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Author,
author!

Nationally syndicated columnist Anna Quindlen autographs a copy of her book, "Living Out Loud," last night at the Hoboken Public Library. Quindlen's appearance was one of a meet-the-author series sponsored by the Friends of the Hoboken Public Library.

Journal photo by John Gastaldo

Hoboken schools given better marks

By Earl Morgan

While scores in state-mandated tests for Hoboken public school students have improved, the school district still has a number of improvements to make.

That was essentially the message Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Louis Accella delivered last night to the school board. While a number of the seven schools showed improvement in major areas, the Kealey Elementary School was the most deficient, according to Accella.

Accella reviewed the progress the board has made raising scores for the state High School Proficiency examination last year and outlined goals to improve the test scores during the current school year.

The state Department of Education designated Hoboken a Level III school last year because of the number of students deficient in basic skills who scored low in the H.S.P.T. School districts on Level III face a possible state takeover. To have the Level III designation lifted, affected districts must design and implement a "Corrective Action Plan" to improve students' reading, writing and math skills.

Accella said 75 percent of Hoboken's High School freshmen achieved the Level III first year milestone of 75 percent passing in the reading portion of the H.S.P.T.

In the area of writing the 87-88 year goal was 60.3 percent passing. The result for that period was 70.4 percent.

The math goal for 87-88 was 65 percent the result was 69.9 percent.

Sixth grade goals in reading were, district wide, for 87-88 were 77 percent of the students passing the result was 74.9 percent passed. Four of

the seven elementary recorded higher than the state 75 percent standard in reading. Accella said he found the decline in reading scores among sixth graders "distressing."

In sixth grade math, district wide, for 86-87 the goal was 73.6 percent of the student passing in 87-88 only 64 percent of the students in that grade passed the test.

In the writing portion of the test for sixth graders, district-wide in 86-87 the goal was 75 percent. In 87-88 the result was 76.4 percent of the student's passing the test. Four of the district's seven schools achieved the state mandated 75 percent passing standard.

The third grade reading goals for 86-87 was 87.6 percent of the students passing in 87-88 an impressive 90 percent of the students passed. Six of seven of the seven schools went over the 75 percent mark in those scores.

The third grade math goals for 86-87 were 85.3 percent passing. The 87-88 result was

79.8. Six of the seven city's school's third grade classes scored over 75 percent.

Again six of seven of the schools achieved over 75 percent with the exception of the Kealey School where only 45 percent of the students passed the test.

The third grade writing goal for 86-87 was 89 percent. The result in the 87-88 year was 89.3 percent. Six of the seven elementary schools achieved 75 percent in this category. Again the Kealey school scored below that level.

While Accella said there were areas that showed a definite improvement, there is much to be done to bring the district up to state-mandated achievement levels in the H.S.P.T. He said if the "Corrective Action Plan" his office approved is followed, there should be improvement in marks.

The board passed a resolution approving the implementation of Level III Corrective Action Plan.

Hoboken voters are still undecided

Continued from Page 1

This said it would spotlight the issues and it certainly has," Ranieri said. "The results thus far are fully satisfying because it identifies the issues and gives some reference to the local campaign."

The poll is being conducted by an out-of-town company Ranieri declined to identify. Ranieri said that the polling group would either contribute the service as an in-kind contribution to his campaign, or offer the poll at a special rate.

For the past three weeks, pollsters have made up to 100 calls a night, three nights a week, to approximately 900 Hoboken residents at random. After determining if the subjects are registered voters, the poll taker reads a list of questions designed to gauge the voter's awareness of certain local is-

ssues and preference for mayor and council-at-large.

Five candidates, Steven Busch, Richard Del Boccio, Terry LaBruno, Nunzio Malfetti and Frank Raia, are seeking the council seat. Ranieri said his poll showed that 75 percent of those questioned did not indicate a preference in the council race.

Ranieri admitted that the poll is not intended as a scientific survey for public consumption as it contains inconsistencies, most notably the omission of King's name as a choice for mayor.

"There are three leading candidates for mayor," the questionnaire reads. "In alphabetical order they are Joe Della Fave, Pat Pasculli or Robert Ranieri. Which one do you feel is most qualified to solve your city's problem?"

Ranieri also conceded that the phrasing, "qualified," could distort the results since "Qualified" is his campaign slogan.

"I want the information but it is not a telephone campaign that says at the end, 'Vote for Robert Ranieri,'" Ranieri said. "We're trying to get a cross section of how the community feels."

After affordable housing, Hobokenites rate the city's major problems as: taxes or rents, clean streets or parking on streets and the condition of Hoboken's school system and the Board of Education budget, according to Ranieri.

Ranieri drafted the questions for the poll, but said he had nothing to do with the actual poll-taking nor is he aware of any individual's response to the questions. Those who agree

Poll says Hoboken voters undecided

By James Efstathiou

Sixty percent of Hoboken's registered voters have yet to decide who they will choose for mayor in the Nov. 8 municipal election, according to a poll commissioned by one of the candidates.

Council President Robert Ranieri would not release complete results of the poll conducted for his campaign. Ranieri, along with Councilman Joseph Della Fave, Robert King and incumbent Patrick

Pasculli, are vying to become mayor in the special election. One council seat is also up for grabs.

But Ranieri did reveal that 40 percent of those polled expressed an interest in a particular mayoral candidate; that Gov. Michael Dukakis is the "overwhelming" choice for president and that affordable housing was the key issue among the polling sample.

"Those who we used to do

See HOBOKEN — Page 39.

Reval tax charge pushing rents up

By James Efstathiou

Property revaluation has come home to Hoboken tenants.

It has arrived in the form of the tax surcharge landlords can legally pass along to tenants. Because the revaluation in many cases resulted in significantly higher tax bills for property owners, this year's surcharge for renters has also jumped.

While the surcharge has been around for some time, the 1988 increases are expected to be sizeable. The results are likely to be more work for an

already overburdened Rent Control Office, confusion over how much a landlord can legally pass along, and added hardship for renters, particularly the elderly on fixed incomes.

"The phone is ringing all day," said Lourdes Arroyo, rent control officer. "Senior citizens are being hurt the worst." One such case involved an elderly resident of Park Avenue who appeared at the office of the tenant advocate with notice of a \$128 increase over her \$308 per month rent. Most of the hike, \$114, represented this year's tax surcharge.

"In most cases, tenants

state that, 'I just got a letter or the owner told me I have to pay X amount of money, is it legal?' " said tenant advocate Tom Oliveri.

The tax surcharge recently entered the spotlight in the wake of the court-ordered revaluation. Many owners of two- and three-family homes have reported seeing their tax bills more than double last year's. More than 1,000 Hoboken property owners have appealed their new assessments to the Hudson County Board of Taxation.

The amount of the tax increase landlords may pass

along is based on a formula laid out in the city's rent-control ordinance. Legally to include the surcharge in a tenant's monthly rent, landlords must apply to the rent board where the surcharge is calculated by Arroyo.

"It is overwhelming," said Arroyo of the number of landlords who have applied for the surcharge since August. "But I'd rather do it myself and give that assurance to the tenant that it's been done correctly." Arroyo said that so far her office has had no trouble keep-

See REVAL — Page 24.

Reval tax charge pushing rents up

Continued from Page 1

ing up with applications for the surcharge, having completed over 500 calculations in the past month.

But concern that an approaching "tidal wave" of such applications could swamp the rent office has prompted Councilman David Roberts to propose an amendment to the rent laws that is expected to be introduced at tonight's council meeting.

The measure would allow landlords to make the surcharge calculation themselves and pass it along should the rent board fail to act on an application within 30 days. If the landlord is found to have made an incorrect calculation, the overcharge must be refunded with interest.

Roberts said the law is necessary to compensate promptly property owners who must pay their taxes on time.

"We're anticipating that a large number of homeowners are going to be placing their rent increases before her," said Roberts referring to Arroyo. "We're ensuring that homeowners be serviced in a prompt way."

But Oliveri charged that allowing landlords to compute the surcharge on their own would encourage rent-gouging and force tenants to fight for refunds.

"There is a significant number of landlords who will take advantage and pass along illegal increases," said Oliveri.

"They will go out of their way to charge tenants illegal rents and then the tenants are going to have a hard time recovering that money."

The developments are likely to further tax the limited resources of the rent control office where tenant rent challenges currently take up to a year to complete. For that reason, Robert DeRuggiero, president of the Hudson County Board of Realtors supported Roberts' initiative.

"Anything that streamlines the rent control ordinance and keeps it from local boards is a step in the right direction," DeRuggiero said. A frequent

spokesman for landlords, DeRuggiero rejected the claim that landlords would willfully inflate the surcharge and blamed confusion over the surcharge on the city for not effectively promulgating its own laws.

"The town should send notice to the property owners explaining what their rights are and what the ordinance says," said DeRuggiero. "We've had an artificially suppressed market for 15 years and the landlords are just scrambling to try and figure ways to get a return on their investment."

Such confusion emerged in the case of the Park Avenue resident who declined to go on the record. Of the \$114 increase her landlord sought to pass along, \$17 was discovered to have been from a 1986 surcharge, Oliveri said. Surcharges may only be applied for one year and cannot be carried over.

According to Arroyo, the rent office will advise landlords of the total tax surcharge, but it is up to the landlord to deduct prior year charges. If a tenant suspects that a landlord has included a prior charge, the burden is on the tenant to investigate and petition the rent board.

"They're asking that people go there and review the files themselves," said Oliveri. "But some people don't have the sophistication to do this. This process leaves a lot to be desired."

In addition, tenants must be given a 30-day notice of the increase which must be accompanied by a statement from the rent office. While a copy of the notice of increase must be sent to the rent office, Arroyo conceded that many landlords overlook the requirement and that regardless, her office is ill-equipped to review them.

"The landlord has to send a copy of the notice of increase here, but we're so understaffed, who's going to review them?" Arroyo said. "I've had 500 applications for increases but I haven't had 500 copies of the notices of increase to tenants."

Behind the Mike

Hoboken's JFK Stadium is an embarrassment

When Ed Stinson regained the football coaching position at Hoboken High School, he knew it would not be an easy chore to continue the success he forged in his first stint with the Red Wings, or that fashioned by his brother, Joe, when he was coach.

But he certainly didn't expect to field a team that has to play on what has become the joke of Hudson County's football fields.

Say all you want about Caven Point's Coney Island bleachers — because that's how far away from the field they are, almost out in Coney Island. Say all you want about the bone-chilling winds at Bayonne's Veteran Stadium. Say all you want about the aging Roosevelt Stadium. At least they have playable football fields.

Even West New York's Miller Stadium is undergoing another refurbishing this year. But what about Hoboken's JFK Stadium?

Nothing! Zilch! What you see is what you get. The field itself is a cross between the Rock of Gibraltar and the famous Prudential Rock.

The bleachers — well, the Faa was right when he called them erector set specials. But the lights are the worst! The lights are so dark that the Trojan Horse could have been rolled right up to the 50-yard line without anyone catching a glimpse of it.

Now, JFK Stadium in Hoboken has never been a prize. Behind the Mike remembers his younger days walking across the street from the old Fabian on Washington Street to 10th Street Park, as it was then called, just to bang a ball around a dusty dirt field.

The field was never in great shape for very long, even when John "Honey" Romano was hitting home runs, prior to playing

with the Chicago White Sox and Cleveland Indians.

Behind the Mike brought up the problem with the lights during the Build Better Boys Baseball season. It's surprising that no player was ever beamed by a pitcher in that league — that's how dark the lights are.

The bleachers are just rental jobs — five or eight rows tall at most. No fan could ever see a player scoring a touchdown when everybody stands up. And just how much weight will the stands hold before crashing to the ground, seriously injuring someone? Remember how that happened to the portable bleachers at Bayonne during one football game a few years ago. A lot of people were hurt.

But the Hoboken Board of Education doesn't seem to worry about these things.

In fact, a few years ago, if a reporter wanted to watch a game from the leftover remains of a burned out press box in Hoboken, he had to ride a sort of cherry picker to the top of the clubhouse, where it is located. Needless to say, the fact that the

Please see SPINA Page 21

SPINA
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

reporter refused may be the only reason Behind the Mike is still flourishing.

No, Hoboken is too busy to worry about the comfort or safety of its football fans, or even its players. Hoboken's board is more concerned with closing schools or trying to explain why it has one of the worst school districts in the state. The people can't even agree on a mayor.

Behind the Mike doesn't bring this up again just to poke fun or take cheap shots. Now is the time to wonder out loud why nothing has been done. It's happening elsewhere.

Look what North Bergen accomplished with money from Green Acres and other grant programs. It now has one of the best facilities in Hudson County and will shortly house an indoor basketball arena for the town's youth.

Why can't Hoboken apply for the same grants? Behind the Mike knows Business Administrator Ed Chiusi is a busy man, so maybe the city should hire someone just to seek out grant money.

The truth, plain and simple, is that it hasn't happened because not enough of a stink has been made. Hoboken kids have been playing in the gutters since the tide of immigration began. But that doesn't mean the city fathers have to prolong the situation.

If whoever is elected mayor in Hoboken refuses to address this problem, then perhaps he should be kicked out of office. Hoboken has to stop worrying so much about development of its waterfront and start worrying more about development of its youth. And it has to start with a place to play that a high school team

can be proud of.

In the past, there was talk of a synthetic turf field costing around \$300,000. It was shot down because the maintenance fees were too high. Behind the Mike thinks that was just an excuse — an excuse to keep from spending any money at all on kids who don't vote.

Imagine if last summer's baseball expedition were reversed and the Russians traveled to Hoboken to play the Sandy Koufax All-Stars, or Ambassadors, as they were called. One look at Kennedy Stadium and the Russians might have felt they had been sent off to exile as punishment for losing to the Americans in baseball.

No, now is the time to stop the baloney! First, put someone in charge of researching grant money for parks and recreation facilities. Two, apply for those grants. If unsuccessful, appeal to local developers or companies for financial aid to improve the field. Make it part of any agreement with developers that in exchange for approval, they have to set aside so much money in a fund for improved open space areas.

The time to start is now. Not next season, or the one after that. And only the people can keep the politicians on their toes on this one.

NOTES — Bayonne's Steve Tompkins played extremely well for Rutgers in its victory over Cincinnati last week. He and Ferris' Derek Baker are starters, while St. Peter's Elinaldo Webster is also on the squad.

How about Bayonne's soccer team? It has to play a man short and goes out and scores four more goals to down Union Hill.

Should P.A. be the prime developer?

This is in reply to the recent article which established the viewpoint of the appointed interim-mayor's most recent position on Hoboken waterfront development.

No interim plan for the waterfront can be considered by the city council until after the Nov. 8 mayoral election. In fact, the election will be the official public hearing on the question of whether or not the Port Authority (P.A.) becomes the prime developer of the Hoboken waterfront.

The issue is defined and the sides are clearly divided. The issue, "Should the P.A. be the prime developer of the Hoboken waterfront?"

One side of the debate is led by the incumbent, council appointed, interim-mayor who is serving the remaining term of our deceased mayor. Without the mandate of an election, he has reversed course on this issue three times over the past three years at the whim of the political winds.

The opposing position is supported by those who recognize that the P.A. as a bi-state agency is beyond the control of our municipality. Once given power, the P.A. would place its interests first and those of Hoboken last. Proof of this is the fiasco of the restated lease. It was ultimately rejected by the city council via a resolution I sponsored.

Also, bear in mind the fiasco of the fire insurance money. Were it not for independent court action in which the city was forced to participate, the P.A. would have kept every cent of the \$8,000,000.

Furthermore, the city of Hoboken pays 30 percent surcharge for every penny advanced by the P.A. This includes calculations for each man-

hour the P.A. invests by simply talking to us. The P.A. people call that a business cost, in legal circles it is called "loan sharking".

Wake up, people of Hoboken! We are being sold out just for one interim person's political platform. This guy would give our waterfront to the Port Authority for a six-month term as mayor — ROBERT A. RANIERI, mayoral candidate — 1988, president, city council — 1988, councilman — at-large — 1973-1988, assemblyman (33rd District) — 1984-1985.

MUM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

six-month term to complete the unfinished term of the late Mayor Thomas F. Vezzeiti. The regular mayoral election next May will choose a four-month mayor.

One 3rd Ward politician who supports Della Fave said, "It's a perfect setup. Joe wins by a narrow margin in November, and Steve runs in May, billing himself as the only one who could win."

Cappiello, who lost a bid for a fourth mayoral term in 1985 and subsequently won back his old council seat, said he wasn't interested in a mayoral election. But he did not rule it out.

"I am taking it easy and watching what goes on as councilman," Cappiello said.

"I wouldn't want to hold anybody" to supporting any of the present candidates, he continued. "You cannot shift your strength to anyone else. If you're the person, that's a different story."

The continued silence of the cigar-smoking Cappiello has been interpreted several different ways by various campaign camps. While some covet Cappiello's support and others condemn it, all could use it. Cappiello is still thought to command between 800 and 1,200 votes in the 3rd Ward, the close-knit, largely Italian neighborhood where he has spent all his life. In a tight election, such a vote total could make a difference.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli, seeking to extend his interim term that began after Vezzeiti's death in March, has said he wants nothing to do with the former mayor. Cappiello himself said he is not ready to come out and support Pasculli, although he left that possibility open.

One Cappiello insider said Cappiello wants to be guaranteed influence in a Pasculli administration before supporting one. "He's looking to be in on the action," the source said. "If he's not, he's going to mess Pasculli around. It's as simple as that."

Offers no support

Cappiello stays mum on election

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—For the first time since the early 1970s, a mayoral election is taking shape here without public input from Steve Cappiello, the former political boss and mayor.

The 65-year-old former police sergeant and current 3rd Ward councilman is maintaining his silence in the Nov. 8 election. Cappiello reiterated his position in a meeting of his political club this week, telling his supporters that he is withholding his support from all four candidates.

Observers disagree on the effect this will have on next month's election, but they agree that Cappiello is keeping the door open for his own mayoral bid next year.

The four candidates — Mayor Patrick Pasculli, council members Joseph Della Fave and Robert A. Ranieri and schoolteacher Robert King — are vying for a

Please see MUM Page 4



CAPPIELLO

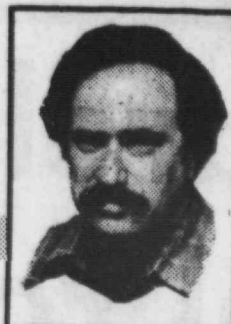
'Reformers' lose an ally

Without the late Mayor Thomas Vezzeiti at the helm, the "reform" group backing Councilman Joseph Della Fave for mayor of Hoboken seems to have lost some valuable allies for next month's special election for mayor.

One of Vezzeiti's key workers in the 1985 election was Angelo Valente, a Republican who attracted help from Gov.

Political whirl

By Peter Weiss



Thomas Kean. Vezzeiti was so grateful for Kean's help that he invited the governor to preside at his inauguration.

But when Valente ran for the state Assembly last year, Vezzeiti's key political advisors supported his Democratic opponent, Hoboken lawyer Bernard Kenny, although the mayor himself endorsed Valente. Kenny's victory left many Valente supporters with bitter feelings.

"They said they were Democrats and couldn't support a Republican," one Valente worker recalled. "But they didn't say that when they took \$4,000 of Gov. Kean's money in '85."

Valente said he's not involved in the mayoral race because he's too busy working in private business. Whatever time is available for politics is being used for the Bush ticket, he said.

But allies of his who worked for Vezzeiti and Della Fave three years ago are now campaigning for Mayor Pat Pasculli. Kenny is also supporting Pasculli, who was named interim mayor after Vezzeiti's death earlier this year.

As for what his former political workers are doing, Valente said, "I haven't really talked to them."

Issue divides Hoboken

Officials to back cuts in education

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The city is set to begin arguments today before state education officials to try to justify a \$2.8 million cut in the City Council made this summer in the local Board of Education's \$27.3 million budget.

But many who support a large budget cut say privately that they expect most, if not all, of the cut to be restored to the budget.

School board officials have testified before Assistant state Education Commissioner Vincent B. Calabrese about five times during the past month, trying to convince him to rule in favor of restoring the reduction.

Today — and possibly next week, too — board President Joseph Rafter, Trustee Gerard Costa, City Councilman Thomas Newman and an outside auditor are set to argue the city's position that the slash was justified.

The battle about the budget pits the city and four board members — all of whom are in favor of a substantial budget reduction — against board administrators and the other five board members, who voted to appeal the city's cut. Two key members of the faction that wants the full cut said they expect to get very little of it.

"I am very pessimistic," said one source who favors the cut. "I don't expect them to end up cutting any more than \$400,000 or \$500,000."

Pasculli outspends foes twice as much

By James Efstathiou

In his campaign to stay on as mayor of Hoboken, Patrick Pasculli has spent more than twice as much as all three of his opponents combined.

"The Committee to Elect Pat Pasculli," the campaign funding organization for Pasculli and running-mate Richard Del Boccio, has so far spent over \$52,000 on the race. Councilman Joseph Della Fave is second in line, having expended just over \$20,000. Councilman Robert Ranieri has spent approximately \$2,500 with the final candidate, Robert King, reporting expenditures of under \$2,000.

Candidates are required to file reports of their campaign contributions and expenditures with the state and county election boards. Yesterday was the first of three filing deadlines as well as the final day for voters to register for the Nov. 8 election.

The four are competing to complete the remaining six months of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzeiti's term. Pasculli, a councilman while Vezzeiti's was in office, was appointed mayor in March following Vezzeiti's death. Also on the ballot is the council seat left vacant by Pasculli's appointment.

"I'm under a distinct disadvantage in that I don't have as much time to campaign as my opponents do because none of

See PASCULLI — Page 52.

The strongest supporters of the reduction have been the four board members who actually drafted specific suggestions for cuts that the City Council accepted when it enacted the \$2.8 million cut in April.

Those four trustees — and other members of the city's self-styled reform movement — repeatedly have charged that the school system, which features one of the highest costs per pupil in the state, is wasteful and dominated by politically connected employees.

Costa charged Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a political opponent of the reformers, with failing to work hard to cut the school budget, which would raise taxes by an average of \$500 per household if it is adopted as originally proposed.

"I'm tired of the duplicity," Costa said. "He claims to be working for the taxpayers, but in the final analysis, he has done absolutely nothing to help cut the school budget."

Pasculli, a candidate in the Nov. 8 mayoral race, conceded he did nothing to dissuade his political allies on the school board from voting to appeal the budget cut. He said he is not sure he supports cutting the budget by that margin, and said he is happy to leave the decision to the state.

"Cutting the budget just for the sake of cutting the budget is not the answer," Pasculli said, adding that he will work to increase state funding.

But 6th-graders lag

Schools in Hoboken improving

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The city's school district is making qualified progress toward its goal of escaping state monitoring, Hudson County's top education official told the local Board of Education last night.

Six months after the district began implementing its corrective plan, it has met most of its goals for student achievement, according to county Superintendent Louis C. Accolla. The major exception, Accolla told the board in a meeting last night, is in sixth-grade mathematics and reading, where student scores were below district goals last year.

"The district has done a very good job in terms of addressing these problems," Accolla said. "But I have to say you must continue, as a Board of Education, to support the efforts of district personnel to carry out these responsibilities."

Hispanic aid agency target of Hoboken lawyer's probe

By James Efstathiou

Hoboken Law Director Eugene O'Connell said yesterday he was investigating spending of city money by a private social service agency, Citizens United For New Action.

O'Connell said he is concerned about reports that CUNA's director, Juan Garcia, lives at the 920 Willow Ave. agency, which was recently awarded \$8,700 in city money by the Hoboken City Council.

"We want to know what the money is being used for. It is not appropriate to pay the rent of a private citizen," O'Connell said.

He said that if the Law Department's investigation, headed by Attorney Edward Florio, determined that Garcia lives at the agency, he would seek council authorization to sue Garcia to recover the city money.

Garcia, who has a series of criminal convictions, yesterday told The Jersey Journal that he does live at the agency.

"My living here does not affect the program. I only live here at night. The program is not here at night," Garcia said, adding that he actually serves as a night watchman for CUNA by guarding the headquarters and its equipment.

"I have no bed here. I have a mattress on the floor. I bathe every day at my mother's house. I don't keep my clothes here," he added.

Garcia said he is forced to live at the agency because he has not drawn a full-time salary since August, 1986.

"To get to the nitty, gritty, where am I going to live? How can I be running a program for

the kids and be homeless on the streets," he asked.

Council President Robert Ranieri, who said he was willing to co-sponsor an additional \$10,000 appropriation for CUNA, earlier in the week had defended Garcia's living arrangement, saying that low-income residents were hard pressed to find affordable housing in the city.

"Garcia is living in the apartment. He, like everyone else, is finding it increasingly difficult to find affordable housing," Ranieri said.

O'Connell said that Garcia's living arrangement poses a problem for city to fund the program and raises questions about zoning. He said the investigation was attempting to determine whether the Willow Avenue facility could be used as social service agency in a residential area, or whether Garcia could use the agency as a residence if it were zoned for commercial use.

He said nearly \$2,400 of the \$8,700 city appropriation was used to pay back rent.

O'Connell said the investigation will also examine whether Garcia could use the money to pay back bills. He said the ordinance governing

the city appropriation is for services given at the agency beginning Sept. 15 and ending Dec. 31.

"We are reviewing the application that was submitted and examining the entire funding mechanism put in place by the city of Hoboken," O'Connell said, explaining that the City Council voted to fund a resolution.

He said he may want to rework the funding format to have the council first approve a contract with CUNA and then vote on subsequently appropriations for services rendered.

Garcia said through his program, he is tutoring about eight 10 to 12 year olds after school and helping them with their homework.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli said he supported the investigation. Councilwoman Helen Cunningham said that she was "relieved to see that one of my associates on the council is finally realizing the city's best interests are not served by Juan Garcia."

She added, "I commend the Law Director for taking a firm stand on what is a correct or incorrect on how the city spends its hard-earned tax dollars."

Hopefully, we will excel and grow in other ways that this report doesn't even speak about.

GERARD COSTA

According to Accolla's 18-page review of the district, only two of the seven elementary schools had 75 percent or more of their sixth-graders pass reading and mathematics tests, and five of six elementary schools must have at least 75 percent of their students pass writing.

Despite the sixth-grade deficiencies, Accolla's report commended the district for achieving goals it set for third- and ninth-graders. Additionally, Accolla praised the board for passing a mission statement, hiring a curriculum director, moving to allow school principals some input into teacher hiring decisions and changing procedures to insure greater ac-

countability for teachers. The district fell into Level 3 monitoring in 1986, mostly as a result of low student test scores. The state issued a report in July of last year criticizing the district for, among other things, fostering an "inbred" management philosophy, failing to respond to demographic changes and political infighting. But the report did not recommend a state takeover.

In September, the local board submitted its response to the Level 3 report, and earlier this year began steps to implement the first part of that response. Last night's report was Accolla's first opportunity to critique the district's effectiveness at implementing its reforms.

Board member Gerard Costa — who has criticized the state in the past for being too easy on the district — said he hopes the district will improve in other areas as well.

Pasculli outspends foes twice as much

Continued from Page 1

Contracting Co. of Newark, which has a garbage removal contract with Hoboken; \$700 from Richard Seltzer, an attorney who headed the "Help Hoboken Housing," a landlords' group which led a losing battle to strike down local anti-warehousing laws; \$500 from Democratic state Assemblyman Bernard Kenny;

\$6500 from Ann Roberts, mother of Councilman David Roberts; Della Fave, who contributed \$6,000 of his own money to the campaign, raised an additional \$17,000, much of which was generated at a \$75 per person fund-raiser at Maxwell's last month. Major contributors to his campaign include \$700 from Councilwoman Helen Cunningham and \$575 from Councilman Thomas Newman, co-campaign managers for Della Fave.

Others include: \$3,000 from the LaFera Contracting Co. of Newark, which has a garbage removal contract with Hoboken; \$700 from Richard Seltzer, an attorney who headed the "Help Hoboken Housing," a landlords' group which led a losing battle to strike down local anti-warehousing laws; \$500 from Democratic state Assemblyman Bernard Kenny;

\$6500 from Ann Roberts, mother of Councilman David Roberts; Della Fave, who contributed \$6,000 of his own money to the campaign, raised an additional \$17,000, much of which was generated at a \$75 per person fund-raiser at Maxwell's last month. Major contributors to his campaign include \$700 from Councilwoman Helen Cunningham and \$575 from Councilman Thomas Newman, co-campaign managers for Della Fave.

Others include:

\$200 from Annette Illing, chairwoman of the Campaign for Housing Justice; \$275 from former school board member Steven Block; \$200 from Don Cotter, head of the Hoboken Environment Committee; \$225 from Michael Coleman, former director of the Community Development Agency.

Ranieri, who kicked in \$3,000 of his own money to finance his campaign, reported raising an additional \$3,000. King, running his campaign out of his home, reported spending less than \$2,000 on his effort.

Of the five candidates for council, incumbent Frank Raia tops the spending list with reported expenditures of over \$7,000. Raia has contributed \$5,000 to his own campaign. Terry LaBruno, who held a fund-raiser last night, has spent close to \$3,000, \$800 of which came out of her own pocket. Both Steven Busch and Nunzio Malfetti reported spending less than \$2,000. Del Boccio's expenditures are included in Pasculli's statement.

Candidates will be required to submit similar financial disclosures on Oct. 28 and after the election on Nov. 28.

Lottery to be held for Grogan waiting list

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A lottery to determine the order of names for a waiting list at the Grogan Marineview Plaza, a state-funded project in Hoboken with moderate rents, will be held Tuesday morning at 10, a spokesman said yesterday.

The drawing was supposed to take place Sept. 20 but it was stopped after city officials and housing representatives ob-

jected that the property management had arbitrarily reduced the number of names from 500 to 100.

Annette Illing, chairman of the Campaign for Housing Justice who negotiated the lottery as the city's representative during the Vezzeiti administration, said yesterday that both parties have agreed to draw 350 names.

The lottery system is the result of negotiations between

the city, the state and owners of Marineview. It was designed under the administration of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzeiti, to eliminate political favoritism from the placement of tenants.

"We had a meeting this morning between the people who originally negotiated the lottery, representatives for the owners, the Clergy Coalition and First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman," Illing said. "I am extremely happy that

the lottery will go forward and people will have an opportunity to get their names on the waiting list," she added.

Illing said that housing representatives agreed to reduce the names drawn from 500 to 350 because management was able to show that turnover at the 450 apartments has decreased from an average of 40 apartments a year to 25 units. Mayor Patrick Pasculli said yesterday he too was glad that a

compromise had been reached. He said he would send Sixth Ward Councilman David Roberts and Finance Director Nicholas Goldsack to represent him next week at the drawing.

Douglas Wiedman, manager at Marineview, could not be reached for comment. Illing said that more than 800 applications were requested for the drawing. She said she did not know the number returned.

4 candidates, 4 differing visions

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Asked whether he would run for mayor again next year if he lost in the special mayoral election Nov. 8, Mayor Patrick Pasculli sighs. After saying he does not want to "think negatively," he rubs his temples wearily.

"I don't think so," he says. "Elections in the last five years have really taken a lot out of me. I'd like to spend some time with my family for a change."

Pasculli's statement is a testament to the importance the candidates place on the election. Although it is only being held to fill a six-month term, the race offers a crucial choice to voters in this changing waterfront city, giving the winner the first crack at dealing with pivotal issues of development — and a considerable head start in next May's race for a full term.

Because of that, the candidates in this year's election are going all out, spending thousands of dollars renting headquarters, printing and mailing literature and manufacturing stickers and buttons to convince the city's 21,000 registered voters to cast ballots for them.

The positions taken by the candidates behind all this hype seem to offer a real choice. Each of the four candidates this time around — Pasculli, 2nd Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave, City Council President Robert A. Ranieri and Manhattan schoolteacher Robert King — is proposing a separate vision of the city.

The election was called after Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti died in office March 2. Another election is scheduled in May to choose a mayor to serve a full four-year term.

Pasculli, 41, the slight favorite because of his brief incumbency, has been stressing the reduction of taxes — chiefly by stimulating development — to appeal to what he considers his strongest constituency: long-time homeowners. Pasculli's advisers market him as a compromise between the "radical" Della Fave and the "Old Guard," embodied by Ranieri.

Pasculli has invested much of his hope into a plan to develop the city's waterfront property with help and guidance from the Port Authority. The plan is controversial because many oppose the authority's involvement. Many also remember Pasculli's opposition to the idea when he



PATRICK PASCULLI
Stresses tax reduction.



ROBERT A. RANIERI
Attacks Pasculli.



JOSEPH DELLA FAVE
Wants to end patronage.



ROBERT KING
Stresses finances.

was president of the City Council and lambasted Vezzetti for proposing a similar plan.

But Pasculli says the difference now is that the city owns both the land and the leasehold, which the authority held until a settlement earlier this year.

Della Fave, 37, a Vezzetti administration insider, has gotten a fast start by registering hundreds of new voters. Focusing on honesty in government, long-term planning and budget-cutting, Della Fave hopes to attract the same coalition of newcomers,

professionals and disgruntled minorities that propelled Vezzetti into office in 1985.

Della Fave bills himself as the "foremost proponent" of fiscal and development planning among the four. He has long been a proponent of strict controls on development, and says he would end patronage hiring in City Hall and in the Board of Education — where, he says, dozens of positions have been filled on the basis of political affiliations.

He is focusing much of his attack on Pasculli's switch on the waterfront issue. Ranieri also attacks Pasculli for his support of developer Joseph Barry's plans

for projects on Observer Highway and Hudson and River streets.

King, 43, who holds a doctorate in literature from New York University, and a law degree from Seton Hall University, ran for the council several years ago but has no experience in local government. He needs a dramatic shot of momentum to lift his campaign, which stresses fiscal responsibility and increased police protection, from a fourth-place finish.

'Oversight' fuels sniping in campaign

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a candidate in the Nov. 8 mayoral election, says it was an oversight that a "letter from the mayor" sent to condo owners did not indicate it was campaign literature.

Pasculli blamed the oversight on a campaign worker who did not include a campaign disclaimer on the literature.

"There was no willful intention to mislead anyone. It was an omission by a campaign worker assigned to the task," Pasculli said, adding that the worker had erred by omitting to state that the literature was paid for the committee to elect Pasculli.

The Pasculli letter to condo owners was printed on paper with a letterhead, "From the Office of Mayor, Hoboken, N.J." flush left and the wording "Pat Pasculli, Mayor," flush right.

Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave disagreed with Pasculli's assessment of the disclaimer omission.

"The letter was another example of Pasculli deceiving the public. He issued a pack of lies and unethically used the office of the mayor as his vehicle," Della Fave said, referring to the format and content of the letter.

Pasculli said he thinks Della Fave's campaign erred by not using the language "paid for" on a fund-raiser letter. The letter clearly identified Della Fave as a mayoral candidate. The bottom of the letter states, "Friends of Joe Della Fave, 217 Washington St., Hoboken, N.J." as well as the telephone number of the headquarters.

Pasculli said that Della Fave's campaign should have used the words "paid for" prior to the disclaimer.

Frederick Herrmann, director of the state election commission, said that the law requires the name and address of the organization paying for the literature but does not specifically require the words "paid for."

He said that the Attorney General's Office enforces the state election laws. A spokesman for the Attorney General's Office declined comment on either complaint "because we have not had a chance to review the material and we have not had an official complaint or request. We cannot give a definitive answer at this time."

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, Della Fave's campaign chairman, said that Pasculli "can say anything he wants but the Friends of Joe Della Fave paid for it. When the Pasculli camp gets around to doing things right and putting disclaimers on any of his literature, then we can have a discussion about whether mine is complete or incomplete."

Pasculli, Della Fave, City Council President Robert Ranieri and Robert King, who has never held elected office, are vying in the Nov. 8 election to fill the unexpired term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, who died in office March 2. Pasculli was appointed by the City Council to fill the unexpired term.

Pasculli last week finally let one reporter know just what he thought about Ranieri's using "Mayor Ranieri" on his campaign posters.

"Do you see what Ranieri is doing with his posters — 'Mayor Ranieri'?" groused Pasculli. "That is like Napoleon taking the crown from the pope and placing it on his own head," Pasculli quipped, adding that he did not question the legality of the action by his opponent.

Ranieri, who calls Pasculli "Mr. Interim" or the "Temporary Mayor," responded, "To use the words of Lloyd Bentsen, you're no Pope Paddy."

King entertained a packed house at last week's debate at St. Matthew Parish Hall by referring to his opponents as the three stooges.

King is also concerned about the wastewater treatment plant and issued a statement that he was "still waiting for someone to logically and intelligently explain to me the benefit to Hoboken of spending \$100 million plus on its treatment plant upgrade compared to the \$30 to \$40 million on a hook-up with Jersey City and Bayonne to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority."

"The whole treatment plant situation stinks; from the innovative technology to the almost doubled price tag, there's a stench coming from this project that has nothing to do with sewage."

Mayoral candidates are scheduled for another debate sponsored by the United Synagogue of Hoboken on Oct. 16 at 10:30 a.m. at 115 Park Ave.

Regulatory Commission. A graduate of Hofstra and the University of California at San Diego, Raveche has received numerous awards including the Bronze Medal and Equal Opportunity Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce and Distinguished Scientist of the Year from the Maryland Academy of Sciences.

Your opinion

Election comments, controversies

As the election for council-at-large draws nearer, I would hope the residents of Hoboken begin to ask what attributes are important for a councilman or councilwoman to possess in order to best function in that position.

I believe this person should be eager and enthusiastic in his or her desire to serve the public. This person should be logical, knowledgeable and caring enough to weigh each matter that comes before the council chambers. This person should be a good communicator and a careful negotiator. He or she must be independent enough to stand for his or her own beliefs and must be representative of, and accessible to, the public.

Of the six candidates running for this office in Hoboken, I know of no other candidate better suited for this office than my wife, Terry LaBruno.

For the past nine years at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Terry has worked diligently to be the best teacher, athletic director, and basketball coach (for five years) that she could possibly be. So many nights she has put in over four or five hours to prepare for her responsibilities at school.

She has done this at a salary not to be believed (last year she earned about \$13,000). When many of her close friends would tell her she was crazy to work for that wage, her response would be "I love what I do, do you?"

When her uncle was mayor in 1980, she spoke out publicly against the city for failing to hire fire-

fighters during a time when Hoboken was experiencing so many fatalities by fire. At that time, she wrote a letter to every councilman expressing her opinion and The Jersey Journal published an article about how the mayor's niece was attacking the city for not hiring firefighters.

All through her educational process my wife has excelled academically, making her more than capable of handling complicated city matters. When our daughter, Danielle, was born in 1985, Terry had to balance the responsibilities of being a mother, wife, teacher, and athletic director. She has managed to handle all of her responsibilities efficiently and with dignity.

This past summer she fought against the city for trying to eliminate the women's summer softball league. She won! She is now serving as volunteer administrator of the league as well as playing on one of the teams.

• As the only female running in the race, Terry will provide an important balance on the council. Although the city is approximately 51 percent female, only 10 percent of the elected officials are female.

• As a taxpayer she will be very conscious of city spending and she is committed to balanced waterfront developments to increase taxables. As a parent she is deeply concerned about the educational, recreational, and social activities available to the children of our city.

Most people who know Terry marvel at her energy and enthusiasm.

She always gives 100 percent of herself no matter what she is involved in.

Terry LaBruno has extraordinary determination. When election day rolls around, vote for her and let her determination work for all of us. Thank you. —JOSEPH LABRUNO, Hoboken.

Unfair attack J.J. 10-12-88

Once again the Hoboken councilwoman and her two cohorts on the City Council have demonstrated their anti-Hispanic sentiments.

