis
10/12/86

The Hoboken Board of Education yesterday refused to accept the resignation of schools auditor Joseph Lisa and will demand that he complete an audit of the system due Nov. 1.

Lisa, a candidate for the First Ward City Council seat in the Nov. 4 election, tendered his resignation Sept. 30 because he said he does not think "elected or appointed officials should serve in dual capacities."

"I'm rendering a professional service (by preparing the audit)," Lisa said, "and the fact that my objectivity may be impaired (by running for office), I feel I can no longer serve in that capacity."

A partner in the Hoboken firm of Gerald Lisa & Co., Lisa held a \$20,500 annual contract to audit the Hoboken schools.

The board refused to accept Lisa's resignation at its Oct. 14 meeting. Board President Richard England scheduled a special meeting for 5 p.m. Monday to discuss the issue and possibly hire a new auditor, but the meeting was postponed until yesterday because there was no quorum.

After more than two hours of discussion, Board Members England, Joseph Rafter, Lourdes Arroyo, James Monaco, James Farina, Anthony DeBari and Raul Morales decided to reject Lisa's resignation because of the need to complete a state-mandated audit by Nov. 1.

England told the board he will meet with Lisa and request that he complete the audit.

Lisa, however, said he isn't planning to reverse his decision and said, as far as he's concerned, he's resigned.

Rafter charged that Lisa was "trying to hold a gun to the board's head" by resigning so close to the deadline.

"He knew we could get in trouble with the state if we missed the deadline," Rafter said. "Why didn't he notify us (of his intentions to resign) two months ago, when he decided to run?"

Lisa said he only decided to run in mid-September, but delayed his resignation for two weeks so he could "examine the situation."

"I don't make hasty decisions," he said.

He said he realized his resignation would probably mean the city wouldn't get its audit submitted to the state on time but believed his potential conflict of interest took precedence.

He said he didn't want critics to claim he was using the school audit "as a springboard or platform" for his campaign.

Rafter said the board believed Lisa would not be serving in a dual capacity if he continued as auditor, since the election will not be held until three days after the audit is due.

Lisa's resignation comes amidst charges by the Committee for Quality Education, a Hoboken parents' group, that Lisa is guilty of a conflict of interest because he is serving as school auditor while he is a business partner with Board Secretary Anthony Romano.

"I think this was Lisa's response to CQE's allegations," Rafter said. "But that's a separate issue. He should do the audit and deal with the problems and allegations as a separate issue."

Tax appeals deadline extended until Nov. 3

By Anthony Baldo

Hoboken taxpayers may file tax appeals until Nov. 3, marking the first time the cutoff date for a Hudson County community has gone beyond Sept. 15, the county's top judge ruled yesterday.

Superior Court Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys signed the order to extend the deadline.

Deputy Attorney General Harry Haushalter, appearing on behalf of the county Board of Taxation, asked Humphreys to sign the order because Hoboken taxpayers were first

For Hoboken's property owners

sent their tax bills on Sept. 17 and Sept. 18.

The county has received 60 tax appeals from Hoboken condominium owner and, according to Stanley Kosakowski, the county tax administrator, another 40 were returned pending yesterday's action.

Kosakowski said his office returned the 40 appeals because of the late delivery of the

tax bills. He said the county kept copies of those applications and will now send letters to those taxpayers informing them that the deadline has been extended and that they should re-appeal.

Hoboken condominium owners are distressed by their tax bills because their properties are being assessed at 20 percent of their true market

value while other residences in the city are assessed at 5 percent to 7 percent.

With the \$53.76 rise in the Hoboken tax rate, condominium owners believe they are bearing too much of the tax burden.

Hoboken officials have resisted undertaking a revaluation or reassessment effort, despite the support for such a program by Woodrow Monte, the city's tax assessor.

William Connelly, a commissioner on the county Board of Taxation, is expected today to submit a resolution to that

See TAX — Page 7.

Tax appeals deadline Nov. 3

Continued from Page 1:

body asking that Haushalter's office seek a Superior Court order compelling the Hoboken City Council to earmark funds so the city assessor can hire personnel to reassess all the properties in the community.

Kosakowski said \$40,000 to \$50,000 would be needed for Monte to hire personnel to update assessments.

Currently, the ratio in Hoboken is 16.96 percent. That means that, on average, industrial, residential, and commercial properties in the city are assessed at only about 17 percent of their true worth.

The city's failure to revalue or reassess properties to bring them to 100 percent true market worth has led to a \$216.50 tax rate for 1986, the highest ever in the state. Moreover, Hoboken's low ratio means little uniformity exists among property assessments and some taxpayers are subsidizing others.

The county board in September 1981 ordered Hoboken to revalue its properties for the 1983 tax year.

The city hired Landmark Associates of Perth Amboy to conduct such an effort. The firm did the work but Hoboken residents and officials protested, claiming the revaluation was improperly done.

The state Legislature in February 1984 passed a moratorium sponsored by then-Assemblyman Robert Rainieri of Hoboken that postponed the revaluation deadline for one



Stanley Kosakowski, Hudson County tax administrator, left, and Deputy Attorney General Harry Haushalter prepare to go to Superior Court to ask for an extension of the tax appeals deadline for Hoboken property owners.

year and gave the state treasurer the option to extend that deadline one additional year.

The city requested and received the additional year, so the revaluation deadline was extended to the 1985 tax year.

In September 1985, however, the county board ordered Hoboken to conduct a reassessment of properties for the 1986 tax year. A reassessment is conducted by the city's assessor, while a revaluation is done by an outside independent firm.

To date, no court action has been requested by the county board regarding either its revaluation or reassessment orders. But that is likely to change.

"We're going to proceed with the reassessment order because it can be implemented more rapidly," Kosakowski said.

He added that all the city assessor need do is update the figures compiled during the Landmark study.

Haushalter said Hoboken isn't the only city where tax bills went out late. He said that Haledon in Passaic County has yet to send out tax bills. Even in Hudson County, tax bills went out after July 15, so the county board had to extend the deadline for tax appeals from Aug. 15 to Sept. 15.

The state Legislature assumed that there needed to be a 30-day cushion between the time taxpayers got their bills and when they could file appeals, Haushalter said.

"But the Legislature never foresaw that tax bills would go out in September," he said. "It's a modern phenomenon because of budgets. It's becoming the norm that budgets are being approved late."

There are laws that set deadlines for the passage of budgets, but municipal administrators rarely adhere to them, he said.

Legislation is now pending that will enable the county tax boards throughout the state to extend tax appeal deadlines beyond 30 days, he added.



Photo by Don McCoy

LONG-TIME METS FAN John Bonasorte sells souvenirs on Washington Street in Hoboken yesterday.

HOBOKEN

Souvenir vendor focuses on Mets - his favorites

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A Union City man who watched the Mets play ball in their first season, at the Polo Grounds in Manhattan in 1962, was supporting his favorite team, and himself, here yesterday.

"I'm a lifelong Met fan. I called this in April. They're one of the greatest teams I've ever seen," John Bonasorte said as he hawked Mets T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats and pennants at Fourth and Washington streets yesterday.

Bonasorte says he has been sell-

ing sports souvenirs for about nine years.

At any big game or a major event you may find Bonasorte. He makes yearly ventures to New Orleans for the city's world-famous Mardi Gras celebration. Last year, he went to Boston to sell Super Bowl souvenirs to that city's devoted New England Patriots fans.

What Bonasorte says he likes best about his job is the chance to travel, and the money. Bonasorte gets to keep between 20 and 25 percent of the purchase price of each item. He

See METS, Page 12



Photo by Don McCoy

NIDIA CARRERO chooses a sweatshirt after looking over Mets souvenirs being sold yesterday by long-time Mets fan John Bonasorte on Washington Street in Hoboken.

METS

Continued from Page 1

says his most fruitful day was July 3, when he sold Statue of Liberty memorabilia to Operation Sail viewers on Boulevard East in Weehawken. He says he made between \$350 and \$400 that day.

While not as lucrative as Boulevard East on July 3, Bonasorte says, "Hoboken is a good spot."

Selecting a location where pedestrians pass is the key to success in the concession business, Bonasorte says. For three hours in the morning and close to four more hours in the afternoon, Bonasorte sells his goods

outside the Hoboken Terminal. But from about 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., he works Washington Street.

The company for which he works, Concessions Limited of Boston, also has Mets concessions at Journal Square and Exchange Place in Jersey City.

Yesterday, Bonasorte had to turn away several customers who wanted T-shirts in sizes he no longer had in stock. He is awaiting supplies of new shirts, expected today, that will identify the Mets as the new National League champions, not

just Eastern Division champs.

Bonasorte plans to be at Shea Stadium in Queens this weekend for the first two World Series games against the Boston Red Sox, American League champions. But he will not follow his favorites to Fenway Park in Boston. The series would return to New York for Games 6 and 7, if they are necessary.

He says he sells wares before the game and then watches it on television.

"As soon as the game is over," he explains, "we just run (back) to the parking lot."

Civil Service says ringer took test for DPW foreman

By Jim DeRogatis

A top employee of the Hoboken Department of Public Works was suspended yesterday following charges that he cheated on his Civil Service examination.

Frank Belfiore, the foreman in charge of street maintenance, was suspended by Public Works Director Roy Haack after he received a report from the state Department of Personnel that Belfiore cheated on a Civil Service title examination in April, 1984.

Belfiore, a resident of Clock Towers, could not be reached for comment.

In a letter to Mayor Thomas Vezzetti dated Oct. 14, state Director of Examinations Joseph Dilascio recommended that "Belfiore be removed from his employment... since an attempt was made to deceive Civil Service in the promotional examination for the position he now occupies."

According to the letter, Belfiore "had" an unknown person appear at the examination center to take the examination he was officially notified... to take" in East Orange on April 5, 1984.

Belfiore was certified as having passed the test and was subsequently promoted from

equipment operator to foreman on July 5, 1984.

Following a complaint by one of the other test applicants, examples of Belfiore's handwriting obtained from Hoboken officials and of the handwriting on a card allegedly signed by Belfiore at the examination center were submitted to the State Police forensic science laboratory for analysis, Dilascio said.

Belfiore will have a departmental hearing before Haack on Nov. 13. He faces the possibility of being demoted or fired, according to a notice sent by Haack.

Neither Haack nor Vezzetti would comment on the matter.

School board to accept Lisa resignation

By Jim DeRogatis

The Hoboken Board of Education will hold a special meeting Monday to accept the resignation of school auditor Joseph Lisa.

Lisa, candidate for the First Ward City Council seat in the Nov. 4 election, said he is resigning because he thinks "elected or appointed officials should not serve in dual capacities."

The board received Lisa's

resignation at Tuesday's meeting but several board members refused to accept it. School Superintendent Walter Fine also asked Lisa to continue in the position.

However, the candidate said he has "always been opposed to dual job holders in municipal government. It's just not good government," he said.

Lisa, a certified public accountant and a partner in the Hoboken firm of Gerald Lisa & Company, held a \$20,500 annual

contract to audit the Hoboken school system. He also served as municipal budget auditor for the City Council from May, 1984, to August, 1985.

Lisa's work for the board of education was praised by several state officials, but the Committee for Quality Education, a Hoboken parents group, has criticized Lisa and charged that he was guilty of a conflict of interest.

CQE sent a letter to state Education Commissioner Saul

Cooperman last spring accusing Lisa of conflict of interest because he is a business partner with Board Secretary Anthony Romano.

Lisa, Martha Romano (who is Anthony Romano's wife), Helen Macri and Anthony De-Nicola are co-owners of the Union Club, which is slated to be converted to luxury apartments or condominiums.

CQE also charged that Lisa should not have served as school auditor and city auditor

at the same time. Cooperman dismissed both charges and called them "poor judgment," according to CQE Chairman Gail Tuzman.

Tuzman said the committee recently sent another letter to Cooperman, repeating the charges. She contends that Lisa was guilty of conflict of interest and violated the ethics code of the Board of Certified Public Accountants.

Lisa called the letter "a poison pen letter" and said it

"was just politics."

Nancy Tsuchiya, former CQE Chairman, is Thomas Newman's campaign manager in the First Ward race. Newman and Lisa are considered the front-runners in the council election.

The board will meet at 5 p.m. Monday in the board offices, 1115 Clinton St. The board is expected to award a professional services contract for the 1985-86 school district audit to a new accounting firm.

'Screaming and hollering' grows on CDBG funds

By Jim DeRogatis

Hoboken may be forced to stop providing senior citizen, day care, and health services because of a decision by Hudson County administrators to reroute \$219,000 in federal funds.

Michael Coleman, director of the Hoboken Community Development Agency, issued a memo to the City Council last week stating that County Administrator Edward Clark intends to withhold \$219,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds earmarked for Hoboken.

According to Coleman, Clark intends to use the funds for the county's proposed health center in Meadowview Hospital in Secaucus.

Clark dismissed Coleman's comments as needless "screaming and hollering" and said he has not made a firm decision about the funds. However, he stressed the county-wide need for a health center with affordable services and said the county must start allocating funds for the project.

The money in question was originally expected to be withheld from Hoboken's 1986 budget because of the federal spending cuts mandated by the Gramm-Rudman Balanced Budget Act. But Congress restored \$500 million in commun-

ity development funds in July previously cut by the Reagan administration.

"The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development reallocated \$783,000 of these funds to Hudson County," according to Coleman's memo. "Based on our normal 28 percent share of the county's CDBG budget, Hoboken should receive \$219,000."

Nine municipalities in Hudson County, including Hoboken, must apply through the county to obtain the federal CDBG funds. Since 1980, Hoboken has received 28 percent of all CDBG funding obtained by the county.

But Coleman said he "was informed by Larry Campagna, Hudson County planning director, that Ed Clark has decided to keep all \$783,000 to help pay for the county's new health center."

Clark said he hopes the county will be able to open a public health care center by 1987 at Meadowview Hospital that will offer services including drug rehabilitation and psychiatric care. He said the cost of the facility will be between \$15 and \$18 million.

Clark said there is "a dire need" for such a center and the county must begin allocating funds, but he added that there "will be dialogue with the towns involved" before he decides whether to use the CDBG money.

"If there is enough screaming and hollering, (Hoboken officials) think they can accomplish what they want to do," Clark said. "That's their philosophy."

Coleman said he sent a letter to HUD protesting the county's use of the funds, and he asked the council and mayor to pressure the county for the money.

"I believe that only strong action by the City Council and mayor can salvage these funds since Clark seems determined to keep this money," Coleman wrote.

"Unless we can pressure Clark to change his decision, Hoboken will lose some important projects, including senior citizen, day care, and health services where CDA pays the local share costs."

CDA Administrator Sharon

Curko added that the loss to Hoboken could be greater than \$219,000 since some of the CDBG money is used in programs with matching state grants.

"This is a most unfortunate decision for us," Curko said.

She said that, in addition to existing programs which would be reduced or cancelled, the city would be forced to drop several recreation and arts programs currently in the planning stages if the money is withheld.

Mayor Thomas Vezzetti presented Clark with a strong-

ly-worded letter yesterday urging him to reconsider withholding the funds. The mayor said he was "strongly opposed" to rerouting the money and said it was "unconscionable" for the county administrator to make such a decision without consulting the cities involved.

"I recognize the need for, and benefits of, a health center, but I also see the dire need of Hoboken and other Hudson County cities for these funds," Vezzetti said. "Hoboken's fair share of the money... facilitates programs that directly affect hundreds of people."

Riverfront walkway advances

By Jim DeRogatis

The Hoboken Community Development Agency has hired a planning firm to conduct a feasibility study for a walkway along a portion of the city-owned waterfront.

Gaudy-Hardley Associates, a landscape architect's firm from Nyack, will begin work this week on a study for the construction of a walkway along the waterfront from the Maxwell House Coffee Factory to Stevens Institute of Technology.

The state Department of Environmental Protection plans a waterfront walk that will stretch from the George Washington Bridge to Bayonne. All waterfront developers must include plans for accommodat-

See RIVERFRONT — Page 6.

Riverfront walkway

Continued from Page 1.

Cathy Spina, acting senior planner at CDA, said Gaudy-Hardley will study approximately 1,000 feet of city-owned property along the waterfront. The rest of Hoboken's waterfront walkway is to be included in development plans by Anthony Dell'Aquila, Stevens, and the Port Authority.

Spina said the firm will look at several options for the

path of the walkway, including a route through Elysian Park and another along Frank Sinatra Drive.

The firm is expected to complete work on its \$10,000 contract by November and its plans will be presented at a public hearing, Spina said.

CDA is currently investigating several options for funding the walkway and is expected to apply for a grant from the Green Trust fund.

CONDO CONVERSION

DISPATCH 10/23/86

Tenant tries to remain in apt.

By JEFFREY HOFF
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Tenants living on Willow Avenue say they were greeted by an unsettling surprise when they came home to a sign on the front of their building offering condominiums for sale.

Myra Ramirez Munoz, who lives at No. 818, said the sign makes her concerned that her family will be forced to leave their rented apartment although city and state officials have told her no formal application for condominium conversion has been filed by the owner.

Betty Glatt, whose Restoration Associates of 710 Washington St. owns the building, said condominiums are available in the partially restored building beginning at \$89,000 for a two-bedroom unit.

Glatt said yesterday that she filed for a condominium conversion last year.

Ramirez said that tenants received a one-page letter in June 1986 saying the building was being converted into condominiums and that the tenants would have to leave within three years.

While Ramirez said "I feel insecure" because of the sign, Glatt said yesterday that she would not ask either of the two families remaining in the building to leave.

Ramirez said, however, that last year when three or four families were living in the 10-unit structure Glatt offered some of them \$4,000 to leave.

Three or four weeks ago, Ramirez said a worker in the building gave her a letter from Glatt asking her if she would fill out an application for public housing. Ramirez said she was told by city officials that one must apply in person for such housing. She added that she was not interested in either the \$4,000 or living in public housing.

"What are you going to find for less than \$500 (a month)?" Ramirez asked, explaining that \$4,000 would not last very long after paying for moving expenses and a Realtor's fee.

There is only one other family still renting an apartment in the building, and at least one person has purchased and moved into a condominium unit, according to Glatt. Ramirez pays \$158 a month for her apartment.

Under state law, an owner of a rental building must file an application to convert the property to a condominium and offer tenants in the building the opportunity to buy their apartments.

If tenants choose not to purchase their units they have at least three years from the time the state approves the conversion plans before they can be evicted by the landlord.

Ramirez said she would contact a lawyer to discuss the situation.

"I know its her property," said Ramirez, "but I've been living here for many years. We don't know what the situation is."

HOBOKEN CONDOS

'Skyline' framework completed

DISPATCH 10/17/86

HOBOKEN—A plush evergreen tree was hoisted to the top of The Skyline this week as the new 104-unit condominium tower made its debut with a traditional "grand top-off" ceremony.

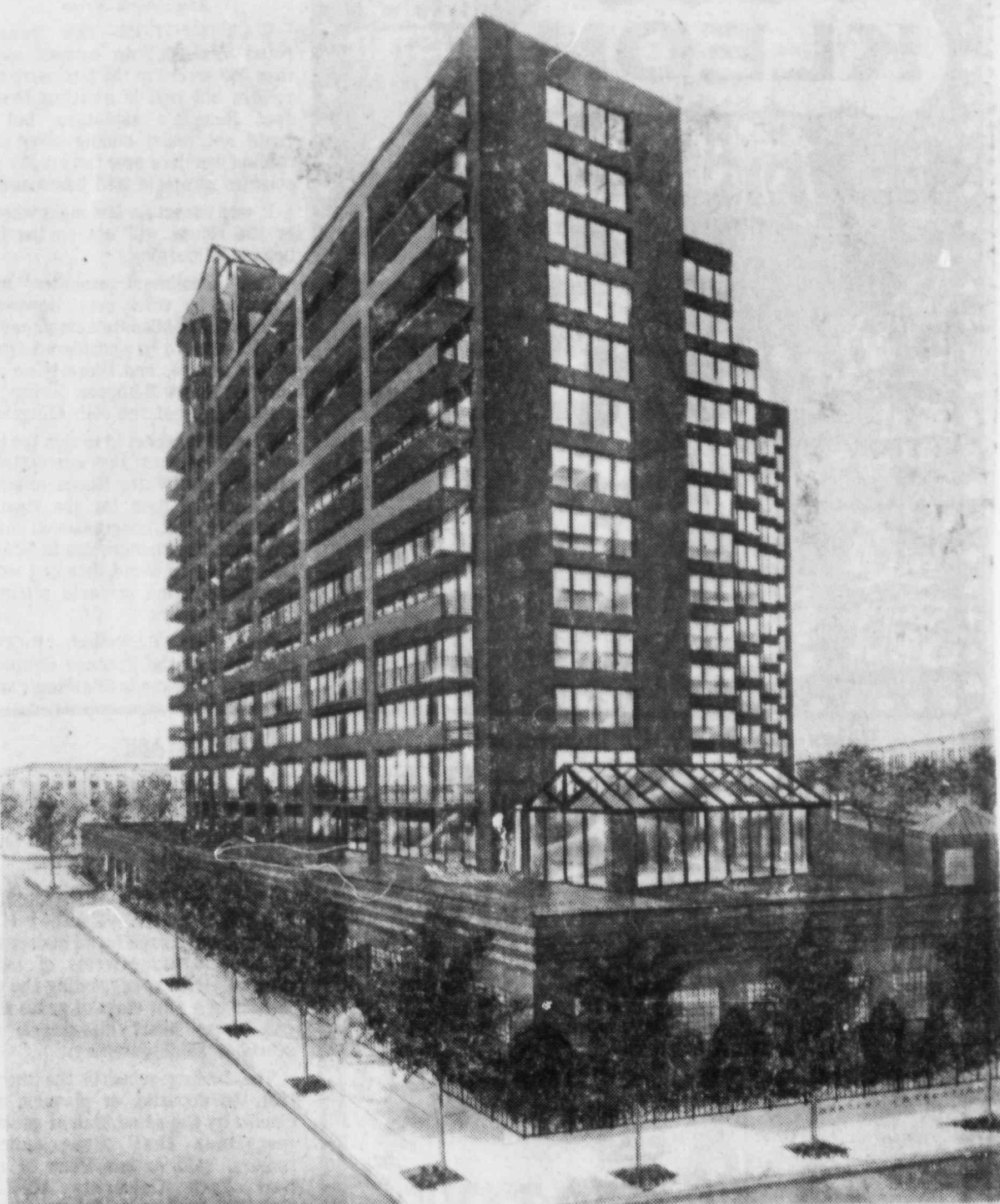
'One-bedroom residences at The Skyline start at \$195,900'

Located at Newark Avenue and Grove Street, it features a self-contained residential complex with a two-story lobby, underground garage, health club and heated pool.

