

# Hoboken ballots under scrutiny

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—With about 530 absentee ballots already turned in for Tuesday's special mayoral election here, a representative of one candidate yesterday hinted she may challenge them in court.

City Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, who is Councilman Joseph Della Fave's campaign manager, said yesterday she may file a challenge Monday after examining the list during the weekend.

"I'll be working all weekend studying the list of ballots, and if there are signs

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of improprieties, I don't have a choice," she said.

Cunningham said a cursory examination of the list shows "a similar pattern" to the absentee list in the 1985 election between then Councilman Thomas F. Vezzetti and Mayor Steve Cappiello. That list of about 600 absentee ballots was thrown out by a court judge after Vezzetti's campaign questioned several incorrect names and addresses on the list.

Vezzetti won the election. He died of a heart attack March 2, and the City Coun-

cil chose Patrick Pasculli to serve until Tuesday's election.

Eligible voters wishing to vote absentee have until Monday at 3 p.m. to do so at the Hudson County Administration Building, according to Deputy County Clerk Joan McNamara.

Absentee ballots often are suspected of perpetrating election fraud because it is impossible to detect most illegal ballots unless someone points them out to county investigators.

ACCORDING TO Cappiello, now a city councilman and a longtime city politician, campaigns traditionally collect absentee ballots in the hope of inducing those voters to vote their way.

"It's natural," the former mayor said. "If I brought somebody a ballot—and I'm representing candidate Jones—more than likely, they might want to support Jones."

On the list of 530 absenteees submitted so far, about 20 percent are from the city's subsidized housing projects. At the Hudson County Board of Elec-

tions office in Jersey City, records indicate that, of the absentee ballots submitted by hand, 21 were taken there by Elena Ranieri, wife of mayoral candidate Robert A. Ranieri, who is the city council president.

County election officials said they expect a flood of people in the office on Monday.

Della Fave, Ranieri, Pasculli and schoolteacher Robert King are running in Tuesday's election. They are vying for a six-month term opened up after the death of Vezzetti.

## Hoboken mayoralty

### Lively campaign draws to close

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A long, sometimes dirty fight for the mayor's office will be resolved tomorrow as voters choose between an incumbent who has acted like a challenger and a challenger who has spent much of his time tout-

ing a previous administration. here are four contestants in the race: Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who was appointed in March after Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti died; Councilman Joseph Della Fave, a key Vezzetti adviser; City Council President Robert A. Ranieri, a councilman since the early 1970s; and Robert King, a schoolteacher.

But observers see the race as a two-man affair between Pasculli and Della Fave. For the past several weeks, Pasculli has singled out Della Fave for attacks in newspaper advertisements, charging the 2nd Ward councilman with everything from inactivity to being insensitive to newcomers.

Della Fave, who began the race attacking Pasculli for keeping his public school teaching position along with the mayor's job, later shifted to a more statesmanlike approach, offering himself as a "healer" and concentrating on the accomplishments of the Vezzetti administration.

A recent edition of The Hoboken Reporter, a twice-weekly newspaper that has been the battleground for the advertising war, illustrates the point: Pasculli took out a full-page ad

entitled, "Betrayal," criticizing Della Fave for not endorsing a candidate in the race for an at-large council seat.

The Della Fave campaign, on the other hand, placed an ad featuring the smiling candidate surrounded by mothers and small children. It was signed by eight women "and other mothers who support" his candidacy.

The phenomenon reverses standard campaign practice, whereby the challenger aggressively attacks the incumbent, who concentrates on defending his record.

Pasculli has said he is merely responding to Della Fave's early attacks. But the mayor may be reconsidering the aggressiveness. In yesterday's edition of The Hoboken Reporter, he filled the entire back page of the newspaper with the sentence: "We're proud of Hoboken," and his name and that of his running mate in the council race, Richard Del Boccio.

Pasculli and Della Fave are also the two biggest spenders in the mayor's race, with Pasculli reporting spending of \$70,000 and Della Fave, about half that, according to the latest financial disclosure forms.

The candidates are vying to fill Vezzetti's term, which expires in May. Another election will be held then to fill the regular four-year term.

Pasculli has focused on the issues of relief for taxpayers, expedited development of the city's lucrative waterfront property, cleaner streets and increased



Alan Field, right, a campaign worker for Councilman Joseph Della Fave, listens to Jose Lopez yesterday outside campaign headquarters on Washington Street in Hoboken. Della Fave is running for mayor tomorrow.

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police protection.

Della Fave has stressed planning for the city's development, affordable housing, professionalism in government, protection for tenants and improvement in the school system. Ranieri has campaigned on the

need for more affordable housing, finding new parking space, reducing city spending and fighting drug abuse.

King has centered his campaign on balancing the city's budget and increasing the effectiveness of city services.

## Waterfront start is planned for May

By James Efstathiou  
J.J. 11-7-88

A preliminary timetable for development on Hoboken's waterfront calling for demolition to begin by May was offered to the mayor's Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC) at the group's last meeting.

The schedule was drawn up by the Ehrenkrantz Group & Eckstut, the city's waterfront planners. Urban designer Stan Eckstut, who has developed projects in New York, Boston and Baltimore, presented a draft of a development plan for the waterfront at a workshop session of the City Council on Oct. 19.

That presentation prompted criticism both from the public and members of the mayor's waterfront team who charged that the presentation was premature because no overall parameters on development have been agreed upon. That no public comment on the plan was allowed led to charges that the meeting was hastily called in anticipation of tomorrow's municipal election.

"At each phase of the planning process we have gone to the City Council," said Mayor Patrick Pasculli of committee's methods. Pasculli is running for mayor in tomorrow's municipal election. "When the infor-

mation shows that the project is one that would be viable, we're prepared to go before the public in public hearings. Right now, it is simply a concept."

The timing of the presentation was questioned by Pasculli's principal opponent in the race for mayor, Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave.

"Anytime you present something publicly, the public should have the opportunity to discuss it," Della Fave said. "At that meeting, no public participation was allowed."

Della Fave, who has proposed the creation of a city

development corporation to coordinate waterfront planning, criticized the plan itself for not taking into consideration overall development on the waterfront.

The development timetable, which by all accounts is speculative and not intended as a firm schedule, highlights goals that must be reached in the development process. The schedule anticipates that final proposals for the project be received by April, that a developer be selected by May and that demolition begin in May.

Eckstut's Hoboken project

See DEMOLITION — Page 7.

## Demolition planned for May

Continued from Page 1

manager, who presented the schedule at Thursday's WAC meeting, refused to comment. Eckstut could not be reached for comment.

That significant aspects of the plan are targeted for completion by May fueled further speculation by two members of WAC that the timetable was politically motivated, specifically, that it was created with the next municipal election in mind.

"It's kind of political because everything winds up with May as the demolition date," said First Ward Councilman and WAC member Thomas Newman, who added that the timetable was not discussed at the meeting. "It's an extremely optimistic schedule. I don't think we're going to be doing demolition in May."

"The timetable is built around the anticipation of a Pasculli victory Tuesday and it's a political agenda for the May election," said Council President and WAC member Robert Ranieri. Ranieri is a candidate for mayor in tomorrow's municipal election. "It aims all the preliminary reports to be finished by the end of April and the groundbreaking in the first of May. Coincidence? No, it's by design."

But Pasculli defended the actions of the advisory commit-

tee and the introduction of a timetable, albeit a speculative one.

"It's a preliminary timetable that we would like to see," Pasculli said. "It's important that we make sure the process continues to move forward. Its very important that we generate revenues for the next municipal budget."

Eckstut's proposal calls for the creation of a town square at the southern end of the waterfront near the train station, a 15-story office building, a nine- to 12-story building and an 18-story commercial tower at the end of Pier A.

The draft calls for five 15-story apartment buildings between First and Fourth streets. At Pier C, the designer anticipates seven-story apartment buildings containing 350 units. A swimming pool, marina and fishing pier are also planned for that area.

Overall, that plan covers 3.73 million square feet with 1.6 million square feet for residential building. That translates into 1,600 residential units.

## Della Fave to seek to impound ballots

By James Efstathiou

An attorney representing Hoboken mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave will ask the Hudson County Superior Court to impound absentee ballots for today's election.

Attorney Michael Perle will petition to have the ballots impounded and reviewed for possible irregularities. Perle was uncertain whether he would ask for a review of all absentee ballots, approximately 830, or a specified few.

"I believe there's some question about the validity of a number of absentee ballots," said Perle. "There also seems to be a very large number of absenteees in proportion to the number of ballots that are expected to be cast."

In today's special municipal election, Della Fave, along with interim Mayor Patrick Pasculli, Council President Robert Ranieri and Robert King are running for mayor. In addition, five candidates are vying for one council-at-large seat.

The action comes on the heels of a weekend review of ballot applications by Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, Della Fave's campaign manager.

Cunningham said that she found approximately 60 questionable applications in the pool of applications returned as of Nov. 4.

According to Cunningham, applications were received from individuals whose names did not appear on mailboxes or doorbells at specified addresses. In some of those cases, phone listings were not available, Cunningham said.

Persons may apply for absentee ballots if they are out of the state on Election Day, if they have a physical illness, if they are permanently or totally disabled, if they are observing a religious holiday, if they are attending a school or university or if they are working on election day.

Approximately 830 Hoboken voters have applied for absentee ballots for today's national and special municipal election.

Absentee ballots that are impounded are unsealed and uncounted, according to county Board of Election clerk Richard Cohen.

"Once we get an order to impound from the judge, no ballots are counted," Coher said.

## The response

DISPATCH 11-5-88  
I am quite surprised and astonished at both the tone and content of UDAC's letter concerning contributions received by my campaign committee.

First let me begin by saying that the contribution received from Anthony dell'Aquila was an unsolicited donation received by my campaign committee in mid-April of this year prior to any mention of a project by dell'Aquila or by the yet unknown Harry Grant. This contribution, like I believe all received, from such people as Joe Barry, LaFera Contracting and others are submitted by people concerned about good government and not by their own self interest.

Furthermore, at my direction the Hoboken Law Department had halted all work at the dell'Aquila site after the discovery of insufficient work permits and lack of other necessary city and state permits. These stop-work orders were issued the moment they were discovered by city inspectors or brought to the city's attention by concerned citizens.

Your letter makes one begin to doubt the political independence of UDAC. You have personally endorsed Joe Della Fave for the position of mayor in an editorial prior to sponsoring a non-aligned debate on development issues and you continue to ignore the facts concerning Della Fave and the people around him. —PAT PASCULLI, mayor, Hoboken.



Gary Nieves, readmitted to St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken for treatment of painful gallstones, has been told they should not interfere with the liver transplant he hopes to receive.

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Gallstones no setback

## Liver victim Nieves gets a needed medical break

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A Union City man waiting to receive permission for a life-saving liver transplant got some hopeful news yesterday, when a doctor told him a recent flareup of gallstones should not stand in the way of his only chance at survival.

Gary Nieves, who is suffering from cancer of the liver, has not been told whether he can receive the transplant. Doctors in Pittsburgh are expected later this week to determine whether they will perform the surgery.

Without the still-experimental procedure, Nieves is expected to die of liver failure.

Nieves, 47, thought a problem with gallstones encountered during the weekend would damage his chances for the operation. But Nieves said yesterday from his room at St. Mary Hospital here that his doctor, Harry Snady, told him his gallstones will not affect his chances at receiving the transplant.

"My doctor was telling me the gallbladder is no problem for the operation," Nieves said. "I'm happy — at first I thought it was going to put me back."

Nieves suffered intense pains and was admitted to the hospital on Saturday. Doctors determined he had gallstones — small solid particles blocking the gallbladder, a sac near the liver that stores bile and other digestive fluids.

Nieves said his doctor told him the gallbladder would be removed during the liver transplant.

NOW, NIEVES said, it is just a matter of waiting to hear from the Pittsburgh Transplant Foundation and Dr. Thomas Starzl, a specialist in organ transplants.

"It's up to Pittsburgh," Nieves said. "I've just been hanging in there, praying to God that everything works out."

Nieves' story attracted the attention of local officials after The Hudson Dispatch reported last month that Nieves had been denied assistance by an assortment of Hudson County and local government offices, who told him he made too much money to qualify for Medicaid.

Additionally, his union said it would not cover the cost of experimental surgeries such as liver transplants.

After reading about his plight, Medicaid officials said they would expedite papers making him eligible for the medical aid program. Nieves said yesterday that the Pittsburgh doctors had received forms from Medicaid guaranteeing payment. The operation is expected to cost almost \$200,000.

Even with the operation, Nieves said, doctors only give him a 50 percent chance of survival. But he welcomed the odds, and said he hoped the operation would expand knowledge about the new procedure — even if he did not survive.

"I told them, a 50-50 chance is better than nothing," he said. "If they can save someone else by me, it'll make me happy."

## DISPATCHES

### Nieves waiting for transplant ruling

DISPATCH 11-9-88  
HOBOKEN—Gary Nieves, critically ill with liver cancer, should know today or tomorrow whether he qualifies for a Pittsburgh organ donor program that could save his life, he said yesterday from his hospital bed here.

Nieves said doctors are awaiting the results of tests, taken several weeks ago, to determine whether his cancer has spread to any other organs in his body.

"If it did, it's really not worth operating," said the 47-year-old from Union City, whose cancer was diagnosed more than six months ago. For Nieves, who worked at a meat-preparing plant in New York, just getting that chance has taken a struggle.

After he was diagnosed as having cancer, his union refused to cover his medical costs.

Then Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan said it would not handle the operation, his sister Natividad said.

And initially, the Pittsburgh Transplant Foundation wanted him to put up in advance the \$195,000 that the operation is estimated to cost, she said.

But, after articles in The Hudson Dispatch revealed that Nieves did not have the money for the operation, Medicaid officials certified that he was eligible for federal health insurance that would cover the cost of surgery.

While he is waiting to hear from Pittsburgh, Nieves, who is now in St. Mary Hospital here, yesterday expressed gratitude to all the people who helped publicize his case after he ran out of money and energy.

—ROBERT NEUWIRTH.



# 6 rough months before Pasculli's next race

By Bill Campbell

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli can finally shed the "interim" tag he so loathed, but the next six months won't be easy going.

Pasculli, who was a heavy favorite early in the mayoral campaign, narrowly squeaked in with a 409-vote victory over Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave and two others.

"This isn't a mandate," said a poll worker as the results trickled in.

Pasculli, who has yet to lose an election, received 7,062 votes, and Della Fave got 6,829. City Council President Robert Ranieri got 1,116 votes, and school teacher Robert King 285.

But many observers consider yesterday's election as simply a warm-up for the regular mayoral election in May. Voters will go to the polls again in only six months to select a mayor for a full four-year term.

Pasculli will serve the final six months of Mayor Thomas Vezze's term with a council majority.

Pasculli's running-mate, Calabro School principal Richard DelBoccio, easily won a five-way race to solidify the council majority. DelBoccio beat Frank "Pupie" Raia, who was appointed to the seat when Pasculli became mayor, Steve Busch, Nunzio Malfetti and Terry LaBruno.

The mercurial and hot-tempered Pasculli, who often sparred with Della Fave over Vezze's legacy, spent more than twice as much as his opponents during a campaign focused as much on personalities as on issues.

Pasculli's strength was centered largely in the Third and Fourth wards, once the stronghold of former Mayor Steve Cappiello. Pasculli out-pollled Della Fave more than 2-to-1 in several Fourth Ward districts.

Like Cappiello, Pasculli was able

to garner support from municipal and school employees, while Della Fave focused on newcomers to the city. Della Fave's campaign, which registered more than 2,500 new voters, will likely be buoyed by the margin of victory.

"It's cause for optimism, we'll be around in the spring," Della Fave said last night.

Yesterday's election was the latest chapter in Hoboken's turbulent political scene, and it underscored Pasculli's meteoric rise.

Pasculli's short but successful career in public office dates to 1983, when Cappiello quietly threw his support and his machine's muscle behind Pasculli's bid to defeat incumbent Sixth Ward Councilman Nunzio Malfetti.

At the time, Malfetti was one of the council's few non-aligned members.

Pasculli edged out Malfetti and political newcomer Angelo Valente to capture the seat, but split from Cappiello and united with another political novice, newly elected Second Ward Councilman Tom Vezze.

During the next two years, Pasculli and Vezze represented the opposition to Cappiello as they championed such "reform-minded" causes as a municipal code of ethics.

The flamboyant Vezze often referred to the other council members as "the seven dwarfs" as he and Pasculli emerged as the principal opposition to the 12-year-old Cappiello administration.

In 1985, Vezze, who selected Pasculli as one of three running-mates, united a group of Hispanics, longtime residents dissatisfied with the Cappiello machine and newcomers to capture City Hall. But within months of the victory, Pasculli split from Vezze, citing his differences with mayoral aide Laurie Fabiano.



A crowd swarms the home of Hoboken Mayor Pat Pasculli's mother on Sixth Street, awaiting the mayor's appearance.

During the next three years, Pasculli united a council majority called "the fragile coalition," which thwarted some key Vezze initiatives and supported others.

Although Pasculli played a key role on the council, he was often seen as cold and aloof, and his positions on

key issues such as waterfront development and affordable housing were often murky.

Pasculli's mastery of politics that catapulted him to the position of deal-maker on the council gave him the support he needed in March to win the appointment as interim mayor, and it

may have helped carry him into the mayor's seat yesterday.

The new mayor will now be faced with the difficult task of keeping his support intact and not alienating any large portion of the Hoboken electorate before the May election, where the stakes will be considerably higher.

## Hoboken wins pedestrian award

HOBOKEN—The Police Department has received the Pedestrian Safety Achievement Award from the American Automobile Association for recording no pedestrian deaths in 1987.

The award, which is given by the association to municipalities which report no such deaths and meet other criteria.

Crimmins noted that at least one person in this city of 45,000 people died in an industrial accident here in 1987, and that many others died of other accidents, illnesses or natural causes. But he said it was the first time in his 19 years as chief that no pedestrian fatalities occurred.

"I'm very happy for the people of Hoboken," Crimmins said.

—CHRISTOPHER AVE.

## Pasculli, Della Fave ready to start campaign for May

By James Elstathiou

In an emotional speech before a crowd of jubilant supporters, Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli accepted victory last night and pledged to continue his campaign until May's municipal election.

"Tonight I finally feel like the mayor of Hoboken," said Pasculli, who has been serving as interim mayor since the death of Mayor Thomas Vezze last year.

Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who narrowly lost to Pasculli, told supporters who jammed Sixth Street outside his headquarters, "It was a joy for me to campaign. I loved every minute of it and I'm going to start campaigning tomorrow for May."

It wasn't until after 9 p.m., more than an hour after polls closed, that Pasculli appeared with running mate Richard DelBoccio, victorious in the council race, to deliver his victory speech. The mayor then pressed through the crowd, hugging, kissing and thanking his partisans and friends.

Final results were delayed by a jammed voting machine in the Second Ward and the closeness of the race. When Pasculli was finally declared the winner, cheers rang through the crowd which had spilled over into the street to hear their victorious candidate.

"I came into office at the most difficult of times," said Pasculli. "But the people of Hoboken rallied because they wanted to see that the elected officials are governing the city. This is going to become the shining light along the New Jersey waterfront."

Pasculli said he reluctantly planned to take a leave of absence from his position as public school teacher and planned to continue his campaign, looking ahead to May's municipal election.



Hoboken mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave appears dejected after receiving vote tallies for race.

"We worked very hard," said DelBoccio. "It was a tough campaign."

Uptown, at the office of campaign worker and supporter Maureen Singleton, Della Fave waited anxiously as results trickled in. Della Fave refused to admit defeat in the tight race until all districts had reported.

"I feel really good about it," Della Fave said of his campaign. "I wish him and the city luck but clearly it wasn't a mandate."

While he said he accepted the results, Della Fave re-

In mayoral election

## Pasculli accused of illegal activity

Dispatch 11-12-88  
By NINA SHAPIRO  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A defeated mayoral candidate yesterday said he was compiling testimony of election fraud, but Hudson County Board of Election officials called the alleged misbehavior routine and said complaints should have been made Tuesday.

City Councilman Joseph Della Fave, narrowly defeated by incumbent Mayor Patrick Pasculli on Tuesday, said he and his supporters were interviewing voters and poll workers who had witnessed illegal activity. The interviews, which may include taking affidavits or sworn testimony, should be completed by Monday, he said.

Della Fave said he had not yet decided what to do with the testimony. He said he probably will not call for a recount or a new election.

"We are not looking to overturn the election at this point," he said.

Della Fave charged that Pasculli campaigners unlawfully distributed literature too close to polling places. He stopped short of saying Pasculli supporters physically threatened voters but said they may have been otherwise intimidated.

"I don't think that voters necessarily felt free and secure in polling places," he said.

He said fraud was most pronounced in the fourth ward, which went to Pasculli by a wide margin of votes.

Pasculli could not be reached for comment.

The Board of Elections will investigate all complaints, said Joseph L. Ciano, chief of staff, but they would have been far more effective if made during the election.

Ciano said the complaints so far described by Della Fave are not unusual. "These are complaints that you get everywhere, everytime, for every election," he said.

## Journal report reunites 'Bambi', happy owner

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

The story of 'Bambi', the Chihuahua with the broken leg that Hoboken City Hall employees rescued from the streets and raised money for to pay veterinary expenses has ended on a happy.

Maria Corcoran, who works in the payroll department, said yesterday that the dog's owner has been located after The Jersey Journal ran a photograph and story about the abandoned pooch.

Nelson Melendez, of 608 Grove St., Jersey City, said yesterday that he learned about Bambi, who was given that name by Corcoran, from a friend who had read about the dog in the newspaper.

Melendez said the dog, who is nine months old, was stolen from his back yard along with a Doberman puppy about three months ago.

"My friend called me when he read the story in the newspaper," Melendez said. He went to the Hoboken Animal Clinic, located on Washington St., to see whether the dog was his.

"She was so happy to see me," Melendez said, adding that her real name is "Sandy," and that she weighs about five pounds.

He said he still does not know the whereabouts of his other puppy, whose name is Natika. That dog is about six months old, black, and weighs about 30 pounds, he said.

Corcoran and co-worker Skip Scarpulla, who actually found the dog near the railroad tracks at the Hoboken and Jer-

sey City lines, yesterday expressed their gratitude to all the people who contributed to the cost of surgery for the Chihuahua.

Corcoran said that more than \$400 was raised to help pay for the medical costs. "Everyone was so generous and we really want to thank them," she said.

Corcoran said she is quite sure that the dog is Melendez's. "She was elated to see him," Corcoran said.

Melendez also expressed his gratitude for the generosity shown by contributors. He said that he had to pay about \$120 on the remaining bill.

"I am very happy and grateful," Melendez said, adding "I was depressed when I lost her."

## Schools, waterfront on Pasculli agenda

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, after winning by 400 votes in Tuesday's election, said yesterday he will place waterfront development and a long-term plan to reduce school spending at the top of his administrative agenda.

"I must represent all the people and my door will remain open to all constituents and members of the council whether they are politically supportive or not," Pasculli said.

"It is extremely important that we put personal differences aside so we can put the public in front of us," said Pasculli, who began his day yesterday by visiting the grave of his father, Nicholas.

"My father was the one person who encouraged me the most to get involved with public service. I just wanted to thank him," Pasculli said.

**Della Fave won't obstruct**

Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who received 7,022 votes to Pasculli's 7,431 votes, said yesterday he would not obstruct Pasculli's efforts to advance his administrative goals.

"I think I will do what I have always done, work hard on the issues and work with people on the issues. Pasculli is not my type of person to have a cup of coffee with, but we have a lot of work to do and we have to work together," Della Fave said.

Della Fave said he plans to get out to the streets, the wards and to the PATH to thank sup-

porters and his campaign workers.

Pasculli, recognizing that he won the six-month term by 46 percent of the vote, said he will offer an olive branch to the City Council and will personally invite all members to his swearing in. The date has not been set.

**Ranieri taking vacation**

City Council President Robert Ranieri, who took a beating in Tuesday's election winning only 1,196 votes, said he will take a vacation with his wife, Elena, and would continue his work on the council.

Ranieri noted that 7,000 voters preferred Della Fave over Pasculli and that those numbers meant Pasculli would have to listen to the Della Fave faction of the City Council. This includes Councilwoman Helen Cunningham and First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman. Pasculli "did not win a lien-free title," Ranieri said.

While Councilman-elect Richard DelBoccio as well as Councilmen Norman Wilson, Edwin Duroy and David Roberts are solidly behind the mayor, Ranieri said that Pasculli will have to get his support and that of Councilman Steve Cappiello to be successful during the next six months.

**Cappiello 'kingmaker'**

"I see Steve as the kingmaker, his vote vacillating back and forth," Ranieri said.

Cappiello, who served as mayor 12 years until his defeat three years ago to Thomas Vez-

See PASCULLI — Page 22.

## Schools, waterfront on Pasculli agenda

Continued from Page 1

zetti, who died in March, said yesterday he will be involved in the May race, but declined to elaborate.

Cappiello said the neck-to-neck race between Pasculli and Della Fave in every ward except the Fourth "shows some indecisiveness about the future."

Della Fave and Ranieri both said that Pasculli won the Fourth Ward by buying votes, a charge Pasculli dismissed as ludicrous. Pasculli attributed his success there to the fact that he, DelBoccio and Duroy, all educators in the public school system and familiar names with many of the Hispanics going to the polls, worked hard going door to door.

Ranieri disagreed. "They

had the management to use the money. The votes were bought wholesale because you are dealing with poor people who have been disenfranchised and would not be influenced by the outcome of the election."

Della Fave said that he did well in every district except those with high concentrations of public housing projects.

In the Fourth Ward, he said, "money was being passed. Some said they would work for me if they were offered more money. It is such a tradition of the machine coming around with money on Election Day. And there is little belief there that politicians can make a difference to their lives," Della Fave said.

In hindsight, Pasculli said three factors hurt him at the polls. He was hindered by the

limited hours he had to campaign because he continued to teach full-time and run the mayor's office, he said.

And, he said, he was appointed mayor in March at a time when the council was politically divided and at the time when the city completed its revaluation, with taxes for small homeowners skyrocketing.

"I knew this was going to be a close election with all the disadvantages and obstacles I had to overcome, including remaining as a school teacher while functioning in the mayor's office. It eventually became a major issue. However, I overcame it," Pasculli said, adding that he will take immediate steps to obtain a leave of absence from his teaching job.

In addition to the development of the waterfront and re-

ducing school spending, Pasculli said that he would be studying the performances of department directors to insure that "the directors are not only performing but are accountable for the day-to-day delivery of basic services."

"There may be a realignment or replacement of one or more directors," he said.

And Pasculli said he still wants to invite Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale to conduct a study of the Police Department and make plans to improve the physical condition of police headquarters.

"We are going to make sure that homeowners, oldtimers and newcomers, will not have future tax increases based on poor management. That will be a thing of the past," Pasculli said.



# Hoboken Observer

## The election at a glance

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken voters tomorrow will choose one of four candidates vying for the mayorality and one of five candidates competing for an at-large council seat.

The special election was necessitated by the death of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti last spring. The winners will serve only until May, when there will be a regular election to fill the complete four-year terms of mayor and three at-large council seats.

### MAYORAL CANDIDATES



Joseph Della Fave

Della Fave, 37, a private school teacher, lives at 1111 Washington St. He was appointed to the Second Ward seat on the City Council in July 1985 to fill the unexpired term of Thomas Vezzetti, who vacated his council seat after being elected mayor.

A friend and political ally of Vezzetti, Della Fave was elected to the ward seat three months later in a special election and was re-elected in 1987 to a four-year term. He is running on the slogan "Honesty, Leadership and Trust."



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Ranieri, 59, a retired businessman, lives at 228 Hudson St. He was first elected to the City Council in 1973 on then-Mayor Steve Cappiello's ticket and has held an at-large seat since that time.

Ranieri served two years in the state Assembly as a Democrat representing the 33rd district. He was elected City Council president in March after Pasculli was appointed mayor and is running on the slogan "Qualified."

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## Ex-principal sues Hoboken board

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

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"I hope she wins her case," said school trustee James Farina yesterday. He voted against her dismissal.

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"Specifically, the plaintiff complains that defendants have engaged in a practice of employment discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin which include said actions were racially motivated," the suit reads.

Joseph Rafter, board chairman, could not be reached for comment yesterday but the chairman has stood by the board's decision concerning Falco.

Rafter has said that Falco and two other principals had served one year in Hoboken. However, he said, the other two principals had more than 20 years experience in the local school system.

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But Farina said he was against letting Falco go because she was the only black principal in the school system, which has a high percentage of

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11-9-88  
CHRISTOPHER AVE.



Joseph Lisa, right, congratulates Patrick Pasculli upon his election as Hoboken mayor, at campaign headquarters on Sixth Street last night.

Del Boccio also triumphs

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By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

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"Tonight, I finally feel like a mayor," Pasculli screamed to about 500 followers packed in front of his mother's house on Sixth Street.

The other two mayoral candidates trailed far behind the front-runners. City Council President Robert A. Ranieri finished a distant third with 1,196 votes, and schoolteacher Robert King gar-

Please see HOBOKEN Page 34

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See PHONY — Page 15.

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Turnout was about 16,000 voters, considered heavy for a local election.

Pasculli will serve until a special election in May. The election was called in March after the death of Vezzetti.

The hard-fought mayor's race was viewed as a close contest between Pasculli and Della Fave right from the start. Ranieri, a veteran councilman who served a single term in the Assembly, never really built the kind of support necessary to be a contender. King, who teaches at a public high school in Manhattan,

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# Hoboken Observer

## The election at a glance

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken voters tomorrow will choose one of four candidates vying for the mayorality and one of five candidates competing for an at-large council seat.

The special election was necessitated by the death of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti last spring. The winners will serve only until May, when there will be a regular election to fill the complete four-year terms of mayor and three at-large council seats.



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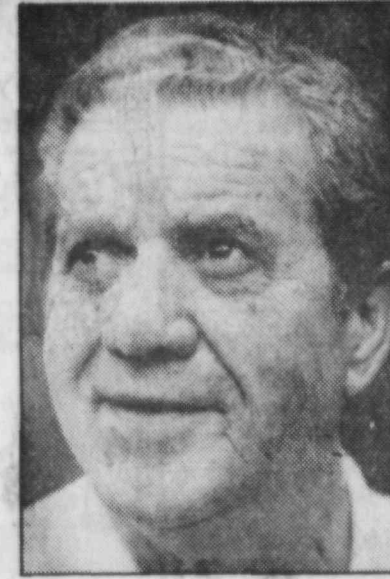
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By J. J. 11-9-88  
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J.J. 11-11-88

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# Hoboken elects Pasculli mayor

Continued from Page 1  
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sults of the first three districts. "It is a heartfelt contest between Della Fave and Pasculli.

## Hoboken elects Pasculli mayor

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who was appointed mayor by the City Council after the death of Mayor Thomas Vezetti, won a six-month term yesterday by a narrow margin in a four-way race.

Pasculli received 7,431 votes, followed closely by Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave with 7,022. City Council President Robert Ranieri received 1,196 votes and independent candidate Robert King garnered 297 votes.

Pasculli's running mate, Richard Del Boccio, a Hoboken school principal, won the one available at-large City Council seat by a landslide with 6,281 votes. He trounced Councilman Frank Raia, who was appointed in March to fill Pasculli's vacancy. Raia received 3,981 votes.

"We now have four solid councilmen and we're going to make this city move forward, with or without the rest of them," a victory-charged Pasculli shouted to his campaign celebrants last night at his Sixth Street campaign headquarters.

"We are going to begin to bring sense to this community," Pasculli will be sworn in after the election is certified by the county.

City Clerk James Farina

said that may not be until next Monday.

Although he does not believe the election outcome will change, Della Fave said he would for ask for a recount today to get some results clarified. He said there were problems throughout the city yesterday with voting machines breaking.

"I feel really good. We waged a spirited and positive campaign. We focused on the issues and the performance of the candidates. We had great people working for us from registration right up to Election Day," Della Fave said.

"In five out of the six wards in the city, there was a mandate for good, honest government. Where people voted on issues, we were the winners. Where issues didn't matter, we lost big."

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, who was Della Fave's campaign manager, said, "I can't wait for May. I don't roll over." Cunningham said she expected to run with Della Fave again in the next election.

Ranieri, who was first elected to the City Council in 1973 on Mayor Steve Cappelletto's ticket, lost big yesterday. Ranieri came to the City Clerk's office shortly after 8 p.m. when election returns

See HOBOKEN — Page 6.

## Hudson Results for Congress

### 14th District

	Therom- ing	Guerini	White	Golbo	Jones	Rummel
Jersey City +	12,385	38,781	440	135	889	188
Bayonne +	5,994	19,706	112	48	45	38
Hoboken	3,105	8,864	129	19	140	195
North Bergen	6,538	9,891	77	66	100	34
Union City	6,218	6,717	52	22	32	19
West New York +	4,245	4,579	32	7	9	14
Weehawken	1,676	2,317	22	11	15	20
Guttenberg	897	4,266	12	6	9	3
Kearny	1,916	3,540	32	12	9	15
Harrison	829	2,530	21	2	3	7
Totals	43,803	101,191	929	328	1,251	533

### 9th District

	Lane	Tomicelli	Kemly
Kearny	2,081	2,786	25
Secaucus	2,039	4,078	37
East Newark	148	352	3
Totals	4,268	7,216	65

## Hudson County Clerk

	Cleno	Rodgen	Delomo	Shaw
Jersey City +	13,760	39,801	637	388
Bayonne +	8,019	14,994	160	131
Hoboken	3,792	8,054	217	66
North Bergen	6,871	9,087	85	368
Union City	6,571	6,192	66	61
West New York +	4,574	4,220	37	31
Secaucus	2,451	3,536	61	58
Weehawken	1,772	4,075	31	25
Guttenberg	974	1,492	5	8
Kearny	4,172	6,367	59	50
Harrison	1,515	2,634	7	10
East Newark	165	385	1	1
Totals	54,636	100,836	1,366	1,197

+ denotes incomplete results

## Hudson Results for U.S. Senate

	Dewins	Lanenberg
Jersey City	15,813	37,969
Bayonne	8,460	18,268
Hoboken	4,582	9,245
N. Bergen	7,583	9,656
Union City	6,807	6,559
W. New York	4,815	4,462
Secaucus	2,926	3,909
Weehawken	1,889	2,346
Guttenberg	999	1,650
Kearny	5,211	6,213
Harrison	1,234	2,519
E. Newark	228	360
Totals	60,547	103,156

\*denotes incumbent

## VETERAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the war in his memories of the horrors he saw.

Nothing, he said, not even the glory of D-Day or the liberation of Paris, meant as much to him as the haunting faces of the concentration camp victims he saw as his unit pushed farther into Germany.

"It really made you wonder why you were the one to survive," Garrett said, recalling how victims rushed up to touch the American soldiers as they entered the death camps.

"They acted like we were the Messiah or something. It was just incredible, and horrible," he said. It was an experience that left Garrett convinced that nothing like the Nazi atrocities should happen again.

"I see these skinheads," he said, referring to a group of white supremacists that has gotten much recent publicity. "I remember those faces in the concentration camps, and some of Jewish buddies in the war who fought and died and these young thugs make me angry."

Garrett said his battle continued long after the war, as it did

for many veterans. It took him more than 20 years to convince the Veterans Administration to grant him his full benefits, he said.

Garrett was one of many veterans honored by the city Board of Commissioners in yesterday's ceremonies. In addition, more than two dozen local police officers were cited for meritorious service by the city and the Hispanic Law Enforcement Society of Hudson County.



Journal photo by John Gaskado

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, center, and his running mate Councilman Richard Del Boccio raise their arms in triumph after winning their races. Councilman David Roberts, left, congratulates them.

## A day for the vets

# Garrett's tale of horror



Walter W. Garrett of Union City displays the certificate for meritorious service he received from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower during World War II, yesterday at city ceremonies honoring veterans.

DON SMITH THE HUDSON DISPATCH

Dispatch 11-14-88  
By MICHAEL MARKOWITZ

The Hudson Dispatch

UNION CITY—When 25,000 American troops landed on the beach at Normandy on June 6, 1944 — D-Day — Staff Sgt. Walter W. Garrett, then of Hoboken was among those in the invasion's first wave.

From the initial landing at Omaha Beach to the capture of St. Lo 45 days later, Garrett was part of an onslaught that was the Allies' decisive push, eventually striking into the heart of Germany and toppling Hitler's Third Reich.

Thousands of Garrett's fellow soldiers were killed or wounded on Omaha Beach in some of the fiercest fighting of World War II.

As millions of people today honor this country's war veterans, Garrett, now 76 and living in Union City, still remembers his comrades in the 29th Infantry Division, and says he is lucky to be here.

"I thank God I'm standing here today," Garrett said following a City Hall ceremony yesterday honoring local veterans on the eve of the national holiday.

Garrett carries his wartime experiences with him to this day, proudly displaying citations from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as well as a card signed by Maj. Gen. C. H. Gerhardt, certifying that Garrett served with the signal corps of the "Blue and Grey" 29th.

Besides the citations and letters, however, Garrett said he carries more personal reminders

Please see VETERAN Page 6

# Pasculli mayor in his own right

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Mayor Patrick Pasculli and his running mate, Councilman Richard Del Boccio, were sworn to six-month terms of office last night amid the loud applause of well-wishers and elected officials who packed the City Council chambers.

Pasculli and Del Boccio were the victors in last Tuesday's election. Pasculli had been appointed by the council in May to succeed the late Mayor Thomas Vezetti. Del Boccio was elected to the at-large seat left vacant by Pasculli when he

was elevated to mayor. Running on the slogan, A New Beginning, the two will have to run again in May to capture a full four-year term.

After the ceremony, Pasculli made a brief speech, promising to tackle the problem of expanding the tax base, establish a long-range plan to reduce school spending and improve basic city services, particularly mentioning greater police presence and cleaner streets.

"The next six months are most crucial. We have to work together to develop the water-

front, bring in affordable housing, expand the tax base and work on school spending," Pasculli said.

"We will reach out to all of Hoboken, the oldtimers, minorities and newcomers," Pasculli said.

Attending the 5:30 ceremony were Councilmen Steve Cappelletto, who stayed out of the campaign, and Edwin Duroy, David Roberts and E. Norman Wilson, who all worked for Pasculli.

State Assemblymen Ber-

See PASCULLI — Page 10.

# Hoboken bar to learn fate on possession of cocaine

By James Elfstathion

An administrative law judge is expected to rule this week on the fate of a Hoboken bar where an employee was charged with possession of cocaine.

Gus Santorella, a manager at the Good N Plenti bar on the corner of First and Washington streets, was charged with possession of cocaine in January by the New Jersey State Police Alcohol Beverage Control Enforcement Bureau. Santorella is currently awaiting trial.

The bureau was initially called in to investigate a possible hidden ownership in the bar approximately one year ago. That probe led to the drug charge against Santorella, according to Michael Tarantino, senior inspector in the bureau. Santorella's son, Charles Santorella, holds a 100 percent controlling interest in D.G.D. Enterprises Incorporated, the corporate name of the bar.

"It was one line of cocaine. They said it was four grams," said owner Santorella. "That's completely wrong." Joseph

Rygliecki, representing D.G.D. Enterprises, could not be reached for comment.

A report of the investigation was sent to the state Attorney General's Office, which eventually compiled a list of charges against the bar licensee. Those charges were served on March 11 by Pascale Galliano, deputy director of prosecution for the ABC.

In the meantime, a settlement was negotiated between an attorney representing the tavern and Deputy Attorney General Barbara Foglietta. Judge Ralph J. Tollmeo is expected to approve the consent order which could include penalties stemming from the drug charge, Foglietta said.

"What we worked out was the type of penalty the ABC had in mind for this type of infraction," said Foglietta, who added that penalties could range from monetary fines to revocation of the bar's liquor license. "This is a very routine type of procedure in settling a case. This is the way it always works."

The tavern was in the news

as recently as last Friday when a pair of teens were arrested in the bar and charged with drinking under the legal age of 21. Anthony L. Cospito, son of North Bergen Department of Public Works Commissioner Anthony Cospito and a DPW employee, and John M. Stal-knecht, son of North Bergen Board of Adjustment Chairman John Stalknecht, were arrested following a fight in the bar, according to police reports. The two are 19 years old.

"We card everybody at the door," said Santorella. "This kid was like a big, beefy-looking guy and he got by."

Detective Raul Torres of the Hoboken Anti-Vice Squad said he plans to send a formal complaint concerning Friday's arrests to the Hoboken Law Department.

Along with the cocaine count, the bar is charged with hindering its investigation, failure to keep proper financial records, failure to have a complete employee list, and failure of the owner to notify the ABC of a change in address and employing a minor.

# Pasculli mayor in his own right



Journal photo by John Gaskado

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli addresses well-wishers at his inaugural last night.