At the Sept. 7 Council meeting she resorted to false accusations and twisting of the facts to suit her own distorted view of the real world, in another attempt to discredit and denigrate the only successful mass activity in this city organized and run by Hispanics for the enjoyment of all the people.

Without any personal knowledge on any of their parts, only via the hearsay of persons who most assuredly are politically beholden to them, they proceeded to maliciously accuse CUNA of having used the festival for political purposes by allowing Assemblymen Menendez and Kenny, Mayor Pat Pasculli, Councilman Edwin Duroy and Richard Del Boccio the use

of the city-owned stage and sound system for the solicitation of votes.

Except for Mr. Del Boccio and Councilman Duroy, who requested an opportunity to address the crowd of at least 3,500 people in their capacities as principals of the Calabro and Connors schools, since many of the children present knew them well, all the rest were official sponsors of the festival and were presented to the people as such.

Not one of them asked the people to vote for them. All they did was express support for each other. In fact, admitting that I am a life-long staunch Democrat, I have invited Republicans to the affair in the past. Such as Governor Kean, Octavio Alfonso, Millicent Fenwick, and others, but for some reason they never showed up.

As to the matter of the stage and the sound system, the city-owned stage is something everyone uses, even for purely political rallies and political block parties, not to mention the religious festivals where she conveniently fails to make the distinction between the separation of state and church in the use of equipment paid through taxpayers' monies.

I am 100 percent in favor of the church events, so that is not the issue. The issue is the double standard she utilizes when it concerns anything Hispanic. As for the sound system, in 10 years of organizing CUNA activities, we have never used the city's sound system. The system used at the festival belongs to CUNA, the D.J. and

the bands that played thereat.

In her usual blind obsession to destroy CUNA, the only thing the Hispanics and poor have in this city, she conveniently fails to reveal that during the Unity Festival in 1985 then Mayor Vezzetti and Mr. Della Fave, who was then running for the Second Ward seat vacated by Vezzetti, did come up on the stage without being invited or asking and then proceeded to solicit votes for Mr. Della Fave.

She further fails to reveal that Mr. De La Fave, for whom she is campaign manager, had a political booth at the River City Fair and political signs all over the place. Nor does she mention the time Ronald Reagan visited a fair in Hoboken for purely political purposes while running for president. His visit cost the taxpayers of this city over \$60,000.

The biggest obstacle to the aspirations and goals of the minority and low-income community of Hoboken is posed by Ms. Cunningham, and hopefully that same community will repudiate her and her cohorts, just as they repudiate us now. —JUAN R. GARCIA, executive director, Citizens United for New Action, Hoboken

Computer network debuts at Stevens

By Robert Larkins

Stevens Institute of Technology yesterday dedicated what a college official characterized as "the outstanding computer network in place on a campus today."

As "Thus Spake Zarathustra," used as the cosmic theme in the film "2001," played in the background, Wesley J. Howe, chairman of the board of Stevens, hit the keystroke that officially initiated the network during a ceremony at the institution's library.

At different work stations, Stevens students and faculty then showed how the network can be used for a variety of

tasks, from graphically representing a heart attack to doing a search and retrieval for library works.

The network features some \$30 million worth of technological features, including extensive use of fiber optic cable built into the walls of the Hoboken campus buildings, said Dr. Joseph J. Moeller Jr., vice president for information systems at Stevens.

The network links more than 1,300 computers on the campus, including the dormitories, and hundreds of other computers used by Stevens personnel in their homes or other off-campus locations. Stevens students were the first

in the nation to be required to purchase a personal computer. It also features, Moeller said, an extensive ability to link up with computer networks elsewhere in the United States and foreign countries.

Stevens students have already been able to link up with students using computers at European institutions, Moeller said.

Although other campuses have computer networks, Moeller described Stevens' as "state of the art" and the "outstanding computer network in place on a campus today."

The computer network will help Stevens both in research and in teaching, and is already

an asset in attracting talented students to the institution, he said. The Stevens computer project is called CREATE — Computing in Research and Education for an Advanced Technology Environment.

"We seek to have our students become 'computer fluent,'" Moeller said, "able to comfortably use and control powerful computing systems and techniques in both personal and professional applications."

Yesterday's dedication ceremony honored Digital Equipment Corp., AT&T Technology Systems, the Hayden

Foundation and the New Jersey Department of Higher Education for their help in making the new computer network possible.

John L. Kidde, trustee of the Hayden Foundation, which helped in earlier funding for the project, announced yesterday an additional \$100,000 grant to help Stevens pay for the recently completed wiring of the last dormitory into the network.

Computer network debuts at Stevens

Continued from Page 1

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Carl Viola, an assistant director in the Department of Higher Education, which provided bond issue funding for the project, emphasized the importance to the state's economy of higher education technological progress. That progress helps provide better-educated graduates and helps in "leading-edge research," he said. The state is working to set up an intercampus computer network for New Jersey's colleges and universities, Viola said.

Stevens formally installs Raveche as president

By James Efsthathou

Stevens Institute of Technology formally welcomed its new president yesterday at inaugural ceremonies which featured a visit from Gov. Thomas H. Kean.

Dr. Harold J. Raveche, who officially took office in May, was sworn in by Wesley J. Howe, chairman of the Stevens Board of Trustees. Raveche, formerly dean of science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., is the sixth president of the college.

"I left the great state of New York recently to come to another great state, New Jersey," Raveche told an audience of Stevens trustees, faculty, students and guests in the Pierce Room on the second floor of the Stevens Center.

"We discovered beauty here that I had no idea existed," he added, speaking also on behalf of his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Scott Raveche, who was on hand for the inauguration.

The ceremony was part of a day-long affair called "Stevens Day," which included the dedication of the Stevens computer network, the presentation of honorary degrees to Kean and Nobel Prize-winning physicist Kenneth Wilson followed by a panel discussion on United States competitiveness in the world economy.

Raveche, 45 years old, admitted that in the past, he associated his new home with the New Jersey Turnpike and Newark International Airport. That, however, was before he watched a television commercial featuring "a gentleman

talking about the attractiveness of the state and sounding like a New Englander," a reference to Kean's commercial endorsements for the state.

"I looked at the state educational system and I discovered that great advances have been made," Raveche said. "The state's investment in higher education was very visible across the board. Gov. Kean is a staunch supporter of higher education."

Raveche said the governor's policy of promoting a partnership between industry and academia had strengthened the state's economy, and noted that Kean's own grandfather was a Stevens graduate.

After receiving the Stevens Honor Award — Kean had previously received an honorary degree from the college in 1982



Dr. Harold J. Raveche gives his inaugural speech.

— the governor thanked the college by borrowing a quote from another New Jersey native, Yogi Berra.

"I want to thank all the people who made this night necessary," Kean said, quoting the Yankee great.

Speaking with the Hudson River and Manhattan skyline as a backdrop, Kean praised New Jersey's recent economic successes as a model for other states. As a prelude to the scheduled forum on economic competitiveness, he went on to compare the more centralized planning associated with Japan's economic success to the public/private partnership he has encouraged in New Jersey.

"Do we really want a centralized government agency

Stevens installs Raveche as president

Continued from Page 1

running our economy?" Kean asked. "Government has to provide the opportunity that can serve as the catalyst to make things happen."

After his brief presentation, Kean stayed on to hear the opening of the panel discussion before exiting to fulfill an engagement with President Reagan who was visiting the

state. Among those attending yesterday's ceremony were former Congresswoman Millicent Fenwick, Democratic Assemblyman Bernard Kenny Jr., and local Councilmen David Roberts and Norman Wilson.

Raveche succeeds Dr. Kenneth C. Rogers, who left Stevens in 1987 following his appointment by President Reagan to the U.S. Nuclear

Schools failure key Hoboken issue

8 candidates for mayor are in education

By James Efstathiou

Reform for Hoboken's failing school district is a key issue for candidates in the Nov. 8 election to name a mayor and a large City Council member.

The mayoral candidates are no strangers to education issues: three of the four contenders are teachers and three of the five council candidates have worked in the education field.

The education issue hit Hoboken voters where it hurts his year. Taxpayers have been asked to shoulder \$15.6 million of the proposed \$27 million fiscal '89 budget for a school system that ranks among the worst in the state.

State officials say the system turns out students who test poorly compared to state averages, at costs above comparable urban districts.

The district lost state certification when its students failed to meet minimum state standards during the 1983-1984 school year. Hoboken has been placed into Level III monitoring, a process that could lead to a state takeover if test scores and conditions in the system do not improve.

School administrators are implementing a two-phase, three-year Corrective Action Plan based on state recommendations. But while tests scores have been on the rise, candidates charge that patronage is still prevalent and claim that school board hiring is the system's major failing.

In 1972, Hoboken had 7,828 students and 520 board employees, according to school board figures. Today, despite a decline in enrollment to 3,722 students, the board employs 574 educators and workers.

The mayor and council have no direct control of the city schools — the nine-member elected Board of Education is responsible for that — but they do play a role in funding the schools and shaping the city's educational mission.

The opinions of the four mayoral candidates and four of the five council candidates on the Hoboken school system follow. Nunzio Malfetti, the fifth candidate for council-at-large, declined to comment on this issue.

Patrick Pasculli

Mayor Patrick Pasculli, 41, who is seeking reelection to the position he has held on an interim basis, has been a teacher in Hoboken for nearly 20 years.

Pasculli said he supports the council's plan to cut the proposed school budget by \$2.8 million, but the "real culprit of the financial dilemma in the school system and that is state funding. The administrative law judge ruled that the funding formula is unconstitutional," he said, referring to the recent decision in the Abbott vs. Burke school funding case.

The mayor supports an appointed school board to remove what he said was "a new breed of politician" created by board elections. However, he supported a 1985 referendum to change the board from an appointed to an elected body.

Pasculli supports the board's efforts to lease the recently closed David Rue School and believes that the problem



Like the closed Rue School, the Hoboken school system reportedly is crumbling, according to state education officials.

of patronage in board hiring has been alleviated in recent years.

Joe Della Fave

Pasculli's opponents for mayor, including 37-year-old Joseph Della Fave, see political patronage as the biggest problem in the district.

"The public school system has been used as a patronage dumping ground," said Della Fave, former chairman of the history department at St. Peter's Preparatory School. "When the state and federal government were paying the cost, taxpayers were less concerned about it. The mayor has to demand that educational reform, not political hirings, be the priority of the system."

Della Fave said it would be inappropriate for the next mayor, who will serve a six-month term, to seek the power to appoint board members. He opposes the sale of Rue School until financial and population trend studies have been undertaken. He supports the council's budget cuts but believes more than budget cutting is necessary to reform the system.

"There's no question in my mind that we could cut the budget and not affect the level of education today," Della Fave said. "Monies have been mis-spent and misused in this system."

Robert King

Robert P. King, 43, a former teacher at St. Peter's College, Jersey City State College and Essex County Community College in Newark, sees political interference as the greatest ill of the school system.

"Primarily, the problem with the Hoboken educational system is that it is riddled with politics, and politics leads to a form of corruption," King said. "Politics, not academics, rules the classroom, the school buildings and the school board."

King believes the result of patronage has been the inability of supervisors to oversee and evaluate teacher performance without bias. "Teachers with political connections don't need to have supervisory conferences," he said.

King favors a return to an appointed school board. He is against the sale or lease of Rue School and advocates reopening the recently renovated school. He said he is for trimming the school budget down to include only programs that have been documented to have benefited students.

Robert Ranieri

Council President Robert Ranieri, 59, agrees patronage has shackled the system. He advocates limited government involvement in the school board.

"There seems to be a feeling in the city that the mayor's office can solve the problems of education in Hoboken," Ranieri said. "The less the mayor's office has to do with education, the better the system will be."

Ranieri, who supported the 1985 changeover to an elected school board, believes returning to an appointed board would lead to less politics in the schools. He advocates creating a panel comprised of specialists in urban education to choose candidates for the board.

The councilman is against the board's plan to lease space at Rue School and has requested the city's law department to investigate a law suit to halt the proposal. Ranieri supported the council's school budget cut but favors a compromise solution to the board's appeal.

Steve Busch

Steve Busch, 37, a former employee of the New York State Education Department, believes that due to the poor performance of city schools, the City Council must expand its role in the district.

"We're spending more on less enrollment and the New Jersey Board of Education has dropped its accreditation of our school system," Busch said. "The city council has to get involved at this point instead of saying we'll only get involved in budgetary matters."

Busch advocates a line-item by comparison of Hoboken with other urban districts to determine if and where spending cuts could be made. "We don't have to re-invent the wheel. We just have to learn from other district's success," he said.

Patronage is a problem in the district, as it is throughout city government, Busch said, but simply cutting the budget won't end political hirings or improve school performance. Busch favors the current process of electing school board members on the premise that elections reduce patronage. He supports the board's plan to lease space at Rue School.

Richard Del Boccio

Richard Del Boccio, 48, principal at Salvatore Calabro School and candidate for council-at-large, agrees with Pasculli that patronage is not a critical problem.

was clearly on improving the nation's industrial and technical excellence on the world market. Wesley J. Howe, chairman of the Stevens board of trustees, introduced Raveche by remarking that Stevens Tech has a history of turning out leaders in business, architecture and education.

"Somehow today, though, we feel this is not enough," Howe said. "Never before has the need been more keen for talented Stevens graduates."

Howe, who chairs the body that selected Raveche, said the newly installed president "is the leader that we need."

Kean, to whom Raveche awarded the Stevens Honor Award — a copy of the university's original charter — credited his own presence to New Jersey's favorable economic climate.

"New Jersey's recent successes could offer some direction to the rest of the country," Kean asserted, saying his administration has created 700,000 new

"We are not overloaded in administration," he said. Del Boccio believes the district has made a turn-around, and said improved test scores signal a recovering system.

"Many good things occur each day in every school during the course of the year. Children are learning," Del Boccio said.

The candidate advocates a return to an appointed school board to encourage qualified people who do not wish to go through an election to serve on the board. He called on parents skeptical of the system to review the schools and administration for themselves and encouraged them to join the system.

Terry LaBruno

Terry LaBruno, 31, a teacher at Academy of the Sacred Heart in Hoboken, believes that parent involvement is crucial to the success of the district.

"I believe that in order for our Hoboken educational system to work, the people in it have to believe that it can be better," LaBruno said. "If elected, I would work with Board of Education members to immediately get more parents involved in the system."

LaBruno advocates bi-lingual parent/administrator meetings to better serve the district's Spanish speaking population, establishing motivational workshops for teachers, an incentive program for students and mandatory after-school tutoring for students in danger of failing.

The candidate also supports a city-wide AIDS and drug awareness program to include private and public schools and the return to an appointed school board. She favored the closing of Rue School but was against not rehiring teachers.

Frank Raia

Council incumbent Frank Raia, 37, believes the district will improve not through greater spending but with greater community involvement and increased accountability.

"It is necessary to demand and increase accountability from those who are paid to administer the system," Raia said.

Raia advocates a line-item review of the budget by the council instead of across the board percentage cuts. "If we use a scalpel instead of a machete, we would be better able to remove the excess without damaging the heart of our educational system," he said.

Columbus Day

Hudson hails an explorer

Officials seeking 1992 celebration

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Under hazy blue skies punctuated by a brisk fall breeze, local officials celebrated Columbus Day yesterday by looking ahead to 1992, the 500th anniversary of the Italian explorer's discovery of America.

City Clerk James Farina — whose political club, the Young Democrats, sponsored yesterday's ceremony in Columbus Park here — said he believes the Mile Square City would be a good place for the nation to commemorate the historic date.

"I think the best spot to have it is right here in Hoboken, in Columbus Park," Farina, president of the political club and master of ceremonies at the occasion, said. "We have a stadium in the back to hold all the people, so I think we're well-situated."

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DON SMITH THE HUDSON DISPATCH

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"Liberty State Park should be in the front-running for it," Pesin said. He attributed the park's large size — hundreds of acres bigger than Hoboken's Columbus Park — and its proximity to the Statue of Liberty as its prime drawing points.

Man dead, wife critical in suicide-slaying

By Blanca M. Quintanilla

A Hoboken resident is dead and his estranged wife remains in critical condition in a New York hospital following an apparent suicide and attempted homicide Saturday morning.

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His wife, Joan Riana, 50, remains in critical condition with a bullet wound of the left side of her head.

The shooting took place at 9:48 a.m. Saturday in the parking lot of the International House of Pancakes on Jericho Turnpike in Long Island, where the couple had come together to have breakfast, police said.

The couple had a "quiet" breakfast and conversation during the time they

spent at the restaurant, and eyewitness reported no indication of disputes among the two parties, according to reports compiled by Suffolk County Police.

During breakfast, Joan Riana, a resident of East Northport, had reportedly asked her husband for a divorce, according to sources close to the investigation.

Police said after breakfast, they both walked out of the restaurant towards the parking lot.

Several witnesses said the couple sat for a while inside Riana's Cadillac. Then, the early Saturday morning quietness of the restaurant was shattered when customers began hearing gunshots and ran out to the parking lot.

The bystanders phoned police, who arrived a few minutes later to find Joan Riana sitting in the Cadillac's front seat and still conscious, but with a bullet wound of the left side of her head.

They also found Riana, who unlike his wife, showed no signs of life. He had apparently shot himself. The Suffolk County Homicide Squad would not release details about the weapon or the order of events.

Joan Riana apparently was able to tell a police officer on her way to St. John's Hospital in Smithtown how the incident occurred.

Then she slipped into a coma and was clinging to life while still in critical condition, according to a hospital spokesman last night.

Riana, a former resident of East Northport, had moved to Hoboken two months ago. According to police, he was a self-employed restaurant owner in town.

Police said Riana was a native of Colombia and his wife was originally from Taiwan.

Police said the case is still under investigation.

Ranieri charges voters harassed

HOBOKEN—A mayoral candidate wrote a letter of protest to a federal office yesterday charging that the director of the city's Housing Authority harassed senior citizens by campaigning.

City Council President Robert A. Ranieri said Dominic Gallo, executive director of the Hoboken Housing Authority, had intimidated senior citizens in federally-subsidized buildings by asking them to vote for Mayor Patrick Pasculli in the Nov. 8 election.

Ranieri is challenging Pasculli in the race. Ranieri said "several" senior citizens complained to him about Gallo's tactics, which Ranieri charged put undue pressure on seniors afraid of losing their subsidized housing. Gallo, who has an unlisted telephone number, could not be reached for comment late yesterday.

Another mayoral candidate, Councilman Joseph Della Fave, also said he had received complaints about Gallo pressuring senior citizens.

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"I think this is the fairest system. I don't know if it is the best way but it is the fairest," Raffa said.

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The lottery was designed to eliminate political favoritism from the placement of tenants.

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Kean given award

Raveche inducted to head Stevens

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The Hudson Dispatch

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"Where will we get the resources to look after these problems?" Raveche, 44, asked after he was installed. "As we admire and respect the generosity of the United States as the international benefactor, let us ask the very difficult question: How can a debtor nation continue to lead?"

Raveche, formerly the dean of science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., was named president in January and has been serving in that capacity since early this year.

In an afternoon program attended by 500 and marked by a panel discussion on U.S. economic competitiveness, the emphasis

was clearly on improving the nation's industrial and technical excellence on the world market.

Wesley J. Howe, chairman of the Stevens board of trustees, introduced Raveche by remarking that Stevens Tech has a history of turning out leaders in business, architecture and education.

"Somehow today, though, we feel this is not enough," Howe said. "Never before has the need been more keen for talented Stevens graduates."

Howe, who chairs the body that selected Raveche, said the newly installed president "is the leader that we need."

Kean, to whom Raveche awarded the Stevens Honor Award — a copy of the university's original charter — credited his own presence to New Jersey's favorable economic climate.



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"It was done fairly so residents can feel confident that housing units are distributed fairly and equitably," said Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who attended the drawing.

Schools failure key Hoboken issue

3 candidates for mayor are in education

By James Efstathiou

Reform for Hoboken's failing school district is a key issue for candidates in the Nov. 8 election to name a mayor and a large City Council member.

The mayoral candidates are no strangers to education issues: three of the four contenders are teachers and three of the five council candidates have worked in the education field.

The education issue hit Hoboken voters where it hurts his year. Taxpayers have been asked to shoulder \$15.6 million of the proposed \$27 million fiscal '89 budget for a school system that ranks among the worst in the state.

State officials say the system turns out students who test poorly compared to state averages, at costs above comparable urban districts.

The district lost state certification when its students failed to meet minimum state standards during the 1983-1984 school year. Hoboken has been placed into Level III monitoring, a process that could lead to state takeover if test scores and conditions in the system do not improve.

School administrators are implementing a two-phase, three-year Corrective Action Plan based on state recommendations. But while tests scores have been on the rise, candidates charge that patronage is still prevalent and claim that school board hiring is the system's major failing.

In 1972, Hoboken had 7,828 students and 520 board employees, according to school board figures. Today, despite a decline in enrollment to 3,722 students, the board employs 574 educators and workers.

The mayor and council have no direct control of the city schools — the nine-member elected Board of Education is responsible for that — but they do play a role in funding the schools and shaping the city's educational mission.

The opinions of the four mayoral candidates and four of the five council candidates on the Hoboken school system follow. Nunzio Malfetti, the fifth candidate for council-at-large, declined to comment on this issue.

Patrick Pasculli

Mayor Patrick Pasculli, 41, who is seeking reelection to the position he has held on an interim basis, has been a teacher in Hoboken for nearly 20 years.

Pasculli said he supports the council's plan to cut the proposed school budget by \$2.8 million, but the "real culprit of the financial dilemma in the school system and that is state funding. The administrative law judge ruled that the funding formula is unconstitutional," he said, referring to the recent decision in the Abbott vs. Burke school funding case.

The mayor supports an appointed school board to remove what he said was "a new breed of politician" created by board elections. However, he supported a 1985 referendum to change the board from an appointed to an elected body.

Pasculli supports the board's efforts to lease the recently closed David Rue School and believes that the problem



Like the closed Rue School, the Hoboken school system reportedly is crumbling, according to state education officials.

of patronage in board hiring has been alleviated in recent years.

Joe Della Fave

Pasculli's opponents for mayor, including 37-year-old Joseph Della Fave, see political patronage as the biggest problem in the district.

"The public school system has been used as a patronage dumping ground," said Della Fave, former chairman of the history department at St. Peter's Preparatory School. "When the state and federal government were paying the cost, taxpayers were less concerned about it. The mayor has to demand that educational reform, not political hirings, be the priority of the system."

Della Fave said it would be inappropriate for the next mayor, who will serve a six-month term, to seek the power to appoint board members. He opposes the sale of Rue School until financial and population trend studies have been undertaken. He supports the council's budget cuts but believes more direct control is necessary to reform the system.

"There's no question in my mind that we could cut the budget and not affect the level of education today," Della Fave said. "Monies have been mispent and misused in this system."

Robert King

Robert P. King, 43, a former teacher at St. Peter's College, Jersey City State College and Essex County Community College in Newark, sees political interference as the greatest ill of the school system.

"Primarily, the problem with the Hoboken educational system is that it is riddled with politics, and politics leads to a form of corruption," King said. "Politics, not academics, rules the classroom, the school buildings and the school board."

King believes the result of patronage has been the inability of supervisors to oversee and evaluate teacher performance without bias. "Teachers with political connections don't need to have supervisory conferences," he said.

King favors a return to an appointed school board. He is against the sale or lease of Rue School and advocates reopening the recently renovated school. He said he is for trimming the school budget down to include only programs that have been documented to have benefitted students.

Robert Ranieri

Council President Robert Ranieri, 59, agrees patronage has shackled the system. He advocates limited government involvement in the school board.

"There seems to be a feeling in the city that the mayor's office can solve the problems of education in Hoboken," Ranieri said. "The less the mayor's office has to do with education, the better the system will be."

Ranieri, who supported the 1985 changeover to an elected school board, believes returning to an appointed board would lead to less politics in the schools. He advocates creating a panel comprised of specialists in urban education to choose candidates for the board.

The councilman is against the board's plan to lease space at Rue School and has requested the city's law department to investigate a law suit to halt the proposal. Ranieri supported the council's school budget cut but favors a compromise solution to the board's appeal.

Steve Busch

Steve Busch, 37, a former employee of the New York State Education Department, believes that due to the poor performance of city schools, the City Council must expand its role in the district.

"We're spending more on less enrollment and the New Jersey Board of Education has dropped its accreditation of our school system," Busch said. "The city council has to get involved at this point instead of saying we'll only get involved in budgetary matters."

Busch advocates a line-item budget by comparison of Hoboken with other urban districts to determine if and where spending cuts could be made. "We don't have to re-invent the wheel. We just have to learn from other district's success," he said.

Patronage is a problem in the district, as it is throughout city government, Busch said, but simply cutting the budget won't end political hirings or improve school performance. Busch favors the current process of electing school board members on the premise that elections reduce patronage. He supports the board's plan to lease space at Rue School.

Richard Del Boccio

Richard Del Boccio, 48, principal at Salvatore Calabro School and candidate for council-at-large, agrees with Pasculli that patronage is not a critical problem.

"We are not overloaded in administration," he said. Del Boccio believes the district has made a turn-around, and said improved test scores signal a recovering system.

"Many good things occur each day in every school during the course of the year. Children are learning," Del Boccio said.

The candidate advocates a return to an appointed school board to encourage qualified people who do not wish to go through an election to serve on the board. He called on parents skeptical of the system to review the schools and administration for themselves and encouraged them to join the system.

Terry LaBruno

Terry LaBruno, 31, a teacher at Academy of the Sacred Heart in Hoboken, believes that parent involvement is crucial to the success of the district.

"I believe that in order for our Hoboken educational system to work, the people in it have to believe that it can be better," LaBruno said. "If elected, I would work with Board of Education members to immediately get more parents involved in the system."

LaBruno advocates bi-lingual parent/administrator meetings to better serve the district's Spanish speaking population, establishing motivational workshops for teachers, an incentive program for students and mandatory after-school tutoring for students in danger of failing.

The candidate also supports a city-wide AIDS and drug awareness program to include private and public schools and the return to an appointed school board. She favored the closing of Rue School but was against not rehiring teachers.

Frank Raia

Council incumbent Frank Raia, 37, believes the district will improve not through greater spending but with greater community involvement and increased accountability.

"It is necessary to demand and increase accountability from those who are paid to administer the system," Raia said.

Raia advocates a line-item review of the budget by the council instead of across the board percentage cuts. "If we use a scalpel instead of a machete, we would be better able to remove the excess without damaging the heart of our educational system," he said.

Columbus Day

Hudson hails an explorer

Officials seeking 1992 celebration

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Under hazy blue skies punctuated by a brisk fall breeze, local officials celebrated Columbus Day yesterday by looking ahead to 1992, the 500th anniversary of the Italian explorer's discovery of America.

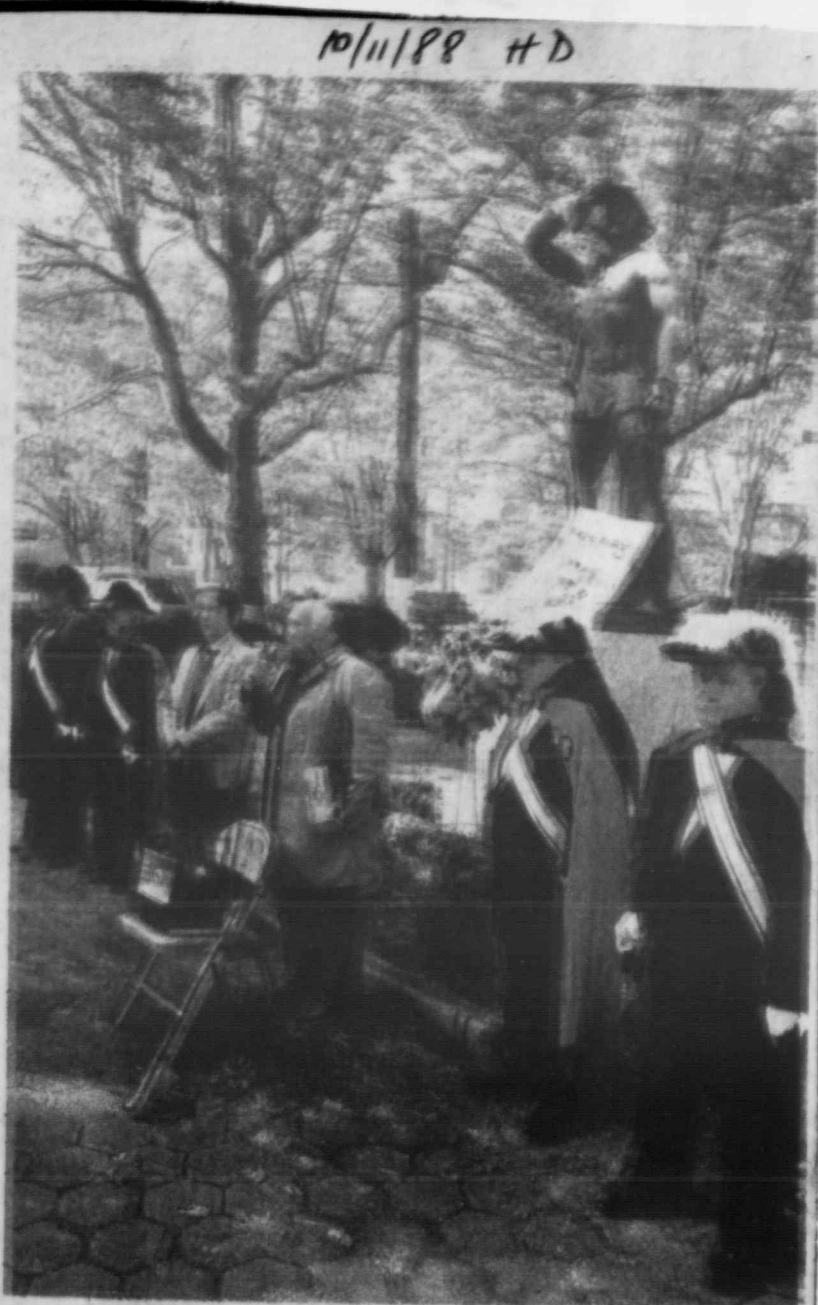
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"I think this is the fairest system. I don't know if it is the best way but it is the fairest," Raffa said.

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"New Jersey's recent successes could offer some direction to the rest of the country," Kean asserted, saying his administration has created 700,000 new



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Waterfront plan reviews mixed

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—City officials and residents gave a mixed review to plans presented last night to the City Council for a complex of towers, parks and walkways on city-owned land on the waterfront.

The complex would amount to the largest project ever undertaken on city land, with an expected price tag of \$500 million

or more.

Predictably, Mayor Patrick Pasculli and his council supporters gave the plan for a sprawling, mixed-use project good marks. Pasculli, who is running in the Nov. 8 mayoral race, had secured council approval to hire the planner that drew the plans.

"THIS IS a step forward in what is a very comprehensive,

detailed planning process," Pasculli said after planner Stanton Eckstut presented sketches and a model depicting the complex. Eckstut, who designed Battery Park City in lower Manhattan, has planned a mix of low- and high-rise office and residential towers, a marina, a set of small parks, an "esplanade" parallel to the river, a fishing pier and a floating swimming pool, all slated for 17.5 acres of city land

between Newark Avenue and Fifth Street. The highest building is to be a 250-foot-tall office tower on Pier A, according to the plan. No developer has been selected for the site, and the plans are preliminary and subject to change. The council last night hired a consultant to study the financial ramifications of Eckstut's plan. While Pasculli, members of his administration and Coun-

cilman David Roberts all said they strongly approved of the plans, others had problems with them. Daniel Tumpson, a Park Avenue resident, ripped Pasculli for offering the plan without financial analysis accompanying it. "SO FAR, it has been a shambles of a public process," Tumpson said. "There is no evidence that this plan will gen-

erate revenue. There was no public process involved here. This is out of control — this city is out of control." Councilman Steve Cappiello said he thought the plan was not big enough to earn the city sufficient tax dollars. Cappiello believed that a bigger project would generate more tax money. "I don't think it's dense enough," Cappiello said. "I want to see what the money guys say."

Devotees say St. Jude's cause not lost

By Emily M. Smith

Jean Bucco's faith in St. Jude appeared 32 years ago when doctors forecast that her prematurely-born son would not survive.

She went straight to St. Lucy's Church which housed the shrine of St. Jude, patron saint of impossible and desperate causes.

Bucco's son is still alive and her belief is still steadfast. "Through St. Jude I got a real good job," she said of her secretarial position at the Hoboken

library. "He'll help ya. He really does. He's really great." St. Jude helped Angela Curcio with some personal problems. He saw Katherine Harasin through some physical ailments.

But the saint has yet to solve what must be among his most challenging requests — the reopening of St. Lucy's church and the return to his traditional Jersey City home.

The three women were among some 100 people who gathered last night outside the closed church, at 15th and

Grove Streets. It was the last of three services that day. Those without gloves and winter coats shivered in the clear cold as they sang and prayed in celebration of the first of a nine-day annual observance.

A statue of the saint rests outside the closed church, sheltered by a stone grotto adorned with flowers. Nearby, a three-sided trailer served as the altar. In the traffic-free street, white collapsible chairs substituted for pews and the sidewalk for kneelers.

The novena has been held

outdoors for three years, since the Archdiocese of Newark decided the congregation had become too small to warrant the church. When St. Lucy's closed in April 1985, the shrine to St. Jude was taken from its home of 53 years.

The church's closing and the shrine's removal created resentment among the people who had prayed there for as long as 40 years. That resentment was organized into the Crusade to Reopen St. Lucy's

See DEVOTEES — Page 10.

Cunning irked by failure to see land use contract

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Although the Hoboken City Council will be asked to vote next week on a land disposition agreement with developer Joseph Barry, no members have seen a copy of the lengthy document.

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham said she was annoyed. "As chairman of the committee on community development, I have asked for a copy and was told by (CDA director) Peggy Thomas that we would be given drafts," Cunningham said.

"The majority of the City Council hasn't seen it, the majority of the City Council has not been involved in the negotiations. Therefore, I don't know anyone can expect the majority of the council to vote on this next week," she added.

Thomas, who met with Cunningham's committee yesterday, said she did not furnish copies of the proposed contract because the document was much more involved than she had anticipated and that she was still reviewing it.

Thomas said that if she had not completed the review by Monday, she will ask the council to allow the document to be introduced on Wednesday and then tabled for another two weeks for review.

According to a fact sheet on the proposed LDA, the city plans to sell Barry a vacant lot for \$1.1 million at Observer Highway and Bloomfield Street to build his affordable housing project.

Barry had planned to buy three lots at Observer Highway to build three towers but scrapped those plans after lead and mercury were found at the site.

The LDA lists the land sale price at \$1.1 million on the condition that cleanup costs do not exceed \$250,000.

If the costs exceed \$250,000, the price for the land will decrease accordingly with the city chipping in up to \$250,000 for clean up costs, Thomas said.

Cunning said she was prepared to give \$100,000 for cleanup costs but that she was not ready to match the developer's costs.

After lead and mercury were found at the site, Barry redesigned the project to build one 12-story building of affordable housing at Observer High-

way and two 12-story buildings of market rate apartments at Hudson and River streets near the waterfront.

The LDA is the legal document needed before the city gives Barry the title to the land. The city and Barry still need to work out an agreement for the two waterfront sites.

But Cunningham is concerned that the council is given enough time to review the proposed contract because "it is setting precedent on how we handle our waterfront property."

Hoboken to unveil waterfront 'draft'

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A draft design of a 3.5 million-square-foot Hoboken waterfront development which limits building heights to less than 20 stories and calls for five 15-story housing towers will be publicly presented tomorrow in City Hall.

Qualifying the plan as a "draft," Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli yesterday said the proposal maintains the city's character, preserves view corridors, provides open space and public parks — complete with a floating swimming pool — and sets heights at 15 and 18 stories between the train terminal and Fifth Street.

"I would say that this is the most significant first step in what has been the most comprehensive planning process of our city-owned waterfront property," Pasculli said yesterday.

He emphasized the plan was only a draft and not final. He said the city still needs to hire a financial consultant to see whether it can afford the construction and public facilities. "The city negotiating com-

mittee reviewed the draft plan on Friday and they responded favorably. The full City Council will be given a public briefing Wednesday at 5 p.m.," he said.

"All members of the public at large I invite to discuss and comment on the plan from the beginning draft, which is Wednesday night, until the final plan for recommendation to the council is presented," Pasculli said.

The presentation tomorrow will be made by Stanley Eckstut, an urban designer who has done projects in New York, Baltimore and Boston.

The tentative design calls for open space and public recreational space and facilities between Fifth and Sixth streets and for the construction of five 15-story housing towers between First and Fourth street in front of the two existing 25-story Marineview towers.

Pasculli said that one plan called for lower heights for that area but that plan was scrapped and heights were then increased to prevent the Marineview towers' becoming the signature of the Hoboken waterfront.

First and Fourth streets, under the plan, would be extended to handle vehicular traffic out to piers A and C respectively.

Fifth Street would be extended for pedestrian traffic out to a fishing pier and marina.

The floating swimming pool would also be located in that area.

The draft calls for commercial space on Pier A as well as a 250-foot high commercial tower at the end of the pier.

The draft also includes a 70-foot walkway along the waterfront.

"The planning process has been an open public process and we are inviting the public at large to comment on our first draft of what we see as the future of Hoboken's waterfront," Pasculli said.

The next step for the city is to hire a financial consultant to determine whether the city can afford the proposed plan, he said.

Meanwhile, First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman, who is a member of the waterfront negotiating team as-

signed to the physical planning subcommittee, was surprised to learn that Pasculli is going ahead with presenting a draft design.

"What happened to our committee? We haven't met in weeks, close to two months. We looked at different options in August, then there was going to be an analysis of traffic and fiscal impacts," Newman said.

"I don't know what is going to be presented. He wants something out there before the election. I can understand that. But this has got to be viewed as an administration proposal and not a committee plan," he added.

City Council Robert Ranieri, a mayoral candidate, agreed that Pasculli is attempting to garner votes with a draft plan for the waterfront.

However, Ranieri said if residents are unhappy, they can register their complaints on Nov. 8, Election Day.

Ranieri opposes the plan for 15-story towers and recommends height limits for that area at five stories.

"I would rather see 15 five-story buildings," he said.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1988

31h

Devotees say cause not lost

Continued from Page 1

Church Shrine of St. Jude. Its members said they don't intend to stop fighting until they win.

Their crusade, members said, has not endeared them to the archdiocese. It has chilled relations between the congregation and church officials.

"We're like lepers," said Curcio, president of the crusade. "Because the archdiocese says, 'You don't, you can't and if you do you will be ostracized.' ... We're not rebels. We're just good faithful people."

An order from the archbishop forbids priests from saying Masses outside St. Lucy's. The first year, a priest from India said the Mass. The second year, no priest could be found.

But this year, St. Jude came through once again. A priest will offer a Mass on four of the nine days. The Rev. Paul A. Wickens said the Mass last night in traditional Latin. He also has been attending the crusaders' weekly Tuesday vigil outside the church.

Wickens, of St. Anthony of Padua Chapel in Livingston, said he ignored the bishop's order because, "I think there's a higher law."

A few blocks from the chilly Grove Street gathering, a similar observation began in the warmth of St. Michael's Church, 252 Ninth St., the new home of St. Jude's shrine.

Some at the Grove Street novena said they tried relocating. But the new church just wasn't the same.

Frances Donivan said, "I just didn't feel like I made the novena to St. Jude."

Miriam Morely, a 35-year veteran of the shrine, said she's never been in a church that duplicated the warmth of St. Lucy's.