Observer Construction Corp., headed by George Kohn, is building the condominium expected to be completed in June or July. Joseph & Mandel, a real estate sales and marketing firm based in Shrewsbury, is handling the sales for The Skyline.

One-bedroom residences at The Skyline start at \$195,900, one-bedroom and den, from \$206,900; and two-bedroom residences, from \$226,900. The average per-square-foot price of \$200 translates into at least a \$100,000 saving on a Manhattan apartment with the same features, said Joseph & Mandel.

According to the firm, the key selling point for the towers are the residences themselves: They have hardwood parquet floors, ceramic-tiled bathrooms, European-style kitchens with microwave ovens and whirlpool tubs. Some residences have private balconies. For details, call 798-9496.



LUXURY CONDOMINIUMS are featured in Hoboken's 15-story Skyline highrise. The highrise will offer 104 units complete with valet parking, a private health club and a heated swimming pool.

HOBOKEN DPW

Foreman to be suspended; exam cheating suspected

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Frank Belfiore Sr., a city Department of Public Works foreman, is scheduled to be suspended today because officials believe he cheated on his Civil Service examination.

On Oct. 14, the state Department of Personnel informed Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti that the state police Forensic Science Laboratory had determined that the person taking Belfiore's general public works foreman examination was not Belfiore.

The state police had compared

handwriting samples from the test credited to Belfiore and those known to belong to him. According to a letter from Joseph W. DiLascio, director of examinations for the state Department of Personnel, Belfiore had someone else fill out his test application on Jan. 12, 1984, and had that same person take the test for him on April 5 of that year.

DiLascio recommended that Belfiore be fired. But, Belfiore reportedly could receive lesser punishments ranging from a 180-day suspension to demotion to a volunteer.

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FOREMAN

Continued from Page 1
tary "resignation not in good standing."

Belfiore has 10 days to decide if he wants a departmental hearing on the charges. Such a hearing would be held at City Hall on Nov. 13.

On April 5, 1984, seven applicants for the position of general public works foreman took the state test. But, according to the state, six of the applicants took the test in East Orange. For reasons not immediately clear, Belfiore arranged to have

his test taken in Middletown.

After the test was given, the state reported receiving verbal and written complaints from one of the applicants who was tested in East Orange. These complaints, alleging that Belfiore did not take his own test, initiated the investigation.

While the Civil Service rank of supervisor is above foreman, Hoboken has no supervisors. Only Roy Haack, director of public works, ranks above Hoboken's foremen.

By Jim DeRogatis

The Hoboken Board of Education will meet in a special session at 5 p.m. today to appoint a school auditor.

The board was to accept the resignation of school auditor Joseph Lisa and appoint his replacement yesterday, but the meeting was canceled due to the lack of quorum.

Lisa, an accountant with the Hoboken firm of Gerald Lisa & Company, is resigning because, he said, "elected or appointed officials should not serve in dual capacities." Lisa is a candidate for the First Ward City Council seat in the Nov. 4 election.

Three firms have presented proposals for auditing the Hoboken

school system: Edward Rees of Budd Lake, S.M. Zambito & Co. of Wayne, and Albert Sammartino of North Arlington. The bids range from \$18,500 to \$21,000.

Lisa held an annual contract for \$20,500 for his accounting services.

In a letter to Board President Richard England, Lisa wrote that "(I) is consistent with my personal and

professional beliefs that an elected official should neither hold dual positions, nor have any business involvements with an agency being served."

Lisa's resignation comes amidst charges from the Committee for Quality Education, a Hoboken parents' group, that Lisa was guilty of a "conflict of interest." CQE Chair-

woman Gail Tuzman criticized Lisa for serving as school auditor while being involved as a business partner with Board Secretary Anthony Romano.

England, Joseph Rafter and Raul Morales were the only board members to attend yesterday's 5 p.m. meeting. England said the board will meet again today at 5 p.m. in its headquarters at 11th and Clinton streets.

School auditor on today's agenda

Development plans for 2 city-owned lots

By Bill Campbell

The Hoboken Housing Authority is preparing to solicit proposals to develop two vacant city-owned lots along the southern portion of Hudson Street, municipal officials said yesterday.

The lots, which surround municipal garages on Hudson Street between Second and Fourth streets have an estimated value of \$4 million apiece, officials said.

A Housing Authority official, who asked that he not be identified, said the requests for proposals will be advertised in

January or February.

"We are talking about premium lots and many people have expressed interest in purchasing them," the official said. He said he anticipated a mixed-use development of residential and commercial structures.

Proposed development on the lots, which must meet all municipal zoning regulations, will be fully taxable, he said.

City Councilwoman Helen Cunneen, chairperson of the council's Community Development Agency subcommittee, said the request for proposals would be developed jointly between the CDA and the Housing

Authority. She said representatives of the two agencies and the subcommittee introduced the plan last Friday during a meeting with Mayor Thomas Vezzetti.

Cunneen said it was "too early" to discuss provisions of the request for proposals, but the developers will likely be required to set aside a percentage of "affordable" housing units.

She said the Housing Authority, the city's designated redevelopment agency, has recommended building adjacent to the two municipal garages.

However, City Councilman Dave Roberts, another member

of the subcommittee, said yesterday he will urge the city to demolish the garages, thus creating one and a half city blocks for development. He said the additional land could boost the acquisition price for the property to between \$16 million and \$20 million.

Roberts said his plan would generate about \$6 million a year in taxes to the city and offer "an attractive alternative" to the Port Authority's proposed \$500 million waterfront development.

"Our dependence on the Port Authority will be greatly decreased if we have an oppor-

tunity to choose between developing our own property and developing an acceptable lease for the P.A." Roberts said.

Roberts and Pat Pasculli were the only council members to support a resolution introduced last week which would have urged the city to suspend negotiations with the Port Authority until the bistate agency agreed to terminate its lease on city owned piers. Roberts said he has received support from Pasculli for the Hudson Street development plan.

Roberts said his plan would require the developer to duplicate the number of parking spaces from the municipal gar-

ages in addition to satisfying zoning laws which require one parking space per housing unit.

Cunneen said the subcommittee, which also includes council President E. Norman Wilson, "has barely begun" considering specifications for the development plan. She said the CDA will consider every option before advertising for proposals.

The Hudson Street lots have been vacant since 1970 when the city demolished structures along four blocks of Hudson and River streets. Marineview Towers and the municipal garages now occupy the site.

Suit filed to oust P.A. from Hoboken's piers

By Jim DeRogatis

A Hoboken citizens group has filed a lawsuit in an attempt to eject the Port Authority from the city-owned waterfront piers.

People Advocating Sane Solutions (PASS), a Hoboken taxpayers' group, filed suit against the P.A. in Hudson County Superior Court, arguing that the agency holds "an unfair monopoly on Hoboken's most valuable land."

According to Richard Seltzer, the attorney for the group, the P.A.'s 1952 lease of the piers is no longer valid and the P.A. should be ejected from the land before the city continues negotiating on the

Citizens group says 1952 lease invalid

agency's proposed waterfront development.

Under the terms of the '52 lease, the P.A. has possession of the waterfront piers until 2002, but only for the purposes of operating a "marine terminal." The piers have been dormant for many years.

The city and the P.A. are negotiating a restated lease of the piers that would permit the agency to undertake a massive

\$600 million development. The lease is the key document that will determine the amount of control the city can exercise over the development and the amount of revenue it will receive.

Mayor Thomas Vezzetti's Waterfront Advisory Committee recommended that the city ask the P.A. to abandon the '52 lease before continuing negotiations. Councilman Patrick

Pasculli introduced a resolution asking the P.A. to abandon the lease last week, but the motion was tabled.

The council will meet in closed session on Thursday to discuss the resolution and hear an update on the negotiations.

Seltzer described PASS as a "non-profit group of residents concerned about the city's waterfront and the progress of development." The group's members include four key members of Help Hoboken Housing: Seltzer, Suzanne Warren, Joseph Vitullo and Michele Russo.

The lawsuit names as the plaintiffs PASS and two of its

See SUIT — Page 4.

Suit filed to oust P.A. from piers

Continued from Page 1.

individual members, Kenneth Lenz and Pasquale De Stefano.

"Our argument is that the '52 lease has been abandoned by the P.A. because of its absolute and complete failure to comply with its terms of building a first-class marine terminal, maintaining it as such, and providing the city with the appropriate revenue it should have received if the obligations of the P.A. were fulfilled," Seltzer said of the lawsuit.

"Now the P.A. has manipulated the intentions of the lease for its own self-interest to enable it to control and monitor real estate development."

"How can we negotiate with anyone who claims to control the asset we're negotiating for?" Seltzer asked.

P.A. officials could not be reached to comment on the lawsuit, but during an earlier interview with The Jersey Journal yesterday, Phillip LaRocco, director of economic development for the agency, said the agency was "negotiat-

ing in good faith" with the city.

LaRocco said he sees no reason to abandon the '52 lease, which he said was "just one of a number of existing agreements." He added that he "didn't know" what the P.A. would do if the city passed the resolution asking the agency to abandon the lease.

John Donovan, the P.A.'s manager of government and community relations, said such an action by the city could impede negotiations.

Seltzer said PASS is also researching allegations made by the Waterfront Advisory Committee earlier in the week that the P.A. owes the city \$7.5 million in insurance funds collected after Pier B was destroyed by fire in 1980.

WAC contends that the money belongs to the city and should have been turned over two years after the P.A. settled its claim, but P.A. officials say an amendment to the '52 lease stipulates that the funds be held for use in the development project.

Several city officials, including chief negotiator Michael Coleman, said they were surprised by WAC's revelation and were unfamiliar with the amendment cited by the P.A.

Coleman and City Council President E. Norman Wilson, a member of the negotiating team, said they would ask city attorneys and attorneys from the firm of Sills, Beck, the city's counsel for the waterfront project, to research the matter.

Donovan said yesterday that a supplemental agreement to the '52 lease approved by the City Council on Jan. 10, 1984 states that funds received by the P.A. for Hoboken be held for use in the project. He compared the wording of the passage to the standard language used in contracts such as Urban Development Action Grants.

Both Donovan and LaRocco said it was the P.A.'s "intent" to hold the funds for the waterfront project. Asked whether Hoboken officials understood that the agreement held them to

committing \$7.5 million to the development, Donovan said "the wording was clear."

But WAC disagrees. The group contends that the supplemental agreement only concerned the city borrowing \$1.5 million from the P.A. to buy the piers from the federal government, and did not pertain to funds "held in trust" by the P.A. for Hoboken, such as the insurance money.

"I think we've caught the P.A.'s hand in the taxpayers' pocket," said WAC member Thomas Lilling. Lilling called the passage cited by the P.A. officials a "sleeper clause" and said that "city officials never intended to commit \$7.5 million of taxpayers' money to the project."

WAC has urged the City Council to pass a resolution asking the P.A. to return the funds to the city. Donovan said the city and the P.A. could discuss the matter at the negotiating table.

Seltzer, however, said PASS is considering suing the agency for the funds.

Ex-boss of HCUA blames Lynch

Continued from Page 1.

ing sewage projects in West New York and North Bergen, called Russo's charges "ridiculous" and contended "it would be nice to have that kind of power, but the day I could influence county-wide politics would be something else."

Cappiello and DeFino were unavailable for comment. Russo and HCUA Commissioners Gabriel Calabrese, Frederick James and Eugene Harz, all of whom were serving in a "hold over" status, were removed two weeks ago by the Board of Freeholders.

Replacement members, Michael Schaeffer, Katie Harris, Cornelius Boyle and Lawrence Cucchiarra were sworn in yesterday as HCUA commissioners.

Russo, in his first public statement since being removed from the HCUA, said that he and other commissioners were having "serious questions about Mayor Lynch's willingness and ability to adequately produce an acceptable design package" for the proposed treatment plants.

He said that Mayor Lynch "continuously fought" the

HCUA members over Hoboken design plans that called for a controversial sludge handling plan because the engineering firm favored a process "for which no federal grant could be obtained."

"Mayor Lynch stated that the (first sludge) plan would not work and was environmentally unsound, yet the firm later contended they would provide an acceptable design. This seems totally incongruous," Russo said.

Russo also charged that, on Oct. 1, Lynch told the HCUA's special counsel, John O'Donnell, to "get rid of Russo, (HCUA Executive Director Joseph) LeFante and (Comptroller George) Crimmins and we can run this project through the grants manager."

He said that, at another time, Lynch wrote to O'Donnell charging that "conspiracy existed between himself, LeFante and others against Lynch."

"There are many unanswered questions to this whole scenario," Russo said. "Why were the HCUA commissioners replaced now at this most critical time? Why and how does Joseph Lynch have so

much persuasiveness with certain Democratic mayors and party officials?"

Russo also said he would present his charges of "conspiracy" to the state attorney general and the U.S. attorney. "The real questions to be answered is where is the conspiracy and what is the motivation behind these actions," he said.

Mayo Lynch is expected to present the HCUA with design plans for the sewage projects later this month. The HCUA has an Oct. 31 deadline to turn the plans over to the state Department of Environmental Protection for fiscal 1987 funding.

The three projects are eligible for more than \$30 million in federal grants.

Ex-boss of HCUA blames Lynch

By Bill Campbell

Anthony Russo, the embattled former chairman of the Hudson County Utilities Authority, asserted yesterday that the head of a Hoboken engineering firm and several county officials acted in a "virtual conspiracy" to remove him from the HCUA post.

Russo, who was one of four HCUA commissioners ousted Oct. 9 by the county Board of Freeholders, charged that Joseph Lynch, consulting engineer for proposed secondary sewage projects in Hoboken and North Hudson, was the "prime mover" in the decision to replace the commissioners.

He said the plan was accomplished with the assistance of Hoboken City Councilman and former Mayor Steve Cappiello, West New York Mayor and Freeholder Anthony DeFino and other county "Democratic leaders."

Russo said Lynch, president of Mayo Lynch & Associates, "more than coincidentally" embarked on a "propaganda campaign" shortly before the commissioners were replaced. He said the new commissioners were "immediately installed" as the board considered replacing Mayor Lynch and after the sewage projects were bypassed for federal grants for fiscal year 1986.

Russo, who has served as an HCUA commissioner since 1981 and as chairman since 1984, said he would discuss his charges later this week with county Prosecutor Paul DePascale.

Lynch, who is also design-

RESIDED MATO LYNCH

Judge lauds Vezzetti for rejecting big bill

By JENNIFER FREY
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti's persistence paid off yesterday when a judge supported his refusal to pay a controversial \$300,000 engineering bill to Mayo Lynch Associates of this city.

Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys of Hudson County Superior Court took an unusually strong position favoring Vezzetti. "The mayor should be commended for standing up to his law director and the opposition in refusing to sign the check," the judge said.

Humphreys also declared invalid a contract between the city and Mayo Lynch, hiring the firm as consultants in designing a secondary sewage treatment plant.

Humphreys made this decision on his own initiative, a move regarded by court observers as another strong sign of support for the mayor's position. The judge did so without waiting for a motion from Vezzetti's lawyer. Humphreys had been asked only to rule on Mayo Lynch's motion concerning payment of the bill.

In rendering his decision, Humphreys said the contract was not advertised properly, either when it was drawn Feb. 20, 1985, or on March 19 of this year when it was ratified by the City Council.

In both instances, the newspaper notice did not include the duration of the contract, and the amount to be paid was either left out or wrongly advertised.

"I'm John Q. Citizen. I pick up the paper and see the city just awarded a contract for \$42,000 to Mayo Lynch," said Humphreys. "How could I possibly comprehend that the contract would last over two years and cost more than \$1 million?"

Vezzetti had refused to sign the check even after the council authorized payment on the grounds that the design plan failed to meet requirements set forth by the state Department of Environmental Protection. He also complained about the cost and the length of time the work dragged on.

The engineering design plans must meet DEP approval for the city to be eligible for \$20 million in

grant money for 1987. This city and many other municipalities statewide were ordered by the DEP to upgrade their sewage treatment facilities by July 1, 1985, to a secondary level, which removes 65 percent of the pollutants from wastewater.

This city already has paid Mayo Lynch \$830,000 in two separate checks.

"We're exceedingly happy about the outcome," said Summit attorney Robert Seawright, who represented Vezzetti. "We argued so persuasively (that) he granted additional relief."

In Humphreys' ruling, Hoboken was ordered to join Vezzetti in the suit and retain an attorney by Wednesday, Nov. 3. Former Attorney General Irwin I. Kimelman has been hired as special counsel on some aspects of the sewage project.

The judge also ordered Mayo Lynch to submit by Monday, Nov. 3, an itemized list of what the city owes it, and what the firm owes other subcontractors, and a list of campaign contributions Mayo Lynch has made to city officials.

Seven newly promoted cops better not buy rank insignia

By Bill Campbell

The seven Hoboken police officers promoted Oct. 9 by outgoing Public Safety Director Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. will be demoted before they are eligible for their right to rank, according to Mayor Thomas Vezzetti.

Vezzetti said he would instruct D'Amelio's successor to "immediately demote the seven" officers before they are

recognized by Civil Service for their right to the new rank. And, in a related development, Vezzetti met late Friday with Hoboken attorney Bernard Kenny, a leading contender for the Public Safety and Law Department post.

Vezzetti said he plans to meet "several times" with Kenny, who once served as an assistant city attorney. He said he would not disclose the names of other candidates for the post. Last Thursday, Vezzetti

and five members of the City Council publicly criticized the promotions by D'Amelio, who was fired by Vezzetti on Oct. 3 pending a 20-day appeal. The officials said the personnel moves were "politically motivated" and "neither financially nor managerially sound."

D'Amelio, who has been at odds with the administration for more than three months, said the promotions were

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Newly promoted cops better not buy insignia

Continued from Page 1.

"essential" to a planned expansion of the Anti-Vice Squad and increased presence of uniformed supervisors.

The city has 45 days to rescind the personnel moves, D'Amelio is scheduled to leave his city post Thursday, 31 days before the new ranks are recognized by Civil Service.

Vezzetti will likely name assistant city attorney Thomas Calligly as acting Law and Public Safety Director before selecting a candidate for the post, according to a City Hall source.

Vezzetti said Friday he would instruct the new director to demote the officers "because the chief said we don't need them and I know we don't need them."

Police Chief George Crimmins has been critical of D'Amelio's moves, contending

they were "politically motivated."

"I will do everything I have to do to prevent the promotions," Vezzetti said. "I'm just doing the job I was elected to do."

Leo Lugo, a newly promoted lieutenant, said he has notified members of the City Council and Vezzetti administration that demoting the officers would have "a devastating effect on the morale of the entire police force."

"After having been congratulated in achieving the ranks for which we worked very hard and sacrificed for, taking them away from us would embarrass and humiliate us before our friends and families. I would think that this would have very traumatic consequences," Lugo said.

Lugo said he has seen 21 police officers leave the force due to suicide, deaths by alcoholism, job-related injuries and psychological stress during his 17 years as a policeman.

He said the promotions were needed to boost morale since "our families live in constant fear for our safety because they are fully aware of the hazards of the profession we have chosen."

Vezzetti was not available to comment on Lugo's statements.

In addition to Lugo, Edelmiro Garcia, Rafael Cruz, Celestino Gasbarro and James Behrens were promoted from sergeant to lieutenant.

Lts. Peter Romano and Frank Garrick were promoted to captain by D'Amelio.

HOBOKEN STUDY

Designer cautions on highrise impact

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The city's present highrise development trend soon will overtax the city's infrastructure and prove "to be more trouble than it is worth," a professional urban designer told the Planning Board.

David Vantor, a Manhattan-based urban designer hired by the Planning Board to examine the potential effects of development here, told the board Thursday night that building along the city's southern perimeter should be limited to

six to eight stories in height rather than the 18 stories many developers currently are proposing.

"It will overwhelm the city and be to the city's detriment. It's the very liveability of the city that's at stake," he said in condemning the proposed high-density developments.

"Hoboken's value is in its ambience and its proximity to transportation and Manhattan," he added, warning that the new proposed developments contain "heights that are by any stretch of

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the imagination out of scale with the rest of Hoboken."

While Vantor spent most of his time speaking generally, he took time out to criticize one proposed development now being reviewed by the Board of Adjustment.