Continued from Page 1

hard Kenny, D-Hoboken, and Robert Menendez, D-Union City, also attended as did municipal directors, city employees, friends, family and political supporters.

Some of Pasculli's eighth-grade students at the Wallace School attended. They told The Jersey Journal that Pasculli was a good teacher and a good mayor.

"He's the best," commented student Mariela Rodriguez. JoMarie Negron, a student of the mayor, said the mayor "kept very calm, he didn't get upset" during the hard-fought contest.

Noticeably absent were Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who lost the mayoralty to Pasculli by 400 votes, City Council President

Robert Ranieri, a defeated mayoral candidate, and Councilwoman Helen Canning and Thomas Newman, who both worked for Della Fave.

Pasculli commended Cappelletto for attending the ceremony and the mayor added that he had invited all council members.

"My doors are open," Pasculli said.

He also commended the work of Law Director Eugene O'Connell, Community Development Director Peggy Thomas, Business Administrator Ed Chius, Public Works Director Roy Haack and Finance Director Nicholas Goldsack.

"With this administration, we will create a first-class community, one that will be a shining light in New Jersey," Pasculli said.



## THE DAY AFTER



Mildred Strangeman prepares to remove campaign signs yesterday from City Councilman Robert A. Ranieri's election headquarters on Washington Street in Hoboken. Ranieri lost his mayoral bid Tuesday.

## Pasculli's new course

### Mayor gets 6-month lease, may remove aides

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Fresh from a hard-fought victory in a race for a six-month mayoral term, Mayor Patrick Pasculli yesterday said he would "re-evalu-

ate" three city departments, and would consider removing the heads of two of them. Pasculli, who beat Councilman Joseph Della Fave and two other candidates in Tuesday's elec-

Please see HOBOKEN Page 8

## HOBOKEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion, also declared that the victory was a public affirmation of his policy positions. Pasculli was selected mayor soon after Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti died on March 2, to serve until Tuesday's election.

"I think it's a clear indication, that my administration is working very hard to address the problems of an old urban community," Pasculli said. "I think the public is satisfied with the course that we've set."

ANOTHER ELECTION in May will choose a mayor for the regular four-year term. Pasculli is seen as having the early lead in that race.

Pasculli said the Department of Public Works, the Office of the Business Administrator and the Police Department all will come under scrutiny in the next month. Pasculli said he would consider removing DPW Director Roy Haack and veteran Business Administrator Edwin J. Chiusi if the evaluations warrant doing so.

"Right now, we're going to assess the performance of the different departments," Pasculli said. "I am going to be evaluating the results, and I may be asking the council for a replacement or two."

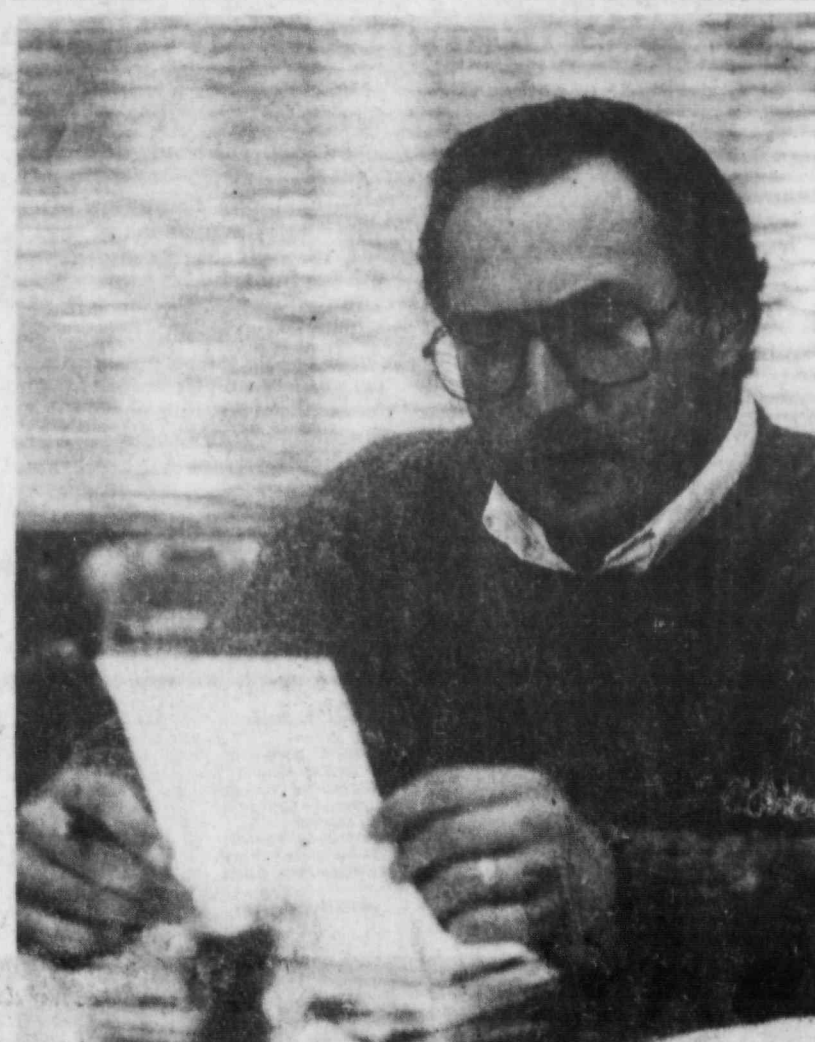
Pasculli said he wants "more productivity" from public works employees, and said Finance Director Nicholas Goldsack, a strong Pasculli supporter in the election, may get an expanded role in a reorganization.

Chiusi has been business administrator since the administrations of Steve Cappiello in the 1970s. Haack, who was promoted to DPW director under Vezetti, is a veteran public works employee.

Any changes Pasculli wants to make in department heads must be approved by the City Council.

Pasculli also repeated calls for a study aimed at reforming the Police Department. While Pasculli does not have the power to remove Chief George W. Crimmins Sr., he has asked Hudson County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale to become public safety director here and create and implement a reorganization plan.

DePascale recently completed such a plan to reform Jersey City's Police Department. That



Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, elected to a six-month term Tuesday, wastes no time in tackling some paperwork yesterday in his office at City Hall.

DON MCCOY THE HUDSON DISPATCH

plan eliminates some ranks, provides for greater police presence on the streets and attempts to increase accountability within the ranks.

Sources close to DePascale said he will begin the study by January.

### OTHER INITIATIVES

Pasculli said he will pursue include completing initial work on a waterfront development plan that reportedly will guarantee millions of dollars of additional tax revenue, reducing the tax rate by increasing state funding and stimulating development; and creating a five-year plan to cut the Board of Education's budget.

Meanwhile, Della Fave, who lost on the strength of a huge

imbalance in voting in the city's mostly Hispanic 4th Ward, denied Pasculli has a mandate. Della Fave pointed out that he won more votes in the city's other five wards.

"In five-sixths of the city, we won by 500 votes," Della Fave said. "I feel we won the campaign — and virtually won the city — but we lost the election."

Della Fave attributed the results in the 4th Ward, where he lost to Pasculli 1,284-518, to the large number of workers the Pasculli campaign hired to get out the vote there.

Pasculli attributed the win there to "hard work" by himself and his running mate for an at-large council seat, Richard Del Boccio, who won convincingly.

## FAITH Services

## Victims of AIDS helped

### Volunteers attend training seminars

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Nicholas, a Union City man who has tested positive for the virus that can lead to AIDS, was trying to explain how he felt about being a prime candidate for contracting the fatal disease.

"I don't feel prejudiced against or anything, but I tell people, hey, my clock is ticking," he said. "I'm looking at death."

Nicholas — not his real name — was one of about a dozen people with acquired immune deficiency syndrome or AIDS-related diseases who attended training seminars given the past two Saturdays to tell people how they can help AIDS victims. The four-hour seminars, run by FAITH Services at St. Mary Hospital here, were intended to bring about 60 volunteers into the only Hudson County-based program providing emotional and physical support to AIDS patients.

The volunteers — including a state assemblyman, several city officials and private citizens from Hudson, Bergen and other counties — listened as doctors, health care workers and AIDS sufferers listed the most important benefits those who work with AIDS patients can bring.

The points the panelists stressed include:

- Set up a regular schedule to visit the patient — and stick to it.
- You might be the only person who is visiting the person in the hospital," said Juan Perez, a family services doctor at St. Mary.
- Simply be supportive — that's all I can tell you."

Vinny, an AIDS sufferer from Weehawken who spent 45 days in the hospital fighting an AIDS-related infection, said the most important thing for volunteers to



Volunteer coordinator Jean Forest speaks at St. Mary Hospital's FAITH Services program seminar Saturday.

JOE SHINE THE HUDSON DISPATCH

do is be there. "The help a volunteer can give us, in general, is love, affection, someone to talk to, someone to listen," Vinny said.

■ Have a positive attitude. Doctors said helping the patient deal with his disease in a positive way can add months to his life.

even family members can cause trouble for AIDS victims.

"Many in society are very prejudiced, they're ignorant and discriminatory," Reinke said. He recommended asking the patient before divulging anything about his condition.

**"The help a volunteer can give us, in general, is love, affection, someone to talk to, someone to listen."**

DISPATCH 11-14-88

VINNY

"I truly believe people died six months before they had to because their family abandoned them," said Dr. Stephen Manocchio, also of St. Mary Hospital. "I believe you can add to an AIDS patient's life."

Dr. Spartaco Bellomo, another physician at the hospital, agreed. "The person who has a positive outlook on life does better."

That outlook can include a healthy diet plan, an exercise program and a full social calendar.

■ Think twice before releasing any information about the patient. Bob Reinke, a Franciscan brother who heads FAITH Services, reminded the volunteers that work associates, friends and

The FAITH Services program, launched this spring by Reinke and a staff of one, has grown to oversee the 60 volunteers. Many of the volunteers are scheduled to be assigned an AIDS patient to visit, and the Reinke plans to reach many more than the 20 patients the program now reaches.

The attitude the program's workers try to foster among patients was summed up by Nicholas, who spoke to the group about his outlook.

As volunteers sat silently, some wiping away tears, Nicholas said: "If I have three years, fine. If I have five years, fine. Nobody here is immortal. Neither am I. If I have three weeks, I want a good three weeks."

## Hoboken cops probed in drug sales

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

DISPATCH 11-15-88

A Hoboken anti-vice squad captain is investigating allegations that a drug dealer sold cocaine to Hoboken police officers, police sources said yesterday.

Police Chief George Crimmins and Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale refused comment yesterday.

But Crimmins did confirm that he was called into police headquarters late Friday night and remained there until about 3 a.m. Saturday morning. Crimmins said that a representative from the prosecutor's office was also present.

And Crimmins said that Captain John Ferrante was conducting an investigation into the arrest of Robert Ivers,

27, of 604 Willow Ave. Ivers was arrested around midnight Friday and charged with possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, according to police records.

Crimmins said the arrest was made on 10th Street between Washington and Hudson streets. Also arrested with Ivers was Mary E. Salmon, 40, of 2 Marineview Plaza.

"I cannot comment at all," Crimmins said concerning the investigation. But department sources said that names of police officers buying cocaine were mentioned in connection with Ivers' arrest.

DePascale also refused to comment. But sources in his office said that the prosecutor's office was conducting a similar investigation.

## Fourth Ward voting called irregular

By James Efstathiou

DISPATCH 11-10-88

Voting procedures in Hoboken's Fourth Ward were "routinely disregarded" in Tuesday's election, according to a county deputy election commissioner assigned to monitor the vote.

While problems prevailed throughout the city, conditions were worst at 221 Jackson St. where the Second and Third districts in the Fourth Ward were polled, according to David White, a county-appointed election deputy. The districts are primarily made up of moderate- and low-income tenants of the Hoboken Housing Authority's public projects.

In the local mayoral election, Patrick Pasculli defeated Councilman Joseph Della Fave by 409 votes citywide, including absentee ballots. His margin of victory was significantly higher in the Fourth Ward, however, where Pasculli outpolled Della Fave 1,284-518.

Della Fave said yesterday that he was not considering challenging the results but that he would continue to investigate complaints of wrongdoing. "We're not interested in overturning the results as much as ensuring a fair election," Della Fave said. "There were polling places that did not have a free and secure atmosphere about them."

Problems at 221 Jackson St. included electioneering by campaign workers both in and out of the polling place, voting tickets which were distributed out of sequence and a disregard for procedures for challenging a voter's eligibility. White said. After numerous complaints concerning procedures at 221 Jackson, county Superintendent of Elections Harvey Birne eventually stationed White at the poll from 5 p.m. to the close of the election.

"A number of deputies had responded to calls throughout the day," said White. "There are a number of specific instances of questionable at best voting and the re is an overall

atmosphere of confusion and neglect that could call the results into question."

Pasculli, who will fill the remainder of the unexpired term of the late Thomas Vezetti, attributed his strong showing in the ward to hard work and positive name recognition. His running mate, Councilman Richard Del Boccio, was also victorious in the ward and citywide in his bid for council-at-large.

"Richard Del Boccio, Councilman Duroy and I spent a great deal of time in that ward," Pasculli said. "Many of the parents know us because of

See FOURTH WARD — Page 22.

## Fourth Ward voting called irregular

Continued from Page 1

our involvement in the school system and we have name recognition."

In other polling places throughout the city, problems arose primarily from malfunctioning voting machines and an inordinate number of voter challenges. Voting was held up in at least four polls around the city as a result of faulty machines or confusion on the part of election workers.

At Rue School where residents of Ward One, District Three cast their ballots, voting was delayed some 40 minutes when the seal on a voting machine was found broken. Counters in the machines are set to zero and sealed prior to voting. At the Ward Five, District Four poll in Brandt School, balloting was repeatedly interrupted when the button on the Republican presidential candidate became jammed in an open position.

At Wallace School, a voting machine was delivered with keys to another machine while at the Elks Club, a machine

broke down shortly before polls closed with voters on line to enter the booth.

"I would say it was a normal presidential election with the normal complaints," said City Clerk James Farina. "The more people that come out to vote, the more problems you have."

The problems were anything but normal, however, at 221 Jackson St. where, according to White, proper procedures were ignored even after he counseled election officers. Of the 11 Democratic and Republican election officers assigned to work the poll, only one, Josephine Romano, had a published phone number. She refused to comment on polling procedures, however.

White said he repeatedly advised people wearing candidate's challenger badges against electioneering only to see the same problem when he returned. Campaigning within 100 feet of a polling place is against state law, White said. The placement of polling booths for two districts in one

relatively small room made it difficult if not impossible to monitor procedures, he said.

In addition to electioneering, officials failed to follow proper procedures concerning voter challenges. White charged. If a voter is challenged at the poll, board workers are supposed to question the voter and vote themselves on the individual's eligibility. If the board sustains the challenge, the voter must go to the County Bureau of Elections to prove he is eligible.

But at 221 Jackson St., challenges were often simply ignored, according to White.

"It was just sort of chaos," White said. "It was not being enforced and even when it was enforced, board workers were unfamiliar with procedures."

In some cases, individuals challenged were allowed to vote with the help of documentation provided on the spot by Mary Francone, a Pasculli campaign challenger and former Fourth Ward councilwoman, White said. Her husband, former councilman Louis Fran-

cone, was also present at the poll and was among the "worst offender" in terms of electioneering, White said.

"There were voters who appeared and when asked for rent receipts, were provided with rent receipts on the back of piece of paper by Mrs. Francone, who was ostensibly a challenger," White said. "There were an awful lot of voters who claim to reside in her house."

Francone confirmed that she was a Pasculli challenger but denied any wrongdoing.

"We sent for a couple of sandwiches, that's what that was," Francone said in response to the charge that she provided receipts. "We weren't guilty of doing nothing."

White blamed the county for not recruiting poll workers with proper training to enforce voting rules.

"Overall, the county really needs to get poll workers who have a little more training so that these things can be run in a more organized fashion," White said.

22h THE JERSEY JOURNAL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1988

## Hoboken Results by Wards

### MAYORALTY RACE

	Della Fave	Pasculli	Ranieri	King
1st ward	1320	1062	268	45
2nd ward	1346	1044	102	50
3rd ward	1186	1400	199	49
4th ward	518	1284	184	14
5th ward	1370	1069	214	65
6th ward	1089	1203	149	62
absentees	193	369	80	12
TOTALS	7022	7431	1196	297

### AT-LARGE COUNCIL RACE

	Rain	Del Boccio	Busch	LaBruno	Moffetti
1st ward	675	905	521	100	66
2nd ward	731	937	370	109	52
3rd ward	817	1073	359	221	106
4th ward	350	1060	168	104	52
5th ward	711	930	422	108	52
6th ward	547	1040	491	122	65
absentees	150	336	66	38	34
TOTALS	3981	6281	2399	802	427



# New toilet cuts water use

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A professor at Stevens Tech here may have a handle on the nation's clean-water problems—a toilet handle, that is.

Thomas P. Konen, who has taught engineering at Stevens for 15 years, has developed a toilet that uses about a third of the water that the standard toilet made five years ago uses. Konen and his students were the topic of a recent segment of the television program, "Innovation," shown locally on Channel 13.

The new toilet, Konen explained yesterday, uses about 1.6 gallons of water per flush—down from five gallons per flush used until the early 1980s.

"We have been very instrumental in assessing the plumbing industry in response to the need for improved efficiency of plumbing equipment," Konen said.

The technology is important, according to an analyst for a regional water agency, because it cuts down on water consumption and the demand on sewage treatment facilities.

"It's an emerging issue, both on the water-supply side and the wastewater disposal end," said Jeffrey Featherstone, analyst for the Trenton-based Delaware River Basin Commission. He called Konen a "pioneer" in the field of water-saving toilets.

The state is likely to require all new toilets use 1.6 gallons per



Thomas P. Konen, a Stevens Tech research associate professor of civil engineering, demonstrates the water-saving toilet he developed in a laboratory.

flush by 1990, Featherstone said. Current state regulations call for 3.5 gallons per flush, he said.

The innovation comes at a critical time for wastewater disposal in Hudson County, where several municipalities are under mandates from the federal government to upgrade their sewage systems.

Konen said toilet flushes make up 40 percent of all water use in

the average household today. If all homes were equipped with the new, water-saving toilets, that percentage could drop to 25 percent or lower, he said — "a remarkable achievement."

Now that he and his students have developed the technology required by industry to construct the new toilets, Konen said the next step is learning how to implement the system into existing

plumbing systems. Additionally, he and his students are studying how to figure out how many toilets should be built in new buildings and stadiums. Next week, he said, he and his students will present a paper in California showing how a computer program and a simple formula can allow even small design firms to compute toilet needs for any planned development.

Suffers concussion, cuts

## Thug smashes P.A. cop

### Angel dust blamed in Hoboken attack

By RANDI GLATZER  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A man apparently in a drug-induced rage slammed a Port Authority police officer into a PATH station wall here and split his lip as he tried to break free of the officer's grasp, police said yesterday.

The officer, Michael Horton of Fort Lee, said he will probably remain out of work for two weeks recovering from the assault, which took place early Saturday. Horton received 13 stitches, treatment for a concussion and a neck brace at St. Mary Hospital here. He is now recuperating at home.

Horton's alleged assailant, Michael Spencer, 18, of Grace Street in Jersey City, was charged with a string of offenses, including aggravated assault, disorderly conduct, escape, criminal mischief and resisting arrest.

He is in Hudson County Jail in Jersey City in lieu of \$5,000 bail, and awaits arraignment today in county Central Judicial Processing Court there.

Horton and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police gave the following account of the incident:

At about 4:35 a.m. Saturday, Horton and another officer, Elliot Houston, learned that two men were fighting on a PATH train that had just pulled into the station.

The officers broke up the fight and attempted to subdue Spencer, one of the two involved. Spencer appeared drunk and was shouting incoherently, Horton said.

Several of Horton's friends offered to escort the man to his home. But when the officers boarded the train, Spencer spotted

Please see **ATTACK** Page 4

Exemption sought

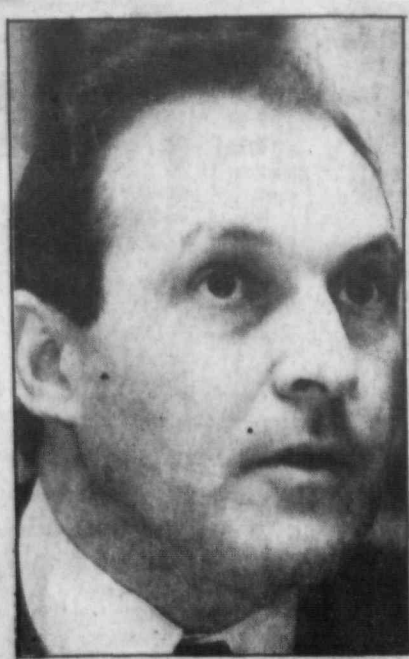
## Pasculli claims 1st victory — on eased rent rules

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Mayor Patrick Pasculli and his running mate, Councilman Richard Del Boccio, were sworn in last night, a few hours before Pasculli won the first victory of his new term: preliminary passage of a measure that weakens rent control laws.

Pasculli, who won a six-month unexpired term in last Tuesday's election while running with Del Boccio, who sought an at-large City Council seat, pledged to maintain his course of developing the city's waterfront and improving city services.

Please see **PASCULLI** Page 13



PATRICK PASCULLI  
We'll be 'shining light'

## PASCULLI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I know we are going to create a first-class community, one that is going to be a shining light in New Jersey," Pasculli said, to the sustained cheers of about 100 family members, friends and supporters crowded into the council chambers.

Pasculli later said he would ask the council to hire a "financial expert" to prepare the city budget.

The job was handled previously by city Business Administrator

Edwin J. Chius. Pasculli said Chius would remain as an "informational resource," but said the job of evaluating and preparing the budget would be completed by the new consultant.

Pasculli would not name his choice for the job, which will require council approval.

The council, meeting after the 5:30 p.m. swearing-in ceremony, passed on first reading, by a 6-3

vote, an ordinance that would allow owners of one single-family dwelling — including owners of a single condominium — to charge any rent they choose. All rental units here now are under laws that strictly limit the amount a landlord can charge.

The exemption would apply only to those who own one unit per condominium project. The ordinance also would allow landlords to pass on any property tax increase to tenants in the form of

increased rent after 30 days notice.

Currently, landlords must wait until the rent control officer approves rent increases resulting from higher taxes. Landlords have charged that the process often takes months.

The measure, sponsored by Councilman David Roberts, must pass another council vote next month to become law.

## ATTACK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ted his opponent in the fight through the train's window.

He ran to the window and kicked in the glass. Next, Horton said, Spencer's foot was caught in the broken glass, and the train door jammed.

"We couldn't open the door to get to him," Horton said, "but he couldn't get away because his foot

was stuck in the window." When Spencer at last broke free, the two officers attempted to arrest him for breaking the window.

Police realized at that time that Spencer was probably under the influence of crack, a potent form of cocaine, or angel dust.

But Horton still figured on end-

ing the incident unscathed, he said. The officers brought Spencer, who was still shouting disconnected phrases, to a PATH conductor's office.

Spencer sat in the office for several minutes, but when a PATH worker opened the office door, Spencer bounded from his seat and raced up the station

stairs.

Horton caught up with Spencer and gripped him in a bear hug from behind, he said. Spencer butted his head against Horton repeatedly, striking the officer's forehead, bloodying his lip and at last slamming him against a wall, Horton said.

When Houston reached the scene, he helped Horton subdue Spencer. An ambulance picked up Horton, and another picked up Spencer, whose face had been cut in the earlier scuffle.

Spencer was treated for facial cuts and then released from Jersey City Medical Center.

## Developers in court on asbestos

By John Petrick

Hoboken developers Anthony Dell'Aquila and Harry Grant are scheduled to appear before a federal judge today for allegedly violating court-ordered guidelines on how to remove asbestos from their construction site near the Weehawken border.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Susan Handler, the developers could be slapped with fines for civil contempt. The amount of those fines is up to U.S. District Court Judge John Bissell, who issued the

Aug. 5 order the government is accusing Grant and Dell'Aquila of violating.

The developers were demolishing structures on the property between the Maxwell House building and the Weehawken line.

Dell'Aquila previously had the buildings examined for asbestos and had a contract to clear the substance from the structures.

The developers discovered additional asbestos in one of the buildings after demolition began in the spring.

The city's Building Depart-

ment alerted the federal Environmental Protection Agency, which sent inspectors to the site.

Those inspectors found four violations of federal asbestos removal procedures. The EPA issued a compliance order on June 29, directing the developers to correct the problems.

According to EPA officials, the developers did not comply with that order. To give it some teeth, Judge Bissell ordered the developers on Aug. 5 to do what the EPA told them to do. EPA inspectors said that

following that order, more violations persisted. According to officials, EPA inspectors found pipes with fresh asbestos lying around the construction site late last month.

"This is really a rare and serious case," said Alexandra Callam, assistant regional counsel for the EPA. She said most parties cited for violations simply comply with the EPA's initial orders.

The partnership of Grant and Dell'Aquila dissolved late this summer. Both are now involved in a tangled web of litigation over the development.

## UPFRONT

### Bush link to Hoboken

It was in the fifth grade I studied American history, sitting in front of the round-bellied black coal stove in the portable classroom in the old James Moses School. It was a happy time for me.

I enjoyed reading American history, rooting for Gen. George Washington and his Continental Army to win the

## Capital clips

By Joseph Albright



Revolutionary War, reliving the famous Battle of Trenton at the Hessian Barracks which I pass on the State House grounds every day on the way to work.

Washington, Christopher Columbus and Abraham Lincoln were my favorite (non-sports) heroes. I recall how Washington left Virginia to fight in the French and Indian Wars from 1755 to 1757.

I never read about Timothy Bush.

But Bush served in the French and Indian Wars with Washington. It is only speculation but quite possibly they knew each other; it was a small contingent.

Originally from Hebron County, Conn., Bush became a captain in the Revolutionary War out of Norwich, Vt. Whether or not they met, it was appropriate they served in the most formative period in American history.

It is appropriate because Washington became America's first president — "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

And the seventh generation of American Bushes — George Herbert Walker Bush — first at least in the polls — was headed today toward election as 41st president of the United States.

Bush's family tree branched out from Connecticut to upstate New York. These roots eventually extended to New Jersey — and Hoboken and Stevens Institute of Technology.

Bush's family umbilical cord was traced for more than 200 years by Barbara Zartman, co-chairwoman of the Bush-Quayle campaign in New York.

She forwarded the material to Gov. Thomas H. Kean to provide a more personal introduction for Bush in his final New Jersey campaign swing in Hackensack Friday.

Timothy Bush was married to Deborah House, and a son also named Timothy was born in Connecticut April 2, 1766. Young Tim married Lydia Newcomb July 26, 1791, before they traveled west to Cayuga County, N.Y., in 1810 and to Penfield near Rochester in 1813.

Information about the Bush family tree blossomed with the birth of third generation, Obadiah Newcomb Bush, Jan. 28, 1797, in Rochester. Among other things, he became a land agent at 53 Exchange St., site of my former reporting job with the Democrat and Chronicle; he also became vice president of the Rochester Anti-Slavery Society, the home of Frederick Douglass; a Republican County committeeman.

James Smith Bush, eldest son of Obadiah and Harriet Smith, was born in Rochester June 15, 1826; after his first wife died, he became an Episcopal minister and in 1855 was named pastor of Grace Episcopal Church in Orange, Essex County.

Thus it was how Vice President Bush's great grandfather came to New Jersey. He married his second wife, Eleanor Eleanor Fay in New York City, Feb. 24, 1859. Samuel Prescott Bush, born to James and Harriet on Oct. 4, 1863, attended Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. He received a degree in mechanical engineering in 1884. Samuel Bush married Flora Sheldon June 29, 1884. They had two sons, Prescott Sheldon and James Smith. Prescott married Dorothy Walker Aug. 6, 1921, in Maine, and his son George Bush was elected vice president in 1980. It was appropriate that Kean should introduce Bush to New Jersey audiences. After all, Kean traced his family heritage to William Livingston, New Jersey's first governor, 1776-1790.



# Lawyer defends convicted

## Practices 'nobility of purpose'

By Jane Greenstein

Hoboken attorney Paul Casteleiro sits behind his cluttered desk and holds an unlit cigar butt between his fingers. He says he doesn't want the story to include the fact that he smokes cigars, because, after all, he only does it in the sanctity of his office.

Besides, it may give the impression that he is an old-guard, cigar-chomping attorney.

And Casteleiro insists he is not a stereotypical lawyer who worships the dollar sign, but rather someone interested in the old-fashioned concept of truth and justice.

"I want to do something righteous," says Casteleiro. "Some view law as a business. That's not my approach."

To Casteleiro, helping to free people unjustly accused of crimes is the essence of what it is to be an attorney. For the past six years, he has devoted thousands of hours to vindicate people serving life sentences for crimes he believes they did not commit.

So far, two convictions have been overturned because of his work.

### Interesting work

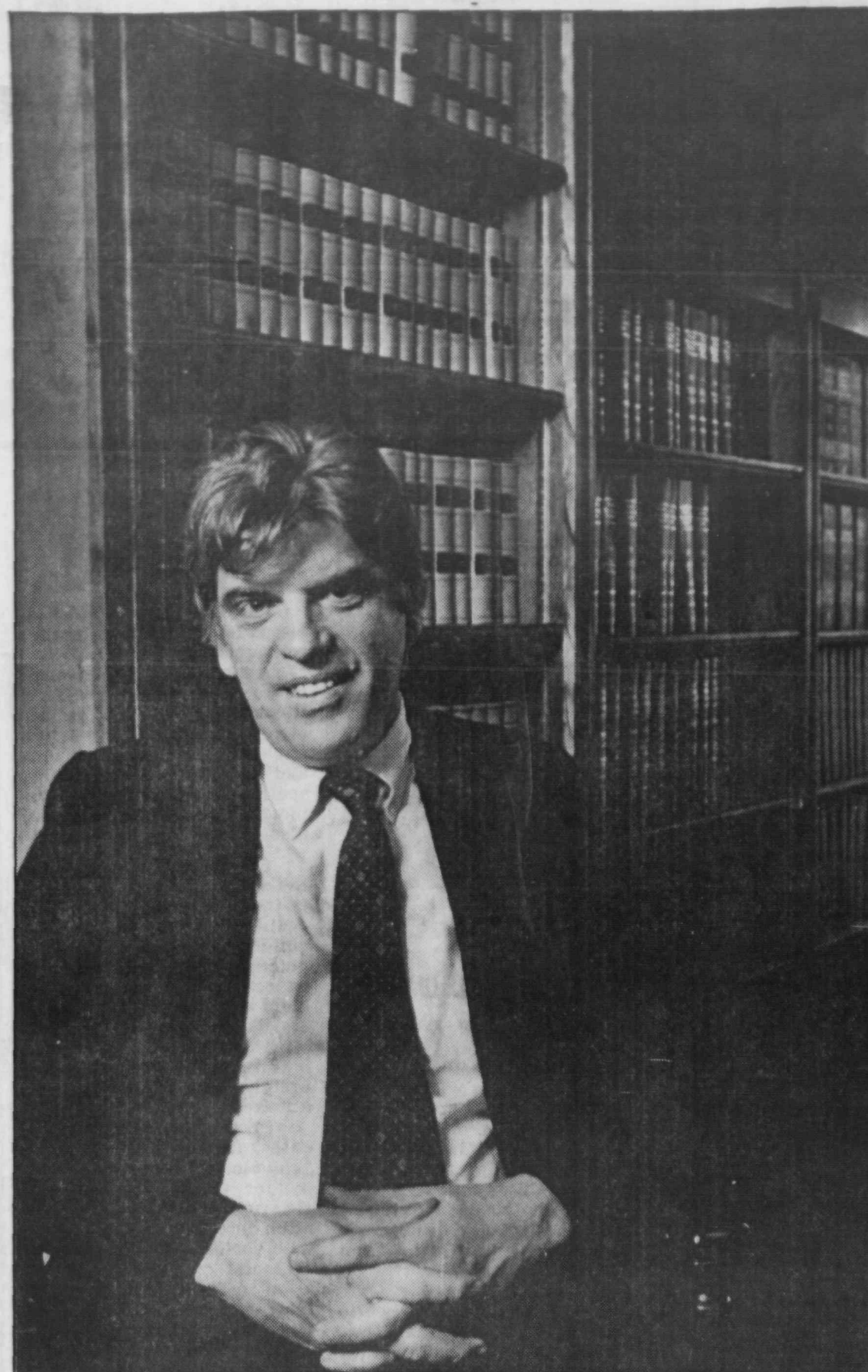
When the interview was held, the red-haired, blue-eyed Casteleiro, 43, had recently moved into his third-floor office on Hudson Street. His files were on the floor with a poster of a Picasso print had yet to be hung. The office furniture consists of two couches spotted with dirt (a necktie thrown on one of them) and a long desk littered with books and papers.

Casteleiro nervously taps his foot and stretches his arms behind his head.

"The cases are incredibly interesting," he says. "I always viewed a lawyer as somebody who defends somebody who is wrongfully accused. Maybe I have a naive view of what a lawyer is."

He is currently working with former prison chaplain James McCloskey, of Princeton, to overturn the conviction of Damaso Vega, who is serving a life sentence at Trenton State Prison for the murder of a 16-year-old girl.

Casteleiro has worked twice before with McCloskey and Centurion Ministries — a non-profit organization which seeks justice for the innocent in prison — to successfully overturn convictions. McClos-



Paul Casteleiro at his Hoboken office.

key does the footwork — finding and interviewing witnesses — and Casteleiro is responsible for the detailed and time-consuming legal work.

He does the work for a nominal fee — from \$5,000 to \$10,000 — a token, McCloskey says, for the thousands of hours Casteleiro spends putting the cases together.

### Wrongfully accused

Casteleiro and McCloskey contend that Vega did not murder Maria Rodriguez, who was strangled with a webbed belt at a Long Branch apartment she shared with a boyfriend.

A petition has been filed in Monmouth County court to grant Vega a new trial based on new evidence, including a witness who says another man committed the murder. Monmouth County Prosecutor John Kaye says he is opposing a new trial because he has proof that this second man was not in the state at the time. A decision on a new trial is expected Friday, Kaye said.

In 1986, Casteleiro and McCloskey worked to free Nathaniel Walker, who was convicted of kidnapping, raping and sodomizing a young woman in the parking lot of a Newark housing project. A laboratory test revealed that a 12-year-old sperm sample from

the rapist was different than that of Walker's, and Walker was freed. He now works as a house painter in Linden.

"He's a beautiful person," Walker said of Casteleiro. "You won't find too many lawyers like him. If I hadn't met him I'd still be in jail. He did research work that other lawyers would have never thought about doing."

Casteleiro and McCloskey also worked together to overturn the murder conviction of George De Los Santos of Newark, who was serving a life sentence for the 1975 killing of the owner of a used-car lot in Newark. He has since been convicted of committing an unrelated robbery.

**'I don't know why I do it, I haven't explored it. It's what makes me a lawyer. It fits in with what my concept of being a lawyer is.'**

What is Casteleiro's motivation to work on these complicated cases?

"It's gratifying," he says. "I get off on it, obviously. I could say I'm interested in justice, but to say that sounds self-serving."

"I don't know why I do it, I haven't explored it. It's what makes me a lawyer. It fits in with what my concept of being a lawyer is."

### Attorney's dream

"The cases he works on with us are a criminal defense attorney's dream," said McCloskey in a telephone interview from Dallas. "He says to me, 'This is why I went to law school.' These cases give him a nobility of purpose."

"Although he doesn't like to show it, the injustices of the legal system infuriate him, particularly when it has to do with police or prosecutorial misconduct. He rubs up with the injustices on a daily basis, how prosecutors can suppress and manipulate the system to gain convictions. It bothers him."

To pay the bills, Casteleiro, who is the only lawyer in his firm, handles civil and criminal cases.

### Working class kid

Casteleiro was born and raised in Manhattan. "I was not a middle class kid," he says. "Becoming a lawyer was not something I thought about while growing up."

While attending New York University he became interested in law and earned a law degree from Rutgers University. He worked in the Hudson County Public Defender's Office from 1973 to 1976, and in 1979 opened his own practice in Hoboken on Hudson and Newark streets. He lives with his wife and two children in Nyack, N.Y.

Why doesn't the legal system work for people like Vega?

Sometimes, Casteleiro says, these people have previous criminal records and, therefore, "they are ripe for the picking."

"I don't have the concept that every time I go into court that the court will be solemn, that it will come out with the right decision," Casteleiro says. "It's dependent on so many things. The system's not infallible. No one says it is."

# Pasculli calls election aide political foe

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Mayor Patrick Pasculli yesterday criticized a county deputy election commissioner for working in the Fourth Ward in Hoboken during the recent election even though he contributed to his opponent's mayoral campaign.

Pasculli called a press conference in which he invited Fourth Ward residents and poll workers, his co-campaign manager, Fourth Ward Councilman Edwin Duroy, and his running mate, Councilman Richard Del Boccio, who handily won the at-large seat in a five-way race last Tuesday.

Pasculli focused his criticism on Hoboken resident David White, a county-appointed election deputy, for contributing \$200 to the mayoral campaign of Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della, who lost the election by 400 votes.

Duroy objected to published reports in which losing candidates and their campaign workers said that the Fourth Ward was won by buying votes because residents there felt their lives would not be improved by the outcome of the election.

Duroy said residents voted on the issues and that Pasculli and Del Boccio won the ward by going door to door getting out their message about the need for police presence and affordable housing.

Duroy said that some of the campaign workers were paid to distribute campaign literature and go door to door to get voters to the polls. However, he said that the money was not used to buy votes.

"You cannot buy senior citizens. You cannot tell them how to vote, that is really hideous," Duroy said, and charged that the Della Fave camp attempted to pay Fourth Ward residents to campaign but were told that they were committed to the Pasculli-Del Boccio ticket.

Councilwoman Helen Cunningham, Della Fave's campaign manager, has stated that the campaign did not offer residents money to work on Election Day.

Pasculli's victory in the four-way race is largely attributable to the Fourth Ward, which has the highest concentration of minorities and public housing projects.

Citywide, Pasculli ran neck-to-neck with Della Fave, who carried three out of the six

wards. Pasculli, who also carried three wards, beat Della Fave in the Fourth Ward, garnering 1,284 votes to Della Fave's 518 votes.

Pasculli was particularly critical of comments made by White, a county deputy election commissioner who told The Jersey Journal that voting procedures in the Fourth Ward were "routinely ignored."

"It has come to my attention that David White, an appointed county deputy spent most of his day at 221 Jackson St.," Pasculli said, adding "an election deputy is supposed to be an impartial observer."

"He was not an objective observer, he was a political observer. Mr. White did not reveal to the Hudson County Board of Elections his involvement in the Della Fave campaign," Pasculli said.

"There was an attempt to disenfranchise the voters, the minorities and the elderly, in the Fourth Ward and deprive them the right of a democratic process," Pasculli said, adding "they continue to cast aspersions over a free, open and clear election," Pasculli said.

White, who commented about irregularities in voting procedures but made no mention of buying votes, later said that donation is a matter of public record. "I did make a donation of \$200. That does not affect my ability to be impartial. I took the obligations seriously and conducted myself accordingly. I believe strongly in fair and impartial elections and only wish that we could have had one," White said.

"I was dispatched to 221 Jackson specifically by Superintendent (Harvey L) Birne because there had been so many complaints about that polling place. The superintendent asked me if I could be impartial and I assured him that I could," White said, adding that he also supervised polls in Weehawken.

White also reminded Councilman Duroy that "I had represented him and his association for free as objectors to the Presidential Towers," referring to a controversial high-rise project, which he said was approved by the local zoning board but ultimately overturned by the courts.

"It is readily apparent that I worked on causes in which he has had an interest," White added.

## New life coming to 'no man's land'

By Jim DeRogatis

The decaying industrial "no man's land" on the Jersey City/Hoboken border may be the next hot spot for Hudson County developers.

The area surrounding the mouth of the Holland Tunnel in Jersey City has been dominated by warehouses and small industries for decades, but the scene is changing.