The flock of St. Jude hope that development of the area will convince the archdiocese the congregation will grow and St. Lucy's is needed. A 400-unit building is planned for nearby 18th Street, occupancy in Newport Centre is growing and the old Lackawanna Terminal may go condo.

School fund ruling prompts bickering

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a teacher in the public school system, yesterday said he would not support a move to appeal the state Department of Education's decision to return \$2.8 million to the local school budget.

"You mean appeal the appeal and have more political rhetoric? The state commissioner of education is the foremost authority on education in this state and I believe his decision was educationally sound," Pasculli said yesterday.

"Let's stop the political nonsense, get behind the su-

perintendent and his staff and let's get on with the business of improving education," he added.

The City Council chopped \$2.8 million, which represents about \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation on the tax rate, from the proposed \$27 million budget after voters rejected the document in a referendum April 5.

The city was notified Monday the money would be restored because the state objected that the budget discussions were limited to committees of the City Council

See SCHOOL — Page 6.

School fund ruling prompts bickering

Continued from Page 1

and Board of Education and were not conducted by both bodies in full.

Although it is not Pasculli's decision to appeal the state ruling, members of the City Council said his position on the appeal is indicative of his stand on school spending.

Joseph Rafter, chairman of the school board, accused Pasculli and other council members of offering a straw defense

for the cuts while they really wanted the money left in the school budget to continue a system of political patronage.

Pasculli said yesterday he accepts the state education commissioner's opinion that the money was needed to preserve education.

Rafter led the school board and council to reduce spending, which he said would not interfere with the quality of education, but rather rid the

system of what he described as unnecessary job given out as political rewards.

Meanwhile, Law Director Eugene O'Connell said that the city has a strong case to present to the Appellate Court because the Department of Education returned the funds based on a technical error in the budget-cutting process rather than on the merits of the funding.

Of the \$2.8 million removed from the budget, the state restored nearly \$1.1 million, which represented the cost of closing a school, he said. The state ruled it was too late to close a school at this time, O'Connell said. Another \$400,000 was restored on educational merits, he said. That left \$1.3 million restored on a technical error rather than from an argument on merit, O'Connell said.

"All the political rhetoric has been proven untrue. The commissioner went over the budget and every dollar of spending line item by line item. The commissioner is the foremost authority on education spending. They lost the case, in plain simple English. They don't care about reductions, they simply want to use the issue to generate more political rhetoric," Pasculli said.

Rafter, as well as Councilman Thomas Newman, Joseph Della Fave and Robert Ranieri, have blamed Pasculli for not directing a defense for the case until days before it was to be heard by the state.

Pasculli, appointed in March by the council after the sudden death of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, said that it was a council responsibility and not his to make sure a defense was prepared. Yesterday, he also faulted the Vezzetti administration for not initiating a de-

fense in January when the school budget was drafted.

"Nothing was done. They are not sincere about reductions in spending. They were only interested in political rhetoric and the result was that rhetoric was rejected by the state," he said.

Della Fave, a mayoral candidate who resigned from his teaching job in a private school to campaign, said yesterday he was "incensed by both the state dismissing this on technicalities and by the mayor's lack of leadership in defending the city's position. It is a travesty for taxpayers but apparently not for Pasculli's patronage crew."

Della Fave found Pasculli's criticism of the Vezzetti administration particularly offensive because when Vezzetti was mayor, Pasculli was council president, he said, and in that role did not aggressively fight to reduce school spending. As mayor, Della Fave said, Pasculli has reversed his opinion and said it is the council's responsibility to defend the cuts.

"When does Patty ever take responsibility and leadership?" Della Fave asked. He would support an appeal to the state, he said.

City Council President Robert Ranieri, also a mayoral candidate, said yesterday he does not support bringing the case to the state Appellate Court but rather supports a compromise between the council and Board of Education.

"The cuts may be too deep. The smart thing to do is compromise. And, Mr. Interim is prohibited from officially expressing an opinion on the budget because as a sixth-grade school teacher (Pasculli teaches eighth-grade), he is in conflict of interest," Ranieri said.

State blunts school budget ax

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

The state Department of Education will restore the \$2.8 million the Hoboken City Council cut from the \$27 million school board budget, local officials learned yesterday afternoon.

An administrative law judge made the determination after city attorneys fought to maintain the cuts. Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a public school teacher, said the money will have to come out of property taxes next year. The money represents about \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The \$2.8 million was cut from the budget after city residents voted against a proposed \$27 million school budget on April 5. The City Council voted to trim the budget and agreed with some Board of Education trustees who said the school system was using public money for political jobs while providing a poor level of education.

School board Chairman Joseph Rafter led the board to reduce spending which, he said, would not interfere with the quality of education. The 84

jobs struck from the budget were for the most part political, he said.

Only a handful of council members really supported the cuts, Rafter said, and there was no aggressive effort to make the cuts stick when they had to be defended in the hearings against state education officials.

School board members wishing to reform the education system made detailed suggestions on how to cut spending

without hurting education, he said. But instead of substantiating the school board members' work, council members simply adopted their detailed suggestions as an official resolution, he said.

The city learned of the state decision restoring the cuts after Vincent Calabrese, a state education official, called Law Director Eugene O'Connell.

O'Connell did not deal aggressively with the matter and

instructed the Law Department to begin a defense only days before the case went to trial before the state, according to Rafter.

"My contention from that start that it would be political suicide for Patty (Pasculli) to cut all those people from the Board of Education," said Rafter, who has accused the present and past administrations of giving out jobs in the school system as political rewards.

"Gene O'Connell made a strong attempt. The problem was that he was put on the case far too late," Rafter said.

Pasculli has said it was up to the City Council and not him to defend the cuts. Council members responded that they do not have the staff, expertise or time to argue on the city's behalf.

"This is the result of the City Council and the Board of Education continually operating in a political forum when it comes to cuts in the education budget," Pasculli said.

The state restored the mon-

See STATE — Page 10.

State blunts school budget ax

Continued from Page 1

ey primarily because it was critical of the public process in which the money was removed, O'Connell said.

The state faulted the fact that the budget cuts and dialogue concerning the cuts were made between a council committee and a minority of the school board rather than in the presence of full representation of both public bodies, he said.

Rafter said he found that reasoning ironic since he had approached City Council President Robert Ranieri for a public meeting with the full board and was told that the council operated by committee. Thus, Rafter said he had to restrict his meetings to the council school budget committee headed by Councilman Steve Cappiello.

School trustee James Fari-

na, who voted against the cuts, called the state's decision a "victory for the school children."

"I think that this should end the accusations and propaganda about political patronage and what we do with the money. It would seem to me that the commissioner of education restored the money on the merits of our appeal and what we needed to run the school system," Farina said.

The state has no idea of the local political scene, Rafter said.

Pasculli will petition the state for more educational funding, he said.

In the meantime, he said that city needs "to provide new funding sources at the local level by expanding our tax base and generating new revenue."

Etiquette goes by board in election

By James Efstathiou

Mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave highlighted his campaign's voter registration drive by holding a press conference at the County Board of Elections office on the final day of voter registration.

On Tuesday, Della Fave submitted a stack of approximately 500 registration forms to the board clerk, bringing the number of new voters his campaign claims to have registered to 2,792.

Some 50 Della Fave volunteers have been signing up voters around town and at the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan. "We're trying to match up their desire to vote in the presidential election with participation in local affairs," Della Fave said.

There are 510 more registered voters in Hoboken today than in 1987, according to election board figures, but that total does not count voters registered since Sept. 27.

"If you want to fight against the machine, you've got to become a voter in town," Della Fave said.

Campaign shenanigans

Two mayoral candidates were victims of campaign shenanigans last week involving acts of aggression against campaign posters.

In one incident, Council President Robert Ranieri reported the theft of a four-by-eight foot campaign sign from a billboard at the corner of First and Madison streets.

The sign was identical to those at Ranieri's Washington Street headquarters which read, "Mayor Ranieri: Qualified."

"It's foolish hooliganism by rank amateurs," Ranieri said, adding that the signs cost \$250 apiece. "We have leads on the person who absconded with the billboard and we want it returned or replaced."

In a separate incident,

posters advertising the candidacy of Mayor Patrick Pasculli and council running mate Richard Del Boccio were ripped from the windows of the Hoboken Daily News convenience store at Fifth and Washington streets. A store manager said the signs were torn down by youngsters in late evening a week ago last night and eggs were thrown at a glass door with another sign on it.

"It was just mischievous youngsters," Pasculli said. "I don't believe it was anything to do with our campaign."

The store manager agreed and new signs were back up on Tuesday.

CUNA attack

Early last week, a bilingual newsletter bashing the candidacy of Joseph Della Fave appeared on city streets. The newsletter bore the signature of CUNA Director Juan Garcia.

The letter accused Della Fave of desecrating the flag of Puerto Rico, which hangs in the candidate's headquarters, and of being "anti-Hispanic."

"Our flag is something worthy of much more respect than has been accorded to it by this individual," the letter read. "Especially when you consider that he is well known by many in our community as being anti-Hispanic."

Della Fave's response was to point out that he also displays the American, Italian and Irish flags in his headquarters and that Garcia's letter, which appears similar to other CUNA newsletters, may entail the improper use of city funds.

CUNA receives grants from the city to run a daycare program and other community services, even though the group has been criticized by state agencies for mis-spending.

"I just went and gave a copy to the law director for his files," Della Fave said. "This is another example of him possibly using city money improperly."



Photo by Scott Litichy

GONE TO THE DOGS—Political pundits would be tempted to say the Hoboken election has gone to the dogs. Nunzio Malfetti, a candidate for the at-large City Council seat, has taken to hitting the campaign trail with his dog, Lady, who is wearing a "Vote for Malfetti" coat. The only question is: will she vote on Nov. 8?

Garcia did not return requests for comment.

What's in a name?

Candidates are using a variety of phrases to describe Pat Pasculli's standing as interim mayor.

Pasculli, who took office in March, has been referred to by his opponents as "part-time

mayor," "temporary mayor," and "Mr. Interim," labels he shrugs off in the heat of the campaign. He was surprised, however, to learn that a newspaper advertisement placed by the Hoboken Board of Health identified him as "Patrick Pasculli, Acting Mayor." "I just as-

Continued on next page.

Housing needs are big election theme

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken's need for affordable housing has been a major issue in the mayoral election.

Many longtime residents of the Mile Square City fear they will lose their homes or apartments as they are priced out by condominium development and new construction.

Estimates of the number of residents in need of affordable housing in Hoboken range from 2,000 to 10,000. But all the experts agree that the demand is greater than the supply, and the number of reasonably priced dwelling units is shrinking.

The late Mayor Thomas Vezetti proposed an ordinance that would have set formulas for contributions to affordable housing from all developers, but Vezetti died before the ordinance was approved. The council passed a watered-down version of the law that exempts buildings of 10 units or less from affordable housing contributions.

Here are the positions of the candidates for mayor and at-large council on the issue of affordable housing:

Joseph Della Fave

Councilman Joseph Della Fave helped draft the original affordable housing ordinance and opposed the revisions which were offered by Councilman David Roberts, a Pasculli ally, and supported by Pasculli and Ranieri.

While the ordinance was intended to help the city's poor, Della Fave said that families of four earning \$40,000 annually are also finding it difficult to remain in Hoboken.

"The inclusionary housing law represents our vision of progress with people, a Hoboken of tomorrow which includes the people of today," Della Fave said. "Development may be our greatest resource to address our problems, but we must manage it, including the waterfront, to ensure both lower taxes and new housing for low, moderate- and middle-income families."

Robert Ranieri

City Council President Robert Ranieri said he voted to exclude buildings with 10 units or less from the affordable housing ordinance because he feared that development could be stymied if small developers were required to set aside one unit for affordable housing or to make cash contributions.

"We struck a negotiated position that got full council support which provided an affordable housing program that did not deter the balance of housing programs in Hoboken," Ranieri said.

"If you took a local homeowner who had a four- or six-family house and he decided to rebuild, adding the extra unit could deter him from rebuilding the home. The contribution would be minor, whereas the large developers and the large projects have the money and the room for contribu-

tions while still remaining profitable," Ranieri said.

Pat Pasculli

Unlike Della Fave and Ranieri, Interim Mayor Pat Pasculli does not favor building affordable housing on the waterfront. He believes that developers should be able to make either cash contribution or build affordable units off-site.

"My administration would require developers to comply with the affordable housing ordinance," Pasculli said. "We will continue to enforce the ordinance."

Pasculli hopes to adopt a housing policy to help the city reach the state-mandated goal of 290 new affordable housing units. "There are ways to create more affordable housing through cooperation with developers instead of continuing to place road blocks in front of them," he said.

Robert King

Political newcomer Robert King is undecided on whether affordable housing should be built on the waterfront. He supports a survey documenting the need for affordable housing and opposes excluding buildings with 10 units or less from the existing ordinance.

"Before Hoboken proceeds with any affordable housing plan, let us first document the actual number of bone fide residents who would qualify for such needed housing," King said.

"At the present time, and especially during this campaign, I have heard my opponents—who I have dubbed the three stooges—use the subject of affordable housing for personal and political gain. These three fellows will tell you anything you want to hear, and excuses of why they cannot deliver will come after Nov. 8. I promise and therefore I am committed to the concept of affordable housing for the poor especially."

Frank Raia

Incumbent Councilman Frank Raia credits himself with striking a compromise on the council on the revision to the affordable housing ordinance. Raia, a developer, said he agreed to the revisions because he wanted first to test the ordinance's impact on the housing and construction industry.

"This ordinance is a positive first step on the road to helping ease the affordable housing situation in Hoboken. The main point was to get an acceptable measure on the books that reflected the need to help those being displaced," Raia said.

"Of course, should this ordinance need to be strengthened or adjusted to better protect the rights of tenants and occupants, I would favor that without hesitation," he added.

Terry LaBruno

Terry LaBruno, a school teacher, believes that the city should aggressively seek federal and state programs which

allow modest-income families the chance at owning a two-family home which leases the other unit to a low- to moderate-income family, such as Caparra homes, where she lives.

"I think this type of development would be attractive to both moderate- and low-income families where you buy a two-family house and lease the other unit, which rents and tenant eligibility are set by HUD guidelines," LaBruno said.

She said the waterfront should not be reserved for "the fortunate and the few."

Nunzio Malfetti

Nunzio Malfetti, a former Sixth Ward councilman, is running on the affordable housing issue. He also believes that the "waterfront should be for everybody."

During this campaign, Malfetti has been trying to get a definition for affordable housing. "It has never been defined by city fathers or developers. The people have the right to know so they can make an informed choice and can hold a candidate's feet to the fire when they fail to do so," he said. "Former V.P. John Nance Garner remarked: 'A political promise is not worth a bucket of hot spit on a July afternoon.'"

Steve Busch

Steve Busch, a member of the Hoboken Rent Board and former tenant rights organizer, opposes the revisions to the original affordable housing ordinance.

"One way the City of Hoboken could increase the number of affordable housing units without spending any money would be a stricter enforcement of its rent laws," said Busch, explaining that computerizing the rent board office would quickly identify the property owners who have been skirting the local law.

Busch said that the city had to establish guidelines to define affordable housing because he said that the young, old as well as moderate-income families are hard-pressed to pay rents or buy homes in Hoboken.

Richard Del Boccio

Richard Del Boccio, a school principal running on a ticket with Pasculli, supports the existing affordable housing ordinance and favors the construction of another building of housing for senior citizens.

"I would like to see some garden apartments built on some of the vacant lots that are still available in our city. The height of these structures should not exceed four stories. These units should be moderately priced and must provide ample parking," Del Boccio said.

"Although there are no easy solutions to solve our housing crunch, I believe opportunities to build more rental units do exist and we will see housing construction continue. It may not satisfy everyone but every moderately priced apartment created will no doubt be quickly occupied," he said.

They want freedom for convict

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A Hoboken attorney is teaming up again with a former prison chaplain to free another man whom they say is imprisoned for a crime he did not commit.

Attorney Paul Castelleiro has joined forces with former chaplain James C. McCloskey, founder of the Princeton-based Centurion Ministries which tries to vindicate people serving life sentences for crimes they did not commit.

Castelleiro and McCloskey announced yesterday in Hoboken their plans to fight the conviction of Damaso Vega, who is serving a life sentence at Trenton State Prison for the 1980 murder of a 16-year-old girl.

"This morning, a petition for post-conviction relief was filed in Monmouth County Court on behalf of Mr. Vega, asking for a new trial based on newly discovered evidence and ineffective counsel," McCloskey said.

Castelleiro and McCloskey contend that Vega did not murder Maria Rodriguez by strangling her with a webbed belt at a Long Branch apartment the victim shared with her boyfriend. They did not offer a suspect yesterday.

But Castelleiro and McCloskey said they wanted a new trial because the three witnesses for the Monmouth County prosecutor's office were coerced into statements naming Vega as the murderer. They said witnesses have since retracted their earlier statements.

The Monmouth County prosecutor's office declined to make a statement yesterday to The Jersey Journal.

According to McCloskey's written statement, "The prosecution totally ignored an abundance of information in its own files from the initial investigation that pointed to Mr. Vega's innocence and indicated that their own witnesses were lying."

McCloskey founded Centurion Ministries in 1980 and since that time the organization has freed three men sentenced to life. Castelleiro represented two of them.

Castelleiro, who McCloskey said has worked four months on the Vega case and received only "a few thousand dollars," helped overturn the murder conviction of a Newark man, George De Los Santos.

The local attorney also helped free an Elizabeth man, Nate Walker, who was serving a life sentence for rape and kidnapping.

In that case, a 12-year-old semen specimen was located and analyzed and it proved Walker has a different blood type than the rapist.

\$75M plan to be unveiled

10/18/88 AD

Battery Park coming to Hoboken?

Office blocks, parks are eyed for waterfront

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Plans for a \$75 million complex of office towers, apartment buildings, parks and walkways slated for city-owned waterfront land will be unveiled before the City Council tomorrow night.

The plans have been drawn up by urban designer Stanton Eckstut, whom the city hired in July to devise a conceptual development for the 17.5 acres of prime waterfront property between First and Fifth streets here. Eckstut, who designed Battery Park City in lower Manhattan, is to present a model and his plans at a 5 p.m. council meet-



PATRICK PASCULLI

"Significant first step"

ing. The plans, revealed by city officials yesterday, call for a mix of towers, ranging from an 18-

Please see PLANS Page 14

PLANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

10/18/88 AD

story office building on Pier A to three- to eight-story residential buildings on Pier C. They also include a 70-foot wide public esplanade overlooking the water between the two piers, several small "garden-parks," the extension of several east-west streets to the water's edge, a total of 1,700 residential units and 1.7 million square feet of commercial space and, possibly, a floating public swimming pool.

City officials estimate the construction cost at about \$75 million, although they concede the final costs could be much greater. Since this spring, the city has been negotiating with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey over a joint project; a final deal between the two sides has not been signed.

The plans are smaller in scale than two previously released plans for the land: the Port Authority's 1984 plans for a \$500 million mixed-use complex, and Hartz Mountain Industries' plans unveiled in June, also for a \$500 million complex.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli said the Eckstut plans will be offered to the council and public for review and criticism.

"It is a significant first step, as a draft, to begin the process of public input and council interac-

tion," he said.

Pasculli and city Business Administrator Edwin Chius stressed that the city's goal is to enter a "partnership" with the authority or the state, and hire private developers to do the actual construction of the complex.

Specifics of the plan include:

■ Destruction of Pier B, which was ravaged by a fire in 1980.

■ Construction of the 18-story office tower on Pier A, the southernmost of the three existing piers. Chius said that tower would be about 250 feet high.

■ Construction of a marina between Pier A and Pier C.

■ A public walkway around both piers, which is required by state guidelines. Also, small parks would be built at the end of Pier A and C.

■ A set of three- to eight-story residential buildings on Pier C.

■ Creation of a new, north-south street east of River Street with a 70-foot-wide public esplanade to the east of the new street.

■ A set of five 15-story residential towers on three blocks between the new street and River Street between First and Fourth streets.

Pasculli said the plans have been reviewed by state and federal environmental officials.

ADS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

taken out by Pasculli attacking rival Joseph Della Fave, the 2nd Ward councilman.

In an edition last week, Pasculli took out an ad predicting a Della Fave administration would be controlled by campaign adviser Steve Block and former Vezetti aide Laurie Fabiano. And in this week's Sunday edition, Pasculli's ad accuses Della Fave of being torn between supporting Councilman Frank Raia, a developer, and Steve Busch, an opponent of development, in the council race.

That ad ends by accusing Della Fave of teaming up with City Council President Robert A. Ranieri to "obstruct Pat Pasculli in his plans to move Hoboken forward again." Ranieri is also running for mayor; both Ranieri and Della Fave yesterday called the charge ridiculous.

But Pasculli is hardly alone in his aggressive tactics. Since the council selected Pasculli as mayor on March 9 to serve until the election, Della Fave has lambasted him for "part-time" work as mayor and as a teacher in the Wallace School, jobs he holds concurrently. Ranieri joined the criticism when he announced his candidacy a few months later, referring to Pasculli in ads, letters and debates as "Mr. Interim," "father of patronage" and "immature."

Moreover, dark horse candidate Robert King has called his opponents "the three stooges" in a public debate and has lumped them together in his campaign ads. King, running his campaign on a shoestring budget, has chosen the slogan: "Them or me?"

How did the race turn so ugly? Della Fave admits his attacks on Pasculli probably began the fracas. Della Fave was the first to discuss the two-job issue, and has made it a staple in his attacks upon the incumbent. Ad-

ditionally, Della Fave publicly accused Pasculli of protecting political allies on the Board of Education during a dispute concerning the board's budget.

But Della Fave doesn't see those attacks as mudslinging. "We're talking about whether the public interest is being served," he said. "Sometimes the truth is pretty ugly."

But to Della Fave, Pasculli's attacks are a sign that the mayor is desperately trying to avoid issues. "I don't think he has any confidence that the public sees him as a good public official," Della Fave asserted. "If you can't stand on the issues, you resort to this."

Pasculli and council ally David Roberts, however, maintained that the ads are only a valid attempt to shed light on Della Fave's past record as Vezetti administration insider.

"He can't divest himself from the past three years," Pasculli said, charging the Vezetti administration with "a record of inactivity."

"I feel they've thrown the first stone," he continued, speaking of Della Fave and Ranieri. "They know very well I put in more hours the mayor's office than both previous mayors."

Roberts, a Pasculli administration insider, defended Pasculli's ads as a legitimate effort to shed light on Della Fave's political "prior record" of "government by committee," dirty streets and insufficient police protection.

But another Pasculli insider, said he opposed continuing the ad war. "I'm afraid it's a waste of money," the source said. "This election will be won or lost on the streets."

Waterfront plan is well-received

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A Hoboken waterfront development plan complete with an 18-story office tower on Pier A, a row of 15-story apartment buildings between First and Fourth streets, a marina and a floating swimming pool was unveiled last night in City Hall.

But Pasculli gets criticism for 'secrecy'

Overshadowing the presentation was the question whether Mayor Patrick Pasculli's administration has provided the public as well as City Council members with ample opportunities to express their views on the development.

First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman, a member of the mayor's waterfront team, wanted to call off the presentation altogether because he said it was premature to present a draft plan when committee members were still thrashing out issues involved in setting parameters on the overall

development. Many of his colleagues supported Newman in his complaint about communication between the legislative and administrative branches, with Council President Robert Ranieri as well as council members Frank Raia, Helen Cunningham and Joseph Della Fave, a mayoral candidate.

Edwin Chius, business administrator, handed the press a report documenting 34 meetings of the waterfront committee from June 16 until now.

But residents who attended the regular council meeting after the presentation objected not only to the project but contended that the public has been excluded from the waterfront plans. Resident Frank Wieck opposed the meeting because he said it had not been posted for the requisite 48 hours.

See WATERFRONT — Page 13.

14h THE JERSEY JOURNAL, MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1988

How much will it cost to restore the terminal?

By Bill Campbell

The Hoboken Lackawanna Terminal is in "crummy shape" and a thorough restoration of the historic building could cost as much as \$100 million, according to Stephen Berger, executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Berger said the P.A. and NJ Transit, which owns the facility, are in the early stages of determining the extent and cost of renovating the terminal. "Right now we don't know what's in there, if there's asbestos or not. But that building needs a lot of work, he said."

"We could be talking nine figures by the time we're done with everything — that's \$100 million," he said.

Extensive and time consuming environmental studies are needed before any work can begin in the building. Renovation work must also be subject to federal scrutiny since the building is designated as an historic landmark by the National Park Service.

The P.A. and NJ Transit are looking to renovate the 81-year old terminal in anticipation of the return to trans-Hudson ferry service next spring.

A joint venture between Arcorp of West New York and Hartz Mountain Industries of Secaucus were awarded the

ferry contract in August. The P.A. estimates that some 2,100 people will be shuttled daily from Hoboken to Battery Park City in Manhattan during the first year of service.

Interim ferry slips will be built on land leased to the P.A. to the south of the Erie Lackawanna Terminal later this year. Part of the lease agreement provides for a cost-sharing structural investigation of the terminal by the P.A. and NJ Transit.

In a recent interview, Martin Robins, head of NJ Transit's Waterfront Transportation Unit, said the terminal was "a treasure in great need of repair." Robins, whose offices were located in the building, said he could not estimate a price tag for the renovation.

The terminal is the hub for NJ Transit's rail and bus operations in Hudson County. Ferries from Hoboken to Manhattan were halted in 1967 under the "Aldene Plan," which allowed the unprofitable service, which suffered low ridership. The existing slips, constructed for double-ended vehicle-carrying boats, are obsolete.

Although the front of the building and the main lobby have received facelifts during the 1980s, much of the green-copper facade has rotted. The area designated for the interim

ferry terminal must be secured and cleared of debris before construction can begin.

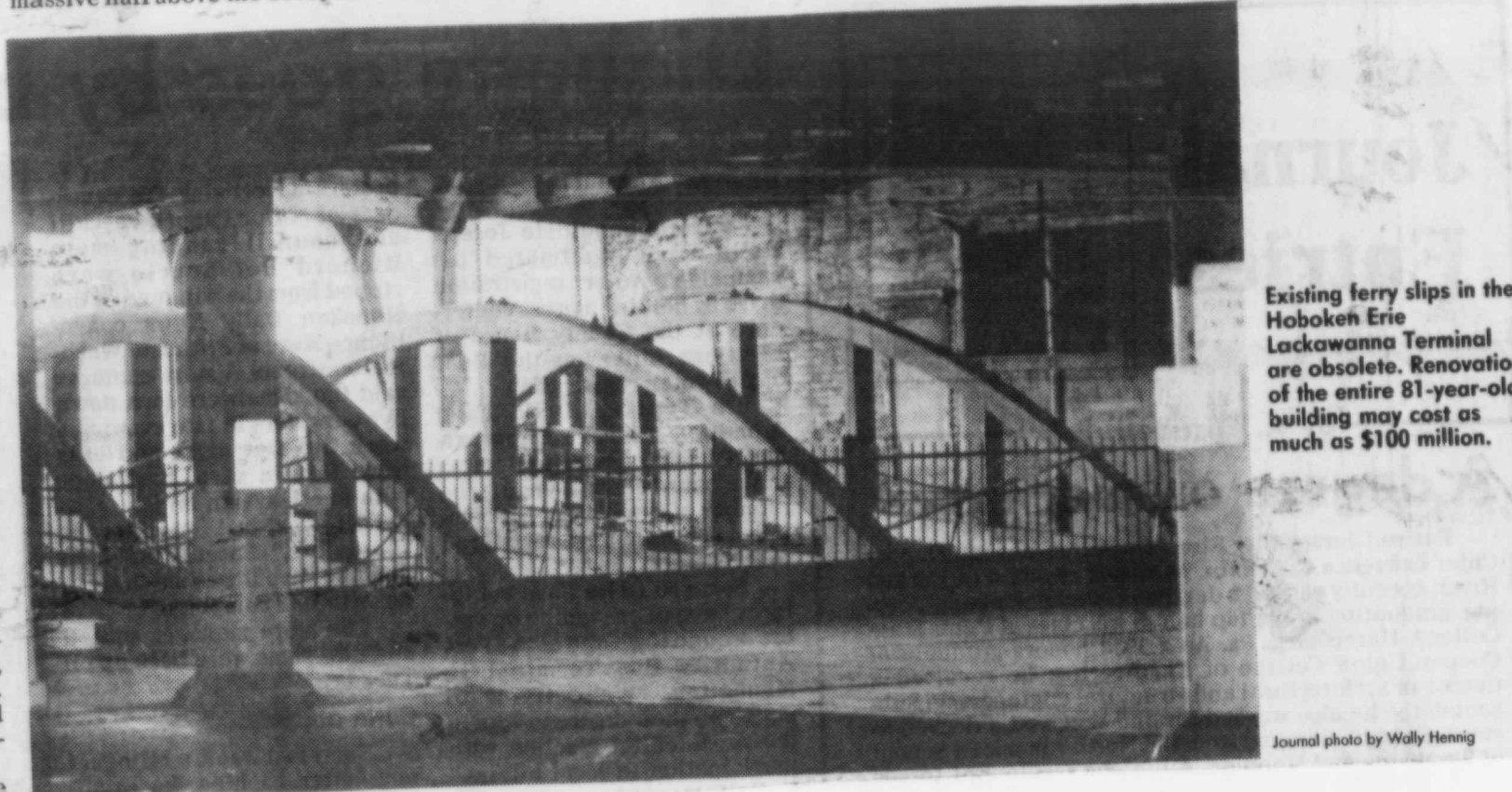
According to Robins, the massive hall above the decayed

ferry slips is "bigger than a football field." He said the space could eventually be leased for special events or to retail businesses.

Berger said he also saw that potential for the building, but the cost of renovation will determine its future.

"If it's a \$25 million job, a

retail mall could certainly be an option," Berger said. "But if it's \$100 million, you're going to have to sell a lot of neckties to make any money."



Existing ferry slips in the Hoboken Erie Lackawanna Terminal are obsolete. Renovation of the entire 81-year-old building may cost as much as \$100 million.

Journal photo by Wally Henning

Debate features lively name-calling

Continued from Page 1

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The school board appealed the hefty cuts to the state, which is now reviewing the matter.

Pasculli, who teaches eighth grade at Wallace School while serving as mayor, agreed that there were problems in the school system but added that the "the system is moving forward. Tests scores are up."

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Each candidate vying in the Nov. 8 election for a six-month term with another election in May for a four-year term tried yesterday to send home his campaign message.

They are running to fill the unexpired term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, who died suddenly in office March 2.

King, running on the slogan "Them or Me," tried to separate himself from his three opponents, all of whom hold public office.

King referred to them as the three big spenders, the three stooges and the gas house gang who, like empty barrels, made the most noise.

And, taking Pasculli's slogan, he said it was time for "a new beginning with Bob King."

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Della Fave, agreeing with Pasculli and Ranieri on the work that needs to be done, questioned voters as to whom they trust to reform the school system, set guidelines for waterfront development, reduce spending and take care of quality of life issues.



Journal photo by Scott Litvack

Robert Ranieri makes a point at yesterday's mayoral debate in Hoboken as his opponents, from left, Joseph Della Fave, Robert King and Patrick Pasculli await their turns.

Mayoral debate features lots of lively name-calling

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The debate yesterday morning sponsored by the United Synagogue of Hoboken focused its questioning of Pas-

culli, Ranieri, Della Fave and Robert King, who has never held elected office, on the issues of education, taxes, development and the quality of life.

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Pasculli works three hours a day as a grammar school teacher and another three hours as interim mayor while collecting two full-time city paychecks, Ranieri charged.

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"If I am working part-time, it is being a father to my children," he said.

Ranieri said that the school system in Hoboken was so egregiously bad that families often moved out of the city once their children reached school age.

Della Fave agreed. "New

families have no reason to educate their children here. We must put education first and politics second," he said.

Ranieri criticized Pasculli's candidacy and that of his running mate, Richard Del Boccio, because they are both public school teachers and would be in conflict of interest as elected officials when considering school spending.

King, who has a master's and doctorate, said the school system is so bad he would not teach in it.

King, Della Fave and Pasculli are all teachers.

King took a leave of absence from his Manhattan teaching job and Della Fave resigned from his teaching position at St. Peter's Prep to run for mayor.

Pasculli, who said he supported Fine, said that school spending should be an issue decided by the state education commission and not by local politicians.

Voters rejected the school

See DEBATE — Page 12.

Western Hoboken citizens cry foul

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When it comes to some city services, home owners in the western end of Hoboken are being shortchanged compared with a group of residents told city officials last night.

James Mancuso, a property owner and local police sergeant, accused the city of giving second-class status to home owners west of Willow Avenue.

"I work the police desk. I know the situation," he said. "If there was a call to go to 12th and Bloomfield (a northeast intersection), there'd be 95 guys there to take care of the situation."

What concerns Mancuso and others who attended the

special meeting in City Hall are the enforcement, or lack of same, of city ordinances to keep streets and sidewalks clean and in good repair.

Listening to their complaints were Sixth Ward Councilman David Roberts; City Public Works Director Roy Haack and Assistant City Attorney Lisa Conn, who agreed to find ways to amend city ordinances to give the city more enforcement powers.

As Mancuso explained, the idea for the meeting grew from complaints from individual property owners. "People keep asking me the name of the group," he said. "There is no group — we're just concerned

about the enforcement, or lack of same, of city ordinances to keep streets and sidewalks clean and in good repair. Listening to their complaints were Sixth Ward Councilman David Roberts; City Public Works Director Roy Haack and Assistant City Attorney Lisa Conn, who agreed to find ways to amend city ordinances to give the city more enforcement powers. As Mancuso explained, the idea for the meeting grew from complaints from individual property owners. "People keep asking me the name of the group," he said. "There is no group — we're just concerned

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Waterfront plan well-received

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Daniel Tumpson and Kenneth Lenz, former members of the Waterfront Advisory Committee under the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, said the public has not been involved in the plan.

Annette Illing, chairman of the Campaign for Housing Justice, said the meeting was not a "public hearing. It was a public listening." She criticized holding the meeting at 5 p.m., noting the difficulty that presented to many working people.

She also opposed the plan because none of the 1,600 resident units would be reserved for low- to moderate-income families.

"We have been left out in the dark. The City Council and the people of Hoboken are not being heard. I am on the controls committee and we haven't had a meeting in seven months," said Raia.

"There has been only two presentations to the public, the same two given to the City Council. Involvement is just not listening, it is interaction," said Della Fave, who also advocates the city's adopting a master plan for all waterfront property before it moves ahead on any particular project.

The plan calls for an area of open space to create a town

square at the southern end of the waterfront near the train terminal. A 15-story office building, another 9-to-12-story building and an 18-story commercial tower at the end of Pier A are planned for the southern area.

Between First and Fourth streets, the draft calls for the construction of five 15-story apartment buildings. A 70-foot wide walkway will run in front of that.

At Pier C, the designer plans seven-story apartment buildings containing 350 units. The floating swimming pool, marina and fishing pier would be built in that area.

The plan reserves the area between Fourth and Fifth streets for open space and public parks. New green space will be added and some of the existing parks would be landscaped.

The overall plan encompasses 3.73 million square feet, with 1.6 million square feet for residential space, or 1,600 units, and another 1.6 million square feet for commercial space.

The plan would create 2,500 parking spaces in the area, and would also include a 500,000-square-foot development for commercial and transit use at the NJ Transit property.

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Skokowski agreed the report was a "spinoff" from the Hoboken fiscal recovery plan filed by the late Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti last July 7.

"Our goal and fiscal challenge is to stabilize Hoboken's economy until the cumulative effects of increased rates, and a more efficient municipal government can be met," the mayor's plan said.

Citing Hoboken's overburdened taxpayers and the city's revaluation as a cornerstone to its recovery, the plan continued, "It is essential to generate revenue from other sources, including recovering funds owned the city and selling assets where necessary and prudent."

In the best snore-mongering, the MAPP report chronicled Hoboken's preparations to computerize the municipal court, budgetary account and tax collection functions.

Hoboken requested the assistance from the state division, prompting Skokowski to observe the computer report is an "adjunct to help them manage their finances a lot better."

Skokowski referred, too, to the contract award to Compu-Key, recommended by Chius.

Hoboken laid out the financial ground rules for the computer company bids for a minimum of three years data — 7,000 claims paid per year and approximately 7,000 purchase orders issued annually; presently, 6,000 tax collections, with potential for 15,000 line items; municipal court, daily sessions, an estimated 100,000 summonses annually for parking and moving violations; approximately 2,500 criminal cases.

From the viewpoint of a Hoboken taxpayer, that one line, suggesting more than doubling the number of separate tax collections from 6,000 to 15,000 potential, appears significant. Presumably, the cumulative effect would diminish the need for property tax increases by broadening the tax base.

And the move to assist the Hoboken Municipal Court to accomplish its daily tasks quickly and accurately would help it to hook into the standardized municipal court system being developed by the State Administrative Office of the Courts. It eventually, could help financially.

Skokowski concluded that Hoboken's planning processes "are valid and will bring this project to successful conclusion."

He added, "The dedication and enthusiasm consistently demonstrated by Mr. Chius, city administrator, must be commended. The cooperation and assistance given by the affected department heads of the City of Hoboken are also acknowledged."

Western Hoboken citizens cry foul

Continued from Page 1

citizens of Hoboken." The sergeant said his complaint concerns a Jefferson Street meat-packing plant located near his home. The sidewalk surrounding the plant has been in disrepair for years, he said, making it a safety hazard and an eyesore, as well as a popular stop for dog owners out walking their pets.

Mancuso said a city ordinance already on the books would permit the city to repair the sidewalk itself, then put a lien on the property until the owner pays up. Instead, he said, the city has issued two summonses, only to have the

plant owner fail to appear in court on both occasions.

Haack said repeat offenders have been fined in some cases, and have made repairs and cleaned their sidewalks, only to be back in court later on the same charges.

He added that there is a flaw in the city ordinance on sidewalk repair that relates to some of the industrial property in the western end of town. Some industrial property never had sidewalks constructed around it in the first place.

Haack said, and the ordinance precludes the city from ordering the owners to construct sidewalks where none existed.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was the litter problem along Washington Street, Hoboken's main business district.

Daniel Gans, a developer and member of Hoboken Advantage, a merchants group, noted a city ordinance that requires store owners not only to sweep in front of their stores daily, but to sweep the area of the street 18 inches from the curb. Gans said the city has done little to enforce the ordinance.

Haack said the city issues between 40 and 50 tickets per week to businesses violating litter and garbage laws.

Waterfront plan is well-received

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A Hoboken waterfront development plan complete with an 18-story office tower on Pier A, a row of 15-story apartment buildings between First and Fourth streets, a marina and a floating swimming pool was unveiled last night in City Hall.

However, urban designer Stan Eckstut, who has done projects in New York, Boston and Baltimore, waited an hour before making his presentation in the crowded council chambers.

Overshadowing the presentation was the question whether Mayor Patrick Pasculli's administration has provided the public as well as City Council members with ample opportunities to express their views on the development.

First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman, a member of the mayor's waterfront team, wanted to call off the presentation altogether because he said it was premature to present a draft plan when committee members were still thrashing out issues involved in setting parameters on the overall development.

Many of his colleagues supported Newman in his complaint about communication between the legislative and administrative branches, with Council President Robert Ranieri as well as council members Frank Raia, Helen Cunniff and Joseph Della Fave, a mayoral candidate, agreeing. "This is simply a draft of the plan, a vision on how to move forward," said Pasculli, who insisted that he has kept the project open to the City Council as well to the public.