Westbank Development of this city wants to build Hoboken Court Street Plaza, an L-shaped 18-story development that would occupy most of a square-block area bounded by Washington, First and Hudson streets and Observer Highway. While the area is zoned to allow buildings with a maximum of five stories, Court Street's plans call for building at least 18 stories. The plans also call for building an underground garage for 517 cars.

"It's an outrageous combination," Vantor said of the development's height and potential traffic generation.

He urged board members to consider the impact an area's entire potential development will have before approving any individual project. "You cannot use up all your capacities on one site," Vantor said.

Approval for Court Street was expected last month, but it was delayed when representatives of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey told board members that Court Street potentially could snarl traffic along Observer Highway leading into the Hoboken Terminal of NJ Transit and its commuter railroad lines and PATH links to Manhattan and Newark, as well as a mega-development the authority wants to build along the city's southern waterfront.

The authority wants to build 1.4 million square feet of office space, between 1,200 and 2,000 housing units and a 400-room hotel, a marina and retail space along the waterfront.

The Court Street proposal will again be considered by the Board of Adjustment on Tuesday. Yesterday, representatives from both Westbank and the authority said the two developers had discussed the effect Court Street would have on traffic into and out of the authority's planned development.

Authority representatives have repeatedly called the intersection of Observer Highway and Hudson Street "one of the most sensitive intersections" here. At that point, four lanes of traffic on Observer Highway suddenly are merged into two lanes that must snake through two closely knit intersections, one going left and the other turning right.

Yesterday, John Donovan, the authority's manager of government and community relations, said his agency has been concerned primarily with the intersection's "roadway width."

Daniel Gans, one of Westbank's two principals, said Court Street's plans have been changed to accommodate the authority's concerns. Saying only, "We're giving a good bit back and I think everyone's going to be really pleased," Gans declined to identify specifically what changes have been made in the plans.

If Court Street were to be planned as originally envisioned, an 18-story building would abut the intersection of Observer Highway and Hudson

Street. To improve the traffic flow, it would appear that some developable land at this intersection would have to be left open for roadways.

As well as urging the board to recommend zoning regulations that would limit building heights and require that approvals be based upon consideration of future developments, Vantor and city planning consultant Ralph B. Seligman recommended that the city's zoning ordinance be amended to require major developers to pay for improvements to the city's overall infrastructure.

Seligman said this is perfectly legal under New Jersey law and should be required because major developments strain an entire city's infrastructure. Seligman suggested that a "point system" be incorporated into Hoboken's zoning ordinance. He said that, under such a system, a developer's contribution easily could be assessed based upon the number of residential units and total commercial area the developer wants to build.



St. Peter's College student Effie Pavlou listens to Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti make a point before lecturing as part of the "Meet the Mayor's" series sponsored by the school's Urban Studies Department.

Vezzetti: Abolish county government

By Jim DeRogatis

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti called for the abolition of county government in Hudson County yesterday during a speech at St. Peter's College in Jersey City.

Vezzetti, speaking at the "Meet the Mayors" lecture series sponsored by the school's Urban Studies Department, called county government "a dumping ground" for political patronage.

"We do not need the duplication and triplication of jobs that we have with county government," Vezzetti said. "County government is only good for the political system."

The flamboyant, 58-year-old mayor tried to live up to his reputation as the "wackiest mayor in America" during his speech, throwing out some of his familiar one-liners and stopping to demonstrate his infamous bullhorn.

Vezzetti dressed modestly for the occasion, however, foregoing his trademark plaid jacket for a grey suit accented by a yellow tie and handkerchief and an orchid.

"I apologize for my improprieties," Vezzetti said at the outset of his address, "but politics is the art of improprieties."

Vezzetti, who admits that he does not enjoy speaking in front of large groups, often rambled during his speech and jumped rapidly from topic to topic. But the crowd of approximately 100 students frequently laughed and applauded by comments by the mayor.

"I apologize for my eccentricities," Vezzetti continued. "They call me crazy because I admit that I don't know all the answers, but I'm bringing decent, honest people into government, which is a rarity in Hudson County."

The mayor repeated a familiar charge about the administration of his predecessor, Steve Cappelletto. "The previous administration had two kinds of people working for it: idiots and gangsters," he said.

But some of Vezzetti's harshest words were reserved for county government in Hudson County. The mayor has been at odds with several county administrators during the last few weeks.

Vezzetti strongly opposed three new appointments by the freeholders to the Hudson County Utilities Authority last week, and he has been fighting with County Edward Clark, who rerouted \$219,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds originally earmarked for Hoboken to the proposed county health center.

The mayor also blamed the increase in Hoboken's tax rate, the highest in the state, on the county budget. "We do not need county government," he said. "They've raised their tax rate 32 percent, and what do they do for us?"

"The only purpose of county government is to keep unnecessary jobs. That's why things are so bad in Hudson County."

Vezzetti attacked Jersey City Mayor Anthony Cucci and West New York Mayor Anthony DeFino and charged that the two county leaders are "trying to obstruct the reform movement" in Hoboken and control the city's secondary sewage treatment plant.

Recent appointments to the HCUA were advocated by Cucci and DeFino, against Vezzetti's wishes. The mayor has claimed the appointments could jeopardize \$60 million in federal grants for Hoboken's sewage plant.

Vezzetti addressed several other topics, including Hoboken's widespread development, which he said is a "mixed blessing."

"Hoboken's infrastructure

By Bill Campbell

For Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., whose turbulent 10 months at the helm of the Hoboken Law Department ends today, yesterday was liberation day.

"The revolution is over," said the flamboyant 28-year-old attorney as he removed personal belongings from his office on the second floor of City Hall. "But the war is just beginning."

D'Amelio, fired by Mayor Thomas Vezzetti earlier this month, had embarked on a tortuous odyssey, observers said, marked by constant battles with the mayor.

Vezzetti said yesterday that hiring D'Amelio as law director was "an unforgivable mistake," that D'Amelio had "disgraced his profession," and that "to call himself destructive is an understatement."

Other City Hall observers characterized D'Amelio as "power-hungry," "aggressive," "bent on revenge," and "a monster."

Still others said D'Amelio enjoyed life in the fast lane; he wore expensive suits, smoked imported cigars and drove a burgundy Porsche.

"He was a very good boss," said Ellen Gates, a secretary in the Law Department, mentioning that D'Amelio gave her and another secretary watches as a going-away gift.

Assistant City Attorney Tom

can't support all of this development," Vezzetti said. The mayor said Hoboken should not "rush to keep up" with development in Jersey City and Weehawken, but should consider each development's impact on the city's infrastructure and work to secure "affordable housing" from the developers.

Vezzetti criticized the Port Authority and said the city should be cautious in negotiating with the agency. The P.A. has proposed a massive, \$500 million development on the city-owned waterfront piers.

The mayor said the P.A.'s original development proposal would have "devastated" the city. "There would have been two cities, the waterfront and the other city," he said.

"My election changed that," Vezzetti said. The mayor said his administration is negotiating with the P.A. "to get the best deal possible."

RIP-ROARING SPEECH

Vezzetti regales students

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

JERSEY CITY—Hoboken Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti yesterday asked students of St. Peter's College to help him abolish county government.

Said the outspoken mayor: "We're trying to change it from government by the politicians for the politicians to government for the people by the people."

Vezzetti regaled the students with his colorful style and impressions of everything from political theory to Hudson County politicians.

"Thanks, Doc," the mayor said after being introduced by Martin H. Rosenbluth, chairman of the college's Department of Management and Marketing, on Page 14

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agement and Marketing, who has a Ph.D. degree.

Vezzetti had been invited to speak as part of the school's continuing lecture series, "St. Peter's College Meets the Mayors." While Vezzetti brought his battery-powered bullhorn to the meeting, he used the school's public address system to answer questions and deliver his views on a broad range of issues.

Wearing a yellow carnation, bright gold tie and tan suit, he told several dozen students at Dinneen Hall, "Psychologically, I'm with your generation. Physiologically, I can't help where I am."

On a more serious subject, and in a no-less serious tone, he described politics as "the art of impropriety."

Taking a swipe at his old political foes, Vezzetti repeated his familiar accusation that "the previous administration had two types of people working for it... idiots and gangsters."

But, for himself and his administration, Vezzetti had kinder words. "I'm this good because they're so bad. I admit I don't have all the answers. But I surround myself with intelligent people."

"Hudson County was the apex of bad government. We don't need county government," he continued as he broadened his attacks.

"County government is only good for the political system. It only keeps unnecessary jobs there," he charged.

Vezzetti asked the students to help him fight for the abolition of county government in New Jersey.

On another topic, Vezzetti said he opposes rushing into waterfront development and prefers to proceed cautiously. "We don't want the transit system using Hoboken for a dumping ground for the rest of the state," he said.

Calligy said D'Amelio was "bright and quick to grasp things. Sal was a very pleasant, nice young man. In time, he would have been an excellent law director. He just got here at the wrong time."

D'Amelio had been the youngest corporation counsel in Hudson County. "Sal's brash and combative," said a City Hall employee who asked not to be identified. "Either you love him or you hate him."

Although D'Amelio was selected to the post by Vezzetti, City Hall sources maintain that the move was a gesture to appease a hostile City Council.

Since January, the Law Department has been a stronghold for anti-administration forces. Vezzetti has blamed D'Amelio for siding with Councilman Robert Ranieri, leader of the recall movement.

"I'm going to take a vacation, open my own law practice at 54 Newark Street and work as hard as I can for the recall," D'Amelio said yesterday. "My biggest political quest now is to remove those non-elected officials who have taken over the city and the mayor."

D'Amelio said his falling out with Vezzetti stemmed from the day "I found out taurie Fabiano and Steve Block (two mayoral advisors) were running the city." He said the realization was "disheartening" but "I still have respect for Tom (Vezzetti), although not as a political figure."

D'Amelio said he would offer free legal advice to those attempting to recall Vezzetti and warned that he may form a group to recall council members Dave Roberts and Pat Pasculli, former allies who he says "turned" on him.

"Dave and Patty are in for a rude awakening," he said. "I won't say anything until Sal tells me this face-to-face," Pasculli said.

D'Amelio said he will soon file a series of lawsuits against members of the administration for various libel and constitutional issues. "They just can't get away after doing what they did to me," he said.

He said his tenure as law director taught him the importance of loyalty, "or the lack of it."

"Everyone tells you they will be loyal to you, but when it comes down to it, very few actually keep their promise," D'Amelio said.

"Just like today, everyone is coming in here looking around and asking for the pictures," he said, pointing to portraits of former mayors on the oak-paneled walls. "They're like vultures. Jesus, the body isn't even cold yet."

Vezzetti, who had previously attempted to fire and suspend D'Amelio, said he learned from his "stupidity" and would wait at least a month before selecting a new law director.

"(The firing) couldn't have happened to a nicer guy," Vezzetti said. "Sal didn't even show up for his opportunity to be heard (on the charges). All I can say is that I haven't used my office to benefit myself, like he did."

Vezzetti warned that he will bring D'Amelio up on various ethics charges if the outgoing law director sues members of the administration.

"It's funny," Vezzetti said. "The greatest compliment I ever got while in office was after I fired Sal."

D'Amelio was engulfed in controversy since the day he was appointed by Vezzetti in January.

He had been the hand-picked successor of former Law Director Fred Woeckner, and the appointment was approved unanimously by the council on

January 15.

Woeckner, Vezzetti's first appointee as mayor, broke from the administration and resigned in December.

The controversy over D'Amelio erupted later that month when it was revealed that he was a partner in Anawim Investment and Development Corp. in Jersey City. The firm was developing a \$25 million condominium project in the southwestern region of the city.

The corporation is comprised of the partners of the law firm of Schiller, Vyzas, McGill and Squeo in Jersey City. D'Amelio was a partner in the firm before accepting his city post.

The condo project approved earlier this year by the Zoning Board of Adjustment, will be built on land owned by D'Amelio's father, Salvatore Sr., the municipal Republican chairman and a former city director.

D'Amelio vowed to sell his interest in Anawim upon assuming the law post, but aides to Vezzetti said the mayor was "outraged" when he learned of D'Amelio's interest in the project.

D'Amelio was also criticized by the administration for ruling against Board of Adjustment appointments proposed by the mayor.

Vezzetti, in attempting to fire D'Amelio in July, said his behavior "has been riddled with conflicts and failure to represent the public interest."

However, two days later, the council voted 6-2 to overturn the dismissal of D'Amelio, citing the law directors' willingness to take the matter to the New Jersey Bar Association's Ethics Committee.

In September, D'Amelio sparked another controversy with his "private" investigation

into the use of illegal gambling machines. The investigation, which was assisted by Det. Eugene Drayton, an officer assigned to the Municipal Court. Police Chief George Crimmins said D'Amelio was "politically interfering" in department affairs.

Vezzetti, after consulting with council members, fired D'Amelio again on Oct. 3. He said he was "not satisfied" with the directors' handling of public safety, housing issues and the secondary sewage treatment project.

D'Amelio said he believed the investigation into the gambling machines was the reason

for the firing. "I am shaking someone's tree and they don't like it," he said.

Less than a week later, Vezzetti, fearing a series of eleven hour police promotions, attempted to suspend D'Amelio "to prevent financial harm to the city."

"They can't suspend me," D'Amelio responded as he promoted seven police officers over the objections of the administration and the Police Superiors' Union.

Then, two days later, Vezzetti attempted to force the embattled law director to use his vacation time prior to the termination.

"If I am harassed one more time by you and your administration, I am going directly to the assignment judge for injunctive relief and damages," D'Amelio warned.

PA challenged on right to tract

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A citizens' group has filed suit charging the Port Authority has no claim to nearly 140 acres of prime waterfront real estate the agency wants to develop.

People Advocating Safe Solutions, a newly formed group, is charging the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has no right to develop the land because the agency violated the terms of a 1952 lease it holds on the land, said

PASS attorney Richard Seltzer. Under the terms of the 50-year lease, Seltzer said, the authority was required to develop and maintain "a first-class marine terminal."

Seltzer further charged this failure is an important violation of the lease because, as landlord, the city would be entitled to 75 percent of the net profit from the rents the authority received from shipyard tenants. This would be in addition to \$75,000 the Port Authority pays the city in rent for the land.

But, ever since the shipyard closed, there have been no authority tenants and therefore no 75 percent cut for the city.

The authority is exempt from paying real estate taxes, which Seltzer estimated would exceed \$1 million a year for the undeveloped land. Were the authority not involved, the city could either sell the land—which Seltzer estimated to be worth at least \$30 million—or develop it. Seltzer charged the authority's "monopoly and control of the land prevents the city from

Port agency seeks to develop Hoboken waterfront site

getting the best deal."

John Donovan, the authority's manager for government and community relations, declined to discuss specifics of the lawsuit. But he said the agency is negotiating with the city in good faith and hopes to develop the property in a way "that satisfies the city's objectives."

The authority wants to build 1.4 million square feet of office space, between 1,200 and 2,000 housing units, a 400-room hotel, a 380-slip marina, an 800,000-square-foot transportation center and 180,000 square feet of retail space.

But all development has been stalled while the city and the authority wrangle over how much money the city will receive from the completed development, and how much planning control the city will maintain.

Seltzer said the PASS suit is seeking the authority's "ejection from the premises."

PASS was formed this year following a tax rally organized by a pro-development group, Help Hoboken Housing.

First Ward forum slated in Hoboken

By Bill Campbell

The five First Ward City Council hopefuls have been invited to attend a candidates' forum Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Shannon Lounge on First and Bloomfield streets.

The forum, which will be co-sponsored by the Hoboken Environment Committee and the Hoboken Neighborhood Alliance, is expected to be the only debate among First Ward candidates.

A special election for the First Ward council seat, which has been vacant since the resignation of Anthony Romano last April, will be held Nov. 4.

The candidates vying for the seat are, by ballot position: Thomas Newman, C-11; Bob Meyers, C-12; Aaron Miranda-Forman, C-13; James Giani, C-14; and Joseph Lisa, C-15.

Helen Manogue of the HEC said the candidates would be allowed to deliver eight-minute opening statements to express their views on First Ward real estate development and programs to reduce the municipal tax rate.

She said the candidates will be asked to discuss waterfront development, the Observer Highway redevelopment zone, and development in the interior of the ward, which occupies the southeastern portion of the city.

The candidates will then be given two minutes to respond to written questions from the audience. Manogue said the questions will be chosen by executive committee members of the Environmental Committee and the Neighborhood Alliance.

Manogue said four of the candidates have already accepted the invitation, but she declined to name them.

Lisa, 30, is a certified public accountant and a partner in the Hoboken firm of Gerard Lisa & Company. He has served as municipal budget auditor and is a member of the tenants committee as Marine View Towers.

Newman, 47, is an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and president of the First Ward Block Association. He owns a cabinet making shop near his home in the ward.

Meyers, 35, has been a teacher in the Hoboken public school system for 15 years and is also a resident of Marine View.

Giani, 55, was a member of the Hoboken Fire Department for 25 years and also served as a member of the Board of Education.

Miranda-Forman, 23, said he works for his father who owns a real estate firm in Jersey City.

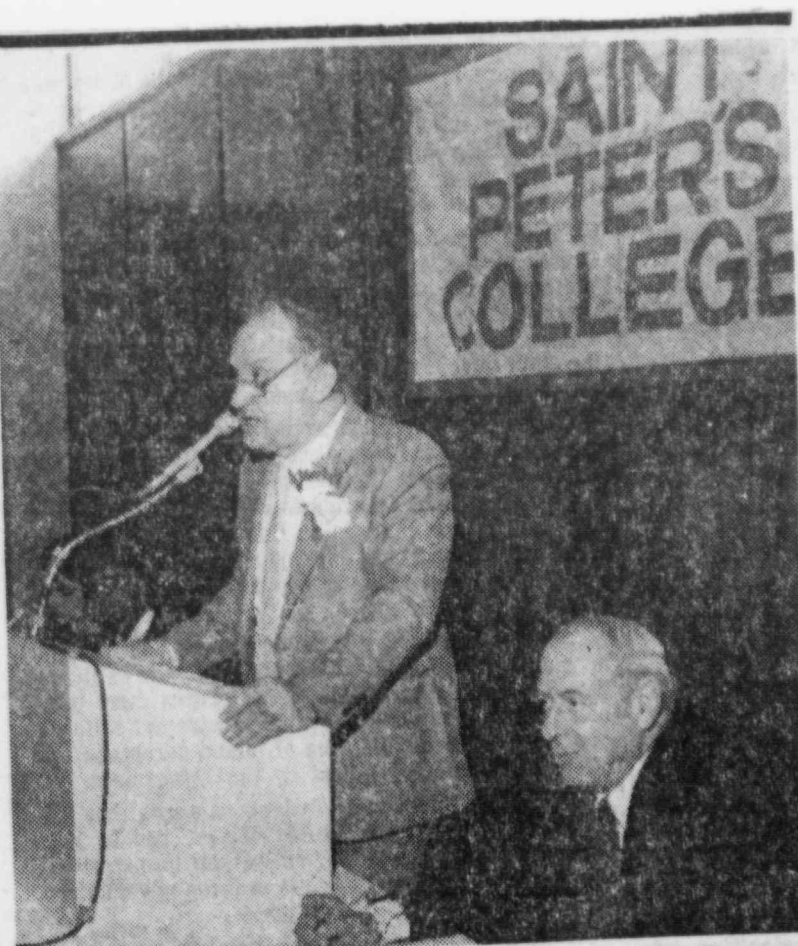


Photo by Don Smith

HOBOKEN MAYOR THOMAS F. VEZZETTI speaks to students at St. Peter's College in Jersey City yesterday while Dr. Martin H. Rosenbluth, chairman of the Department of Management and Marketing, looks on.

He said being bracketed by the Holland and Lincoln tunnels and mega waterfront developments such as Newport City in Jersey City and Lincoln Harbor in Weehawken poses potential traffic nightmares that must be addressed before a massive waterfront development can be approved within Hoboken itself.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is negotiating with Hoboken to allow the interstate agency to spend an estimated \$800

million developing 4.4 million square feet of commercial space in addition to a 400-room hotel, 1,200 residential units and a 380-slip marina on a 144-acre waterfront site the authority leased from the city in 1952.

"The Port Authority is not always the easiest people to work with. That's the best way I can put it," Vezzetti said, adding that he believes the city had "come up short" under the terms of the 1952 contract.

Board mulls solution to Lisa resignation

By Jim DeRogatis

The Hoboken Board of Education will hold a special meeting on Monday to sort out problems resulting from the resignation of schools auditor Joseph Lisa.

Lisa, a candidate for the First Ward City Council seat in the Nov. 4 election, tendered his resignation on Sept. 30 because he said he thinks "elected or appointed officials should not serve in dual capacities."

The board has declined to accept Lisa's resignation on two occasions, citing problems that could result if the school system misses the state's Nov. 1 audit deadline.

Despite the urging of several board members and Schools Superintendent Walter Fine, Lisa has remained firm on his decision to resign from the position. He has held a \$20,500 annual contract to audit the schools since last year.

"In 1985, I did a damn good job on the audit," Lisa said. "I'd do a damn good job in 1986, too, but I feel that my

objectivity is impaired because I am running for office."

Lisa said several board members have offered their political support in his election bid, and he has been opposed by several others. "How can I be objective?" he asked.

The board met Tuesday night to discuss Lisa's resignation and possibly hire a new auditor, but after two hours of discussion, no action was taken.