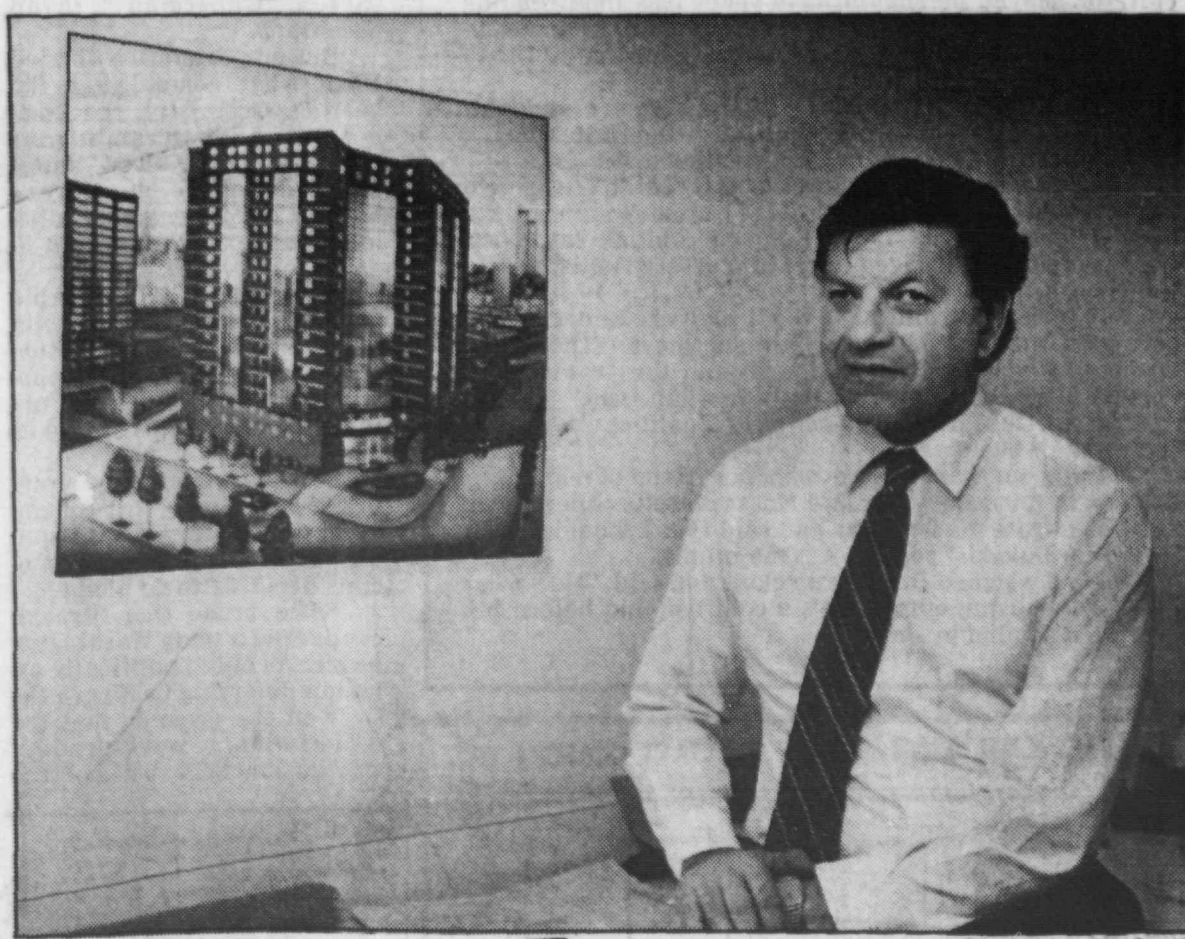
The massive \$10 billion Newport development is expanding to the south, and developers are eyeing the area north of the tunnel bounded by Jersey Avenue, 14th, 18th and Henderson streets.

The Jersey City Planning Board approved an 18-story, 354-unit condominium for Grove and 18th streets last month.

The Hoboken-based River City Flagship Corp. is gambling \$45 million dollars on the project, with hopes that the area will blossom into a thriving new community.

City planners hope the project and the recently adopted Jersey Avenue North redevelopment plan will encourage further construction.

"We saw it as a coming area as early as 1986, when we went to contract on the land," said Jerome Merzon, who is developing the condominium tower with River City partners Sanford Weiss and Lou Mont. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.



Hoboken developer Jerome Merzon displays an artist's rendering of the 18-story condominium he plans to build north of the Holland Tunnel.

struction is expected to begin in the spring.

Weiss and Mont developed the nearby Skyline condominium at Observer Highway and Madison street in Hoboken. Many real estate experts consider the 15-story Skyline a

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## New life coming to 'no man's land'

Continued from Page 1

Hoboken PATH station at the under-developed western edge of the city.

Sales in the building have been sluggish, according to market analysts. But the developers say those units are at the high end of a condo market that has been soft for the past year, and they aren't concerned about sales in their new project.

"We designed these units so they'll be affordable for middle-class people," Merzon said. "We tried to keep them in the range of the people who will be working in Jersey City in the new offices" at Newport, Harborside and Exchange Place Center.

Merzon predicts that one-bedroom units in the new tower will sell for less than \$150,000, a price he considers affordable.

But even if people can afford the price, they may be put off by the building's location.

The project site is surrounded by the massive, aging Erie-Lackawanna warehouse and several small trucking companies, and it is far from

public transportation. Aside from a few homes on Henderson Street near the tunnel exit, the only other residential buildings are the Hudson Gardens housing projects on Henderson and 16th streets.

"The area may not be much now, but this is going to be a more attractive community," Merzon said.

"The Waldbaums shopping center was just completed, and there will eventually be a light rail stop here. This area is going to be terrific."

Monte Zucker, Jersey City's principal planner, said the Planning Board "didn't worry about marketability" when it approved the site plan for the project, but he does share Merzon's optimism about the area.

Zucker and other planners drafted the Jersey Avenue North redevelopment plan that was adopted by the Planning Board last summer. The plan changed the zoning for the area to allow for a future community with a mix of residential, retail and office space on the tracts of open land.

Planners stressed that existing industries and ware-

houses will not be blighted to make way for the new construction.

"The fact that Newport is being developed just across Henderson Street means that the vacant land will probably be used for residential development," Zucker said. He added that Flagship's condominium "fits in with the redevelopment plan beautifully."

Other projects being considered in the area include a 10-story office building at the site of the Lipschultz Trucking Company, the renovation of the Erie-Lackawanna terminal for office and retail space, and construction of a new postal facility. None of these projects has moved far off the drawing boards, and some local residents are skeptical that development will ever take place.

Raoul Hernandez, an 18-year-old construction worker who lives at Hudson Gardens, said the location isn't a likely site for development. "There's crime and a lot of noise and pollution from trains and trucks. You've got to be joking that people with money would

want to move in," he said.

Gladys Smith, a 58-year-old grandmother who lives in the projects, said, "I know if I had a lot of money, I'd get out of here. I can't believe someone from New York would want to move here."

Smith said she is afraid the new construction might lead to displacement, as it has in other sections of Hudson County.

"I've seen it happen in Hoboken, and it looks like it will happen here too," she said.

But residents of the projects are protected from the forces of the real estate market by the Housing Authority.

And development in the area may even improve conditions for residents of the projects. Flagship agreed to rehabilitate the playground at 18th and Erie streets as a condition of their Planning Board approval, and transportation improvements in the area would benefit everyone.

Nola Bailey, an unemployed mother of four children, said the condo development would bring "pride" to the area. "I think it's real good. God bless them," she said.





John Reina yesterday displays a sample ballot he said City Clerk James J. Farina gave him along with \$10, showing him how to vote in the Hoboken election.

## Jobless man: 'I got a payoff from city clerk'

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch  
11-17-88

HOBOKEN—A homeless man charged yesterday that City Clerk James J. Farina offered him \$10 to cast an absentee ballot for Mayor Patrick Pasculli in the Nov. 8 election.

The man, John Reina, conceded that Farina often gave him money and food. Reina, who lives on the streets around City Hall, has no job and said he often asked Farina for help.

Farina, an acknowledged Pasculli supporter and campaign insider, angrily denied the charge in a telephone interview from Atlantic City, where he is attending the New Jersey League of Municipalities convention.

Reina, 62, charged that Farina approached him on Monday, Nov. 7, the day before the election. Reina said Farina took Reina's sample ballot, made marks next to the names of Pasculli and Richard Del Boccio, Pasculli's running mate for an at-large City Council seat, and gave it back along with \$10.

"He says, 'Don't forget to vote tomorrow,'" Reina said. "He told me to vote."

Reina, who produced his sample ballot with marks next to the names of Pasculli and Del Boccio, said he voted for the pair by absentee ballot. That could not be confirmed yesterday.

Please see **PAYOFF** Page 10

## PAYOFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The allegation, which, if true, would appear to implicate Farina in a crime, was made the same day that officials confirmed there is a federal investigation into the local election. Pasculli beat Councilman Joseph Della Fave and two other mayoral candidates Nov. 8, and Del Boccio defeated four others.

Federal authorities have subpoenaed all Hudson County documents relating to the local election, sources said yesterday. Reina made his charges to re-

porters waiting to cover a press conference by Della Fave, Pasculli's chief rival. Reina, who was wearing a dirty overcoat and sporting several days of beard growth, first explained his charges to Council Member Helen Cunningham, Della Fave's campaign manager and a Pasculli foe.

In his press conference, in which he announced he would file suit to force a recount in the election, Della Fave stressed that he has no knowledge of Reina's

charges. Farina, a popular official and the president of a local political club, called Reina's charge "ridiculous." He said he has given money to several homeless people who congregate on the front steps of City Hall.

"I'd like to have 10 percent back on everything I gave," he said. "For one vote — forget about it," he continued. "That's not worth it — that's not my style."

## MAYOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mitted. "I don't intend it to hamper or affect my conducting the business of the city," he said. "However, it

has been characteristic of my opponents to cast dispersions (sic) and clouds over a statutory process."

In his brief first term — to which he was appointed after the death of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti in March — Pasculli had to contend with a challenge to his selection by Vezetti's ally Ira Karasick, a local lawyer.

In March, Karasick charged that the City Council's selection of then Councilman Pasculli as mayor violated the state Open Public Meetings Act, which bars private votes to fill public offices.

Pasculli was reelected the following week, going on to successfully run in the Nov. 8 race. Another election in May will select a mayor for the full, four-year term.

Della Fave said yesterday that he had nothing to do with the federal investigation, although the defeated candidate did call for a recount of the vote.

However, Pasculli said he was certain that even the federal investigation was the result of complaints from the Della Fave campaign. The mayor said he would move ahead with city business, and called for a "full investigation" of any wrongdoing.

"I'm confident that if there is any wrongdoing, it is certainly not on our part," Pasculli said. "If there is no wrongdoing, he (Della Fave) owes the city an apology."

## Fed probe casts a shadow over Mayor Pasculli

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch  
11-17-88

HOBOKEN—A federal investigation into last week's mayoral election here, revealed yesterday after FBI agents produced subpoenas for election documents, has cast an ominous shadow on the administration of Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who must run again for re-election in only six months.

Pasculli won the Nov. 8 special election by a narrow margin, beating Councilman Joseph Della Fave by about 400 votes. As soon as the returns were known, Della Fave and several of his campaign workers accused Pasculli's workers of several minor offenses, including electioneering in polling places.

While the complaints attracted the attention of local newspapers, they did not affect Hudson County elections officials, who called the charges routine. But yesterday's revelation that federal authorities were investigating the election has given Pasculli's political opponents more ammunition for their attacks — as Pasculli himself ad-

Please see **MAYOR** Page 10

## Hoboken voting records seized

By John Petrick and Earlene C. McMichael

The FBI seized voting records yesterday from last week's Hoboken municipal election, while defeated Hoboken mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave, as promised on Wednesday, filed his suit in Superior Court asking for a recount because of irregularities at the polls.

In anticipation of the FBI agents' arrival, officials at the Hudson County Board of Elections in Jersey City had already bagged the Hoboken voter registration books yesterday morning and stored them in a safe on the premises.

Around 12:30 p.m., two FBI agents arrived and served a court order to Joseph Ciano,

chief of staff of the Bureau of Elections. He directed the agents to the records.

The agents confiscated Hoboken's voter registration books, voting authorizations, absentee ballots and verification documents for absentee ballots, Ciano said.

Federal agents armed with subpoenas made two previous attempts this week to take the records, but were turned away by election board officials. Those officials maintained that state law requires them to hold the materials under seal for a period of time after the election.

With that in mind, the FBI agents came with a court order requiring that the records be

See **HOBOKEN** — Page 16.

Admit supporters paid

## Allegations irk Pasculli, Duroy

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Mayor Patrick Pasculli and Councilman Edwin Duroy, the mayor's campaign manager in last week's election, yesterday angrily responded to allegations of voter impropriety in Duroy's 4th Ward made by a losing mayoral candidate.

Pasculli, Duroy and several campaign workers called a press conference to answer allegations made by Pasculli's chief rival in the mayoral race, Councilman Joseph Della Fave. He and some of his campaign workers charged last week that Pasculli had "bought votes" in the city's mostly Hispanic 4th Ward.

On Nov. 8, the 4th Ward gave Pasculli a huge edge over Della Fave, 1,284-518. Pasculli only beat Della Fave citywide by 400 votes; there was no runoff because it was a special election.

Della Fave said the 4th Ward results were the result of money the Pasculli campaign paid supporters to compel residents to vote. Several Della Fave supporters said last week that the results were tainted because of the money. Della Fave said last

week he was considering appealing the election results because of that and other alleged improprieties.

Yesterday, Pasculli and Duroy conceded that they had hired campaign workers in the ward to help get out the vote. But the mayor and councilman maintained that the strategy was part of a heavy campaign schedule of personal contact with the community, in which the candidates stressed the right issues.

"They (the opposition) ran a very poor campaign in the 4th Ward, comparatively speaking," Duroy said. He said Pasculli and his City Council running mate, Richard Del Boccio, knocked on "at least 800 doors" of 4th Ward residents from Labor Day to Election Day.

Duroy said the issues important to 4th Ward residents were police protection and affordable housing. Duroy noted that Della Fave opposed purchasing a mobile precinct bus and a plan to allow a local developer to build 115 units of housing on Observatory Highway, two issues on which Duroy said, he, Pasculli and Del Boccio campaigned.

## Hoboken voting records seized

Continued from Page 1

unsealed. The voting machines will remain in a South Kearny warehouse, but those used in the Hoboken election will be segregated with "evidence tape" by the FBI, Ciano said.

Earlier this week, agents photographed the machines and noted the serial numbers of their wire seals, which were put on the machines after last week's election, he said.

Ciano told the agents that Hoboken has Board of Education elections in April. They told him the voting ledgers would be returned "as soon as possible," but did not say when.

Dick Laventhal, spokesman for the U.S. Attorney, continued to refuse comment on the purpose of the investigation, but election officials have been told the FBI is looking into

allegations made by someone who served as a deputy commissioner during the Nov. 8 election.

Ciano said the FBI was last involved in a Hudson County election when absentee ballots were impounded in the 1985 Jersey City mayoral race between Anthony Cucchi and Gerald McCann.

Those ballots are still impounded, he said.

Superior Court Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys will consider today Della Fave's lawsuit asking for a recount, according to attorney Raymond Korona, who is representing the plaintiff.

The suit details several instances in which Della Fave claims voting machines were either opened later than scheduled or malfunctioned sufficiently to cast doubt on the

accuracy of the final tabulation.

In one instance, according to the suit, a voting machine in the First Ward's District 3 opened for use 38 minutes late. "When (the voting machine) was finally opened by County Board of Elections worker Linda Prezioso, the counter was blank and not set to zero," the suit states. A mechanic had to be called to reset the machine.

But because of the problem, according to the suit, Election Judge Jane Lockwood refused to sign off or approve the opening of the machine for use.

Because the machine's counter was not set at zero when first opened, the plaintiff states, it is unclear whether the machine was operating properly on Election Day.

The suit states that in the Second Ward's District 1,

Board of Elections workers arrived at the polls late. As a result, one voting machine was opened 26 minutes late.

"As a result, plaintiff cannot be sure that arriving voters were given the opportunity to vote," the suit states.

In the Second Ward's District 2, Della Fave alleges, the green seal on another machine was broken when workers arrived in the morning to check the machine before the polls opened.

Another machine, this one in the Third Ward's District 1, jammed three times during the course of the day, causing delays as long as 20 minutes. Jammed machine curtains in the Fifth Ward were also a current problem.

Della Fave wants a recount of both the voting machines and absentee ballots.

## DiStaso quits school board

By Earl Morgan

The Hoboken Board of Education may be in for more shock waves following last night's announcement that Trustee Vivian Flora DiStaso has resigned.

The board is required to appoint someone to fill the vacancy, but her departure nullifies the one-vote majority her "reform" colleagues had on the nine-member board.

The other reformers — Joe Rafter, Felix Rivera and Jerry Costa — often join with

Loures Arroyo, who is considered the swing vote on the board. The other trustees are James Farina, Richard England, Jose Machado and Joanne Pantaliano.

Hoboken school trustees are elected. DiStaso was elected in March to a three-year term.

Board president Rafter was not at last night's meeting. When reached, he said he hoped the board will accept Gail Tuzman, who heads the Committee for Quality Education, to replace DiStaso.

"If I can't get Gail, and the board wants a political candidate, I would rather wait until April, when there is another school board election to fill the seat," Rafter said.

Rafter recalled that a similar situation occurred last year and Perry Belfiore was chosen to fill a vacated seat. Belfiore ran for election in March but was defeated.

During the meeting, Costa read a letter from DiStaso that said, "It is with deep regret that

See **DiSTASO** — Page 16.

## DiStaso quits school board

Continued from Page 1

I must resign as an elected board member to the Hoboken Board of Education. My resignation is effective as of today. (The letter is dated Nov. 17.) My husband and I have purchased a home outside of Hoboken."

According to sources, DiStaso now lives in Belleville.

"Serving on this board has been an invaluable experience that I will take with me wherever I go," the letter continued. She said her only disappointment is that her short term did not permit her to accomplish the goals and aspirations she hoped for when elected.

The closing line in DiStaso's letter said, "I hope you continue to try to work together as a unified board." That, several sources said, remains to be seen.

Not long after becoming a trustee, DiStaso and her colleagues found themselves having to do what the reformers said in their election campaigns they would not do, and voted to close the Rue School.

The board was also embroiled for several months in a fight with the city council over the school budget. The council wished to slash it \$2.8 million beyond cuts the board voluntarily made. Eventually, the board won that fight and further cuts proposed by the council were restored.

In other business last night, the board voted to give newly-elected Mayor Pat Pasculli, who is a teacher at the Wallace Elementary School, a leave of absence from Dec. 1 to June 30.

Rumors that some trustees would oppose Pasculli's leave proved false — the vote was unanimous.

The board voted last night to accept the \$2.8 million in cuts that were restored to the budget.

The board rehired four teachers and five members of its medical staff who were let go as a result of budget cuts.

# FBI probing Hoboken election

By James Efstathiou and Earlene C. McMichael

The FBI is apparently investigating last week's Hoboken municipal election, but has been turned away twice as agents tried to seize balloting materials.

The first attempt was made Tuesday at the South Kearny warehouse where the voting machines are stored.

The second try was yesterday at the Hudson County Administration Building, where the Bureau of Elections is located, and voting ledgers and absentee ballots are kept.

Both actions came after two FBI agents served a sub-

## But events conspire to stymie investigation

poena on Joseph Ciano, chief of staff of the Hudson County Bureau of Elections, at 2 p.m. Tuesday, officials said.

The FBI is investigating allegations of election improprieties as detailed by someone who served as a deputy commissioner during the election, according to county Deputy Superintendent of Elections Betty Outlaw, who was with Ciano when he was served with the subpoena.

The subpoena demanded the Bureau of Elections surren-

der to the FBI the voting machines, absentee ballots and voter registration books for all of Hoboken, Outlaw said.

"They wouldn't say what the allegations were only that they were under investigation," Outlaw said.

"(The agents wanted) anything that's related to the Nov. 8 general election in Hoboken."

"We would like to cooperate as much as possible with the FBI in their investigation," said David Dembe, a deputy

state attorney general representing the Bureau of Elections.

But, he said, state law requires local election officials to hold the materials under seal for a period of time after an election. They cannot be released unless a court order is obtained, which, he said, had not been done by late yesterday.

Dick Laventhal, spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office, refused to comment on the matter.

No documents were taken Tuesday, but FBI agents said "someone" would come to the Bureau of Elections early yesterday to pick up the materials they wanted, Outlaw said.

Ironically, not only was the FBI yesterday turned away when they tried to enter the county administration building, but so was Ciano and Outlaw when they reported for work.

The building was closed for the day because of a power failure in the top three floors,

the elevators and all of the fire alarm systems, according to county engineers.

Two FBI agents arrived at the county administration building at about 11 a.m. yesterday wanting to see Outlaw, but were refused entrance by sheriff's officers, said Chief Edward P. Zloty, of the county Sheriff's Office.

"The building was closed for safety and security reasons," said Undersheriff Martin A. Budnick.

City officials in Hoboken said they were unaware of any investigation and that they had not been contacted by federal

See **FBI** — Page 8.



## Cappiello didn't run but he is a winner

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Although Third Ward Councilman Steve Cappiello remained in the shadows during the Hoboken mayoral campaign, the election outcome has dealt him an ace and landed him in a more powerful position on the City Council.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli

chose Richard Del Boccio as a running mate in the hopes of setting a solid voting bloc on the City Council.

### POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Del Boccio, a Hoboken public school principal, handily won the at-large seat in a five-way race by a landslide

vote, garnering 6,281 votes. Frank Raia, who was appointed to the council seat in March when Pasculli was elevated to mayor following the death of Mayor Thomas Vezzetti, ran second, winning 3,981 votes.

Raia, a developer, said he will be back in the spring for another run for the at-large

seat for a four-year term. He said he will run on a ticket instead of independently, as he did this time.

Meanwhile, political newcomer Steve Busch, an artist and member of the Hoboken Rent Board, said in an interview before the weekend that

See CAPPIELLO — Page 8.

## Cappiello didn't run but he is a winner

Continued from Page 1

he also will be a candidate next spring and that he will run on a ticket.

Busch — and many political observers — were surprised that he was the third top vote-getter, winning nearly 2,400 votes.

"I am not disappointed with our showing, from where we came from and what we were up against. We put ourselves together in a period of two months with a very low budget, and with about eight people coordinating the whole staff," Busch said.

Busch spent about \$1,400 during the campaign compared to the Pasculli-Del Boccio war chest of \$70,000 and the \$45,000 Raia spent, and attributes his success to the very essence of his campaign and his support group. Stop Hoboken from Over-Development (SHOD).

"People voted for our message and for who we are rather than what we spent. We did little door to door. We were out practically every day, leafletting in the streets," Busch said.

"I think this was a major victory for an unknown candidate in politics for the first time with what some people may perceive as a radical message. But, in fact, it reshaped the whole direction of the campaign concerning development," Busch said.

With Raia out and Del Boccio elected to the six-month term, Pasculli now has a voting bloc of four council members. Councilmen Edwin Duroy and E. Norman Wilson were campaign managers for Pasculli and Del Boccio. Councilman David Roberts is a Pasculli supporter and personal friend.

Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave received 44 percent of the vote in the mayoral race, winning 7,022 votes. Pasculli won 46 percent, with 7,431 votes.

The two camps will compete again in six months. Councilwoman Helen Cunningham served as Della Fave's campaign manager, and First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman worked hard for Della Fave.

City Council President Robert Ranieri, also a mayoral candidate, received 1,196 votes. But the campaign left bitterness between Ranieri and Pasculli, while there does not seem to be the same bad blood between Ranieri and Della Fave after the hard-fought contest.

"I came into this game 30 years ago without any political friends and I leave the same way," said Ranieri, who since 1973 consistently ran on Cappiello's mayoral ticket. Cappiello, defeated by Vezzetti in 1985 after serving three terms, did not support Ranieri's mayoral bid.

For the next six months, "everything rests with and will be decided by Cappiello and

Bob Ranieri," said Raia, who also said Cappiello did nothing to help his election to the council.

Ranieri has not said that he will vote solidly with Della Fave. Cunningham and Newman. Meanwhile, those three council members have said they will vote on the issues and will not attempt to sabotage Pasculli's initiatives.

"I don't function on the council to obstruct someone but on the platform I ran on," Cunningham said. "I have never voted to obstruct but voted based on the information presented and in the best interest of the city."

But Ranieri said Cappiello is now "the king maker."

"I see Steve as the king-maker, his vote vacillating back and forth," Ranieri said the day after the election.

Busch agrees that Cappiello "is certainly in a strong position as far as the council. I don't know what Ranieri will do. But Cappiello is in favor of large-scale development, so he may go along with the mayor if he wants to increase his power base, or he may opt to hold out."

It is uncertain how Pasculli will deal with Cappiello.

In the early summer, Pasculli said voters ought to recall Cappiello from his ward seat.

But Cunningham agrees with Ranieri's assessment.

"Steve Cappiello is Jim Henson, the guy who created the Muppets. We got all his Muppets in a row. Pasculli, Roberts, Duroy and Del Boccio, who has always been a Cappiello supporter," Cunningham said.

"When push comes to shove, the Pasculli council members will dance as fast or slow as Steve Cappiello lets them."

While Cunningham enjoys that image, she also realizes that she and Della Fave will have to come up with a ticket next spring.

And both Busch and Raia cause her some trouble because the 7,000 voters who supported Della Fave split their at-large council vote between Busch and Raia.

She recognizes that Busch, practically unknown, came up with an impressive showing.

"When a man who came in with that many votes, with no money, you got to believe that people are telling you something."

"Twenty-four hundred people are saying don't touch it, they don't trust any administra-

tion to handle waterfront," she said.

But Raia is holding nearly 4,000 votes. And Raia causes Cunningham problems not only because they are friends but also because, she said, he has been a strong supporter of the Committee for Quality Education, a power base for the Della Fave camp.

Raia said he did not get the solid support of the "Vezzetti people" because he was not a "yes man" on the City Council and did not always support the Della Fave-Newman-Cunningham voting bloc.

"The city missed an opportunity for not having Frank on the council. We were criticized through the campaign for not choosing Frank or Busch, but they were both good men," Cunningham said.

But Busch and Raia are politically polarized. Busch is a tenant advocate and wants to stop condo conversions. Raia, a developer, is for development. It seems unlikely those candidates could reconcile their political and philosophic differences to run on the same ticket.

Over the next few months, Pasculli and the Della Fave camp will have to figure out tickets for next spring and pick at-large candidates.

### Recount asked

## Hoboken records seized

### Della Fave files suit, citing legal violations

By NINA SHAPIRO and CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—While the FBI seized election records from the hotly contested mayoral race, the runner-up filed a suit yesterday that calls for a recount, charging "numerous violations" on Election Day by workers for the winner, Mayor Patrick Pasculli.

Pasculli, who testily rejected the charges yesterday, said he was preparing his own legal case to show "what we believe happened at the polls" — that workers for Councilman Joseph Della Fave, the runner-up, themselves violated election laws.

About 12:30 p.m. yesterday, a pair of FBI agents confiscated registration books, absentee ballots and signature sheets from the Hudson County Board of Elections office in Jersey City, said

Betty Outlaw, deputy elections superintendent.

Agents also went to a warehouse in Kearny, where they roped off voting machines used here on Nov. 8, Outlaw said. The machines have been kept sealed there, along with those used in the rest of the county, Outlaw said. Tallies kept on the Hoboken machines are to be examined later, she added.

Pasculli, the incumbent, defeated Della Fave by 409 votes in a special election called after the March death of Mayor Thomas F. Vezzetti. Since the election, the Della Fave camp has charged that Pasculli's campaign workers behaved improperly at polling places.

Della Fave has denied that he took his complaints about the election to the FBI.

Please see HOBOKEN Page 23



Superintendent Allen Ross keeps a watchful eye on the voting machines used in Hoboken's mayoral election on Nov. 8. They are being kept, under seal, in a Kearny warehouse.

Don Smith/The Hudson Dispatch

## Hoboken sewage suit continued

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A defamation suit against a company hired by Mayor & Lynch Associates to investigate sludge processes for a secondary waste water treatment plant in Hoboken was allowed to continue by a ruling made yesterday by Superior Court Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys.

Mayo & Lynch hired Chavond-Barry engineering firm to prepare a report regarding Hoboken Waste Water Management, a private corporation, processes and equipment in treating sludge.

Mayo & Lynch hired Chavond-Barry when the former had a contract with the city of

Hoboken to design a secondary wastewater treatment plant. The city of Hoboken has subsequently replaced Mayo & Lynch with the firm of Lawler, Mutsky and Skelly to design the wastewater treatment plant.

The secondary wastewater treatment plant is still on the drawing board. The Hudson County Utility Authority threw out the sole contract to build the facility during the summer because the cost estimation was too high.

As part of its design, Mayo & Lynch considered using practices of HWWM to treat sludge. Mayo & Lynch subsequently asked Chavond-Barry for its professional opinion on those practices.

The Chavond-Barry report stated that HWWM's processes and equipment present a potential for "explosion and toxicity" and that HWWM was unreliable as a vendor, according to court papers.

The Chavond-Barry report was given to Mayo & Lynch, Hoboken officials and the press.

The report said that there "are numerous places where leaks can occur" to cause explosions.

According to the report, the sludge processes involved a gasification process which required manufacturing fuel gas on site in Hoboken.

HWWM, which filed suit against Mayo & Lynch, later amended its suit to include Chavond-Barry.

Attorney Karen A. von Dreusche, who represented Chavond-Barry, requested the court to dismiss HWWM's complaint against her client because Chavond-Barry did not issue the report with malice.

"We believe that malice must be proved," she said, adding that it would have to be proven that Chavond-Barry "had serious doubts about the truth" of the statements it made in the report.

Humphreys agreed that HWWM's attorney Robert S. Ellenport would have to prove malice.

The judge noted, however, that HWWM's sludge processes are being used by the new plant's designer, LMS.

HWWM's is also suing Mayo & Lynch for defamation of character. Mayo & Lynch's public relations spokesman, Tony Amabile was quoted as saying that it was "professionally irresponsible to process a plan on technology that contains the potential to place a Bhopal or Three Mile Island facility in the heart of Hoboken."

Meanwhile Mayo & Lynch is suing Hoboken for about \$2 million, which the company claims represents work it did for the city of Hoboken but was never paid for.

Hoboken broke its contract with Mayo & Lynch after Humphreys ruled that its contract was improperly advertized.

The case has not come to trial. Hoboken is under a state mandate to build a secondary waste water treatment plant. The state has imposed a moratorium on new sewer hookups until the plant has been completed.

## Hoboken recount edict due

By Patricia Scott

A Superior Court judge is today expected to formally order a recount in the bitterly-contested Hoboken mayoral election.

Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys said he has no objection to ordering the recount requested last week by Councilman Joe Della Fave.

Della Fave charged that incumbent Mayor Patrick Pasculli was responsible for "violations" on Election Day and that proper voting procedures were disregarded. Pasculli denies the allegations.

Humphreys did not formally sign the order yesterday because he spent the day with other Superior Court judges at a judicial conference in Teaneck and could not be reached for his signature.

He is expected to grant approval today via a phone conference call to his offices in the county Administration Building.

The judge yesterday was awaiting an opinion on his approval of the recount from the state Attorney General's Office, which has now been provided.

Pasculli won the Hoboken mayoralty by a huge margin of votes in the hotly-contested Fourth Ward where he defeated Della Fave by 406 votes, including 176 absentees.

Last week the FBI seized records from the Bureau of Elections and roped off the voting machines.

In his lawsuit, Della Fave contends that voting machines in some areas were either opened later than they should have been or malfunctioned in a way that could cast doubt on the final accuracy of tabulations.

In one instance, he claims, a voting machine had to be reset to zero because the counter was blank. The suit also contends that a voting machine in the Second Ward was opened 26 minutes late.

The FBI has not been involved in investigating a local election since its 1985 study following the Jersey City mayoral race between Mayor Anthony Cucchi and Gerald McCann.

### HOBOKEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He refers to the FBI investigation as adding further fuel to his suspicions of wrongdoing on Election Day, in a suit filed with Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys of Superior Court in Jersey City. A hearing on the suit is scheduled before Humphreys today at 1:30 p.m.

The suit names Pasculli, the Board of Elections, County Clerk Frank E. Rodgers, the county commissioner of voter registration, county Elections Superintendent Harvey L. Birne and City Clerk James J. Farina.

It alleges "numerous violations ... including campaigning in and around the polls ... the exclusion of eligible voters and the admission of ineligible voters," among other offenses.

It also lists mishaps that occurred with six voting machines in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th wards.

Problems alleged include jamming, a delay in the opening of machines and, in one case, a seal

opened before the machine could be inspected by election workers.

According to Outlaw, those problems should have been reported Nov. 8 so they could have been investigated immediately.

"It would have been kind of them to call," she said.

Pasculli, meanwhile, said he may appear at today's hearing to contest Della Fave's charges and to show that some Della Fave workers violated election law.

"If you live in a glass house, you had better not throw stones," Pasculli said. He was not specific about possible violations by Della Fave workers.

Pasculli said in a volatile telephone interview last night that he is hiring an attorney to prepare his case. The mayor said he suspects a volunteer county election worker who was a financial contributor to the Della Fave campaign, requested the FBI investigation.

As for Della Fave's suit, Pasculli dismissed it as "all politics."



JOSEPH DELLA FAVE  
Presses election challenge

"I'm just angry because I think we worked very hard, and it's simply a ploy on their part to grab headlines and taint the election, because they can't deal with the fact that they lost the election."

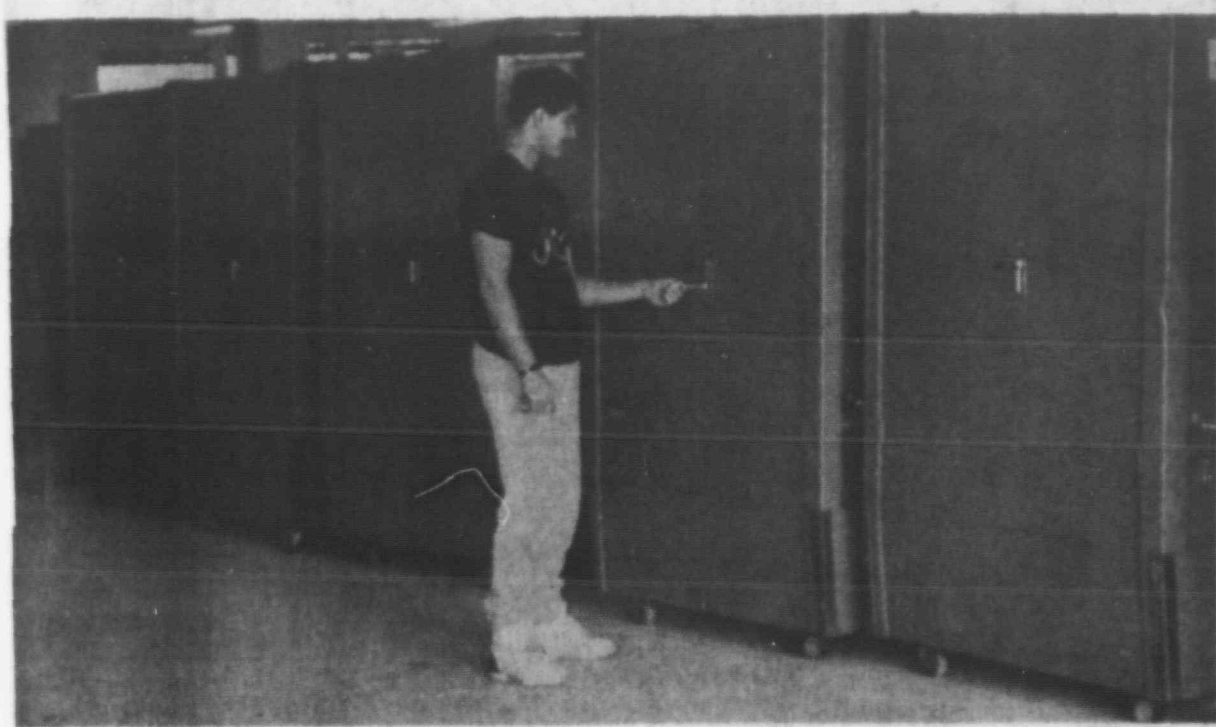
### Councilman is recuperating

Hoboken Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave is recovering from pneumonia in Christ Hospital, Jersey City. Della Fave, who said he had a slight case of pneumonia a year ago, hoped to be released from the hospital over the weekend. He was admitted on Thursday.

"Hopefully I'll be out in a day or so," Della Fave said from his hospital bed. "I hadn't felt well earlier in the week. I just came in to check a cough out and that was it."



# FBI PROBES ELECTION



Voting machines used in the Nov. 8 election in Hoboken remain in a Kearny warehouse yesterday as controversy clouds the balloting results.

## Records sought in Hoboken race

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Federal authorities have issued subpoenas for election records here, launching an investigation into the Nov. 8 race and casting a cloud over the results of the hard-fought mayoral contest, officials said yesterday.

Meanwhile, the runner-up in that race, Councilman Joseph Della Fave, announced he would today press a lawsuit demanding a recount. Della Fave said he had collected about a dozen sworn affidavits from people who claim to have seen workers for victorious Mayor Patrick Pasculli commit various violations of election law.

Pasculli pledged full cooperation with the federal investigation, but asserted that it was probably the result of spurious complaints by the Della Fave camp. Pasculli accused Della Fave of "casting dispersions (sic)" with the lawsuit, denied any wrongdoing by his campaign and said if the investigation finds no improprieties, Della Fave "owes the city an apology."

Pasculli beat Della Fave in the Nov. 8 election, 7,431-7,022. Della Fave won three of the city's six wards, but lost the mostly Hispanic 4th Ward by a huge margin, 1,284-518.

On Tuesday, federal authorities told Hudson County Please see FBI Page 10

## ABC soaks Hoboken bar Good N Plenti

By James Efstathiou

A Hoboken tavern has been fined nearly \$10,000 by the state Alcohol Beverage Control Division (ABC) as a result of a drug possession charge against an employee.

Administrative Law Judge Ralph J. Tollmeo signed a consent order this week which had been negotiated between attorneys for the state and Good N Plenti bar on First and Washington streets. In the settlement, the state withdrew one of six charges against the bar. In return, the bar withdrew its plea of not guilty on the remaining charges, paving the way for the imposition of a fine.

Based on the bar's reported income, the ABC established a fine of \$9898.47. The fine was not accompanied by a suspension of the bar's liquor license, according to Barbara Foglietta, deputy attorney general with the ABC's department of law and public safety.

In March, the ABC charged the tavern with permitting the presence of cocaine on the premises, hindering the state's investigation, failure to keep proper financial records, failure of the bar's owner to notify the ABC of a change in address and employing a minor. The last charge was eventually withdrawn.

The drug charge stemmed from an undercover investigation one year ago into a possible hidden ownership in the business by the State Police ABC Enforcement Bureau. The probe led to a cocaine possession charge against bar manager Gus Santorella. Santorella's son, Charles Santorella, holds a 100 percent controlling interest in D G D Enterprises Inc., the corporate name of the bar. Santorella is currently awaiting trial on the drug charge.

### FBI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

officials they wanted to impound all voting machines and other data from the election, according to Betty Outlaw, the county's deputy elections superintendent.

Outlaw said representatives from the FBI, the state Attorney General's office and the county Board of Elections agreed that the machines would be guarded and books isolated, but that the materials would remain in the possession of the board for the time being.

Outlaw said that yesterday, FBI agents arrived at the County Administration Building in Jersey City to examine election documents, but were not allowed to enter because of a sudden loss of electrical power in the building. The power loss was probably caused accidentally by workers at the scene, county officials said.

Outlaw said the election documents have not been touched since Nov. 8 and would remain guarded.

A spokesman for state Attorney General W. Cary Edwards confirmed the existence of the federal investigation and pledged cooperation. An FBI

spokesman refused to comment on the case, citing departmental policy.

Della Fave, who held an afternoon press conference to announce he was calling for a recount, said he had not contacted the FBI or other federal authorities about the election. Della Fave maintained he was not trying to change the outcome of the election by his action, but was acting "to ensure fair and proper elections in Hoboken once and for all."

Della Fave said he had evidence, including the statements and photographs, of "systematic and widespread violations of voting procedures" by Pasculli's workers.

Della Fave said several polling places in the 4th Ward and elsewhere were the sites of electioneering by Pasculli workers; that Pasculli workers accompanied some voters into the voting booth; that voting machines in the 2nd and 5th wards — Della Fave strongholds — constantly broke down; and that newly registered voters, many of whom supported Della Fave, were unable to vote because their registrations

disappeared from county records.

Della Fave criticized county officials for having insufficient numbers of well-trained workers to help govern the election.

"The real culprit here is how the system is run," Della Fave said.

His lawsuit will be filed in Superior Court in Jersey City today, according to Della Fave's attorney, Ray Korona of Hoboken. The suit names the county Board of Elections, other county officials, City Clerk James Farina and Pasculli.

After being told of Della Fave's charges, Outlaw said the county conducted a proper election, but conceded that "there should be some changes."

"There is some feeling that we need some restructuring, that we need to look into what's going on," she said, adding that she, County Clerk Frank E. Rogers and other county officials would meet to address the question of how to run better municipal elections.

■ Staff Writer Nina Shapiro contributed to this report.



Councilman Joseph Della Fave speaks at a press conference announcing his pending lawsuit against Hoboken and Hudson County officials, claiming irregularities in the Nov. 8 city mayoral election as Council Member Helen Cunningham listens.