Edwin Chius, business administrator, handed the press a report documenting 34 meetings of the waterfront committee from June 16 until now. But residents who attended the regular council meeting after the presentation objected not only to the project but contended that the public has been excluded from the waterfront plans. Resident Frank Wieck opposed the meeting because he said it had not been posted for the requisite 48 hours.

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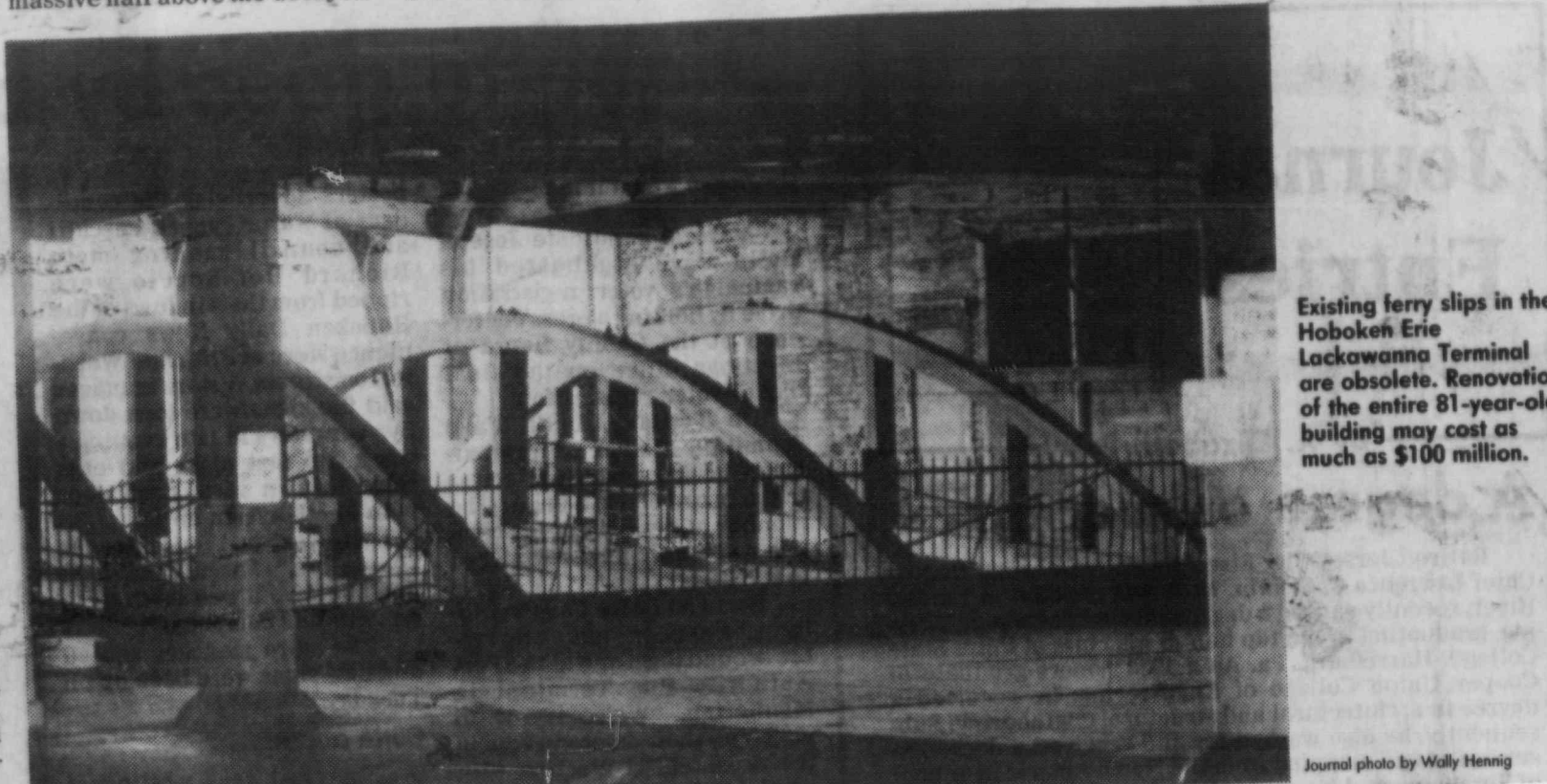
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Skokowski agreed the report was a "spinoff" from the Hoboken fiscal recovery plan filed by the late Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti last July 7.

"Our goal and fiscal challenge is to stabilize Hoboken's economy until the cumulative effects of increased rates, and a more efficient municipal government can be met," the mayor's plan said.

Citing Hoboken's overburdened taxpayers and the city's revaluation as a cornerstone to its recovery, the plan continued, "It is essential to generate revenue from other sources, including recovering funds owned the city and selling assets where necessary and prudent."

In the best snoremongerese, the MAPP report chronicled Hoboken's preparations to computerize the municipal court, budgetary account and tax collection functions.

Hoboken requested the assistance from the state division, prompting Skokowski to observe the computer report is an "adjunct to help them manage their finances a lot better."

Skokowski referred, too, to the contract award to Compu-Key, recommended by Chius.

Hoboken laid out the financial ground rules for the computer company bids for a minimum of three years data — 7,000 claims paid per year and approximately 7,000 purchase orders issued annually; presently, 6,000 tax collections, with potential for 15,000 line items; municipal court, daily sessions, an estimated 100,000 summonses annually for parking and moving violations; approximately 2,500 criminal cases.

From the viewpoint of a Hoboken taxpayer, that one line, suggesting more than doubling the number of separate tax collections from 6,000 to 15,000 potential, appears significant. Presumably, the cumulative effect would diminish the need for property tax increases by broadening the tax base.

And the move to assist the Hoboken Municipal Court to accomplish its daily tasks quickly and accurately would help it to hook into the standardized municipal court system being developed by the State Administrative Office of the Courts. It eventually, could help financially.

Skokowski concluded that Hoboken's planning processes "are valid and will bring this project to successful conclusion."

He added, "The dedication and enthusiasm consistently demonstrated by Mr. Chius, city administrator, must be commended. The cooperation and assistance given by the affected department heads of the City of Hoboken are also acknowledged."

Western Hoboken citizens cry foul

Continued from Page 1

citizens of Hoboken." The sergeant said his complaint concerns a Jefferson Street meat-packing plant located near his home. The sidewalk surrounding the plant has been in disrepair for years, he said, making it a safety hazard and an eyesore, as well as a popular stop for dog owners out walking their pets.

Mancuso said a city ordinance already on the books would permit the city to repair the sidewalk itself, then put a lien on the property until the owner pays up. Instead, he said, the city has issued two summonses, only to have the

plant owner fail to appear in court on both occasions.

Haack said repeat offenders have been fined in some cases, and have made repairs and cleaned their sidewalks, only to be back in court later on the same charges.

He added that there is a flaw in the city ordinance on sidewalk repair that relates to some of the industrial property in the western end of town. Some industrial property never had sidewalks constructed around it in the first place, Haack said, and the ordinance precludes the city from ordering the owners to construct sidewalks where none existed.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was the litter problem along Washington Street, Hoboken's main business district.

Daniel Gans, a developer and member of Hoboken Advantage, a merchants group, noted a city ordinance that requires store owners not only to sweep in front of their stores daily, but to sweep the area of the street 18 inches from the curb. Gans said the city has done little to enforce the ordinance.

Haack said the city issues between 40 and 50 tickets per week to businesses violating litter and garbage laws.

Park designers learn from kids

By James Efstathiou J.J. 10-25-88

A pair of accomplished architects returned to the classroom in Hoboken last week and got a first-rate lesson from a group of enthusiastic experts. The architects, Paula Weiss and John Dean from the Robert S. Leathers firm in Ithaca, N.Y., were in town Friday on a fact-finding mission. They have been commissioned to design a playground area in Church Square Park for children of elementary school age. But before reaching for

their pencils and T-squares, these architects met with the experts, in this case fourth- and fifth-graders at Salvatore Calabro School. On the simple theory that children know better than anyone what does and doesn't belong in a playground, the pair asked the kids for help. "An architect never works alone. They work with people who know the most about what they're designing," Weiss explained to Maureen Keemer and Evaloe Batistich's fourth-graders. "Close your eyes and imagine yourself playing in the

park. What would you like to play on?" To no one's surprise, the experts had something to say on the subject. Ten-year-old Janet Ramos wanted a tree house. He even came prepared with an impressive drawing of exactly how the house should look that drew a chorus of "ooo's and ah's" from classmates. Richard Davidson, also 10, wanted a crawl tube like the one he discovered at Great Adventure.

See PARK — Page 6.

Registered voters down since 1984

By Earlene C. McMichael J.J. 10-31-88

Since the last presidential election, Jersey City has lost more voters than any other Hudson County municipality. Bayonne, Kearny and Harrison tie for second highest losses, according to county election officials. Jersey City has lost 11 percent of its registered voters since the 1984 election. Then it had 110,079 registered voters.

Now, it has 98,573. Bayonne, Kearny and Harrison lost 7 percent of their voters. Four years ago, Bayonne had 35,859 registered voters. Now, at 33,387 registered voters, Bayonne has 2,472 fewer. Four years ago, Kearny had 17,448 registered voters and Harrison 5,908. Today those towns have 16,250 and 5,501, respectively. Kearny lost 1,198.

See REGISTERED — Page 5.

Park designers learn from kids

Continued from Page 1

"It was fun," said Davidson. "When I went through it, I was screaming." Ziomayra Morales suggested a pirate ship ride "that goes up and down and tickles your stomach."

"The kids are really excited about this," said fifth-grade teacher Anne Hovanyetz. "They should always be this excited about school."

Other more conventional ideas included a see-saw, a swing set, a fire pole and a tire ladder. The biggest cheers, however, were for a haunted

house, a crawl-through dragon and a suspension bridge, suggestions that were all incorporated into the preliminary design.

"There's enough ideas to build 20 playgrounds," said Dean. "Sometimes you have to pick and choose."

The architects, whose firm designs some 80 playgrounds a year around the country, were commissioned by a community group called the Church Square Park Playground Project. After spending the day fielding suggestions from students at Demarest, Calabro and Hudson schools, they made preliminary drawings of what the playground would look like and these were presented at a community meeting that evening.

But the community involvement in the project doesn't end at the design phase. When plans are complete and funding secured, it will be volunteers who build the playground under the supervision of the architects based on the children's ideas.

"Besides getting the kids involved, you get the communi-

ty involved," said Donald Cohen, chairman of the park playground project. "The kids have a sense of ownership and that's going to protect the park."

Cohen is trying to raise \$50,000 for tools, materials and the architect's fee needed for the project.

The Hoboken Community Development Agency has committed \$10,000 to the effort and Cohen is currently planning fund-raisers to make up the difference.

"A project like this is something that's going to be a centerpiece in this area," said Cohen. "There's no other Leathers playground in Hudson County and maybe New Jersey."

If things go according to schedule, for five days in the late spring hundreds of volunteers will descend upon the park working in shifts to bring the playground from the kids' imaginations into being.

"People won't look the other way when someone throws a bottle or sprays graffiti," said Cohen. "The city won't always be there to take care of this but we can."

AIDS memorial

Hoboken pianist patched into quilt

By RANDI GLATZNER 10/8/88 HD

The Hudson Dispatch

When volunteers in Washington D.C. today unfold an immense quilt covered with the names of people who have died of AIDS, Madeline Gdowski will look for the patch she created to memorialize her close friend Michael May, a former Hoboken resident.

May, an internationally-known pianist and a founder of the Hoboken Chamber Orchestra, died in June as a result of the disease. He asked friends and family not to hold a funeral for him.

"Since he never had a funeral, I felt this would be the place to do the mourning," Gdowski said.

She and hundreds of other New Jersey residents, as well as thousands from across the country, are in the nation's capital this weekend to view the memorial.

The quilt is the size of several football fields, and is comprised of 15,000 separate patches commemorating individuals who

Please see MARCH Page 14

Crack down

This Ranieri initiative was inspired by your editorial of Oct. 8, "Local banks, have a heart".

The candidate who publicly solves the city's problems gains the confidence of the people. An example of this policy follows:

The issue: Hoboken banks refuse to cash unemployment, welfare, Social Security and other government checks for city residents who have proper identification.

The solution: Hoboken City Council to approve a resolution sponsored by Council President Robert Ranieri prohibiting the deposit or the borrowing of city funds in any bank that does not service the public by cashing such checks.

The local banks enjoy many million dollars of city business annually. Surely, the same banks can service the general public to whom the city's deposits and obligations belong. — ROBERT A. RANIERI, mayoral candidate, Hoboken.

Do you want to get your views on the candidates and the issues in the Nov. 8 election considered for publication before Election Day? Send your letter to the Your Opinion column by Friday, Oct. 28. Please include a phone number and address for verification.

MARCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 10/8/88 HA

died as a result of acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The gathering will also include education and activism. For some, it will be a personal journey; for others, it will be a weekend of civil disobedience to draw attention to the issues.

There are currently 5,153 individuals with AIDS in the state, according to the New Jersey Health Department. About 950 of those are in Hudson County. At least 608 people in the state died of the disease in 1988, the statistics show.

Garry Kleinman is going to Washington to get arrested in an effort to help AIDS patients get the drugs they need to live.

Kleinman, who heads the treatment issues segment of New Jersey ACTUP, (Aids Coalition to Unleash Power) an AIDS education and activist group, will protest at the Food and Drug Administration headquarters in Rockville, Md. He aims to get more new drugs released to battle the disease and more clinical trials opened so that people with the disease get a chance at survival.

"We are going to the FDA to protest the slowness and the inadequacy of the way they have dealt with the AIDS situation," Kleinman said.

Kleinman said the government-sponsored tests of new drugs on people is limited in New Jersey, and access to private pharmaceutical firms that are doing testing is locked up in administration computers. Health care is a right, not a luxury, Kleinman said.

Bill Orr, the president of N.J. ACTUP, said many groups are going to Washington to put the Reagan administration on trial for negligence, a lack of concern and a slow response to the AIDS epidemic. He and other groups plan a demonstration in front of the Department of Health and Human Services building Monday.

"Our statements are going to be a genuine outcry of anger and a plea for more action," Orr said. Beginning at dawn today, volunteers will read the quilt's long list of names of those claimed by the disease. The process will continue for hours.

Registered voters down since '84

Continued from Page 1

voters and Harrison 407. Four other municipalities also experienced decreases in registered voters. Secaucus lost 2 percent of its registered voters, Guttenberg 4 percent, North Bergen 3 percent and Weehawken less than 1 percent, latest figures show.

However, Hoboken grew by 12 percent, Union City by 4 percent and West New York and East Newark by less than 1 percent each. Hoboken recorded the county's largest increase in registered voters since the 1984 election.

More than 10,000 voter registration forms were received in the week the superintendent of elections' office stayed open late to receive them. Ironically, since 1984, the county has lost slightly more than the number of new registered voters.

As of Wednesday, the county had 258,946 registered voters. This contrasts to 1984 when there were 272,219 registered voters, 13,273 more voters than now.

The superintendent of elections' office had predicted

Hudson voter registration

	1984	NOW	DIFFERENCE	PERCENT CHANGE
Jersey City	110,079	98,573	-11,506	-11
Bayonne	35,859	33,387	-2,472	-7
Union City	20,872	21,710	838	+4
Hoboken	20,462	22,905	2,443	+12
North Bergen	25,886	25,107	-779	-3
Kearny	17,448	16,250	-1,198	-7
West New York	14,387	14,507	120	+1
Weehawken	6,422	6,418	-4	-.001
Secaucus	9,880	9,730	-150	-2
Guttenberg	4,039	3,880	-159	-4
Harrison	5,908	5,501	-407	-7
East Newark	977	978	1	+0.001
TOTAL	272,219	258,946	-13,273	-5% decrease

*As of October 26, 1988.

**Percentage increases have been rounded off.

Source: The county office of the Superintendent of Elections.

it would have about 255,000 voters by now, Joseph Ciano, chief of staff of the superintendent of elections' office, attributes the decrease to the removal of some 10,000 names from the rolls, mostly people who had died or moved.

Hudson's priciest race

Aspiring mayors report funds Pasculli and Della Fave campaign chests get most donations

By NINA SHAPIRO Dispatch 10-27-88

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—While mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave received the highest amount of last-minute contributions, incumbent Mayor Patrick Pasculli remains way ahead in the race for campaign donations, according to reports submitted yesterday.

More money has been spent here on the tightly contested mayoral race than anywhere in Hudson County, according to the financial reports filed in the Hudson County Clerk's office.

Financial statements must be filed by all municipal and county candidates before and after the

election. In Hoboken, a special election was called for Nov. 8 following the sudden death of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti.

The two frontrunners in the four-way race, Della Fave and Pasculli, have raised the most money. The majority of contributions to Della Fave are of \$100 or less and have been given by private individuals. Pasculli's sizable campaign chest is primarily the result of large donations from developers and businesses.

Della Fave, a city councilman, received \$7,741 in the last 18 days, bringing total contributions to \$31,310, according to the

reports. He has spent \$29,752.11 to date.

The biggest contributors include Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, \$700; Leslie A. Pass of Hoboken, \$575; Eaton and Mark Konova Beides of Jersey City, \$500; Wolf and Samson Kimelman of Roseland, \$450; and LaFera Contracting, \$450.

For Pasculli, the last 18 days have brought in \$4,397.10, giving him a total of \$44,906.01. He has spent \$42,043.57 to date.

Local developers Anthony Dell'Aquila and Joseph Barry have each contributed \$1,000 to the mayor, perceived to be friendly to development. Other sizable

donors were: ADA Plumbing and Heating of Hoboken, \$2,000; MJS Industries Corp. of Hoboken, \$1,000; and Scarra Properties of Hoboken, \$1,000.

Neither candidate could be reached for comment. The campaign chests of the remaining two candidates, Robert A. Ranieri and Robert King, do not come close to the size of Pasculli's or Della Fave's.

With \$625 in new funds, Ranieri has raised \$6,575 and spent \$4,198 to date.

Contributors include Robert Burke of Hoboken, \$150; and the Hoboken Land Building, \$225. King earlier this month filed a

report saying he would not spend over \$2,000.

In the five-way City Council race, Frank Raia has garnered the most financial support, according to the reports. With a \$4,500 boost in the past 18 days, his contributions total \$12,325. Only \$331.42 remains.

Council hopeful Stephen Bush is the only other candidate who submitted a financial statement. He has raised \$1,623 and spent \$5,68.80.

Candidates who raise under \$2,000 are not required to file the report, according to state law.

The other contenders are Richard Del Boccio, Terry LaBruno,



JOSEPH DELLA FAVE 88 in 18 days

and Nunzio Malfetti.

In all of the county's elections, the candidate most likely to have money left over after the election is Frank E. Rodgers.

Angry clash at Hoboken debate

By Dominick Calicchio

They may have been playing to a small crowd, but Hoboken's four mayoral candidates still managed to put on a show at last night's debate.

About 40 spectators attended the event, held in the auditorium of the Demarest School, which seats several hundred. The debate was sponsored by the First Ward Block Association.

There was a virulent exchange between candidates Patrick Pasculli and Joseph Della Fave.

Pasculli, the former City Council president, was ap-

pointed mayor earlier this year following the death March 2 of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti. Della Fave, who had been one of the late mayor's strongest allies, is the Second Ward councilman.

Also campaigning for mayor are Council President Robert Ranieri and schoolteacher Robert King.

As Election Day draws closer rhetoric of Pasculli and Della Fave has become more combative. Their comments last night continued that tone.

In opening remarks, Pasculli said his brief term has been crippled by "political factionalism" and "obstructionism." He said he has also been

taken to task for not solving in six months the problems the Vezzetti administration could not tackle in three years.

Della Fave charged Pasculli with imposing "machine tactics" on City Hall. He said Pasculli and his supporters have intimidated public employees and have conducted city business "behind closed doors."

The councilman also attacked Pasculli's campaign style, saying "If you run a dirty campaign, I'll tell you, I believe you'll run a dirty government."

As Pasculli spoke, Della Fave sat at the table on the auditorium stage with his lips tightly together and his eyes fixed straight ahead. When Della Fave's turn came, Pasculli sat with hands folded, his eyebrows raised and his face showing an exasperated smile.

Ranieri, meanwhile, sidestepped the Pasculli-Della Fave feud and focused his opening remarks on a survey he conducted for the campaign.

He said Hoboken residents' prime concerns are affordable housing, taxes, the school system, parking and drug abuse. Ranieri then proposed converting the Rue School — recently closed due to declining enrollment — into 65 units of affordable housing.

King alluded to Tuesday's edition of the ABC television program "Nightline" in which host Ted Koppel interviewed Democratic presidential candidate Michael S. Dukakis. King said Koppel admonished Dukakis for "repeating the same things," and said the same could be said for his mayoral opponents.

The P.A.'s role

I am disturbed by candidate Ranieri's misrepresentations regarding the city's relationship with the Port Authority and my positions to date. It is through my efforts as mayor that the Port Authority is not a real issue any longer.

The real issue for the city is what is in the best interests of our city and how the city can utilize the resources available to it most effectively to achieve city objectives. To this end, I led the effort to clear up past differences. My position has been to create a level field for negotiations to explore, without strings, the possibility of creating a public alliance involving the Port Authority that would seek private developer participation in building a development that meets city objectives.

Of all people, the former assemblyman who was at the forefront of seeking the bistate legislation necessary to permit Port Authority involvement in a Hoboken waterfront development should know better.

Fact #1: I have never proposed that the Port Authority be the "prime developer" of the Hoboken waterfront and the Port Authority will not be the "prime developer" if I am elected. Rather, the Port Authority is a public agency with financial, professional and technical resources that can be tapped by the city of Hoboken on terms acceptable to the city. Candidate Ranieri knows that. So he misstates the issue.

Fact #2: Concerning consistency, before becoming a mayoral candidate, Council President Ranieri stated in a May 31, 1988 release, "I am pleased to see the city and the Port Authority preparing to settle wasteful litigation and get on with the business of negotiations. The best waterfront developments have occurred through strong, cohesive public relationships with a vision of long-term benefits to the city in which such developments have occurred."

In June, Council President Ranieri supported and voted for the City Council resolution agreeing to a consent order that included a public recognition that the Port Authority made a considerable investment in the Hoboken facility and in good faith incurred considerable expenses in the planning for waterfront development.

Further, he voted then as well to rescind the Oct. 7, 1987 resolution denying city's consent to have the Port Authority involved and voted to authorize negotiations with the Port Authority.

Council President Ranieri agreed

to serve on the city's 15-member Waterfront Negotiation Team which I established and chaired. This team is comprised of city officials, council representatives and leading private citizens. This team, assisted by professional consultants and advisers, will recommend for city council consideration, with ample opportunity for public input, a plan for the southern Hoboken waterfront consistent with city objectives. This team will also advise on how a public alliance should be established with the city retaining all controls necessary for dictating its own destiny.

Fact #3: The Port Authority is a public agency and by law cannot participate in a mixed use waterfront development in Hoboken without agreement by the city council as to the nature and extent of its participation. As a public agency with financial, professional and technical resources, the Port Authority has the potential for assisting the city in preventing unchecked private development and assuring that development occurs as approved by the city.

Fact #4: The city and the Port Authority disagreed on the use of insurance proceeds. I was at the forefront of seeking to access those proceeds to assist the City with its budgetary problems. The Port Authority held the original \$7.5 million recovery in an interest-bearing account — in its opinion for investment in a future project. We, of course, disagreed because I felt it was necessary to create a level playing field in negotiations. As I stated on June 1, 1988, "My responsibility calls for me to think of the best interests of the city, both short-term and long-term." With the support of the city council, I have been able to settle past differences with the Port Authority — in the process accessing funds to repay a loan from the Port Authority of \$1.5 million plus receipts by the City of nearly \$7.9 million, a total of \$9.4 million, well over the original insurance recovery amount of \$7.5 million.

Fact #5: Unlike Candidate Ranieri, I have decided not to let past misunderstandings and emotional reactions anchored in false assumptions blind me as mayor to what is best for the city of Hoboken. It is a time for building alliances and asserting mayoral leadership to that end. As candidate Ranieri was quoted as saying, "In public life, you never take the extreme. All progress is made through compromise."

Fact #6: If a public alliance cannot be articulated in a way satisfactory to achieve the objectives in the best interest of the city, I will not support it. I will only support approval of a public alliance that in fact is in the best interests of the city and assures achieving city objectives for waterfront development. — PATRICK PASCULLI, mayor of Hoboken

Hispanic vote seen as key to election

By CHRISTOPHER AVE Dispatch 10-26-88

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Capturing support of the city's sizable Hispanic community may be the key to victory in the Nov. 3 mayoral race, community and political leaders said yesterday.

To do that, Hispanic leaders say, candidates must push an aggressive affordable-housing platform and convince the Hispanic community that the plan will work.

Comprising roughly 25 percent of the electorate here, Hispanics form the biggest tangible voting block. In the last mayoral election in 1985, Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti won a startling,

narrow victory over three-term incumbent Steve Cappiello by carrying a vast majority of Hispanics.

When Vezzetti died in March, tenant advocate Thomas Olivieri called him "the best friend the Hispanic community ever had." Councilman Joseph Della Fave, a Vezzetti administration insider, has claimed the late mayor's mantle as a reform candidate and is hoping to recreate his pull among Hispanic voters.

But some Della Fave supporters concede that duplicating Vezzetti's performance will be difficult; both the other major candidates in the race — Mayor Patrick Pasculli and City Council President Robert A. Ranieri — are making concerted efforts in Hispanic neigh-

borhoods, campaigning with Hispanic officials and distributing Spanish campaign literature.

The efforts illustrate that all believe winning a majority of the city's 4,000 to 5,000 registered Hispanic voters may translate into electoral victory.

"I honestly believe the Hispanic community has a major importance in deciding this election," Nellie Moyeno, the city's director of Hispanic and minority affairs, said.

Moyeno, other Hispanic leaders and the mayoral candidates all agree that housing is the critical issue for Hispanics.

Della Fave, who has garnered the support of prominent Hispanics such

as Olivieri and Felix Rivera, a Board of Education member, is stressing his sponsorship of housing laws like the city's anti-warehousing ordinance and the inclusionary affordable-housing ordinance as proof of his long-standing commitment to the issue.

"The only candidate, based on his support and advocacy for affordable housing, that offers security for Hispanics is Joe Della Fave," Rivera said.

But Edwin Durcy, serving his first term as the city's first Hispanic councilman, is Pasculli's co-campaign manager and major liaison to the Hispanic community. Durcy predicted that Pasculli would take the majority of Hispanic votes by stressing the Observer

Highway housing project, a plan pushed by Pasculli that is to result in 53 units of low and moderate income housing.

"We talk, and we bring brick and mortar," Durcy said. "The community reacts to brick and mortar."

Ranieri, a former state assemblyman, said his record of funding Hispanic concerns in the Assembly and as a councilman would bolster his efforts among Hispanics. He also said he would announce major plans for affordable housing next week that should affect the race.

"I'm confident my message has gotten through to Hispanics," Ranieri said. "I will get my share of support."

Hoboken debate

Mayor rivals clash

Dispatch

Hopefuls battle on development

10-21-88

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The four mayoral candidates struggled to put aside inconsistencies in their records as they battled to gain an edge in last night's debate, which will be televised on local cable Channel 18 tonight at 9 and on three other nights before the Nov. 8 election.

The debate amounted to a panel discussion in which the four candidates—Mayor Patrick Pasculli, City Council President Robert A. Ranieri, Councilman Joseph Della Fave and schoolteacher Robert King—were asked questions by a panel of reporters.

Pasculli, who has served since March, portrayed himself to the cameras and small crowd inside Hoboken High School as a leader poised to reduce taxes and forge a working coalition on the council. He declared himself "very optimistic" of the city's future, and took credit for hiring a professional urban planner to design the city's waterfront.

But Pasculli was unable to answer a reporter's question on when the public will be able to comment on the plan, which would construct the city's largest-ever development project. "We are still, as you know, in the planning process," Pasculli said.

Pasculli also endorsed the decision of the state commissioner of education rejection of a cut the council made in the Board of Education budget.

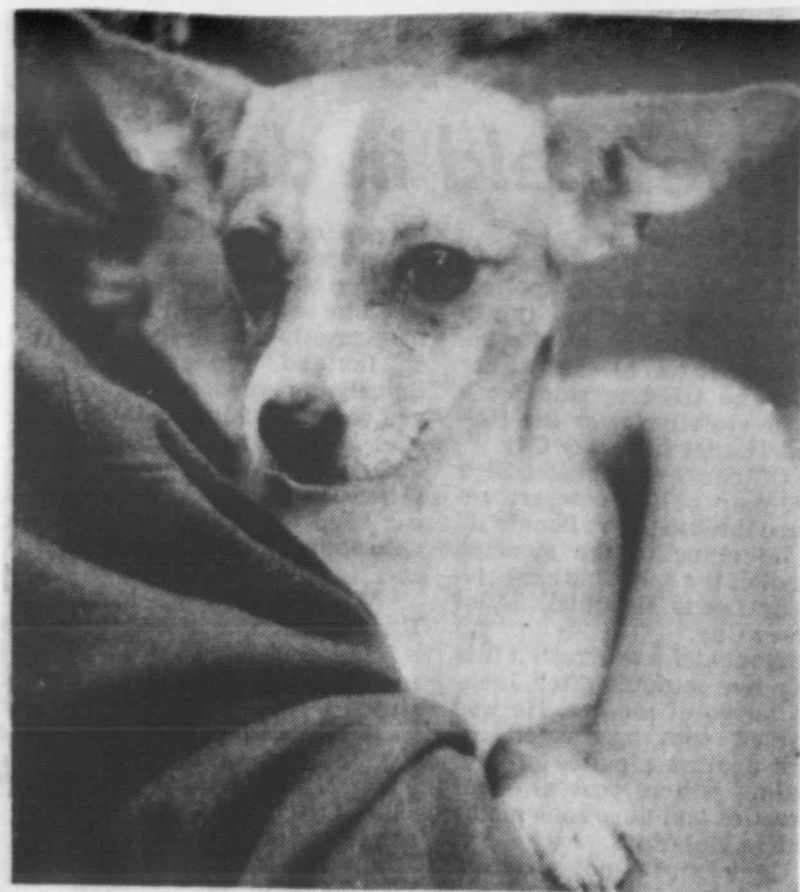
Della Fave stressed his work creating afterschool programs for children, repeatedly called for increased planning in development and listed his intent to create a waterfront improvement corporation to oversee waterfront projects.

Asked about divisions within his campaign over whom to support in the council race, Della Fave denied a rift exists and offered praise for candidates Steve Busch and Frank Raia, the incumbent. However, Della Fave refused to divulge his choice for the office.

Ranieri, a councilman since 1973 running on the slogan of "Qualified," said he plans to create affordable housing on the site of the David E. Rue School and elsewhere, stressed an effort to free up parking spaces by kicking commuters and bus companies out of city streets, and declared that he never created a single city job to gain political support.

Asked about his past record, however, Ranieri attacked a reporter for "avoiding" current issues. Pressed on the point, he listed initiatives he authored during the 1970s but none recently.

King declared he was "running because I want to win," and repeatedly called for a balanced budget. But asked twice to provide specific programs he would cut, he did not.



Bambi needs an operation to repair her leg.

Injured 'Bambi' melts city workers' hearts

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Maria Corcoran, a pretty blonde with big, brown eyes, sat at her desk during lunch yesterday in Hoboken City Hall counting money, eating a sandwich and crying.

The greenbacks and tears had nothing to do with her job in the payroll department. She was trying to come up with about \$500 to pay for an operation for a 1-year-old Chihuahua found early Wednesday morning by a co-worker, Skip Scrapulla.

"She looks like a deer, like Bambi and she has a broken leg," Corcoran said, tears swelling in her eyes.

After Scrapulla found the dog, apparently abandoned and neglected, near the railroad tracks at Observer Highway near the Hoboken and Jersey City city lines, he brought the injured animal to the police station.

Later that morning Corcoran spotted the Chihuahua in the police station and asked Police Chief George Crimmins what would happen to the dog. When told that it would probably be destroyed, Corcoran and Scrapulla started a collection around City Hall for surgery.

In one day, they came up with \$92. However, the bill at the Hoboken Animal Clinic, located at 235 Washington St., totaled \$104 for an examination, injections, X-Ray and anesthesia.

The cost to set its broken leg would cost between \$400 and \$500, said Spencer Silvers, a veterinarian at the clinic.

Bambi, a female, will be operated on today at noon, he said. The bill will be paid by the City Hall workers and police, he said.

Since Finance Director Nicholas Goldsack requires municipal employees to punch in and out for lunch and at the beginning and end of the day, Corcoran sees a steady stream of city workers.

At first she only asked for a \$1 donation. "We never thought the bill would be \$400," Corcoran said, adding that she may have to explain the cost of the surgery and the amount collected so far.

"It sounds crazy, like we're going nuts in here. But if you see this dog, the way her eyes go back and how sweet she is ..."

She and Scrapulla are grateful for the donations. People wishing to contribute may do so by contacting Corcoran in the payroll department, second floor in City Hall. They are also looking for someone to give the dog a permanent home.

Leadership needed to save the historic Hoboken Terminal

10-21-88 J.J.

Bill Campbell's article in the Oct. 17 Jersey Journal about the cost of restoration of the NJ Transit's Hoboken Terminal was excellent. I'm very happy that someone from the press has raised this issue.

The New Jersey waterfront has been called the "Gold Coast" by state and local officials as well as businessmen and developers. The Hoboken Terminal is unique as probably the only active mass transportation hub on the waterfront in the nation. The state of New Jersey should be committed to the restoration of this magnificent terminal. As your probably know, the U.S. Congress authorized funding for the restoration of Union Terminal in Washington D.C. which was reopened earlier this month.

The corrosion of the existing terminal must be addressed immediately to preserve the building, which is on the Federal Register of Historic Places. The last work on the terminal began in 1979 when the city and state received a federal public works grant to restore the waiting room ceiling as well as other improvements in the terminal. Vice President Walter Mondale visited the station in July 1979.

It would be fabulous if you could develop a series of feature articles on the terminal and its history to promote the terminal's restoration. A major financial commitment by the state is necessary and with the 1989 gubernatorial campaign beginning, it is an ideal time to develop the restoration of the terminal as an issue.

The Port Authority is beginning ferry services from the terminal next year, and should make a substantial financial contribution to the terminal's restoration.

The Star-Ledger undertook a campaign about ten years ago for New Jersey to build a Science and Technology Center which is being built in Liberty State Park. It would be a public service for The Jersey Journal to serve as a catalyst in the efforts to restore the terminal. — EDWIN J. CHIUS, business administrator, Hoboken.

SHORT-CHANGED

J.J. 10-24-88

Candidates agree city services not up to par

By James Efstathiou

Are Hoboken taxpayers getting their money's worth for basic city services like street cleaning, garbage removal and parking?

Many don't believe it, including each of nine candidates for mayor and council at large in the Nov. 8 special election.

Topping the list of problems is the city's failing sewage treatment facility. According to a consent order, Hoboken must award a contract to upgrade the plant by March. Cost estimates for the project range from \$80 to \$100 million.

The plant is currently rated as a primary treatment facility but must be upgraded to secondary treatment before a state imposed ban on new sewer hookups can be lifted.

Some council members oppose moving ahead with the upgrade and back a plan to hook up with Jersey City and pump city sewage to the Passaic Valley Treatment Plant. But that plan would also be costly, according to Department of Public Works (DPW) director Roy Hack, and it is not eligible for federal funding.

The parking problem has been labeled a crisis situation by some and is likely to worsen as Hoboken expands. While the resident parking permit program initiated in May is credited for having opened up spaces for Hoboken residents, the Hoboken Parking Authority is considering expansion, either by building a fourth garage or expanding space in existing garages.

Developers will also be required to contribute to the city's parking needs. The recycling program that kicked off last January is reported to have collected 192 tons of newspaper, cardboard, bottles and cans in September. Garbage removal is generally given high marks, but street cleaning remains a problem.

New mechanical sweepers are expected to bolster the efforts of the Department of Public Works (DPW) in maintaining city streets and relieve the hand sweepers of a portion of the burden.

Almost without exception, the candidates believe better management of the DPW and increased public participation would improve street conditions and the overall delivery of basic services.

Robert King

Robert King, making his first bid for public office, is opposed to upgrading Hoboken's treatment plant, opting instead for what he believes will be a less costly hookup to Passaic Valley. He is against the parking authority's practice of "booting" out-of-town cars and believes that developers, in addition to creating parking for new tenants, should be required to offer



some rental parking spaces for current residents.

"What good does it do any of us residents if the car is left there in that immobile condition and I still can't get that space to park my car," said King of the booting program. "The whole idea is to get rid of the car, not to immobilize it with a boot."

King supports creation of perimeter parking on the waterfront and the use of city-run senior citizens busses to shuttle residents after hours from perimeter lots to inner city locations. He is a harsh critic of the city's litter problem, placing part of the blame on new black plastic garbage containers on Washington Street, which he said are too small to do the job.

"It doesn't take anyone with any sense at all to tell you, yes, it is a very dirty town and it is unnecessarily dirty," said King. "Why is it that Union City can be cleaner than Hoboken?"

Robert Ranieri

Council president Robert Ranieri feels much of the problem with city services lies not in city workers but in management and overstaffing of the DPW. He proposes doing away with the separate departments within the DPW and establishing a top to bottom grid of command with one sub-official below the director in charge of all construction and manpower.

"The problem is that Roy (Hack) has alienated himself from the men in the field and has isolated himself in his office," said Ranieri of the DPW director. "He yielded to the appointments of Mr. Interim (Mayor Pasculli) and has overstaffed several areas, including the sewage plant."

He also opposes upgrading Hoboken's sewage plant, favoring instead the hookup with Jersey City.

"Everyone involved concedes that it is viable and affordable," said Ranieri of the Jersey City hookup. "Can we afford to build a facility with a six figure bid?"

Ranieri supports terminating the leases of 225 out-of-towners who he says currently rent parking spaces in city garages and turning the spaces over to residents. He backs a 3,500-car parking facility in the northwest quadrant of the city, and says if the parking authority chose not to develop, it should be offered to a private bidder.

"If you have a street cleaning program and you still have dirty streets, you're not getting your money's worth," Ranieri

said. "If you have a basin cleaning crew and you still have clogged catch basins, you're not getting your money's worth. If you have streets that are riddled with potholes and you have a road crew, you're not getting your money's worth. It would be my responsibility as mayor to select the administrators to organize programs to do these things."

Joseph Della Fave

Councilman Joseph Della Fave believes city services fall short of what should be expected and that improvement must be initiated from above. He calls for introduction of private sector management practices into government departments to help boost morale and increase productivity.

"No, people are not getting their money's worth," Della Fave said. "I don't think you have a spirit of public service. I think morale is at an all-time low among public employees. First, you have to end political intimidation of employees and political hirings and promotions. You've got to treat people with dignity and expect them to work for their dollar. Being a full-time, hard working public spirited mayor is the best example to give them."

Della Fave is for upgrading the city's sewage plant and has called the proposal to hook up to Jersey City a "pipe dream." He is for opening city hall offices one night a week for residents who can't do business there during the day and believes the parking crisis can best be addressed by perimeter parking garages.

"The key to improving the parking situation is the development of parking garages on the perimeter of the city to service commercial waterfront development and neighborhood parking," Della Fave said. "That should be done with federal, state and private developer funds because it would enhance waterfront development besides providing a public service."

Patrick Pasculli

Mayor Patrick Pasculli has called the timely delivery of basic services a "cornerstone of my administration," citing clean streets and better police protection as his top priorities. "One of my first initiatives as mayor was to order modern equipment to give city employees the tools needed to effectively do their jobs," Pasculli said.