Board President Richard England said he met with Lisa after the meeting. "He doesn't want to complete the audit, and I feel he's justified," England said. "There's no way the board can force him to do it."

Board Member Joseph Rafta, however, has said that Lisa is "trying to hold a gun to the board's head" by resigning so close to the state deadline. England admitted that the Hoboken school system could be penalized by the state Board of Education for missing the Nov. 1 au-

dit deadline. The school system could be downgraded from its Level Two status to Level Three status, "putting us on the verge of state takeover," England said.

Rafta criticized Lisa for not resigning when he first decided to run for office. He said the resignation came as a response to allegations by the Committee for Quality Education, a Hoboken parents group, that Lisa is guilty of a conflict of interest because he served as auditor while he is a business partner with Board Secretary Anthony Romano.

CQE originally made the charges in a letter to state Board of Education Chairman Saul Cooperman last spring, but Cooperman dismissed the charges and praised Lisa's work. CQE sent another letter to the state repeating the charges on Sept. 17, the same day Lisa filed petitions to run for City Council.

Lisa said that CQE "is playing a

political game."

"It's a shame that they try to come off as a parents group when they're really out there for political reasons," he said.

Nancy Tsuchiya, former CQE chairperson, is the campaign manager for Thomas Newman. Newman and Lisa are considered the frontrunners in the First Ward contest.

Tsuchiya denied political motivations behind CQE's letters. "It wasn't intended as political harassment," she said.

Tsuchiya said the committee purposely did not make the first letter public "because we did not want to make political hay out of it." Tsuchiya signed the CQE letter sent last spring. Current Chairperson Gail Turzman signed the recent letter.

"It's an accident that the letter became public at this time," she said, "but it's not an accident that CQE or Tom Newman perpetrated."

Lisa said he had completed much of the work on the audit and would assist any new auditor hired by the board. "Obviously, I'm sorry to resign, this is costing me money and I won't be compensated," he said.

"But because my objectivity may be impaired, I feel I cannot perform the professional service."

England said the board will discuss the problem of completing the audit on Monday in a closed session from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Board members will interview five prospective auditors, he said.

"If they can do it in a short time, there's no problem," England said. "But if it's going to take from 60 to 90 days, we'll have to sit back and consider the situation."

A caucus will follow the closed session at 7:30 and the general meeting will be held at 8 in the board's headquarters at 11th and Clinton streets.

Valente mounts drive for parade

By Jim DeRogatis

A former Hoboken City Council candidate is launching an eleventh hour attempt to sponsor this year's Ragamuffin Parade.

The parade, once an annual tradition in Hoboken, was revived last year after many years, but no one had come forward to sponsor this year's event, according to Angelo Valente, a former council candidate on Mayor Thomas Vezzetti's ticket and now an aide to Gov. Thomas Kean.

Valente has adopted the task of chairing this year's event and will hold a meeting at

noon on Saturday in City Hall for interested parents who want to help.

The Ragamuffin Parade drew hundreds of costumed children — and adults — for many years. The children marched down Washington Street and were awarded prizes for the best outfits. The event was usually held in early November.

Valente said he has set a tentative date of Oct. 31 for the parade. He said he was "shocked" when he heard on Monday that there might not be a parade this year.

"The kids will have a parade," he said. "It's a Hoboken tradition."

Valente called for Hoboken merchants to help support the parade. He said contributions toward defraying the cost of the event could be mailed to City Hall in care of the Ragamuffin Parade.

Valente said that Hoboken schools, the police department and the Community Development Agency "have all been very supportive in trying to make short notice."

He added that anyone interested in helping with the parade should contact the mayor's office at City Hall.

Vezzetti exults at voiding of Mayo, Lynch contract

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti has hailed a controversial court decision issued last Friday, claiming the ruling was the "biggest victory" yet for his administration.

"This is phenomenal, it's a great day for Hoboken," Vezzetti said upon learning the city's sewage design contract with Mayo, Lynch & Associates had been declared "invalid."

"This is the biggest victory we've had since I have been in office. I have been vindicated and so has my administration," he said.

Superior Court Assignment

Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys, citing "grossly misleading" circumstances surrounding the award of a \$2 million engineering contract to Mayo, Lynch, ruled the agreement is "invalid" and advised it "cannot be enforced and payments thereunder cannot be made."

The ruling upheld Vezzetti's refusal to release more than \$296,000 in payments which had been authorized by the City Council.

Joseph Lynch, president of the Hoboken-based engineering firm, was also ordered to produce records of political and campaign contributions, in addition to itemized hourly

charges for design work on the proposed \$60 million secondary sewage treatment plant.

Lynch had sought judgment ordering immediate payment of an invoice the engineers had sent the city. Vezzetti, who had previously authorized \$788,000 payment to the firm, withheld payment on the second bill because the treatment project was by-passed for state and federal grants for fiscal 1986.

The state Department of Environmental Protection, in denying the \$20 million in grant funding, said the design plans submitted by Mayo, Lynch were

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Vezzetti exulting at voiding contract with Mayo, Lynch

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"neither biddable nor constructable."

"The refusal to authorize payment was made simply in an effort to insure the city was getting its money's worth from Mayo, Lynch," Vezzetti said in his statement to Humphreys.

"If it were not for Joe Della Fave, Helen Cunningham and Peter Alicandri this victory would not be possible," Vezzetti said. "Honesty and integrity have come back to Hoboken."

Alicandri, who administered the project as the city's Director of Environmental Services and Facilities, was fired by the City Council from his post last March. He claimed the Mayo, Lynch contract was "invalid" and asked the city to seek an alternate engineering firm.

The \$2 million engineering contract was awarded in March, 1985 without competitive bidding. New Jersey law stipulates those contracts are valid only when appropriate public notice is given.

The original public notice, published in The Jersey Journal on Feb. 27, 1985, included a cost figure of \$43,000. However, before the council voted on the contract in March, then-corporation counsel Fred Woodkener handwrote a last-minute change to award the design contract to Mayo, Lynch for an estimated \$2 million.

The contract was approved unanimously, but Della Fave and Cunningham, Vezzetti allies, said they were unaware of the last-minute change. Last March 19, the evening the council voted to dismiss Alicandri, Della Fave and Cunningham voted against a second resolution reaffirming the March, 1985 Lynch contract.

The two council members and Alicandri were later named as defendants in a suit

filed by Lynch, claiming they had made "malicious and defamatory" statements against the firm.

"We fought in the City Council for what we knew was right but it took a court of law to prove us right," Della Fave said after hearing Humphreys' decision. "What should have been done with good municipal common sense was done with judicial common sense."

"I don't feel so alone anymore," said Cunningham, a staunch opponent of the contract.

Humphreys, supporting the claim advocated by the administration, said both the original contract and the resolution reaffirming it were invalid. He defended Vezzetti's refusal to authorize the payment, saying "the mayor's function is not simply clerical, to sign a check when presented to him."

"Mayor Vezzetti was relying on his opinion that the contract is invalid. He should be commended," he said.

Alicandri was not available for comment on the decision.

Anthony Russo, the former chairman of the Hudson County Utilities Authority who was ousted from the county-wide sewage agency after criticizing Lynch, said the decision was a case of "right making might."

Russo, who earlier blamed Lynch for "conspiring" to have him removed from the utility authority, said the ruling will send a message to Councilman Steve Cappiello and other Lynch supporters on the council "to resign immediately."

"Let's hope this decision spreads the message," he said.

Lynch has denied his involvement in the county Board of Freeholders' decision to remove Russo from the HCUA. He was not available for comment on the decision.

Cappiello said he would not comment on the decision until he has read Humphreys' ruling.

COCAINE SENTENCE

Hoboken teacher gets 25-year term

By JENNIFER FREY

Staff Writer

In keeping with the Hudson County prosecutor's tough stance toward drug offenders, a Hoboken High School teacher and his co-defendant were sentenced yesterday to long prison terms for selling cocaine.

But the judge was more lenient on a Secaucus High School teacher after friends and relatives testified she became involved in the cocaine operation because she was dating its kingpin.

Thomas Cacamis, 41, of Union City, a veteran physical education

teacher at Hoboken High School and reputed leader of the cocaine operation, was sentenced by Judge Joseph M. Thuring of Superior Court in Jersey City to 25 years in prison.

Co-defendant Thomas Finnerty, 34, of Hoboken, described as Cacamis' right-hand man, was sentenced to 20 years in prison. He was not a teacher but is reported to be a basketball coach.

In sentencing Susan Scalzo, 36, Thuring said "a fair and just sentence would include the whole person."

See TEACHER, Page 10

TEACHER

Continued from Page 1

After listening to two hours of testimony from Scalzo's brothers and co-teachers, Thuring imposed a two-year prison term. Under a plea agreement Scalzo arranged with the state, she could have received a five-year term.

The three were arrested with four other co-defendants March 21 when a 20-day wiretap led to a raid on the apartments of Scalzo and her boyfriend, Cacamis, both of 360 Mountain Road in Union City, and Finnerty's apartment at 917 Clinton St. in Hoboken.

Small amounts of cocaine were seized in Scalzo's and Cacamis' apartments, more than a kilo of cocaine and \$28,000 in cash were found at Finnerty's and \$65,000 in \$100 bills was discovered in a safe deposit box belonging to Cacamis, said Assistant Prosecutor Jack Hill.

In pressing for the five-year term for Scalzo, Hill said, "She knowingly assisted the operation." She kept cocaine in her apartment for her own use and for small-time dealing and stored and packaged cocaine for Cacamis, he said.

Scalzo's attorney, Cathy Waldorf of Newark, denied she kept cocaine for her personal distribution.

In an emotional appeal to the judge to sentence Scalzo to community service instead of jail, fellow teacher Virginia DeSocio described Scalzo as a woman who had trouble in her relationships with men, not with drugs.

"If he (Cacamis) had been a race car driver, Susan would have been an expert in race cars," she said, trying to show Scalzo's involvement in the conspiracy was solely because she was in love with Cacamis.

Former state Sen. Francis Herbert who also taught school in Secaucus for 11 years with Scalzo, said "she was the most impassioned teacher in the school. Her warmth and empathy toward the students made the classroom a wonderful place."

Scalzo's older brother Joseph, 42, and her younger brother Philip also pleaded with the judge for leniency.

"A second Susan emerged," when she met Cacamis, he said. "A Susan who moved in the fast lane, ate out at expensive restaurants, bought a co-op in Troy Towers and was

headed down the wrong path."

Still her finances show she did not profit from the dealing, Philip said.

He asked Thuring to let his sister move in with him and do her sentence in community work.

Scalzo, who sat quietly wiping away her tears, apologized for her involvement in the operation and vowed she never profited financially. "I lost my reputation, self esteem, family respect and most of all my life as a teacher," she said.

Scalzo had been an English teacher at Secaucus High School for 15 years.

In imposing the sentence, Thuring said he considered Scalzo's motivation for dealing cocaine, which he attributed to her relationship with Cacamis. "You were victim of a person who preyed upon the weak," he said.

The judge also considered her reputation as a devoted teacher and a person who went out of her way to help others.

In sentencing Cacamis and Finnerty, Thuring scolded the pair saying teachers should be role models for the community.

He apparently accepted Hill's description of Cacamis as the boss and Finnerty as the second-in-command of a drug operation which netted thousands of dollars in profit.

Cacamis' lawyer, James Patuto of Hackensack, argued that neither his client nor Finnerty warranted the maximum sentence and were merely victims of an anti-drug climate.

"They weren't dealing 100 pounds. This was no French Connection and they didn't use violence," he said.

"It's just suddenly political to scream about drugs," he said.

County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale said all three sentences were appropriate. "Soon I hope sentences like these will be the norm instead of the exception," he said.

The three defendants will be eligible for parole after serving one-third of their sentences.

Co-defendants John Bruschi and Corrado Russo, 45, are to be sentenced next week.

Alfred Silver and Cecilia Pierri, who also were arrested in the raids, are on probation.

\$20M awarded for waterfront links in Hudson

By Anthony Baldo

Gov. Thomas Kean will be in Hoboken today to announce that \$20 million in federal funds has been awarded to NJ Transit to develop a light rail and bus system along the Hudson waterfront from Edgewater to Jersey City.

All told, NJ Transit will receive \$66 million in federal grants for the light rail and bus system, railroad infrastructure improvements, and the purchase of 300 reconstructed transit buses, said Anthony Grazioso, NJ Transit spokesman.

Kean and Ralph Stanley, administrator for the federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration, is to announce the funding awards at Hoboken Terminal at noon.

The governor last December unveiled an \$825 million transportation plan for the Hudson waterfront, saying that the county needed a link between the developments being built.

The \$20 million for the light rail and bus transitway for a 15-mile stretch from Edgewater to Jersey City will be "seed" money, Grazioso said, to be used for acquisition of land and rail right-of-ways.

The above ground light rail system will be similar to the modern trolleys used in the Newark subway system, Grazioso said. The transitway will

start in Edgewater and go south along the waterfront to North Bergen. Another transitway will then start in the Meadowlands in North Bergen, connect to the Turnpike, go south through Weehawken and Hoboken, and finish at a large Park-and-Ride lot in Jersey City near the 14B exit of the Turnpike.

UMTA is also providing \$20 million for rail improvements statewide, Grazioso said, with some in Hudson County.

The rest of the federal grants, \$26 million, will be used to purchase remade buses to be distributed to private bus companies throughout the state, including some in Hudson County, Grazioso said.

The refurbished buses will replace buses that are 12 years old or older, he said.

NJ Transit is the only statewide transportation system in the nation, Grazioso said. And it is unique because it also oversees private transportation companies.

NJ Transit provides utility vehicles and support equipment to private bus companies, and the federal government awards the agency money according to the number of miles logged by the private transport firm, he said.

The \$66 million in grants are further confirmation of the federal government's interest in the state's transportation network, Grazioso said.

Eversen asks parking unit replacement

By Jim DeRogatis

Richard Eversen, chairman of the Hoboken Parking Authority and a commissioner for 20 years, announced yesterday that he will not seek another term on the board when his term expires in December.

Eversen tendered his letter of resignation to City Council President E. Norman Wilson, citing "increased responsibilities" as dean of Student Affairs at Stevens Institute of Technology.

"I have served on the authority since December, 1966, and have seen the authority grow from an agency operating in a very serious deficit mode to one of today, meeting all of its financial obligations," Eversen said.

"The authority is in a sound

financial position, slowly accruing funds in a bond redemption account," Eversen said.

He added that the account "has been a personal goal" and will enable the authority to pay off \$3.4 million that will be owed in 2010 on the garages' bond issue.

"The Parking Authority is on excellent financial footing," Eversen said. He said his term expires in December and has asked Mayor Thomas Vezzetti to replace him.

The five parking commissioners each serve for five years. One commissioner's term expires each year.

"I've enjoyed my time on the authority, it's been a real challenge," Eversen said. "But I think I've had enough."

SALES BRISK

Hoboken artist's book captures city

By TOM GISSEN

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Armed with sketching pencils, watercolors and an Apple computer, a local 35-year-old bartender turned professional artist has published a book of the people, places and events of the Mile-Square City.

Kevin McCloskey, whose sketches and writing have appeared in The New York Times, The Daily News of New York, Newsday and The Village Voice, spent several months combing the shelves of local libraries and the streets here before compiling "Walking Around Hoboken."

McCloskey provided the book's 61 sketches and watercolors as well as writing short commentaries to accompany most of his art. The 52-page book covers everything from the city's most colorful politician to its most tragic disaster.

On Page 36, McCloskey has sketched Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti sitting behind a sign saying, "your psychological verbal therapist."

Below the mayor's picture is McCloskey's tongue-in-cheek description of Vezzetti's introduction to Hudson County politics. "His political career began in earnest when he picked up 32 odd sport coats at So' Lesinger's of West New York's goin'-out-of-business sale."

While McCloskey's book often focuses on the people and places for which Hoboken is known, Mc-

Closkey has not forgotten the common man or cityscape. Opposite Vezzetti is a drawing of gas station attendant Georgie Hull, who likes to fish in the Hudson River but will not eat his catch. "I may be nuts, but I'm not crazy," McCloskey quotes Hull as saying.

McCloskey, who describes himself as "a history buff, self-taught," spent more than two years as a bartender here. In addition to researching the city's history through the local, Newark and New York City public libraries, McCloskey said he also learned a lot while pouring drinks. "You just keep talking to the oldtimers," he explained.

As one of the requirements of his master of fine arts thesis in illustration at New York's School of Visual Arts, McCloskey spent several months sketching two scenes a week here. "I just sit on the curb and draw," he said.

Mixed with such familiar city landmarks as the Hoboken Shipyard, the Maxwell House factory and the site of Frank Sinatra's home, are drawings of Schnackenberg's luncheonette at 1110 Washington St. high-top sneakers hanging from power lines above Seventh Street and Park Avenue, and a Community Church announcement that "Jesus Loves Yuppies."

Two thousand copies of "Walking Around Hoboken" have been printed, and McCloskey cautiously

is hoping there will be a second printing. The book, which sells for \$5.95, can be found in three local stores: Good News Stationery, Rogers and Kolgswell and the Literary Shop.

Vinnie Rossi, who works at the Literary Shop, said, "The book has been selling very well. It's been a very popular book."

Rossi, a former housing inspector in Union City, said he was moved especially by a section titled, "The Fire That Ate Hoboken's Children."

In this section, McCloskey describes the early morning horror of Oct. 25, 1981, when he stood on Washington Street and watched the Eldorado Hotel burn.

McCloskey recalls that, before being told that 11 children had just died at the hands of the arsonist, he noticed, "the faint, but unmistakable smell that dries your mouth and leaves your heart sick."

McCloskey goes on to report, "From 1978 to 1981, while Hoboken real estate values rose as much as 25 percent a year, 41 persons died in arson-for-profit fires, and 30 of the 41 victims were children."

He closes the section with what Rossi describes as "a very nice, sad commentary."

McCloskey writes, "Hopefully, reservations have been made in hell for those who set Hoboken's fires, those who hired them and those who found profit in the flames."



THE SMILING gas station attendant is one of many familiar city figures to appear in Hoboken artist Kevin McCloskey's book of sketches and watercolors.

STEVENS TECH

Admissions director named

HOBOKEN—Charles D. Edinger has been appointed director of admissions at Stevens Institute of Technology. He is the former assistant dean for enrollment services at Seton Hall University in South Orange.

While announcing Edinger's appointment, Richard G. Grisky, Stevens' executive vice president,

announced that Audrey Y. Smith has been promoted to director of market planning and enrollment management. Edinger will report to Smith, who had been director of admissions at Stevens. Edinger will be responsible for the recruitment and selection of undergraduate students.

Prior to Edinger's association

with Seton Hall, he worked at the cooperative education center at Trenton State College in Trenton. He earned a bachelor's degree from Barrington College in Barrington, R.I. and a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological seminary in Princeton. He is pursuing a master of business administration degree at Seton Hall.



Photo by Don Smith

GOV. THOMAS H. KEAN enjoys a light moment with Ralph Stanley, right, of the federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration yesterday in Hoboken. At left is Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti, and completing the group is Hazel Frank Gluck, state commissioner of transportation.

Pols pitch in for women's caucus

Dispatch 10/27/86

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Assemblymen usually pass laws and seek votes, but this weekend three of them were offering people a choice between a tennis lesson, lunch or a day in Trenton.

The somewhat strange behavior was part of the annual celebrity auction held Saturday by the Women's Political Caucus of Hudson County. The auction was held following a \$20-a-plate brunch at the River Street Restaurant here.

Every elected local, Hudson County and state officeholder was asked to contribute some service or item to the auction.

"No one should be without one, if you're going to be in politics," said Jersey City Mayor Anthony R. Cucchi as he donated a coffee pot and some coffee to the cause.

Beth Janiszewski, first vice president of the caucus, said, "The whole purpose of the caucus is to get women elected and get them politically active."

To this end, Jersey City Councilman Jamie Vasquez donated tuition for a Jersey City State College three-credit course called "Woman in Power." Vasquez restricted bidding on his donation to women, Janiszewski said.

Louise Shaw, a former Jersey City councilwoman and president of the caucus purchased the course. Janiszewski said Shaw bought the course in part to help motivate her to finish her college education.

Rep. Frank J. Guarino, D-Jersey City, also donated something with intellectual and political overtones. Although he serves on Capitol Hill, the congressman apparently is keeping his eye on events a little farther along Pennsylvania Avenue. His contribution was a collection of books, all focusing on the White House and America's presidents.

Other auctioned items ranged from a hand-made baby quilt to free legal service for preparing a last will and testament.

Close to 30 items were auctioned, and Janiszewski said the sales raised about \$1,600.

COURT STREET PLAZA

Dispatch 10/30/86

Developers threaten to drop condos

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The developer of a pair of 18-story towers proposed for the ShopRite supermarket site said yesterday his company may quit the project and "take our losses."

But George Vallone, a principal of the Westbank Construction Co., the developer, kept other options open, such as scaling down the project to suit various agencies' objections.

His announcement came just one day after he asked the Board of Adjustment for a two-week delay before it reconsiders the \$70 million, mixed-use development known as Hoboken's Court Street Plaza.

Speaking before the board Tuesday night, Vallone said his company needed time to react to a recent denunciation of the project by an urban designer hired by the city Planning Board.

Last Thursday, David Vandro, a Manhattan-based urban designer, described the Court Street Plaza with its potential for generating traffic as "an outrageous combination."