DON MCCOY THE HUDSON DISPATCH

### Leaving city

## Hoboken reform trustee resigns

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A member of the Board of Education has resigned only seven months after she was elected, shifting the tenuous balance of power on the board and setting up what may be a fight over whom to appoint as a replacement.

Vivian Flora DiStasio, swept into office in April along with two other self-styled reformers, announced in a letter to the board dated Thursday that she is resigning because she and her husband are moving out of the city.

DiStasio's departure robs the reformers of one of four solid votes on the nine-member board. Four other members generally vote against the reformers, and Trustee Lourdes Arroyo is seen as the swing vote.

The board has 60 days to name a replacement, by majority vote of the remaining members. If the board fails to name a replacement, Louis C. Accella, Hudson County schools superintendent, has the power to name a new member.

Trustees at both poles of the board said it will probably take a fight for any candidate to receive the necessary five votes. Trustee James J. Farina, who is identified with the board's "Old Guard" that often opposes the reformers, said the board should draw up a list of names and choose one without delay.

But board member Gerard Costa, a member of the reform faction who was elected with DiStasio in April, said he would push for a public selection process, one that would include interviews and studying resumes.

## Loser wants recount

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Defeated Hoboken mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave said yesterday he will file a complaint in Superior Court today asking for a recount. He also claims proper election procedures were blatantly disregarded at polling places throughout the city during last week's special election.

Della Fave's announcement comes on the heels of a federal investigation into the Hoboken election, in which Patrick Pasculli was elected mayor by 409 votes.

"We will be asking the court to remedy the many irregularities which took place systematically on Election Day," said Della Fave, who is the Second Ward councilman.

"Let me make this clear: we are not attempting to overturn the results of the election. Our goal is to insure fair and proper elections in Hoboken once and for all," Della Fave said. He was accompanied by his campaign manager, Councilwoman Helen Cunningham.

There will be another mayoral election in May for a full four-year term. Pasculli was elected last week to fill the unexpired term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezzetti.

Specifically, Della Fave is charging that standard election procedures were systematically disregarded "to the point where many officials and people who worked the election described the polls as chaotic."

Many newly registered voters were not allowed to vote and Hudson County did not provide adequate remedies for assisting the disenfranchised voters, he said.

"Many people who voted

## Loser Della Fave wants a recount

Continued from Page 1

were not eligible," Della Fave said.

Meanwhile, three women who worked as challengers for Della Fave and defeated Council-at-large candidate Steve Busch submitted sworn testimony to county and state election and law enforcement officials concerning what they saw as voting irregularities.

Sheilah Scully, who worked at 221 Jackson St. in the Fourth Ward as a Della Fave challenger, wrote that when she attempted to get clarification on rules concerning electioneering, loitering and fraternization, "I was told to 'sit down and shut up.'"

"While there were problems and high degrees of tension at previous polling places, in previous elections, what I witnessed at 221 Jackson St. was unlike anything I had ever seen. In general, an atmosphere of chaos, confusion and anarchy reigned all day," Scully wrote.

Scully said that she was often verbally harassed during the day. When she challenged one voter, she stated that "I was

immediately surrounded by a mob of board workers, challengers, voters and loiterers. It felt like a lynch mob."

Scully and Busch challenged Annette Illing and Nora Jacobson all made sworn statements that, when the election results were announced in 221 Jackson St., a county-appointed polling judge exclaimed she was glad that Pasculli had won the district because "the Della Fave Yuppies — s had bothered (her) all day."

The women stated that the polling places had a partisan atmosphere and that there was a blatant double standard for Della Fave and Busch challengers, the polling areas were poorly arranged, there was constant loitering and electioneering within the polling areas, and they were threatened with ejection from the polling place if they continued questioning the various activities.

The vote count in the Fourth Ward in which the women worked as challengers contributed to Pasculli's success. Pasculli received 1,284 votes to Della Fave's 518 votes in that ward.

Betty Outlaw, Hudson County deputy superintendent of elections, said yesterday that the office received numerous complaints on Election Day from Hoboken polling places. "The biggest problem is that some (board workers) are not aware of their responsibilities," she said.

Attempts will be made to weed out poll workers who do not understand election laws and workers who are clearly partisan, she said. However, Outlaw said that she wished Della Fave had informed her office about his court suit since she had spent time with his campaign prior to the election trying to ferret out ineligible voters and questionable poll workers.

Attorney Ray Korona, who will file the suit on behalf of Della Fave, said that state laws require that certain officials be named as defendants because their official responsibilities are affected by the suit.

Named as defendants are the Hudson County clerk, the Hudson County Board of Elections, the Hudson County superintendent of elections, the Hudson County commissioner of registration, the Hoboken city clerk and Pasculli, because he won the election.

Hoboken City Clerk James Farina will be an issue in the suit because Della Fave said Farina is a Pasculli supporter and he questioned the city clerk's ability to run a fair election.

"We will be looking into the use of City Hall time and employees to campaign, and the role of the city clerk and reported efforts to intimidate residents of public and subsidized housing."

Farina said yesterday that he is clearly a Pasculli supporter but that did not prevent him from running a fair election, which was under the jurisdiction of the county.

"My office had minimal impact on the outcome of the elec-

tion," Farina said, adding that he spent Election Day in his office. "If I was a candidate, I would want me in my office because I could do more damage on the street."

Farina said Della Fave should have made a complaint before the election. "If I thought someone was trying to hurt me, I would have called everybody in."

Meanwhile, a homeless man, John Reina, who lists his address as City Hall, told a group of reporters outside the Della Fave headquarters that Farina had given him \$10 the day before the election and filled out his absentee ballot.

Reina said that Farina often gave him money because he was homeless.

Farina agreed that he gave the man money but denied that he had given him money as a bribe. Moreover, Farina said that the man did not vote by absentee ballot. Farina said he was not sure if the man had voted.

It was not possible to confirm whether Reina had voted in the Hoboken election because the county election offices were closed by a power failure.

"There are four or five people who are homeless and registered to 94 Washington St. I give them two or three dollars just about every other day. It saddens me that these people have no place to go," Farina said. "I'll give him (Reina) a turkey next week and his sister will cook it up for Thanksgiving. I'll live with that guilt seven days a week."

Pasculli accused Della Fave of "sour grapes for losing the election."

"I didn't run the election. It was conducted by the Hudson County Board of Elections and by the Hudson County Clerk's office. Certainly anyone is entitled to a recount," Pasculli said.

### Hoboken project

## Construction pressed for new sewage plant

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A three-municipality sewerage authority set up almost a year ago began preparations in earnest last night to oversee construction of the city's secondary sewage-treatment plant.

The plant would treat all of the city's sewage, as well as sewage from Weehawken and Union City. The three cities are under a federal mandate to upgrade the treatment of their sewage.

Currently, sewage is treated in a primary treatment plant here that has recently been upgraded by money from Hartz Mountain Industries of Secaucus, under an agreement reached last year. Estimates for the new secondary plant put the construction cost at \$85 million.

Yesterday, the Hoboken, Weehawken, Union City Sewerage Authority hired Frank M. Leanza of Hackensack as its attorney and Arthur Young and Co., a Manhattan-based accounting firm, as financial adviser. Additionally, the authority revealed that the city has asked the

Hudson County Utilities Authority to make the three-municipality authority the co-representative of a federal grant for the project.

Earlier this year, Hoboken received a single, \$115 million bid to build the project from a Queens contractor. City and county authorities rejected the bid as too expensive, and a new request for bids is being drafted by city-hired engineering firm Lawlor, Matusky and Skelly of Pearl River, N.Y.

Last night, a representative of the firm told the authority that advertising for new bids for the project would be published early next month, and that companies would have between 60 and 90 days to respond.

Even if bids are made for the expected construction cost, it would be more than \$20 million above the expected cost. City and county officials have asked the federal government to expand a grant they had already received.

The officials want the grant, which is for about \$30 million, to be enlarged to about \$50 million.



Order due soon

# Hoboken recount likely

## Humphreys consulting with attorney general

By NINA SHAPIRO  
The Hudson Dispatch

Hudson County's top judge yesterday said he will likely order a recount in the Hoboken mayoral election, requiring local officials to reacquire voting records from the FBI, which seized the documents for its own investigation into the election.

The expected order granted a request made in a suit filed Thursday by Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who charged that the victor, incumbent Mayor Patrick Pasculli, was responsible for "numerous violations" on Election Day.

No parties involved in the suit — which names county and city officials in addition to Pasculli — contested the proposed recount in a hearing before Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys of Hudson County Superior Court

in Jersey City.

Pasculli has retaliated by countercharging misbehavior at the polls by Della Fave's campaign workers. Michael Mogiello of Hoboken, Pasculli's attorney, said after the hearing that he had two affidavits alleging that Della Fave's workers campaigned too close to the polls in the 3rd and 4th wards and made an "improper" number of challenges to voters.

The judge said he did not order the move immediately because he wanted to consult the state attorney general's office, which represents the county Board and Bureau of Elections. The state later reportedly said they had no objection to a recount in a telephone call to Humphreys' office, but needed to send a written statement to Humphreys, which he had received by late yesterday.

Please see RECOUNT Page 14



Donald Scarinci, left, attorney for Hudson County Board of Elections, discusses the Hoboken mayoral election with Michael Mogiello, attorney for Mayor Patrick Pasculli.

LISA BAUSO THE HUDSON DISPATCH

## RECOUNT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Pasculli, bolstered by a huge margin of votes in the 4th ward, defeated Della Fave by 409 votes, 176 of which were made on absentee ballots. The results of the Nov. 8 special election, called because of the March death of Mayor Thomas F. Vezetti, determine who will be mayor until May, when the regular mayoral election is scheduled.

Despite the bitter debate surrounding the hard-fought election, the hearing, which lasted less than 15 minutes, was without confrontation. Neither Della Fave nor Pasculli attended. A Pasculli campaign badge, worn by Frank Wiek, a cousin of the mayor, was the only visible sign of politicking in the courtroom.

Humphreys, without commenting on Della Fave's allegations, said the councilman has a "right" to a recount.

Negotiations with the FBI over access to absentee ballots and voting machines — which keep a record of all votes made on them — will be made by court officials, according to Joseph Ciano, chief of staff of the bureau of elections. Those who will physically recount the votes are County Clerk Frank E. Rodgers and representatives of the Board and Bureau of Elections, he said.

On Thursday, the FBI seized records from the bureau and roped off machines kept in a South Kearny warehouse. Because of a state statute requiring machines to be sealed for 15 days after an election, the FBI currently does not have access to them, Ciano said.

Della Fave has denied that he elicited the FBI investigation.

Yesterday's placid hearing may belie a fierce battle to come. Raymond L. Korona of Jersey City, Della Fave's attorney, said he will probably be back in court after the recount.

"A recount is the way this type of proceeding occurs," he said.

Possible requests to Humphreys include forbidding certain poll workers to be retained for future elections and removing voting machines from improperly secured areas, he said.

Mongiello said Pasculli will decide on a course of action when he sees "how far the plaintiffs go."

Della Fave's suit names Pasculli, Rodgers, county Superintendent of Elections Harvey L. Birne, the county commissioner of voter registration and City Clerk James J. Farina.

An attorney for the county Democratic Committee, although not named in the suit, spoke at the hearing yesterday. Donald Scarinci of Totowa said irregularities on Election Day cast a cloud over the results for the entire county, not just Hoboken. The committee has called for a federal investigation into the events on Nov. 8 throughout the county.



Millie Lopez  
Missing

## Parents search for daughter

Milagrosa and Joaquin Lopez of Hoboken want their 16-year-old daughter, Millie, to come home.

The parents reported Millie missing on Nov. 8, the day she apparently took off with her boyfriend, Nelson Colon, 17, of Hoboken, who is also missing. Millie and Nelson are sophomores at Hoboken High School.

Mrs. Lopez says Millie explained in a note that she was leaving because she is pregnant.

"She was afraid that we were going to hit her," Mrs. Lopez said. "That's the reason why she left. She took her clothes and everything."

The young couple called Nelson's parents on Monday night and Thursday night to say they were OK but wouldn't say where they were calling from, Mrs. Lopez said.

The parents say they just want to see the teen-agers safe and make sure the expected baby is cared for properly.

"I just want her home to straighten out everything," Mrs. Lopez said. "What's done is done. You can't do anything about it."

Millie, who celebrated her birthday Oct. 22, had about \$300 saved, which she took with her, her mother said.

Some of the young couple's friends have told the family that Millie and Nelson were thinking about flying to Puerto Rico, but the parents have been unable to determine if they had done so.

Anyone with information should call the Hoboken Police Department at 420-2131.

## Election Day is Fourth Ward pay day

By James Efstathiou  
and Jo-Ann Moriarty

For low-income voters in Hoboken's Fourth Ward, Election Day doesn't mean an opportunity to shape the future of their community or register a voice in local affairs.

Election Day means pay day, a chance for many of the residents of Hoboken's public housing projects to pick up \$50, \$75 or \$100 working for one of the candidates' campaigns.

The Fourth Ward, located at the western edge of Hoboken near the Palisades, is the poorest section of the city, and is dominated by public housing projects and tenements.

Many residents say their community is not adequately represented by city officials, and Election Day is the only time they see politicians.

But the ward has become a key battleground in recent elections and last week's special mayoral election was decided in the Fourth Ward, which helped sweep Mayor Patrick Pasculli into office.

Interviews with two dozen Fourth Ward residents revealed little concern with waterfront development, lower property taxes or parking issues which were hotly debated in other sections of the city prior to the vote.

For these residents, drug problems, housing, jobs and safe streets are the priorities.

In the election, Pasculli defeated Second Ward Councilman Joseph Della Fave by more than 700 votes in the Fourth Ward. Both Pasculli and Della Fave hired people to work in the Fourth Ward on Election Day, but Pasculli workers far outnumbered Della Fave workers.

It is widely understood in

the ward that elections offer an opportunity to make upwards of \$50 a day campaigning.

Paying people to work during elections — to hold posters, hand out leaflets, or go door to door to get out the vote — is legal, according to state election laws. However, candidates are required to file post-election finance reports listing the names and addresses of people who received street money if the amount is more than \$25.

It is impossible to tell now how much each of the Hoboken candidates spent to hire campaign workers in the Fourth Ward because their post-election spending reports have not yet been filed with the state Board of Elections.

Pasculli attributes his strong showing in the ward to positive name recognition. He and his running mate, Councilman Richard Del Boccio, are public school teachers, and they say they have taught many people who live in the community.

A 24-year-old public housing resident and former student of Pasculli's who decided not to vote Nov. 8, agreed that the ticket was well known in the ward because of the candidates' classroom exposure.

But Michael Colon, a father of three who lives in the housing projects, said residents are willing to "sell out" and work on Election Day for a candidate

regardless of his issues or positions. "That is what is wrong with this community — you sell out. How will you get things better?" Colon asked.

On the morning of the election, according to two women who worked for the Pasculli campaign, organizers arrived in the projects with signs, leaflets and buttons to recruit campaign workers for the day.

When the polls closed, they were instructed on where to pick up their earnings, they said.

One of the women, a perennial election-day worker, said she was paid \$50 to get out the vote for Pasculli, but when it

was her turn to vote, she pulled the lever for Della Fave. Another woman who worked Election Day for Pasculli and chose not to vote said, "They are not doing nothing. As a community, they don't do much for us."

The women said the campaign in the Fourth Ward was arranged by Councilman Edwin Duroy, Pasculli's campaign co-manager, and Edgardo Pinciro, who has organized campaign workers since 1964.

It was Pinciro who distributed pay envelopes for their efforts, they said.

"He's always worked for Mr. Duroy," said Myrna Pinciro, translating for her father.

## Hoboken hires arts coordinator

Hoboken, long recognized for its active artistic community, will have its first cultural affairs coordinator.

Artist Barbara Blecher, 42, a 20-year resident of Hoboken, will research the availability of county and state arts funding for arts groups and individual artists, work with existing arts programs, and develop new programs.

Blecher, who has worked as an arts and crafts instructor, will begin the part-time,

\$11,000-a-year position Jan. 1, 1989. She will have office space in City Hall and the Community Development Agency, according to Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who appointed her.

Among Blecher's first priorities is reinstating a summer arts program in Hoboken parks.

"It's incredible — the more I think about it, the more excited I get," Blecher said of her new job. "The arts are becoming a more important part of

the city."

Pasculli says he created the position "to (have) a liaison between the cultural activities taking place in the city, so we can coordinate those events with the public." Pasculli says he chose Blecher because "she has a long history of involvement with cultural affairs in the area, and has many contacts within the community." He also said that he would be checking the feasibility of a cultural arts center in the city.

# Mayor accused of anti-Chius plot

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken City Council President Robert Ranieri yesterday accused Mayor Patrick Pasculli of stripping away the duties of the business administrator because he didn't have "the gumption" to fire him.

Ranieri, who ran unsuccessfully against Pasculli in the Nov. 8 special election, said that Pasculli was violating the Faulkner Act with his plan to hire a consultant to prepare the city budget and take that job away from Business Admin-

## Ranieri says Pasculli lacks 'gumption'

istrator Edwin Chius. Ranieri said that when Pasculli requests the City Council to hire former Jersey City Business Administrator Fred Tomkins as a consultant to prepare the city budget, he will ask the council to reject it.

He said that Chius, hired during the administration of ex-Mayor Steve Cappiello, has prepared nearly a dozen city

budgets and that his job description under state law gives him that task.

Pasculli has said that Chius will concentrate on waterfront development.

"This is called stripping (of job duties) and the Faulkner Act prevents it. If he doesn't want Chius to do it, he (Pasculli) should be man enough to replace him," Ranieri said.

"He doesn't have the gumption to show his direction," Ranieri added.

Attorney Thomas Calligy, of the Law Department, said yesterday that he believed the mayor could hire a consultant and take the job away from Chius.

Calligy said the Faulkner Act reads that it is the responsibility of the mayor to prepare

and submit an "annual operating budget" to the City Council.

Calligy said that state law reads that the business administrator "assists the mayor" in the preparation of the document.

However, Calligy said, that language does not preclude Pasculli from seeking outside help.

Pasculli said yesterday

that he is allowed to hire a budget consultant and accused Ranieri of trying to disrupt "an orderly" process of developing the budget.

Pasculli said he wants a "new approach" to preparing the city document.

Ranieri said he would rather the budget be prepared "by the Hoboken business administrator and not the former business administrator of Jersey City."

Chius was unavailable for comment yesterday. He was said to be taking a vacation day.

## Hoboken weighs hiring Tomkins as budget consultant

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli is considering hiring former Jersey City Business Administrator Fred Tomkins as a consultant to prepare the municipal budget.

Pasculli said that he and Law Director Eugene O'Connell intended to interview Tomkins.

"We are looking at a new approach for the municipal budget," said Pasculli.

The mayor, shortly after he was sworn in last week, said that he wanted to take away the budget preparation task from Hoboken Business Administrator Ed Chius and have it handled by a new consultant.

Pasculli said that Chius, who began working in City Hall during the Cappiello administration, will concentrate on waterfront development.

Tomkins began working in Jersey City in the late '70s as the finance director under former Mayor Thomas F. X. Smith. He was elevated to business administrator in the early '80s under the administration of former Mayor Gerald McCann. Tomkins and McCann are former accounting partners.

Jersey City Councilman William O'Dea yesterday described Tomkins as someone who was good with figures and average in dealing with people.

"He hasn't a very warm personality. If you are looking

for a dollar and cents man to prepare a budget, he is a plus — he has the experience. Where he may be lacking is with emotions," O'Dea said.

"If you are looking for a tight fiscal budget for tight times, he probably would have the capabilities," he said.

O'Dea, who was an aide to the City Council when Tomkins was the finance director, said that Tomkins made a better finance director than he did business administrator.

"He was a good finance director in dealing with the bottom line, numbers and interest rates. When he became business administrator and had to deal with personalities, he wasn't very strong. He was adequate," O'Dea said.

Pasculli is also expected to ask the City Council to invite Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale to reorganize the police department. However, Pasculli will wait until January to make the request.

During the next six months of his brief mayoral tenure, Pasculli said he will make an analysis of the job performance of all directors. Pasculli has to run for re-election in May for a four-year term.

Pasculli said last week that he is not planning to fire any department heads, although he did send a warning to Public Works Director Roy Haack that the streets better be cleaner by next spring.

Caused by blood clot

## Tackle leaves football player partially blind

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN — A 17-year-old member of the Hoboken High School football team is permanently blind in his left eye after making a tackle in Saturday's game in Franklin Lakes, the player and his mother said yesterday.

Joseph Fallo, a linebacker and an offensive guard on the Red Wings, suffered a blood clot that blocked circulation to the eye, blinding him in that eye for the rest of his life, he and his mother Barbara, said.

"I was playing in the football game, and I suddenly went blind in my left eye," Fallo said. He said he stayed in the game

against the Ramapo High Raiders for a few more plays before coming out.

At halftime, Mayor Patrick Pasculli and Councilman David Roberts, who were attending the game, took Fallo to St. Mary Hospital here to be examined. Mrs. Fallo is the manager of Roberts' restaurant, East L.A., on Washington Street here.

After an examination at the hospital and subsequent tests in Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in Manhattan, ophthalmologists told him the clot had blocked blood supply to the eye, killing the tissue and blinding it permanently.

"It's kind of rough," Fallo said of being half-blind. He said he had no complaints against school

or hospital officials. "They did what they could," he said.

Mrs. Fallo said doctors told her the clot could have killed her son if it had been near his heart or brain.

"In a way, I think I should be thankful it happened that way," she said slowly. "I don't know — I don't know whether to be thankful or not."

Mrs. Fallo said she was touched by the support of politicians, coaches, teammates and friends. "The emergency room was packed — they practically had to throw them out bodily," she said.

Hoboken coach Ed Stinson confirmed the injury but said he did not want to comment further until more test results were complete.





Capt. America, Wolverine and Daredevil are stars in the Marvel float in Macy's parade. LISA BAUSO THE HUDSON DISPATCH

#### Hoboken's in spotlight

## YIPES! Comic characters set for big parade

By DAVID LIPPMAN  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The director had some orders for Dr. Strange.  
At the last cue in the song, Dr. Strange was to jump toward the 32-foot tower and point up to it while The Incredible Hulk made the tower topple over. Was that clear?  
Dr. Strange, or rather, T.J. Glenn, the actor impersonating the Marvel Comics supervillain, had no problem. When the recording of the pop song, "One Moment in Time" began, Glenn, fitted

Please see PARADE Page 14

## PARADE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

out in blue tights and a huge cape, rolled his eyes menacingly and moved hands and legs in slow karate-style movements. Then he bounded across the Marvel Comics float being prepared for Thursday's Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, and pointed up at its wood-and-fiberglass bell tower.

Inside the tower, The Incredible Hulk, a green giant, pulled a hidden lever and the tower crumpled toward the warehouse floor, and stopped.

Last week's rehearsal at Macy's special productions studio at 1505 Willow Ave. here for its 62nd annual parade down Broadway Thursday was going well.

Inside the cavernous studio, jammed to the ceiling with floats, half a dozen actors and stuntmen manned a complex three-level float that combined fire poles, crisscrossed girders, a bell tower, a castle dungeon, some Rube Goldberg-like machines and a 10-foot open comic book. Superheroes such as Spiderman and Captain America could literally leap from the comic pages and into life.

In colorful leotards, the superheroes waited while Macy's directors and NBC Television directors worked out the choreography for the dance routine.

This warehouse on Willow Avenue in Hoboken is where Macy's stores its floats and balloons 364 days a year. A full-time crew of artists, carpenters, sculptors and mechanics, work there to build and maintain the Thanksgiving fantasies.

When November starts to wane, things get busy in the warehouse. Actors, stuntmen and television crews all descend on the hulking building to rehearse dance routines they will perform on those floats as they roll down Broadway in Manhattan before a television audience of millions.

On Thanksgiving Eve, crews roll out the floats, give them a last checkout, hook them up to trailers and send them through the Lincoln Tunnel. Once in Manhattan, they make final assemblies at dawn on Central Park West, then disassemble them on West 34th Street after the parade and bring them back.

AROUND SPIDERMAN and his colleagues stood a host of

other floats — children's character Sandy Sandman's castle in the sky, Cinderella's coach and plaster horses, Purina's giant dog, a hot-pink float for a live Barbie doll, a springy yellow doodlebug and Santa's sleigh, all awaiting final licks of paint before traveling through the tunnel to Manhattan.

Over this huge warehouse floated Macy's newest balloon, Woodstock, Snoopy's feathered friend from the comic strip "Peanuts," wearing a ski cap more than 10 feet high.

Down below, the daughter of Woodstock's creator was skating across a polyethylene surface on a Metropolitan Life Insurance float.

Jill Schulz, 30, has grown up with the cartoon characters her father, Charles Schulz, created. After skating in the shadow of Woodstock, the blonde Californian talked about living in that shadow. "It can be difficult," the professional ice skater and actress said. "It's a little frustrating. I have to prove myself even more. I get twice the criticism when I perform in a Snoopy show. But I'm not the only person in that place in the business. But I'm going to work and be really good at acting."

Schulz has been skating for 15 years, professionally with the Joe Follies and Holiday On Ice. She also has acted on stage and television. This is her second year of skating on the Metropolitan Life float down Broadway. The float depicts a winter setting with a plastic-surface skating rink, on which Schulz and "Peanuts" characters cavort.

For Schulz, the parade is "exhilarating and exciting." She loves the enthusiasm of the children. It's so infectious that last year she skated for two hours and didn't get tired, she recalled.

But it's tough to skate on plastic, and sometimes she pushes off into a glide just as the float stops or starts, and winds up helter-skelter across the ice.

NEXT TO Schulz, several carpenters and sculptors were working in a large shop, making changes and repairs. Models of the balloons stood on benches. Manfred G. Bass, the white-haired, soft-spoken manager and

designer, rules here. Bass, with 20 to 25 others, works full-time on the parade. Extra help is hired just before the parade.

Floats and balloons start with discussion followed by scale models, and then are built. Bass and his colleagues do the planning, hammering, sculpting and painting in the studio here. "It's a challenging and satisfying process," Bass said. "We use contemporary and classic images. You get to the moms and dads, and grandmas and grandpas, to bring out the child in them. That's what we're looking for."

Bass has worked on the parade since 1961. Some of the floats are older, but have survived weather and traffic well. "We restage and refurbish floats to a new setting continuously. Imagination is the only limitation."

Physical strain, and the narrow dimensions of the Lincoln Tunnel can be a problem, but "the people have been with the parade for years," and "the logistics are so well-organized, accidents are organized out."

But for Bass and his workers, Thanksgiving is a day of work. "As soon as we assemble the last unit and it goes downtown (from Central Park West), we have to go downtown and disassemble the first unit."

So when does Bass and his team get to eat Thanksgiving dinner? "We all sit down together on Friday and have a turkey dinner here in the studio," he said.

BACK AT the Marvel float, the actors were still rehearsing. This float had three levels, Bass explained. The lowest level featured sweatshops and dungeons for the evil world of villains. The middle level was for the comic strip heroes, and the top level would hold real American superheroes — Olympic gold medalists Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Carl Lewis, Janet Evans and Florence Griffith-Joyner.

On Thursday, none of the Olympic stars was there. But the superheroes were, and they rehearsed routines of jumps, body moves and wall-climbing. NBC directors and Macy's workers discussed timing of the actions so that TV cameras would get the right angle.

Bass showed off his handiwork. Different scenes of comics and heroic endeavors were depicted and were physically possible on this float. Chains and

beams doubled as ladders. Bass nimbly grabbed hold of two bars on the blank side of his creation, and climbed up the sheer wooden wall. "It's decorative and functional," he said.

Even the Rube Goldberg industrial contraptions had uses. He turned a lever and sparks flew. He turned it further, and wheels started to spin on another wall, generating more noise and sparks.

"You're bringing out the child in every person," Bass said, "and you excite everyone's imagination." He then turned philosophical. "As artists, it's our responsibility to enhance that part of life — the imagination."

THE ACTORS were working on enhancing imaginations, too. The music started, and they went into their energetic routines. Spiderman shimmied down a fire pole, and jumped onto a roof with a satisfying thud. Silver Surfer climbed the side of a skyscraper. Dr. Doom peered out from the latticework of girders.

Glenn, as Dr. Strange, traded slow, majestic, karate-like jabs with the White Queen. As the song continued, they once again united beneath The Incredible Hulk's tower, and he once again made it topple over.

While the tower was levered back into place and directors continued to fuss, Glenn talked about his work. Did he enjoy it? "Absolutely. It's my second year, and it's wonderful. The kids make this come alive. They're all out there, and they believe. Their eyes staring at you, it's great."

Glenn, who is an actor and stuntman, also makes appearances as Dr. Strange. The other superheroes remained in character when facing a reporter.

"What do you do in your spare time?" Spiderman and Ironman were asked.

"We fight crime," Spiderman said. Did they enjoy taking part in the parade? "Absolutely," said Ironman, who had his own question for the reporter.

"Did you eat your vegetables?" Ironman asked chillingly. The reporter was not prepared to do battle with two superheroes. He lied, and said he had. The superheroes were pleased.

#### In Hoboken

## City Hall features port days gone by

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Eighty years ago, when the Mile Square City was one of the busiest ports in the country, the lives of 70,000 residents largely centered on the bustling waterfront and the world-class ocean liners which so often docked here.

Now, the waterfront is once again key to the city's survival as an attraction for wealthy developers who are poised to transform the desolate site into a sprawling complex of towers and parks.

Preliminary plans were unveiled last month, heralding a new age for the city — and making this a good time for a look back at the waterfront's faded glory.

That was the goal of an exhibit of the Hoboken Historical Museum that opened Friday night at City Hall. The exhibit reviews the functional days of the waterfront with vintage photographs and other relics from the massive ocean liners of the early 20th century.

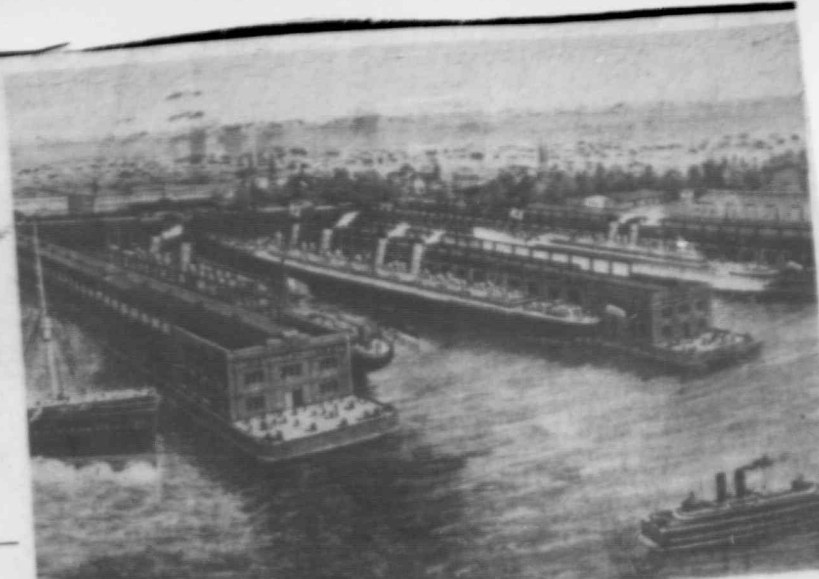
The co-curator of the exhibit, Robert Foster, said it will be on display here for a year.

On Friday night, Bill Miller, a teacher at the Salvatore Calabro School and one of the nation's authorities on ocean liners, introduced the exhibit with a lecture and slide show.

Miller, a city native who has written more than 20 books on the liners, told of a massive fire on the piers in June 1900 that "burned for hours and hours" and led city residents to believe "it was the end of the world."

But the city rebuilt its waterfront bigger and better than ever, Miller said, and two German passenger ship lines, the Hamburg-America and the North German Lloyd, soon brought some of the world's largest ships here.

Five city blocks long and weighing thousands of tons, the



Hoboken piers, above, as they appeared in 1906, when North German Lloyd and Hamburg-American lines docked in Hoboken. Below, the USS Leviathan returns with soldiers from France after World War I. DISPATCH 11-21-88



ships featured silk-covered smoking rooms, oak-panel dining facilities and gold-plated appointments for first-class passengers — and cramped, spare accommodations for steerage.

At the onset of World War I, Miller said, the U.S. government seized German-owned ships, converting some of them to troop carriers. Every American "doughboy" who sailed for Europe in that war did so from the city's piers, Miller said.

After the war, ocean liners began their slow decline here and elsewhere, Miller said — but not before Miller's grandfather saw perhaps the high point of the city's illustrious shipping history.

One day in 1919, about 10,000

schoolchildren here got a day off to see President Woodrow Wilson embark on a voyage to Versailles, France, to sign the peace treaty that ended World War I.

Ironically, Wilson sailed in a ship that had been seized from Germany — the country U.S. troops helped defeat.

Miller also spoke of later liners, including the ornate, Art Deco ships of the 1920s and '30s — decorated in "early Ginger Rogers," he said.

Remaining at City Hall are items such as soap, watches and posters from the early ships. The items, along with dozens of rare photographs of the ships and piers, are encased in glass on City Hall's first two floors.

#### Aim: Cut budgets

## Pasculli eyes accord with school board

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Mayor Patrick Pasculli yesterday called a special City Council meeting to discuss plans to forge a spending agreement with the Board of Education.

Faced with another election in less than six months, Pasculli is moving quickly to try to reduce both the school and municipal budgets.

Pasculli announced he is calling the council meeting for Wednesday to discuss the school budget. Pasculli also has said he intends to hire Fred Tomkins, a former Jersey City business administrator, as a consultant on the municipal budget.

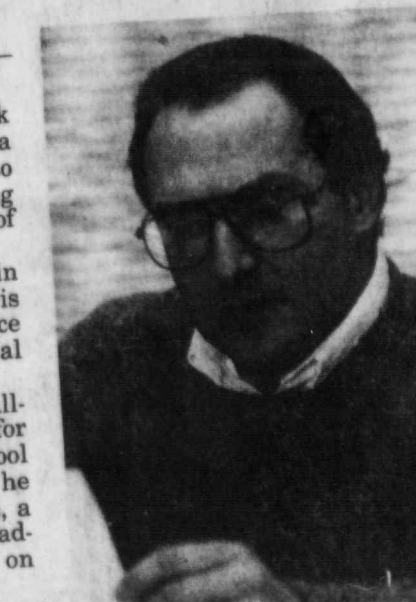
Pasculli, who won election Nov. 8, focused much of his campaign on pledges to reduce taxes. But he endured criticism for sitting idle while the school board voted to appeal a cut the council made in the board's \$27.3 million budget.

The state commissioner of education, Saul Cooperman, ruled last month that the cuts were improper because the city had failed to justify them. The result means taxes will go up about 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in each of the next two budget years.

Pasculli, a school teacher, has maintained the cuts the commissioner voided were excessive. But he and several advisers said they intended to create support from the board and council for a 3-to-5-year spending reduction plan for the school board.

One adviser, who did not want to be identified, said as much as \$5 million might be trimmed from the school budget during the next five years.

After reductions in state and



PATRICK PASCULLI  
Extends olive branch

federal aid, the school budget has gone up steadily for the past five years despite declines in enrollment. The district, however, is under state monitoring as a result of its history of poor test scores, and several programs mandated by the state cannot be cut, according to district officials.

Pasculli said the plan, to be agreed upon by majorities of the school board and council, is aimed at avoiding a legal battle between the two bodies next year concerning the budget. "We would like to begin to work collectively," the mayor said.

Additionally, Pasculli said that, next week, he will announce who he is supporting to fill the vacancy on the board created when Trustee Vivian Flora Distaso resigned this month. Pasculli said yesterday he had not decided who he will back.

#### Hoboken murder

## Judges reject killer's appeal

By JOHN ROFE 11-30-88  
Dispatch Trenton Bureau

TRENTON—The killer of a Hoboken man will not get a new trial under a decision released yesterday by the Appellate Division of state Superior Court.

As a result of the ruling, Thomas John Musto of Metuchen will serve a minimum of 30 years in prison before he is eligible for parole in the 1984 shooting death of 66-year-old Henry Schneider. Schneider was killed in Hoboken apparently after Musto learned that a \$3,200 check to him from Schneider had bounced.

On appeal, Musto had charged that Judge Robert Cavanaugh of Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City erred by not severing the trial from a related murder with which Musto also was charged and for which he was acquitted.

He also charged that his trial attorney, Dennis McAlevy of Hoboken, had inadequately represented him by making disparaging remarks while Musto was on the witness stand.

McAlevy said yesterday that he did not remember what he called him. "I think it was a bum or a rat or something," McAlevy said, adding that it was part of a defense that included claims that Musto was mentally unstable.

The appellate panel found Musto's claims "clearly without merit."

McAlevy did not handle the appeal for Musto.

Musto was acquitted of killing Bernard Press of Sharon, Mass., in the same 1984 incident. Press was found naked in the trunk of a car in Newark.

During the 1986 trial, McAlevy claimed Musto was "psychologically disturbed." He said Musto, a Vietnam War veteran, suffered from flashbacks when he was under stress.

This summer, McAlevy gained the acquittal of another Vietnam veteran charged with leading police on a high-speed chase through Hudson and Bergen counties after robbing a bank. The attorney argued that post-traumatic stress syndrome had prevented the defendant from adjusting to civilian life.

## Council may fight school bill

By Jo-Ann Moriarty 11-28-88

There are enough votes on the Hoboken City Council to challenge the state's decision to restore the \$2.8 million to the school budget that the council had chipped from the \$27.3 million budget.

However, Vincent Calabrese, assistant state education commissioner, said the best way to reduce school spending is to have the cuts supported by a majority on the local Board of Education.

Hoboken City Council members agree that until the school board members as a body come to terms with spending reductions, it is going to be difficult for the city to make budget cuts stick.

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who teaches eighth grade in the public school system, has called a special City Council meeting for Wednesday night to discuss the state's rejection of the council cuts. The council has until Dec. 9 to appeal the decision.

Of the nine council members, seven are eligible to vote on the school budget. Councilmen Edwin Duroy and Richard Del Boccio are public school principals. Of the remaining seven, six members indicated they are willing to challenge

## Council may fight school bill

Continued from Page 1

the state Department of Education in the appellate court.

"I would vote to appeal, but I think it is a lost cause," said Councilman Steve Cappiello.

"What we need to do is sit down together with all parties and work something out for next year. We have to open the communication and get a realistic budget that will be acceptable to the mandate of the public," he added.

In his written ruling, received by the city last week, Calabrese said that the council could not reduce the school budget in response to voter reaction. Hoboken voters rejected the \$27.3 million document last April.

Law Director Eugene O'Connell believes that the city has a strong case in challenging the state's decision.

Calabrese, in an interview before the holiday weekend, said he rejected the City Council's cuts partly because he disagreed with the procedure by which the cuts were made and because he believed the council cuts were "arbitrary and capricious."

Specifically, Calabrese objected that Joseph Rafter, school chairman, formed a budget committee with Gerard Costa, Vivian Flora-Distaso and Felix Rivera, the latter three elected in the spring on a platform to cut the school bud-

get, and worked in aiding the City Council to reduce the school budget.

Those four members — Flora-Distaso recently resigned because she moved out of Hoboken — were committed to reducing school spending because they said that an ongoing patronage system drove up school spending.

But the nine-member school board, by a vote of 5-4, rejected budget reductions proposed by those four members. Consequently, Calabrese ruled that the group was not authorized to converse with the City Council because it did not represent a majority of the school board.

Moreover, Calabrese ruled that "the minutes of that (council) meeting clearly show that council did not understand the implications of the reductions and in fact were relying on the (school) board's committee to lend credence to its actions."

The purported reasons contained in council's resolution did not reflect an independent analysis of the appropriations necessary for educational programs," the ruling read.

Meanwhile, council members contend they are not experts on the school budget and need the guidance of school trustees to make sensible cuts. O'Connell said he is confident about an appeal.



# More parking proposed for Hoboken ward

By James Efstathiou

Between 50 to 100 metered parking spaces in downtown Hoboken would be transformed to non-metered resident spaces according to a proposal backed by First Ward Councilman Thomas Newman.

Newman, who presented the plan to the Hoboken Parking Authority Tuesday evening, said an influx of new residents in the ward prompted the proposal. The plan would shift emphasis from the traditionally commuter-oriented parking in the ward to the needs of ward residents.

"Parking has become a scarce resource," said Newman. "It used to be that the only ones that parked there were commuters, but I think we're not in the business of providing commuter parking anymore. That end of the ward is revitalized."

The initiative, which must be written into an ordinance amending city traffic laws, requires City Council approval, Newman said. He could not project a date when the measure might be ready for introduction but said that the council Transportation and Parking Committee, the Parking Authority and the Hoboken Traffic and Signal Division have all agreed in principle to the changes.

The plan calls for the elimination of long-term metered parking south of First Street including meters on Garden Street, Park Avenue and Newark Street. Those areas currently have eight and 12 hour meters designed for commuter parking.