While critics have accused Pasculli of making unnecessary appointments to the DPW, the mayor said the extra personnel are needed to complete the job of upgrading the sewage treatment plant.

"The department has grown to a large proportion due to the work that has to be done in upgrading the secondary sewage treatment plant," said Pasculli. "What we've add

ed to the department are some things that were lacking. We're looking to upgrade park maintenance, streets and roads and we are looking at realignment and reassignment of personnel."

Pasculli added that looking to options other than upgrading the plant should come after bids for the project are received. If the city is unable to bond for the cost of the plant given the addition of federal funds, then options like the Jersey City hookup could be explored, he says.

Richard Del Boccio

Council candidate Richard Del Boccio believes greater cooperation on the part of Hoboken residents would go a long way in improving the condition of city streets.

"We still need greater cooperation from the public," said Del Boccio, who is principal at Salvatore Calabro School. "There are plenty of litter baskets up there and people have to help out."

"I'm upset with the rate of absenteeism with some of the street sweepers," he added, referring to the DPW's manned street sweeping crew. "There are a few who are violating the attendance rule. He (DPW director Hack) doesn't always have these 20 men. We need them out there."

Del Boccio is satisfied with city garbage collection and the new recycling program, but feels parking is a problem that needs immediate attention. He supports a two-space per residential unit requirement for new development and additional city-run parking garages on the perimeter of town.

"Two parking spaces per residential unit wherever they build," said Del Boccio. "They may not be happy with it, but many people have two cars in the city. It's a solution even if it doesn't necessarily make them happy."

Del Boccio favors upgrading Hoboken's sewage treatment plant in conjunction with Union City and Weehawken who, together with Hoboken, make up the tri-municipal agency that would run the plant.

"We would have greater control over the treatment plant and its operation," said Del Boccio in arguing for the upgrade. "The costs would be shared proportionately with the other communities in addition to securing whatever state and federal funds are available."

Steven Busch

Steven Busch in his first run for public office advocates a halt on development until independent studies can be conducted to assess the city's current and future service needs. He argues that development can only further strain an al-

Continued on next page



Journal photo by Scott Lynch.

This city park at the corner of Third and Madison streets is among those that are in poor condition.

City not getting money's worth, candidates agree

Continued from Page 13

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"What we have to realize as a community is that more development is not going to improve the situation," Busch said. "Basically we're a small town and the developers and our city government are trying to push us into being a full scale urban environment overnight. More development is just

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When Hoboken voters go to the polls Nov. 8, Joseph Della Fave deserves their vote for mayor.

High taxes and escalating housing costs are two key issues in Hoboken, and to make progress in dealing with them Hoboken needs proper development of its waterfront. Della Fave knows that Hoboken's government needs to reach a consensus about the general form waterfront development will take, and he has made thoughtful proposals for how such development would be managed.

Interim Mayor Patrick Pasculli, on the other hand, can be faulted for ruling out any kind of subsidized housing on the waterfront. That decision would be best left for negotiations with a specific developer; by ruling it out in advance the city's negotiating position is hurt.

Hoboken also needs to have a government that is professionally run and not dragged down by political cronyism. Della Fave's record as a councilman lends credence to his pledge to battle the old-fashioned political favoritism that traditionally has hurt Hoboken government.

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The November election is only a prelude to the one in May, when a mayor will be elected to a four-year term. But Hoboken should put the best possible candidate in office now during a particularly important period in the city's history — when it must shape the future of the city's waterfront while grappling with problems of taxes and high housing costs.

In terms of Della Fave's opponents, interim Mayor Pasculli showed poor judgment in refusing suggestions to compromise on school budget cuts. Instead, his administration officially pursued the cuts it had made through the appeal process, even though he expected the city would lose.

Pasculli, a Hoboken school system employee, doesn't appear to find much room for greater efficiency in the school system. He also has endorsed another Hoboken school system employee for city council. He would continue a pattern of excessive crossovers between the autonomous school board and city government.

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Candidate Robert King has issued vigorous blasts at city overspending but has not demonstrated command of the wide range of municipal issues.

Vote for Della Fave.

Former firefighter sees 'home' burn

By Blanca M. Quintanilla

The familiar smell of coffee emanating from the Maxwell House plant in the northern section of Hoboken had suddenly vanished and was being replaced by the smell of heavy smoke.

Less than a block away, a landmark firehouse on Washington Street was burning and adding a dim touch to the otherwise weather-perfect Saturday morning.

Early weekend Hobonites heading for a day in New York City or a walk in the country had to skip over a few puddles of water accumulating along Washington Street.

In front of the burning building on Washington Street, between 13th and 14th streets, Al Labook saluted a few of his friends.

"It's not a happy time when your house goes up in smoke," said Labook, a retired Hoboken firefighter.

"When you spend as much time as we used to spend in the firehouse, it becomes a second home to you," Labook explained to his friends.

Right in front of him, the place that had been his second home for five years was burning and there was nothing Labook could do to stop it.

See FORMER — Page 4.

Former firefighter sees 'home' burn

Continued from Page 1

Instead, he watched from the sidelines, admiring the work of a few younger firefighters who had once been his colleagues.

Labook retired in February, 1987 after 35 years in the Hoboken Fire Department. The last five years, he had been assigned to the Washington Street station that houses Engine Company No. 2 and Ladder Company No. 1.

On Saturday morning, someone passed in front of his Garden Street house and told him his former firehouse was in

flames. Labook headed there on an instinct.

"I just felt sad when I saw it," he said. "Your first thought is, 'It can't be true.'"

Mary Drohan, a four-year resident of Hoboken, had a rude awakening Saturday at around 10:30 a.m.

She lives at 1315-17 Washington Street, a 24-unit apartment building next to the burning firehouse.

"I'm sitting in my room and I saw smoke moving north," she said. "I wandered what it could be. The building's fire alarm went off. In a few minutes, people were running down the stairs saying there was a fire next door. No one thought it was too serious, but we didn't know what was up."

Drohan headed outside the building only to see the top of the firehouse engulfed in flames.

The fire caused heavy structural and water damage to the firehouse — the first building in Hoboken to be designated a historic landmark in the Federal Register of Historic Buildings.

Cops named on tapes are off the job

By James Elfstathiou

Two local law enforcement officers named in FBI affidavits filed in connection with an organized crime investigation have left their jobs — one temporarily and the other permanently.

Hoboken Patrolman Eugene Drayton, an 18-year veteran of the force, begins a three-month unpaid leave of absence today, according to Police Chief George Crimmins. Drayton submitted his request in writing, Crimmins said, citing unspecified personal reasons for his departure.

Paul Sullivan, an investigator and for-

mer gambling squad chief for the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office has resigned, according to his attorney Harold Ruvoldt Jr., who gave no details.

Neither Sullivan nor Drayton could be reached for comment. Both were named in affidavits filed in connection with the FBI's investigation of the New Jersey faction of the Genovese crime family. Neither man has been charged with breaking any law.

The FBI documents were obtained by The Jersey Journal in July. The investigation included a year-long wiretap of Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken which has

since been renamed "Pascale's". According to the affidavits, Drayton was quoted in two taped conversations at the restaurant in July, 1987. In addition, he was named as a "principal participant" in the Louis "Bobby" Manna faction of the Genovese crime group in Hudson County, according to a sworn affidavit by an FBI agent. Drayton has never been charged with any crime and has denied any wrongdoing.

Sullivan was mentioned in an FBI affidavit that said in part: "In March 1986, Source 15 advised that a (numbers control-

See COPS NAMED ON TAPES — Page 13.

Cops named on tapes are off the job

Continued from Page 1

ler) who works for Jack Ciaramella in his bookmaking operation told Ciaramella he would have to meet a captain of the gambling squad to discuss protection. This source advised in May, 1986 that (the numbers controller) has stated that his numbers operation has a direct line with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office through an employee of that office named Sullivan."

In a footnote to that affidavit, FBI Agent John P. Mulaney wrote: "Your affiant has verified that Paul Sullivan is an investigator with the Hudson County prosecutor's office."

Sullivan was removed as head of the gambling squad and transferred in December, 1987.

In 1986 and 1987 when the gambling squad was under Sullivan's leadership it conducted 42 raids. None of those raided were linked to the Genovese crime family.

Yesterday evening DePascale refused to comment on the Sullivan matter or confirm his resignation. He said, "It's not that I can't comment — I won't comment."

As a result of the FBI investigation, Manna, along with restaurant owner Marty Casella, Richard "Boeci" DeSciscio and others were indicted on racketeering, murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion charges.

Jersey City Municipal Court Judge Edward Zampella became involved in the investigation when his name surfaced on taped conversations obtained in the probe.

Prior to last August, Drayton had been assigned to the Hoboken Detective Bureau. When his name was revealed in connection with the investigation, Drayton was re-assigned to the radio dispatch room where he was since worked.

"I did take him out and put him in the less visible position when the newspaper story

broke about the indictments," said Crimmins. "It's not the most desirable," he added of the radio room assignment. "But he said nothing."

Crimmins said he did not personally see Drayton when he submitted his request for a leave and did not question his motives.

"I never do because, what the hell, he's not getting paid," Crimmins said. "He said personal reasons."

The FBI affidavits contain sworn statements used to convince a federal court judge to allow wiretapping as part of a criminal investigation.

According to an affidavit by FBI Agent Mulaney, Drayton was taped in a conversation with two unidentified males on the night of July 2, 1987, in the Chariot Room of Casella's Restaurant. The affidavit states:

"Drayton told the first unidentified male (apparently the victim) that he 'better come up with the vig.' Drayton then said, 'If Rocky (believed to be Rocco

Napoli) don't say no, your ass is going to jail tonight.' The victim replies, 'I want that like I want a bullet in my head.'"

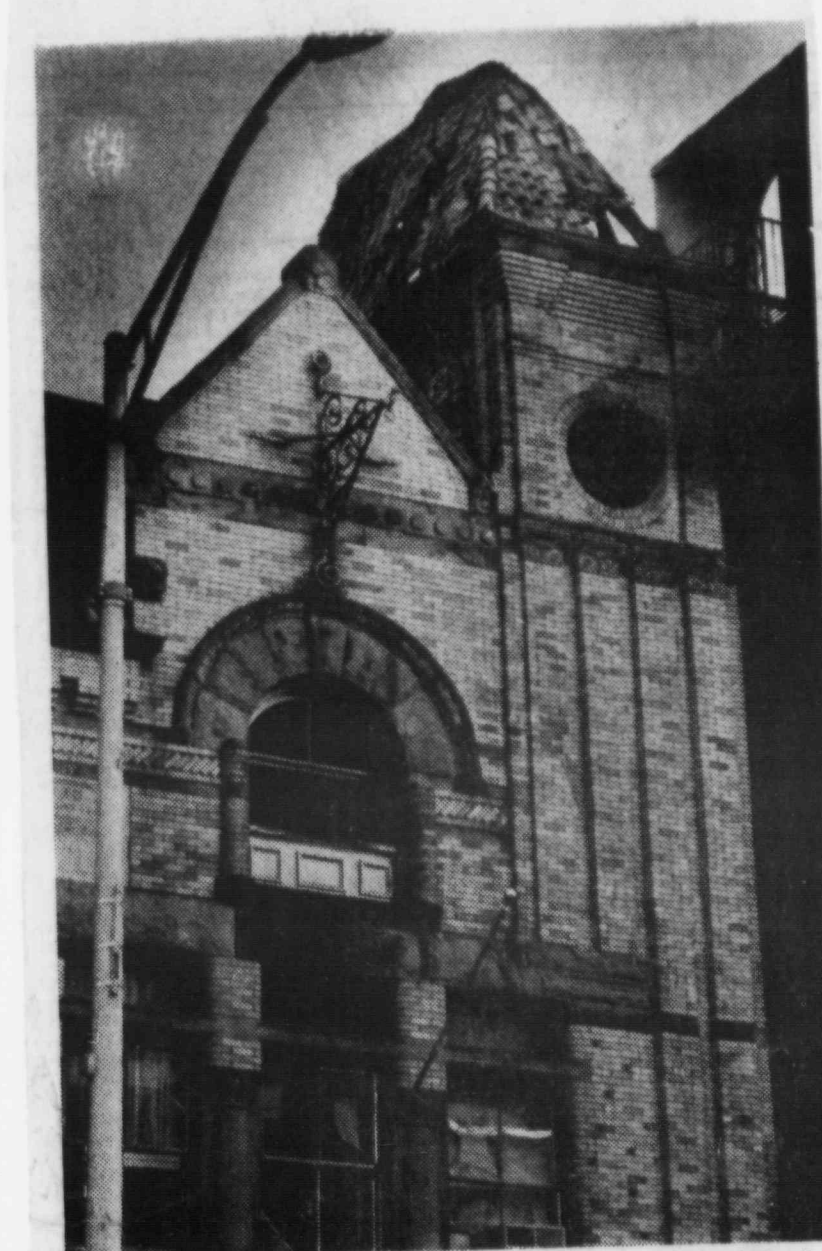
"Drayton then says, 'If Rocky says you're OK, then OK, otherwise your ass is going to jail.' The second unknown male then said, 'You better have the money.'"

Vig is short for vigorish and is defined as an illegally high rate of interest for a loan, according to the affidavit.

Rocco Napoli is described in the affidavit as a lieutenant of the Manna faction of the Genovese family. He was one of those arrested on June 28 and was charged with conspiracy to murder mob boss John Gotti and with racketeering, illegal gambling and conspiracy to take labor payoffs.

Drayton is also heard on tapes made on July 10, 1987, according to the affidavit.

Drayton is president of the local chapter of the NAACP and a former member of the Board of Education.



The first building ever designated a historic landmark in Hoboken — the firehouse on Washington Street between 13th and 14th streets — bears the marks of Saturday's fire.

Historic firehouse burns

Continued from Page 1

small spot fires. Deputy Fire Chief Edward Scharneck said the firefighters had been out training when the fire broke out.

Fire Chief James Houn, who was out of town when the first alarm came in, stood by the side of the engines as they were going to hose down the structure.

"I was very surprised," said the chief. "Very much so. We've never had such a serious fire in one of our firehouses," he added.

When he was asked if he thought it was ironic a fire had struck so close to home.

Chius said although the fire damaged the roof, third and second floors heavily, reconstruction of the historic building would begin almost immediately.

"We'll have the insurance company notified," said Chius. "We'll fix it in no time."

In a sense, not all was lost. Chius said he had recently purchased new windows for the firehouse, but they have not arrived yet. Had they been in-

stalled earlier, they would have been broken by the firefighters trying to bring the blaze under control.

"We don't suspect any foul play," said Richard Tremietti, chief fire inspector. "We think the fire was probably caused by an electrical wire. We'll know on Monday, when we start our investigation."

The fire caught those working at the firehouse by surprise. The chief inspector said the firefighters had been away training when the fire started.

"They came in the firehouse but they didn't know there was a fire because it was concealed in the roof area," said the inspector. "The fire was above them but they didn't know."

The fire interrupted heavy mid-morning traffic on Washington Street. Traffic on 14th Street was diverted to Hudson Street. Washington Street was reopened at 12:30 p.m.

Some bystanders said the fire had been reported to fire headquarters from the YMCA building next to the firehouse.

Historic firehouse is damaged by fire

By Blanca M. Quintanilla

A two-alarm fire struck a historic century-old Hoboken firehouse early Saturday morning, causing extensive water and structural damage to the three-story building.

The brick firehouse had been the first building in Hoboken to have been selected to the Federal Register of Historic build-

ings, according to Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius, who was at the scene Saturday.

Firefighters reported no injuries.

The fire caused heavy damage to the historic landmark that was built in 1890, and which houses Engine Company No. 2 and Ladder Company No. 1 on Washington Street between 13th and 14th streets.

The fire was not listed as suspicious on

Saturday, but a full investigation is expected to get under way today, according to fire officials.

The fire started at approximately 10:30 a.m. and was brought under control in about 20 minutes. By 12:30 p.m., firefighters were preparing to hose down the structure to wet the building and prevent

See HISTORIC — Page 5.

City not getting money's worth, candidates agree

Continued from Page 13

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By Blanca M. Quintanilla

The familiar smell of coffee emanating from the Maxwell House plant in the northern section of Hoboken had suddenly vanished and was being replaced by the smell of heavy smoke.

Less than a block away, a landmark firehouse on Washington Street was burning and adding a dim touch to the otherwise weather-perfect Saturday morning.

Early weekend Hobonites heading for a day in New York City or a walk in the country had to skip over a few puddles of water accumulating along Washington Street.

In front of the burning building on Washington Street, between 13th and 14th streets, Al Labook saluted a few of his friends.

"It's not a happy time when your house goes up in smoke," said Labook, a retired Hoboken firefighter.

"When you spend as much time as we used to spend in the firehouse, it becomes a second home to you," Labook explained to his friends.

Right in front of him, the place that had been his second home for five years was burning and there was nothing Labook could do to stop it.

See FORMER — Page 4.

Former firefighter sees 'home' burn

Continued from Page 1

Instead, he watched from the sidelines, admiring the work of a few younger firefighters who had once been his colleagues.

Labook retired in February, 1987 after 35 years in the Hoboken Fire Department. The last five years, he had been assigned to the Washington Street station that houses Engine Company No. 2 and Ladder Company No. 1.

On Saturday morning, someone passed in front of his Garden Street house and told him his former firehouse was in

flames. Labook headed there on an instinct.

"I just felt sad when I saw it," he said. "Your first thought is, 'It can't be true.'"

Mary Drohan, a four-year resident of Hoboken, had a rude awakening Saturday at about 10:30 a.m.

She lives at 1315-17 Washington Street, a 24-unit apartment building next to the burning firehouse.

"I'm sitting in my room and I saw smoke moving north," she said. "I wandered what it could be. The building's fire alarm went off. In a few minutes, people were running down the stairs saying there was a fire next door. No one thought it was too serious, but we didn't know what was up."

Drohan headed outside the building only to see the top of the firehouse engulfed in flames.

The fire caused heavy structural and water damage to the firehouse — the first building in Hoboken to be designated a historic landmark in the Federal Register of Historic Buildings.

Cops named on tapes are off the job

By James Efstathios

Two local law enforcement officers named in FBI affidavits filed in connection with an organized crime investigation have left their jobs — one temporarily and the other permanently.

Hoboken Patrolman Eugene Drayton, an 18-year veteran of the force, begins a three-month unpaid leave of absence today, according to Police Chief George Crimmins. Drayton submitted his request in writing, Crimmins said, citing unspecified personal reasons for his departure.

Paul Sullivan, an investigator and for-

mer gambling squad chief for the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office has resigned, according to his attorney Harold Ruvoldt Jr., who gave no details.

Neither Sullivan nor Drayton could be reached for comment. Both were named in affidavits filed in connection with the FBI's investigation of the New Jersey faction of the Genovese crime family. Neither man has been charged with breaking any law.

The FBI documents were obtained by The Jersey Journal in July. The investigation included a year-long wiretap of Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken which has

since been renamed "Pascale's". According to the affidavits, Drayton was quoted in two taped conversations at the restaurant in July, 1987. In addition, he was named as a "principal participant" in the Louis "Bobby" Manna faction of the Genovese crime group in Hudson County, according to a sworn affidavit by an FBI agent. Drayton has never been charged with any crime and has denied any wrongdoing.

Sullivan was mentioned in an FBI affidavit that said in part: "In March 1986, Source 15 advised that a (numbers control-

See COPS NAMED ON TAPES — Page 13.

Cops named on tapes are off the job

Continued from Page 1

ler) who works for Jack Ciaramella in his bookmaking operation told Ciaramella he would have to meet a captain of the gambling squad to discuss protection. This source advised in May, 1986 that (the numbers controller) has stated that his numbers operation has a direct line with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office through an employee of that office named Sullivan."

In a footnote to that affidavit, FBI Agent John P. Mulaney wrote: "Your affiant has verified that Paul Sullivan is an investigator with the Hudson County prosecutor's office."

Sullivan was removed as head of the gambling squad and transferred in December, 1987.

In 1986 and 1987 when the gambling squad was under Sullivan's leadership it conducted 42 raids. None of those raided were linked to the Genovese crime family.

Yesterday evening DePascale refused to comment on the Sullivan matter or confirm his resignation. He said, "It's not that I can't comment — I won't comment."

As a result of the FBI investigation, Manna, along with restaurant owner Marty Casella, Richard "Bocci" DeSciscio and others were indicted on racketeering, murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion charges.

Jersey City Municipal Court Judge Edward Zampella became involved in the investigation when his name surfaced on taped conversations obtained in the probe.

Prior to last August, Drayton had been assigned to the Hoboken Detective Bureau. When his name was revealed in connection with the investigation, Drayton was re-assigned to the radio dispatch room where he was since worked.

"I did take him out and put him in the less visible position when the newspaper story

broke about the indictments," said Crimmins. "It's not the most desirable," he added of the radio room assignment. "But he said nothing."

Crimmins said he did not personally see Drayton when he submitted his request for a leave and did not question his motives.

"I never do because, what the hell, he's not getting paid," Crimmins said. "He said personal reasons."

The FBI affidavits contain sworn statements used to convince a federal court judge to allow wiretapping as part of a criminal investigation.

According to an affidavit by FBI Agent Mulaney, Drayton was taped in a conversation with two unidentified males on the night of July 2, 1987, in the Chariot Room of Casella's Restaurant. The affidavit states:

"Drayton told the first unidentified male (apparently the victim) that he 'better come up with the vig.' Drayton then said, 'If Rocky (believed to be Rocco

Napoli) don't say no, your ass is going to jail tonight.' The victim replies, 'I want that like I want a bullet in my head.'"

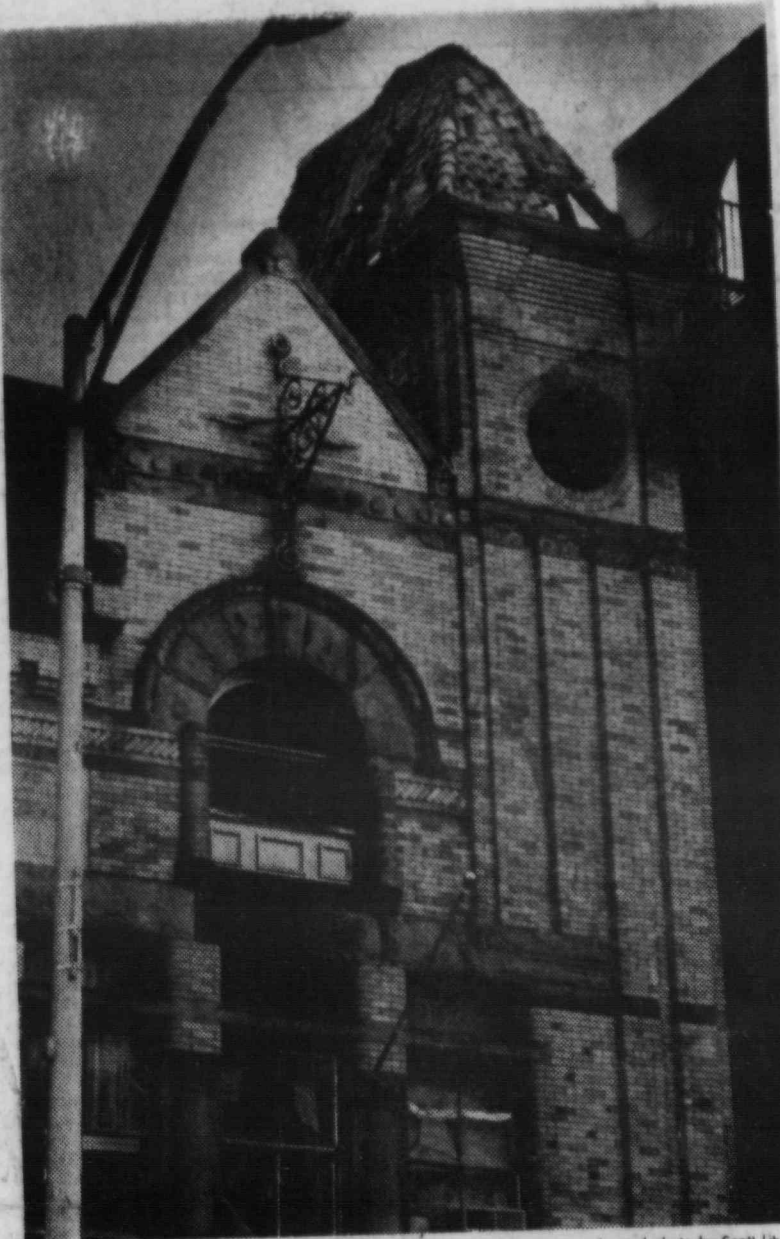
"Drayton then says, 'If Rocky says you're OK, then OK, otherwise your ass is going to jail.' The second unknown male then said, 'You better have the money.'"

Vig is short for vigorish and is defined as an illegally high rate of interest for a loan, according to the affidavit.

Rocco Napoli is described in the affidavit as a lieutenant of the Manna faction of the Genovese family. He was one of those arrested on June 28 and was charged with conspiracy to murder mob boss John Gotti and with racketeering, illegal gambling and conspiracy to take labor payoffs.

Drayton is also heard on tapes made on July 10, 1987, according to the affidavit.

Drayton is president of the local chapter of the NAACP and a former member of the Board of Education.



The first building ever designated a historic landmark in Hoboken — the firehouse on Washington Street between 13th and 14th streets — bears the marks of Saturday's fire.

Historic firehouse burns

Continued from Page 1

small spot fires. Deputy Fire Chief Edward Scharneck said the firefighters had been out training when the fire broke out.

Fire Chief James Houn, who was out of town when the first alarm came in, stood by the side of the engines as they were going to hose down the structure.

"I was very surprised," said the chief. "Very much so. We've never had such a serious fire in one of our firehouses," he added when he was asked if he thought it was ironic a fire had struck so close to home.

Chius said although the fire damaged the roof, third and second floors heavily, reconstruction of the historic building would begin almost immediately.

"We'll have the insurance company notified," said Chius. "We'll fix it in no time."

In a sense, not all was lost. Chius said he had recently purchased new windows for the firehouse, but they have not arrived yet. Had they been in-

stalled earlier, they would have been broken by the firefighters trying to bring the blaze under control.

"We don't suspect any foul play," said Richard Tremittie, chief fire inspector. "We think the fire was probably caused by an electrical wire. We'll know on Monday, when we start our investigation."

The fire caught those working at the firehouse by surprise. The chief inspector said the firefighters had been away training when the fire started.

"They came in the firehouse but they didn't know there was a fire because it was concealed in the roof area," said the inspector. "The fire was above them but they didn't know."

The fire interrupted heavy mid-morning traffic on Washington Street. Traffic on 14th Street was diverted to Hudson Street. Washington Street was reopened at 12:30 p.m.

Some bystanders said the fire had been reported to fire headquarters from the YMCA building next to the firehouse.

Historic firehouse is damaged by fire

By Blanca M. Quintanilla

A two-alarm fire struck a historic century-old Hoboken firehouse early Saturday morning, causing extensive water and structural damage to the three-story building.

The brick firehouse had been the first building in Hoboken to have been selected to the Federal Register of Historic build-

ings, according to Hoboken Business Administrator Edwin Chius, who was at the fire scene Saturday.

Firefighters reported no injuries. The fire caused heavy damage to the historic landmark that was built in 1890, and which houses Engine Company No. 2 and Ladder Company No. 1 on Washington Street between 13th and 14th streets.

The fire was not listed as suspicious on

Saturday, but a full investigation is expected to get under way today, according to fire officials.

The fire started at approximately 10:30 a.m. and was brought under control in about 20 minutes. By 12:30 p.m., firefighters were preparing to hose down the structure to wet the building and prevent

See HISTORIC — Page 5.

Hoboken candidates explain their positions

J.J. 10-26-88

First of two parts
The winner of the Nov. 8 election for mayor of Hoboken will serve for only six months, but he will influence the city's waterfront development, prepare its 1989 budget and oversee such important projects as the new sewage treatment plant.

The four candidates vying for the mayor's seat were recently invited to the offices of The Jersey Journal to discuss these and other issues that will have both long- and short-term effects on the residents of the Mile Square City.

Mayor Pat Pasculli, Councilmen Joseph Della Fave and Robert Ranieri and Robert King were questioned by a panel of Jersey Journal reporters and editors. The candidates had no prior knowledge of the questions and were each given a two-minute time limit to respond.

An edited version of the candidates' answers will be printed today and tomorrow. The first installment follows.

Jersey Journal: Why should you be elected mayor of Hoboken?

Joseph Della Fave: I think first and foremost, I see my role as mayor as being an extension of my community activities over the last 15 years, just as my role as councilman has been. What I think many of us have been trying to do for a long time here in Hoboken is work on the goals and the dreams and the vision of a future Hoboken which many of us have had for so long and were incapable as citizens during the many years of the Cappiello administration certainly of incorporating into reality.

As mayor, I would like the opportunity to take and shape all of these dreams into a reality. We have a waterfront development; a waterfront which is about to be developed. I think needs to be lead by a capable as well as committed public officer. And I stress the matter of commitment, because you have to have a record of having been committed to the public interest. And I think as we go through — whether it be fiscal responsibility, concerns for community affairs, all matters in the public interest — we are talking about shaping the government of Hoboken once again for a government that serves the people of Hoboken, not special interest, not any clique, not any particular political family, or anything that has plagued us in the past. It has been the special interest and politicization of government affairs and the mismanagement of government which has brought us to such great problems in Hoboken — high taxes, unbridled development, displacement in the past and division today.

We have a great future ahead of us if we can shape the resources to protect us as such. I think I am quite capable and not only that, my record proves that I have the public interest first and foremost in mind.

Robert King: To begin with, it is no secret in the City of Hoboken that we are at the present time suffering from a very strenuous, very serious fiscal crisis. All of us who are seeking this high executive position in our hometown have pointed this out. But what we do not as candidates always address is our role in causing the fiscal crisis. Let us discuss for example the notorious fact that the City of Hoboken did not have a new revaluation for 18 long years, although required by state law to do so sooner. One of the candidates who boasts of his qualifications to be mayor spent a couple of years in one term in Trenton as an assemblyman and he passed special legislation to exempt Hoboken from that state mandated requirement on the revaluation. Why? The answer is simple. That particular ex-assemblyman couldn't get himself re-elected if he had to go to the people and explain to them why they were going to be suffering from such high tax bills. And so, we played the game of politics.

My other two opponents are not guiltless, however, and in all fairness to the ex-assemblyman I must tell you that the other two gentlemen made sure they kept their mouths nice and tight while the legislation was passing our bi-cameral house in Trenton.

Two, I think I should be elected mayor because my platform calls for a very simple business procedure and philosophy: You cannot spend money that you do not have. We have gone beyond our debt limitation. As far as state law is concerned, there is no more plastic, no more credit for Hoboken. I understand that experience is so terribly important to some of my other opponents and they are so fond of calling me the novice, the newcomer. But you see what experience has done to Hoboken. My opponents all have experience but look at the mess they have gotten us in.

Robert Ranieri: In the simple phrase, I have the business and government background for the office. In a word, I am qualified. I have developed the issues through practical knowledge, through research with assistants and through a telephone poll running three consecutive weeks. The issues that affect a broad spectrum of city are that of housing that might be affordable to all people of various



Joseph Della Fave: "What we need is some political healing in town."



Robert King: "You cannot spend money that you do not have."



Pat Pasculli: "My entire life has been centered around the Hoboken neighborhood."



Robert Ranieri: "I am qualified."

categories — what is affordable to one might not be to another. The question of high rents and high taxes across the city. The question of parking for everyone, the educational process, the war on drugs, and there are other issues but those are the main issues before the public. I have a solution for each one of them. A solution that could be brought out and stand up to scrutiny. I believe that sums my position on why I should be mayor.

One point I will make because the subject was brought up by Mr. King. Yes, I am very satisfied to say that I was able to push a bill through both houses and have it signed by the governor at a time when he hesitated and vacillated because he did not want to sign a bill to delay the reval. I had good substantial reasoning for it. I put forward that reasoning before the attorney general, before the legal staff of the governor, the governor himself. The thesis was basically that Hoboken was on the verge of a change. That the waterfront development was about to take place and that the money derived from waterfront development would offset the brutal impact of the shifting of the tax levy in the city. Unfortunately, another group took office shortly thereafter. And on the very first day in office, the person in charge of that group, who had no authority, sent a letter to the Port Authority telling the Port Authority to stop all studies and all progress on the waterfront. Everything was to be stopped.

Patrick Pasculli: Well, my entire life has been centered around all the activities in the Hoboken neighborhood. And in today's point in time in Hoboken's history, Hoboken neighborhood is threatened. It is threatened with a confiscatory tax rate, it is threatened with a lack of basic services, it is threatened with a constant political dialogue and rhetoric surrounding improvements to the Hoboken school system. It is threatened with a lack of confidence in elected officials being able to simply to improve the quality of life in a community. Hoboken is an old urban community, suffering from the very same problems all old urban centers suffer from. And the next mayor of this community is going to have to be able to propose programs and projects in order to bring an old urban community out of its day of failing infrastructure, and many of the other problems I just outlined, into a new generation, a new era of hope and progress for the community.

I've had either the fortune or misfortune of being appointed mayor last

March. And, I believe I have already put into place projects and programs. I have already put into place the order of events that if I would have opportunity to receive majority support of the City Council, begin to generate revenue streams for this community which would help us as an old urban city, lower taxes, stabilize the delivery of basic services, improve the quality of life and bring Hoboken into the next generation.

I believe the platform of Richard Del Boccio and I speak to that. I believe the simple fact that I am running with another council candidate speaks to the issue of leaving behind the political rhetoric and getting on with the business of establishing a stable city government. I wish to be able to continue what I have done over the last six months. I hope to be given that vote of confidence on Nov. 8.

Jersey Journal: Mr. King, do you advocate any role for the Port Authority in the development of Hoboken's piers?

King: I do advocate a very important role. Given the nature, legally of this almost fifty-first state, its tax exemption, its exemption from government control on the state, county and local level, many of us feel terribly threatened that that wonderful sixteen-and-a-half or so acres of prime real estate would somehow slip into the control of the Port Authority. And if we made some kind of agreement with them, Hoboken would be left holding broken promises and frustrated dreams.

So, what do you do with an agency that has done so much in terms of improving the quality of human life in the tri-state area? I think we ought to do it administratively under my leadership and request a meeting with this bi-state agency, with the Port Authority, and ask them to help us to develop with their expertise and their experience and qualifications the problems of urban development that will be increasing as we begin to develop our waterfront. The role that I see for the Port Authority in Hoboken under my administration is one that will bring to us the engineering technology, the expertise and a proven record achievement on how we are going to avoid gridlock in our streets and also on our waterfront.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Ranieri, for years you've been an advocate of developing the city piers with the P.A. Your position changed after Pat Pasculli was named interim mayor and you now oppose P.A. involvement in the development. Was your original

opposition political posturing?

Ranieri: The Port Authority has had its place in developing the piers. The Port Authority came years ago as a shipping facility and supplied employment for a great number of people in Hoboken. It didn't to that to be a benevolent organization, the rental on the piers was but \$78,000 per year. It is now \$73,000. We needed the Port Authority half in strength when we first attempted to get the piers back from the federal government. They did that with us, they advanced the initial money, the \$1 million required, and that was a good quid pro quo. If we look at a competitive process for developing the waterfront, the Port Authority should be allowed to enter into that competition but it has to show on an equal basis with others that it can do more for us than someone else. Now, what we must do is set parameters on the development, which we are, and then say to world class developers, under these circumstances, come in and tell us what you would do and how you would do it and what would come to us out of it.

Jersey Journal: Mayor Pasculli, during the Vezzetti administration you opposed any involvement of the Port Authority in the development of the city-owned waterfront piers. Your position changed after you were named interim mayor and you began advocating a role for the P.A. in the project. Was your original opposition political posturing?

Pasculli: I don't believe so. The reason I opposed the Port Authority in the initial round of negotiations with the Vezzetti administration is because it was evident that the Port Authority was blatantly violating the lease hold that had been struck in 1952 and was to last 50 years. And that lease hold became a cumbersome burden to the community to negotiate fairly on an even keel and to create a level playing ground. There was a lot of debris on the table. The Vezzetti waterfront advisory committee advised the mayor that the lease hold should be broken and that they should pursue it aggressively in court. When they failed to do that, a citizens group initiated the law suit. And only after my position on the City Council at that time joined by Councilman (Norman) Wilson and Councilman (David) Roberts joined the lawsuit and encouraging the administration to join the lawsuit, were we able to finally have major court decisions in our favor which returned city-ownership of the piers to the city.

I believe the playing field is now level, I believe that there is a role for

the Port Authority. They are a public agency and this municipality requires a public agency as a public partner in this development. I believe an open and competitive process should be established and that competitive bidding process can only be raised in the public light through another public agency. I don't believe the Port Authority should be the developer and I have never advocated a development role. But they are simply an agency with vast technical, professional and financial resources that an urban center like Hoboken certainly can utilize.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Della Fave, what role do you think the P.A. should play in the development of Hoboken's piers?

Della Fave: I am not an advocate of the Port Authority role but I do not necessarily oppose a role for it, but certainly not in the shape of either developing or in any way controlling or managing the development process. The most important thing all along in the discussion of waterfront development has been or should have been the planning process and what should be on the table for development, what does the city of Hoboken want first and foremost, what does it need and what is it capable of actually handling. The question of the Port Authority, of course, was the burning issue when they held the lease, the lease which was broken with the able legal leadership of Bill Graves, Tom Vezzetti's lawyer. But the matter of the Port Authority presently is that it has \$115 million which they are waving at the city of Hoboken. If that \$115 could be utilized by us advantageously for upfront money to repair the city, to help out in anyway what so ever, I am certainly willing and open to discussing that. We need to increase our capacity to plan, manage, monitor our urban development process and to implement ourselves the necessary public amenities, the perimeter garages, the public parks and most importantly, an internal transit system, because that is going to be a most important piece of waterfront development to tie the north to south. And in order to do that, we need a public body, a waterfront improvement corporation, which would lead the development process along.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Ranieri, in 1985 you supported a referendum changing the Board of Education from an appointed to an elected body. Today you favor returning to an appointed board? Why did you change your position? Would you try to exercise control over the Board of Education?

Ranieri: You ask about the change from an appointed to an elected board, yes, I advocated that because the then-Mayor Vezzetti was incapable of making his own decisions as to what sits on the board and they were made by a group behind the scenes which I called at that time the junta, the power pack that made the decisions concerning public policy, and public appointments. I advocate now a change back to an appointed board because I can see and it is obvious to everyone that the spring contest is simply a popularity poll or political poll to determine positions of the various political camps concerning the next municipal contest. I believe everyone here advocates an appointed board. I go one step further, saying that there should be a blue ribbon panel that makes the recommendations to the mayor concerning the appointments.

Jersey Journal: Mayor Pasculli, you say you support affordable housing but you have opposed this housing on the waterfront. You also supported an ordinance that relieves a majority of property owners of their burden to contribute to affordable housing. How do you explain these contradictory positions?

Pasculli: I don't think either one is contradictory. I don't support affordable housing to be built on the waterfront because the waterfront is a prime asset and we have to be able to maximize revenue from that asset in order to generate the kind of reve-



Reporter James Efstathiou reads a question to the mayoral candidates during their meeting at The Jersey Journal.

Journal photo by John Castaldo

Continued on next page.