Yesterday, Vallone said he and his partner, Daniel Gans, will decide within several days whether to continue to seek approval for the project. If Westbank decides to go ahead with its present proposal, Vallone said the company will seek to challenge and cross examine Vandro at the next Board of Adjustment meeting, on Nov. 17.

Last Thursday, Vandro told the planning board Hoboken should limit building heights to a maximum of eight stories. He also charged that Court Street's two street-level delivery truck bays and \$17-space underground parking lot could snarl traffic at the intersection of Observer Highway and Hudson Street.

Board of Adjustment approval for the project was unexpectedly stalled on Sept. 29 when John G. Donovan, manager for governmental and community relations for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, said the completed project would jam the intersection.

Since that meeting, officials of the authority and Westbank have met three times to discuss ways of improving the intersection. Last week Gans said the project has been redesigned to conform with the authority's concerns.

A source who viewed the revised plans said they call for indoor truck turnarounds that eliminate the need for trucks to back into the Observer Highway delivery bays. The new plans also cut back the development's southeastern portion. This would reduce the size of the base of one of the two 18-story towers. That would allow Hudson Street to be enlarged from two to four lanes to accommodate more traffic from Observer Highway's four lanes to the existing PATH and Erie and Lackawanna stations.

Tuesday night, Donovan said the authority was satisfied with the traffic design of the revised project. He declined to support or oppose the overall plan.

But several Board of Adjustment members said their reservations went beyond the problems with traffic. These concerns, they said, centered on the height of the towers and the proposed project's density. The area is zoned to allow no more than five stories.

The source, who did not want to be quoted, described the modified plans as a giveback to be offered only in exchange for approval of the remainder of the project.

Last night Vallone confirmed that new "conceptual" plans had been drawn. But he said his company has not decided yet whether to drop the project, push for approval of the new plans or drastically reduce the development's scale to the point where it would not need any variances or board approvals.

Vallone described the project's 45,000-square-foot public space pedestrian walkway, underground parking lot, "affordable foodstore," and donation of land for the widening of Hudson Street as significant givebacks that would be lost if Westbank is required to shrink the project any more.

Mayo Lynch will fight voiding of Hoboken pact

Dispatch 10/28/86

By Bill Campbell

The attorney representing Hoboken engineers Mayo Lynch & Associates said yesterday the firm will appeal last Friday's court decision which declared a controversial professional services contract with the city "invalid."

Marc Arnold said he will file a motion, either today or tomorrow, in the Appellate Division of Superior Court to overturn the decision by Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys.

Humphreys on Friday said the city's \$2 million contract with Mayo Lynch to design a secondary sewage treatment plant in Hoboken was invalid. He said the city did not give proper public notice prior to awarding the contract. Arnold said that Joseph Lynch, president of the engineering firm, will complete design plans for the \$60 million project and "argue about getting paid in court." He said the firm will "cooperate fully" in providing technical data to the city to meet an Oct. 31 application deadline for state and federal grants.

Mayo Lynch will provide Humphreys with fully itemized bills for the project in addition to a list of all campaign contributions given to Hoboken candidates since January 1985, Arnold said.

"We will comply with all of the judge's particulars," Arnold said. "This puts a tremendous burden on Lynch because he has to get this all together within 10 days."

Humphreys ordered Lynch to see MAYO — Page 6.

City garbage award gets court approval

Dispatch 10/24/86

By Bill Campbell

A Superior Court Judge Tuesday upheld the Hoboken City Council's decision to award a controversial garbage collection contract to Browning Ferris Industries.

Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys, ruling on the contract awarded by the City Council last May, said alleged deficiencies in the contract did not "adversely affect the purposes of competitive bidding."

He said there was no evidence of fraud, wrongdoing, partiality or favoritism in the bidding process for the one-year scavenger contract.

The attorney for LaFera, the firm that has held the garbage contract for more than 20 years, has not decided if he will appeal the decision, according to Tom Calligy, an assistant city attorney.

The suit against the city and Fairfield-based BFI was filed by LaFera in May and charged that discrepancies existed in the contract specifications and the bidding form. The specifications for the contract called for alternate bids of one, two and three years, while the bidding form called for bids of one, three and five years.

On May 7, in a vote that marked the first time in two decades that the city received

competitive bids on a scavenger contract, the council awarded BFI the one-year contract. The firm's bid was more than \$250 lower than the LaFera bid.

Then City Attorney Salvatore D'Amelio Jr. urged the council to reject both bids because "a substantial discrepancy" existed in the bidding documents.

However, City Business Administrator Edwin Chiusi recommended that the council award a one-year contract to BFI because "rejecting the bids completely would cost the city \$20,000 during the rebidding process."

"The proposals for one-year were submitted on an equal basis by each bidder and clearly show that BFI was the low bidder by \$213,350 without the cost of disposal and \$268,350 lower when the cost of disposal is included," he said.

LaFera, which is based in Newark, proposed a one year base bid of \$1.13 million for the scavenger service, while BFI bid \$861,000 for the same service.

Calligy, who along with D'Amelio represented the city, said the municipality argued that the bids on the one year contract were made on "an equal level." He said the scavenger firms were not re-

quired to bid on all three years of the contract.

Arthur Kobin, the attorney for BFI, said the LaFera bid was structured on the basis of doubling its one year submission.

"Given these facts, it is not likely the city would fare better on a rebid," he argued. "I would submit that it is in the best interest of the city to award the contract to BFI."

Mark Lerner, an attorney for BFI, maintained the bidding process "was flawed and the city is compelled to readvertise." He said the city provided "conflicting instructions" and, as a result, "the competitive bidding process was obviously affected."

Humphreys, in his decision, said the specifications were not "so vague or misleading as to require rebidding." He said the alleged deficiencies were "minor" and did not adversely affect the process of competitive bidding.

During the five months of deliberations, Humphreys ordered LaFera to continue providing collection service at the price set in the BFI contract, until a decision was reached.

Barring an appeal by LaFera, the BFI contract will begin immediately, Calligy said.

LINK TO WATERFRONT

Feds grant \$20M for rail line

Dispatch 10/29/86

HOBOKEN—Gov. Thomas H. Kean and Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg yesterday announced that \$20 million in federal money has been obtained to help build a light rail transitway to connect the Meadowlands with proposed waterfront developments.

An NJ Transit spokeswoman yesterday said the entire 15-mile-long transitway, connecting the Meadowlands with the waterfront from Jersey City to Edgewater is expected to cost about \$300 million. It will entail both constructing a new trolley system and upgrading existing roadways.

Acquisition and construction costs for the new light-rail system will total about \$600 million, said Nancy Greenberg, a spokeswoman for NJT. The \$20 million of federal funding announced yesterday will be used to purchase "a substantial portion" of the 15-mile railway tract, she explained.

Greenberg said she does not know exactly how much land the \$20 million will buy, but said it would amount to more than half of the property.

As proposed by Kean, the light-rail line will resemble Jersey City's trolley car transit system and parallel the waterfront from Jersey City to Edgewater.

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RAIL

Continued from Page 1

The plans also propose a western spur that would utilize an existing 5,000-foot-long tunnel, which runs under Union City from Weehawken to North Bergen. At its western terminus, Kean proposes building a large parking lot in the Meadowlands. "This transitway will ensure that the waterfront area is not flooded with automobiles," Kean said through a press release distributed at yesterday's ceremony.

Only in this city do the plans call for the rail system's north-south portion to leave the waterfront. Here, the line will run along the city's western border at the base of the Palisades following the present Conrail track bed.

On Aug. 13, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey an-

nounced it will spend \$50 million to help Conrail relocate this part of its freight line.

The authority-financed upgrading will allow Conrail to run its freight trains on an existing rail line that runs through North Bergen between Tonnele and West Side avenues.

The governor announced a total of \$66.1 million of federal funds for New Jersey mass transit yesterday. In addition to the \$20 million slated for transitway land acquisition, another \$20 million is to be used to improve rail lines throughout the state, and \$26 million will allow NJT to purchase about 300 refurbished commuter buses.

Half of these buses will be leased at no cost to private carriers. Kean lauded this "private-public partnership" as being essential to a viable commuter system.

Dr. Carl Cricco Sr., Hoboken physician

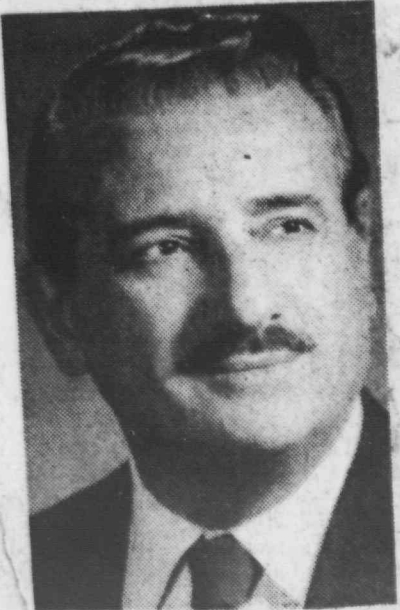
Dispatch 10/28/86

Dr. Carl F. Cricco Sr., 72, a physician who practiced in Hoboken for many years, died yesterday in St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken.

A lifelong Hoboken resident, Dr. Cricco was a graduate of Manhattan College and of the University of Bologna Medical School. He was a surgeon and fellow of the International College of Surgeons and a diplomat of the International Board of Proctology.

During World War II, Cricco worked at the 54th Evacuation Hospital, during the bloody invasion of Anzio Beach. He was awarded the Order of the Crown Lion from the Italian government. He received a Bronze Star from the U.S. Government.

Family members said Cricco was especially devoted to his 12 children and 26 grandchildren. Mass will be said at 10 a.m. Thursday in St. Peter and Paul Church, Hoboken. Burial will be in Madonna Cemetery, Fort Lee. Arrangements are by Earl F. Bosworth Funeral Home, Hoboken.



Dr. Carl F. Cricco Sr. With troops at Anzio

Board turns down auditor's censure

Dispatch 10/28/86

By James Kopchansky

The Hoboken Board of Education finally accepted the resignation of its auditor, Joseph Lisa, ending two weeks of bitter debate over his quitting.

The board voted 8-to-6 to accept the resignation after first rejecting an attempt by board member Joseph Rafta to place an amendment accepting the resignation "with extreme prejudice and criticism."

The board then approved a new contract with the Jersey City accounting firm of Donohue & Gironda to complete the audit. The new firm, which bid the lowest of several firms contacted, will be paid \$16,900 for the audit. Lisa's firm, Gerald Lisa & Co., was paid \$20,500 annually.

Lisa, a candidate for the First Ward City Council seat, tendered his resignation on Sept. 30 because he said he did not believe he could maintain his objectivity as an independent auditor when members of the school board were actively supporting his political campaign.

The board refused to accept Lisa's resignation and instead demanded that he com-

plete a state-mandated audit of the school system due on Nov. 1. However, Lisa said last night that he would not have finished the audit by Nov. 1 even if he had stayed in the position.

"Vacation schedules by some key personnel were different from last year when the audit was handed in on time," Lisa said.

Board members had resented Lisa for waiting until the late date of Sept. 30 to inform them of his intention to resign. Rafta, in particular, was annoyed because he believed Lisa had decided to run for office much earlier this year.

"If he was planning to run, why did he have to wait so long. Didn't he know that if we do not have the audit in by the deadline we would be in trouble?" Rafta said.

Rafta said he introduced the amendment to accept the resignation with prejudice to send a message to the state that the board did not condone the resignation.

Although Rafta's amendment was accepted, the board voted 5-to-3 to reject it and proceed with an acceptance of the resignation.

'Ragamuffin Parade' set for Friday

Dispatch 10/28/86

By Jim DeRogatis

Work on this year's Ragamuffin Parade is going "full speed ahead," Hoboken Parade Chairman Angelo Valente said yesterday.

Valente launched an eleventh hour attempt to sponsor the costume parade down Washington Street after he learned last week that no one had come forward to run the event.

For years, the Ragamuffin Parade had been an annual event in Hoboken, but the parade was discontinued until last year when it was revived by merchants' groups.

One of Valente's campaign promises during his unsuccessful bid for a seat on the City Council was to revive the parade. "It's a Hoboken tradition," he said.

Valente sponsored a meet-

ing at City Hall on Saturday that was attended by approximately 50 parents and merchants interested in working on the parade, he said.

"We're getting complete cooperation from everyone," Valente said. "Donations have been pouring in."

The parade will take place at 4 p.m. Friday. Marchers will assemble at 14th and Washington streets at 3:30 and proceed down Washington Street to Fourth Street, where they will turn and march into Church Square Park.

Prizes for the best costumes will be awarded during a brief ceremony in the park. Valente said, "We expect at least 1,000 kids to march."

Valente said that anyone interested in helping with the parade should contact the mayor's office at City Hall.

Newman, Lisa lead pack in quiet First Ward contest

By Jim DeRogatis and Bill Campbell

9/10/30/86

The race for Hoboken's First Ward City Council seat has been the quietest campaign in the Mile Square City in recent memory.

The five candidates have avoided mudslinging. Yesterday, though, controversy was stirred when state financial disclosure forms revealed that real estate developer Joseph Barry contributed nearly a third of the funds raised by candidate Thomas Newman, an alternate member of the city's board of adjustment.

The candidates have been visible campaigning on the streets, but they are expected to meet only once in public debate, during a candidates' forum scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Shannon Lounge at First and Bloomfield streets.

Political observers say that one reason the campaign

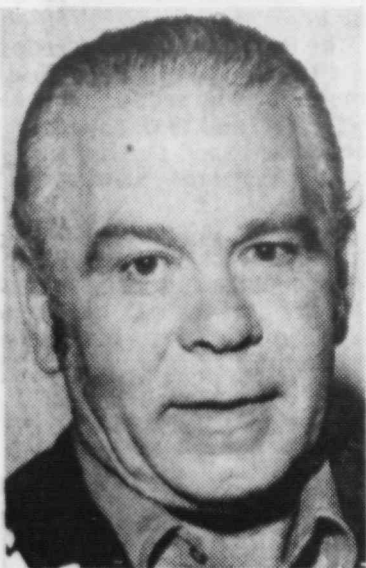
has been lacking in excitement is because the victor in Tuesday's election will serve for only six months. All six ward council seats are up for election in May.

The candidates are competing to complete the fourth term of Anthony Romano, who resigned as councilman in March after it was revealed that he no longer lived in the ward.

All of the candidates have said they are running as independents. Newman, however, has been endorsed by Mayor Thomas Vezetti and is closely associated with the Vezetti administration.

Newman and Lisa are considered the frontrunners in the race.

A Newman victory could strengthen Vezetti's "fragile majority" on the City Council, but a win by Lisa or one of the other candidates could rekindle the hope of Recall '86, the group moving to oust Vezetti, which has been dormant for several weeks.



James Giani

James Giani, 55, said he is running in Tuesday's election because he is "tired of the constant personality clashes" between pro- and anti-administration council members that plague the current City Council.

"What we witness on the council now are just constant personality clashes," Giani said. "They don't have the interest of the city at heart."

A homeowner and a resident of the First Ward for 45 years, Giani was a member of the Hoboken Fire Department for 25 years before he retired. He served as an elected member of the Board of Education for two years in the 1970s.

Giani and his wife, Tomasin, have two daughters and two granddaughters. He has been a high school and P.A.L. football coach.

The candidate said he is running as an independent and will stay independent if elected. "If it's something that is good for the city, I'll vote with the administration or with the maverick councilmen," he said.

Giani said taxes and development are the two most important issues facing the First Ward. He said he will fight to reduce the tax rate "by looking hard to see where the fat is, then cutting it out."

He added that he is pro-development, but not at the expense of the city's longtime residents.

"I welcome investors into the city, but I don't want it to be at the expense of the older people," he said. "I want to see the waterfront built up, but I want to see more things like recreation for our kids in return."

budget auditor, Lisa has pledged to "thoroughly scrutinize" the 1987 municipal budget and report his findings to the public. "I will raise hell if the budget is not prepared properly and submitted on time," he said.

Lisa, who, along with his brother, operates the accounting firm Gerard Lisa & Associates, gained notoriety last year when he urged the council to scrutinize budget practices or face a 1986 tax rate of more than \$200.

This year Lisa has warned that the 1987 tax rate will skyrocket to \$250 from the current \$216 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation if the council relies on the advice of Vezetti administration officials.

Lisa also said he will devote the six-month council term to establishing a residential permit-parking program and supporting legislation to revalue assessments which are "unfair and inequitable" to home- and condo-owners and tenants.

He said real estate developers must contribute to the city's infrastructure and pass "critical financial examination" by the council before projects are approved.

Lisa said waterfront property "must be opened up to broad public use," including installation of a playing field, a swimming pool and an ice skating rink.

A resident of Marineview Towers, Lisa and his wife, Nancy, have been active in the development's tenants association. Lisa says he is an independent candidate who neither supports the Vezetti administration nor the movement to recall the mayor.



Aaron Miranda-Forman

Aaron Miranda-Forman, 23, has promised "real representation" and an "independent voice" for the First Ward if elected to the City Council.

"The First Ward has not been represented in the council," he said. "It has not had an independent voice, responsive to the needs and concerns of its constituents."

Miranda-Forman was an unsuccessful at-large candidate on the ticket headed by Thomas Kennedy in last June's mayoral election. He told The Jersey Journal that he is employed "off the books" by his father, who owns several properties in Jersey City, he said.

If elected, Miranda-Forman has promised to create parking in the ward by designating spaces along

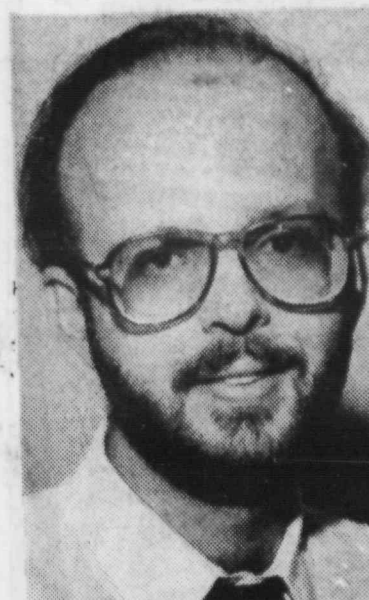
Observer Highway and working to build new garages on city land. He said he will also introduce legislation to repair and upgrade the sewage system in the ward.

The candidate criticized what he said was a practice of "large-scale condominium builders receiving tax abatements from the city," and he promised "accessibility and accountability" to the residents.

"The ward is going through great changes, and it is vital that the people have a spokesman who is prepared to address those issues," he said.

However, the issue Miranda-Forman stressed most during his campaign was drug abuse. He charged that his opponents "are either addicted or habitual drug users" and challenged them each to take a urinalysis test to prove they are drug-free.

The other candidates denied Miranda-Forman's charges and called his challenge "absurd."



Robert Meyers

Robert Meyers, 35, has said that real estate developers must contribute more park and recreation space to the First Ward.

Coordinator of Music for the Hoboken Public school system, Meyers said he supports "intelligent development" on the city's waterfront. He said he supports a "realistic" tax rate, clean and drug-free streets, additional motor vehicle parking, affordable housing and youth and senior citizens programs.

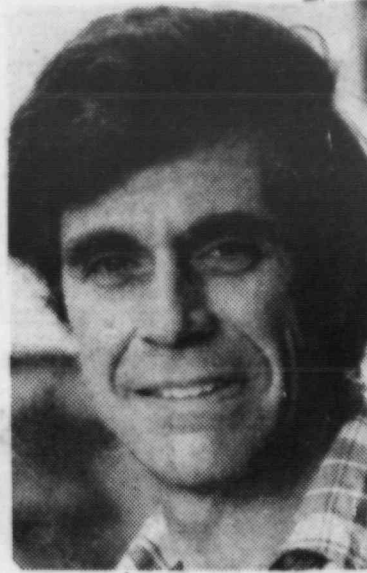
Meyers, who has been a teacher in the public schools for 15 years, is a resident of Marineview Towers, where he has lived for seven years.

The treasurer for the two anti-administration slates in the last two Board of Education elections, Meyers says he is an independent and is running under the slogan "First Ward First."

"I feel I can do a lot of good for the city as a councilman," he said, stressing the issues he supports.

Meyers, who has a Master of Arts degree from Jersey City State College, attended the Julliard School and was awarded a B.A. from Jersey City State in 1972.

He is music minister for St. Peter and Paul's Church, music director for the Hoboken Civic Theater, a member of the Lions Club, an officer in the Hoboken Elks Lodge and a director of the Marineview Plaza tenants organization.



Thomas Newman

Thomas Newman, 47, has earned a strong reputation in the First Ward as a zoning activist and community leader.

As president of the First Ward Block Association for 10 years, Newman advocated "sensible development" and fought for affordable housing. He has also served as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Newman owns a cabinet-making and furniture-restoring firm on the corner of Second and Garden streets. He and his wife, Suellen, director of the Hudson School, have lived in a home on Garden Street with their five children since 1968.

Although he has been strongly supported by Mayor Thomas Vezetti, Newman has maintained that he is running as "an independent reform candidate." He has criticized what he calls "machine-style politics" and political patronage and promised "new politics based on issues."

Newman said he will work to eliminate patronage jobs in an effort to reduce the city's skyrocketing tax rate. "In a city where for years jobs, promotions, work assignments and the like have been a principal form of patronage, it should not be difficult to find areas where cuts can be made," he said.