According to Newman, the increased demand for parking has forced some First Ward residents to cross north of First Street to compete for non-metered resident parking spaces.

In addition, the plan includes provisions for a combination of metered parking and loading zones on First Street between Bloomfield and Grand streets which is currently zoned for no parking. One loading zone on each block and 90-minute metered parking for shoppers would be added in that area.

Newman hopes to add spaces by eliminating a fire zone on Hudson Street south of Fourth Street and by allowing parking on one side of Fourth Street between River and Hudson streets. Parking is prohibited in both areas according to current zoning.

## Developer to rid site of asbestos

By John Petrick 11-27-88

A federal judge yesterday signed a consent order giving Hoboken developer Anthony Dell'Aquila two weeks to correct asbestos violations found by the Environmental Protection Agency at a waterfront construction site.

Robert Delventhal, Dell'Aquila's attorney, said EPA officials and the asbestos removal firm Direct Line were at the site today to begin work in accordance with the consent order.

In agreeing to the consent order, the EPA withdrew its contempt-of-court proceedings against Dell'Aquila. The agency contended that Dell'Aquila, along with his former partner Harry Grant and Sandalwood Construction, left unprotected asbestos exposed at two site locations in violation of an order issued by U.S. District Court Judge John Bissell on Aug. 5.

The three defendants could have been slapped with civil contempt fines, but Bissell last week urged all the parties to negotiate a settlement.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Susan Handler, representing the EPA, said that Grant and Sand-

See DEVELOPER — Page 5.

## Panel will probe Hoboken election

By Earlene C. McMichael

Election Day complaints from three Hoboken campaign challengers in that city's Fourth Ward has prompted the Hudson County Board of Elections to consider a probe.

The election is already under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

Board of Elections officials plan to interrogate poll workers from the ward's Districts 2 and 3.

The board's probe comes after three campaign challengers sent letters to the board detailing in depth what they believed were election law abuses.

The Hudson County Prosecutor, the Superior Court Assignment Judge in Hudson, the

state Attorney General, the governor and the U.S. Attorney General were sent copies.

The Jersey Journal recently reported that a deputy election commissioner said voting procedures in those districts were "routinely disregarded" on Election Day.

The polling site is located at 221 Jackson St. for both districts, which are primarily made up of moderate- and low-income tenants of Hoboken's public housing projects.

According to David White, who served as a deputy commissioner for those districts, problems at the site included electioneering by campaign workers both in and out of the polling place, voting tickets which were distributed out of sequence and a disregard for procedures for challenging a voter's eligibility.

The FBI is already investigating charges of election law violations during the Nov. 8 election and has seized voting registrations and absentee ballots. Voting machines have been roped off with "evidence tape."

Before proceeding, Board of Elections officials say they will make sure their probe does not interfere with that of the FBI. They would like to question White.

In their letters, Sheila Scully (whose affiliation is not indicated), Annette E. Illing, a challenger for at-large City Council candidate Steve Busch, and Nora Jacobson, a challenger for mayoral candi-

See PANEL — Page 26.

## Developer to rid site of asbestos

Continued from Page 1

dawood are not subject to the consent order. She would not say why.

Delventhal noted that his client entered into the agreement "without prejudice," meaning that the agreement in no way represents any admission of guilt by Dell'Aquila.

"We have notified Grant's attorney that we intend to hold him liable for all this," said Delventhal. The partnership of Dell'Aquila and Grant dissolved late this summer, and the two are now embroiled in litigation.

"Now that we are in control of this site, it is our intent to cooperate fully," the attorney said. "We are not fighting this. We're just placed in a Catch-22 situation. There are things that have happened on the site that we are just now learning about."

"As of Sept. 14, Grant was no longer allowed on the premises," noted attorney Allan Klinger, who is representing both Grant and Sandalwood. "Disputes still exist as to the events on the property," he said, noting that those events will ultimately be the subject of the Superior Court lawsuits Grant and Dell'Aquila have filed against each other because of their separation.

Klinger said the EPA withdrew its civil contempt claim against his clients because, "As far as the government is concerned, we are no longer in control of that property."

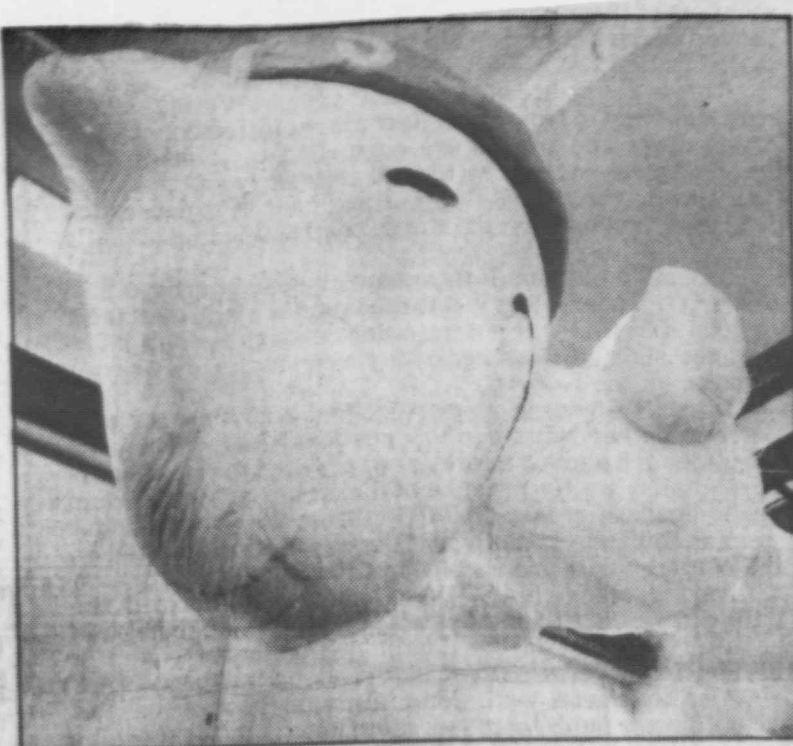
EPA inspectors said they found loose asbestos at Pier Two and in an area just east of what is known as the machine shop on the site, which lies between the Maxwell House building and Weehawken.

Under the consent order, Dell'Aquila has agreed to report to the EPA's attorney each week on cleanup progress. Aside from the two violations the EPA cited, any other unprotected asbestos on the site must be secured or removed by Dec. 15.

The entire matter began when the developers were demolishing structures to clear the way for construction. Prior to the demolition, Dell'Aquila had the buildings examined for asbestos and had the substance removed. The developers discovered more asbestos, however, after demolition began in the spring.

Hoboken's Building Department notified the EPA, whose inspectors found four violations of federal asbestos removal procedures.

The EPA issued a compliance order on June 29, which directed the developers to correct the problem.



Woodstock practices at the Macy's warehouse in Hoboken for Thursday's big parade.

## Hoboken dreams give parade life

By John Petrick

"I'm sorry, but the super heroes do not give interviews," says a polite but firm Macy's public relations person. Her good looks and businesslike demeanor make her a dead ringer for Maureen O'Hara in Miracle on 34th Street — given the circumstances, anyway.

Oh well, no time for interviews anyway. Marvel's of the Universe thwart Dr. Strange in Hoboken, take one: An ethereal blonde wrapped in white silk whirls her way to a giant-sized comic book, while angelic harmonies fill the air.

Her magic spell having been cast, out pops Captain America straight from the comic book's pages! Silver shield in hand, he ascends a Gothic tower to greet Spiderman. They shake hands, and their mission begins.

The nature of that mission is a bit unclear during rehearsal in a musty, cavernous warehouse on Willow Avenue in Hoboken, where Macy's stores its floats and balloons for the Thanksgiving Day Parade in Manhattan.

Super heroes have gotten a little complicated since the old

See DREAMS — Page 8.

## Panel will probe Hoboken election

Continued from Page 1

date Joseph Della Fave, claimed:

• Poll workers berated them when they pointed out or questioned possible election law violations.

Meanwhile, challengers who didn't make "trouble" were thanked by poll workers for being "good."

• Poll workers frequently joined voters in the voting booth, instead of coaching voters on how to operate the voting machines from outside the voting booths.

• Poll workers held lengthy conversations with campaign challengers near voting machines, despite repeated requests by the three challengers to stop fraternizing. Also campaign literature and paraphernalia were said to be present at the polls.

• Some people appeared to have voted more than once.

• Rules for campaign challengers were not evenly enforced. For example, at one point, Mayor Patrick Pasculli was allowed to have two campaign challengers, while other candidates had only one.

• And some people who claimed to be campaign challengers failed to wear the proper identifying ribbons.

Pasculli defeated Councilman Della Fave in the mayoral race by 409 votes citywide. His largest margin of victory was in the Fourth Ward where he outpolled Della Fave 1,284-518.

Della Fave has sued for a recount.

The letters of the three campaign challengers were read at Wednesday's Board of Elections meeting.

"(Poll workers) appeared to be impervious to all and any irregularities," wrote Scully, "maintaining a 'see no evil, hear no evil' countenance."

"It appeared that the board workers either had no sense whatsoever of what those rules are, or that they purposely endeavored to mystify and sow confusion."

Among the requests made by the challengers are the expulsion of all poll workers in Districts 2 and 3 in the Fourth Ward; the separation of the polling sites for both districts, and an investigation into the election.

## Hoboken cop hurt in crash rescue

By James Efstathiou

A veteran Hoboken police officer is recovering from injuries he received pulling an unconscious crash victim from behind the wheel of his car.

Lt. Jack Howe, commander of the department's Training Bureau and a 21-year veteran of the force, is expected to be out at least four months. Chief George Crimmins said he would be hardpressed to replace Howe due to his position but might be forced to do so given the projected recovery period.

"Not every police officer

can move into that spot," Crimmins said. "His actions were very commendable."

Howe, who was previously awarded the department's Medal of Honor, was on route last Tuesday to the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy in Mahwah where twice a year he lectures recruits. Before reaching the academy, however, he came upon a four-car accident at the intersection of Main Street and Franklin Turnpike in Ramsey Borough.

"Should I mind my own business and keep going, or should I play cop," Howe remembered thinking as he ap-

proached the scene. "I opted for the other. I think any policeman would have done it."

Reacting on instinct, Howe stopped and noticed an unconscious man slumped over the wheel of his car. The victim's foot may have been pressing the accelerator as the engine was racing and smoke was pouring from under the hood, Howe said.

"All I saw was the smoke coming from the car and people trying to open the door," Howe said. One passerby had broken the driver's side window and was attempting to pull the man through the opening

when Howe intervened.

"They were excited," Howe said. "He didn't realize that if he just opened the lock, the door would open. Everything under the hood was burning. You could hear the engine racing."

After opening the door and removing the victim from the car, Howe continued to drag the man a safe distance from the scene. It was at that point, however, that the rescuer stumbled on a sewer plate on a front lawn, falling and breaking his knee on the iron lid.

"I guess my football days are over," Howe said jokingly.

Howe said.

Other floats sitting dormant include a Barbie and the Sensations soda shop, where the dolls will come to life for a little jam session come Thanksgiving Day; and Sandy Sandman's futuristic castle nestled in the clouds high above a little village. The Osmond Boys will be performing on this one, singing, what else, "Mr. Sandman."

At 12:01 on Thanksgiving morning, one tube of the Lincoln Tunnel will be closed so the convoy of floats can journey

sealed for 15 days following an election.

Della Fave, through his attorney Raymond Korona of Jersey City, has denied that he sought the FBI investigation.

This is the first time the FBI has become involved in a local election since the 1985 Jersey City mayoral election.

The Nov. 8 Hoboken balloting was a special election held to fill the unexpired term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezetti.

Pasculli was appointed after Vezetti's death last summer to serve as interim mayor until this month's special election. An election for a full four-year mayoral term is scheduled for next May.



Charlie Brown and Jill Schulz, daughter of "Peanuts" creator Charles Schulz, try out their skates on the "Peanuts Ice Rink" float.

## Dreams born in Hoboken give life to annual parade

Continued from Page 1

days. Wolverine, Iron Man, Silver Surfer and the Incredible Hulk join forces to free somebody from the laboratory of Dr. Strange...or is it the dungeon of Dr. Doom?

Whatever. By the end of the skit, as those angelic background voices reach an ear-piercing crescendo, the Hulk blows it.

This contraption of a belfry, which the big lug is supposed to collapse with one mighty thrust of the arms, just won't budge.

The super heroes can no longer keep straight faces. They crack up, and take a breather before running through the routine again.

"Does your mother know what you do for a living?" jokes Dr. Strange to the Hulk, who has taken off his head to get a little air.

Meanwhile, a gray-haired man in overalls darts about the warehouse with a twinkle in his eye and a proud grin on his face. He'd probably be handing out cigars if it wasn't for the fact that most of those admiring his creations are under the age of 10.

"We're all little kids, really," says Manfred Bass, designer and builder of the floats and balloons that are on view.

Just as he says that, a 10-foot-tall mechanical puppy dog



The floats are lined up and ready to roll to Manhattan.

slowly stands on its hind legs and begs.

"Oooooooooooooooooooooo!" is the resounding response from the little ones, gathered at the base of the towering terrier.

"Everybody always dreams of having their own little puppy dog," says Bass. "This is ours."

Bass, a former illustrator of children's books, has been creating floats and balloons for the parade since 1960. He and his staff work all year round preparing for one day of glory. You would think that would make Friday, Nov. 25 sort of a downer. "Not at all. We're already looking forward to the next year," he says.

At the other end of the studio, the first snow has fallen. Snoopy — wearing a Macy's sweater — cuts some ice with Jill Schultz, daughter of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz. An inflated Woodstock balloon hovers over this magic kingdom.

Other floats sitting dormant include a Barbie and the Sensations soda shop, where the dolls will come to life for a little jam session come Thanksgiving Day; and Sandy Sandman's futuristic castle nestled in the clouds high above a little village. The Osmond Boys will be performing on this one, singing, what else, "Mr. Sandman."

At 12:01 on Thanksgiving morning, one tube of the Lincoln Tunnel will be closed so the convoy of floats can journey

to the parade starting line in Manhattan.

A group of 32 students and faculty members from Stevens Institute of Technology will be providing their annual gust of hot air this Thanksgiving to help get the parade off the ground.

The group meets at the Hoboken studio around noon the day before Thanksgiving. After they rendezvous, they will travel with the 30 balloons to the Museum of Natural History in Manhattan, where they will spend the next nine hours or so inflating them. When the parade is over, the group will deflate Raggedy Anne, Big Bird, Woody Woodpecker and the rest of the gang and put them back to bed in Hoboken.

Why not just stay home and eat turkey?

"To me, it's part of Thanksgiving. Like dinner," said Stevens graduate student Robert Greiser, who participated last year. "We had Raggedy Anne on the school field for practice last week," he said. "It went okay."

"It makes you feel more a part of things on Thanksgiving," added Patricia Garcia, a freshman.

"This parade changes your whole way of thinking," Bass added. "It's like a big toy. Whether we're grandmothers, or fathers or aunts or uncles, we all melt down to the same level."

## Humphreys orders Hoboken recount

By Patricia Scott

Superior Court Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys has formally ordered a recount in the Hoboken mayoral election.

In a decision made public yesterday, Humphreys enjoined Hudson County Clerk Frank Rodgers, Superintendent of Elections Harvey L. Birne, Hoboken City Clerk James Farina and county Board of Elections officials from "unlocking, resetting or otherwise adjusting" voting machines used in the Hoboken race.

Humphreys signed documents formally ordering a recount, without prejudice, after

consulting with representatives of the state Attorney General's Office.

The recount request was brought by unsuccessful mayoral candidate Joseph Della Fave, who contends that numerous violations occurred on Election Day and that proper voting procedures were disregarded and systematically violated.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli denies the allegations.

Pasculli won the mayoralty largely by the votes in the Fourth Ward, where he defeated Della Fave by 406 votes, including 176 absentee ballots.

Della Fave, who won three of the city's six wards by com-

fortable margins, claims the numerous violations warrant a recount.

He claims that a voting machine in one area had to be reset to zero because its counter malfunctioned and was blank.

He also contends that a voting machine in the Second Ward was opened 26 minutes late.

Two weeks ago, the FBI seized records from the Board of Elections and roped off all voting machines used in the Hoboken race.

The voting machines are now in a warehouse in South Kearny, because of a state statute that orders all machines

sealed for 15 days following an election.

Della Fave, through his attorney Raymond Korona of Jersey City, has denied that he sought the FBI investigation.

This is the first time the FBI has become involved in a local election since the 1985 Jersey City mayoral election.

The Nov. 8 Hoboken balloting was a special election held to fill the unexpired term of the late Mayor Thomas Vezetti.

Pasculli was appointed after Vezetti's death last summer to serve as interim mayor until this month's special election. An election for a full four-year mayoral term is scheduled for next May.



# QUAKE

## Quebec shock rocks Hudson

By Jim Kopchans

11-26-88

An earthquake shook Hudson County along with much of the Northeast last night, but did little damage.

The quake, measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale with its epicenter in Quebec, rattled windows in Hoboken and downtown Jersey City. However, state police based in the southern part of the state say they did not feel anything.

There were no initial reports of injuries or damage to buildings in Hudson.

Seismologists pinpointed the earthquake's epicenter at Chicoutimi, Quebec, said Janet Drysdale, seismologist with the Geological Survey of Canada. Chicoutimi is about 200 miles northeast of Montreal.

Hoboken police said their headquarters shook for five seconds and the switch boards in both police and fire headquarters were lit up after the tremors, that reportedly shook the area for 15 seconds around 6:45 p.m., subsided.

"We got calls from one end of town to the other after the shaking stopped," a Hoboken police officer said.

John More of Third Street in Jersey City said he was sitting on the couch in his living room when the quake hit.

"The couch started to move," More said. "The mirrors on our dresser started shaking and the kitchen cabinets popped open."

More said he had the impression there were actually two tremors, one that lasted about 15 seconds and another that lasted approximately 10 seconds. "After the first quake stopped I looked out the window and saw the telephone poles swaying."

A spokesman for the Jersey City Fire Department said his department received only one call, from the Montgomery Housing projects about the quakes.

Police in the West District said they received a number of calls about the tremors from people who wanted to know if there had been some kind of explosion.

Lt. Robert Thomas of the Newark police department said his office received several calls from concerned citizens.

"The building rattled," Thomas said. "I wasn't sure what it was."

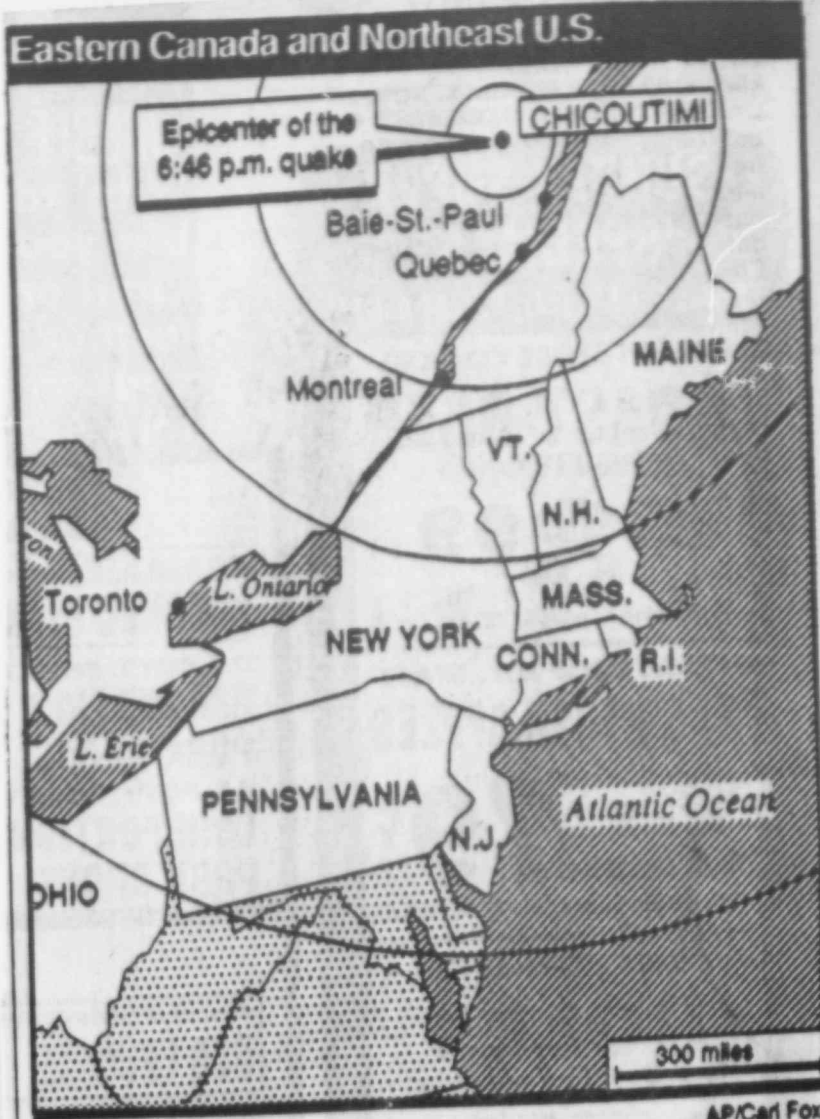
The Asbury Park Press building in Neptune reported that the tremors could be felt on the third floor.

The quake knocked out power in Montreal and elsewhere in the province of Quebec. Canadian Press reported that the quake lasted about 15 to 20 seconds, and also was felt in Ottawa, Toronto and Quebec City.

A foreshock recorded Wednesday had a Richter magnitude of 4.5, Finley said.

In the United States, the

See QUEBEC QUAKE — Page 6.



## Quebec quake felt in Hudson

Continued from Page 1

quake was felt from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Coast, with tremors reported in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

There were no reports of damage to U.S. power plants, transmission lines, dams, or telephone lines.

In New York City, firefighters went to 40 locations where there were reports of tremors but no damage could be found, said fire Lt. Kenneth Murphy.

In the central Vermont community of Berlin, a chimney collapsed but there were no injuries reported.

In Maine, the quake broke windows and knocked pictures off walls. However, the Secret Service in Kennebunkport, said the quake was not felt at the weekend home of President-elect George Bush and his wife, Barbara.

The quake rattled Boston's Top of the Hub restaurant on the 52nd floor of the Prudential Center while about 120 people

were dining, said maitre d' Stephen Brown. "It was enough to make you feel queasy," he said.

Canadian Press said the tremor was felt all over the island of Montreal, along the north and south shores of the St. Lawrence River as well as in the Laurentians and Quebec City.

Canadian Press said the tremors caused the ground to cave in beneath a railway track just west of Montreal at the approach to a railway bridge. It said the damage forced Canadian National railroad officials to shut down the major east-west rail line from Montreal to Senneterre, 220 miles to the west.

The tremors caused a fluore gas leak at the Alcan aluminum smelter in Jonquiere, Quebec, 25 miles west of Chicoutimi, but the leak was repaired shortly afterward, the agency said.

Traffic lights were out throughout Montreal, and there was no electricity in major hotels and Montreal's central train station. Telephone lines were also down around the island.

## 'Street money' reports indicate little was spent

By James Efstathiou

While the frontrunners in Hoboken's Nov. 8 municipal election spent generously during their mayoral campaigns, relatively little "street money" flowed on Election Day, according to post-election reports filed by the candidates.

But according to a Fourth Ward resident who organized workers for Mayor Patrick Pasculli's campaign, some Election Day workers were paid anonymously from a fund provided by a Pasculli campaign organizer. Spending from that source is not reflected in campaign finance reports.

There are no limits on the amount of "street money" (money used for such Election Day activities as hiring workers to get voters out), a candidate can spend, according to Jeff Brindle, deputy director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Committee.

However, the names and addresses of those who receive street money in excess of \$25 must be listed on campaign reports.

"The Committee to Elect Pat Pasculli" spent \$53,000 on the election. The committee reported spending only \$200 on Election Day.

However, \$1,710 was reported as in-kind contributions to the Pasculli campaign to cover Election Day expenses.

Among in-kind contributors were Fifth Ward Councilman E. Norman Wilson, Fourth Ward Councilman Edwin Duroy, Hoboken Housing Authority modernization coordinator Neil Mosco, police officer Mario Mercado and former Fourth Ward Committeeman Louis Francane.

Those monies were spent on Election Day expenses which, according to Duroy, included payment to campaign

workers.

Technically, monies spent through in-kind contributions are not considered campaign expenditures and are not required to be itemized as are street money expenditures.

In addition, Edgardo Pineiro, who has organized campaign workers in the Fourth Ward for numerous candidates since 1964, said he alone distributed over \$50 to each of 23 workers who campaigned on the street for Pasculli on Election Day.

That money, according to Pineiro, was delivered in an unmarked envelope from Duroy, a Pasculli organizer. Duroy and Pasculli were not available for comment.

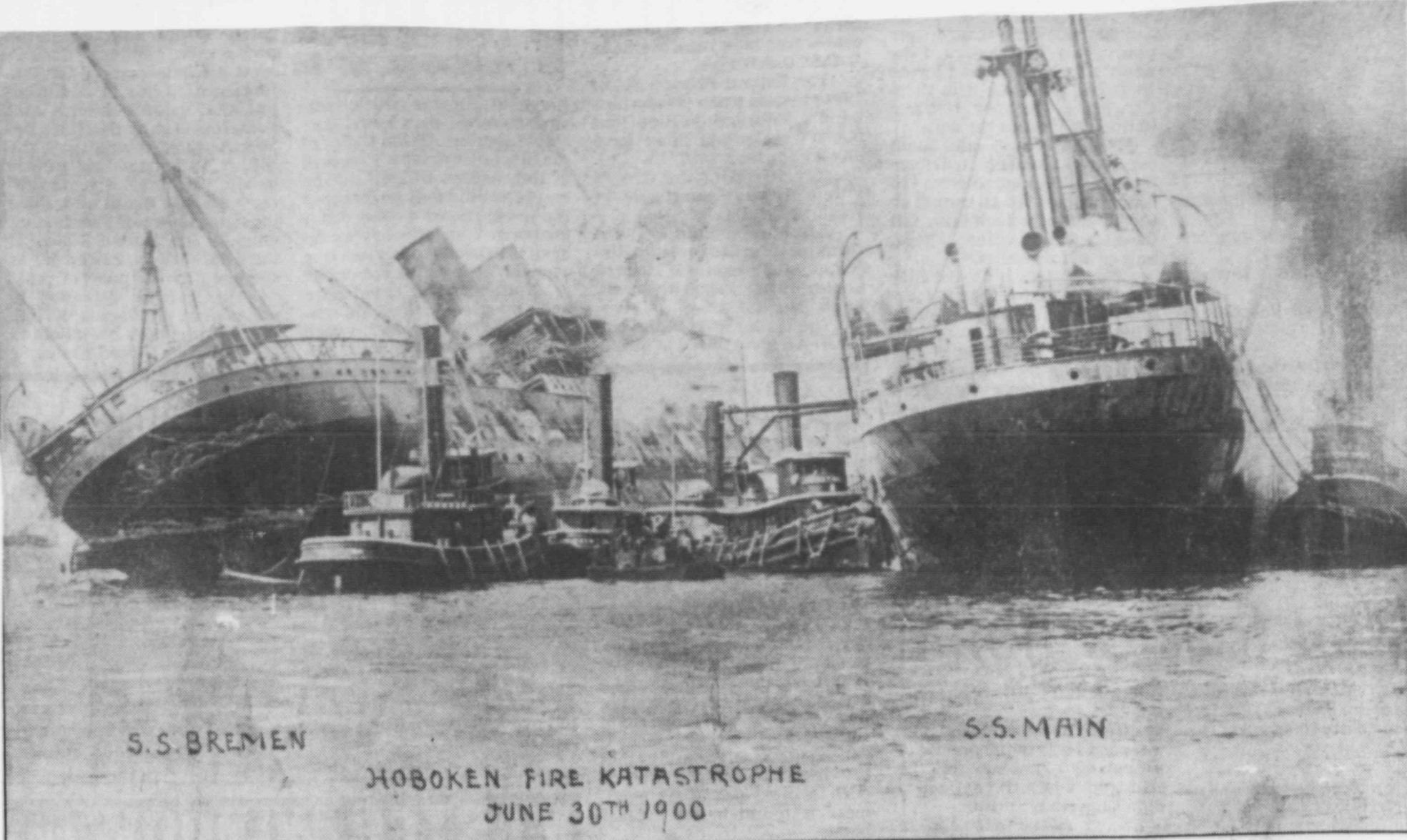
"Della Fave 88," the committee for Second Ward Councilman and runner-up Joseph Della Fave, spent just under \$40,000. Only \$300 of that was used to hire six workers to campaign on Election Day.

Della Fave, who ran well citywide but lost the Fourth Ward by over 700 votes, said the reform movement needed to redirect priorities in the largely lower class area for the upcoming mayoral election.

He added, though, that increasing street money expenditures would not be a campaign strategy.

"I don't expect to spend that type of money one, and two it has not been the nature of our campaign to try to put the money out there on Election Day," said Della Fave, who said he hadn't yet made a decision on whether or not he will run in May.

Financial statements from both Pasculli and Della Fave reflect the costly nature of the campaign. Pasculli owes just under \$10,000, most of which for newspaper advertisements. Della Fave personally contributed \$11,500 to his campaign.



Railroad tugs pull the burning liners S.S. Bremen and S.S. Main from Hoboken on June 30, 1900, during the most destructive fire in the history of the New York Harbor.

By Sebastian D'Elia

More than 25 years after the last ocean liner left the port of Hoboken for warmer waters, "The Great Ocean Liners of Hoboken," an exhibit of the Hoboken Historical Museum, has docked at City Hall.

The yearlong show, which opened Friday, rekindles memories of the great steamships through the use of oral histories, photographs and memorabilia.

The history of the ocean liner in Hoboken is traced to the 1850s, focusing on three of the biggest companies that called Hoboken home: the North German-Lloyd, Hamburg Amerika, and Holland America.

"We've basically turned City Hall into a fun place," said Robert Foster, who curated the show with Jane Steuerwald.

Props on display include a model bronze propeller that was donated by Ferguson Propeller Co. of Hoboken, menus and ship models. There are also maps of the Hoboken Harbor and blown-up postcards of the great liners that docked there.

For the opening, Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken donated a 6-foot model of a liner.

Oral histories

The oral histories are the centerpiece of the show. Steuerwald and Foster spent most of the year compiling a booklet of first-person interviews with historians, ocean liner travelers and workers. The books are free and available on the second floor at City Hall.

"We're interested, most, in social history," Steuerwald said. "What was it like? We wanted to recreate the experience, as opposed to facts and figures, although that's important, too."

"We're interested in the stories the people have to tell. You read a history book and it's third-hand info by the time it has been diluted and put down into paragraphs. It's lost a lot of the original flavor and we think it's important to recapture the flavor."

There are statements from people including author/historian Bill Miller of Jersey City; Stenneck Bopp, a Hoboken travel agent; Larry Van Holland, a supervisor of tour planning for the Holland America Line, and a former

stewardess.

Spurred Hoboken growth

The harbor had a great effect on the city of Hoboken. Between 1870 and 1910, Hoboken's population increased from 20,000 to 70,000 — spurred by the growth of its harbor. The Hamburg Amerika and the North German Lloyd lines, for example, both provided jobs and encouraged the settlement of German immigrants in the area.

By 1890, the Netherlands American Steam Navigation Company, also known as the Holland America Line, set up

quarters in Hoboken. The first piers were constructed by the Stevens family, which owned much property in Hoboken and established Stevens Institute of Technology, and were located between Fifth and Sixth streets. The Holland America Line was also the last company to leave Hoboken in 1963, when the Statendam cast to sea.

Tragic fire

The most destructive fire in the history of the New York Harbor occurred June 30, 1900, at the Hoboken piers. Foster said. Some 200 to 400

people, most of them immigrants, perished.

The fire started in a cotton bale on Pier 3 and spread to the docked liners of the North German-Lloyd lines. Railroad tugs were used to pull out the burning liners, S.S. Bremen and S.S. Main.

At the time, the ocean liner was the main form of trans-Atlantic transportation, bringing an estimated 500,000 passengers from Europe to the United States in 1900 alone.

The Hoboken piers also played a major role in the war effort during World War I. The U.S. government confiscated — and renamed — the liners for troop transport to Europe. The U.S.S. Leviathan, for example, had been named the Vaterland when owned by the Hamburg Amerika line. It was during the war that the cry, "Heaven, hell or Hoboken by Christmas," became popular among U.S. servicemen.

Demise of the liners

Miller attributes the demise of the ocean liners in the East to geography and the jet.

"Within six months of the first jet run to Europe in 1958, the airlines had two-thirds of the clientele on the Atlantic run to Europe," he said.

"Many (ocean liner) companies went out of business, and now almost all the existing ones are located in Florida, so people can go the Caribbean ports fast and stay in warm weather."

The Hoboken Historical Museum's third annual exhibition, "The Great Ocean Liners of Hoboken" is on exhibit on the first and second floors of City Hall during regular City Hall hours, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is free.

\$1.2B Hoboken project

## Waterfront site being freed of asbestos

By ROBERT NEUWIRTH

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A local developer yesterday began work to clear asbestos from buildings on a waterfront site here, his attorney said.

According to a consent order signed by a federal judge yesterday, Anthony Dell'Aquila, a

lingerie manufacturer who owns 94 acres of prime land along the northern waterfront here, took responsibility for removing all asbestos from the buildings on the site.

"We have agreed that, if we find any loose asbestos, we're going to clean it up by Dec. 15," said Robert W. Delvanthal, the

Newark attorney who represents Dell'Aquila.

The agreement, signed by U.S. District Judge John W. Bissell in Newark, is the latest chapter in a long dispute that has all but killed an ambitious development plan for the large waterfront parcel that was once the site of the Bethlehem Steel shipyard.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency sued Dell'Aquila and his former partner, Fort Lee builder Harry Grant, alleging that demolition

contractors working on Pier 2 on Oct. 24 had improperly cut through asbestos insulation. Grant later was dropped from the action because he no longer has control of the property.

Asbestos, a known carcinogen, is listed as a hazardous substance under federal law and must be removed according to prescribed procedures.

Officials twice have halted work on the site, which runs along Park Avenue between 14th and 16th streets, alleging asbestos violations.

### LETTERS TO EDITOR

#### Della Fave's numbers are all wet

As usual, all we get from the Della Fave people is more crying and attempts to further confuse and deceive the voting community. The most recent attempt is the use of non-existent numbers to enhance an indefensible position. Thank God, enough voters were not fooled by these self-serving and self-proclaimed reformers that a victory for Patrick Pasculli in the Nov. 8 Hoboken mayoral election

was assured. Dispatch 11-22-88

In a letter to the editor of another newspaper on Nov. 13, Joseph Della Fave erroneously states he won 5/6ths of the city by more than 500 votes. Even a first-grade student knows that with such numbers it is impossible to lose an election unless it is the biggest ripoff in the history of the American politics. If those numbers had been true, the most needy Hoboken — the poor, minorities and workers — would be facing the

prospect of an administration which in the past spoke a heck of a good game, but never delivered. This group over the years has proven it cares nothing for those most in need, nor for their most critical and justifiable concerns.

The elections this year were confusing enough to many voters without adding any more confusion to them; whether purposefully or through mathematical ignorance. If this is an example of the mathematical knowl-

edge possessed by a college professor, then God help the students under his charge, and the people of Hoboken who must depend on his interpretation of all budgetary matters and tax rates. It makes one wonder whether he actually resigned his position at St. Peter's College, or if he was terminated for incompetency.

Juan R. Garcia,  
Hoboken



# Nun said to have interfered in vote

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

A Hoboken school trustee who was a campaign worker for Mayor Patrick Pasculli claims a Roman Catholic nun "tried to intimidate a blind senior citizen" to keep him from voting in the special municipal election Nov. 8.

The allegation is made in an affidavit by Trustee Mario Mercado and names Sister Norberta Hunnewinkel. Mercado also accused the nun, who runs a homeless shelter in Hoboken and is chairwoman of the city Rent Leveling Board, of violating election laws by electioneering within a polling place.

Mercado's affidavit is one of several filed by Pasculli supporters in response to claims that some Pasculli workers violated election regulations dur-

## 'Tried to intimidate blind senior citizen'

ing the polling. The affidavits from the Pasculli supporters accuse supporters of Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who lost the mayoral race to Pasculli.

Hunnewinkel, contacted yesterday at the Bishop Marherter Shelter for the Homeless, responded to Mercado's charges saying:

"I don't want to grace it with a reply.

"It is unfortunate that the politics in our town have stooped to a level minimizing

the dignity of each person," said Hunnewinkel.

Sworn statements made by Mercado, Anne Cerbo and James Fitzsimmons, president of the Hoboken police union, were collected by Pasculli's attorney, Michael Mongiello, and sent to state and county law enforcement agencies.

The sworn statements are the latest development in the aftermath of the controversial special election.

The FBI is investigating allegations of election impropri-

eties and has impounded the voting machines and records used in the election.

The statements collected by Pasculli's attorney are also a response to sworn testimony of campaign workers for Della Fave, whom Pasculli beat by 400 votes, and unsuccessful council at-large candidate Steve Busch, a member of the rent board.

Della Fave and Busch workers sent sworn statements to county and state government offices documenting what they saw as voting irregularities.

Superior Court Judge Burrell J. Humphreys has ordered a recount of the election. Betty Outlaw, Hudson County deputy superintendent of elections, said yesterday that coun-

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# Nun said to have intimidated blind voter

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ty election officials will probably interview all the people who have filed affidavits.

In a tersely worded passage in his affidavit, Mercado stated that he "observed Sister Norberta violate election laws by electioneering in the polling place by campaigning within 100 feet of the polls.

"She tried to intimidate a blind senior citizen from casting his ballot," Mercado's statement read.

In her statement, Anne Cerbo, a Pasculli challenger who worked Election Day in the Fourth Ward, accuses Della Fave and Busch challengers of violating election rules by questioning voters before they gave their names to the district board workers.

Cerbo cites Sheila Scully and Ira Karasick, Della Fave workers, and Nora Jacobson, a Busch challenger, for "creating many problems" in two voting districts.

Cerbo specifically cites

Scully and Jacobson for going into the polling booth and pulling a voter out of the booth.

"In addition Sheila Scully literally pulled a man out of a voting machine after the board workers allowed him to vote after being challenged in Ward 4, District 2," Cerbo's statement read.

Scully yesterday dismissed the allegation as "a total lie. Not even the punctuation in her sentence is correct," Scully said she worked in Ward 4, District 2, but added she did not pull anyone out of a voting booth.

"I was prepared for this," said Scully, one of three women who sent sworn testimony to law enforcement agencies. "It is still shocking how people can (commit) libel. I am flabbergasted by the lies."

"We bent over backward trying to be truthful in accounting the day's event," said Scully. She said she kept a journal at the polling place to record what she saw as voting irregularities.

"Their affidavits certainly substantiate our claim that there were grave irregularities at the polling place. I'm glad that they agree with that. However, I disagree with the specifics and I categorically deny their charges against me," Scully said.

Cerbo stood by her statements yesterday. "They came to my ward to intimidate our community who they feel is the stepchild of the city. They only come to us at election time. Patty (Pasculli) comes to us all year."

Jacobson said that neither she nor the other Busch or Della Fave challengers questioned

voters as they entered the voting area. She said they left the challenge table only twice and in both instances did nothing wrong.

In the third statement, James Fitzsimmons said a Della Fave challenger refused to leave the polling area, thereby violating the election rule limit of one challenger per candidate.

Outlaw said voting rules allow each candidate one chal-

lenger and that two are allowed if the board workers agree to an increased number. Annette Hing, chairman of the Campaign for Housing Justice and a Busch challenger, was the third woman to send sworn testimony to the state. She was not cited in the statements collected by Pasculli's attorney.

"I certainly hope that these statements are going to the U.S. Attorney's Office," Hing said.

# No shortage of candidates for school post

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

At least six people are interested in filling the vacancy left by Vivian Flora-DiStaso on the Hoboken Board of Education, trustees said yesterday.

Candidates include former school trustees James Monaco, Otto Hottendorf, Perry Belfiore as well as Claire DePalma, Anne Cerbo, Michael Rosano and Walter McCurdy, according to board members.

Joseph Rafter, school board chairman, said yesterday that he does not expect the board to fill the vacancy at next Tuesday's meeting. However, he said he will suggest that members set a structure to accept resumes and begin an interviewing process.

But Rafter said that he does not want to drag it out because the board has an ambitious agenda, including forming next year's school budget. The board has two months to fill the vacancy.

Rafter's first choice is Gail Tuzman, the chairperson of Committee for Quality Education. Tuzman said yesterday that she will not seek the appointment.