Taxes, development loom as top Hoboken issues

Continued from Page 17

nue stream that is going to be necessary to plug the very severe deep holes in our next municipal budget. To place affordable housing on the water-

front itself only devalues the property and minimizes revenue generation. But development will be required to contribute to our affordable housing trust or to build offsite

affordable housing projects. Preferably build because I don't believe the city of Hoboken should get into the business of constructing homes. I am for the having waterfront

development meet the affordable housing requirements. I did not support the inclusionary ordinance when it required small rehabs to be placed in that ordinance. What I have done, though, with the help of some supportive council members was to push forward a significant housing project which provides 53 low income units, \$15,000 or less income. And that was done through a combination of federal, state and private funds. It had market rate housing in order to help expand our tax base. It was the first project in six years that we proposed to develop affordable housing in this community.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Della Fave, you were a strong supporter of the late Mayor Thomas Vezetti and you have a number of Vezetti's allies working for your campaign. How will your administration differ from the former mayor's and will Vezetti advisers Steve Block, Laurie Fabiano and Michael Coleman play a role?

Della Fave: I think the most difference will be that I'll be the mayor and not Tommy. I don't think we are going to get another mayor with the courage and the integrity or the vision and a concern for Hoboken as we ever had with Tom Vezetti. I think I will have the ability to come down and stand in front of the City Council and articulate what I believe has to be done and be able to work

with the City Council hopefully after three years of a lot of political infighting. Tom Vezetti's administration followed 12 years of Steve Cappiello, 12 years that was thought by many of the city to be a rather insensitive, sometimes corrupt administration. And, we have followed that with three years of political struggle and conflict. I think at this time what we need is some political healing in town. As far as the people who were important in the past to Tom Vezetti, his administration and the reform movement in general, many of them I have a great deal of respect for, although I don't think any of them you mentioned — Steve, Laurie, for example — will ever be back in City Hall as far as official positions are concerned. I think that of having someone of Laurie's capacity in City Hall was a great asset for the city of Hoboken. But she certainly will not be returning by any stretch. She neither has the desire to return nor do we have any inclinations to ask her to return. I will be looking for top notch professionals. I will be looking for the best people to govern the city.

Jersey Journal: Mr. King, at public debates during this campaign you've referred to your opponents as "the three stooges" and tossed out slogans in response to complex questions. For example, you said of the municipal budget that the only hole is in the heads of those who passed it. What exactly is the problem you see with the budget, and what sort of a budget would you produce if you're elected mayor?

King: I just happen to have the municipal budget with us for this year. And, briefly, I want to talk about a couple of things. First of all, what I was saying at St. Matthew's that Tuesday night when I made a

statement in reference to a reply that Mr. Ranieri made about the hole in next year's budget, the deficit projected by Mr. Ranieri was of upwards of tens of thousands of dollars. When it was my time for a rebuttal, I said the hole was not in the budget but in those who propose the budget and those who passed it. And what I was getting at specifically was that it is absolute gross mismanagement going on here and later that same evening my opponent, Mr. Ranieri, said in that room in St. Matthew's that he knew for a fact that there was only \$180,000 of jobs a year that he could best label lollipop jobs. I think that is a very serious remark on the part of the president of the City Council who every two weeks votes to approve a budget that by his sworn duty, he swears that he is doing what is right. And yet, he rubber-stamped those \$180,000 worth of jobs that he claimed at St. Matthew's, that Tuesday night exist. There are all sorts of problems with this budget. There is the \$2.8 million that only Monday, after I predicted on Aug. 11, in your newspaper would be brought down by the commissioner, penny for penny, dollar for dollar. You see, there is no money here. This is a political piece of Pasculli propaganda to get himself elected and pull the wool over the people who will go to the polls on Nov. 8 eyes. This is a phony budget, architecturally designed, by one Edwin Chuis the business administrator who won Patty Pasculli as temporary mayor.

Money rolls in to Hoboken candidates

By James Efstathiou

Before the first Hoboken voter casts a ballot for mayor and city council next week, a large portion of the community will have already voiced preference by contributing to the campaigns of favorite candidates.

According to campaign reports filed with the state and county, Mayor Patrick Pasculli and Councilman Joseph Della Fave have collected significantly more than their opponents, Council President Robert Ranieri and Robert King. Pasculli leads the pack, reporting contributions totaling approximately \$70,000.

Della Fave is second with just over \$31,000. Ranieri follows with contributions of just

Casella's donated to Pasculli

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, according to campaign spending reports, received a \$300 contribution from Marty's Mile Square Inc., the corporate name of what was formerly Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken.

The donation was received April 4, according to reports filed with the state and county, prior to owner Marty Casella's indictment in June on racketeering, murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion charges.

Casella was charged in connection with an investigation of the New Jersey faction of the Genovese crime family. He is awaiting trial in Manhattan Correctional Center.

"I wasn't aware that he gave a contribution," Pasculli said. "It was a minimal donation, it came from a restaurant corporation. All the groups that offered are legitimate."

— Jim Efstathiou

over \$4,000, while King, a first-time candidate, has spent less than \$2,000 on the contest.

Candidates are required to disclose their contributors to the state and county election

boards twice before the election and twice after. The deadline for filing the final pre-election report was Friday.

While both Pasculli and Della Fave have reported receiving money from property owners, vendors who work for the city and private individuals, those with local business and real estate interests appear to be backing Pasculli in greater numbers — and with more money.

Of the \$70,000 Pasculli collected, \$4,300 came as "small" donations of \$100 or less. Only donations over \$100 must be itemized according to state election laws.

Della Fave's funding, on the other hand, has come pri-

See MONEY — Page 5.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1988

5

Money rolls in to Hoboken candidates

Continued from Page 1

marily from home owners and individuals. Of the \$31,000 Della Fave collected, \$10,000 was in donations of \$100 or less.

Ranieri, whose campaign spending pales in comparison to that of Della Fave and Pasculli, believes spending at this late stage in the campaign will have little effect on the eventual outcome.

"The vast majority of voters made decisions concerning the elections several weeks ago and the big spending is now an ego battle between the various opponents," Ranieri said. "The money spending is simply a reflection of the philosophy of government."

But spending, particularly in the form of paid advertisements, is likely to continue and increase in the days ahead.

A review of Pasculli's contributors shows that he has received donations totaling close to \$20,000 from 23 professional and retail firms that have provided services or goods to the city in 1988. Twelve of those vendors have contracts with Hoboken, including the La Fera Contracting Co. of Newark, which contributed \$3,000. La Fera was awarded a five-year, \$8 million plus contract for garbage removal by the city in Dec. 1987.

"Our campaign is supported by a wide cross section of the community," said Pasculli. "Small homeowners, tenants, investors and people that are just concerned with a good business climate in town. Their philosophies do not influence my basic approach to government."

Pasculli has also received close to \$10,000 from some 15 groups or individuals that could be characterized as large local commercial property owners or developers, including:

- \$1,200 from Applied Housing developer Joseph Barry.

- \$1,000 from northern waterfront developer Anthony Dell'Aquila.

- \$1,000 from George Valone and David Gans, principals of West Bank Construction, developers of large condominium projects at the former site of the ShopRite supermarket and at 16th and Bloomfield streets.

- \$1,000 from developer Mike Sciarra, the first Hoboken landlord fined under the anti-housing ordinance.

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"I've received support from individuals who have supported the Committee for Quality Education, not necessarily Tom Vezetti," Della Fave said.

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Despite his strong support from commercial property owners, Pasculli denied that Hoboken tenants should be concerned over his candidacy.

"We encourage a healthy economy and provide new job opportunities," Pasculli said. "I think those are all steps in the right direction for those who reside in rental housing."

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Your opinion

Government revenue vanishes

It is with great concern that I mentally add up the many, many new and exorbitant tax dollars which the state has collected from gambling in Atlantic City, state taxes, lotteries, etc. What puzzles me is where the money is going. My local taxes are about to go crazy as are the taxes in many other municipalities in New Jersey.

I see revenues from real estate all over Jersey City, Hoboken, Secaucus, etc. as gentrification introduces high rental areas like Newport City and renewed taxes from the many condominiums and cooperatives lining the old cities of Hudson County. Yet, the educational system isn't getting any better, judging from the state's intent of taking over the school system in Jersey City. The NJ Transit has been running 20 to 30 minutes late all year. The PATH is filthy and way behind the traffic from new growth areas. The 14 extension of the turnpike is torn up about ten times a year, stranding everyone in Bayonne on weekends and creating horrendous traffic problems for everyone in the area — Jersey City, Bayonne, Union City, Newark, and many turnpike users. But taxes are alive and well in New Jersey; as a matter of fact, nothing seems to surpass that the state has created to collect other revenues.

I frankly don't care if we have a Brendan Byrne arena or a Liberty State Park, nor do many of my fellow middle-class citizens. Liberty State Park cost as a beach club where I raised my children...a delightful place where several thousand people could enjoy a quiet summer. It served an old area that needed some middle class club. Now it's gone;

instead, we have a zoo of people, picnics, cars, noise and nonsense.

I would think that it is about time some people in New Jersey find out just where all this additional revenue is going. It certainly is not coming back to our cities where it belongs.

How about some municipal programs to assist cities? How about sending some of the funds back to where they came from? I hear about senior citizen programs, yet it would seem that only Mario Cuomo has done anything substantial for senior citizens. His new prescription program is a winner. I have a friend with a 90-year-old mother. She is lucky she can get \$2 of the \$350 a year it costs her in medicine bills. The paperwork is terrible for older people. I hear New Jersey is helping senior citizens with funds from Atlantic City taxes, but I have seen no personal evidence of such help, nor have I seen any help for filthy old Atlantic City.

I like living in New Jersey. I am proud of our state, my city, my mayor and my governor. I do believe he is a well-informed, moderate who has done much for the image of the state. There is no doubt in my mind that he personally has attracted new business and the new jobs that go with it to New Jersey. I do believe that even vacationing is more popular since his public relations efforts have supported leisure in New Jersey. But he has had plenty of support and money to do it with. The above problems are important ones which I heard aired daily by fellow commuters, neighbors and friends. — LEE GERBER, Bayonne.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1988

Winning school board post cost Hoboken cop dearly

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

The flip side to the sweet smell of success is the tab to pay for the victory, a fact that Hoboken Board of Education Trustee Mario Mercado remembers each week when he takes home his city paycheck.

Mercado, who ran successfully in May, 1987, was sued by his Manhattan-based political consulting firm, the Henry Sheinkopf Communications Ltd., for not paying his \$5,911 bill, according to Attorney David Ruttenberg, who represented the consulting firm.

A Hudson County Superior Court judge ordered last month that money be automatically removed each week from the school trustee's paycheck, Ruttenberg said.

Mercado said yesterday he has to pay \$90 weekly.

He is a police lieutenant with 20 years experience assigned to the municipal garage and receives an annual salary of \$47,268 without overtime.

"I got in over my head and spent more than I could afford to pay," Mercado said, adding "It costs money to get your message to the people."

"I wanted to win so I had to go to a Manhattan firm, I was successful, the highest vote getter in 1987," he added. He said he spent about \$7,000 on his campaign, which was also his second bid for public office.

In addition to the \$5,911, Mercado said that he spent about \$2,400 of his own money.

He said he was a personal friend to Henry Sheinkopf until the dispute over the payment.

"I know these guys for years, they were personal friends," Mercado said, adding "there was a friendship there."

The firm conducted polls and home mailings and designed the ads, he said.

The experience has not left Mercado bitter. He said that when his term expires in 1990, he plans to run for another public office.

When asked if he was considering to run for the City Council, Mercado said, "I may have higher aspirations."

But Mercado, 45, said he misses the \$90 each week.

"This really changes your life-style, I haven't had a vacation in two or three years."

ed that several "...10 percent cuts..." must be returned, an action further diminishing the cut from \$1.9 to \$1.5 million.

The issue was clear. Should Hoboken negotiate a final settlement or "go for broke" for a \$1.5 million cut. The camps of my competitors both adhered to the "all or nothing at all" concept.

One camp professes there is so much political patronage in the school system that the budget can be cut the last \$1.5 million without affecting the classroom. The other camp, that of Mr. Interim, while publicly professing the same position, has a secret agenda. That group says "cut everything" knowing full well that the commission will become exasperated and return the entire \$1.5 million to the budget. This would insure Mr. Interim's patronage payroll.

My position was straight forward and out front. We must negotiate with the commission and settle for a logical bottom line. The final cut would have pinched the patronage system and allow for the return of instructors, needed for the classroom.

In the real world, all progress is made with the art of negotiation and the science of compromise. — ROBERT A. RANIERI, mayoral candidate, Hoboken

I was right

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The circumstances were these: The City Council cut the Board of Education budget by some \$2.9 million and suggested two schools be closed because of there sharp decline in student population. The board voted five to four to appeal. The N.J. Commissioner of Education heard that appeal.

Thus far, the Commissioner has ruled one school be closed and has returned \$1 million to the board budget for the continued operation of the second school. The net budget cut thereby became \$1.9 million. Subsequently, the commission stat-

Taxes, development loom as top Hoboken issues

Continued from Page 17
nue stream that is going to be necessary to plug the very severe deep holes in our next municipal budget. To place affordable housing on the water-

front itself only devalues the property and minimizes revenue generation. But development will be required to contribute to our affordable housing trust or to build offsite

affordable housing projects. Preferably build because I don't believe the city of Hoboken should get into the business of constructing homes. I am for the having waterfront

development meet the affordable housing requirements. I did not support the inclusionary ordinance when it required small rehabs to be placed in that ordinance. What I have done, though, with the help of some supportive council members was to push forward a significant housing project which provides 53 low income units, \$15,000 or less income. And that was done through a combination of federal, state and private funds. It had market rate housing in order to help expand our tax base. It was the first project in six years that we proposed to develop affordable housing in this community.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Della Fave, you were a strong supporter of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti and you have a number of Vezzetti's allies working for your campaign. How will your administration differ from the former mayor's and will Vezzetti advisers Steve Block, Laurie Fabiano and Michael Coleman play a role?

Della Fave: I think the foremost difference will be that I'll be the mayor and not Tommy. I don't think we are going to get another mayor with the courage and the integrity or the vision and a concern for Hoboken as we ever had with Tom Vezzetti. I think I will have the ability to come down and stand in front of the City Council and articulate what I believe has to be done and be able to work

with the City Council hopefully after three years of a lot of political infighting. Tom Vezzetti's administration followed 12 years of Steve Cappiello, 12 years that was thought by many of the city to be a rather insensitive, sometimes corrupt administration. And, we have followed that with three years of political struggle and conflict. I think at this time what we need is some political healing in town. As far as the people who were important in the past to Tom Vezzetti, his administration and the reform movement in general, many of them I have a great deal of respect for, although I don't think any of them you mentioned — Steve, Laurie, for example — will ever be back in City Hall as far as official positions are concerned. I think that of having someone of Laurie's capacity in City Hall was a great asset for the city of Hoboken. But she certainly will not be returning by any stretch. She neither has the desire to return nor do we have any inclinations to ask her to return. I will be looking for top notch professionals. I will be looking for the best people to govern the city.

Jersey Journal: Mr. King, at public debates during this campaign you've referred to your opponents as "the three stooges" and tossed out slogans in response to complex questions. For example, you said of the municipal budget that the only hole is in the heads of those who passed it. What exactly is the problem you see with the budget, and what sort of a budget would you produce if you're elected mayor?

King: I just happen to have the municipal budget with us for this year. And, briefly, I want to talk about a couple of things. First of all, what I was saying at St. Matthew's that Tuesday night when I made a

statement in reference to a reply that Mr. Ranieri made about the hole in next year's budget, the deficit projected by Mr. Ranieri was of upwards of tens of thousands of dollars. When it was my time for a rebuttal, I said the hole was not in the budget but in those who propose the budget and those who passed it. And what I was getting at specifically was that it is absolute gross misspending going on here and later that same evening my opponent, Mr. Ranieri, said in that room in St. Matthew's that he knew for a fact that there was only \$180,000 of jobs a year that he could best label lollipop jobs. I think that is a very serious remark on the part of the president of the City Council who every two weeks votes to approve a budget that by his sworn duty, he swears that he is doing what is right. And yet, he rubber-stamped those \$180,000 worth of jobs that he claimed at St. Matthew's that Tuesday night exist. There are all sorts of problems with this budget. There is the \$2.8 million that only Monday, after I predicted on Aug. 11, in your newspaper would be brought down by the commissioner, penny for penny, dollar for dollar. You see, there is no money here. This is a political piece of Pasculli propaganda to get himself elected and pull the wool over the people who will go to the polls on Nov. 8 eyes. This is a phony budget, architecturally designed, by one Edwin Chuis the business administrator who won Patty Pasculli as temporary mayor.

Money rolls in to Hoboken candidates

By James Efstathiou

Before the first Hoboken voter casts a ballot for mayor and city council next week, a large portion of the community will have already voiced preference by contributing to the campaigns of favorite candidates.

According to campaign reports filed with the state and county, Mayor Patrick Pasculli and Councilman Joseph Della Fave have collected significantly more than their opponents, Council President Robert Ranieri and Robert King. Pasculli leads the pack, reporting contributions totaling approximately \$70,000.

Della Fave is second with just over \$31,000. Ranieri follows with contributions of just

Casella's donated to Pasculli

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, according to campaign spending reports, received a \$300 contribution from Marty's Mile Square Inc., the corporate name of what was formerly Casella's Restaurant in Hoboken.

The donation was received April 4, according to reports filed with the state and county, prior to owner Marty Casella's indictment in June on racketeering, murder, conspiracy, labor bribery, gambling and extortion charges. Casella was charged in connection with an investigation of the New Jersey faction of the Genovese crime family. He is awaiting trial in Manhattan Correctional Center.

"I wasn't aware that he gave a contribution," Pasculli said. "It was a minimal donation, it came from a restaurant corporation. All the groups that offered are legitimate."

— Jim Efstathiou

over \$4,000, while King, a first-time candidate, has spent less than \$2,000 on the contest.

Candidates are required to disclose their contributors to the state and county election

boards twice before the election and twice after. The deadline for filing the final pre-election report was Friday.

While both Pasculli and Della Fave have reported receiving money from property owners, vendors who work for the city and private individuals, those with local business and real estate interests appear to be backing Pasculli in greater numbers — and with more money.

Of the \$70,000 Pasculli collected, \$4,300 came as "small" donations of \$100 or less. Only donations over \$100 must be itemized according to state election laws.

Della Fave's funding, on the other hand, has come pri-

See MONEY — Page 5.

THE JERSEY JOURNAL, MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1988

5

Money rolls in to Hoboken candidates

Continued from Page 1

marily from home owners and individuals. Of the \$31,000 Della Fave collected, \$10,000 was in donations of \$100 or less.

Ranieri, whose campaign spending pales in comparison to that of Della Fave and Pasculli, believes spending at this late stage in the campaign will have little effect on the eventual outcome.

"The vast majority of voters made decisions concerning the elections several weeks ago and the big spending is now an ego battle between the various opponents," Ranieri said. "The money spending is simply a reflection of the philosophy of government."

But spending, particularly in the form of paid advertisements, is likely to continue and increase in the days ahead.

A review of Pasculli's contributors shows that he has received donations totaling close to \$200,000 from 23 professional and retail firms that have provided services or goods to the city in 1988. Twelve of those vendors have contracts with Hoboken, including the La Fera Contracting Co. of Newark, which contributed \$3,000. La Fera was awarded a five-year, \$8 million plus contract for garbage removal by the city in Dec. 1987.

"Our campaign is supported by a wide cross section of the community," said Pasculli. "Small homeowners, tenants, investors and people that are just concerned with a good business climate in town. Their philosophies do not influence my basic approach to government."

Pasculli has also received close to \$10,000 from some 15 groups or individuals that could be characterized as large local commercial property owners or developers, including:

- \$1,200 from Applied Housing developer Joseph Barry.
- \$1,000 from northern waterfront developer Anthony Dell'Aquila.
- \$1,000 from George Valone and David Gans, principals of West Bank Construction, developers of large condominium projects at the former site of the ShopRite supermarket and at 16th and Bloomfield streets.

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THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1988

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Mayoral candidates look at issues facing city

J.J. 10-27-88

Second of two parts
The Jersey Journal recently invited the four candidates for mayor of Hoboken to discuss the issues that most affect Hoboken voters.

The candidates were questioned by a panel of Jersey Journal reporters and editors. The edited second installment of this session on the issues follows.

Jersey Journal: Mayor Pasculli, your campaign's financial statement shows hefty contributions from developers, and city employees and their families. This seems like fertile ground for political patronage and indebtedness to special interests. Who are the people you'll be indebted to if elected, and will you be influenced by the developers and businesses who've contributed to your campaign?

Pat Pasculli: The only people I will be indebted to if elected are the citizens of Hoboken, whether they vote for me or not, because that is the responsibility of the mayor. The issue of those contributors to my campaign, my campaign and Mr. Del Boecio's campaign, some of them are businesses in the community that contributed to Councilman Ranieri's campaign in the past, contributed to Joe Della Fave's campaigns in the past, and Tom Vezzetti's campaigns in the past. Many of them represent at-large business representation that is simply interested in a local government and what maybe they can do to advance a city like Hoboken. I don't believe that is anything out of the ordinary because again, if you would look at those contributions that went to any mayor, whether it be Cappiello, Vezzetti or myself, you would find, and if you looked at the council people around this table, you would find that many of the contributors also contributed to their elections efforts. It is common practice.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Della Fave, your mayoral campaign has been compared with the presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis. Like Dukakis, you've been characterized as someone who lacks passion. You've also been criticized for being arrogant. How do you respond, and what can you tell the people of Hoboken that would give them confidence that you won't run an elitist city government?

Joe Della Fave: No one has ever mentioned the word arrogant or impassionate to me, although many say that I do appear much too serious, much too often, so that certainly I have heard. I think first of all on the matter of passion, you cannot be a community activist for 15 years and be perceived of having no passion. In 1973, I knocked on doors for Citizens for Better Education, the first reform education group here in town. In 1978 to '82 I was a parent activist organizing groups in the school system. I was a Little League coach for five years, I had been involved in housing movements in the mid-to-late '70s. You can't do any of those things if you have no feelings about your community.

As far as elitist is concerned, I think the only who has raised that question has been the Pasculli campaign in their ads and discussion of committees, etc. I think what that is all about is sort of like an anti-professionalism, an anti-newcomer, it is an anti-good government approach. We are not about elitism, that is why I hold public meetings in the YMCA. I am not about elitism, that is why I proposed and I will carry out — just as I have had those community meetings — an open public monthly meeting with the mayor and my directors for the public to discuss issues at. Elitism is about a small group of people running the city of Hoboken. We're about running the city of Hoboken for all of the people with the assistance of the best and the brightest if necessary, if possible I should say.

Jersey Journal: Mr. King, who are your supporters? Do you represent a coalition of people that indicates that you can be a successful mayor in this diverse city?

Robert King: Yes, I think that I do represent a constituency, namely a cross-section of the citizens of the city of Hoboken who can make it maybe for the first time a possibility for us to get beyond the pandering of the gas house gang of the City Council, to get beyond the

intrigue of the mayor's office and hopefully and finally — because we cannot afford this cheap act anymore of high taxes and patronage to political clubs like the Old Dems. Who are these people? I would like to pinpoint who they are. They are people who were born like me and like my parents and my grandparents in the city of Hoboken who now what was supposed to be their golden years of retirement has turned into a financial nightmare, and a financial burden they can no longer afford to carry. Other people, the young as we saw in St. Matthew's, that flocked to me after they heard me speak to newcomers who are in Hoboken less than five years and some less than five months and only recently registered for their first vote in Hoboken.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Ranieri, the city needs to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant to lift a state-imposed ban and allow new construction to continue. You've been a strong supporter of Mayo, Lynch and Associates, despite a state ruling that the Mayo, Lynch contract for the plant was "unreviewable, unbidable, and unconstructable." The Vezzetti administration pointed to this company as the reason the city nearly lost its \$25 million in federal funds for the plant and Superior Court Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys commended the late mayor for refusing to pay Mayo, Lynch. Given this history, why do you continue to push the city to award contracts to this company?

Robert Ranieri: No, there hasn't been a question of the former design engineer having a contract with Hoboken since he lost the design concept for the secondary plant. That design concept was lost on a distinct technicality. The clerk's office had not properly advertised the contract. The judge involved said that if the City Council were to have a public hearing and readvertise the contract properly, he could make a decision on whether or not to reaccept the contract. I have correspondence at home from DEP concerning the second design engineer and it had a list of some 44 failings with the secondary concept and under those circumstances, that concept was not biddable, constructable and whatever the third adjective happened to be. They have modified and completed and made changes. The original design concept for that plant was somewhere between \$25 and \$35, \$45 million. The second design engineer came with a \$32 million estimate. Several days before the singular bid came in, he raised the bid came in at \$115 million. He then asked permission to redesign in order to bring down the price and in redesigning his estimate, the estimates are now \$100 million. My concern is that we well may have a facility we cannot afford. That is why I believe in having a second plan available, and the plan would be the pipeline from Jersey City to the Passaic Valley.

Jersey Journal: For this round of questions, each candidate will have the opportunity to pose a question to any one of his fellow candidates.

Della Fave to Pasculli: Last year, you said it was up to the mayor to defend the cuts in education when you were the City Council president. This year, you said it was up to the



Robert King, left, listens as Councilman Robert Ranieri makes point during session at The Jersey Journal.

City Council to defend the cuts. Two weeks ago, you said to the City Council you did not support a compromise on the budget, that you would fight it out to the end. Only recently you said that you are not sure that we should cut that much out of the budget. According to today's papers, you said that the state commissioner of education made the right decision and it was educationally sound (to restore \$2.7 million to the school budget) and that it should put everything to rest. But your Law Director (Eugene O'Connell) pointed out that the decision was not based on the merits but on technicalities. How do you expect the citizens to believe what you are saying about this since your position keeps changing and contradictory to facts, as your law director has pointed out?

Pasculli: The first item that he raised was when I was City Council president when I stated that it was the mayor's responsibility to defend the school cuts. I didn't say that. I said it was the administration's responsibility to defend cuts that are made by the City Council and the Board of Education initiatives working collectively. That is in the state statute. The mayor simply supplies the leadership which enables the law director to defend those cuts in a court, the state court which hears the appeals.

As far as the cuts in the school board are concerned, well, I directed my law director to pursue the cuts made by the City Council and the Board of Education after the school budget was voted down. He did that. He did that, with the help of the Board of Education members and council members who have been saying for the last three years that the Hoboken school system has been overspending. They have failed to reasonably substantiate any sound, educational reasoning for those cuts. They have had three years to say that there was no need for an assistant superintendent, there is no need for X amount of principals, or vice principals. That is why I wanted to end the argument once and for all that the school system was in fact overspending or not overspending. The commissioner of education went through a line item by line item review. And after restoring over \$1.5 million of the

proposed cuts, came to a decision that there is no sound educational reasoning behind these cuts and restored all of the monies.

Now, Joe said that was a technicality. I don't think that was a technicality. He restored in excess of \$600,000 beyond the closing of the first school, which was initially restored. In that \$600,000 were the administration line items and administrative staff items. We have to stop the political rhetoric and we have to identify the real culprit of education in Hoboken, that is state funding.

King to Pasculli: Last Sunday, at the United Synagogue at First and Park streets, I told you that your secretary went down to the Treasury's Office to make inquiries about the improper, temporary recertification of Caroline Carlson, the recycling coordinator. What I charged at Park Avenue was the \$8,000 and the title of graphic arts designer that Civil Service New Jersey Department of Personnel knows nothing about, even though your administration called for a test. Also, comment on why \$4,000 comes out of the sewerage department and \$4,000 out of the water department when she makes \$22,000 as a base pay as recycling coordinator out of Roy Haack's Public Works Department. Why didn't you do something about protecting the taxpayers of their money?

Pasculli: I didn't hire Miss Carlson. She was hired I believe the day or two before the death of our last mayor. We questioned the salary and we did find out that \$8,000 coming from line items that were questionable at best. We called for a test and in that test, I believe the starting salary is \$22,000, which is salary that is paid by this fiscal budget and not by this sewer and sewer utilities. I am waiting for the results of that test. I am the mayor, I will be appointing someone who finishes rank No. 1 of that test. We called for a test based on \$20,000. I did not form that other \$8,000, the previous administration did, and gave her graphic arts duties. She has done some, to her credit, she has done some graphic arts duties. And she should be paid for it. Whether she should get \$8,000 or whether we should put it out to bid is something else that will be addressed.



Mayor Pat Pasculli, left, watches as Councilman Joseph Della Fave answers an inquiry from a panel of Jersey Journal reporters and editors.

concerns me about him is the support of the group he has, the Older Dems. I am concerned about the heavy patronage mill.

I believe that Vezzetti comes with some credits and some debits. The debits were for stopping the renaissance to the city. The credits will be for having a understanding for the plight of those who were displaced because of that renaissance.

Jersey Journal: Mayor Pasculli, Joe Della Fave mentioned the vision that Tom Vezzetti had. At some time you shared that. Do you share any of that, and those points that you no longer agree with the Vezzetti people on, what was the divergence?

Pasculli: Sharing, yes, a vision of Hoboken Tom shared with me, that is why he asked me to run with him. I was already a City Council person and I didn't gain anything politically, I became another City Council person. I saw a need to have new directions in 1985. I still see a need for new directions. Many of the things that we advocated, some of them have come about — getting off a program where the city ignored its mandate to provide a clean environment, the secondary sewerage treatment plant. I do credit his administration for at least putting the city on the right track, and my administration has continued in that manner. Developing affordable housing, we both shared. The split came, Peter and you know, it came from the point in time we saw that Tom wasn't in the policy making chair, that policy was being made by a group of unelected, unappointed people of our community who were making policy whether it be for the City Council, for agencies of the city government, and Tom knew that. Tom was elected mayor for better or worse. I told him that and Tom that and that he had to start making decisions. Tom relegated himself and released all of his responsibilities to someone else and I wasn't going to support that. That is what split us up.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Della Fave, in your opening, you mentioned that you didn't want a government of special interests. The inference is pretty clear — do you care to name the special interests that are being served now?

Della Fave: I think if you go through the history of the past quickly, you see that companies that hold contracts and the individuals that held contracts with the city remain the ones which did so for many, many years. We attempted to open up competitive bidding in the garbage contracting industry, for example, two and a half years ago. I say we, I see myself as being supportive of the Vezzetti administration in doing this. Secondly, when you look at professionals on board with the city, we tried to bring in top notch people and not protect the old crowd. Then there is the political side. Of course paramount to all of that is the Mayo Lynch situation which Tom fought tooth and nail, and contrary to what Pat said, Tom was solely responsible in the decision in eliminating Mayo Lynch from the sewer scene in Hoboken. Singularly responsible, I myself was on vacation, out of town, at the time, Tom Vezzetti took that upon himself. Then you get into the political side, then you get into a small group of people who are always being served at the public's expense. When it is being served, it does a couple of things, number one, it means that you have indeed an elite in City Hall, you have only a few people who are being taken care of. You look at the payroll since March, you'll see maybe 60 names added to the payroll and that translates into votes, families and it goes right down the line. You will see a lot of similar names between the board of ed to City Hall. Lastly, you can't expect accepting money from big developers, whom I never accepted any money from so I don't know what Patty is getting that reference from. When you get into the big developer area, and you are accepting monies, what are you going to do when development comes in front of you. Who's interest are you serving?

First and foremost is to have on board a competent recycling coordinator. She may not be supporting me politically, but she has done a good job. But she is going to have to stand the competitive testing of Civil Service based on a \$22,000 salary and not a \$30,000 salary.

Ranieri to Pasculli: The Board of Education has closed the Rue School. The position of the board is that it should develop the Rue school into a lease facility for various social services. My viewpoint is that number one, the board of ed should not be a real estate holding company. Two, should not get involved in social services to the community. My viewpoint is that building should be sold on the market with parameters set by the municipality. So in sum and substance, sell the Rue School for the development of affordable housing. My question is how does your position differ from mine on the Rue School?

Pasculli: The issue of the Rue School and how it should be utilized presently and in the future, I have also advocated that public space be maintained for public use. The community has a growth potential and to have the Rue School developed into housing, I don't believe is the direction the city should move. The city should maintain the Rue School for public services and activities, whether it be expanding vocational education, adult educational facilities which have been cut, establishing a day-care center. I believe the building should be maintained in that way. It can be also used to generate revenue for the Board of Education to help with its funding problems.

Jersey Journal: Mayor Pasculli, you have the opportunity to ask a question of one of your fellow candidates.

Pasculli: I know fully the positions of all these fine gentlemen around the table and I have no questions.

Jersey Journal: This final round of questions will follow up some of the things you have said during this session.

Mr. King: if you did win, is there any reasonable expectation that you could accomplish anything in the term between now and the regular election?

King: I will be able to accomplish every bit that my opponents would be able to, given the parameters of six months. More so, because of my energy, because of my compassionate commitment toward lowering the Hoboken budget by getting rid of unnecessary jobs, boondoggling wives, brothers, sons, daughters, gumbabs, godfathers, I will do what they are not committed to do — next spring's budget will look like something we could at least live with, if not be ecstatic about.

Jersey Journal: Councilman Ranieri, you have been in public office longer than anyone here. Can you really say Hoboken is better than it was when you started in public office during your early career?

Ranieri: No, on the contrary, Hoboken has gone constantly through cycles and circles and I would say that Hoboken has been definitely on the upswing during the last 15 to 20 years. Many of the policies which were started during the years of former Mayor DePascale and put in by former Mayor Cappiello turned the town around. The thing that

Candidates view crime, cops

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

During the spring, Hoboken residents at Third and Monroe streets made repeated pleas to the City Council asking for more police presence because they said their neighborhood was turning into a drug haven for crack and cocaine pushers.

Shortly thereafter, residents at Second and Park streets complained to Mayor Patrick Pasculli and council members about a rash of break and entries.

Washington Street residents between Fifth and Eighth streets registered complaints during the summer about youths congregating on street corners and about noise and loud music.

While taxpayers have been asking for more police service, police officers have complained about the "terrible" working conditions in the police station, located in the basement of City Hall. Police union representatives as well as Police Chief George Crimmins have reported that the station is often flooded and that rodents, including rats, have been spotted in the station.

City ordinance calls for 96 patrolmen and the department has 78, including the 15 new officers in the police academy, Crimmins said, adding that the ordinance sets the minimum number of superior officers at 41 and there are 50 in the department.

The following is a report of how each of the four mayoral candidates as well as the five candidates vying for the one at-large seat on the City Council in the Nov. 8 special election believes the city can improve police services as well as police morale.

Pat Pasculli

Since his appointment by the City Council in March as mayor, Pasculli, who gave up his position of council president to accept the appointment, has tried to persuade Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale to reorganize the Hoboken Police Department after he completed his work in Jersey City.

DePascale, who expressed interest in the temporary assignment, said he would not consider the task until after the election because he did not want to become involved in local politics.

"It has been a priority of ours from the beginning to provide more of an available police presence in neighborhoods. It is important that a comprehensive study be done in order to provide up-to-date technology and equipment, deployment patterns, and just simply address basic delivery of better police services. In order to do that, I feel that the study must come, not from within, but from the highest law enforcement office in the county and his record speaks for himself," Pasculli said.

"Since I took office in



March, we hired 20 additional police officers, purchased a mobile police precinct to specifically deal with problems of high crime areas, replaced police vehicles which were in disrepair with 12 new police vehicles and we have assigned an around-the-clock police presence in one of the highest crime areas of our city - Third and Monroe," Pasculli said.

He said he still wanted to hire more patrolmen and to require that revenue generated by future waterfront development will be used to build a new police precinct "because our police precinct is an embarrassment to the city and it is a major factor why police morale is so low."

Robert Ranieri

City Council President Robert Ranieri, also a mayoral candidate, opposes DePascale's involvement in Hoboken because he said it would be a conflict of interest for him to perform both jobs. He said that as Hudson County prosecutor, DePascale is the chief law enforcement officer in the county and has jurisdiction over police chiefs and public safety directors.

By performing both jobs, Ranieri said that DePascale, in effect, would be supervising his own work as public safety director here. Ranieri said that he could understand DePascale coming in to conduct an investigation into the Hoboken Police Department because that function would be congruent with the duties as prosecutor.

And Ranieri believes that Hoboken should be able to handle its own problems.

"It is my firm opinion that the personnel in the department is qualified and professional. The chief should be allowed to function independently. We talk about getting politics out of the school system. It is as every bit important to get politics out of the police department so that once again shall have a professional force in blue that deserves the accolade, Hoboken's Finest," Ranieri said.

Instead of DePascale, Ranieri supports a local search for a public safety director who has business administration skills as well as a working knowledge of public safety issues.

"I say this because the administrator will set policy but the chief makes the assignments, that's state law," Ranieri said. Ranieri agreed that the conditions in the police station are deplorable and that revenue from new development must be used to finance a new station.

However, Ranieri says that Pasculli, after getting the council to separate the duties of public safety director from the law director, subsequently failed to place a nomination before the council.

"I cannot fathom the immaturity and lack of leadership of Mr. Interim who sits in office for three months and does not appoint a police director. I assume the voting public will denounce him on Nov. 8, but if by chance he were to win the six-month term, he would simply sit there another six months without a police director," Ranieri said.

Joseph DellaFave

Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave, also a mayoral candidate, agrees that police need a new headquarters as well as a new director of public safety.

"I have great hope for the Hoboken Police Department. During the past couple of years, we have added 46 new officers. Together with a reservoir of younger veterans, these young men and women offer the basis for renewed optimism about the department," Della Fave said.

"What is needed is leadership in City Hall to remove politics from the department, to improve working conditions, to strengthen police-community relations and to examine technical issues such as staff patterns, deployment scheduling and procedures," he said.

"My plans for the department include appointing an independent professional as director of public safety, relocating police headquarters into an attractive modern facility, and authorizing an independent evaluation to identify the appropriate number of superior officers to patrolmen, to pinpoint manpower needs for shifts and neighborhoods, and to upgrade procedures," Della Fave said.

Robert P. King

Robert P. King, the son of a Hoboken police officer and a mayoral candidate who has never held elected office, agrees that the Police Department has room for improvement.

"One of the problems I see is the disappearance over several years now of the foot patrolman, the neighborhood cop on the beat. It is not an impractical suggestion to the terrible rash of breaking and enterings and robberies in our homes. We need less of police officers in vehicles and more using their God-given legs," King said.

"We will be getting 20 new officers ready to take on duties in the month of December. I would suggest that they be highly visible in our neighborhoods and our community," he added.

Although King said he has the utmost respect for DePascale, he does not support the prosecutor's taking over the department on a temporary basis.

"I think Pat Pasculli has

abdicated his role as chief executive officer by bringing in outside people," King said, adding that the mayor should meet with superior officers, the chief and police unions to discover the problems as well as gather information for solutions.

"Let us see if we cannot do the job that needs to be done ourselves and leave the prosecutor with his very important job as the chief law enforcement officer of the county," King said.

Terry LaBruno

Terry LaBruno, one of five candidates competing for the one at-large seat on the City Council, agrees with King and some of her opponents that more police are needed on the streets.

"I have a great deal of respect for people who risk their lives for others," LaBruno said. "I believe that we have many fine and dedicated police officers in Hoboken. I would like to see more of them on our streets. I believe the community would best be served with more foot patrol."

"With proper management and redistribution of our police force, we can have a more efficient department. I support the upgrading and updating of both police and fire services with better facilities, better means of communications and more use of computerized technology," she said.

She supports DePascale coming into Hoboken and believes the city should search for a permanent director of public safety from within Hoboken first. However, the candidate should have a college degree and expertise in public safety and business administration, she said.

Steve Busch

Steve Busch, a member of the Hoboken Rent Board, said that in his experience in Hoboken "police have always responded quickly and efficiently whenever I needed their help. I would like to see more foot patrolmen because I think that with more direct contact with the citizens, people get to know them and respect them and feel more secure about their neighborhoods."