The candidate stressed that planning is essential when the city is considering development projects in Hoboken.



Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezetti, left, and state Commissioner of Transportation Hazel Gluck help Gov. Thomas Kean accept a \$20 million check from Ralph Stanley, federal Urban Mass Transportation administrator, at the Hoboken Erie-Lackawanna Terminal.

Waterfront transit gets \$20M boost from federal funds

By Bill Campbell

NJ Transit, in ceremonies at the Hoboken Terminal, was awarded \$20 million in federal capital improvement funds yesterday to develop a light rail and bus transitway along the Hudson waterfront.

The funds, along with a \$50 million contribution from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, will enable NJ Transit to relocate waterfront rail freight operations and purchase railroad right-of-way.

The award was the first step in constructing a proposed 15-mile transitway to extend from Edgewater to Jersey City.

The project is part of the multibillion-dollar waterfront development planned along the Hudson River that is to feature highrise housing, shopping, marinas and business offices.

"Mass transit is not a luxury, but a necessity," said Gov. Thomas Kean, one of several state and municipal officials at

the ceremony. "This is especially true for New Jerseyans living on the waterfront because using a car is not going to be the answer anymore."

Kean said the proposed transitway would "make life a lot easier for Hudson County residents."

Transportation Commissioner Hazel Gluck said the transitway grants were part of a \$66 million federal package to improve public transportation around the state.

She said \$26 million in grants was earmarked for the purchase of 300 refurbished advanced-design buses for use by private carriers and an additional \$20 million has been designated for statewide rail infrastructure improvements.

Officials also signed a contract for 395 new buses at a cost of \$68 million. Approximately half of them will be leased to private carriers and the rest

See WATERFRONT — Page 13.

Waterfront

Continued from Page 1.

will be put in service by NJ Transit.

The project funding is in conjunction with an \$825 million Hudson waterfront transportation plan outlined last December by Kean.

Ralph Stanley, administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, said the \$66 million in discretionary grants is "an investment in the future of New Jersey." He said the state was selected for the money because of the "emphasis" Kean made on linking railroad infrastructure and transportation.

Officials said the transitway will link southern Bergen County with the Hudson County waterfront with a busway and an above-ground light rail line, similar to the trolley cars used by the Newark City Subway.

Another segment of the transitway will extend from a proposed park-and-ride facility in North Bergen and run south through West New York, Weehawken, Hoboken and Jersey City.

"A revival is taking place on our waterfront," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg. "I can assure you that I will do my best to see that these kinds of federal funds are, and will continue to be, committed to programs like this."

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezetti said the project funds were awarded in Hoboken because of the "historical role the city has played in transportation."

"There is a new era and Hoboken is in the forefront. It has become necessary to develop safe and clean solutions to car traffic congestion," he said.

History buffs will show the public 20-year love affair with Hoboken

By Naomi Kenan

It was the stories that first hooked Jim Hans on Hoboken.

Hans and his wife, Beverly, "discovered" Hoboken, as he puts it, back in 1966, one of the early transplanted New Yorkers. They opened an arts, antiques and curios shop. Soon people began dropping by with curios — and stories — of their own.

"People would come in and just talk about how great a place Hoboken was," Hans said.

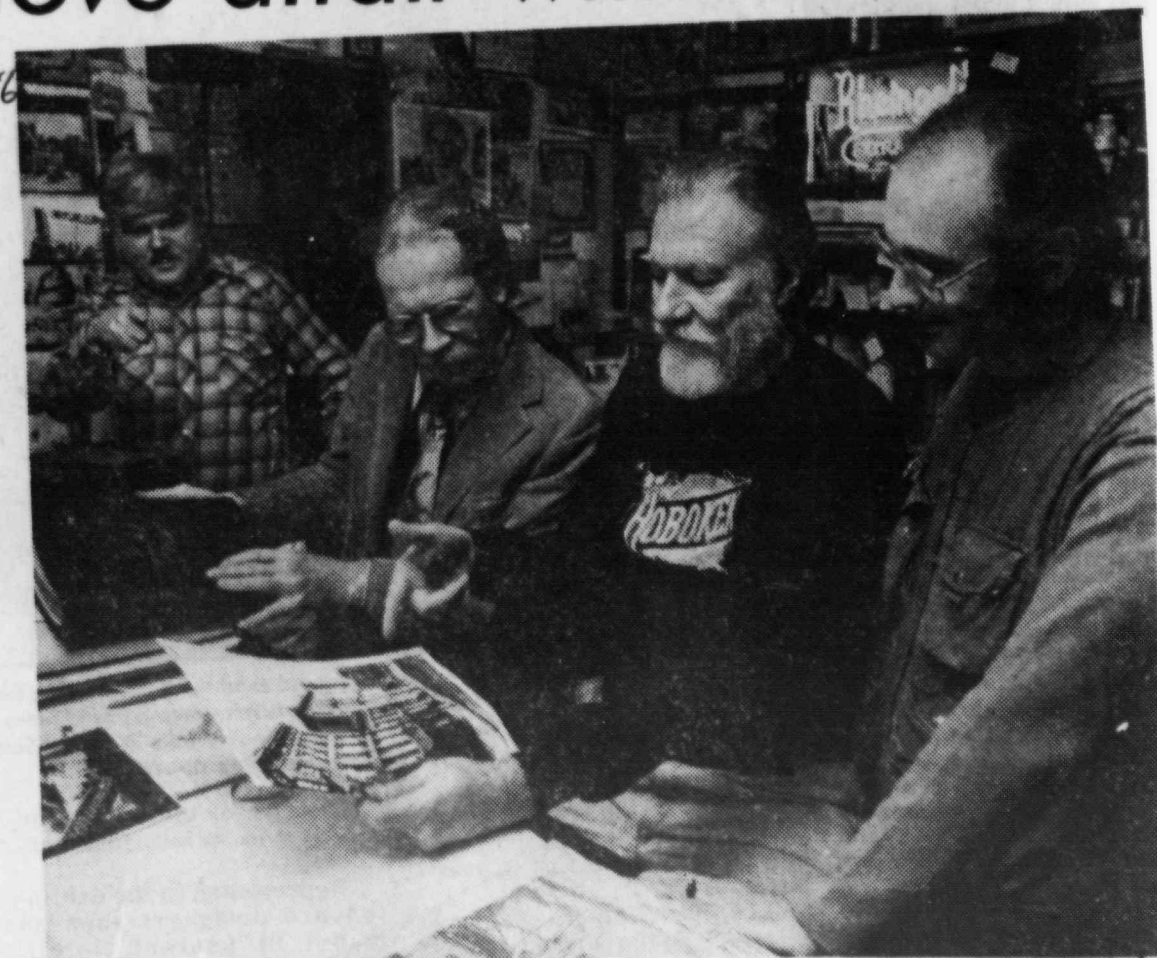
Hans began collecting historical memorabilia from the city — postcards, newspaper prints, pictures and other knickknacks. His interest in the city's history deepened. And although his shop eventually closed, Hans' research had just begun.

On Nov. 7, Hans will display to the public much of what he and other Hoboken history buffs have collected over the years. The exhibit, the first by the recently formed Hoboken Historical Society, will be displayed in Hoboken City Hall.

After an opening reception (4:30-9:30 p.m. Nov. 7), the exhibit will remain on permanent display as the Hoboken Historical Museum, although material will be changed periodically.

Entitled "Hoboken: Changing Scenes," the exhibit will feature early and recent photographs of 30 Hoboken buildings and scenes. The older pictures, many of them hand-colored postcards dating back to the early 1900s, will be displayed alongside recent photographs of the identical scenes.

Among the photographs are early shots of City Hall



Members of the Hoboken Historical Museum select items to display at City Hall. From left are Dennis Darrogh; Marty Andrews, vice president; Jim Hans, president; and Perry Robinson.

before the additions, private homes and the waterfront. The exhibit also will include other artifacts and documents collected by the historical group.

Two special features which will be offered only during the opening reception are a video and slide show. Hoboken filmmaker Nora Jacobson, a member of the historical society, will show a video she made of interviews with longtime Hoboken residents recalling early memories of the city. A slide show of additional historical material also will be shown.

Hans' home on Third Street is a kind of miniature museum itself, set behind his flourishing greenhouse. Above antique file cabinets (made in Hoboken) crammed with historical material are old photographs, an old butcher shop clock, a 1920s type calendar and other assorted knickknacks. On the record player (no compact discs in sight), the music of the 1930s Roy Fox band plays "You Oughta Be in Pictures."

Hans is working on what he said will be the "definitive" history of Hoboken, starting back in 1609. Meanwhile, he has put out a brief

history of the city and hopes the Museum will facilitate additional publications.

The Hoboken Historical Museum will also present new collections periodically, focusing on themes such as the waterfront, a single Hoboken street, the railroad or the Stevens family.

"There is so much about Hoboken that is interesting," Hans said. "It's just one mile square, surrounded by the hills, the highway, the water and the railroad. And it's attracted more than its share of inventors and other creative people." Hoboken is really unique,"

Campaign funds are prime issue in First Ward

By Bill Campbell
and Jim DeRogatis

A Hoboken real estate development firm has contributed nearly a third of the campaign funds raised by First Ward City Council candidate Thomas Newman, who is also an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

According to records filed with the State Election Law Enforcement Commission, developer Joseph Barry, his mother, a business associate, and his firm have contributed \$2,000 of the \$6,205.49 raised by Newman, one of five candidates in Tuesday's special election.

The financial disclosures have caused a flurry of attacks and counterattacks among the candidates, and Barry has become a controversial issue in what had been a relatively quiet campaign.

Joseph Lisa and other

candidates charged that Barry's contributions to Newman could cause a conflict of interest if Newman were to vote on a development proposed by Barry.

Newman and Barry responded to Lisa's charges by attacking Lisa's finances. They said Lisa is trying to "hide" his sources of funding.

Lisa has so far raised the largest amount of funds of any of the candidates, \$7,575. Records show that \$7,000 of that amount came from a series of personal loans from the candidate to his own campaign.

Newman's disclosure records list a \$500 cash contribution by Barry, president of Applied Housing, which owns some 2,000 subsidized housing units in Hoboken. Barry, of Maplewood, is also the president of Applied Development

See CAMPAIGN — Page 15.

Meeting on project excludes the press

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—A member of the City Council aligned with Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti and members of his Waterfront Advisory Commission succeeded in having the press excluded yesterday from a discussion on the Port Authority's planned \$600 million waterfront development.

Vezetti, who vigorously campaigned under the banner of open public meetings, sat silently as members of his commission and Councilwoman Helen A. Cunningham asked that the press be excluded from a council meeting attended by members of the administration, the Community Development Agency and the commission.

The meeting originally had been advertised as closed, but earlier in the week, several council members and administration officials said the

Hoboken waterfront development

press would be allowed to attend. Under New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, certain public meetings, including those dealing with legal negotiations, can be held behind closed doors.

The discussions centered on what most likely will be the single largest development in this city's history. The city and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey are renegotiating the authority's 1982 lease.

The authority wants to develop a project with 2.4 million square feet of office space, between 1,200 and 2,000 dwelling units, 150,000 square feet of retail space, a 380-slip marina and a 400-room hotel on nearly 100 acres along the southern part of the city's waterfront.

Saying that she supports open meetings in theory, Cunningham argued it would be improper to allow the press to attend a meeting that was advertised as closed.

When several WAC members also argued that it would be improper to allow five newsmen and two members of the public already seated to join more than 20 non-council members at the "closed council meeting," one newsman suggested that the meeting should be rescheduled as an open meeting.

Arguing that the time of "some high-priced talents" attending the meeting outweighed the public's right to know the status of the proposed development, WAC member Don Pellicano urged Council President E. Norman Wilson Jr. not to reschedule the meeting but instead to order the press to leave.

Councilman Robert A. Ranieri suggested that the meeting start as a closed meeting and said the council then should pass a resolution inviting the press back into the room.

Ultimately, those who supported holding discussions of the mammoth development in secret prevailed. The press was ordered to leave.

Campaign funds prime issue

Continued from Page 1.

Associates, which has proposed a controversial 500-unit residential development in the First Ward.

Barry's mother and father, Marion and Walter, also of Maplewood, contributed \$500 to Newman. Walter Barry is a partner in Applied Housing and Applied Development.

Joseph Cicala, an employee of Applied Housing and Applied Development, also contributed \$500. In addition, Applied Housing spent \$500 for telephone canvassing for Newman, according to state records.

Asked whether he planned to contribute further to Newman's campaign, Barry said, "If he needs more, I'll give him more. Nobody's asked me yet."

Lisa and Newman are considered the frontrunners in the race. Lisa attacked his chief opponent yesterday for accepting contributions from a developer whose project is pending zoning and legislative approval.

Barry urged the City Council in July to grant him exclusive rights to develop a \$60 million mixed luxury and affordable-housing project, which would be partially built on city-owned land. However, the council is expected to issue a request for proposals for similar projects before granting Barry authorization.

"Whether Newman wins or loses, it seems that Barry can't lose," Lisa said. "If Newman wins the council election, Barry has a councilman in his pocket. But if Newman loses the election, Barry still has a Board of Adjustment member in his pocket."

Newman, however, said there "have been no backroom deals" with Barry. "I assume Joe Barry is supporting me because he is interested in affordable housing and so am I," Newman said.

Barry's project will have to stand up to the competition like anyone else's," he said.

Barry said he supports Newman because he "has a substantial investment" in the ward in the number of existing Applied Housing units. "It has nothing to do with the new project," he said. "That's small potatoes compared to what already exists."

Lisa has criticized Barry for issuing an endorsement of Newman on Applied Housing letterhead and distributing it to his tenants in the federally-

subsidized buildings. But Barry said that "no tenant was intimidated or harassed" and he did not feel it was improper for him to endorse a candidate. He said he worked for and contributed to Frank Lautenberg's 1982 Senate campaign because he supported Lautenberg's stance on subsidies as he supports Newman's stance on affordable housing.

Two of the other candidates echoed Lisa's charges against Newman, however.

Aaron Miranda-Forman said Newman's financial disclosure forms "proved that he's just part of a new political machine."

"Newman represents Joe Barry, the developers, and the administration rather than being an independent voice," he added.

James Giani said that "Tom Newman is playing ball with Joe Barry. There's no reason to believe Newman won't give Barry any development he wants in the First Ward."

"He can't go on fooling people that he's independent. Who's fooling who?"

Robert Meyers said he did not want to comment on any other candidates' funding. Both Barry and Newman in turn attacked Lisa and charged that he did not adequately disclose the source of his personal loans to his campaign.

Barry said he did not believe the \$7,000 came from Lisa's own funds. That's ridiculous," Barry said. "Ask him where does he drop the cash."

Newman said he was "a little suspicious" that Lisa used his own funds. "At least we put down what we got, it's all there," he said. "(Lisa) is hiding where his money is coming from."

Lisa said the \$7,000 was part of a \$12,000 credit union loan which he took out on Sept. 23. He said he will bring documentation of the loan to the First Ward City Council debate scheduled for 7:30 tonight at the Shannon Lounge at First and Bloomfield streets.

"I really hope they ask me where I got that money," Lisa said. "Don't they know that all bank transactions are documented?"

Anytime Mr. Newman and his puppeteer Mr. Barry want to see documentation, that's fine by me. Their charges are just more unsubstantiated garbage coming from the mouths of two

fools trying to jam a housing project down the mouth of the city."

The major expenditures listed in Newman's disclosure forms were for several advertisements in a weekly newspaper published by Barry. Barry denied allegations that Newman was being given free ads.

Other contributions to Newman were: \$100 from attorney Peter Van Schaick, a candidate for city law director; \$250 from John Carrier; \$200 from Diana London, wife of municipal judge Ross London; \$340 from Jane Isenberg; \$101 from Deepak Gandhi; and \$150 from James Vance, a member of a Hoboken merchants' group.

Newman's campaign treasurer, Leonard Smith, con-

tributed \$100 and a non-interest loan of \$400, state records revealed. The candidate's net campaign expenditures as of Oct. 23 were \$6,367.71, according to the state records.

Records showed that the contributions to Lisa were: \$200 from attorney Bernard Kenny, also considered a contender to be named as law director; \$150 from Edwin Duroy, principal of the Connors School; and \$100 from Assistant City Attorney Michael Mongiello.

Lisa's net campaign expenditures have been \$6,466.38, state records showed.

Meyers has raised \$1,825 and spent \$1,673.72, according to state records. The bulk of his contributions — \$1,375 — has

come in contributions of \$100 or less, records showed.

Giani has signed a sworn statement that he will not raise more than \$2,000 in the course of the campaign. Candidates who do not exceed a \$2,000 spending ceiling do not have to file financial disclosure forms.

State law mandates that candidates who raise more than \$2,000 must file disclosure forms 29 days before an election, 11 days before an election, and again after an election.

Miranda-Forman neither filed a sworn statement nor a disclosure form. "I don't know how much we've raised, \$1,000 or \$1,500," he said.

Miranda-Forman said his campaign treasurer was delayed in filing the necessary papers but "mailed them to Trenton a day or two ago."



Joseph Barry
Big Newman backer

6-MONTH COUNCIL TERM

Hoboken debate draws 200

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Close to 200 people gathered in the back room of a downtown bar here to listen to four of the five candidates running for a six-month term on the City Council in the 1st Ward's representative.

They are seeking the time left in the term of Anthony Romano, who resigned, in Tuesday's election.

The debate at Shannon's on Second Street was to focus on development and taxes, but some of the candidates addressed other issues as well. The city is experiencing a building boom as developers convert many of the inner city's run-down tenements into expensive condominiums, and others apply for variances allowing them to build high-rise mixed-use projects along the city's perimeters. This year,

local residents were hit with a 33 percent tax increase.

Robert Meyers, 35, who heads the music program in the city school system, did not attend last night's meeting, but the following candidates did speak:

Thomas Newman, 47, who runs his own furniture repair and restoration business at 200 Garden St., is

See DEBATE, Page 14

P.A. eases its control

Continued from Page 1.

meeting, violating the state's Sunshine Law because public notice was not given.

A vote was taken at the meeting binding those who attended from talking to the press, but several people spoke to The Jersey Journal on the condition that their names not be used.

The Jersey Journal also obtained copies of several status papers distributed by Coleman during the meeting. Critics of the P.A. project have charged that the city will not be able to exercise control over the development because the P.A. is an autonomous agency.

But the P.A. has agreed to grant the city several control powers, including:

• Taking out city permits and submitting to local and state code enforcement.

• Relinquishing its powers of condemnation and eminent domain.

• Committing to build the minimum level of development agreed upon in the final, negotiated lease.

• No change shall be made to public accessways, open spaces, parks, or streets without the city's consent.

• The city shall have the right of consultation as to the selection of developers and any changes in the design guidelines.

According to Coleman's paper, the city will have the right to sue the P.A. if it does not live up to its control obligations.

Sources said the control agreements reached by the city and the P.A. are only tentative, and the city is still pressing for further controls over the agency. Coleman and Wilson would not elaborate on what further controls the city is seeking, and

they could not say when a controls agreement will be forthcoming.

Coleman has said that, when the negotiating team reaches an agreement on controls, they will present it publicly to the council for approval. The team will then work to hammer out an agreement on finances and, finally on the specifics of the development.

The P.A. negotiating team will wait until they have reached agreements on all of the issues before they submit the final restated lease to the P.A. Board of Commissioners for approval, P.A. officials told The Jersey Journal last week.

Although the main thrust of negotiations still concerns controls, sources said the P.A. placed a new financial offer on the table, unsolicited by the city. City officials said the new offer is still unacceptable, but it is a dramatic improvement over the P.A.'s original financial offer to the city.

The P.A. originally offered to pay the city only \$225,000 a year as a token rent. The city would have also received 50 percent of the net profits on the development, but only after the other investors received their share of the profits and the P.A.'s expenses were paid.

Under the P.A.'s new offer, the city would receive:

• A \$2.5 million basic rental payment per year in years 1 through 4.

• 25 percent of net revenues from the project after the P.A. recovers its investment.

The P.A. estimated that the city would receive \$630 million revenue from the project in the next 35 years, but that figure does not take the city's expenses into account.

Sources stressed that the P.A. offer was just "a step in the negotiating process," and the city and the agency will continue to negotiate on the finances. City officials indicated that, "while the offer is a step in the right direction, we plan to ask for a lot more money."

Coleman indicated during the meeting that the negotiating team will also work to change several aspects of the design plan for the project itself, including realigning commercial towers to ensure that the community has uninterrupted sightlines to the Hudson

River and reappportioning the open and recreational spaces.

Coleman said he is working on a housing plan that will incorporate both the P.A.'s proposal for housing units and proposals that will be developed by the city for the vacant Housing Authority lots near the waterfront.

The City Council will also hire Hugh McGuire, a Jersey City real estate appraiser, to appraise the city-owned waterfront land at its current market value. Wilson said the negotiators will ask the P.A. for payments for the land based on its new appraised value.

The council briefly discussed a resolution that is being proposed by Councilman Patrick Pasculli to ask the P.A. to void the 1982 lease. Under the terms of the lease, the P.A. retains control over Hoboken's piers until 2010, but only for the purposes of operating a marine terminal.

The negotiating team and attorneys from Sills, Beck, the firm that represents the city in the P.A. negotiations, argued that the P.A. has, in effect, voided the '82 lease by negotiating. The resolution is still scheduled for a vote at Wednesday's council meeting and several council members indicated that they still support the move.