"It was a very difficult decision, but I will not go for a board seat," Tuzman said. Monaco, Hottendorf, Belfiore, Cerbo, Rosano and McCurdy could not be reached for comment. However, McCurdy has submitted his resume to the school board. DePalma, contacted at her home, said she was interested in the appointment.

Although none of the trustees said yesterday they had a committed vote, the strongest candidate at this time appears to be DePalma, a Jersey City school teacher, who coordinated the campaigns of the three trustees who were swept into office in April. Those members include Flora-DiStaso, Felix Rivera and Gerald Costa, who ran as on the Coalition for Better Schools and Lower Taxes.

Rafter, Rivera and Costa usually vote as a bloc, specifically on issues to reduce school spending.

But Trustee James Farina, who often votes against that trio, said yesterday that he would vote for DePalma if she were nominated because she is interested in education as well as reducing school spending.

"I am really shocked that he (Farina) would support her. She would be one of the people I would consider very strongly. I haven't talked to her or to Jimmy or to the people on my side of the aisle. But nobody can find fault with Claire. If she is interested, I would consider her a strong candidate," Rafter said.

Farina said that DePalma "has been very involved with school issues. She knows what is happening and she would make a good school board trustee."

"I would have no problem voting for her," Farina said.

Rafter said that he considered himself Costa and Rivera the minority on the board and that they would have to take their lead from Farina.

Ironically, while the highest praise came from Costa, Rivera and Rafter, DePalma worked extremely hard in the mayoral campaign of Patrick Pasculli, a close friend of Farina.

Farina as well as Dick En-

gland said that other possible candidates include Hottendorf, Belfiore and Monaco, who all served on the board, as well as Anne Cerbo, who works for the Parking Authority and has been active in recreation programs for the city's youths.

Farina said he also heard that Rosano, who ran unsuccessfully on the CQE ticket, was interested in the position.

England said that he considered all the candidates qualified, and although he was not committed to one person, he said that he wanted the vacancy filled expeditiously.

"I know Claire from the Sixth Ward, she is a very caring person. Perry is a digger and hard worker. I ran and served with Monaco. Hottendorf puts in a lot of hours. Anne Cerbo is a hard worker, active in recreation in Hoboken," England said.

"I want a person who will participate and who will put in the hours," England said.

He said that he picked up an application from the school board filed by McCurdy, who is not known politically. England said that McCurdy's resume shows that he is active in Our Lady of Grace School and that he a bank vice president in Clifton.

Like Rafter, both Rivera and Costa, whose campaigns were coordinated by DePalma, said yesterday that they believed the board should follow an interviewing procedure to give all interested candidates an equal chance.

But Costa yesterday lauded DePalma's interest in the appointment.

"I don't want to settle on anyone. I want to get the best candidate whose values are similar to Vivian's, who would openly agree to a code of ethics and that patronage must remain outside the school district. I want a person committed to quality education."

"Saying that, I think Claire is wonderful. I am really pleased that she is interested," Costa said.

Trustee Geraldine Pantoliano said that she also heard DePalma was interested. "Her name has come up and I think she would be very good. I would like to see another woman on the board. I haven't discuss this with anyone and I still have strong feelings for Perry Belfiore. But at this time, I'm not committed."

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# Hoboken developer's appeal rejected

By Joseph Albright

TRENTON — The developer of the proposed Presidential Towers project in Hoboken has lost another round in its bid to win administrative approvals for the project.

The Appellate Division of state Superior Court rejected an appeal Wednesday by Anawim Investment and Development Corp., which had hoped to get the project reviewed again by the Hoboken Board of Adjustment.

The board had granted variances to Anawim for Presidential Towers on Aug. 8, 1987. Ronald Hine, a neighborhood activist, challenged the board's approval of the twin tower 16-story project and his objections were upheld in court. The appeals court upheld Superior Court Judge Maurice J. Gallipoli, who awarded court costs to Hine and ordered them paid in equal shares by the board and Anawim.

The tribunal also rejected Anawim's contention the costs awarded to the plaintiff should have been assessed solely against the board, which was responsible for numerous errors cited by the lower court.

Judge Gallipoli called the five transcripts of the board proceedings in the Presidential Towers case "unbelievable" because he could not "even tell who it is that is speaking."

In his criticism, Gallipoli set aside the grant of the variances to Anawim Aug. 8, 1987. Gallipoli found that the record was not only unintelligible but also incomprehensible, and commented, "It is amazing that when you go through the entire record, you can't tell what the commissioner is saying. You can't tell what the commissioners are requesting. You can't tell who is trying to answer it. It

is a circus."

From reading the transcription of the meeting on June 24, 1986, when the application for the variance was granted, Gallipoli said he could not tell "what variances were even before the board, let alone what variances were granted."

Anawim offered testimony at three initial hearings ending Oct. 22, 1985. The testimony dealt with concerns over the impact on the water-sewer systems in Hoboken, but the real concern was the height of the towers, the tribunal noted.

On Feb. 24, 1986, the board approved the modified application for two 16-story towers contingent on Anawim resubmitting site plans with changes

that had been approved.

However, it was determined that the board's vote was invalid because of failure to notify property owners adjacent to the proposed construction site as required by state law.

The proposal was reconsidered June 24, 1986, and the board approved the application, 5-2. On Aug. 12, 1986, plaintiff Hine intervened, filing a complaint challenging the board's approval on various grounds.

Then, on Aug. 8, 1986, Gallipoli set aside the grant of the variances to Anawim. The judge found that the only justification offered by Anawim was on economic grounds.

On appeal, Anawim did not

contest the reversal by Gallipoli of the board decision but argued he erred in not remanding the matter to the Hoboken board for a rehearing on the Anawim application for a variance.

However, the appeals panel said the faulty transcripts were but one cause of the evidentiary deficiency. "The more substantial causes were the inadequacy of Anawim's substantive proofs of special reason and its failure to establish the negative requirements" under state law in support of its application.

Finally, the tribunal said, it found no abuse of discretion by Gallipoli in apportioning the costs between Anawim and the board.

# Hudson and Bergen rattled by tremor

By JONATHAN BRINCKMAN and MICHAEL MARKOWITZ

The Hudson Dispatch

Hudson and Bergen counties trembled for a few seconds last night as an earthquake centered in Canada shook most of the East Coast.

The epicenter of the 6:46 p.m. quake was about 90 miles north of Quebec City with a preliminary magnitude of 6.0 on the Richter scale of ground motion, said Dan Finley, a U.S. Geological Survey spokesman in Washington.

Locally, the earthquake caused a "slight swaying motion," said Ellie Wellman, an administrator at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in Palisades, N.Y., in Rockland County.

Sadie Lawson of Jackson Street

in Hoboken said she felt the earthquake while watching television at home.

"I felt something while watching 'Win, Lose or Draw,' but I didn't know what it was," she said. "It felt like the whole building was shaking and the bed was rocking."

Jose Jimenez, 28, of Beacon Avenue in Hoboken, said he was asleep during the earthquake and incorporated it into a dream. "I was dreaming I was walking through a desolate place with my 2-year-old son and I felt the earth move," he said. "I said to my son, 'well, let's keep walking.'"

Most New Jersey reports of the earthquake were from the northern half of the state. No major structural damage was reported

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## QUAKE

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in New Jersey.

Locally, Hoboken police and fire switchboards lit up with "dozens" of calls reporting the earthquake, Sgt. Carl Pause said last night.

Bergen County Police reported 50 calls, mostly from the southern part of the county, Hudson County Police had one call, and Edgewater Police received "four to five" calls.

In Newark, police received six calls, a dispatcher said, adding, "some officers said they felt the police building shake."

In Manhattan, firefighters went to 40 locations where there were reports of tremors, but no damage could be found, Fire Lt. Kenneth Murphy said.

Nationwide, tremors were reported in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

In the central Vermont community of Berlin, a chimney collapsed, but there were no injuries reported.

In Maine, the quake broke windows and knocked pictures off walls.

Tremors rattled windows in the control tower of Erie (Pa.) International Airport.

"One lady called us and said she had whitecaps in her fish tank and her chandelier was shaking," Cpl. Clifford Williams of the Pennsylvania State Police said.

According to Wellman, tremors in the tri-state area are "not frequent" but neither are they extremely unusual.

The earthquake's effects in Quebec, where it was much more severe, were kept to a minimum because it was centered in an unpopulated area, Wellman said. A quake of 6.0 on the Richter scale is capable of inflicting "severe damage," according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

# Council fights restoration of school funds

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—After a closed-door discussion of almost an hour, the City Council last night voted to appeal a state decision that restored \$2.8 million to the Board of Education's \$27.3 million budget.

The appeal is expected to result in further negotiations between the two bodies concerning the budget, which, if left unchanged, will raise the local tax burden by \$4.6 million spread out over two years.

That translates to an increase of 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation next year and the following year, according to city Business Administrator Edwin J. Chius.

The council had made the cut this spring, but the board appealed to state Education Commissioner Saul Cooperman. He ordered the cut restored in October.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a public-school teacher who opposed the \$2.8 million cut in the school budget, said the appeal will allow negotiations to begin again over the budget.

"It opens up opportunities for further discussion with the board in reducing the tax burden," Pasculli said. "I would hope that

the reduction that is agreed upon can be educationally justified without jeopardizing the progress that has occurred in the district so far."

In a related move, Pasculli announced that the city would join a lawsuit filed in 1985 seeking to overturn the state's formula of funding school districts. The formula now takes into account property values — the higher the valuations, the less money districts get from the state.

Pasculli has called that system unfair, and said the city Law Department would join a suit now before Cooperman asking that the formula be changed to increase money to urban districts.

"It is imperative that we have expedited decision in favor of increasing funding to urban school districts," Pasculli said.

The suit was filed by an attorney representing schoolchildren in Jersey City, Camden, East Orange and Irvington. An administrative law judge said earlier this year that the state formula is wrong, but Cooperman must make the decision.

If Cooperman rules against urban schoolchildren, the city will move to appeal to the Appellate Division of state Superior Court, according to city Law Director Eugene O'Connell.



# Fewer meters, higher rates, shorter times

By James Efstathiou  
J.J. 12-1-88

The Hoboken Parking Authority has agreed in concept to plans to modify metered and residential parking zones throughout the city.

Among likely changes are adding or removing meters along certain streets, changing the time allowed on certain meters, raising parking fines and increasing meter rates in most zones, says parking authority chairman Dominic Pellicano.

The changes, accepted in general

by authority commissioners at Tuesday's meeting, probably won't be ready for formal action until the group's next meeting, on Dec. 20.

"In most of the zones, we are raising the rates. In some of the zones, we are changing the time rates," Pellicano said. "We are creating parking for the residents. That's the key."

While details have yet to be worked out, one affected area is likely to be the First Ward. There, the authority plans to shift emphasis from traditionally commuter-oriented

parking to better serve the area's growing residential population.

The changeover will be accomplished by removing long-term 8- and 12-hour meters south of First Street on Garden Street, Park Avenue and Newark Street, and opening up the spaces for residential permit parking.

The authority also is examining the possibility of changing three-hour meters one block east and west of Washington Street to 90-minute meters. That adjustment could relieve double parking on Washington Street

by providing a greater turnover for shoppers parking just off the avenue, Pellicano said.

Changes in city parking laws require city council approval. Revenue from metered parking is used to subsidize the cost of implementing the city's residential parking permit program, Pellicano said.

"The program is costing us money, but it is a directive from the city council and we will fulfill that directive," Pellicano said of the permits.

The resident parking program,

which has resulted in the booting of an average 200 cars a month, is run by the authority at a \$60,000 per year deficit, Pellicano said.

The decision on changes in metered parking is basically a revenue decision, Pellicano said, balancing increased parking for residents against operating expenses of the authority.

Residents who currently hold parking permits can expect to receive renewal applications in the mail in the coming month. The fee will remain \$5 per year.

## Sewer suds lead to factory

By James Efstathiou  
J.J. 12-3-88

A Hoboken chemical company suspected in the improper discharge of wastes into the city's sewerage system was tagged yesterday when a trail of soap suds was traced to its plant, city officials said.

Public Works Director Roy Haack said he was issuing summonses to the Henkel Corporation accusing it of illegally dumping. Headquartered in Ambler Pa., the firm manufactures materials in its Jefferson Street plant for cosmetics manufacturers.

A problem arose Thursday when Haack was informed that soap suds were backing up at the 11th Street pump station. Later in the day, similar complaints concerning suds back-ups were received from commercial properties along Jefferson Street.

By lifting manhole covers, Haack said he was able to trace the source of the suds to the Henkel plant. Late Thursday evening Haack visited the plant and discovered a hose discharging soap suds hanging off a loading dock. The stream of suds ran directly into a city sewer.

Louis Gayl, a plant manager at Henkel, said the hose had been used to load a truck and was being flushed with hot water. He conceded that a small amount of soap suds could be

See SUDS — Page 9.

## Council to fight school budget funds

By Emily M. Smith  
J.J. 12-1-88

The Hoboken City Council voted last night to appeal a state decision to restore \$2.8 million cut from the school budget, but that appeal may be lost because one board member voted despite a conflict of interest.

The vote is the latest round in what some school board and council members consider a red herring issue because, they say, the cuts could easily be settled outside the court system.

Councilman Dave Roberts predicted that cuts would be made as early as next week, long before the eight-month appeal process runs its course.

"If Mayor Patrick Patty Pasculli was really serious about cutting the budget he should talk to the city clerk and get him to vote for budget cuts," Councilwoman Helen Cuning said. "I mean, they're the best of friends."

City Clerk James Farina, as a member of the Board of Education, voted against the budget cuts and for appealing the

city council's trimming job, said Joseph Rafter, president of the board.

The board's 5-4 decision to appeal the cuts was made in April. That appeal was supported by the state Commissioner of Education. A deputy commissioner overturned the budget cuts in September.

The city council decided last night — 7-1 with one abstention — to appeal the state's decision. The appeal will be made to a Superior Court judge and will cost the city about \$10,000, O'Connell said. Most of

that will be spent on transcripts.

The appeal also will be costly for the board of education, Rafter said. No dollar figure was available last night.

The council's vote was prefaced by an hour-long, closed-door executive session. Council members Edwin Duroy and Richard Del Boccio did not participate in that session because they are board of education employees. City Attorney Eugene O'Connell said that

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## Council will appeal school budget funds

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their participation would be a conflict of interest.

Duroy is principal of the Thomas G. Connors School. Del Boccio is principal of the Salvatore Calabro School.

But Duroy voted against the appeal. When his vote was questioned, sources said, Duroy replied quietly, "So, let them sue me."

"He had no right to vote," Councilwoman Helen Cuning said. "The man is voting on the very budget that pays him. For him to vote in the negative is careless. He really voted blind."

Duroy could not be reached for comment about his vote.

Del Boccio abstained and that also may be viewed as a conflict of interest because abstentions are listed with the majority, Cuning said. Del Boccio should have responded "present" when his name was called during the vote, she said.

Such technical errors put the city on the losing side of the board of education's appeal, she said. "That's why our appeal was thrown out, on technical reasons."

Rafter said of the vote, "I don't know what it means. I spent most of the summer on a wild goose chase trying to cut the budget," he said. Rafter was one of the four board members who voted for the budget cuts.

"It shouldn't need to go

through this kind of circuitous route. All they have to do is get one more on the board to vote for cuts," Rafter said referring to Farina.

Cuning and Rafter both said that Pasculli has enough political support to get the budget cuts through.

Although Duroy voted against appealing the return of the money to school system coffers, he is a Pasculli supporter who contributed to the recently-elected mayor's campaign.

Rafter said the budget cutting issue is being used by Pasculli to satisfy both city residents who voted down the school budget and his supporters in the school system.

"This is playing games and I'm fed up," Rafter said. Farina and Pasculli could not be reached for comment about the budget.

Roberts, also a Pasculli supporter, said, "Common sense would just suggest a compromise and a lobbying of particular school board members for a better way than fighting it out in the courts."

But, Roberts said, the council had to take the official step of starting an appeal. The appeal deadline is Dec. 9.

"There may be something in the works," Roberts said. "I don't want to give away any secrets. But the mayor is going to be sitting down with school board members and trying to twist some arms to get that school budget cut."

## 3 want to lead Hoboken city workers

By James Efstathiou  
J.J. 12-1-88

Three candidates, including the incumbent, are vying to lead the Hoboken Municipal Employees Association.

Nominations for president were held this week. All standing officers were re-elected, with the exception of union president James Fisher who is facing competition from two other candidates.

The election for president will be on Dec. 13.

Fisher, a fire-alarm operator, is seeking a third term. He was first elected in January, 1985.

Also nominated at the union meeting this week were George Preston, who works at the municipal garage, and Julia Riley, who works in payroll.

City Hall employees yesterday said they believe Fisher is still the front-runner.

Preston said yesterday that he is running because he believes "it is time for a change" and he wants to bring better working conditions and salaries to city workers.

"That is all a president can do. To make sure that everybody is working under good conditions and good salaries and benefits," Preston said.

The association, which represents 180 municipal employees, signed a two-year contract with Mayor Patrick Pasculli this week. The contract for 1987

and 1988 expires Dec. 31.

Fisher said yesterday the contract will be extended until a new agreement is signed. Municipal workers received six and seven percent raises.

Fisher credited Pasculli for a new contract clause that will create a Personnel Policy and Salary Administration Committee. The committee, comprised of three administration directors, three municipal supervisors and three municipal workers, is charged with creating a uniform salary schedule.

Fisher said the committee will review all salaries and job titles and will establish a minimum and a maximum salary for each job title.

The committee, headed by Finance Director Nicholas Goldsack, will issue a preliminary report Dec. 15 and a final report by Jan. 15, Fisher said.

He said he is seeking reelection to see the committee established and to negotiate a contract under that structure.

"The mayor has formed a personnel committee and he has agreed to complete a salary guide for all titles. I support that, and I want to see it through," Fisher said.

The salary guide "will provide structure. This way, an employee knows what his or her minimum salary and what his or her maximum salary will be. This is something we needed for a long time," Fisher said.

"With the old salary, there was so much room for discretion that the situation was ridiculous,"

Fisher said he was first elected in 1985 without opposition. Two years ago, the union overwhelmingly rejected a proposal from Teamsters Local 97

to become the bargaining agent for the city.

But Fisher said he believes the election this year will be "somewhat hotly contested." He said salaries have increased by 24 percent since he took office.

Mary Lou McGrath, who works in the housing and code department, was re-elected union secretary. Maryann Perkins, who works in the water department, was re-elected treasurer, and Edward Fitzsimmons, a fire alarm operator, was re-elected sergeant-at-arms.

Re-elected as union trustees were Daniel Valente, who works in the municipal garage, Thomas Hanigan, a heavy equipment operator, Ernest Prudente, an inspector in the fire prevention bureau. Riley could not be reached for comment.

## Rent law fight is heating up

## Rent law fight is heating up

By James Efstathiou  
J.J. 12-2-88

A Hoboken tenants group is stepping up its opposition to a proposal that would remove single-unit housing spaces, including some rehabilitated condominiums, from rent control regulations.

The Hoboken Campaign for Housing Justice (HCHJ) opposes the proposed amendment to the city's rent-control ordinance which is scheduled for a vote at Wednesday's council meeting.

The group is distributing flyers urging renters to attend the meeting to "join the fight to keep rent control in Hoboken."

"The amendment is a real danger to the community in

that it does fuel the fires of conversion and speculation," said Annette Illing, chairwoman of the HCHJ.

"The city is on the verge of passing a fatally flawed ordinance that would cause great problems," she said.

But according to the plan's sponsor, Sixth Ward Councilman David Roberts, the amendment was designed to clear up confusion over rent control and help owners of single family homes and condominiums make a fair return on their investment.

"No one ever intended the rent-control law to cover condominiums," Roberts said.

"By not changing the law and leaving it as it is, we would

definitely be damaging the economy of the condominium market," he said.

Specifically, the amendment covers single-family homes and landlords who own single "substantially rehabilitated" condominium units in converted buildings.

Substantially rehabilitated units are those that have undergone renovations the value of which is greater than 50 percent of the assessed value of the building before rehabilitation, according to the amendment.

Such units, according to Roberts, should be exempt from rent control to ensure that

See RENT LAW — Page 14.

sure the legal increase would offset the burdens of ownership.

In addition, failure to act on the amendment could result in a flood of rent challenges by condominium residents now that debate on the proposal has made it clear that such units are subject to rent control, Roberts said.

More landlords would in turn file for hardship increases, eventually weakening the condominium market.

"If Annette Illing is successful in having this amendment defeated, the City Council is telling all condominium ten-

ants to have rents rolled back to pre-conversion rates," Roberts said. "That, in my opinion is just wrong."

Illing has countered that the amendment raises more questions that it answers and would lead to further erosion of rent-control protection.

"Our problem is that no one has looked at the rent-control ordinance and tried to apply it to current circumstances," Illing said. "Whether by deliberate action or not, his amendment is like a virus inserted into the ordinance, programmed to render a viable document meaningless."

### Hoboken school board

## Trustee vote delayed

The Hudson Dispatch  
DISPATCH 12-7-88

HOBOKEN—The Board of Education yesterday put off a vote on whether to name a Jersey City schoolteacher to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Trustee Vivian Flora DiStaso.

The proposed new member, Clair DePalma, 37, is favored by most board members. However, according to board Attorney Robert Murray, the issue of her appointment was not on the agenda when the board decided to replace its scheduled meeting tomorrow with last night's special session.

If an item is not on the agenda of a special meeting, it cannot be added, he said. The legal advice prompted the board to call for another special meeting, with the appointment issue on the agenda. That meeting is scheduled for Monday at 6 p.m.

DePalma has been endorsed by Mayor Patrick Pasculli and most of the eight remaining board members.

DiStaso resigned last month because she is moving out of Hoboken.

DePalma has ties to an array of political teams in Hoboken. In the spring, she managed the suc-

cessful campaign of three board candidates from the city's reform movement. Her husband John helped manage Pasculli's mayoral campaign.

### Hoboken school board to fill seat

DISPATCH 12-6-88

HOBOKEN—The Board of Education tonight is expected to name Clair DePalma, a teacher in the Jersey City schools, to fill a vacancy created when board member Vivian Flora DiStaso resigned last month.

DePalma, 37, has been endorsed by Mayor Patrick Pasculli and most of the eight remaining board members. DePalma has ties to both sides of the board's political spectrum: She managed the successful campaign of three board candidates from the city's reform movement this spring, and her husband John helped run Pasculli's successful mayoral campaign Nov. 8.

Board President Joseph Rafter said initially he hoped the board would not name a replacement at tonight's meeting, preferring to study the applications of a half-dozen people who wish to be considered for the position. But yesterday, he said DePalma is "a strong enough candidate" to compel him to vote for her today.

The term expires in the spring, when a single two-year post goes up for grabs along with the three regular three-year seats.

—CHRISTOPHER AVE.

## We have it, too

J.J. 12-7-88

We were very pleased to see the article about Literacy Volunteers of America appearing in Hudson County, which appeared in the Nov. 28 Jersey Journal. However, while a number of communities in the county were mentioned in the article as being "LVA sites," Hoboken was not. The Friends of the Hoboken Public Library, in conjunction with LVA, run a very lively and active all-volunteer adult literacy program.

We here in Hoboken are committed to helping any one of our fellow residents open their world by learning to read or read better. — RUTH REJNIS, president, Friends of the Hoboken Public Library, Hoboken.

### Single-family homes

## Battle mounting on rent measure

By CHRISTOPHER AVE  
The Hudson Dispatch  
DISPATCH 12-5-88

HOBOKEN—Tenant groups and a political action committee representing landlords are set for a major battle Wednesday night, when the City Council is to vote on a bill that would weaken rent control.

The bill, sponsored by Councilman David Roberts, would allow owners of single-family houses and condominiums to charge whatever they wish if they rent out their residences. Rents for such units now are strictly limited by the city's rent-control ordinance.

Under Roberts' amendment to the ordinance, only one unit per owner per housing project would qualify for such an exemption. Roberts has called for the new

measure as a way to relieve small-home owners who are forced to leave their residences for extended periods of time. Under rent control, Roberts contends, these homeowners are limited to charging rent based on the building's often outdated rent history.

His proposal has attracted the strong and vocal support of Hudson 2000, a landlords' political action committee that lobbies for landowners' concerns throughout Hudson County.

Richard Shaftan, spokesman for the group, said Roberts' amendment is a needed relief for owners of rehabilitated condos who cannot break even renting their units at the rent-controlled price.



DAVID ROBERTS  
Tenants oppose exemption

The group has taken out newspaper advertisements to get supporters to Wednesday's meeting. But two tenants rights groups, Campaign for Housing Justice and Save Hoboken from Over-Development, are also campaigning hard, but against the proposed amendment.





PAUL M. DePASCALE  
Working on 3 investigations

Talks under way

# DePascale targets Hoboken

## Prosecutor plans Police Department takeover next month

By CHRISTOPHER AVE

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Hudson County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale has agreed to become acting police director here next month if negotiations with Mayor Patrick Pasculli are successful, both men said yesterday.

If it occurs, the move may mean

a substantial injection of money into the department, a new police precinct and a professional evaluation of departmental practices.

EXCLUSIVE

city official, a City Council race and a police officer who allegedly received illegal payments.

the job here are now near fruition. Pasculli first asked DePascale about coming here soon after the mayor took office in March. Yesterday, both officials said the twin goals of DePascale's tenure here will be to complete a study of the department and to transfer the City Hall police station to a new building.

agreed on when and how that will be accomplished," DePascale said of the negotiations. "If things work out in the next week or two, it could begin as early as January."

Please see HOBOKEN Page 14

## Police HQ safety under state survey

By James Efstathiou

A complaint apparently made by a police officer has prompted the state to order a safety inspection of the dilapidated Hoboken Police Headquarters this week.

An inspector from the state Office of Safety Compliance which enforces safety provisions of the Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health Act has been assigned to the case, according to spokesman Kevin Smith.

The inspection was initiated following a written complaint from within the Police Department and is expected to be completed by Thursday, Smith said.

Hoboken is looking to relocate police headquarters, but has recently rejected two potential sites as "not feasible," according to Mayor Patrick Pasculli.

Hoboken has additional incentive for finding a new police headquarters because creation of such a facility is said to be one of the pre-conditions for Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale's taking over the Police Department.

DePascale, who recently completed a six-month term as acting Jersey City police director, has said he would not accept the Hoboken assignment until three on-going investigations involving Hoboken officials are completed. Those probes focus on an unnamed police officer, on former tax assessor Woodrow Monte, and on two Sixth Ward elections where fraudulent votes may have been cast. The investigations are expected to be completed by the end of the year, DePascale said.

The arrival of DePascale is likely to make county funds available for the department. The prosecutor said he spent over \$400,000 of the Hudson County Law Enforcement Trust Fund, primarily monies seized from narcotics dealers and forfeitures, on the Jersey City Police Department.

For years, conditions in police headquarters in Hoboken have been the target of ridicule both from within and outside the department. Faulty electrical wiring, broken-down plumbing, the absence of ade-

See POLICE — Page 9.

## Police HQ safety under state survey

Continued from Page 1

quate restroom facilities and a locker-room located in a public hallway have irked officers.

City Council minutes from as far back as 1908 suggest that the headquarters should be condemned, according to Chief George Crimmins.

"My father was on the job before me and he spoke about getting a new police headquarters in those days," Crimmins said. "It's something every policeman since I've been on the job has always looked forward to."

Crimmins said he supports the right of police officers to complain and draw attention to working conditions in the department. PBA President James Fitzsimmons said he has lodged numerous complaints about working conditions and was aware through discussions at PBA meetings that a formal complaint was forthcoming.

"It was mentioned at PBA meetings and it was understood that something like this would happen," Fitzsimmons said. "I encourage their coming down here. I don't mind at all taking them through headquarters and voicing my opinion on the conditions here."

Safety conditions in public facilities are not covered by federal OSHA laws, according to Smith. The New Jersey OSHA was therefore created to safeguard workplace standards for public employees.

A written complaint regarding police headquarters was received by the state on Nov. 28, Smith said. While the complaint cited only faulty electrical wiring, problems with the ceiling and toilet facilities, the inspector will review the entire facility, Smith said. The state will then relay its findings to city officials who will be given a specified period of time to correct any violations.

One site being considered for a new headquarters is a federal building on River Street, a portion of which is currently being used as a testing laboratory by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Conrad Vuocolo, an aide to Rep. Frank Guarini, said the congressman sent a letter to the department a month ago asking it to consider moving the operation to Port Newark.

Guarini's actions were prompted by a request from the prosecutor and city officials. Vuocolo said. The move would free the property which could then be acquired by the city and renovated into a suitable station. There has been no reply from Washington, he added.

## Pasculli wants meeting on school budget cuts

By James Efstathiou

A day after the Hoboken City Council voted to appeal a state ruling rejecting proposed cuts to the public school budget, Mayor Patrick Pasculli invited interested parties to meet and seek a negotiated settlement on the spending plan.

In a news conference in his office, Pasculli said he sent a letter to school board president Joseph Rafta inviting the board to meet with the administration and City Council to discuss school spending. Pasculli said he hoped the meeting could lead to a negotiated settlement on a proposed \$2.8 million cut in the budget and avert a lengthy legal battle.

Pasculli also announced he will recommend that the school board appoint Claire DePalma, an 8th-grade Jersey City school teacher, to fill the unexpired term of trustee Vivian Florio-Distaso who recently resigned. He said also the city would support an ongoing legal appeal to reform the state's school-funding formula.

"In light of the council's appeal of the school budget, it is important that we try to reach some kind of accord," Pasculli said.

"It's something that I'm willing to work with," Pasculli said of the council's decision to appeal. "But I'd want to avoid a prolonged appeal process that could be very costly."

Rafta said he would welcome such an invitation and would approach negotiations with an open mind.

"That's a great idea," Rafta said. "I think it's very encouraging."

Rafta, who supports budget cutting as a means to promote reform in the school system, said that he would consider a compromise on the council's cuts. He called DePalma a "strong candidate" for school trustee but added that the appointment probably would not take place at Tuesday's school board meeting.

"I will ask at the next regular board meeting to hold a special meeting to review resumes," Rafta said. "I will ask people that are interested to submit resumes and have the board sit down and make a decision."

DePalma, a 37-year-old reading instructor at No. 25 School in Jersey City, has never held elected office. In addition to being a state certified reading instructor, DePalma is a certified school administrator.

"Hopefully I can bring the two sides together," said DePalma, adding that the prospect of running for office in April might be the least desirable aspect of the position.

"I'm a little nervous about it," said DePalma of her potential candidacy. "I don't think the elected school board is the best way."

The City Council voted Wednesday to appeal a decision by state As-

sistant Commissioner of Education Vincent Calabrese which restored \$2.8 million the council had previously chopped from the \$27.3 million budget. Calabrese rejected the cuts imposed by the council following the budget's rejection by voters in April on grounds that they were "arbitrary and capricious."

City Law Director Eugene O'Connell said he would file a notice of appeal in Superior Court early next week. However, Seymour Weiss, director of the Bureau of Compliance for the State Department of Education, said state law required that such an appeal be taken to the state Board of Education, not an appeals court.

"In reviewing the record, I believe that the council's cuts were articulated and would not affect the

thorough and efficient education of the students of Hoboken," O'Connell said.

The council approved the appeal by a 7-1 vote with the only negative vote coming from Fourth Ward Councilman Edwin Duroy. The fact that Duroy, a school principal, voted on the measure would not affect the appeal, O'Connell said, adding that he did advise the councilman of a possible conflict of interest.

In addition to the budget vote, the council has authorized O'Connell to research the hiring of a consultant to review future school budgets for the city lawmakers. That person should have a background in education or business administration and would be responsible for advising the council on school budget matters.

## Tenants fight rent measure

By MARGARET MITTELBACH

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A tenants' group declared war on the City Council yesterday in an attempt to stall a proposal that would weaken existing rent control laws.

Announcing a petition drive to put the proposal on the May election ballot, members of Save Hoboken From Overdevelopment said the proposed ordinance amendment — which is expected to be reintroduced at tonight's council meeting — would sound a death knell for affordable housing here.

The announcement was made in front of 500 Washington St., an apartment building owned by Councilman David Roberts, who is sponsoring the change in the rent law.

Successfully introduced at a council meeting last month, the proposed amendment seeks to exempt condominium units from existing rent laws, allowing condo owners to charge any rent they choose. Tenant activists have said the exemption of condos would lead to a renewed surge of condo conversions and leave many renters in the cold.

A hearing on the amendment is scheduled at 7 tonight at City Hall.

"There are 20,000 renters here who are going to be stabbed in the back by condo-ization," Dan Tumson of Save Hoboken said. In defense of the ordinance, Roberts has said easing rent re-

strictions on condos would put more units on the rental market and increase the available housing stock here.

"Condominiums should not be covered by rent control," Roberts said. "We're trying to encourage people to leave their properties in the rental market."

Roberts also said that in exchange for the passage of his amendment, he would support toughening another existing law forcing real estate developers to donate 10 percent of their new units to an affordable-housing pool.

Members of Save Hoboken said yesterday they were skeptical of any compromises made among council members.

"Roberts is a landlord serving his own personal interests," said John Deravany of Save Hoboken, who also is a freelance writer on tenant issues.

In a telephone interview yesterday, Roberts said tenant groups have reverted to character attacks in their drive to stop condo conversions in Hoboken.

"My family has provided reasonable rental housing for 70 years in Hoboken, and that's representative of many property owners here," Roberts said.

Tonight Roberts' proposed amendments to the rent law are expected to be reintroduced with technical changes and approved by the council, pending a final vote at the council's next regular meeting on Dec. 22.

## HOBOKEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

police precinct. The study is extremely important for being able to evaluate the Police Department and identifying ways of improving it."

Yesterday, DePascale disclosed that he had spent \$250,000 on the Jersey City department during his term there, and he is prepared to spend a similar amount here. The money would come from the Hudson County Law Enforcement Trust Fund, in which drug money seized by law enforcement agents is deposited, the prosecutor said.

Pasculli and several council members have criticized the Police Department for what they regard as insufficient presence on city streets, and also for having too many superior officers and not enough patrol officers on the 100-member force.

Officials and police officers alike call the existing police facility intolerable. The precinct, located in City Hall's basement, boasts cracked walls, sewage leaks, improper heating and cool-

ing and a lack of space for lockers.

Under the planned move, Pasculli would secure a location for the new precinct. Police Chief George W. Crimmins Sr. would remain, and DePascale would be public safety director, a job which until earlier this year had been filled by Law Director Eugene O'Connell. The council made the public safety job an independent position after it learned that DePascale wanted the two jobs split.

Crimmins and heads of two police unions have pledged cooperation with DePascale if he comes.

The prosecutor would not comment on the three investigations he has conducted here, except to say he is deciding whether to pursue indictments in each of them. The investigations center on: Woodrow Monte, the former city tax assessor; an unnamed police officer; and two elections in the city's 6th Ward, where votes allegedly were cast fraudulently.

## Burned firehouse slated for repairs

By James Efstathiou

The Hoboken City Council is expected to award a contract at tomorrow's council meeting for emergency repairs to a firehouse damaged in an October fire.

Fire officials have determined that the fire which damaged the chimney, roof and second floor of the uptown firehouse at 14th and Washington streets started in the chimney.

It had initially been suspected that the blaze was the result of faulty electrical wiring.

The fire, which took place on Oct. 29, has been labeled accidental by the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Investigation.

Bricks in the chimney of the historic building became porous over the years, eventually reaching a state where they could no longer hold in heat rising from the boiler, according to Deputy Fire Chief Richard Tremittieri.

That condition, known as pyrolysis, resulted in wood around the chimney igniting, he said.

Contractors Joseph Taglieri & Son will be paid \$24,800 for emergency work which included sealing the building and knocking down remaining sections of the chimney to pre-

vent accidental collapse. The council is expected to authorize further repairs to the chimney at a cost of \$21,900.

A settlement from the city's insurance agent of a claim for damages is forthcoming.

In addition, the council, at tomorrow's session, is expected to make available \$155,000 in bond money for the purchase of a Mobile Police Mini-Precinct.

The unit, about the size of a city bus, will be used to improve police presence throughout the city, according to Police Chief George Crimmins.

It will be equipped with a holding cell, booking area, and emergency gear, he said.

The Mini-Precinct could be used at DWI checkpoints, for crime education shows, at the scene of major fires or accidents, or to help bolster general police presence, Crimmins said.

The city initially sought federal funding for the unit but was turned down.

New York City and Union City currently operate similar mobile precincts.

The unit would be stationed in the city garage and deployed according to the situation, Crimmins said.

It is likely to be used heavily in the public housing projects in the Fourth Ward, he added.

## Council aids fight for school funds

By James Efstathiou

The Hoboken City Council has agreed to support an ongoing legal battle to revamp the state's formula for funding public education.

The council voted unanimously Wednesday evening to participate in the lawsuit entitled Abbott v. Burke as a friend of the court. The vote did not include financial support, but it is expected that a resolution appropriating a cash contribution will be offered at the next council meeting.

The lawsuit, initiated in 1981 by the Education Law Center (ELC) of Newark, charges that the current state funding formula violates the education, al and equal protection clauses of the state constitution.

In August, an administrative law judge found sufficient cause to find the funding procedure unconstitutional, according to lead counsel and executive director of ELC, Marilyn Morheuser.

"The judge found that urban taxpayers pay a much higher tax rate and urban children receive far fewer resources,"

said Morheuser. "There are other ways of funding that would assure both equity to taxpayers and equal opportunity to children."

The case is currently before the state commissioner of education. The case is expected to be brought before the state Supreme Court as early as this summer.

The outcome is likely to have a great effect on urban school districts such as Hoboken and could lead to redistribution of millions of dollars in state funding. The decision could mean much to Hoboken which has seen its share of state funding decline with the rapid growth of the city's tax rates.

"It could have a tremendous benefit to school funding in all urban cities," said Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who plans to urge other mayors to assist in the legal battle.

"The lack of educational funding over the last 10 years has been the number one culprit of the Hoboken public school budget," he said.

See COUNCIL — Page 14.

## Council aids fight for school funds

Continued from Page 1

The ELC's suit represents school children from Camden, Irvington, East Orange and Jersey City. Other urban school districts have expressed interest in supporting the suit as have groups such as the New Jersey Council of Churches and the NAACP.

Hoboken Board of Education trustee James Farina said he had advised school Superintendent Walter Fine of the council's decision and would recommend that the board also support the suit.

Morheuser said she was invited to appear at Wednesday's council meeting by Councilwoman Helen Canning. Morheuser gave a presentation showing how the current funding formula favors wealthier suburban districts.

## Intersection floods to be reduced in Hoboken

By James Efstathiou

Hoboken residents can expect less flooding at intersections thanks to an ongoing state-funded road improvements.

Beginning about a month ago, the Mount Hope Rock Co. of Cherry Hill began replacing catch basins throughout the city. The project is funded by a \$260,000 Department of Transportation (DOT) grant and completion is expected, by Christmas, according to Department of Public Works director Roy Haack.

"They're old," said Haack of the basins. "A lot of them are cracked and you can't get the granite tops anymore. The easiest way you do it is replace the grating in the streets."

The DOT did a survey prior to construction and identified the worst intersections.

In total, 44 basins are expected to be replaced at intersections on Second Street from Bloomfield Street to Willow Avenue, on Garden Street from Fourth Street to Observer Highway, on Bloomfield from Ninth to 12th streets, on 13th Street from Bloomfield to Willow and on Jackson Street between Paterson Avenue and Ravine Road.

In addition to new catch basins, streets around those in-



Workman Ron Paige cuts through old trolley tracks during construction on Second Street, Hoboken.

tersections will be repaved. On one block along Second Street between Park Avenue and Gar-

den, repaving required digging up trolley car tracks and Belgium Block cobblestones laid

sometime around the turn of the century. As a result of a low bid for

the job, funds will be available for additional intersections to be named later, Haack said.



Starts next month

# Students find a friend

## Stevens Tech software designed to up grades

By DAVID LIPPMAN  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A Stevens Tech computer software project will help Hoboken High School teachers find out why Johnny can't add, and also should bring up his grades.

The project, which is headed by Professor Edward A. Friedman, 53, of the college's management department, is scheduled to start next month. The project is run by the Center for Improved Engineering and Science Education. In addition to Hoboken High, project personnel will work with schools in Bridgeton, South Orange, Maplewood and Tenafly. Some 2,000 high school students statewide may work on this project in the 1989-90 academic year.

Friedman described the project as part of a plan to improve the students' math grades. "The first major project is in the high schools, to help introduce and integrate computers into the teaching process — to bring computers into the classroom," he said.

New software will help students solve problems in geometry, algebra and trigonometry, the professor said.

"What's been found is that U.S. students are not up to students in other countries," Friedman said. "We want to create new teaching strategies."

THE PROBLEM, Friedman said, is America's "attitude is that math is not fun. It's considered dry and serious, and not relevant." But skills in algebra, geometry and problem-solving are important in workplaces and everyday life, especially in an increasingly technological society, he said.