Busch said the police station needs to be renovated to improve the low morale there. "Also, we can improve morale by listening to police and hearing from them what is needed in the department," he said.

Before the city invites in DePascale, Busch said the city should examine the success of his work in Jersey City. "We might need someone totally impartial who has expertise in police affairs and is also respected by the law enforcement community."

Richard Del Boccio, a school principal running on a ticket with Pasculli, supports having DePascale reorganize

Continued on Page 27.

Candidates focus on police issues

Continued from Page 11.
the Police Department and also supports efforts to build a new station.

"A major complaint I've been hearing on the campaign trail is the need for more personnel on the four-to-midnight shift and the midnight shift. Police work is 168 hours a week, not bank-teller's hours between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.," Del Boccio said.

He added that he hoped the new policemen joining the department in December will be assigned to evening and weekend duties.

Del Boccio said that other complaints he has heard concern parking violations, loud music and noise and commercial vehicles parking on city streets overnight instead of in private lots or off-street sites.

Nunzio Malfetti

Nunzio Malfetti, the former Sixth Ward councilman, said the city needs to make an assessment of the composition of police manpower by taking into consideration the number of officers, the number assigned to other duties, such as the Prosecutor's office or the FBI and the number fit for duty.

"If you have that information, you can tell if there is 90 percent of 50 percent for duty daily," Malfetti said, adding "I think all things considered the Police Department is doing a good job even though understaffed."

"If a citizen needs help of any kind be it a crime, accident, etc., they are the first to respond and what's more they don't ask you if you like them. They do what is necessary for the situation even if you are a critic because in trouble, no critic calls their friends first, no they call our gallant police officers for help and assistance," Malfetti said.

"Lastly, what happens to the money not spent keeping the department up to strength. The Department is short on cops and that money is used for other purposes and the depart-

ment takes the rap," he added.

Frank Raia

Frank Raia, who was appointed to the at-large seat in March when Pasculli became mayor, is not against DePascale's involvement in Hoboken but said the city should hire a public safety director who can study the problems plaguing the department and offer solutions.

"The city's public safety director should be chosen by the mayor with the advice and consent of the council. Naturally, an exhaustive search should be conducted for the best qualified individual. Competence, ability and experience should be the requirements and not political contributions."

"The police are doing an admirable job under difficult circumstances," Raia said, adding that "the people deserve to be protected by the best trained police force possible. And to achieve this, it is necessary to ensure very high morale on the force."

"One way to bring good morale is to make sure that the steps are taken to ensure that everyone on the force has ample opportunity for promotions and advancement purely on their merits," he said.

Council to see plans

Hoboken may get a \$500M project

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Plans are to be unveiled today for a city-owned waterfront project that would cost at least \$500 million to build, city officials predicted yesterday.

But more important than the cost, many officials said, is the process by which the city's lucrative 17.5 acres of waterfront property will be developed.

Plans for the land, disclosed

by The Hudson Dispatch yesterday, are to be shown by urban designer Stanton Eckstut to City Council at 5 p.m. at City Hall. The plans include an 18-story office tower, a set of 15-story residential buildings, several parks, a public boardwalk and a marina on the waterfront between First and Fourth streets.

City Council members, who will have the final say over what

Please see PLANS Page 20



ROBERT A. RANIERI
Offers \$1B estimate.

Your opinion

Halt Hoboken development; it raises our taxes

We all know that development is damaging our environment, but we are told we need it anyway to bring in rates and lower taxes. In fact, by adding to the total value of Hoboken's property, development actually raises our taxes.

Let's look at what a decade of development has done to our taxes so far.

The school board takes the biggest bite of our tax dollars, and development is making it bigger. Here's how it works: The state of New Jersey awards financial aid to a local school district based on the total property value in the district divided by the number of pupils in its schools. Between 1979 and 1987, Hoboken's development climate drove our state-equalized property value from \$234 million to \$1.2 billion. At the same time, by displacing families, development has reduced the number of pupils from over 6,200 in 1979 to about 4,000 in 1987. As a result, state aid to Hoboken's schools dropped from \$9.2 million in 1979 (about \$12.5 million in today's dollars) to \$5.2 million this year. That means we have effectively lost \$7.3 million in state aid for this year's budget alone. Our taxes must make up the loss.

Hudson County taxes are also calculated from real estate values. In 1979 Hoboken paid \$2.57 million to the county, or about \$3.7 million in today's dollars. This year we are paying \$8.7 million. Since the county budget did not change significantly over the years, this \$5 million rise in Hoboken's taxes is a direct result of the city's inflated property value.

The bottom line is that Hoboken's increased property values are adding

\$12.3 million to our share of this year's county and school taxes — enough to raise your taxes 63 percent.

These figures don't even take into account the effect of the recent property revaluation on Hoboken's municipal taxes. In fact, real increased residential taxes because residential property values have risen faster than those of industrial real estate. (Condo taxes went down this year because, before reval, these newer units were over-assessed compared to older properties. But the reval was a one-time adjustment; next year condo owners will be in the same boat as other homeowners.)

If the present development trend continues, more and more of us will be taxed out of our homes. Yet we are still told that newer and bigger development projects will lower our taxes. Our politicians haven't learned that you don't get out of a hole by digging deeper.

What can we expect new development to do to our taxes?

First, the added property will continue to increase the city's real estate value, resulting in an even higher share of school and county taxes for Hoboken residents.

Second, new projects will create new demands on our city services and infrastructure, so that the tax they pay may be entirely eaten up by the costs of supplying their water, treating their sewage, hauling their garbage, protecting their property, and handling their traffic.

Some say that an increase in the number of units served reduces the cost of services per unit. But this applies only to systems operating below capacity; with our streets, sewers, and

stresses and breakdowns that increase maintenance costs. Students are needed to determine whether these extra units bring in enough revenue to pay for the services they require.

Market studies are also essential, especially with office vacancy rates already rising on our so-called "Gold Coast." The Jersey Journal recently reported that Hoboken's Baker Building is still only half leased and "most brokers say Hoboken's commercial market is overpriced and not likely to absorb tenants until rents fall." Half-filled projects end up burdening the taxpayer, so why build more?

In the residential market, condos sit empty despite a housing shortage. Since developers don't have to pay taxes on condos until they are sold, they can afford to hold out for their high asking prices. This not only eliminates housing during a housing crisis, it also eliminates tax-paying property during a financial crisis. The rest of us pay the taxes for these empty condos.

We are calling for a moratorium on development until the impact on our citizens can be evaluated and planning processes to preserve our community are accomplished. The city should not support its bloated budget by gambling in real estate development with taxpayers' money. To lower taxes, we must eliminate non-essential expenditures, patronage jobs, and subsidies to developers. We can no longer afford to be deceived by the myth of rateables. — SADA FRETZ, JIM SCHNEIDER, DANIEL TUMPSON, STEPHEN BUSCH, candidate for councilmember-at-large, Hoboken.

PLANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

is constructed on the land, said yesterday they were glad to get the plans on the table for discussion. But they said more crucial decisions must be made, such as how to plan and construct such a development, which would be the largest ever built on city-owned land here.

Under Mayor Patrick Pasculli's direction, the city in July hired Eckstut, the designer

of Battery Park City in lower Manhattan, to draw up proposals for the land. Also at Pasculli's request, the council authorized formal negotiations between the city and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey concerning a joint project on the land. However, no final agreement has been reached on a joint project.

The question of the authority's involvement is filled with controversy.

The agency, which until earlier this year held the lease to three piers on the property, has offered \$115 million to the city to use in improving the city's infrastructure in preparation for such a development. However, the authority also wants to be a partner in the project, a desire that ruffles many residents, who fear the authority will rob the city of potential tax revenue or construct a project out of scale with the city. "The city cannot always be in a position to run back to the table with the Port Authority," Councilwoman Helen Cuning, a Pasculli critic, said. "We have to decide — quickly — whether we are dealing with them or not."

Moreover, Eckstut did not prepare a financial analysis of the project, so no firm estimate of the cost of construction is available. Pasculli is asking the council to hire a firm tonight to come up with such an analysis. City Business Administrator Edwin Chius yesterday estimated the final cost at \$500 million or greater, and City Council President Robert A. Ranieri — a

staunch opponent of Port Authority involvement — said it would cost \$1 billion to complete. Ranieri is running for mayor next month.

Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who also is running against Pasculli for mayor Nov. 8, criticized the mayor for commissioning a plan with no fiscal studies.

Della Fave agreed that Port Authority involvement is critical, but stressed his own plan of creating a Waterfront Improvement Corp., an appointed body of planners with support staff that would oversee planning for the entire waterfront, not just the city-owned segment of it.

City Council race throws off sparks

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Telephone and utility poles may be used for communication but not for sending political messages, so says Hoboken Councilman Frank Raia, a candidate in the Nov. 8 election for the one at-large seat on the City Council.

Raia and Maurice Fitzgibbons, chairman of the Hoboken Democratic Committee, became embroiled in a political fight last week after Raia complained to Law Director Eugene O'Connell that the Democrats violated a city ordinance by hanging their signs on utility poles.

The city issued Fitzgibbons a summons, a move which infuriated the Democratic chairman since he saw the action as an attack on U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

"We have been able to hang signs for the party in that city since they were able to put ink on poster boards. He is treating Senator Lautenberg like P. 36," Fitzgibbons said.

Raia has offered a \$500 reward to anyone who could help police find the youths responsible for spray-painting "P.36" on buildings throughout the city.

"I know he is a developer and probably pro-Republican. I am urging all Democrats to cast a ballot against him," Fitzgibbons said.

Raia confirmed that he complained about the signs because, he said, they were in violation of a city ordinance.

The four mayoral candidates, Robert Ranieri, Robert King, Patrick Pasculli and Joseph Della Fave met two nights in debates this week. The candidates were rath-

er tame last Wednesday during a televised debate sponsored by Riverview Cablevision Associates at the High School. The program will be televised on Channel 18 on Friday at 9:30 p.m. and again on Nov. 7 at 9 p.m.

But Della Fave and Pasculli took the gloves off Thursday night at a debate in the junior high school sponsored by the First, Fourth and Sixth ward associations. Della Fave, attacking Pasculli's campaign style, said that, "if you run a dirty campaign, you'll run a dirty government."

Pasculli interrupted Della Fave's answers by calling the Second Ward Councilman a liar and argued that his brief mayoral tenure was crippled by political factionalism and obstructionism. He said he has been criticized for not solving problems in six months that the Yezetti administration did not resolve in three years.

The four candidates are expected to meet again Thursday night at St. Mathew's Parish Hall in a debate sponsored by the Campaign for Housing Justice, making it the sixth time they debated for the six-month term. Another election for a four-year term will be held in May.

The five candidates vying for the one at-large seat on the City Council debated twice during the week. One forum was sponsored by the block associations and the other by the Campaign for Housing Justice.

Attendance was low at all forums, leaving political observers to believe that most Hoboken voters have already decided how they will cast their ballots come next Tuesday.

One injured

Whoops! Firehouse burns

Dispatch 10-31-88

Three-alarm blaze displaces companies

By RANDI GLATZER
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Firefighters on Washington Street were taken by surprise when a three-alarm fire broke out in an unexpected place: their own firehouse.

One firefighter suffered minor injuries to his hand, Deputy Fire Chief Edward McDonald said.

Two firefighting companies headquartered in the firehouse, between 13th and 14th streets, were forced to relocate Saturday because of the blaze, McDonald said. Flames gutted the third floor of the brick and brownstone landmark.

Officials have not yet determined how the fire began, he added.

When the fire erupted on the third floor, firefighters, who were on the ground floor of the building, did not know flames were rising above them, fire officials said.

At 11:08 a.m., the firehouse's two firefighting units, Engine Company No. 2 and Ladder Company No. 1, were both dispatched to the YMCA next door, officials said.

A YMCA resident said he ran from the building onto Washing-



Remains the Hoboken firehouse roof, where a firefighter was injured.

JOE SHINE THE HUDSON DISPATCH

"They thought it was us, and I said, 'what's the matter with you people, it's your own building!'" said the resident, who gave his name only as Marvin.

ton Street, where manned firetrucks were preparing to pull out.

Please see FIRE Page 8

FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Residents on the third floor of the YMCA saw smoke outside their windows and realized the firehouse was burning, Marvin and other residents and YMCA employees said. Within minutes, the YMCA's smoke alarms sounded throughout the building.

The firehouse is not equipped with smoke alarms, McDonald said.

Jean Rivera, an employee stationed at the YMCA's front desk, called the fire department. She told a dispatcher the fire was next door to the building, she said.

"If we didn't call them, the roof would have fallen on them," she said.

YMCA residents and patrons were evacuated. Scores of people — including television talk show host Morton Downey Jr., who frequents a nearby bar — stood

and watched as firefighters battled the blaze, another resident said.

Several residents contended that the firefighters seemed disoriented, and had an especially difficult time turning on water to douse the flames.

McDonald, who was not on the scene, said there was no unusual delay. "During any time like that, a minute becomes an hour and two minutes become two hours. It's just a matter of people's impressions."

The firehouse, built in 1896, will have to be examined by a structural engineer and declared sound before the companies can move back in, McDonald said.

Right now the two companies are headquartered at 8th and Clinton streets, he said.

NOVEMBER 1988

THROUGH

MARCH 1989

INDEX

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

Inspectors seek exact site of historic firehouse blaze

By James Efstathiou

A fire that nearly destroyed the roof of a landmark firehouse in Hoboken may have started in the chimney or as a result of faulty wiring in the second floor ceiling, fire inspectors said yesterday.

The brick firehouse on Washington Street between 13th and 14th streets was built in 1890 and was the first structure in Hoboken selected to be included in the National Register of Historic Buildings. A two-alarm fire started in the building at about 10:30 a.m. Saturday

and was brought under control some 20 minutes later.

Despite the efforts of firefighters, damage to the building was extensive and resulted in the relocation of equipment and men to the firehouse at 8th and Clinton streets. Following an on-site inspection, officials met yesterday to map out plans for restoration of the historic firehouse.

"We hope to have it in operation within a month," said Business Administrator Edward Chius. No estimate on the cost of the restoration was available.

Because it is designated as an historic building, the firehouse must be restored to its pre-fire design, Chius said. That, he added, is likely to increase the overall cost of the job. The building was assessed at \$194,000 and the site at \$312,000, according to tax records.

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Storing backup engines outside is a problem in winter months, Chius said, as the diesel engines are more sensitive to the cold. The city currently has six active engines, four pumpers, two hook-and-ladder trucks, and three backups. The loss of the up-town firehouse, Chius said, has created a temporary shortage of storage space for the engines.

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Pasculli family uses city car and driver

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli uses a city car and driver to take his wife to work, his kids to school and for his own private business.

Michael Acquaviva, the city driver hired by the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti about three years ago, said yesterday that he routinely drove the mayor's daughter to school and also chauffeured Pasculli from his Garden Street home to his teaching job at Wallace School and from there to City Hall.

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See PASCULLI — Page 4.

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Meanwhile, neither Della Fave nor mayoral candidate Robert King wanted to get involved with the controversy over the use of the city car.

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School board veteran

Fred Bado was there to assist

By DAVID LIPPMAN

Dispatch Obituary Editor

HOBOKEN—Fred L. Bado was a Board of Education trustee and a city Parking Authority commissioner, but was best remembered as a man who was there to help.

For Mr. Bado, a lifelong resident, the city was more than his home; it was his life, a place whose people he wanted to help.

He did so at the public level and at the private level, by driving senior citizens to stores and doctors.

Mr. Bado, who died Sunday at Christ Hospital in Jersey City of a stroke at the age of 77, served 24 years as a Board of Education trustee and 13 years as a parking commissioner.

But Mr. Bado was recalled yesterday by his son, John, a Ringwood insurance executive, as the "neighborhood fix-it and grocery shuttle" for senior citizens. "He was there for everybody," he said.

"Nobody had a bad word for him," said Donald Pellicano, chairman of the Parking Authority.

Mr. Bado was born here on Aug. 15, 1910, and worked for many years at Terminal Printing Co., owned by his late brother, also named John. There, Mr. Bado was a supervisor and linotype operator, producing a variety of publications.

"They printed Maritime magazine, religious magazines, and yearbooks and tickets for the Yankees in the '60s," Fred M. Bado, Mr. Bado's other son and a lawyer here, recalled yesterday.

Mr. Bado was a member of the printer's union for 60 years, his family said.

In 1947, he was appointed to the Board of Education, and was a school trustee until 1971. He was involved in planning the construction of Hoboken High School.

"They wanted a representative of the business community," Fred M. Bado said of his father's appointment.

In 1974, Mr. Bado was named by then-Mayor Steve Cappelletto to the Parking Authority.

"He lived in Marine View Plaza where the city garages are located, and they wanted a representative of that area of the town on the authority," his son said.

"We used to kid Freddy anytime someone would second a motion before he did," Mr. Pellicano remembered, discussing Mr. Bado's service on the authority yesterday. "He was always there, he was always helpful. He'd be there at 7:15 for a 7:30 meeting."

"We looked to him for senior advice at meetings, and at year-end reviews, when we'd discuss giving people raises in pay, and he'd tell us 'Don't give this guy a raise' and why," Mr. Pellicano continued.

Mr. Bado worked hard on the authority, even though he was in



FRED L. BADO
Hoboken was his life

his 60s.

"He was concerned with keeping the garages clean," Mr. Pellicano said. "He talked to managers, and he'd come back and say, 'That guy is working well, that other guy is not, put this guy over here and that guy over there.'"

He also represented the city and meetings of the National Association of Parking Authorities.

Authorit Executive Director Patrick Caulfield remembered Mr. Bado more as a neighbor and humanitarian.

"He drove senior citizens to stores and doctors, and (did) minor repairs on their apartments—re-hanging doors or fixing windows," Mr. Caulfield said.

"If there was a food discount coupon in the paper, he'd get as many as possible and go and buy food with them, and give this food to folks who were ill or couldn't drive up to Spiekermann's or Marie's bakery. He'd ask people what they wanted and he'd get it."

"He was happy, filled with humor. He told us stories of old-time Hoboken," Mr. Caulfield said.

"He was pretty good with the knife and fork," Mr. Pellicano said. "He'd clean his entire plate and say, 'It was terrible.' I'd get hysterical."

And what was his favorite food? "You name it," said Mr. Pellicano.

Mr. Bado also belonged to the Holy Name Society of Sts. Peter and Paul Church here.

Fred M. Bado attributed his father's civic involvement to the fact that "it's part of his whole life."

"He loved Hoboken, he enjoyed going out, walking, meeting his friends," his son said. "It was the city he always lived in, and helping people was the right thing to do."

In addition to his two sons, Mr. Bado is survived by a sister, Rita B. King of Hoboken, and a grandson, Michael of Hoboken. His wife, Mildred (nee Raffo), died in 1981.

Earl F. Bosworth Funeral Home here is handling arrangements.

Christopher Pappas; ex-Hoboken judge

By Jim Kopchans

Christopher G. Pappas, an attorney and a former municipal court judge in Hoboken, died Sunday at St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken. He was 78.

Pappas served as municipal court judge from 1970 until his retirement in 1982. Attorneys and city officials who had dealt with him in the courtroom described him as a strict, fair judge who had a good knowledge of the local laws and history.

Pappas was born in Hoboken and was actively involved with the city all of his life. He was a graduate of Demarest High School and Fordham University and earned his law degree from John Marshall Law School in 1935.

From 1935 to 1939, Pappas was an investigator in the Hudson County Sheriff's Office. He passed the state bar examination in 1939.

Pappas served in the Army during World War II, earning a Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Northern Africa and Italy.

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Christopher Pappas

He was a past president of the Hoboken Bar Association.

Pappas was a former chairman of the First Ward Democratic Committee of Hoboken and a member of the Hoboken Elks.

Surviving are two sons, George N. and Christopher Pappas; two daughters, Marietta Simon and Ellen Pappas; a brother, Fort Lee Municipal Court Judge James G. Pappas, and six grandchildren.

Services will be held Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at the Evangelismos Greek Orthodox Church, Jersey City. Lawton-Turso Funeral Home, Hoboken, is in charge of arrangements.

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Will challenge 'baseless'

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

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influenced" by his political supporters, four of whom are the beneficiaries of the entire estate.

Vezzetti died of a heart attack March 2, leaving his estate to two City Council members, a former councilman and the mayor's top aide.

In his decision, Margulies allowed Camp until next week to appeal by amending her application to bar the will. Camp, who lives in Puerto Rico, could not be reached for comment. William Z. Schulman, Camp's attorney, did not return a telephone call to

his office yesterday.

The beneficiaries of the will—council members Joseph Della Fave and Helen Cunniff, former Councilman Angelo Valente and former mayor aide Laurie Fabiano—released a short statement yesterday summarizing the verdict. Fabiano said they would not comment further, and referred all questions to their attorney, Michael Pearl.

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For Hoboken lots

250-unit affordable-housing plan unveiled

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

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HOBOKEN—Developers and a councilman yesterday disclosed a plan that may result in a \$10 million residential project for 250 units of affordably priced housing.

The plan involves a Bronx developer, a new state program and privately owned land in the

southern part of the city. The lots, on two city blocks between Madison and Adams streets north of Observer Highway, are owned by local developers and a New York firm.

City Council President Robert A. Ranieri, a candidate in Tuesday's mayoral race, formulated the plan by linking developers with landowners and a potential source of state funding. Ranieri

announced the plan yesterday in a press conference in St. Mary Hospital here.

Although the plan depends upon state approval, local zoning variances and the results of an economic study, Ranieri called it "very viable" and hailed it as a milestone.

"This could well be a prototype for the entire state of New Jersey," Ranieri said.

The plan hinges upon the approval and economic assistance of a new state program. The program, which Ranieri learned about after meetings with the state Council on Affordable Housing earlier this year, offers low-interest loans and other assistance to private developers to facilitate construction of affordable housing.

The program has about \$10

million, which will be sought by projects across the state, according to project planners.

Ranieri and developer William Procida of the Procida Organization said they would submit an application for inclusion in the program by Dec. 1.

Financing for the project would also come from individual and corporate investments, according to Herman Epstein of Investors

Associates Inc. in Hackensack. Epstein said he would help locate financing if the state gives initial approval.

One plot of land—actually divided into 19 sublots—is owned by local resident Salvatore D'Amelio Sr. and his brother Anthony. The land, now to contain between 155 and 175 units, was formerly the site of the planned Presidential Towers, which was scrapped after a suit was filed by area residents challenging city approvals for it.

The other, smaller plot of land, owned by the OVF Corp. of Manhattan, would be the site of 75 units. Both structures, officials said, would be buildings of no more than seven stories.

About one-fourth of the units would be slated for "low-income" households as defined by federal guidelines, according to Epstein. The rest would go to "moderate-income" residents. The state program requires that the units remain at stabilized prices for at least 15 years, according to Epstein.

P.A. ready to sign contract for rush-hour ferry service

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

and major Hudson waterfront developers are expected to finalize a contract today for commuter, rush-hour ferry service between Hoboken and Lower Manhattan.

The ferry service, a joint venture between Hartz Mountain Industries and Arthur Imparatore's ARCORP Corp., is scheduled to start next spring. The 20-year contract was ap-

proved last month by the bi-state port agency.

Four 350-passenger boats will be used, with one held as a backup, to take commuters across the river in some eight minutes. The plan is designed to relieve overcrowding on the Port Authority's PATH trains between NJ Transit's rail terminal in Hoboken and the Authority's World Trade Center office towers in Lower Manhattan.

6

THE HUDSON DISPATCH, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2, 1988

After Hoboken blaze

City awaits firehouse fixup bids

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—City officials expect to receive three bids today for the first stage of restoring a historic firehouse that caught fire Saturday.

The bids are to be offered by contractors who inspected the site at Washington and 13th streets yesterday, according to city Business Administrator

Edwin Chius. He said the first phase should sufficiently rebuild the extensively damaged firehouse to allow Fire Department trucks and personnel to return there.

Since Saturday's fire, the department has been using the firehouse at Eighth and Clinton streets.

The firehouse, built in 1890, is in the National Register of His-

toric Buildings. Because of that status, Chius said he would push the City Council to approve restoring the three-story structure to its condition before the fire—as well as strengthening some of the weaker parts of the building.

Chius estimated the cost of restoration plus structural improvements at up to \$400,000. Asked if the council would approve the expenditure, Chius said: "They

better, or I'll shoot."

The first stage of the cleanup—expected to cost much less than a total restoration—is to involve removing heavy tile in the building's upper floors, anchoring the walls, removing burned beams and other debris and weather-proofing the structure, according to Chius.

He added that the third story, which is only a partial floor, might be removed for safety. He said he hoped the work would be completed within a month.

Fire investigators have called the blaze accidental, and believe the fire started in the building's chimney.



The Hoboken firehouse at Washington and 13th streets, which was damaged by a blaze Saturday.

DON SMITH THE HUDSON DISPATCH

Inspectors seek exact site of historic firehouse blaze

By James Efstathiou

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Although the plan depends upon state approval, local zoning variances and the results of an economic study, Ranieri called it "very viable" and hailed it as a milestone.

"This could well be a prototype for the entire state of New Jersey," Ranieri said.

The plan hinges upon the approval and economic assistance of a new state program. The program, which Ranieri learned about after meetings with the state Council on Affordable Housing earlier this year, offers low-interest loans and other assistance to private developers to facilitate construction of affordable housing.

The program has about \$10

million, which will be sought by projects across the state, according to project planners.

Ranieri and developer William Prosida of the Proclima Organization said they would submit an application for inclusion in the program by Dec. 1.

Financing for the project would also come from individual and corporate investments, according to Herman Epstein of Investors

Associates Inc. in Hackensack. Epstein said he would help locate financing if the state gives initial approval.

One plot of land — actually divided into 19 sublots — is owned by local resident Salvatore D'Amelio Sr. and his brother Anthony. The land, now to contain between 155 and 175 units, was formerly the site of the planned Presidential Towers, which was scrapped after a suit was filed by area residents challenging city approvals for it.

The other, smaller plot of land, owned by the OVF Corp. of Manhattan, would be the site of 75 units. Both structures, officials said, would be buildings of no more than seven stories.

About one-fourth of the units would be slated for "low-income" households as defined by federal guidelines, according to Epstein. The rest would go to "moderate-income" residents. The state program requires that the units remain at stabilized prices for at least 15 years, according to Epstein.

P.A. ready to sign contract for rush-hour ferry service

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and two major Hudson waterfront developers are expected to finalize a contract today for commuter, rush-hour ferry service between Hoboken and Lower Manhattan.

The ferry service, a joint venture between Hartz Mountain Industries and Arthur Imperatore's ARCORP Corp., is scheduled to start next spring. The 20-year contract was ap-

proved last month by the bi-state port agency.

Four 350-passenger boats will be used, with one held as a backup, to take commuters across the river in some eight minutes. The plan is designed to relieve overcrowding on the Port Authority's PATH trains between NJ Transit's rail terminal in Hoboken and the Authority's World Trade Center office towers in Lower Manhattan.

The Hudson 2000 pro-landlord group may be officially neutral in the Hoboken municipal election, but its salaried director, Rick Shaftan, is clearly on the side of interim Mayor Patrick Pasculli. Shaftan, so far, has received \$4,600 from the Pasculli campaign for political literature and advice. Shaftan has his own consulting firm.

After Hoboken blaze

City awaits firehouse fixup bids

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—City officials expect to receive three bids today for the first stage of restoring a historic firehouse that caught fire Saturday.

The bids are to be offered by contractors who inspected the site at Washington and 13th streets yesterday, according to city Business Administrator

Edwin Chius. He said the first phase should sufficiently rebuild the extensively damaged firehouse to allow Fire Department trucks and personnel to return there.

Since Saturday's fire, the department has been using the firehouse at Eighth and Clinton streets.

The firehouse, built in 1890, is in the National Register of His-

toric Buildings. Because of that status, Chius said he would push the City Council to approve restoring the three-story structure to its condition before the fire — as well as strengthening some of the weaker parts of the building.

Chius estimated the cost of restoration plus structural improvements at up to \$400,000. Asked if the council would approve the expenditure, Chius said: "They

better, or I'll shoot."

The first stage of the cleanup — expected to cost much less than a total restoration — is to involve removing heavy tile in the building's upper floors, anchoring the walls, removing burned beams and other debris and weather-proofing the structure, according to Chius.

He added that the third story, which is only a partial floor, might be removed for safety. He said he hoped the work would be completed within a month.

Fire investigators have called the blaze accidental, and believe the fire started in the building's chimney.



The Hoboken firehouse at Washington and 13th streets, which was damaged by a blaze Saturday.

DON SMITH THE HUDSON DISPATCH

School board veteran

Fred Bado was there to assist

By DAVID LIPPMAN

Dispatch Obituary Editor

HOBOKEN—Fred L. Bado was a Board of Education trustee and a city Parking Authority commissioner, but was best remembered as a man who was there to help.

For Mr. Bado, a lifelong resident, the city was more than his home; it was his life, a place whose people he wanted to help.

He did so at the public level and at the private level, by driving senior citizens to stores and doctors.

Mr. Bado, who died Sunday at Christ Hospital in Jersey City of a stroke at the age of 77, served 24 years as a Board of Education trustee and 13 years as a parking commissioner.

But Mr. Bado was recalled yesterday by his son, John, a Ringwood insurance executive, as the "neighborhood fix-it and grocery shuttle" for senior citizens. "He was there for everybody," he said.

"Nobody had a bad word for him," said Donald Pellicano, chairman of the Parking Authority.

Mr. Bado was born here on Aug. 15, 1910, and worked for many years at Terminal Printing Co., owned by his late brother, also named John. There, Mr. Bado was a supervisor and linotype operator, producing a variety of publications.

"They printed Maritime magazine, religious magazines, and yearbooks and tickets for the Yankees in the '60s," Fred M. Bado, Mr. Bado's other son and a lawyer here, recalled yesterday.

Mr. Bado was a member of the printer's union for 60 years, his family said.

In 1947, he was appointed to the Board of Education, and was a school trustee until 1971. He was involved in planning the construction of Hoboken High School.

"They wanted a representative of the business community," Fred M. Bado said of his father's appointment.

In 1974, Mr. Bado was named by then-Mayor Steve Cappiello to the Parking Authority.

"He lived in Marine View Plaza where the city garages are located, and they wanted a representative of that area of the town on the authority," his son said.

"We used to kid Freddy anytime someone would second a motion before he did," Mr. Pellicano remembered, discussing Mr. Bado's service on the authority yesterday. "He was always there, he was always helpful. He'd be there at 7:15 for a 7:30 meeting."

"We looked to him for senior advice at meetings, and at year-end reviews, when we'd discuss giving people raises in pay, and he'd tell us 'Don't give this guy a raise' and why," Mr. Pellicano continued.

Mr. Bado worked hard on the authority, even though he was in



FRED L. BADO Hoboken was his life

his 60s.

"He was concerned with keeping the garages clean," Mr. Pellicano said. "He talked to managers, and he'd come back and say, 'That guy is working well, that other guy is not, put this guy over here and that guy over there.'"

He also represented the city and meetings of the National Association of Parking Authorities.

Author Executive Director Patrick Caulfield remembered Mr. Bado more as a neighbor and humanitarian.

"He drove senior citizens to stores and doctors, and (did) minor repairs on their apartments — rehanging doors or fixing windows," Mr. Caulfield said.

"If there was a food discount coupon in the paper, he'd get as many as possible and go and buy food with them, and give this food to folks who were ill or couldn't drive up to Spiekermann's or Marie's bakery. He'd ask people what they wanted and he'd get it."

"He was happy, filled with humor. He told us stories of old-time Hoboken," Mr. Caulfield said.

"He was pretty good with the knife and fork," Mr. Pellicano said. "He'd clean his entire plate and say, 'It was terrible. I'd get hysterical.'"

And what was his favorite food? "You name it," said Mr. Pellicano.

Mr. Bado also belonged to the Holy Name Society of Sts. Peter and Paul Church here.

Fred M. Bado attributed his father's civic involvement to the fact that "it's part of his whole life."

"He loved Hoboken, he enjoyed going out, walking, meeting his friends," his son said. "It was the city he always lived in, and helping people was the right thing to do."

In addition to his two sons, Mr. Bado is survived by a sister, Rita B. King of Hoboken; and a grandson, Michael of Hoboken. His wife, Mildred (nee Raffo), died in 1981.

Earl F. Bosworth Funeral Home here is handling arrangements.

Crackdown set for parents of chronic truants

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken parents whose children are constantly absent from school may find themselves before a municipal court judge explaining the circumstances for the repeated truancy.

Hoboken High School principal Charles Tortorella and Municipal Court Judge Ross London are exploring ways the school and court system can combine forces to reduce school truancy.

"Our objective is to have the child come to school and be successful," said Tortorella, who is serving his second year as high school principal.

"We want to show parents and the students that we are taking a tough attitude on truancy and a no-nonsense approach," he added.

Although Hoboken is not under a state mandate to improve its attendance rate, Tortorella said he is not satisfied with the existing rate and he as well as a vice principal and truancy officials have been meeting to discuss the problem.

The state requires an average daily attendance rate of 85 percent and Hoboken has an average daily rate of 87 percent, he said.

He attributed the reason for truancy on the theory that "there are many students who do not recognize the idea of deferred gratification — you go to school and the benefits are long term. There are some students who need rewards in the here and now."

Tortorella and his staff have been examining the in-house services available in the school system, such as the guidance counselors and the school psychologists to coordinate their efforts with social service agencies, parents and possibly church officials.

And last week, Tortorella and the faculty team met with London to discuss how the issue related to the court system.

"The purpose of our meeting was to devise ways to crack down on truancy by bringing in the parents of truants to court," said London.

"I see the results of truancy — people whose useful and productive lives are over. They are in a sense victims, so many are unemployable and semi-literate and their options in life are very depressing," he said.

"Both schools and courts are taking tremendous efforts to make sure that kids stay in school. When a case comes to me in which a parent has been neglecting responsibility to get their kids to school, I will use everything within my power to enforce the law," London said.

Tortorella and London agreed that reserving a block of time for truancy cases may help coordinate the efforts between courts and schools as well as give a clear message to parents that educators and law officers are serious about the problem.

"We are trying to set up the groundwork with the judge to come up with a more structured program so that when do use the courts, we are more effective," Tortorella said.

Tortorella said the courts may be helpful to parents by offering family counseling or therapy to a child who has resisted outside assistance.

He said he knew of cases where parents escorted their children to the front door of the

school, only to discover later that the students were slipping out of the back doors.

"Sometimes the parents need to exert more pressure and sometimes the parents don't know where to turn," Tortorella said.

"We have to make a decision to see if parents are really trying their best," London said.

Meanwhile, Tortorella said another faculty team is examining the possibility of opening an alternative school for chronic truants and students who attend classes but do not apply themselves.

He said that team is looking at the existing curriculum and examining other ways of teaching students instead of the structure of a traditional classroom.

"We are looking at the curriculum and an alternate school for those students who do not succeed in the mainstream," he said.

RENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tenants in the form of higher rents. The proposal would speed up the "pass along" process by giving the city Rent Control Office 30 days to act after a landlord notifies the office and his tenants of the impending rent increase.

In offering the proposal, Roberts asserted that many condominium owners would like to rent their units, but are stopped because rent control strictly limits the amount they can charge. The situation, he said, forces landlords to convert buildings to condominiums from rental units. People who try to rent condominiums at the controlled rent are being "put out of business," he said.

"All we did was create more condominium conversions," Roberts said of the rent-control laws. But council members Joseph Della Fave — who is running against Pasculli for mayor in Tuesday's election — and Helen Cunningham charged Roberts misunderstood the ordinance when it was discussed in Monday's caucus meeting.

Only Roberts and Councilman E. Norman Wilson voted against tabling the ordinance.

In other business, the council gave a \$24,800 contract to Taglieri & Son, a local contractor, to make temporary repairs to the firehouse at 13th and Washington streets that was damaged in a fire Saturday. Taglieri submitted the lowest of three bids the city solicited this week for the job.

The council hired Boswell Engineering of South Hackensack to advise the city on the restoration of the historic firehouse, which was built in 1890. The council also hired a Fairfield insurance adjuster to negotiate a settlement with an insurance company.

In an unrelated move, the council voted to fund the YMCA after School Arts Program, a program for children that meets in the YMCA building on Washington Street.

If Hoboken Councilman Joseph Della Fave is elected next week to fill the remainder of the term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, he should thank Councilman Robert Ranieri.

No, Ranieri is not campaigning for Della Fave. He's running against him. But he might take enough votes from interim Mayor Patrick Pasculli to make Della Fave the mayor, although the feeling here is that it won't be enough.

Without Ranieri in the race, Pasculli would probably beat Della Fave easily. The fourth candidate, Robert King, doesn't appear to have much chance.

Ranieri is felt to appeal to the "old" Hoboken and to supporters of his frequent ally, former Mayor Steve Cappelletto.

LOCAL

DISPATCHES

Bradley late for Lautenberg's date

HOBOKEN—He was late, but U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley kept a campaign date with fellow Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg here at East L.A. restaurant yesterday.

Lautenberg, D-Secaucus, who is running against Republican challenger Peter M. Dawkins, arrived at the Washington Street restaurant at about 5 p.m. to rub elbows with the local politicians and do a little campaigning on the city's busiest street.

"I can't shake your hand if you're not old enough to vote," Lautenberg joked, as he reached to shake a toddler's tiny, outstretched hand.

Bradley, D-Morris, who was supposed to meet Lautenberg, didn't show, so Lautenberg ducked into the restaurant, then walked a few blocks north into the restaurant to meet voters and ask for their support. He was driving away when Bradley's car arrived. The two went back inside the restaurant for a few more smiles, poses and handshakes.

Restaurant owner David Roberts — also a city councilman — said it must have been the atmosphere of East L.A. that attracted such big political guns.

"They didn't come here because I was a councilman," Roberts said. —CHRISTOPHER AVE.

Setback for Pasculli

Council puts off rent hike decision

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The City Council last night tabled a controversial ordinance that would have made it easier for many landlords to increase rents.

The action was a setback for council sponsor David Roberts and the administration of Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who favors relaxing restraints on small-scale landowners here. The proposal probably will be taken up again by the council in two weeks.

The plan involves an ongoing and bitter dispute about whether rent control laws enacted since 1985 to stem the tide of displacement have gone too far. Pasculli, Roberts and landlord groups insist they have, while tenant activists and other politicians maintain tenants need more protection from landlords.

The complex ordinance tabled last night is divided into two parts.

It would allow most owners of condominiums and other single-unit housing spaces to charge whatever rent they wish. This exemption from local rent-control laws only would apply to one unit per housing complex; other units in the same complex still would be ruled by rent-control.

The ordinance would make it easier for landlords to pass on property tax increases to their tenants.

Please see RENT Page 8

THE HUDSON DISPATCH, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1, 1988

Retired Hoboken judge

By DAVID LIPPMAN

Dispatch Obituary Editor

HOBOKEN—Christopher G. Pappas, a former Municipal Court judge, died at St. Mary Hospital early yesterday morning, after suffering an apparent heart attack at home. He was 78.

A lifelong city resident, Mr. Pappas was a municipal judge from 1966 to 1982, presiding over criminal and civil cases with "a lot of energy," Thomas Callagy, the city's assistant city attorney, recalled yesterday.

"Your first impression of Chris was that he was a stern man. After a short time, you found he was not stern but a kind and soft person," Mr. Callagy said.

Born on Feb. 16, 1910, Judge Pappas graduated from A.J. De-marest High School here and re-



CHRISTOPHER G. PAPPAS
A 'social person'

ceived a bachelor's degree in political philosophy from Fordham University in The Bronx. In 1935, he graduated from John Marshall Law School — which later merged with Seton Hall Law School — where he received a bachelor of laws degree.