Sills, Beck also said during the meeting that they will investigate charges by the Waterfront Advisory Committee that the P.A. owes Hoboken \$7.5 million in insurance funds collected after a fire destroyed Pier B in 1980.

Wilson said the revelation about the money owed to Hoboken has caused the negotiating team "to change its tactics slightly."

"The city is getting a little bit more cynical about the P.A.," he said.

DEBATE

Continued from Page 1

running under the "Independent Reform" slogan.

Joseph Lisa, 30, a certified public accountant and former internal budget auditor for the city council, runs under the "Vote Fiscal Responsibility" slogan.

Aaron Miranda-Forman says he works for his father, but declines to say exactly what he does for him. "Service with compassion" is Miranda-Forman's slogan.

James Giani, 55, is a retired city firefighter who served on the city's Board of Education for two years. He is using "Proven Service" as his slogan.

Most political insiders here see the five-man race for the 1st Ward council seat as a race between Lisa and Newman. Although all the candidates declare themselves to be independents who will vote their own conscience, Newman has been supported actively by Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti while former Mayor Steve Cappiello, who is now a councilman, is supporting Lisa.

Both Lisa and Newman concede the support they have received from the two political leaders. But both men say they welcome any endorsements they receive and do not feel obligated to return any favors.

Newman sees himself as a reform candidate fighting the "old guard." The political old guard is in the real estate business," he said Wednesday.

But published reports recently have revealed that nearly one-third of Newman's campaign contributions have come from people associated with Applied Housing, probably the largest single landlord in Hoboken.

"Planning is the key," Newman said as he hammered away at his theme that the city needs a comprehensive and strictly enforced zoning ordinance.

Newman said the city already has some of the protective zoning ordinances it needs, but he said, "Unfortunately, it is being given away by the zoning board."

Lisa said he wants to see low-rise development with a maximum building height of four stories, and he said he is opposed to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey's planned waterfront development.

He said low-rise development built on the approximately 100 acres of city-owned land currently under authority control could produce \$400 million in rates and add \$100 million annually to the tax rolls. Hoboken currently collects between \$20 million and \$22 million in real estate taxes annually, Lisa said.

Earlier in the day, Lisa said he wants to see the Vezetti administration sell city-owned land. He said the sales agreements should call for the buyer to pay for the land on an installment plan spread over several years. As the payments ran out, the newly developed rates would be coming onto the tax rolls, he said.

In this way, Lisa contends, the city will solve both its short-term long-term tax problems.

"The issues are waterfront, sewage and parking," Miranda-Forman said last night. He said he would work to seek out federal and state money to rebuild the city's antiquated sewer system, and he argued that some of the city's streets should be changed from no parking zones to allow parking.

Giani did not offer any specific proposals, but said he also sees limited parking, uncontrolled development and high taxes as the city's major problems. He also said he would work to bring the mayor and divergent groups within the council together.

86 ELECTION 10/3/86 Newman defends donations

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken First Ward City Council candidate Thomas Newman said last night he did not accept campaign contributions from real estate developer Joseph Barry in exchange for support for Barry's proposed Observer Highway project.

Newman, speaking at a candidates' forum, said he believed Barry contributed to his campaign "because I have a record of doing and supporting affordable housing projects."

See editorial:
SPECIAL CHOICES
on Page 20.

Barry, president of Applied Housing Associates which owns about 2,000 subsidized housing units in Hoboken, his mother, a business associate, and his firm have contributed \$2,000 of the \$6,205 raised by the Newman campaign, according to state election records.

Barry, who is also president of Applied Development Associates, has proposed a controversial 500 unit mixed luxury and affordable housing project.

See NEWMAN — Page 8.



First Ward City Council candidate Joseph Lisa, standing, addresses the forum. Flanking him, from left are candidates James Giani, Aaron Miranda Forman and Thomas Newman.

Newman defends donations

Continued from Page 1.

ury and affordable-housing project on Observer Highway in the First Ward.

Joseph Lisa, Newman's chief opponent, has charged that the contributions mean that Barry has Newman, who is also an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, "in his pocket."

Newman said last night the contributions would not alter his opinion of the Barry project, and questioned if the other candidates would have "turned down" the financial support.

In July, Barry asked the City Council for the right to develop the \$60 million project, to be built partially on city-owned land. The council is expected to solicit bids for similar projects before considering Barry's request.

Lisa said he is opposed to the proposed development because Barry has priced certain "affordable" units at between \$600 and \$700 per month. "We are letting developers get away with charging luxury rents for affordable units. This is a joke."

Council candidates Lisa, Newman, James Giani and Aaron Miranda Forman

attended the forum, which was co-sponsored by the Hoboken Environment Committee and the Hoboken Neighborhood Alliance. Robert Meyers, another candidate, said he had a previous engagement.

About 100 people attended the forum, held in the Shannon Lounge on First Street.

Newman, a former president of the First Ward Block Association who owns a cabinet-making shop near his home, said the city must develop a planning policy to regulate development.

Newman said the city should postpone judgement on the proposed \$500 million Port Authority waterfront development and other projects on Observer Highway "until we can answer the question of how many people we want living here."

Lisa, a certified public accountant who once served as budget auditor for the City Council, said he opposed the Port Authority project and advocated low-rise development on the waterfront.

He said the waterfront plan could generate \$400 million in

rates and cut the tax rate by \$10 million. "That would mean cutting the tax rate in half," he said.

He said he could lower taxes by "offering sound financial planning at the council table" and by requiring the mayor and business administrator to present municipal budgets in November instead of the following February.

Miranda Forman, who is employed by his father, said he will not support "any project that will benefit a select few."

"I'm not being supported by the present or past administrations. I have no obligation or debt to pay anyone and I have not received endorsements from developers," he said.

Giani, a retired homeowner who served 25 years with the city's Fire Department and two years on the Board of Education, said the city should seek other developers for its waterfront project.

"The waterfront sells itself. Competition is the spice of life and we should have equalization for everyone, not just one or two developers," he said.

Court rebuffs Mayo Lynch

By Bill Campbell
11/3/86

An appellate judge has denied a request by Hoboken engineers Mayo Lynch & Associates to appeal a court decision deeming the firm's sewage design engineering contract with the city "invalid."

Judge Lawrence Bilder ruled last Friday that the Appellate Division has no jurisdiction to grant a stay and ordered Mayo Lynch to discuss the motion for appeal with Superior Court Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys.

Hoboken Mayor Thomas

Vezzetti, a defendant in the case, said the ruling "was another nail in the coffin of Mayo Lynch."

Vezzetti was sued by the firm because he refused to authorize a \$296,000 payment to Mayo Lynch, which is designing a proposed secondary sewage plant for Hoboken.

Marc Arnold, the Mayo Lynch attorney, said he will discuss the appeal with Humphreys, the judge who ruled the contract was invalid, on Wednesday.

"We must wait until later this week to see what route we

will take," Arnold said. Humphreys, in a 27-page ruling issued Oct. 24, commended Vezzetti for refusing to authorize payment to Mayo Lynch and said the firm's \$2 million engineering contract was "invalid." He said the city did not give proper public notice prior to awarding the contract in March of 1985.

Vezzetti refused to sign the payment last July, contending that the contract was invalid, that there was insufficient documentation for the bill, and

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Court rebuffs Mayo Lynch

Continued from Page 1.

that the firm provided inadequate service.

Humphreys has ordered representatives of the city and Mayo Lynch to appear before him Wednesday and ordered the engineering firm to produce fully itemized bills and hourly charges to the city. He also ordered that the firm produce records of all campaign contributions made to Hoboken political candidates since January of 1985.

Humphreys said the City Council must conduct a hearing to determine whether the firm should be retained by the city.

Arnold has said the city, not Lynch, was at fault for not publishing public notice of the contract. The contract was awarded without public bidding and a legal notice of the document did not describe the services or their duration and included a cost figure of \$42,300.

The city must upgrade its primary sewage plant to a secondary level by July of 1988. The project is expected to cost \$60 million.

Hoboken eyes turned to race in First Ward

By Jim DeRogatis
11/4/86

Hudson County voters will choose a congressman, sheriff and register today, but most of the attention in Hoboken will be focused on the special election for the First Ward City Council seat.

Polls are open until 8 p.m. Voters in the First Ward will choose from among five candidates vying to fill the seat vacated by four-term Councilman Anthony Romano. Romano resigned in March when it was revealed that he no longer lived in the ward.

The candidates, by ballot position, are Thomas Newman, C-11; Robert Meyers, C-12; Aaron Miranda-Forman, C-13; James "Gigi" Giani, C-14; and Joseph Lisa, C-15. Newman and Lisa are considered the frontrunners in the race.

Newman, 47, owns a cabinet-making and furniture-restoring shop near his home on Garden Street. He is an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, where he

has been a vocal opponent of uncontrolled development, and served as president of the First Ward Block Association for 10 years.

Lisa, 30, is a certified public accountant and a partner in the Hoboken accounting firm of Gerald Lisa & Company. He has served as municipal budget auditor for the City Council and recently resigned as auditor for the Hoboken schools system.

Development and taxes have been the two most important issues in the campaign. Many voters have complained about Hoboken's skyrocketing tax rate, and the First Ward is the proposed location of several large developments, including much of the Port Authority's proposed waterfront project.

Newman has stressed the importance of carefully considering Hoboken's needs when deciding upon development. He has said he is the best candidate to deal with the development issues facing the

See FIVE — Page 7.

Five candidates vie for Romano's seat

Continued from Page 1.

First Ward because of his experience in the Block Association and on the Zoning Board.

Lisa has similarly cited his experience as a CPA and stated that he will bring "fiscal responsibility" to the City Council. He said he will work to lower the tax rate and demand careful scrutiny of the city budget.

Newman has advocated caution when considering the Port Authority's \$600 million waterfront development, while Lisa has adamantly opposed the project and the P.A. as a developer.

The campaign was quiet by Hoboken standards until last week, when a controversy erupted over campaign financing, causing a flurry of attacks

and counterattacks between Newman and Lisa and their supporters.

Lisa attacked Newman after it was revealed that Newman had accepted \$2,000 in contributions from Hoboken real estate developer Joseph Barry and Barry's parents, a business associate, and firm.

Barry is the president of Applied Housing, which maintains some 2,000 subsidized rental units in Hoboken. He is also the principle of Applied Development, which has proposed a massive, \$60 million First Ward.

"Whether Newman wins or loses, it seems that Barry can't lose," Lisa charged. "If Newman wins the council election, Barry has a councilman in his

pocket. But if Newman loses the election, Barry still has a Board of Adjustment member in his pocket."

Newman, however, denied that accepting contributions from Barry would impair his objectivity. "Barry's project will have to stand up to the competition like anybody else's," he said.

Newman in turn attacked Lisa's funding. Lisa has raised \$7,575, of which \$7,000 has come as a personal loan from the candidate to his campaign.

"At least we put down what we got," Newman said. "(Lisa) is hiding where his money is coming from."

Political observers believe the connection to Barry has cost Newman votes, but Mayor Thomas Vezzetti yesterday predicted that Newman will win by a 2-to-1 margin. Vezzetti has strongly supported Newman in the race.

The election can be considered a near-midterm referendum on the Vezzetti administration. A Newman victory could solidify the mayor's "fragile majority" on the City Council, while a win by Lisa or one of the other candidates could rekindle the hopes of the forces working to recall Vezzetti.

Lisa and the other candidates have stressed that they are running as independents.

Graves tapped by Vezzetti as Hoboken law director

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer
11/4/86

HOBOKEN—Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti yesterday nominated William E. Graves of South Orange to succeed former city Law Director Salvatore D'Amelio, who the mayor fired on Oct. 3 and who left office Oct. 23.

Graves first came into contact with Vezzetti during the summer,

when the attorney wrote a position paper for the mayor. The paper argued that D'Amelio had violated legal regulations and professional conflict-of-interest ethics when he issued an opinion stating that several Vezzetti appointments to the Board of Adjustment were illegal.

At that time, a development group, with whom D'Amelio had

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TODAY'S BALLOT

Hoboken slates vote on fluoridation

HOBOKEN—A non-binding referendum asking city voters if they want fluoride added to their water will be on the ballot today, but few voters seem to care.

On May 7, the City Council unanimously passed a resolution calling for today's ballot to include the question, "Should the Water Supply System of Hoboken be Fluoridated?"

Today's voter response is non-binding because the city buys its water from Jersey City and cannot order it fluoridated, said Councilman Robert A. Ranieri, sponsor of the resolution calling for the referendum. But Ranieri said he hopes the wishes of local residents will be considered when Jersey City decides whether to fluoridate the water supply.

For nearly 30 years, the question of fluoridating water has produced a storm of controversy. During the 1950s, the process was associated with communism by some of its critics. Some feared the water additive would slowly poison and weaken Americans. Others opposed it on the grounds that it was a form of socialized medicine, and they argued that it should be left to the individual household to decide whether to add fluoride to its water.

Fluoride never has been shown to have any negative medical effects, Ranieri said. It is credited with retarding tooth decay and is considered especially important to children, whose teeth are developing, and to senior citizens, whose dental work is often rapidly decaying.

An informal phone survey of residents here revealed that most voters were not aware that the fluoridation question is on the ballot. One resident said he will vote in favor of fluoridation, but he believed it will mean the city will be cleaning the water rather than adding fluoride to it.

A Bloomfield Avenue senior citizen said she opposes fluoridation because she does not feel it would aid someone her age. "I honestly don't think it would do that much good, especially with you know, is terrible," she added.

GRAVES

Continued from Page 1
been a partner, was presenting the board with an application for a high-rise development, Presidential Towers. Furthermore, D'Amelio's father owned much of the land. Presidential Towers is to be built on.

D'Amelio's opinion overturning Vezzetti's appointments helped the project win approval and so raise the value of the law director's father's land, Graves and Vezzetti argued. D'Amelio has denied any conflict of interest existed, and repeatedly stated he acted only with the city's interest in mind.

Although he is being hired for his legal talents, Graves first — and perhaps one of his most unpleasant duties — will come as the city's director of public safety. Under an ordinance enacted during the summer, the Division of Public Safety is supervised by the law director.

On Oct. 6, D'Amelio promoted six

officers against the wishes of both the mayor and Chief of Police George Crimmins. Under Civil Service regulations, if the new law director does not rescind the promotions by Nov. 20, the six officers will be guaranteed those promotions at some later date. With additional demotions possible next year, the administration wants to minimize the number of officers with guaranteed promotions in so as to leave promotion opportunities for lower-ranking officers and, therefore, to raise morale.

He is a graduate of both Rutgers University's School of Arts and Sciences and its Law School. Graves' legal career has spanned 20 years and most forms of public service law.

For the past 14 years, in addition to being a partner in the Irvington based Pettit-Clair and Graves law firm, Graves has served as a public defender in Essex County. While he

has handled all types of criminal cases at both the trial and appeal levels, he has specialized in defending accused murderers. Most recently, he successfully argued the death sentence appeals of three convicted murderers.

In 1970 and 1971, Graves was an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Newark. Here he reviewed contracts, handled administrative hearings, defended the city in lawsuits and prosecuted criminal case defendants. Prior to going to work for Newark, Graves spent two years representing indigent people in civil court, one year as a law clerk for Justice Melvin P. Antell of the Appellate Division of state Superior Court.

Vezzetti said that one considera-

tion had been that Graves has not spent time in this city and is not politically connected with any interest group here. "Bill and I are philosophically in the same vein," Vezzetti added.

Graves is expected to meet with City Council members later this week or next week. The council must approve the mayor's nomination. Only two council members, Helen A. Cunningham and Joseph Della Fave, have already met with him, Graves said.

Della Fave said he believes there are two primary selection criteria: "professionalism and honesty."

Della Fave added, "having as little to do with the politics as possible, that is the icing on the cake."

Resurrected Ragamuffin Parade thrills city



A group of youths dressed as clowns join the crowd in Hoboken's Church Square Park as they await judging of the parade costumes.



Little Eric Anderson astride his wheeled horse keeps pace with the Ragamuffin Parade.



Five-year-old Steve Bruno makes a cute little devil.



Showing off her favorite hearts in the Ragamuffin Parade is Dianna Tarabocchia with her daughters Jaclyn, 2, and Jennifer, 7.

Photos by Steve Golecki

By Jim DeRogatis

There were a pair of dice, a bunch of grapes, and a giant slice of pizza. Gummy was there, and so was Charlie Chaplin. Godzilla, the shark from "Jaws." President Ronald Reagan, and Mayor Thomas Vezetti.

Not to mention several dozen vampires, witches, and Ninja warriors.

More than 1,500 costumed children and their parents marched down Washington Street in Hoboken yesterday during the city's Ragamuffin Parade in one of the largest crowds the parade has ever witnessed.

A Hoboken tradition for decades, the Ragamuffin Parade had been discontinued in recent years because of apathy. It was nearly canceled this year because no local groups came forward to run the event, but an eleven-hour effort by Angelo Valente saved the day.

Valente, a former city councilman, called the parade "a Hoboken institution." One of his campaign promises in an unsuccessful bid for a council seat last year had been to restore the parade to its former glory.

Valente, now an aide to Gov. Thomas Kean, said he was disturbed last week to learn that the parade might not go on, and he mobilized the last-minute campaign with local parents, educators, merchants, and politicians.

The marchers assembled at 14th and Washington streets at 4 p.m. and made their way slowly down Hoboken's main thoroughfare as onlookers braved the chilly weather and cheered them on. Several floats sponsored by the Hoboken Community Development Agency carried local musicians who played snappy, ragtime tunes, while

the Hoboken High School band led the way.

Santa Claus rode atop a Hoboken fire engine. Another float carried City Clerk James Farina, president of the Hoboken Young Democrats, dressed as President Ronald Reagan.

Several real-life Republicans also marched: congressional candidate Albio Sires and Assemblyman Ronald Dario.

Mayor Thomas Vezetti, adorned in one of his trademark red plaid jackets, a straw hat and a red tie, marched, but he joked that he did not have to be in costume.

"I'm always in costume," he said. "I'm an original."

Two marchers came dressed as the mayor, although their outfits were conservative in comparison to Vezetti's own.

The marchers turned off Washington Street at Fourth Street and filed into Church Square Park. Winners were called to the bandstand, although Valente stressed that "everyone was a winner," and city workers gave away several thousand pumpkins to all of the parade participants.

The Connors School received an award for the most original marchers, and four children were singled out for the best individual costumes.

Bicycles were given to each of the four top winners: John Croonan, 10, who dressed as Gummy; Dominique Lisa, 11, who came as Charlie Chaplin; Anthony Busanic, 5, who dressed as Godzilla, and Melissa Santiago, 3, who wore a Raggedy Anne outfit. Prizes were also awarded to 75 other marchers.

"This was a wonderful event," Valente said. "It goes to show you what a group of people can do when they come together and work for a common goal for Hoboken."

FIRST WARD COUNCIL RACE

Vote for Lisa in Hoboken

Politicians, as a breed, are not the independent kind. Look closely at your average politician, and you'll see his master, be it a special interest group, a political action committee or another politician. Even so, voters appreciate at least the semblance of integrity and a predisposition towards serving the public interest.

In the First Ward council election in Hoboken, one candidate, Thomas Newman, has not even given voters the illusion of independence. Campaign finance reports have shown that close to \$2,000 has been contributed to his campaign by Joseph Barry, family members or business associates. Barry is not just a civic-minded citizen with deep pockets. He owns the local weekly newspaper, plus about 2,000 subsidized apartments. He also has plans for a major development in — you guessed it — the First Ward.

At best, Newman's decision to take contributions from Barry and his relatives was a royal-sized political blunder by a newcomer to elective politics. At worst, it is the cynical mixture of public office and private greed that has soiled Hudson County governments with scandal. Either way, it should make one choice clear to the voters in the First Ward: Don't vote for Newman.

After that decision, a haze of indecision descends over the ballot, but Joseph Lisa seems to be the best candidate. He is a certified public accountant, he has some interesting ideas about selling city-owned property and he says the appropriate, if expected, things about controlling development in Hoboken. Lisa is on the anti-Mayor Thomas Vezetti side of city politics. Perhaps the best that can be said about that aspect of his candidacy is that it is a mixed blessing.

Aaron Miranda-Forman is one of the two other candidates. Miranda-Forman made his mark in the election by challenging the other candidates to take drug tests. It was a cheap campaign gimmick, and evidence that Miranda-Forman is not a candidate to be taken seriously. The fourth candidate, Joseph Meyers, a school music program administrator, is active in Hoboken cultural life, but he does not have the necessary background in the city government or politics.

Woman minister's baby makes Hoboken history

By Mary Fitzgibbons

On Sunday, The Rev. Barbara Cathey became the first minister in the 125-year history of Hoboken's First Presbyterian Church to have a baby. Cathey is the church's first woman minister.

Cathey started experiencing labor pains just before she was scheduled to preach at 11 a.m. "Laura Elizabeth could have been born right during the sermon," laughs the 34-year-old first-time mother.

Cathey was scheduled to preach on the resurrection of Christ but instead she and husband, Robert, also an ordained minister, were making their way to Christ Hospital in Jersey City and practicing the breathing exercises they'd learned in natural childbirth classes.

Reaction by parishioners has been "terrific," says Cathey.

"I've been getting calls, cards and visits from so many people. It's just wonderful," she says. None is happier than church elder Nick Padin, who said, "I never thought I'd live to see anything like this happen at the church."

He called it a "godsend." Many in her ministry had begun to worry about Cathey lately, she says, especially when her robes had become so tight "that there could be no question that I was pregnant," she says.