"People have misconceptions and think incorrectly about math. It's difficult for teachers to identify misconceptions in students' heads. The computers will help students see what's wrong," Friedman said. He added that many students who enroll in college calculus courses drop out, mainly because of inadequate high school preparation.

The project's software will track the procedures students use to solve problems.

"Suppose you have to subtract 39 from 52. Nine from two is a big enterprise to grade schoolchildren. You have to learn to carry 10 over and borrow. Students have incorrect ideas about how to go on," Friedman said.

He added that, 40 percent of the time, errors result, not from carelessness or number problems, but from incorrect procedure. At the high school level, Friedman said, students could clearly see mistakes in Euclidean geometry, by using the software. Students and teachers would see at what point the error would take place.

"The computer breaks down the steps. You find (out) if students understand the intermediate steps, in a highly individualized way," Friedman said.

He pointed out that teachers with classes of 20 students or more don't have the time to break down individual students' thinking processes.

Friedman says that cooperation with Hoboken High has been good, citing support from math supervisor Jerry Carley, Schools Superintendent Walter J. Fine and Joseph Rafter, president of the Board of Education. Math teachers have been going over the software with Friedman, and Hoboken High students are to start using it in January in the school's computer room.

The project has a \$200,000 budget. Stevens is courting corporate grants to help pay for it.

FRIEDMAN IS a Bayonne native now living in Hoboken. He is concerned about how U.S. students lag behind those in other countries, as well as by what he describes as America's history of anti-intellectualism.

"Our expectations are not high enough," he said. "There are no role models in the science and engineering community."

"Students don't know of great engineers. In Europe, students have to learn calculus and physics, even in the liberal arts. It's part of the common heritage in Europe. We dismiss the Japanese competition, but we have come out of Europe, and their expectations are different from us."

He added that the combination of ill-trained high school students and a decline in interest among American high school students in scientific and engineering careers signals a near-crisis shortage of qualified science and engineering professionals for the near future.

Teachers from the four school districts will participate in monthly planning sessions with Stevens faculty during the academic year, and a two-week curriculum-planning workshop next summer. They will also participate in a national conference in April hosted by Stevens that is expected to be attended by national leaders in curriculum development, school policymakers and key educators from the metropolitan area.

Assessment and evaluation of program activities will be provided by the Educational Testing Service of Princeton. ETS issues the annual science report card that measures the science achievement level of American teenagers. The most recent ETS report revealed that only 7 percent of American 17-year-olds are prepared for college-level science education.

Friedman's goal for the program is to have high school students better prepared for college math, and "a workforce more capable of quantitative thinking. This would produce better workers and problem-solvers," he said.

"Japanese workers can appreciate statistics and probability, and we'll be needing that (ability) well into the 21st century. The challenge is to improve math across the board," he said.

## Hoop shoot

Registering an applicant for the Hoboken Elks annual Hoop Shoot are Joseph Marnell, left, the Elks Leading Knight, and Marty Kiehl, the local chairman. Signing up to compete for prizes in the popular citywide event is 9-year-old Joseph Garcia.

Journal Photo by Laurie Butler

# Glitch snags board vacancy vote

By Earl Morgan

The Hoboken Board of Education got burned by the "sunshine law" last night.

The board wasn't able to vote last night to fill the seat left vacant by Vivian Flora DiStaso because it failed to publish its intention to vote on a new board member in the public notice required by the "sunshine law."

The attorney for the board said the omission of the matter in the agenda published in local newspapers precluded the board's voting for any of four candidates named on last night's board agenda.

The board voted to hold a special meeting Monday at 6 p.m. in board headquarters at Wallace Elementary School.

As candidates to replace DiStaso were Otto Hotendorf, a former trustee and past president of the board, Walter J. McCurdy, Clair Mary DePalma and Joan D'Agostino.

Trustee Gerry Costa told the public that resumes of people wishing to fill the vacant seat will be welcomed.

DiStaso announced last month she was giving up her

seat because her family was moving out of the city. DiStaso's absence on the nine-member board wiped out the slim one-vote majority of the board's reform faction. Currently, the reformers and opponents have four votes each.

In other business, the

board acknowledged receipt of a letter from the city administration saying it intends to challenge a recent decision of state education officials restoring \$2.8 million to the board's budget that was cut by the mayor and city council.

Board president Joseph

Rafter said he will respond to the administration's letter and ask for a meeting next month to discuss the issue. "We want to meet with them, but we want to wait until we have a new budget in our hands before we do, and that won't be until next month."

# Cappiello opposes police van

By James Efstathiou

A resolution awarding a \$155,000 contract for purchase of a Mobile Police Mini-Precinct Van may run into opposition at tonight's Hoboken City Council meeting.

Originally scheduled for a vote along with a group of other resolutions, funding for the unit will now be considered on its own. Third Ward Councilman Steve Cappiello said he was calling for a meeting of the council Public Safety Committee this morning to lobby against the police van.

"If they want to waste money, they'll go for it," said Cappiello of his council col-

leagues. "I think it's the biggest waste of money."

Similar to units in operation in New York City and Union City, the van is essentially a mobile police headquarters the size of a city bus. The van has a holding cell, a booking area, emergency equipment and can be hooked up to power lines.

Police expect to station the unit in the public works garage and deploy it according to demand. The van is to be used at DWI checkpoints, in areas where there is persistent crime, for crime education and emergencies.

But Cappiello said regular police cars can serve that func-

tion without taking up already-scarce parking.

"It can be used for that, but there's a lot less expensive equipment that can be used for the very same purpose."

Fourth Ward Councilman Edwin Duroy, who lobbied strongly for the van, disagreed, saying the van would be welcome in high-crime neighborhoods and that a mobile precinct can accomplish much more than a squad car.

"It's the first move toward some police reform that we've seen in this city in a long time," Duroy said. "A police car just sits there. A police car cannot be a command post and really control the area."

After tenants protest

# Hoboken postpones vote on rent control measure

By MICHAEL FINNEGAN  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—The City Council last night postponed voting on a controversial proposal that would weaken rent control laws.

The proposed amendment to the city rent ordinance seeks to exempt condominium units from existing rent control laws, allowing condo owners to charge whatever they choose. All rental units here now are under laws that strictly limit the amount a landlord can charge.

About 100 residents, most of them opposed to the proposal, crowded into the council chambers in City Hall, and several of them were applauded and cheered when they urged the council to reject it.

But Rick Shafran, executive director of Hudson 2000, a group that "supports property owners, was booed after he stepped to the microphone and defended the proposed amendment. He said the measure would keep the local economy from "collapsing."

Councilman Thomas Newman expressed reservations because the bill could leave low-income tenants vulnerable to the "wily" forces of the market, and because it also appears to protect affluent city residents. "This is rent control at the top end of the market. That's where it makes the least sense," he said.

The council avoided a final decision on the measure by voting to amend it, an action which requires another public hearing.

The complex amendment, in-

troduced by Roberts and seconded by Newman, would make two changes:

■ Exempt homeowners, as well as condo owners, from rent control.

■ Instead of being given a blanket exemption from rent control, condo owners only would be allowed to rent their units at market rate once, and after that would be subject to existing rent-control laws. But even to get one chance to rent their units at market rate, condo owners would have to prove to the city Rent Leveling Board that they spent on renovation at least 50 percent of the amount they paid for the unit.

The next hearing on the bill is scheduled for Dec. 21 at 7 p.m.

## DePalma becomes Hoboken trustee

HOBOKEN—The Board of Education last night appointed Claire DePalma, a veteran teacher in the Jersey City school system, to serve as a member until the annual board election in April.

DePalma, 37, was selected after being endorsed by Mayor Patrick Pasculli and his allies and opponents on the board. She succeeds Vivian Flora DiStaso, who resigned last month to move out of town.

DePalma was named by a 7-0-1 vote, with board member Felix Rivera abstaining because, he said, he thought the board should have considered appointing a member of a minority group. But Rivera welcomed DePalma, saying he is "looking forward" to working with her.

DePalma has ties to both sides of the fractious board. She was the campaign manager for three successful "reform" candidates in the spring election, and her husband John helped manage Pasculli's mayoral campaign. Pasculli won Nov. 8, but was opposed by officials identified with the reform movement here.

— CHRISTOPHER AVE.

THE HUDSON DISPATCH, SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 1988



Cindy McKee, left, attorney for 11 Hoboken tenants threatened by eviction, discuss the case with the tenants.

Booted by landlords

# Judge rescues tenants from ouster — for now

By ROBERT NEUWIRTH  
The Hudson Dispatch

About 20 Hoboken tenants were saved from instant eviction yesterday when an appeals court panel ruled that they could not be forced from their homes without a full court hearing.

The decision, by Judge Geoffrey Gaulkin of the Appellate Division, reversed a lower court order that would have pushed all 19 tenants of 251 First St. from their homes by 6 p.m.

"Before people get thrown out on the street, there's got to be a hearing," said Gaulkin in an impromptu statement that was not part of his official order. "You don't do it by walking into court, dropping a couple of affidavits and saying, 'Out in eight hours.'"

Tenants of the building said they had filed suit to force the landlords to make repairs. The four-story building has had no heat yet this fall and sewage is backed up in the basement, allowing mosquitos to breed in the brackish water, tenants charged yesterday.

The case was scheduled for a hearing next week. But the land-

lords, John and Cosmo Scardino, beat tenants to the punch, coming to court to argue that, since the building is registered as a commercial structure, the tenants are living there illegally.

And the Scardinis were joined by the city, which argued that the numerous violations in the building made it an unsafe place to live.

"It's not a residential building," said Thomas Calligy, assistant city attorney, explaining why the city took the action. Calligy said the building was a firetrap, and that the lives of the people living there would be in danger.

Initially it looked like the tenants would be out of their homes, said Cindy McKee, attorney for 11 of the tenants, when Judge Seymour Margulies of Hudson County Superior Court ruled that the tenants would be summarily evicted yesterday evening.

Margulies refused to grant a stay of his order so the tenants could appeal, McKee said.

But shortly before 3 p.m., Gaulkin threw open his doors, reversed the decision and referred the case back to the lower court for a full hearing.

# Hoboken's all-city chorus at Newport today

By James Efstathiou

It might have been a normal Wednesday afternoon in much of the city, but in Hoboken's Demarest School auditorium yesterday, it was the 11th hour.

With just 24 hours to go before a scheduled appearance at Newport Centre Mall, choral specialist Merry Naddeo was full speed ahead. Today's performance will be the first of the holiday season for the all-city chorus, together

again for the third year. Yesterday's was the first full rehearsal for the chorus as a whole.

"I don't know what I'm going to be hit with, sound-wise," Naddeo said. "I don't know what I'm going to hear."

At times, what she heard pleased her very much. Despite the distraction of singing in the large, unfamiliar auditorium while friends and old acquaintances from other schools filed in, Naddeo struggled to keep attention focused on her.

"Sopranos over here, altos

here," Naddeo instructed. "Sit properly. Every eye on me. We're too close to something so important to be spaced out."

With that, the group of approximately 50 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders from throughout the city broke into "Blessed Be That Maid Marie." The song is one of about seven Naddeo hoped the group would be ready to perform today.

Choral practice was set back some two months because two music teachers were laid off last summer. Both have

been rehired.

"I have to work around teachers. Academics comes first," Naddeo said. "You work against all the obstacles. I've got teachers who won't send kids."

While it's true that activities such as athletics and chorus must play second fiddle to academics, Naddeo firmly believes that such activities build self-confidence and enhance learning in general.

"It heals," said Naddeo of participation in the chorus.

"I'm of the opinion, and so are the experts, that the self-concept does more than the intelligence level in achievement."

In addition to today's Newport Centre concert, the group has numerous appearances scheduled, including City Hall Wednesday for the annual tree lighting ceremony and a benefit concert at St. John's Lutheran Church Dec. 18.

Naddeo also directs a junior chorus of 3rd and 4th graders who will join the seniors in upcoming concerts.





PATRICK PASCULLI  
Wants Houn at funeral

Rites today

## Pasculli attacks chief over fireman's death

DISPATCH 12-13-88  
By MARGARET MITTELBACH  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—As city officials prepared to bury a firefighter who died in the line of duty, Mayor Patrick Pasculli yesterday denounced the city's fire chief for continuing a Caribbean luxury cruise instead of returning to attend the funeral.

Firefighter Robert Mazza Sr. collapsed outside a burning building here Saturday and died later from an apparent heart

attack. Fire Chief James Houn was notified of Mazza's death by ship-to-shore radio Saturday morning, according to Pasculli.

Although Houn's ship is scheduled to dock in Puerto Rico this morning, Pasculli said at a press conference yesterday at City Hall that Houn made no effort to cut his cruise short to attend Mazza's funeral, which is scheduled for 10 a.m. today at Our Lady of Grace Church at Fourth Street

Please see PASCULLI Page 4

## PASCULLI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Willow Avenue. "He's the head of the department, and I believe it's his obligation to be with the firefighters

and the family members," Pasculli said. "The department is, in fact, a family when the job is related to life-threatening possibilities. He should lead that family."

Houn, who was at sea last night, could not be reached for comment.

Acting Fire Chief William Bergen said he was upset that Pasculli chose to vent his anger against Mazza yesterday, knowing the story would run in local newspapers on the morning of the funeral.

"I really think the mayor should have waited," Bergen said. "This is the first time we have had a death in the line of duty in 29 years, and we don't want anything to mar the procession."

The ceremonies for Mazza are scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. from Failla Memorial Home at Sixth Street and Willow Avenue. At 10, a high funeral Mass is scheduled at the church. This is scheduled to be followed by a procession passing by the city's two firehouses at Eighth and Clinton streets and 14th and Washington streets. Mazza then is to be buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington.

Pasculli said he criticized Houn because he believed the people of Hoboken should know why the fire chief was not heading the procession.

A City Hall insider who is close to Houn, however, said he believes Pasculli's statement was provoked by his desire to hasten Houn's retirement.

## Change delays council vote on rent controls

By James Efstathiou

A controversial proposal to amend Hoboken's rent control ordinance due for a vote at tonight's City Council meeting has been put on hold again following major revisions by the bill's sponsor.

Instead, the council tonight will hear on first reading the third version of a plan which has already generated heated debate between landlord and tenant advocates. One political action group announced plans yesterday for a petition drive to prevent the amendment from becoming law should it gain the council's approval.

In an effort to secure passage sponsor Councilman David Roberts has agreed to a political compromise. Roberts announced his support for a future proposal to strengthen a section of the city's affordable housing law. In return, Councilman Thomas Newman has promised his support for the Roberts bill including changes that will be introduced tonight.

"The lastest changes are changes that had to be made to accommodate Councilman Newman," said Roberts. "Although we had support for this prior to tomorrow's meeting, I think it's important to have broad based support on a proposition as important as this one."

In what was termed a "gentleman's agreement," Roberts said he would support amending the section of the affordable housing ordinance which requires developers to contribute to the city's affordable housing quota. Currently, owners of buildings of 10 units or less are exempt from making any contribution. Newman wants that threshold reduced to four units or less.

In return, Newman said he will back Roberts' plan including the changes that will be introduced tonight. Originally, the proposal would have removed single-family homes and some rehabilitated condomini-

ums from rent control regulations. In its latest version, the plan calls for all substantially rehabilitated condominium units to be subject to vacancy decontrol which allows landlords to negotiate a fair market rent with tenants once the unit becomes vacant.

"Rent control simply prevents rents from going up," Newman said. "If you have a run-down building with low income tenants in it, that building is condemned to death. A low income tenant can't afford to pay enough rent to supply the real cost of decent housing. We're going to have to count on new construction and city projects to make up some of the slack here. There's no solution in maintaining slums."

According to Newman, requiring affordable housing contributions from a broader range of property owners is a fair return for releasing condominium owners and owners of single-family homes from the "saddle" of rent control. Originally the inclusionary ordinance passed in March called for an exemption for owners of four units or less. However, opposition led by Roberts was successful in raising the exemption to 10 units.

Hoboken is required by law to provide 250 units of affordable housing. It is anticipated that much of that will be contributed by developers through implementation of inclusionary ordinance. So far, no low and moderate income units have been created through the ordinance.

Some tenant advocates have opposed the Roberts amendment from the start, charging that anything weakening rent control will reduce the stock of moderate income rental units. Annette Iling, chairwoman of the Campaign for Housing Justice, believes the city council is concerned more with personal agendas than housing in Hoboken.

"I don't think that anyone in Hoboken is looking at the housing situation as a whole," Iling said. "I think the City Council is looking at what they personally want to change rather than establishing a housing policy of benefit to the entire community."

A group that has called for a moratorium on development held a press conference in front of a building owned by Roberts yesterday to announce plans for a petition drive against the amendment.

According to Save Hoboken From Overdevelopment member John Derewlany, 1,200 signatures on a petition would prevent the changes from becoming law and place the question on the ballot for a public vote.

"They're sort of pitching it as a minor adjustment to the rent control law," said Derewlany. "But in truth, it opens up this loophole you could drive a truck through."

But landlord advocates counter that the changes would actually increase the number of rental units and lead to lower rents in general. Releasing condominiums from rent control would prompt property owners to place more rental units on the market, according to Rick Shafan, a spokesman for the property owners group, Hudson 2000.

"It definitely helps the people who are in trouble right now," Shafan said referring to condo owners who cannot legally charge enough rent to cover expenses.

## Carbon monoxide hospitalizes 11

By James Efstathiou

Eleven people, including four school-age children, were hospitalized for carbon monoxide poisoning yesterday after the fumes leaked from a water heater in a Hoboken building. All were exposed to the deadly gas in a three-story frame house at 421 Adams St., according to officials who said an improperly installed flue for a water heater was to blame for the incident.

The victims were listed in stable condition, were alert and showed good vital signs, according to Edmund Cappucci, director of public rela-

tions at St. Mary Hospital. All were held overnight and could be released today or tomorrow.

At 8:30 a.m., the victims were taken to the St. Mary emergency room complaining of dizziness, headache and nausea, symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, Cappucci said. Some had trouble breathing and had red rashes on their faces and chests, he added.

It was unclear if all the victims were residents of the building or were visiting. Admitted to the hospital were Tanya Mendez, 14, Myra Mendez, 20, Sylvia Mendez, 45, Janira Mendez, 10, Servio Mendez,

21, Sergio Mendez, 45, Jennifer Millet, 5, Erica Rosario, 6, Wilfredo Hernandez, 22, Orlando Hernandez, 21, and Diana Donales, 43.

Officials initially suspected a faulty boiler chimney which may have been affected by the construction of a building next door. A downdraft can be created when a taller structure is erected near an existing chimney, which can prevent proper ventilation, inspectors said.

However, it was later determined by a Public Service Electric and Gas employee that the chimney was venting properly. He found, however, that a

flue connecting a pair of water heaters to the chimney was improperly installed and probably released the noxious gases into the basement.

Carbon deposits on pipes in the basement ceiling confirmed that suspicion, according to the PSE&G employee. The water heaters were "red tagged" by the utility company and cannot be re-started until a working ventilation system is installed.

The problem did not affect the building's furnace and the structure was cleared for occupancy by Frank Rizzo of Brick, according to housing officials.

## City panels in turf war

Continued from Page 1

"The Zoning Board received and considered the memorandum and weighed the memorandum and other factors as well as counsel's opinion and decided that we not only had jurisdiction, but could rule on the application," said Zoning Board chairman Joel Freiser. "Zoning boards have exclusive jurisdiction on use variances and this was a use variance application."

Despite that decision, the Planning Board last week directed attorney George Pappas to send a letter to the City Council recommending that legal action be taken to set aside West Bank's approval. The request was forwarded to the Law Department and is likely to be on the agenda at the next council meeting.

"The Planning Board took the position that the variances sought were so great, it was beyond the power of the board," said Pappas. "It amounted to re-zoning. Only the council can re-zone."

The project, originally approved in 1985, was held up in a two and a half-year legal challenge initiated by neighboring property owner Anthony Dell'Aquila. Along with the housing units and parking garage, the complex is to include approximately 20,000 square feet of restaurant and retail space, meeting rooms and a health club with an Olympic-size swimming pool.

But the 1985 approval was eventually overturned by an appellate court judge who cited technical inadequacies in the developer's application.

"We just didn't know enough about the law to make sure the resolution was clear specifying there were no detrimental to the master plan of the city," said Vallone.

While accepting blame for the initial delay, Vallone added that it would be taxpayers

and prospective tenants who would pay the price. He calculated that the delay added "a couple of thousand dollars" to the price of each unit and that when occupied, 1600 Park Avenue will generate \$2 million per year in taxes for the city.

"The taxpayers are the biggest losers," Vallone said. "This building would have been the biggest taxpayer in the city."

The latest developments came as a surprise to Vallone who said his attorney was in the process of preparing a new application which could have been ready for the next Zoning Board meeting.

"I don't understand what they're doing. I really don't," said Vallone. "If they're concerned about the people of the city who have to pay taxes and rents, this isn't in their interest."

The project site is zoned "I1" in an industrial district of the city. According to Starrett's memorandum, zoning laws dictate that the area be used "to maintain employment opportunities for local residents while diversifying and strengthening the city's economic base."

In addition, 11 districts imposed bulk requirements including a four-story height limitation. Since the project would consist of two 23-story residential towers, it would amount to a re-zoning of the area which can only be executed by the City Council, according to Starrett.

However, revisions to the Master Plan which await action by the City Council, acknowledge the shift in demand for industrial areas and recommend that in certain areas previously zoned for industrial use, housing be considered, according to Freiser.

"Had the zoning ordinance been acted on by the council, the use of that property would have been more clearly established," Freiser said.

## Hoboken eyes 'drug-free' zone law

HOBOKEN—The City Council is expected to pass a ordinance next week that would create "drug-free" zones within 1,000 feet of each school here.

The ordinance would allow police to add a charge — possession of a controlled and dangerous substance within 1,000 feet of a school — against drug suspects caught near schools. Because of the Mile Square City's density and size, most of the city would be covered by the law.

The measure, which echoes similar laws passed in Weehawken, Jersey City and other Hudson municipalities, passed unanimously on first reading last Wednesday. It is based on state laws passed last year calling for such measures.

The council is expected to act on the ordinance next Wednesday. —CHRISTOPHER AVE.

## Artists escape eviction

By James Efstathiou

Tenants of a First Street building in Hoboken who complained about a lack of heat came close yesterday to eviction by a city official who said the building is unsafe.

The tenants were to appear in court Monday on a heat complaint.

Instead code official Alfred Arezzo ordered the building emptied.

He claimed it is unsafe and had never been granted a certificate of occupancy.

Superior Court Judge Seymour Margulies ruled in favor of the city and ordered the building vacated by sundown. But tenants were given a temporary reprieve when an Appellate Court judge scheduled a further hearing for Monday.

Residents, many of whom are artists with studios in the building, were shocked at the speed with which they were pushed to the brink of eviction.

"The city was quick," said attorney Cindy McKee, representing the 251 First Street Tenant Association.

"It was astonishingly quick," she said.

She said the city has other options to eviction.

"The city can order him to get a C.O. (certificate of occupancy)," she said.

"If that's not done, they can order him to fix the violations," she said.

There are 22 tenants in the converted commercial building and some have lived there as long as six years.

Most leased space directly from owners John and Cosmo Scardino of Spring Lake. Some responded to ads in the Village Voice newspaper offering converted living space, while one leased through a local realtor who charged a \$1,000 finders fee.

Tenant representatives said yesterday they were unaware there was no certificate of occupancy and that they may have been renting illegally.

Tenant leaders said their problems with the landlord started last year when they appealed rent increases to the city rent board.

They said that is when they learned they were covered by rent control laws.

City officials said they had no choice but to order the landlord to vacate the building.

"If I find a building being used without a C.O., it becomes an unsafe structure," Arezzo said.

"My immediate concern was to make the building safe," he said.

Arezzo said he first learned of the situation Sept. 20, when a police officer advised him that construction was taking place without necessary permits.

Arezzo inspected the building on Nov. 2 and notified the

See ARTISTS — Page 6.

## Two city panels in turf war

By James Efstathiou

A 23-story housing project planned for Hoboken's northern border and delayed in court for over two years could be the subject of another legal battle, this time between two city agencies.

The Hoboken Planning Board has recommended the City Council overturn a ruling by the Zoning Board of Adjustment granting preliminary site plan approval and use variances for the project known as 1600 Park Avenue.

The developer, West Bank Construction Inc. of Hoboken, has proposed two 23-story towers that would include 412 residential units and a 600-car parking garage between the Park Avenue and Willow Avenue viaducts at 16th Street.

The project was given preliminary approval by the Zoning Board in November. Construction could have begun by spring and been completed in two years, according to George Vallone of West Bank.

But because the site is zoned for industrial use, the project should have come before the Planning Board for consideration, not the Zoning Board, according to Zoning Board member James Starrett.

Prior to the vote on 1600 Park Avenue, Starrett sent a memorandum recommending the application be denied to the Zoning Board, which nonetheless approved West Bank's proposal.

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## Artists escape eviction

Continued from Page 1

landlord on Nov. 14 to vacate the building within five days. Among the violations he found were a lack of fire alarms, no heating plant and inadequate fire exits.

Residents were using electric space heaters, which, he said, added to the danger.

But tenants say the city knew of the situation more

than a year ago. In September 1987 bricks falling from the facade prompted police to cordon off the surrounding sidewalk, and led to an inspection by Arezzo.

"We're upset with the city because they came around last year," said a member of the tenant association. "How come it's a danger now, when they left us in there a whole year?"

By Adriana Reyneri

Brown water will be flowing from the taps of Jersey City and Hoboken homes and businesses during the next 10 days, but officials say there's no cause for worry.

The dark tint could be the result of repairs being made to an underground aqueduct that carries water from Boonton Reservoir, said Stephen Stanziano, assistant chief engineer for the Jersey City Water Department.

Such repairs can stir up

tiny particles of iron and minerals that can discolor the water but don't pose harm, Stanziano said. The water is safe for drinking, but residents should be careful washing white clothes.

The water is tested 100 times a day for bacteria, toxic chemicals and heavy metals, Stanziano said, to ensure it meets state standards for drinking water.

"If it was harmful, we wouldn't be allowed to send it into the city," he said.

Crews are working to fix

leaky joints in an 85-year-old cement aqueduct between Montville and Pinebrook, Stanziano said. The project will cost \$200,000 and should be finished within 10 days.

An earthquake recorded 2½ weeks ago may have damaged a 2,000-foot stretch of the underground pipe, which is 8.5 feet in diameter, he said. Construction crews have also been blasting in the area.

Three other water districts will supply Jersey City and Hoboken while the repairs take place: the City of Newark, the

Passaic Valley Water Commission and the North Jersey Water Commission.

The districts are supplying water at no cost, Stanziano said, because Jersey City has credit in a regional water bank.

The city is also working on a \$4.8 million project designed to end to the periodic problem of brown water, Stanziano said. Crews are lining the steel sections of the aqueduct with cement to prevent sediment from gathering.

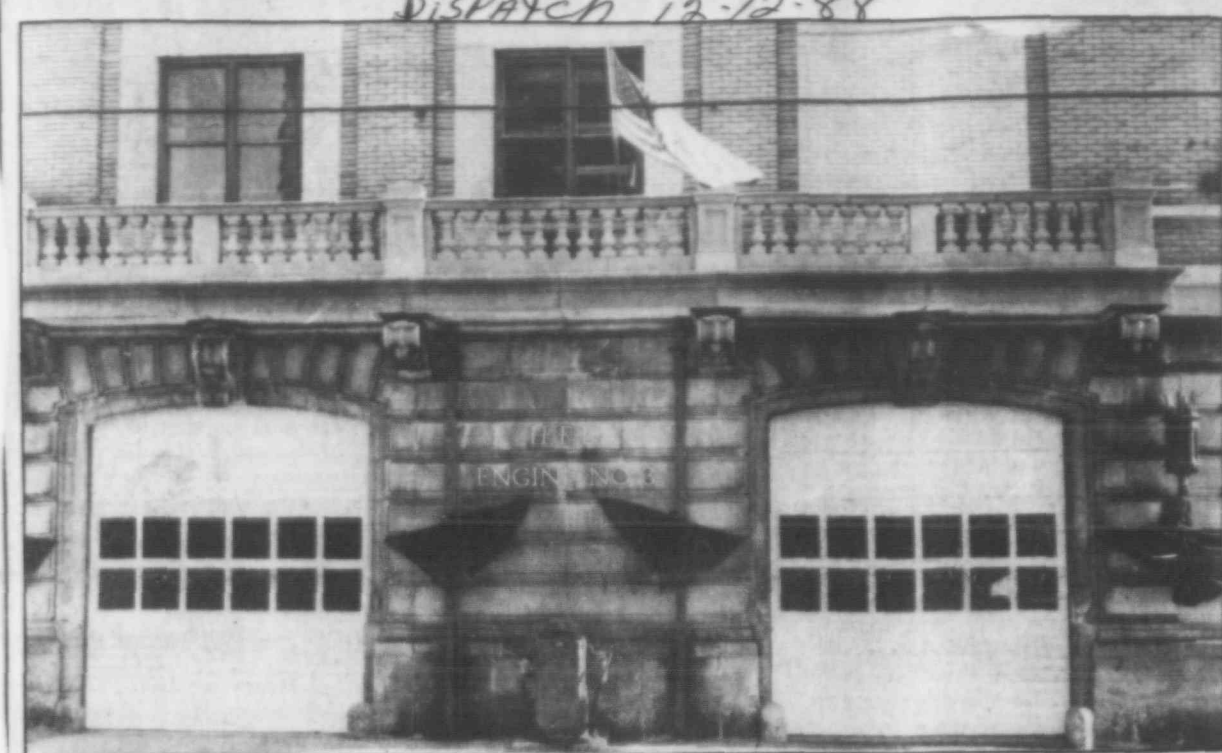
The project should be completed by June 1989.

## 10-day brown water alert issued



Suffers heart attack

# Blaze battle kills fireman



Hoboken Engine No. 3 firehouse has its flag at half staff and is draped with black bunting to honor Firefighter Robert Mazzo Sr., who died of an apparent heart attack while battling a blaze Saturday.

## Hoboken to honor comrade tomorrow

By RANDI GLATZER  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Firefighters are scheduled to march through the city tomorrow to honor firefighter Robert Mazzo Sr., who died of an apparent heart attack while battling a blaze early Saturday.



MAZZO

Fire officials have not yet determined the cause of the blaze, which erupted in an abandoned apartment building at 312 Second St., Sarnella said. A preliminary investigation suggests Mazzo's death brought a sudden reminder of the daily risks of their job to local firefighters. The event was especially shocking, they said, because Saturday morning's fire was small and relatively tame, and 50-year old Mazzo, an avid weightlifter, was in peak physical condition.

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### FIREMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gested the fire may have been caused by vagrants.

Mazzo was stretching a hose into the burning house with other members of Engine Co. 3 when he stopped for a break, Sarnella said. Moments later, Mazzo collapsed. A doctor pronounced him dead at the scene shortly after 1 a.m.

Mazzo, a member of the International Firefighters Association, planned to retire in two years, his former wife Elizabeth Emery Mazzo said. Although he did not have a history of heart trouble, many members of Mazzo's family have had heart attacks, she said.

Born in Hoboken, Mazzo attended Demarest High School and became a running back for the school football team. He met Elizabeth Emery at a school basketball game; the two were married in April 1964.

For the first few months of their marriage, Mrs. Mazzo said, Mazzo made no mention of his plans to become a firefighter. Working on Hudson piers as a longshoreman, then for a Weehawken chemical company, Mazzo was secretly considering a career that he felt would bring a sure, steady future for the children the two planned to have.

One day in 1965, Mazzo announced to his wife that he had passed Hoboken's firefighters' exam.

"I didn't even know he was studying for the test," Mrs. Mazzo said. "He surprised me and came out Number 2 on the test."

Outside of work, Mazzo had two interests: his family and his workouts at Hoboken's YMCA on Washington Street.

Although the Mazzos were divorced and Robert Mazzo lived in Union City, he spent most afternoons in Clifton with his two sons, Robert Jr., 21, and Christopher, 19.

In addition to his ex-wife and his two sons, Mazzo is survived by four sisters and one brother. Failla Memorial Home here is handling arrangements.

# Firefighter's heart gives out at blaze

By Dominick Calicchio

A Hoboken firefighter died Saturday morning, shortly after collapsing at the scene of a blaze on Second Street, Hoboken fire officials said.

Firefighter Robert Mazzo, 50, a 23-year department veteran, was pronounced dead by Dr. James Crudele at 1:22 a.m. in St. Mary Hospital, Hoboken, said hospital spokeswoman Joan Quigley.

A full Fire Department funeral will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow in Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken, said Deputy Fire Chief Pasquale Sarnella.

The state Medical Examiner's office has not yet determined the cause of death, fire officials said, but Quigley said Mazzo was in a state of cardiopulmonary arrest when he arrived at the hospital.

Mazzo had just come out of 312 Second St., where the fire was, and was taking off his equipment, when he fell backward to the ground, said his son, Robert Jr.

Mazzo, who worked out of Engine Company 3 at Second and Jefferson streets, was one of about 12 firefighters who responded to the scene, after a call came in at 12:18 a.m., Sarnella said.

The four-story frame building was vacant, Sarnella said, adding that officials believe the fire started in the rear kitchen on the first floor and spread to an adjacent bedroom.

Fire officials are investigating the cause of the blaze, he said.

According to Robert Jr.,



Firehouses in Hoboken, like this one on Observer Highway, are draped in black, their flags lowered to half-staff in memory of 23-year veteran firefighter Robert Mazzo, who was fatally stricken while battling a blaze early Saturday morning.

the other firefighters at Engine 3 said Mazzo was "in a good mood, joking around," during the hours prior to the fire.

His father, who lifted weights regularly, and had done so on Friday, was in good physical condition, the son said, but also reported that Mazzo smoked cigarettes.

Mazzo's wife, Elizabeth, said her husband's family had a history of heart disease as well, Robert Jr. said.

Mazzo would have been eligible for retirement in two years, his son said, adding his father often joked about moving to Hawaii when that time arrived.

Sarnella said it was not unheard of for a firefighter to die following a seemingly routine blaze.

"The small jobs that look like nothing are sometimes the toughest jobs you have," he said.

"The bell goes off and your heart starts jumping. You read about it all the time. A building collapses and a firefighter dies of a heart attack. A guy inhales smoke and he dies three or four hours later in his bed."

Mazzo, a Union City resident for the last 11 years, was born and raised in Hoboken.

He attended the Brandt School and played running back on the football team during his years at Demarest High School.

Mazzo is also survived by another son, Christopher, 19, and by four sisters and a brother.

Funeral arrangements are by Failla Memorial Home, Hoboken, where viewing will be held today at 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington.

## Landlord now faces charge in turnabout

By James Efstathiou

One week after trying to force tenants out of a building deemed unsafe, Hoboken officials have now filed charges against the property owner.

Zoning Officer Mike Ocello, acting on a recommendation by the City Law Department, yesterday issued a summons to Scardino Enterprises, owners of a former coat manufacturing firm at 251 First St. The summons charges the owner rented the property for housing without a certificate of occupancy.

The building is zoned for commercial use, yet has been occupied by tenants since 1982. The charge carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and or 90 days in jail. A court date is set for Jan. 4.

The move followed court proceedings initiated by the city last Thursday to have the building vacated. An attorney representing 11 of approximately 22 tenants succeeded Friday in staying an eviction order with hearings to resume Tuesday.

City officials believe the tenants, many of them artists who converted space in the building into studios, are in imminent danger.

A recent inspection revealed numerous violations of the state housing code. City attorney Thomas Calligly requested an independent engineer be brought in to determine whether

improvements could be made to safeguard tenants as the court proceedings continue.

According to Calligly, the city had no option but to move to have the building vacated.

However, Cindy McKee, representing members of the 251 First St. Tenant Association, believes the city should have tried to force the landlord to improve conditions.

"My position is basically first that the city's job here is not to go in and vacate a building because its use is illegal or because it's unsafe," said McKee. "Their job is to cite the landlord."

Tenants said they rented space in the building from John and Cosmo Scardino of Spring Lake with the understanding that they were renting residential property.

They claim the landlord has worked to evict them since charges of lack of heat were brought last year.

But an attorney representing the landlord said it was understood from the beginning that the owner would eventually sell the building and that all parties were aware that the occupancy was questionable.

"It was good while it lasted, it served a purpose," said John Follender representing Scardino Enterprises. "My clients collected rent. They had a space to teach their art."

## Fears halt building rehab

By James Efstathiou

The renovation of vacant building in downtown Hoboken was interrupted yesterday when workers fled, fearing its collapse.

Workers at 60 Newark St. were shoring up the interior when falling plaster prompted concern that the structure might not be sound. Owner Vincent Wilt said he was rehabbing the building for residential and commercial use.

The aging structure cannot

be leveled, according to Wilt, since it is located within the city's Historic District zone. Wilt said workers were in the process of shoring up the interior in preparation for breaking down the exterior.

Newark Street between Hudson and Washington streets was temporarily closed and Public Service Electric & Gas shut off power in the building. Building inspector Alfred Arezzo called in a city engineer who instructed workers how to proceed.

## Felled tenants home from hospital

HOBOKEN—Ten victims of carbon monoxide exposure were released yesterday from St. Mary Hospital here, a spokesman said.

The 11th victim, 10-year-old Janira Mendez, was kept a few additional hours for observation, but was also expected to be released by last night.

The 11 people, all residents of 421 Adams St., were hospitalized Tuesday after their apartment building filled with the lethal gas. Authorities attributed the dangerous situation to a clogged vent in the building's hot-water heating system, which had been activated for the first time this year to help ward off the cold.

—JEFFREY RUBIN.

## Hudson developers apply to build \$69M in housing

By Joseph Albright

Developers in East Orange, Newark, Carteret, Perth Amboy, Elizabeth and Camden also submitted applications under the program.

All the applications are scheduled for contractual consideration by the state Human Services Department by the end of the year.

The \$10 million state program will provide long-term low-interest financing and operating assistance to qualified developers who build or substantially rehabilitate rental

housing. The housing must remain rental for at least 15 years with a portion of the units dedicated to low-income families. Permanent financing will be provided by the state Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency with proceeds from tax-exempt or taxable bonds.

Community Affairs Commissioner Anthony M. Villane said the developers proposed 17 projects containing 1,163 units at a total contractor cost of \$127,937,954.

Until case is heard

## Judge to tenants: 'Take a vacation'

By ROBERT NEUWIRTH  
The Hudson Dispatch

Tenants of a Hoboken building are scheduled to appear in court today to defend their right to their apartments before a judge who last week told them to think of their eviction as a vacation.

The judge, Seymour Margulies of Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City, ruled Friday that Hoboken, together with the landlord, could force the eviction of 19 residents of 251 First

St. because the building was not registered as a residential structure.

When the tenants said they had no place to go, the judge responded, "They can think of it as a one-week vacation," according to a sworn statement filed by Ira Karasick, the city's tenant advocate, who witnessed Friday's court decision but has no connection with either the tenants or the landlord of the loft building.

The judge explained his remark by saying the tenants would be forced out

only until the case could be decided, a period he said would not exceed a week.

Tenants have charged that the owners, John and Cosmo Scardino, advertised the apartments as residences. They said yesterday that there is no heat in the building, and that sewage pipes are broken.

"In much of my place, it's got to be below freezing," said Michael Peglau, who has lived in the loft building for almost six years.

Tenants have filed suit to force the

owners to make repairs.

The judge granted the city's motion to require the tenants to leave by sundown Friday, and he denied the tenants a stay of the order so they could appeal.

Nonetheless, on an emergency basis, the tenants secured a hearing before Judge Geoffrey Gaulkin of the Appellate Division of state Superior Court in Jersey City.

Declaring that the tenants cannot be thrown out on the street without a full discussion of the facts, Gaulkin reversed

the eviction order, and remanded the case back to the lower court.

Cindy McKee, the attorney for 11 of the tenants, argued in court yesterday that Margulies was prejudiced against them, citing the judge's comment that eviction could be like a vacation, and asked him to remove himself from the case.

But Margulies refused to excuse himself, and the tenants are scheduled to face him at 9 a.m. today.

## Baby's fine despite grenade

By JEFFREY RUBIN  
The Hudson Dispatch

Tartiana Frances Rodriguez, born yesterday at St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken, is likely to find great irony in her birthdate. It was the day West New York resident Maximiliano Garcia Iseren was scheduled to go on trial for tossing a simulated hand grenade at the infant's mother more than five months ago.

On July 4, Tartiana's 28-year-old mother Esther, then four months pregnant, was standing by the Hudson River with her husband Miguel and several friends, watching a fireworks display, when Iseren allegedly tossed the grenade in the group's direction.

In the ensuing explosion, Mrs. Rodriguez suffered injuries and burns to her left leg. Both she and her husband say their hearing and vision are still impaired.