Mr. Pappas was a clerk for and attorney in private practice with John J. Fallon, who was a judge in Chancery Court.

Chancery Court handles matri-

1-family exemption to rent law urged

By James Efsthathiou

Hoboken tenants in single family houses or condominiums should not be protected by rent control according to an ordinance scheduled to be introduced at tonight's City Council meeting.

The proposal, which would amend the city's rent control ordinance, would exclude single family homes and individual condominium units from rent control. Currently, all rental units are covered under rent control, according to Lisa

Conn of the city's Law Department.

"There's a lot of procedural requirements to comply with," said Conn of the rent control laws. "The person who owns one unit is not in the business of being a landlord."

The amendment covers single family homes and condominiums that have undergone "substantial rehabilitation." That is defined as rehabilitation costing at least 50 percent of the value of the building.

See 1-FAMILY — Page 13.

Indictment due in school probe

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

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HOBOKEN—A low-level employee of the Board of Education here will probably be indicted soon on kickback charges, sources close to the case said yesterday.

The development would be the first tangible fruits of a federal investigation launched at least five months ago involving the board and two contractors, Ram Excavation of Jersey City and Mayo Lynch & Associates of Secaucus.

A source close to the case said the suspect was a manual laborer, currently employed by the board, who will be charged with accepting \$1,500 in kickbacks from Ram in exchange for helping the company get a contract to repair a water-pipe break in

EXCLUSIVE

1986.

The source said the indictment may be handed up by a grand jury within a week. Ram officers did not return a telephone message left at their office yesterday afternoon.

A law enforcement source confirmed that the investigation was part of a larger investigation which includes the city's handling of sewerage matters. The source said the initial indictment was for "obvious and flagrant violations" in connection with the Ram contract.

The source added that the FBI hoped the investigation would lead to proof of violations by higher board officials, including, perhaps, board members.

Please see INDICT Page 23

INDICT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Both sources spoke on the condition their names be withheld.

In July, federal officials subpoenaed board records for a single job completed by Ram and many done by Mayo Lynch. The Ram job involved fixing a water-pipe break in January 1986.

According to current board President Secretary Anthony Romano spotted the break under a sidewalk in front of Hoboken High School during the Martin Luther King Birthday Weekend in January 1986. Rafter said Romano, who is no longer a board official, said later that he tried to find other companies, but only Ram could do the work immediately.

Rafter, who became a board member in the spring of 1986, questioned the \$11,000 contract because, he and other observers said, the cost for the job was much higher than it should have been.

Yesterday, Rafter said that if a crime occurred, he was pleased that the indictment was being

issued. But he said he hoped federal authorities continue the investigation and look for evidence of wrongdoing by high-level officials as well.

"A low-level person could not have initiated this whole deal," Rafter said. "Small crooks allow this (corrupt) system to be perpetuated. But I really hope they go up the line."

Mayo Lynch was not implicated in the indictment, the law enforcement source said. But he added the inquiry would include examining the company's role in the city's plans to build a secondary sewage treatment plant.

Mayo Lynch was awarded a contract for constructing the plant in 1985, but the late Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti became frustrated with the company and retracted to sign payments. A judge upheld Vezzetti's actions on technical grounds; the matter is the focus of litigation Mayo Lynch has brought against the city.

Compassion ruled Pappas' courtroom

monial matters, probate, title actions and questions of contractual performance.

George Pappas of South Orange, Mr. Pappas' son and former law partner, said that in the 1930s, Chancery Court was staffed by part-time judges.

After a year, Mr. Pappas started his own practice, sharing offices with Judge Fallon. Mr. Pappas also headed the city's 1st Ward Regular Democratic Club.

Judge Pappas was an infantryman with Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's U.S. 5th Army in Italy during World War II. That experience made a mark on Judge Pappas. "He learned hard facts about life, up on the front line as a rifleman," Mr. Callagy said.

After the war, Judge Pappas continued his general legal practice, handling real estate work.

In 1975, he made his son, George, a partner in the firm Pappas and Pappas, which is still located here.

"He was not laid-back," George Pappas recalled. "He had a loud voice and was a social person."

While George Pappas saw his father on the bench only once — "I could never appear before him, it would be a conflict of interest" — hundreds of people moved through Judge Pappas' courtroom for 17 years, prosecuting or defending a litany of complaints and offenses.

Judge Pappas was appointed by Mayor Louis DePascale to the municipal bench in 1966, and then dealt with all kinds of criminal cases, most of them involving disorderly persons, narcotics, assault and burglary charges.

"Chris was born and brought up with a mixture of everything. He wasn't shocked by what he saw, but he was disappointed, especially by young people who were involved in offenses so early in their lives, and showed no sign of rehabilitation," Mr. Callagy said, recalling his days pleading before Judge Pappas as a city prosecutor.

"Chris had a fatherly outlook — he had four children himself — and was the son of Greek immigrants. His attitude to a first offender was 'Let's help, let's rehabilitate this person,' rather than send a young fellow up to

jail. He'd help a kid get a break," Mr. Callagy recalled.

"He was an experienced man. He knew what the world was about. He was a conversant and kind man, which helps when you sit on the Municipal Bench," Mr. Callagy said.

Mr. Callagy recalled one day in court: "We had a witness on the stand who was Greek, and she was having a difficult time. Chris looked at her and spoke to her in Greek. We were as startled as she was."

Judge Pappas also helped found the Hoboken Bar Association, and was a past president. He also belonged to the Elks.

Judge Pappas stepped down from the bench and gave up his legal practice in 1983 on doctor's orders, because he had been suffering heart problems.

"He was a good lawyer, a good judge, a fine father, and all of us in Hoboken are going to miss him," Mr. Callagy said.

In addition to his son George, he is survived by another son, Christopher of Hoboken; two daughters, Marietta Jane Simon of Hasbrouck Heights and Ellen M. Pappas of Jersey City; a brother, James, a Palisades Park lawyer and retired Ridgefield Municipal Court judge; and six grandchildren. His wife, Margaret (nee McDermott), died in 1986.

Lawton-Turso Funeral Home here is handling arrangements.

Nov. 1, 1988

1-family exemption to rent law urged

Continued from Page 1

according to the measure's sponsor Councilman David Roberts.

"For four years there was a grey area that surrounded this issue," said Roberts. "Developers wanted it addressed."

According to Roberts, the changes will make it easier for owners of individual condominium units to see a fair return on their investment. Developers who convert entire buildings would still be bound by rent control but would benefit by the proposed change by being able to rent one unit at a market rate.

"If we completely decontrol all condos from rent control, there's a fear that we may speed up additional condo conversions which is not my intention," Roberts said. "It's only the very strict and overbearing rent control laws that initially forced rental property owners out of the rental property business and into the condo conversion business."

Tenants advocates including representatives of the Campaign for Housing Justice are expected to oppose the changes.

Annette Illing, CHJ chairwoman, said she and other members plan to attend tonight's meeting but declined to spell out her objections to the proposed amendment.

While condominium tenants and renters in single family homes have been protected by rent control, they historically do not have the same rights as do tenants of multiple unit dwellings, according to Conn.

"They're covered by rent control but the tenant also can be kicked out if the guy doesn't like red hair," said Conn.

"Those people aren't in the best protected tenancy situation now."

In addition to the condominium exemption, Roberts plans to introduce a second amendment addressing tax surcharges. That proposal would allow landlords seeking to pass along tax increases to tenants to calculate and implement the increase on their own should the Rent Control Office fail to act on an application within 30 days.

Currently, landlords must apply for the surcharge to the rent officer who then calculates the proper increase. According to rent control officer Lourdes Arroyo, such applications are being processed expeditiously by her office.

"I'm not behind on even one tax calculation," Arroyo said.

"We keep talking about condo conversion and decontrol when the real issue here is the housing crisis."

Under Roberts' proposal, landlords would have to notify tenants by registered mail when they apply to the rent office for an increase. If the rent office failed to act on the application within 30 days, landlords could calculate the increase themselves. If the increase were later found to be in error, tenants would be entitled to a refund.

"We certainly don't want to punish any small homeowners through any fault of the rent control office or any city agency," said tenants advocate Tom Oliveri. "So long as the Rent Control Board has taken some kind of action and as long as the tenant is allowed to appeal that increase, I have no problem with this."

Exemption to rent control opposed

By Dominick Calicchio

Hoboken tenants' rights activists angrily opposed an ordinance amendment introduced last night that calls for single-family homes and condominiums to be exempt from the city's rent-control law.

The City Council took no action on the proposal last night. It is scheduled to be considered again at the next meeting.

The sponsor of the proposed changes, Councilman David Roberts, said his plan would help owners of single-family homes and individual condo units receive a more equitable return on their investments. Multiple-unit buildings would still fall under rent control, he said.

Opponents, however, said Roberts' plan would revive the rent-control law's old "substantial rehabilitation" clause which, they said, forced families out of the city until the section was abolished. Under that clause, tenants could be removed if the landlord initiated renovations that cost more than 50 percent of the value of the building.

"It is another ill-thought-out, half-baked attempt to weaken and destroy the rent control law," Annette Illing, head of the Hoboken Campaign for Housing Justice, a tenants advocacy group, said of the Roberts plan.

But Rick Shaftan, director of Hudson 2000, a developers' lobbying group, said

the current law has only kept more tenants living in substandard housing. Rents kept low by the law have prevented some landlords from making necessary repairs.

Steven Busch, a member of the city's Rent Leveling Board who is running for councilman-at-large in Tuesday's municipal election, charged Roberts with being influenced by Shaftan's group.

Roberts answered that his amendments were inspired by a conversation he had had with a former tenant activist.

"I don't know who the people are who are Hudson 2000," Roberts said, although Shaftan has been paid to write campaign literature for Roberts' political ally, Mayor Patrick Pasculli.

Do property revaluation over again

Recently there's been a lot of talk regarding the bill sponsored by Sen. Thomas Cowan to assist seniors in paying their escalated real estate tax bills resulting from the grossly flawed 100 percent reval. What a short-sighted approach!

It's the same cover-up-and-ignore-the-real-problem approach practiced by this administration and look where it's got us. A 100 percent reval. at the cost of \$2 million, where multi-family apartment houses and inner city and waterfront commercial properties pay a small fraction of their fair share of taxes but use a major share of the city services. Why doesn't Cowan do his homework and find out why many of the one-to-four-family homeowners are looking at \$5,000 to \$10,000 tax bills? Why is it that Hoboken, our neighbor, saw its tax rate decrease from \$210.76 to \$18.02? Just think how much less you'd be paying if your house were in Hoboken.

This bill does nothing but postpone the inevitable. If you can't pay now, the city will take title to your home when you die or sell, whichever comes first! It's the old credit card mentality of buy now and pay later. This city administration is famous for its debt. Remember the unprecedented \$8.8 million bond issue for current expenditures in addition to the tens of millions of dollars of funding for the schools for 1986 alone?

So much for all your hard work and your children's inheritance. Isn't it incredible that several years ago the federal government changed the federal estate tax laws to exclude hundreds of thousands of dollars of assets from inheritance taxes but now we have the local politicians who want to cash in?

As for Cowan, as expected, he did well with the reval. The land value on his house was cut 45 percent to \$3,500. How credible is that? His taxes went up a mere \$451, which would have

been his increase without the reval. He pays \$3,110 in a nice neighborhood on Highland Avenue whereas my neighbors and I pay \$7,000 to \$10,000 each!

Don't be fooled. Demand that the reval be done over by competent appraisers and monitored by the citizens. And remember, if you live too long, your children will sign over your house and still owe the city thousands more from their pockets. Some inheritance!

It's time to put an end to irresponsible and incompetent government before it's too late. Join us and your neighbors and show this administration that we won't accept a poor job at top dollar and the game is up. Support the Jersey City Coalition for Fair Taxation in their fight for your rights and the future of your home in the inner city. Call 451-8445 for further information. —MIA SCANGA, Jersey City.

I am angry

It is gratifying to see The Jersey Journal beginning to be non-partisan about the revaluation. Many residents, both long-time and those of us relative newcomers who have moved here during the past 10 years, are still in a state of shock about our taxes. It isn't only that the revaluation was badly and unfairly done, pitting group against group, but the rate per thousand is probably the highest in the nation. As homes in some areas actually went down in value while others skyrocketed — those on the so-called Gold Coast — some people have benefited and others are wondering how they can possibly remain in their homes.

My next-door neighbor has lived in her home for 65 years. Her parents bought it when she was a teenager. Although the only changes made are normal upkeep and modernization of

the kitchen, bathroom and heating system, her house is now worth \$103,000 this year. It had been valued at \$10,000. Our neighbor down the street saw her house become worth \$250,000 overnight. These houses are the same except the second one has had the kitchen enlarged a bit (75 sq. ft.), a deck added on the back and an additional half bath. Both are 12½ feet wide. This woman has also lived in her home for about 50 years. She is a widow on Social Security and simply cannot afford to pay the new tax.

I am one of the relative newcomers. In 1980 my daughter and I bought the house I now own (I bought her share in 1985). It is the end house of a row of houses, built in 1837, which have front yards, unlike their neighboring brick row houses, which have back yards and are just slightly set back from the street. When we purchased the house, it was in deplorable condition — suffering from every malady imaginable. The water line from the street had to be replaced. The sewer line should have been too, as a few years later, we discovered it was cracked under the house. As there is no cellar, part of the kitchen floor had to be pulled up and we lived with a pile of dirt in the middle of the living room which had to be removed bucket-by-bucket to a dumpster. Lots of fun!

All wiring and plumbing needed upgrading, the outer wall was buckled, but an engineer felt the house could be saved. The roof and gutters, porch and some interior flooring had to be replaced. New windows, insulation, and outer doors were needed (PSE&G gave us an interest-free loan for these). Needless to say, our sweat-labor has been well spent, as this is home.

The value of the house is now 11 times higher than it was last year. I, fortunately, can manage to pay the new rate but I feel angry and put-

upon. My daughter and I rescued this house from complete destruction. It would have collapsed, possibly damaging the entire row, and at least parts of it would certainly have fallen into the neighbor's yard. I have put not only money but time and energy and hard, hard labor into this house to make it a home.

Of course the neighborhood has improved too, as more middle-class people have returned to the area. Some of my neighbors had stayed during the sinking of the area into a slum. They were delighted with the rejuvenation, the remodeling of many tenements into rentals and condos, but the revaluation and tax rate have upset all of us. We feel trapped. We can't sell — who in his right mind would buy? And where would we go if we could find buyers?

I am not a young woman, either. I moved here to be able to help my daughter, divorced with two young children. I was semi-retired, but have gone back to work full-time to be able to pay my taxes. It would be cheaper to share an apartment with someone. I will be paying about \$400 a month rent to live in my house plus utilities and upkeep. Is this fair? Of course not! What is most surprising is the low value placed on the mayor's house and other politician's homes, both in Jersey City and Hoboken.

And what do we get for our taxes? The schools are beyond hope. The streets are filthy; the gutters need cleaning — they are crammed with garbage. Most of us try hard to keep our neighborhood clean and it is frustrating to pick up litter day after day, to search for a parking space, to have your car broken into because it is parked on an unsafe street. But we do keep on trying to make our neighborhood and this city a more pleasant place to live in. —RESIDENT, Jersey City

Council OKs child psychiatric unit

HOBOKEN—A state council has given approval for St. Mary Hospital here to open a 19-bed child psychiatric unit that will give the hospital the only such facility in Hudson County.

The Statewide Health Coordinating Council approved the plan, but the final decision must be made by state Health Commissioner Molly Joel Coye. In a statement yesterday, the hospital said it expects Coye to approve the plan in three to five weeks.

"We are extremely delighted with the council's decision," said Michael Swerdlow, director of the hospital's Community Mental Health services.

The unit will be available for children aged 5 to 17. The only two crises intervention units in the area are in Denville, Morris County, and Elizabeth in Union County.

—CHRISTOPHER AVE.

The brightest for Hoboken

Along with national and statewide ballyhoo, three local elections are moving toward their climax. These elections are of great importance to the communities. The mayor of Hoboken, and the councils of Secaucus and Guttenberg will have tremendous impact, and voters should make their choices intelligently on Tuesday.

We'll discuss the Hoboken mayoral race today, and Guttenberg and Secaucus tomorrow.



VEZZETTI termine a mayor to complete his term, which expires in May. And that, of course, will mean still another election.

Nonetheless, time and issues are marching along, and the four candidates vying for temporary custody of Hoboken's brass ring must deal with matters much heavier than their predecessors did: The crisp blueprints for waterfront development, with their assorted promises and perils; a decaying public school system; a desperate shortage of affordable housing; and immense taxes.

It's not enough for the next mayor of Hoboken to blandly promise to lower taxes, improve government services and rebuild pride in the community. Nor is it enough to assume the mantle of the late Mayor Vezetti.

The campaign has been high in acrimony, average in issues. Mayor Patrick Pasculli has hired a top-notch urban planner to design the city's waterfront, declared himself the true heir to Mayor Vezetti's political legacy, and accused his opponents of conspiring together. City Council President Robert A. Ranieri has offered temporary solutions to parking shortages, while comparing his opponents to Disney characters.

Schoolteacher Robert King, a dark horse, has spiced the campaign with one liners.

SECOND WARD Councilman Joseph Della Fave has also taken on Mayor Vezetti's righteous anger, but he's more entitled to do so. An early member of Mr. Vezetti's election team, he was appointed councilman by Mr. Vezetti after his 1985 election, and has successfully held the seat in two tough elections.

With good reason. Mr. Della Fave's council stands on affordable housing, education and urban planning have been consistent.

Mr. Della Fave wrote the city's Anti-Warehousing Ordinance, and co-sponsored the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, two measures that should increase the city's stock of affordably priced housing. He has also strongly urged reform of the city's school system — which spends millions of dollars while not teaching its pupils basic skills — and has called for an integrated development plan for the city, that solves the problems of parking space, mass transit and increasing the city's tax base. Finally, Mr. Della Fave is also a bright academic, and a young, refreshing voice in a city that has a history of old-line politicians making endless deals for easements, patronage, relatives and votes.

Hoboken needs to have its administration moved from the political clubhouse to the open arena.

The Hudson Dispatch endorses DELLA FAVE dorses Joseph Della Fave for mayor of Hoboken. After years of bosses, power brokers and blaring rhetoric, it's time the city is run by the best and the brightest.

Hoboken debate

Housing proposal criticized

King compares plan to 'Nazi death camp'

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—In the final debate before Tuesday's election, the four candidates for mayor last night outlined their differing approaches to housing issues in a mixture of polite statements and occasional political rhetoric that had one candidate comparing a waterfront plan to a Nazi death camp.

The debate, the sixth of the campaign, highlighted issues of tenants' rights, development and affordable housing. It was sponsored by the Campaign for Housing Justice and held at St. Matthew's Trinity Lutheran Parish on Eighth street.

The election is for a six-month term, made necessary after the March death of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti. Another election in May will fill the regular four-year term. Patrick Pasculli was selected mayor by the City Council to serve until Tuesday's election.

Candidate Robert King, seen universally as the long shot in the race, made the most striking statement of the night when he said the plan drawn by Stanton Eckstut at the request of the city "reminds me of a little Polish camp called Auschwitz," referring to the concentration camp where about 4 million people were murdered by the Nazis during World War II.

FOLLOWING IS a summary of positions offered by the candidates:

■ **Rent Control:** Pasculli affirmed his support for amendments that would weaken the law offered this week by Councilman David Roberts. The amendments, tabled by the council, would allow some condominium owners to charge whatever they could get for rent.

City Councilman Joseph Della Fave and council President Robert A. Ranieri and King all opposed the move.

■ **Affordable Housing:** Pasculli took credit for a new development being built on Observer Highway for 53 units of affordable housing, but Ranieri pointed out that the plan has been worked on for the past several years.

Ranieri asserted there were 2,000 vacant condominiums in the city, which he proposed buying, with help from state funds, and turning into affordable rental units. Della Fave said he supported that if it could be done without making those units tax-exempt.

Della Fave supported putting affordable units on any waterfront development, while Pasculli said the affordable units belong elsewhere.

Arcorp, Hartz awarded Hudson ferry contract

Associated Press

HOBOKEN—The Port Authority signed a contract yesterday to have passenger ferries start churning across the Hudson River in the spring, carrying up

to 2,100 passengers an hour from Hoboken to Battery Park City in lower Manhattan.

Allen Morrison, a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, said the contract was signed with Arcorp,

of Weehawken, and Hartz Mountain Industries, of Secaucus, two major real estate developers who formed a joint venture to operate the ferry.

Arcorp, owned by developer Arthur E. Imperatore, now oper-

ates a ferry between Weehawken and Manhattan's West 38th Street.

"The ferry service is designed to solve overcrowding on PATH's Newark to World Trade Center line," he said.

In Hoboken

2 favored in council race

3 others seek interim term on the council

By CHRISTOPHER AVE
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Although it has been overshadowed by a sometimes bitter mayoral contest, Tuesday's election also features voting for an at-large City Council seat.

Five candidates are vying for a six-month term as an at-large council member. The election became necessary when at-large Councilman Patrick Pasculli was selected mayor in March after the death of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti.

Another election in May will select an at-large council member for a full four-year term. The winner on Tuesday is seen as having a major boost in May because he will be the incumbent.

As is the case in the mayor's race, all the council candidates have selected certain issues to focus on. There have been two public debates among the contenders, who have swamped a twice-weekly community newspaper with advertisements and letters proclaiming their position on the issues.

While observers are uncertain who should be considered the favorite, many say the top two contenders are Councilman Frank "Pupi" Raia and challenger Richard Del Boccio. Unsurprisingly, the two are the top spenders in the race. Raia has reported spending about \$12,000, and Del Boccio has benefited from Pasculli's spending of about \$42,000.

FOLLOWING IS a brief look at each candidate and his issue positions:

■ **Raia**, the incumbent who was selected in March to fill Pasculli's council seat, has rested much of his hope on the city's senior citizens. During campaign swings through the city's many senior citizen housing complexes, Raia said, he learned of their need for a new supermarket to replace the ShopRite on southern Washington Street that closed last winter. So, one of the local developer's campaign promises is to attract a new supermarket to the city by May.

"People are fed up paying skyrocketing prices to Foodtown," he said, referring to the only other chain supermarket here. Then



NUNZIO MALFETTI
Skips 2 beats

he took a swipe at his opponents. "They talk about affordable housing — I talk about affordable food," he said.

Other positions on which Raia, 37, is concentrating are: speeding up the development of the city's waterfront, balancing the city budget and building affordably priced housing.

■ **Del Boccio**, 48, is the only candidate with a running mate in the mayoral contest — Pasculli. Del Boccio has seized upon one of Pasculli's main issues — increasing the city's tax base by spurring development — as the focal point of his campaign.

■ **"I THINK** affordable taxes is the major issue," Del Boccio said. "If Hoboken is to survive, it must escape a financial disaster."

Del Boccio, principal of Salvatore Calabro School here, also is stressing cutting the budget and improving the collection of delinquent water and tax bills.

Because of his status as a public school employee, Del Boccio would not be allowed to vote on matters relating to the school budget, a point on which Raia has attacked him. Del Boccio responds by saying Raia, as a developer, had to abstain on votes concerning the Observer Highway project earlier this year.

■ **Steve Busch**, 37, is clearly running on a stop-development platform. He has called for a moratorium on new development projects until environmental and fiscal analyses are completed. Busch emphatically rejects the arguments by Del Boccio and Raia that development leads to lower taxes.

"I have not seen any evidence that new development will bail us



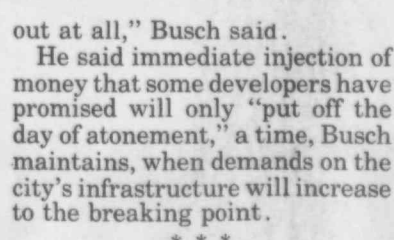
RICHARD DEL BOCCIO
Running with Pasculli

11-3-88



TERRY LABRUNO
Wants better schools

11-3-88



STEVE BUSCH
Tenant activist

out at all," Busch said.

He said immediate injection of money that some developers have promised will only "put off the day of atonement," a time, Busch maintains, when demands on the city's infrastructure will increase to the breaking point.

■ **Busch**, A member of the city's Rent-Leveling Board and a tenant activist, also is calling for major questions — such as choosing a waterfront developer — to be put to a popular vote in a referendum.

■ **Terry Labruno**, LaBruno, a teacher at Sacred Heart Academy here, focused much of her early campaign on calling for increased funds for recreation and for improvements in the public school system. Since she began campaigning, however, she has added



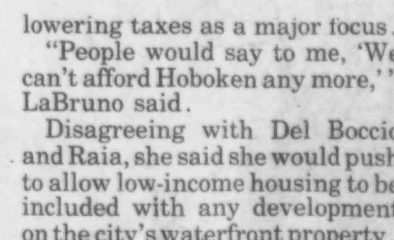
FRANK 'PUPU' RAIA
Favors development

11-3-88



STEVE BUSCH
Tenant activist

11-3-88



STEVE BUSCH
Tenant activist

11-3-88

lowering taxes as a major focus. "People would say to me, 'We can't afford Hoboken any more,'" LaBruno said.

Disagreeing with Del Boccio and Raia, she said she would push to allow low-income housing to be included with any development on the city's waterfront property.

Trial ordered on D'Amelio profit

By Patricia Scott

Hudson County's assignment judge yesterday ordered that a trial be held to "fully air" the still-unresolved case of former Hoboken Law Director Salvatore D'Amelio Jr., contending that the public deserves "a full and searching" inquiry into circumstances surrounding D'Amelio's property dealings in Hoboken.

Superior Court Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys assigned Judge Seymour Margulies to promptly hold a trial to determine how much D'Amelio, who left his job last year in a cloud of controversy, actually owes the city of Hoboken.

Humphreys last year ruled that D'Amelio violated his trust

while serving as law director imposed a constructive trust in January 1987 on D'Amelio's profits from business transactions.

Hoboken has been seeking a summary judgment from Humphreys, which would fix the amount owed by D'Amelio to the city at \$10,479.77 plus interest dating back two years and generally end the case.

In denying the city's application, Humphreys said facts remain unclear but seem to indicate that D'Amelio "profited by substantially more than the sum calculated by the city."

D'Amelio, while serving as Hoboken law director, purchased Hoboken real estate property at 201-203 Bloomfield

St. with the city's Construction Code Official Alfred Arrezzo, two other city employees and Arezzo's girlfriend, Mary Cipriani.

The partners later sold the property at substantial profit, on Oct. 30, 1986. The sale of the property was contingent on D'Amelio's agreement to secure a building permit from the city.

The judge said such behavior violated D'Amelio's ethical duties as an attorney and as the municipality's law director.

Humphreys contended that despite D'Amelio's claim that he made only \$10,479.77 personally from the property sale, he reported in his personal income tax that he profited by

\$21,086.

D'Amelio contends that the \$11,000 discrepancy occurred because he was paying some income taxes for his uncle, Thomas Branan, one of the partners, and that he had included the amount in his own tax forms.

Humphreys called such an act "patently illegal" and said D'Amelio, as an attorney, should have known better.

"You cannot pay someone else's taxes by including that person's gain in your own return," Humphreys said in a decision made public yesterday and sent to Hoboken Law Director Eugene O'Connell and attorney William Z. Shulman, D'Amelio's lawyer. "That answer does not make any sense."

The judge upheld his earlier contention that D'Amelio is apparently "obstructing and interfering with discovery."

County clerk contest matches 2 old gladiators

By Peter Weiss 11-3-88

Hudson County Clerk Frank Rodgers, the mayor of Harrison, and Anthony Cilento of Hoboken have known each other too long to get nasty toward each other, even when they're campaign opponents.

"Tony and I have been friends for a long period, over 35 years," said Rodgers. "He's a nice person."

"I'm not going to attack him," said Cilento. Rodgers is seeking his second term as clerk. He's simultaneously seeking his 22nd term as mayor of Harrison. At the

age of 78, Rodgers' age might be an issue with someone else, but not with Cilento. "I'm certainly not going to criticize his age," said Cilento. He is 77.

Also on the ballot for county clerk are two perennial candidates for various state, county and municipal offices. They are Michael De Lanzo of Hoboken, running under the banner of "Economy for Hudson County," and Herbert Shaw of North Bergen, whose slogan this year is "Buy American Or...Hara-Kiri." Shaw usually uses the "Politicians Are Crooks" slogan.



Anthony Cilento Dem tune firing

Rodgers is a former county Democratic chairman, and it's on the basis of party affiliation

that Cilento, a former county Republican chairman, is basing his campaign. "I'm running because a one-party system breeds corruption," said Cilento. "How long are the people of Hudson County going to tolerate a one-party system? The Democrats are like the birds in the trees. They go in and out but they sing the same old song."

Cilento also felt the county clerk's post should be held by a Hoboken resident. It was for 70 years, until Rodgers was picked to be the Democratic candidate in 1983.

"We should give Hoboken a voice in county government," said Cilento.

Rodgers said he has modernized the clerk's office during the past four years, mainly through computerization. He

said he has also improved the working relationship between the clerk's office and the county court system.

There has been a minimum of campaigning by the clerk candidates, limited mostly to showing up at party fundraisers.

"Wherever they send me. I show up," said Rodgers.

As is his custom, Rodgers declined to predict the easy victory that almost everyone sees for him.

"The people will decide," he said.

Cilento was optimistic about his chances, despite the 6-1 superiority Democrats have among registered voters.

"A lot of people are going to be shocked and surprised next Tuesday," he said. Once before Cilento



Frank Rodgers Up to voters

shocked Hudson voters. In the 1956 Eisenhower landslide, he was elected a county freeholder.

Vezzetti has left campaign legacy

By James Efstathiou and Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Thomas Vezzetti has been dead for seven months, but the colorful politician has been a central issue in the campaign to fill the final months of his term.

Four candidates are vying for the mayoralty, but the exchange of personal attacks, political characterizations and interpretations of history have been largely one-on-one between Mayor Patrick Pasculli and Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave.

Pasculli attacks the Vezzetti administration and Della Fave, a key Vezzetti adviser. Meanwhile, Della Fave says he will continue the Vezzetti legacy and charges that Pasculli did everything he could to thwart Vezzetti.

Hoboken voters will choose Tuesday between Pasculli, Della Fave, City Council President Robert Ranieri and political

newcomer Robert King. The winner will complete the final six months of Vezzetti's term, until May, when voters decide who will be mayor for the next four years.

Vezzetti's victory over three-term Mayor Steve Cappelletti in 1983 shocked many political observers.

A local character who dressed in colorful, mismatched suits and used a bullhorn to voice his opinions on the city streets, Vezzetti was able to topple a well-oiled political machine by building a unique coalition of Hispanics, newcomers and long-time residents dissatisfied with Cappelletti.

The 1985 campaign was spirited and run in the streets. Every window and telephone pole in Hoboken bore a political poster or bumper sticker, and thousands of residents attended debates marked by

See VEZZETTI — Page 19.

Bounced architect hits back in Hoboken

Continued from Page 1

City Hall. Last night the zoning board listened to testimony from the developers' experts

on architecture, planning and real estate.

But Abramowitz argued that Architect Robert L. Bien

Bounced architect hits back

By Dominic Calicchio

An architect bounced from the 1600 Park Avenue project in Hoboken following a court case contested last night the testimony of the architect currently on the job.

Scott Abramowitz, who did drawings for developers Daniel Gans and George Vallone when they first proposed their 412-unit residential project, said he thinks he is entitled to payment for the current plans, which, he said, are based on his original idea.

The architect aired his views at last night's special Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting in City Hall, in which the board heard two hours of testimony on the Gans and Vallone project.

The developers are seeking a variance to build two residential towers and a five-story parking garage on property they own between the Park Avenue and Willow Avenue bridges in the northern section of the city. The property lies in an industrial zone.

A vote on the project could come at the zoning board's next meeting, 7:30 p.m. Nov. 17 in

See BOUNCED — Page 8.

Hoboken deluged by absentee voters

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

About 830 Hoboken voters have applied for absentee ballots for Tuesday's election. Voting records show about 20 percent of them live in government-financed buildings.

Because of a controversy over the absentee ballots during the 1985 mayoral election, Councilwoman Helen Cunningham said yesterday she will be reviewing the applications over the weekend to decide whether to ask the Hudson County Superior Court to impound the absentee ballots.

Cunningham, who won an at-large seat in the 1985 election on the ticket of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, is campaign manager for mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave, the Second Ward councilman.

The other mayoral challengers are Mayor Patrick Pasculli, Council President Robert Ranieri and Robert P. King, who has never held elected office.

"I will be reviewing the list over the weekend. If I find instances that I found 1985, I will move to have the ballots impounded Monday morning," Cunningham said.

City Clerk James Farina said that 700 absentee ballots were cast in the 1984 presidential campaign. The number for absentee ballots in 1985 in the June runoff election between Vezzetti and Councilman Steve Cappelletti totaled more than 600, he said.

Annette Illing, chairman of the Campaign for Housing Justice, petitioned the impounding of the 827 ballots with Cunningham during the 1985 May municipal election. Illing un-

successfully ran on the Vezzetti ticket for an at-large seat. "I think that the residents of Hoboken should be thoroughly fed up with attempts to manipulate the outcome of elections through the use of absentee ballots," Illing said.

"The county Board of Elections should look long and hard at the list of applications for absentee ballots coming out of the City of Hoboken in view of the history of corruption and fraud involved in absentee ballots over the years," Illing said.

She said there seemed to be "a collusion" between the use of absentee ballots and "people who live in subsidized housing."

Cappelletti said yesterday that the ballots are often used by people who cannot go to the polls on Election Day, such as disabled senior citizens.

Ballots can either be sent into the county by mail or hand-delivered by the applicant or a messenger. The messenger must register with the county if they hand-deliver an absentee ballot.

Cappelletti said that often when someone fills out a ballot, he or she supports the candidate of the person who has offered to hand-deliver the ballot.

There are six reasons for absentee voting, according to election laws. People may vote by absentee if they are out of the state on Election Day, if they have a physical illness, including blindness or pregnancy, if they are permanently and totally disabled, if they are observing a religious holiday, if they are attending a school or university or because of working on Election Day.

Hudson solid for the Dems

Hudson County will again be considered a solid Democratic bastion after the polls close on Tuesday night.

The Dukakis-Bentsen team will win, comfortably at least, if not overwhelmingly, and Sen. Frank Lautenberg will do even better.

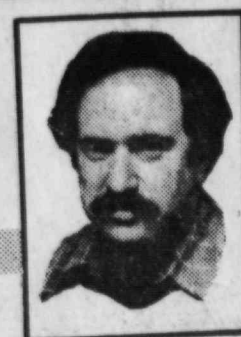
Rep. Frank Guarini will easily win his sixth term in the 14th District, which encompasses most of the county, and Frank Rodgers will just as easily get a second term as county clerk.

In Hoboken's non-partisan special election, the local race that has attracted the most attention, interim Mayor Patrick Pasculli will survive a close call.

The Hudson Democratic organization is more together

Political whirl

By Peter Weiss



now than it has been for any national or statewide election in nearly a decade. At the same time, and for obviously related reasons, the Republican effort in the county isn't as strong as it has been in past years.

Since 1980, when then-Jersey City Councilman Gerald McCann and several other prominent political figures became Democrats for Reagan, and helped him come within 5,000 of incumbent Democratic President Jimmy Carter, there have always been serious splits in that party's ranks which impacted on state and national elections.

In the 1981 gubernatorial election, there was a sizable segment of Hudson Democrats who, having been ousted

See HUDSON SOLID — Page 2.

Hudson solid for the Dems

Continued from Page 1

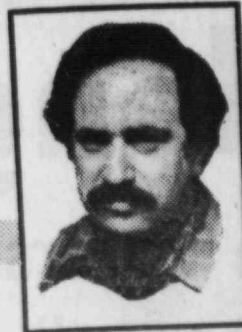
from power when McCann became mayor, worked for Gov. Thomas Kean. Although Kean lost the county by some 47,000, there are some who think that without Hudson Democrats for Kean, he would have lost whole election. He won the state by one-hundredth of 1 percent of the vote.

In 1982 McCann gave a tepid endorsement to Democratic Senate candidate Frank Lautenberg while many McCann supporters were campaigning for the Republican Millicent Fenwick.

In 1984, McCann heaped abuse on the Mondale-Ferraro ticket, although he didn't formally endorse Reagan. Maybe

Political whirl

By Peter Weiss



that's because McCann was also county Democratic chairman at the time. Reagan easily won the county, although Democratic Sen. Bill Bradley was also an easy winner here. During those years, McCann's Democratic allies in other municipalities often followed his lead in laying down on Democratic candidates.

McCann was out of office by the 1985 gubernatorial race, but state Republicans managed to attract many of his supporters, along with other Democrats, by practicing equal opportunity employment in Hudson County. They gave state jobs to prominent Democrats in return for support of Kean. As it turned out, it wouldn't have mattered if Kean didn't get a single vote in Hudson.

In 1986 and 1987, with no statewide contests, the Democrats reasserted control of the county, taking back assembly and county freeholder seats lost in 1984 and 1985.

This year there are only a handful of Democrats openly working for Bush and Republican Senate candidate Pete Dawkins. Bush may do well in Hudson because of the national exposure, but Dawkins seems to be faltering badly. Because national Republican leaders figure they don't need Hudson and the state GOP has little to gain without any legislative seats being contested, local Republican candidates have been left largely to their own devices in terms of money and tactical support. Which means they haven't got much of either.

Hoboken charge

At the Hoboken campaign debate on Oct. 4, UDAC (Uptown Development Action Committee) introduced itself by telling how the group had been formed in response to the actions of Anthony Dell'Aquila and his partner Harry Grant. Responding to a question from the floor you claimed your administration was doing all it could to stop and punish these men who have done so much harm on the northern waterfront.

Some of us who watched helplessly while Grant and Dell'Aquila transformed an obsolete but historic site into a pile of rubble remained unconvinced. It seemed almost inconceivable that so much could have been destroyed in defiance of the police power of the city. Others went away believing that you had indeed done all you could.

You would not have convinced so many had they read your campaign finance report — had they seen that you had accepted \$1,000 from Anthony Dell'Aquila. They would have wondered why he would contribute to a man fighting to stop the illegal demolition.

They would have wondered how Pat Pasculli could accept money from such a man.

Much of your campaign has focused on the newcomers, and trying to attract their votes. This is not the sort of behavior newcomers expect. Perhaps it was business as usual here in years past, but by 1985 the people of Hoboken were fed up and by throwing out the "machine" they put a stop to it. Your campaign is not "A New Beginning" it is a return to the past, and it stinks. — MICHAEL LENZ, ANTHONY ASTRACHAN, MIKE BRENNAN, JANE BRODY, SCOTT BUCKNER, DONNA CAHILL, PAUL CAHILL, CRUCE CICCONE, ELIZABETH CICCONE, JANE EGAN, DEBRA L. FOURNIER, ERIC FRETZ, THOMAS FALCONER, PAUL HAAS, STEVE HAMMOND, SUSAN HAMMOND, CHRISTOPHER HATTON, LENORE JONES, LAURA KEATING, DENISE KRONSTADT, LORRAINE LA-PENTA, MICHAEL LENZ, PAT MCCARTHY, JOHN PETERSON, LIZ RIDDLE, PETER ROZANO, DIANA L. SCHOTT, CHARLES R. SCHOTT, ANDREW SZABO, PAUL THOMAS-SET, JUDI YOURMAN, KEVIN YOURMAN, Hoboken

J.J. 11-5-88