The busy minister, a co-founder of the Hoboken Clergy Coalition and a member of the community's Campaign for Housing Justice, says she doesn't plan to slacken her pace just because she's a mother.

She's even thinking of performing a wedding she had scheduled for Saturday. "I



The Rev. Barbara Cathey, minister of Hoboken's First Presbyterian Church, couldn't give her sermon Sunday because she was giving birth to a baby girl.

want to read the vows because, after all, I was scheduled to do the service before the baby came two weeks early."

As for their 7-pound 8-ounce daughter, who was named after the song "Laura," which both parents enjoy, and Elizabeth because the name is on both sides of the family, there are big plans.

"I haven't decided on Harvard, Princeton or Yale, but I

think she should go to one of them," says Barbara Cathey, a Jersey Journal Woman of Achievement. "And it would be nice if she were to become a lawyer."

And as the new mother stares down at her child, she muses that one piece of poetry she heard long ago fits her situation perfectly.

"It was that Sunday's child is full of grace," she begins while her smile finishes the rest of the thought.

Newman sworn into office

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Gathered before a crowd of about 50 supporters, Thomas Newman yesterday took the oath of office to become Hoboken's newest councilman.

One week ago Newman won the 1st Ward seat by capturing 721 votes, or 40.5 percent of the 1st Ward's turnout. The election was seen as a victory for the administration of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti. Vezetti had supported Newman over Joseph Lisa, who, with the backing of former Mayor Steve Cappelletto, received 34 percent

of the vote, or 61.3 ballots.

As he waited for the brief ceremony to begin yesterday, Vezetti could barely contain himself.

"I've lived here all my life and I never thought good government would come to Hoboken. At last good government is coming to Hoboken. It's the first time the First Ward has a representative in all these years. We are now bringing to Hoboken the Abe Lincoln of Hoboken," Vezetti said over and over again.

After being sworn in, Newman gave a short thank-you speech and then briefly reiterated his principal

goals as councilman. Repeating his primary campaign theme Newman told the crowd the city government must get control of "a runaway speculators' market that has really served those speculators."

"We have over produced shoebox condominiums," the former Board of Adjustment member continued. Newman repeatedly has stated the city needs a well-researched as well as strictly defined and enforced zoning ordinance. He contends the threat of overdevelopment and the shortage of affordable housing are the city's most pressing problems and can best be controlled through such a zoning ordinance.

Decisive win for Newman

By Bill Campbell

Thomas Newman, a cabinetmaker turned politician, scored a resounding victory over four opponents last night as he won a special election to fill the vacant First Ward City Council seat.

With approximately 41 percent of the vote, Newman defeated challengers Joseph Lisa, Aaron Miranda-Forman, Bob Meyers and James Giani by winning three of the four districts in the ward.

Newman, who was supported by Mayor Thomas Vezetti, will serve six months in the seat vacated in March by four-term Councilman Anthony Romano. Romano resigned after it was revealed that he no longer lived in the ward.

"We went up against all the old machine could put

together," Newman said to about 200 supporters during his victory speech at the Shannon Lounge on First Street. "We won this election with a new machine; it's called a computer."

The official tallies, were: Newman 721; Lisa 613; Miranda-Forman 208; Meyers 174 and Giani, 63.

Newman claimed his victory at 8:10 p.m., ten minutes after the polls closed. He told his supporters that the results indicated "a clear victory for the reform movement."

"We started out as a band of volunteers and immature politicians who were naive and 'nicey-nicey.' We went head-to-head with the old machine and won," he said.

Earlier in the week, Vezetti predicted Newman would win by a plurality of 2-to-1; de-

spite reports from political observers that the campaign had lost momentum after it was reported that real estate developer Joseph Barry had contributed nearly two-thirds of the funds raised by Newman.

Newman's opponents criticized the candidate for accepting contributions from Barry, who has proposed a massive development in the ward. "I don't think it was a major factor," Newman said while shaking supporters' hands. "It was obvious because we won."

Vezetti, who was informed of the election results in the mayor's office, said the results represented "one of the five key victories of my term."

He said the others included his mayoral election; victories of administration-backed board of education candidates; the removal of Salvatore

Water fluoridation passage is academic

By TOM GISSEN
Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—The city's 20,225 registered voters were asked to voice their opinion as to whether they want the city's water fluoridated, but few responded.

While the issue ultimately was passed, a low voter response deemed the decision less than a mandate. Of the 6,320 Hoboken voters who turned out last night, 2,053 said they wanted their water fluoridated, 982 opposed fluoridation and 3,285 chose not to vote on the issue.

Of Hoboken's six wards, the First Ward, where the city's only available council seat was up for grabs,

cast a disproportionately high percentage of the city's votes. First Ward voters cast 1,780 ballots, or 28 percent of all votes cast in Hoboken last night.

Unlike the questions of who would fill Hoboken's 1st Ward City Council seat and that for the 14th Congressional District, the fluoridation question may prove to be academic. Hoboken buys its water from Jersey City where the fluoridation issue has proved too hot to handle.

While Jersey City was considering adding fluoride to its water supply system, the issue has been tabled. Political insiders credit opposition from a powerful Jersey City senior citizen constituency for fluoridation's demise there and therefore, ultimately, here as well.

See DECISIVE — Page 21

Decisive win for Newman

Continued from Page 1.

Highway until "truly affordable" housing is provided.

Miranda-Forman told about 50 supporters at his Bloomfield Street home that "I shall return." He said he would launch his next bid for the First Ward seat today.

"We will do much better the next time. There was a lot of confusion in the streets and many people were turned away," he said.

He said his loss was a result of "crazy spending" by the other candidates.

Meyers, in his first bid for elective office, said the campaign was "a great experience," but added "I will need more time to consider another campaign."

"For my first shot in politics, I was very surprised," said Meyers, who attended the Newman party. "We had a group of young supporters and little money and a philosophy that we should enjoy the campaign and be able to laugh."

Giani, who ran a low-key campaign, returned home after the polls closed, saying he wanted to hear the results with

his family. He said he may possibly run for the seat again next May.

Newman, who must now resign his position as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, said he will function on the council "as a bridge between the various factions."

"I am a fresh new face and I don't want to come in with any prejudices. The city needs action to prepare for the future. We must set aside squabbling. People are fed up with politics as usual," he said.

Irvington attorney gets Hoboken law director position

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti yesterday appointed Irvington attorney William Graves as city law director. Graves, who succeeds Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., is the third attorney appointed to the post by Vezzetti in the last 16 months.

The appointment, which is pending City Council approval, was announced exactly a month after Vezzetti fired the embattled D'Amelio. Vezzetti said that Graves was "one of a dozen candidates" considered for the top law and public safety post.

Graves, Vezzetti's personal attorney and a partner in the law firm Petit-Clair & Graves, was selected by the administration "because he's non-political and philosophically compatible with me," Vezzetti said.

Graves, 47, also serves as an Essex County assistant deputy public defender.

"Bill Graves has a very balanced background and I like him very much. Both are equally important," Vezzetti said.

Many City Hall observers said they were surprised by the appointment of Graves, an outsider to Hoboken politics. Vezzetti said Graves' lack of involvement in municipal affairs "makes him the perfect person for the job."

"He's astute, intelligent and most importantly he's non-political. That's what I need because I've had enough trouble with my Law Department," Vezzetti said.

Vezzetti's previous two corporation counsels, Fred Woeckener and D'Amelio, broke from the administration shortly after

See ESSEX — Page 7.

Essex man gets law director job

Continued from Page 1.

their appointments. Woeckener, Vezzetti's first city appointee as mayor in July of 1985, split from the administration nearly two months later and resigned in December. D'Amelio, Woeckener's

handpicked successor, was appointed Law Director last January, but fought openly with Vezzetti over zoning and public safety policy. Ironically, Vezzetti personally hired Graves last June when the mayor first

attempted to oust D'Amelio over a zoning dispute.

Graves wrote that D'Amelio's actions in rejecting zoning board appointments "were riddled with conflicts and a failure to represent the public interest," but the council voted to overturn the dismissal.

Graves yesterday said he accepted the Hoboken law position because of the "problems and challenges" the city faces. "Development pressures are a problem for the city no matter how the law director is. There is a lot of pressure of this town to balance the quality of life and rate of development," he said.

Graves, a 1966 graduate of Rutgers Law School and a former Newark assistant corporation counsel, said he did not believe his anonymity would affect the council's decision to ratify the appointment. "I do not believe local politics will be a problem. I like to look at myself as a professional," he said.

Mayoral assistant Laurie

Fabiano said the council will vote on the appointment during a special session next week "to give everyone a chance to meet Bill Graves."

Vezzetti said Graves' first responsibility would be to "re-evaluate and reorganize" the department. Graves said he has yet to meet the assistant city attorneys, most of whom were appointed by Woeckener.

Judge reaffirms Hoboken can hold the Mayo

By Jim DeRogatis

Hudson County's top judge stood firm yesterday on his ruling that Hoboken's sewage design contract with the controversial engineering firm of Mayo Lynch & Associates is invalid.

Superior Court Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys dismissed a motion by Mayo Lynch attorney Marc Arnold to reconsider the case. The judge also denied a motion for a stay on his ruling.

Humphreys ruled on Oct. 24 that Mayo Lynch's \$2 million engineering contract with Hoboken is "invalid" because the city did not give proper public notice prior to awarding the contract in March, 1985. The judge said the contract "cannot be upheld and payments thereunder cannot be made."

The ruling upheld Mayor Thomas Vezzetti's refusal to release more than \$296,000 in payments to Mayo Lynch that had been authorized by the City Council.

Vezzetti has been a harsh critic of Mayo Lynch and its work on designing the city's secondary sewage treatment plant. The city must upgrade its

sewage treatment by July 1, 1988 or face stiff state and federal penalties.

Vezzetti said he refused to pay the \$296,000 because the project had been bypassed for state and federal grants for fiscal 1986. The state Department of Environmental Protection, in denying the \$20 million in grant funding, said the design plans by Mayo Lynch "were neither biddable nor constructable."

Joseph Lynch, president of the Hoboken-based engineering firm, sued Vezzetti for payment of the bill. But the suit led to Judge Humphreys' Oct. 24 ruling.

Humphreys has also demanded that the firm turn over records of political contributions and itemized hourly charges for design work on the project to the court and the City Council by Nov. 19.

Humphreys presented the attorneys with written copies of his Oct. 24 decision yesterday. The judge had excluded his demand for records of political contributions, but at the request of David White, who is

See MAYO — Page 13.

Losers won't be quitters

By Jim DeRogatis

It sometimes seems as if Hobokenites never get their fill of politics.

As Thomas Newman and his supporters celebrated their victory last night at a raucous party at the Shannon Lounge on First Street, three of the four other candidates in the race for the First Ward City Council seat began plotting their political revenge.

Newman captured 40 percent of the vote to win the special election. He will serve until May, completing the fourth

term of Councilman Anthony Romano, who resigned in March after it was revealed that he no longer lived in the ward.

But Joseph Lisa, Aaron Miranda-Forman, and James "Gigi" Giani said they will run for the council seat again in May. And Robert Meyers, the fifth candidate in the race, said he is also considering another run.

Many political observers thought the number of candidates in the race helped Newman, who was supported by Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and his organization, because the other

candidates split the anti-administration vote.

Newman finished with 721 votes. The other totals were: Lisa, 613 votes; Miranda-Forman, 208 votes; Meyers, 174 votes; and Giani, 63 votes.

Newman forces were claiming a victory just 10 minutes after the polls closed at 8 p.m. An excited crowd of supporters filled the sidewalk in front of the Shannon Lounge, just across First Street from City Hall.

About 100 people filled the first floor lobby in City Hall.

See LOSERS — Page 21.

Newman gets Hoboken seat

By TOM GISSEN

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—In what is seen as victory for the Vezzetti administration, Thomas Newman yesterday captured the 1st Ward City Council seat with 721 votes, or 40.5 percent of the ballots cast.

Although Newman, 47, a cabinet maker, has described himself as independent, he ran with the full support of Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti for the six months left in the term of Anthony Romano, who resigned.

In his office and in the corridors of City Hall, Vezzetti had told constituents to vote for Newman, saying he needed the community activist on the council. Vezzetti supporters had feared a win by opponent Joseph Lisa, 30, would mark the beginning of a comeback by former Mayor Steve Cappelletto. Lisa is a certified public accountant and a former council budget auditor.

With 613 votes, Lisa received 34 percent of the ballots.

Of the five candidates seeking the 1st Ward seat, Newman and Lisa were considered the front runners with three political long shots also contending.

□ Aaron Miranda-Forman, 23, who works for his father, collected 208 votes, or 12 percent.

□ Robert Meyers, 35, who heads the city's school music program received 174 votes, or 10 percent.

□ James Giani, a 55-year-old retired firefighter, got 64 votes, to capture 4 percent of the voting electorate.

The race has been important particularly to the present administration, which has had only two firm supporters on the council. This year, there have been three vehemently anti-Vezzetti council members, two ardent supporters of the mayor and two "swing voters," who more often than not have voted against the mayor's positions.

It was believed Newman held a slight edge over Lisa before the polls opened yesterday. But that position was shaken last week when published reports about Newman's campaign funding seemed to tarnish his self-proclaimed image as an independent. Newman's financial

disclosure form revealed that individuals associated with Joseph Barry and the Applied Housing development company had contributed almost one-third of the more than \$6,000 in campaign contributions Newman received.

Because Newman sits on the Board of Adjustment and also will vote on the new city zoning ordinance, some questioned the propriety of his accepting contributions from a developer whose financial opportunities could be greatly affected by the outcome of council and zoning board decisions.

On the other hand, Lisa financed his campaign by taking out a personal loan. He says he hopes to get the money back from contributions made at a later date. One high-placed administration official and an ardent Lisa opponent, charged this was nothing more than a slick accounting trick that allowed the candidate to hide the sources of his campaign contributions until after the election.

The city's most numerous and most intensive development is planned for the 1st Ward. The ward encompasses the southeast corner of the city, roughly running west from the Hudson River along Fourth Street to Washington Street and then winding along Newark Avenue to Henderson Street and the city's southwest border.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey hopes to build a \$600 million highrise development on close to 100 acres of waterfront property in the 1st Ward. Several highrise developments are planned, and Barry's Applied Housing wants to develop city-owned land there.

The city is preparing to draft new zoning regulations, which may call for limiting the height and density of such projects.

There is a relatively quiet but nonetheless strongly argued debate as to whether further highrise construction should be allowed here at all. Ultimately the council will have to adopt or reject height and density restrictions that undoubtedly will have a major effect on developers' profits.

Of the ward's 3,445 registered voters, 1,780, or 52 percent turned out to vote yesterday.

Police blast Vezzetti's nominee

By TOM GISSEN

Staff Writer

HOBOKEN—Members of the City Council have not yet had a chance to interview Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti's nominee for law director, but one of the city's police unions has criticized the selection.

"We feel that stepping outside of the county is a slap in the face of every attorney in Hoboken and Hudson County," said Lt. Frank Turso, president of Hoboken's Superior Officers' Association.

On Monday, Vezzetti announced he was nominating William E. Graves, a South Orange attorney with close to 20 years' experience in public service law, to replace Salvatore D'Amelio, who the mayor fired effective Oct. 23.

In making his announcement,

Vezzetti said he had looked for someone who had no connection with politics here. But yesterday, Turso charged that Graves is a friend of administration supporters Laurie Fabiano and Steve Block. He also charged that developer Joseph Barry, who wants to build a highrise development with affordable housing units on city-owned land, had gone to school with Graves. "This would seem like some sort of collusion between Mr. Vezzetti and his non-elected officials," Turso said.

But, Fabiano said she and Block first met Graves after he was retained by Vezzetti to draft a position paper calling for D'Amelio's removal as law director. Graves said he first met Laurie Fabiano in Hoboken on July 4 during the Liberty Weekend celebration. The attorney was not sure if he met Block

at that time, but said he never had met him before then.

Graves graduated from the Rutgers University Law School in Newark in 1964. Barry graduated from the same school in 1967. Both men said they rarely have met since then. "I can count on the fingers of one hand the number of times I've met Joe Barry since law school," Graves said.

Since this summer, the city Division of Public Safety has been under the law director's charge. Before being fired, D'Amelio promoted four sergeants and two lieutenants against the wishes of the mayor and Police Chief George Crimmins.

It is expected that one of the first duties of the new law director will be to demote these officers.

Mayo Lynch

Continued from Page 1.

representing Hoboken, Humphreys wrote in longhand the demand on the copies of the decision.

Arnold has challenged the validity of the request.

"We are not trying to stonewall or hide anything," he said, "but we believe that political contributions are irrelevant to this case."

The attorney said he believes the judge's demand is grounds for an appeal. He said he plans to file an appeal today or tomorrow.

Arnold appeared before Appellate Judge Lawrence Bolder last Friday in attempt to get a stay of Humphreys' ruling, but Bolder ordered Mayo Lynch to discuss the motion for appeal with Humphreys first.

In an unusually outspoken comment yesterday, Humphreys said, "The court believes the plaintiff's chances on appeal are not good," but Arnold disagreed.

"I'm optimistic about our chances on appeal," Arnold said. "I'm much more optimistic about our chances on appeal than on Humphreys' reversing himself or granting a stay."

According to Assistant City Attorney Thomas Calligy, who was present at yesterday's proceedings, the city now has two options regarding Mayo Lynch and the sewage design contract. The city can either award a new design contract to a firm other than Mayo Lynch, or the City Council can hold a public hearing on Mayo Lynch's original contract and vote to ratify it.

Administration officials have not said which option the city will take, but Vezzetti has said that "getting rid of Mayo Lynch is one of the five greatest accomplishments of my administration." Sources said the City Council will schedule a special meeting on Wednesday to discuss the sewage situation.

Arnold, however, said, "It is impossible for anyone other than Mayo Lynch to complete the design of the plant within the time allotted." Arnold has said the firm has completed "95 percent" of its work.

Arnold said Mayo Lynch is "going ahead with the work at our own risk for the benefit of the city" because "it is impossible for any other firm to do the job, and it is irresponsible for Mayor Vezzetti to suggest otherwise."

Losers in Hoboken will not be quitters

Continued from Page 1.

waiting for the results from the First Ward's first district polls. The crowd included former Mayor Steve Cappelletto, who had predicted a Newman win about an hour earlier.

Cappelletto served as a Lisa challenger, although the former mayor did not publicly endorse the candidate, and he remained uncommonly quiet during the campaign. The First Ward had been one of two wards Cappelletto won against Vezzetti in the June, 1984 mayoral run-off.

It became obvious that Cappelletto's prediction would come true as the first district's figures were tallied and Newman led Lisa, his closest challenger, by 113 votes. A Newman worker dashed across the street to the Shannon bearing the news.

"We won," he shouted. "Free beer for everybody."

Vezzetti had been waiting quietly, alone in his office on the second floor of City Hall, but he made his way across First Street about 15 minutes after the polls closed.

"Machine politics is dead in Hoboken," Vezzetti said. "That's what this election is all about."

The figures were in from the ward's four districts by 8:20, and Newman stood atop a table in the back room of the Shannon to address a crowd of about 200 supporters.

"We went up against all the old machine could put together," he said.

The crowd that joined Newman in celebrating his victory included his wife, Suellen, his five children, Vezzetti, and pro-administration council members Joseph Della Fave and Helen Cumming.

Newman thanked the Vezzetti administration, his supporters and Applied Housing developer Joseph Barry, who did not attend the party.

Barry became a major issue in the campaign when Newman was attacked for accepting \$2,000 in contributions from the developer, his parents, a business associate, and his firm.

Barry and Applied Housing maintain some 2,000 subsidized apartments in Hoboken, and he recently proposed a massive, \$60 million housing project in the First Ward that will come before the council for approval. Lisa charged that accepting contributions from Barry would affect Newman's objectivity in the vote.

Lisa supporters carried signs saying "Stop Boss Barry" throughout the day. Following Newman's victory, Lisa worker Perry Belfiore said that "New-

man is councilman, and Barry is the heir apparent."

But Newman supporters discounted the impact of their candidate's association with the developer.

"I don't think this election was about Barry, or about development, or about (Vezzetti advisers) Laurie Fabiano and Steve Block," said Cumming. "It was about reform, and people know that's what Tom Newman stands for."

"I think it hurt people who know Tom to see him slandered and to see all this misinformation," said Nancy Tauchiya, Newman's campaign manager. "But I think the voters had made up their minds that he was the best man."

Newman walked to each of his opponent's headquarters to "congratulate them on a good race," and he carried a message of reconciliation and cooperation.

"This is a trying time, a time of crisis, and we need action," he said. "We have to put aside our political differences and work together."

But at Lisa headquarters, the talk centered on the next fight in May.

A crowd of about 100 supporters filled Lisa's storefront headquarters and spilled out onto the sidewalk at Frist and Garden streets, just a block away from the Shannon. Some workers were solemn and a few shed tears over the loss, but others were angry.

"We start tomorrow on May," said Al DePinto, a Lisa worker. "We're going to stop this new political machine in its tracks."

"I will run again," Lisa said as his supporters loudly applauded. "It's what the people want."

"I knew it would be a close race. Everyone knows what happened," Lisa said, adding that he believed Miranda-Forman, Meyers and Giani

Hoboken

First Ward Council

Newman	721
Meyers	174
Forman	208
Giani	64
Lisa	613