"Some days, she cannot hear, and from far

"My own ears, I cannot hear so good because of when the bomb blew up. My eyes were also hurt. I had to get a new prescription."

MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ

away she cannot see," said Rodriguez, who lives with his wife on Summit Avenue in Union City. "I was very hurt at what happened to my wife."

"My own ears, I cannot hear so good because of when the bomb blew up," he said. "My eyes were also hurt. I had to get a new prescription."

Rodriguez said he also was frightened for his unborn child, the family's first. Shortly

after the accident, he said, Mrs. Rodriguez began throwing up, prompting a slew of tests before doctors dismissed the problem as a product of shock and upset.

"I was worried, very, very worried," Rodriguez said.

Yesterday, at 5:11 a.m., Mrs. Rodriguez was back in the hospital, this time for a happy occasion. As her husband looked on, she delivered a healthy baby via Caesarean section.

Rodriguez said the only drawback of yesterday's delivery was its impact on the trial of Iseren, who was charged with aggravated assault, possession of a deadly weapon and possession of stolen property. The date had to be rescheduled to accommodate the Rodriguezes, who otherwise were occupied throughout the day.

"I was so worried about the baby," Rodriguez said. "I would like to see some kind of action for Iseren."



# Robbery trial

## Accused leaves courtroom Says attorneys robbed him of constitutional rights

By NINA SHAPIRO  
The Hudson Dispatch

A robbery defendant representing himself stormed out of the courtroom yesterday when his motions to the judge were denied, saying his attorney had "sabotaged" his case.

"The court is refusing to grant my constitutional right to a fair trial," said James Ferguson, 30, of Hoboken, addressing Judge James T. O'Halloran of Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City in a rare display of self-representation.

Ferguson charged Assistant Prosecutor Donald Gardner and attorney Kathleen Boyle of the Public Defender's Office violated his constitutional rights.

Ferguson, angrily putting on his green jacket over a white T-shirt and red sweat pants, demanded to be taken away. "I'm not going to stay here, do what you want," he said as he was handcuffed and led out of the courtroom.

The turbulent trial continued without him

**"The court is refusing to grant my constitutional right to a fair trial"**

JAMES FERGUSON

as Boyle, at first rattled, assumed a collected composure. At the end of the day, the jury was deliberating testimony presented in the two-day trial.

Ferguson is charged with robbery, aggravated assault and weapons possession. He is accused of stealing \$10 and a pack of cigarettes from Daisy Johnson in Hoboken on April 20, then beating her with a silver handgun.

Ferguson dismissed Boyle early in the trial, saying she did not comply with his request before the proceeding to retrieve a transcript of Johnson's previous statement to authorities. O'Halloran had ruled that

Ferguson was not legally entitled to an advance copy of the transcript.

Receiving the transcript Thursday, he then argued he did not have enough time to prepare questions for Johnson when she testified later in the day.

"I'm not a fast reader. I'm not a high school graduate. I have to read it once, twice and three times," he told O'Halloran.

He moved both to dismiss the indictment and delay the trial. O'Halloran denied both motions, prompting Ferguson to leave the courtroom, which O'Halloran recognized was his constitutional right.

After O'Halloran instructed jurors not to "draw any inference of any kind from his absence," the trial continued with the testimony of Hoboken Police Officer Kevin Houghton.

Boyle, in her closing argument, urged jurors to "take the evidence presented to you and testimony of Daisy Johnson with a grain of salt."

## Hoboken firefighter answers final alarm

By James Efstathiou

The city of Hoboken paid final respects yesterday to a firefighter who died during a weekend blaze.

Firefighter Robert Mazzo, 50, a 23-year department veteran, collapsed from cardiopulmonary arrest Saturday after emerging from an apartment fire at 312 Second St.

He was pronounced dead at St. Mary Hospital at 1:22 a.m. by Dr. James Crudele.

It was the first time in 29 years a Hoboken firefighter lost his life in the line of duty, fire officials said.

As the first snow of the winter dusted city streets, representatives of fire companies around the state gathered outside Our Lady of Grace Church on Willow Avenue.

Inside, family, friends, city officials and much of the Hoboken Fire Department sat in silence as Mass began.

They then marched up Clinton Street led by the file



The coffin of Hoboken Firefighter Robert Mazzo is carried into Our Lady of Grace Church.

22 THE JERSEY JOURNAL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1988

## Hoboken dropping dumping charges

By James Efstathiou

The city of Hoboken has withdrawn charges against a chemical company accused of illegally dumping pollutants into the sewer system.

Representatives of the Henkel Corporation of Ambler, Pa., were in municipal court yesterday in response to summonses issued last week charging discharge of a pollutant from its Jefferson Street plant.

The discharge upset the sewage treatment works, according to Department of Public Works Director Roy Haack.

Haack requested the charges be dropped after he was given assurances by company officials that it would implement its plans to construct a pre-treatment facility.

Municipal Court Judge Ross London allowed the charges to be dropped.

Two weeks ago, the DPW was notified that soap suds had backed up at the 11th Street pumping station and at commercial properties along Jefferson Street.

Investigators traced the trail of suds through the sewer lines back to the Henkel plant.

The company manufactures materials used primarily by the cosmetic industry. Plant manager Louis Gayl said the suds discharge was a result of residual materials which were flushed out of lines used to load trucks.

He conceded that a small amount of suds could have been generated in the flushing process.

However, Gayl added that the city should bear part of the blame because of its delay in telling manufacturers exactly what levels of chemicals can legally be dumped into the sewer system.

That delay, he said, held up installation of an in-house pre-treatment facility at the plant which would have prevented the problem.

See HOBOKEN — Page 12.

## Firefighter answers final alarm



Journal photo by Wally Henning

The Hoboken FMBA Color Guard leads the funeral procession for Firefighter Robert Mazzo.



Journal photo by Wally Henning

Mrs. Elizabeth Mazzo, escorted by her sons, Robert Jr. and Christopher, enters Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken for the funeral Mass for her husband, Firefighter Robert Mazzo.

## Hoboken dropping dumping charges

Continued from Page 1

But, according to Haack, the city approved those standards last April.

In Municipal Court yesterday, Gayl said he was unaware that the rules had been approved and that his firm would now move ahead on plans to

install the pre-treatment facility. Based on that assurance, Haack agreed to drop the dumping charges.

"We requested dismissal of the charges based on what they told us," Haack said. "They said they would proceed on this."

## FUNERAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shore radio on Monday.

"It seemed to me that he just wanted to wash his hands of the affair and continue his vacation," Pasculli said. "I'm sure it would have been possible to have him return here."

A number of firefighters, gathered at the Elks Lodge on Washington Street yesterday afternoon, said they agreed with the mayor.

"Where there's a will there's a way," said one who did not want to give his name. "I mean, this is 1988. You can get off a boat."

"Bobby deserved to have the chief there," another said.

Houn, who could not be reached for comment, is expected to return next week, Pasculli said.

Mazzo was eulogized at the Our Lady of Grace Church by his nephew, the Rev. Robert Emery.

"Bob is now in a world more beautiful than you or I could ever imagine," Emery said. "His life will shine forever, like a star in your lives."

Mazzo's friends and loved ones gathered around 8:30 a.m. at Failla Memorial Home at Sixth Street and Willow Avenue, where Mazzo's open casket lay surrounded by flowers.

In a nearby room, his fellow firefighters and close friends from Engine Co. 2 passed around a photo of Mazzo laughing and flexing his muscles in the firehouse. They said he was in excellent shape and worked out nearly



Firefighters march in Hoboken yesterday in honor of colleague Robert Mazzo Sr., who died Saturday while battling a blaze.

every day in the firehouse and at the YMCA next door, making his death all the more shocking.

"His crew loved him," Firefighter Mike Turner said.

"If I have to get in the trench lines, that's the guy I want next to me," Capt. Robert Moore said.

"We'll miss his pot roast," Turner said. "He cooked the best pot roast around."

"He was a great ball player,"

said James "Gigi" Giani, Mazzo's second cousin who played with him on the Fire Department's softball team. "He was our best shortstop."

"I think the last thing Bobby heard before he passed away," said John O'Brien, fighting back tears, "was from another firefighter: 'Good job, Bob.'"

Among the fire departments that sent representatives to the funeral were Jersey City, Maplewood, Elizabeth, Trenton, Cranford, Linden, North Bergen, Teaneck, Hackensack, East Orange, Weehawken, West New York, Summit and Paterson. The firefighters stood in a row on Willow Avenue, saluting as Mazzo's hearse and a firetruck decorated with thousands of flowers passed by.

## 200 IN TRIBUTE



Firefighters carry the casket of Robert Mazzo Sr. into Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken yesterday.

## Graveside controversy Chief criticized as firemen honor comrade

By MICHAEL FINNEGAN

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Amid a swirl of controversy, more than 200 people paid their respects yesterday to Firefighter Robert Mazzo Sr., felled by a heart attack while battling a blaze Saturday night.

Storekeepers and residents were drawn to their windows as nearly all of the city's 140 firefighters marched through the snowy city streets to the firehouse at Washington and 14th streets, where Mazzo spent most of his 23 years with the department. He was buried shortly after noon at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington.

Mazzo, 50, collapsed on Saturday outside a burning building on Second Street and later died. It was the first time in 29 years that a city firefighter had died in the line of duty, said acting Chief William Bergen.

Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who denounced Fire Chief James Houn on Monday for continuing on a Caribbean cruise instead of returning for the services, stepped up his criticism yesterday.

"He should have exercised his duty, which is to be here," Pasculli said. "He did not make any attempt to return."

The mayor said he spoke with Houn via ship-to-ship radio.

Please see FUNERAL Page 14

Continued from Page 1

and drum band of the Police and Fire Emerald Society of Essex County, which played "The Minstrel Boy."

At 14th Street, mourners took to limousines, cars and buses for the trip to Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington where Mazzo was interred.

The fire which claimed Mazzo's life has been classified as "not suspicious," according to fire code official Richard Tremittedi.

The fire, Tremittedi said, was started by unauthorized persons in the building, possible vagrants, who for unknown reasons ignited a pile of rubbish in a kitchen on the first floor.

The fire was small but very smoky, Tremittedi said, and did not spread to other areas of the building, as initially reported.

The four-story frame building was vacant.

Mazzo, a Union City resident for the past 11 years, was born and raised in Hoboken.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, sons Robert Jr. and Christopher, four sisters and a brother.



11 hospitalized

## Poison sickens tenants

Apartment building fills with lethal gas

12-14-88

By JEFFREY RUBIN

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—Eleven people, including four children, were hospitalized yesterday morning after they were exposed to lethal fumes in their Adams Street apartment building, officials said.

The victims, residents of a three-story dwelling at 421 Adams St., were admitted to St. Mary Hospital at about 8:30 a.m., and were expected to stay a day or two for treatment and observation.

Hospital spokesman Ed Caparucci said the 11 appeared to be suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, which can cause skin irritations, nausea, dizziness and even death.

"Their vital signs are stable," Caparucci said. "They're all alert, and they were alert when they came in."

Fire inspectors said the gas, also contained in exhaust fumes from automobiles, apparently flooded the apartment building because the hot-water heating system's vent had become clogged with soot.

PSE&G officials yesterday supervised cleaning of the flue and vent, city officials said.

Chief Housing Inspector Jude Fitzgibbons said the city is also investigating whether the vent is too small and may have been built without appropriate permits. Additionally, the building owner, Francisco Rizzo of Brick Township, may not have taken into account the fact that the apartment building is surrounded by taller structures, a situation that could cause a backdraft of carbon monoxide rather than free release of the gas.

Building superintendent Javier Burgos, a first-floor resident, said yesterday's 14-degree temperatures prompted him to activate the heating system for the first time this year.

Burgos said the building filled with the poison gas in the early morning, while people slept.

"There was this horrible smell



Some tenants returned to their apartments at 421 Adams St. yesterday after carbon monoxide fumes, which hospitalized 11 people, filled the building, forcing them to evacuate.

in the hallway," third-floor resident Olga Massas recalled yesterday afternoon. "Whatever it was, it smelled bad. It got into the apartments, and we had to open the windows to get air in here."

As people awoke, police and fire

**"There was this horrible smell in the hallway. Whatever it was, it smelled bad. It got into the apartments, and we had to open the windows to get air in here."**

OLGA MASSAS

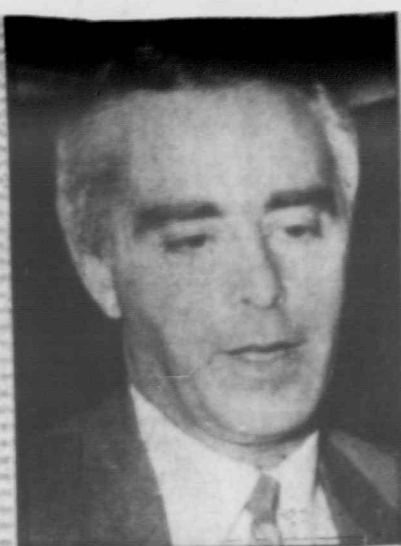
officials were contacted; the first call was received by police at 9:37.

Minutes later the building was evacuated, forcing residents to endure the cold for several minutes. Even after they were readmitted to the building, a faint odor lingered, and firefighters warned against lighting matches on the premises.

mother Silvia, 45; Janira, 10; Myra, 20; and Tanya, 14.

Servio Mendez, 21, a son who lived in a separate apartment, was also hospitalized along with two roommates, 22-year-old Wilfredo Hernandez and 21-year-old Orlando Hernandez.

Diana Canales, 43, and her 5-year-old daughter Jennifer Miller, were hospitalized as well, Caparucci said.



PAUL M. DePASCALE Expresses satisfaction with Hoboken takeover

## Cop deal near

Pasculli approves DePascale request

By MARGARET MITTELBACH  
The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—In the first step toward bringing in Hudson County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale to head the city's Police Department, Mayor Patrick Pasculli announced yesterday that police headquarters will move to a vacant school building.

Barring any objections to the move, the police will move into the first and second floors of the Rue School at Third and Garden streets by the end of January, with the Prosecutor's Office paying for any renovations, according to Pasculli. Both the City Council and the Board of Education—which owns Rue School—must first pass resolutions approving the relocation, however.

Now based in a decrepit site in the basement of City Hall, police headquarters recently was cited by the state Department of Labor's Labor Relations and Workplace Standards Division as having "unsafe and unhealthy working conditions."

DePascale said last night that relocation of police headquarters is a condition of his taking the position of public safety director. "If the police station is moved, I'll come in. If it's not, I'll stay out," the prosecutor said.

As soon as the relocation is

Please see HOBOKEN Page 18

## HOBOKEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

completed, DePascale said, he will take over as public safety director and begin a two-month study of the Police Department's organizational structure.

Pasculli said the purpose of bringing in DePascale is to improve the department's efficiency, enhance the effectiveness of the fight against narcotics and increase police presence in the city's neighborhoods. DePascale recently finished two 90-day terms as interim police director in Jersey City in which he put in motion a sweeping reorganization plan.

Finding a new facility for the precinct, however, is the first step toward improving police morale, according to the acting public safety director, Eugene O'Connell.

"It's very tough to have the morale of the department on a high level when they come into an environment that's unsanitary and unclear," he said.

Although police headquarters recently was renovated with paneling, fresh paint and new acoustic ceiling tiles, the facility still reeks of stale sweat. It provides no bathroom or changing facilities for women, and forces detectives to run the

gauntlet through a bank of lockers where male officers change, in order to get to their offices.

"It's a hellhole," said Lt. Simon N. Cumberbatch.

Although police officers interviewed yesterday said they are looking forward to the move, they also said they have been advised of possible relocations in the past and were skeptical that the move actually will be made. A flier that officers said once hung on the department bulletin board denounced their offices as condemned and recommended that the facility be moved. It was dated 1908.

Although Pasculli said he is confident that the move to Rue School will go forward without a hitch, City Hall observers said some school board members may oppose leasing the school to the Police Department for a nominal fee that could be as low as \$1 a year.

Board members have worked for nearly three months to find paying tenants for the newly vacant school, and may not approve leasing to an essentially non-paying tenant, observers said.

Pasculli stressed, however, that the proposed lease is designed to be temporary.

"At some point, we would like to see newly constructed police and fire facilities, and as development proceeds in this town, that is going to be addressed," Pasculli said.

## Grand jury results open to defense

By Patricia Scott J.J.

Defense lawyers representing four Hoboken youths indicted for the beating death of Asian-Indian Navroze Mody will be allowed to study the final voting tallies of two separate grand juries that studied evidence in the case.

Superior Court Judge Kevin Callahan yesterday granted an unusual defense request to see the jury voting sheets. The judge ruled, however, that the names of all jurors who served on both juries be deleted. "This decision grants the defense right to gather as much information as possible about the case, but also protects the sworn secrecy of the grand jury process," the judge ruled.

Callahan noted that the case represents a case book first in that two juries reviewed the same evidence and there are two separate sets of voting tally sheets.

"This is a unique case, in fact there is no case law on the subject," the judge said. "I must balance the defense's right to information against the precious right of grand jurors to secrecy and protection."

Two separate grand juries studied evidence in the Mody case. Transcripts of the case revealed that the first jury voted in favor of an indictment for aggravated manslaughter, but that indictment was never returned and that grand jury was released.

Following a closed hearing between Assistant Prosecutor Patrick Raviola before Assignment Judge Burrell Ives Humphreys, a second grand jury was empaneled and a fresh review of evidence began with new jurors.

The second jury returned a murder indictment of the four Hoboken teenagers. They are Ralph Gonzalez, 17; Luis Padilla, 16 and brothers Daniel Luis and William Acevedo, 17 and 15 years old.

Defense attorneys sought and receive permission from Callahan last month that allowed them to review transcripts of both juries.

They said it appears one juror - in the first grand jury - changed her vote at the last minute, but it remains unknown whether she voted for manslaughter, aggravated manslaughter, murder or "no bill," which would have essentially dismissed indictment possibilities.

## Rue School may be Police HQ

J.J. 12-16-88

By James Efstathiou

The David Rue School will be the new home of the Hoboken Police Department if city officials approve a proposal to rent the facility from the Board of Education.

The move would pave the way for the Hudson County Prosecutor to temporarily take over the department.

An ordinance authorizing the City Council to negotiate a lease with the board is expected to be considered by the council at Wednesday's meeting. The board recently announced it had scheduled a

special meeting for Jan. 7 to discuss the fate of the school which has been out of use since June.

The selection of Rue School as the best choice for a new police headquarters was finalized yesterday at a meeting of Mayor Patrick Pasculli, Hudson County Prosecutor Paul DePascale, Police Chief George Crimmins and members of the City Council Public Safety Committee in the mayor's City Hall office.

The move out of the dilapidated police headquarters in

See RUE SCHOOL — Page 19.

## Hoboken may get model police force

Continued from Page 1

and fourth could be used for other purposes. The consultants, whom DePascale identified as the top law-enforcement research group in the country, would conduct a "top-to-bottom" review of the department. The goal, he said, is to make the Hoboken department a model for other small- to medium-sized county municipalities.

"The project, whether it goes to Hoboken, Union City or some other town, is going forward," DePascale said.

"What we're talking about here is using Hoboken as a

model for other small towns."

DePascale would not elaborate on time constraints the Washington consultants imposed, but did say that the group was nationally known and might choose to contract with another department. The cost of the group's services, as well as cost of conversion of Rue School, would be paid by the Prosecutor's Office.

"I'm looking to make available to all of the towns in the county the foremost experts in police science," DePascale said.

"The town that gets the model, gets the money."

## Rue School may be Police Headquarters

Continued from Page 1

the basement of City Hall could take place as early as next month. Pasculli said that the anticipated appointment of DePascale as acting director of public safety in Hoboken will be made at the time of the transfer.

"The prosecutor will bring in a research, planning and management team to conduct a study," Pasculli said, referring to DePascale's plan the scrutinize the entire department. "But before the study begins, we have to address a very glaring problem in our police department. That is the actual facility."

Pasculli, who began laying the groundwork for DePascale's arrival soon after his appointment as interim mayor in March, said the new precinct was part of a long-term solution to upgrade the department.

The school is expected to house police headquarters for two or three years, Pasculli said. In that time, it is hoped plans for a new facility housing both police and fire headquarters will be under way.

DePascale, who has stated that he would not accept the Hoboken appointment until three ongoing investigations involving Hoboken subjects were completed, said he expects those probes to be finished by Jan. 1. The investigations focus on an unnamed police officer, on former tax assessor Woodrow Monte and on a pair of Sixth Ward election districts where fraudulent votes may have been cast.

DePascale, who recently completed a six-month term as acting Jersey City police director, said his primary criterion in the search for a new headquarters was finding a vacant facility which could be transformed into a precinct with minimal renovation. Establishing a new headquarters in Hoboken is believed to be a precondition for the arrival of DePascale, sources said.

As acting director in Jersey City, DePascale conducted a review of the entire department, changed management positions, installed a new com-

puter program and improved physical conditions at certain police stations.

Rue School, located at the corner of Third and Garden streets, was built for use as a grade school in the early 1900's. The three-story building was closed for two years in the early 1980's when a \$2 million plus renovation was undertaken.

The building was reopened in 1984, but shut down again last June due to low enrollment and budget cuts.

If the plan is approved, the police department is expected to occupy the sub-basement and part of the first floor of the building. A day-care center currently operating in the school will remain on the first floor, but will be partitioned off from the precinct.

The cost of renovating the school for police use is expected to be paid by the prosecutors office, Pasculli said. DePascale, who controls the Hudson County Law Enforcement Trust Fund, said he spent over \$400,000 while serving as public safety director in Jersey City.

The department is expected to maintain some presence in its current headquarters, but will conduct the majority of public business from the

school. Calling existing police headquarters an "embarrassment," Pasculli produced a recent inspection report from a state agency charged with overseeing workplace safety standards in public buildings. The report detailed numerous shortcomings of the facility such as sanitary conditions, faulty wiring and plumbing and a severe insect infestation problem, conditions well-known to department employees.

"Anything will be an improvement," said Crimmins.

## Judge okays firefighter promotions

J.J. 12-21-88

A federal judge in Newark yesterday approved an agreement on firefighter job tests that allows permanent promotions in Jersey City, Hoboken and 10 other New Jersey municipalities. The approval comes after long litigation over discrimination against minority firefighters.

U.S. District Judge Nicholas H. Politan signed off on a pact between state and federal officials, firefighters unions and groups representing minority firefighters.

The agreement establishes how tests for promotion to lieutenant and captain will be graded.

The state Personnel Department should have promotion lists ready in several weeks, attorneys in the case said. That would clear the way for the local departments to make the promotions.

Most of the departments have appointed rotating acting captains and lieutenants. The other communities involved are Newark, Atlantic City, New Brunswick, Passaic, Paterson, Plainfield, Trenton, Camden, East Orange and Elizabeth.

Dennis Alessi, an attorney for the Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association, said he believed the last permanent promotions in any of the com-

munities took place in 1984.

Newark FMBA president John J. Gerow said no promotions in the fire department of the state's largest city have occurred since September 1982.

The complicated litigation began in 1973 with a lawsuit by minority firefighters. The U.S. Justice Department joined in, and a consent decree over hiring was entered in 1980.

U.S. District Judge H. Lee Sarokin ruled in 1985 that exams given in the 12 communities discriminated against minority candidates. New tests were devised, but wrangling continued over how they were to be graded.

Yesterday, the final stumbling block was overcome, with acceptance of the unions' insistence on seniority being figured in the score.

Of 1,486 firefighters who took a written exam earlier this year, 736 passed. With yesterday's ruling, the Personnel Department can compute the final ranking, taking into account performance on an assessment of management abilities and seniority.

Brian C. Daugherty, a lawyer for the state International Association of Firefighters, said he expected about 290 firefighters to be promoted within the next two to three months.

## Hoboken gives gifts to patrol kids

HOBOKEN—Children from school patrols visited City Hall yesterday to pick up holiday tokens of appreciation from the city. Each received a \$10 gift certificate, good in any Hoboken store.

For Mayor Patrick Pasculli, who handed out the certificates to about 100 children, the annual event was nostalgic. Pasculli's first look at the mayor's office was in 1959, he said, when he received his holiday gift for school patrol work from Mayor John J. Grogan.

"It was \$5 then," Pasculli said. "I guess inflation has more than doubled, but our allocation only doubled."

Monitors in the school patrols assist everyone from teachers to crossing guards. Nearly all public and private schools here have their own patrols.

—RANDI GLATZER.

## Councilman, cop nab teen suspects

HOBOKEN—A city councilman and an off-duty police officer teamed up to help nab two teenagers charged with robbing 11-year-old Joe Farina of his jacket and football, the councilman and Farina's family said yesterday.

Joe—whose father James is city clerk—was standing at Hudson and Fifth streets yesterday when two juveniles stole the new jacket, police said.

Councilman David Roberts saw the crying child and stopped to ask what was the matter. Roberts said he discovered the theft, and picked up the boy and Tom Cahill, an off-duty policeman who happened to be standing in the street, to search for the robbers.

"After about a half-hour, we went to McDonald's," Roberts said.

"And there they were."

The two 16-year-old boys, whose names police did not release, were charged with robbery, on complaints signed by James Farina.

—CHRISTOPHER AVE.



Wednesday, December 14, 1988

34 23



Attorney Cindy McKee argues for the tenants of 251 First St. in Hoboken to stay any evictions and have heat turned on, as Thomas P. Calligy of the city Law Department listens.

DON MCCOY THE HUDSON DISPATCH



Judge Seymour Margulies yesterday listens to arguments in Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City concerning the eviction of tenants of 251 First St. in Hoboken.

DON MCCOY THE HUDSON DISPATCH

Judge gets 2nd shot

## Cold tenants may get boot

By NINA SHAPIRO

The Hudson Dispatch

A Hudson County judge who was ordered to rehear an eviction case in which he originally ruled for the landlords laid the groundwork for a new hearing yesterday.

The decision on whether to evict 19 residents of 251 First St. in Hoboken fell back to Judge Seymour Margulies of Superior Court in Jersey City because of a ruling by the court's Appellate Division on Friday. Judge Geoffrey Gaulkin reversed a ruling Margulies made earlier that day that required the tenants to vacate their apartments by sundown.

### Judge to schedule new hearing

Margulies yesterday said he would begin a hearing with the consideration of three issues: whether the tenants are legal residents; whether regular eviction law applies to the city, which has joined with the landlord in evicting the tenants; and what remedies exist for all parties.

He said he will later convene a jury trial for other matters in the case, such as allegations of consumer fraud by the tenants.

Cindy McKee of Montclair, attorney for 11 of the tenants, said she was optimistic that her clients will have a fair hearing,

despite her argument in court Monday that Margulies was prejudiced against the tenants and should not rehear the case. Complying with the Appellate Division order, the hearing is to be expedited, a fact for which tenants said they were grateful.

The tenants said there has been no heat in the building for several weeks, even during the recent below-freezing weather.

"There's a chill in this place that defies logic," said Jerry Mavec, one of three tenants who was in court yesterday.

Jonathan Follender of Jersey

City, representing landlords John and Cosmo Scardino, said he appreciated speeding up the hearing because of safety issues involved. He said the building has a faulty electrical system, and several apartments do not have access to fire escapes.

"If there's a fire, they'll be dead tomorrow," Follender said, referring to the tenants.

He and the city have argued that the building is unfit for housing and was never registered as a residential structure. The lease holders rented apartments for business purposes, Follender said.

The tenants said the apartments were advertised as residences.

## Cold snaps Hoboken's water lines

J.J. 12-14-88

By James Efstathiou

Below-freezing temperatures over the weekend were blamed for a series of water-main breaks around Hoboken, according to Department of Public Works Director Roy Haack.

The most troublesome break caused the temporary closing of Washington Street between Fifth and Sixth yesterday. Workers began digging under the street in search of the break Monday evening, and the work continued into late yesterday afternoon.

Breaks were also reported at 10th and Grand, Seventh and Madison, 13th and Madison, Seventh and Washington and at First and Jefferson streets. As of yesterday afternoon, none of the breaks resulted in interruption of service, Haack said.

In addition to the water-line problems, the DPW was called to respond to an oil spill discovered early yesterday morning.

Police Lt. John Aiello reported the spill while on patrol at Observer Highway and Washington Street at 3:39 a.m.

After seeing a car skid at that intersection, Aiello inspected the area and discovered what appeared to be diesel fuel on the pavement. Aiello was able to track the spill, which measured approximately three feet in width, from the NJ Transit train trestle down Observer Highway and left onto Washington Street.

The trail of fuel continued the length of Washington before turning west onto 14th Street. The slick continued south down Willow Avenue before coming full circle to Observer Highway. The DPW spread sand on the spill to soak up the spill.

To speed up work

## Repairs may shut 14th St. Viaduct

By NINA SHAPIRO 12-20-88

The Hudson Dispatch

The heavily traveled 14th Street Viaduct linking Union City and Hoboken may close for six to nine months in order to expedite its reconstruction, the Hudson County engineer said yesterday.

The state Department of Transportation, performing the work on the county-owned viaduct, has proposed the shutdown, engineer Borivoj Jasek said at a caucus of the county Board of Freeholders.

The project, begun last spring and originally targeted for completion this May, is running a year behind schedule, Jasek said. "We are slipping more and more," he said.

During construction, half of the 77-year-old viaduct has remained open. An estimated 9,000 cars, half the normal number, travel the viaduct each day, Jasek said.

The state believes the project time would be shortened if the



The 14th Street Viaduct, which links Union City and Hoboken, may close to all traffic for six to nine months to expedite reconstruction.

HUDSON DISPATCH STAFF PHOTO

viaduct were closed to traffic, Jasek said.

The reconstruction was launched because of corrosion in steel supports and in order to widen the roadway, Jasek said.

The estimated cost of the state-

financed project has grown from \$8.12 million to \$10 million, Jasek said.

The freeholders did not set a date to vote on whether to approve its closing, which is proposed for the spring, Jasek said.

## Tenant selection 'refined'

By James Efstathiou

In an attempt to eliminate a perception that the Hoboken Housing Authority's tenant selection process is politically motivated, housing officials yesterday revealed a "refined" tenant selection policy.

The changes, adopted at the authority's Sept. 8 meeting, were prompted by a directive from the federal agency which funds the program. Changes include establishment of preference categories to determine the need of applicants, installation of a computer system to process applications and elimination of the authority's Tenant Selection Committee, which formerly had final say on who received apartments.

"This is a system that will eliminate any questions of fairness," said authority commissioner Angelo Valente. "What we hope to do by this in three simple words is make the program fair, fair and fair."

Some 750 persons are currently on a waiting list for one of 1,355 federally subsidized apartments in the projects. Tenants who qualify pay 30 percent of their adjusted income for rent.

But while the demand for public housing is great, Valente said, and increasing due to the housing crisis in general, relatively few apartments become vacant.

Average turnover rate in the authority's three family housing buildings is three apartments per month, says Dominick Gallo, executive director of the authority. In the three senior complexes, the turnover rate is two apartments per month.

The disparity has resulted in some applicants who have waited years for apartments being repeatedly denied. Frustration has fueled speculation that favoritism or political connections lead to getting apartments, a charge housing officials flatly deny.

"The goal is to eliminate any false perception among people who are applying and people in general in town," Valente said. "It's been difficult to choose among the waiting list because everyone we have has been an emergency."

In the past, applicants for public housing were ranked on a waiting list according to need. Persons who had been involuntarily displaced were given preference, with final selections being made by the Tenant Selection Committee.

Under the new system, expected to be in place by February, each applicant's need will be determined using a point system spelled out in what is called a preference category.

For example, applicants displaced by fire, flood or natural disaster will receive 22 preference points, the most that can be awarded.

If the applicant is a Hoboken resident who has been on a waiting list for more than five years, 10 more preference points will be awarded.

A \$100,000 computer system made possible by federal funding will total each applicant's points and rank them in relation to other applicants. Apartments will be awarded on the basis of total preference points.

In the case of a tie, other factors such as the size of the available unit, family size and the applicant's income bracket will determine who gets the apartment.

Applicants will be able to check their positions on the list at the authority's offices, Valente said.

HUD's intention was to ensure that federally funded housing goes to those in greatest need.

## Attorney sues Hoboken under racketeer law

J.J. 12-16-88

By John Petrick

In what may be the first suit of its kind in the state, a major New Jersey law firm is accusing Hoboken of conspiring to defraud it of back legal fees and is suing for triple damages under a civil racketeering statute.

Colin Danzis, a partner in the Roseland law firm of Lum, Hoens, Abeles, Conant and Danzis, has filed the suit in Essex County Superior Court under the federal Racketeering-Influenced and Corrupt Organizations or RICO statute.

"We're getting a royal hanging here, so we're taking this to court," Danzis said.

Hoboken owes the firm \$66,815, according to the suit, which asks for a total of \$200,445 in back pay and penalties. The racketeering statute is usually used against organized crime figures, but has recently been used in civil cases.

The firm was hired in 1985 to represent Hoboken construction code official Alfred Arezzo in three civil suits charging him and others with impropriety. The firm won all three cases, according to Danzis.

Because the allegations in the suit related to Arezzo's professional capacity, the city authorized him to retain outside counsel in his defense.

If the suit did not result in any criminal charges against him or the revocation of his license, the city agreed to pay all legal fees, according to the suit.

Danzis said that despite repeated letters and meetings with city Law Director Eugene O'Connor about the debt, he has yet to see the money.

What makes the suit different from an ordinary collection suit is the laws under which it is being litigated, and what they imply. The firm maintains that the city has systematically defrauded it and other firms of money — a conspiracy, in other words.

Thus, the plaintiff is seeking three times the amount owed as permitted under the RICO law.

The law is applied in many different kinds of civil cases and does not necessarily mean the defendant is criminally charged. But Danzis said he believes it is the first time a municipality is being sued for collection of funds under the RICO law. "Cities are not immune from this kind of action," he said.

The suit states that Hoboken's "pattern of behavior is

designed to compel, coerce and otherwise pressure this plaintiff and others to accept less than the fair value for the legal services rendered on behalf of the officials of the City of Hoboken. Such pattern of behavior constitutes "fraudulent practices" as defined by the RICO law.

A recent example of the RICO application is the case of Dr. Robert Fogari, the Jersey City rheumatologist who faces 20 years in jail for filing fraudulent medical reports in studies conducted for the federal Food and Drug Administration.

Aside from the criminal charges he faces, Fogari is being sued under the RICO law by a pharmaceutical company that says it paid over \$1 million to Fogari for bogus services.

Under RICO, there must be more than one victim and the acts allegedly perpetrated must manifest a deliberate and organized pattern.

O'Connor did not return phone calls about the suit.

Danzis said he met with O'Connor about six months ago to collect the funds, and was assured that the money would be forthcoming. "He promised to get this resolved by September. September came and went. It got to the point where I was calling every day," said Danzis who then decided on court.

## Recyclings stepped up in Hoboken

By James Efstathiou

The addition of cans and glass and the inclusion of three apartment complexes to the recycling route have increased recycling tonnage, Hoboken officials said.

Coordinator Caroline Carlson said the weight of materials recycled in Hoboken has nearly doubled in three months. In November, 280 tons were collected and sold. In August, 148 tons were recycled.

Since the beginning of the year, over 1,740 tons have been recycled. Based on a \$29-per ton tipping fee at the Hackensack Meadows Landfill Development Commission landfill in North Arlington, recycling has saved the city approximately \$50,000 in landfill fees, Carlson said.

Recycled materials sold to markets in Jersey City have earned over \$37,000, Carlson said. On average, the city is paid \$15 a ton for newspapers, \$25 a ton for cardboard, \$12 a ton for combined cans and glass and \$18 a ton for scrap metal.

In September, the city began recycling combined cans and glass. "Hoboken Recycles" decals were sent to all property owners who were asked to supply one recycling container for every four dwelling units in their building.

A month later, three apartment complexes began recycling: Applied Housing (1,397 units), Church Towers (399 units) and Clock Towers (173 units). Early next year, the Housing Authority is to begin recycling at three senior citizens housing complexes. Also, the Board of Education plans a recycling program for the seven public schools.

Hoboken point method

## Housing seekers getting new system

By RANDI GLATZER

The Hudson Dispatch

J.J. 12-20-88

HOBOKEN—The Housing Authority has devised a new method of awarding apartments in the city's five public housing projects, officials said yesterday. The system should go into effect by February, they said.

If it works as planned, the new point system could change the outlook for hundreds of people in line for apartments. In the past, many applicants have charged the tenant selection process is tainted by favoritism.

"What we've done is put through a program that I believe can be described with three words: fair, fair, and fair," authority Commissioner Angelo Valente said.

Valente and Commissioner Edwin Duroy proposed the change, and the full authority Board of Commissioners voted to adopt it at its meeting this month, Valente said.

The change was prompted in part by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which called this year for local housing authorities to favor applicants with the greatest housing

needs. The housing projects are operated partially with funds from the federal department.

Under the new system, applicants will be moved up or down on the list based on points their situations merit.

Applicants involuntarily displaced from their homes instantly will accumulate 22 points if they lost their previous apartments because of natural disasters such as fires or floods; or 17 points if they were shunted out because of condominium conversions or other results of gentrification.

They will receive 17 points if they pay

more than half their income in rent, or if they live in housing deemed substantial.

An applicant will accumulate another 5 points if he is a resident of Hoboken; handicapped or disabled; a veteran; or on the authority's waiting list for more than five years.

The city has 1,353 apartments, authority Executive Director Dominic M. Gallo said. Right now, about 750 people are on the waiting list for apartments. About 35 local authority apartments open up each year, he said.

Annette Illing, chairman of the Hoboken Campaign for Housing Justice, yesterday said she and other tenant advocates have not yet seen details of the plan. But she said a change is sorely needed in the tenant selection process for local authority projects, as well as in other subsidized housing complexes throughout the city.

"Whatever system is set up that is fair and evenhanded so people have an equal opportunity to get apartments is something I would be in favor of," Illing said. "I just hope this is the pass that would lead to that fair, even housing."



In Hoboken tonight

# Condo rent bill due for vote

By RANDI GLATZER

The Hudson Dispatch

HOBOKEN—A controversial proposal to remove condominium units from rent control is expected to be voted into law at tonight's City Council meeting.

If the amendment to the city zoning ordinance passes, it could fuel a general move to loosen tight rent controls throughout Hudson County, which limit rent increases landlords can impose on tenants. As demand for housing grows, tenant advocates say, pressure to ease the restrictions is rapidly mounting.

Council members approved the condo rent decontrol amendment upon introduction on Dec. 6. Councilman David Roberts, the amendment's sponsor, began pressing for removal of the restrictions in October.

Several versions of the amendment have come before the council,

all opposed by the city's major tenant advocacy groups. The one to be considered tonight has also angered condo owners.

Up until Dec. 6, this bill was a bill we could support," said Richard J. Wolff, chairman of the Fifth Ward Condominium Association. But the latest version distinguishes between condo owners who live in their apartments and those who live elsewhere, holding their condos for investment purposes. The split, Wolff contended, would devastate the condo community here.

Under the amendment, new condo landlords who want to raise their rents to market level would have to apply to the city's Rent Leveling and Stabilization Board. They would have to pay a \$50 application fee, and show that they made a substantial investment in the building: 50 percent of its purchase price.

Condo landlords who cannot raise their rents may allow apartments to deteriorate, bringing down the value of whole buildings, Wolff said.

"It's going to ruin the whole market for residential units," he said. "You might as well shave 20 percent of the value off all condominiums."

But a tenant advocate, John Deryevany of Save Hoboken from Over Development, said the additional paperwork would not affect condo investors, since the city's overburdened rent board will probably never get to most applications. The board would have six months to consider each case.

Although condo units are currently under rent control, the laws apparently have not been enforced. Many tenants and condo owners said they did not know the controls existed until change in the law was proposed in October.

All but two of the council members, Joseph Della Fave and Helen Cunniff, supported the amendment at the Dec. 6 meeting. Roberts said yesterday that support among council members remains strong in spite of the new opposition from condo owners. If the council votes for the proposal, Mayor Patrick Pasculli, a supporter, must sign the bill to make it law.

"We know they're going to pass this law no matter what we do," Deryevany said, adding that his tenant group and others will continue to fight rent decontrol.

Among other issues to be discussed tonight are plans to move police headquarters into the David Rue School at Third and Garden Streets. County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale has proposed to study and reorganize the Police Department, but said he will not embark on the task unless police move from their

current, dilapidated headquarters into more suitable quarters.

The school has been mostly vacant since the Board of Education closed it in June. If council mem-

bers decide police headquarters should be moved to the school, the school board would then consider whether or not to rent the property to the city, board President Joseph Rafter said.

## City officials lobby for state funds

HOBOKEN—A team of city officials traveled to Trenton yesterday as a first step in Hoboken's request for money from the state Aid to Distressed Cities Program.

Hoboken, like other local municipalities, is expecting a long, hard fight to receive a sizable portion of the state aid next year. New Jersey faces a budget crunch, and Hoboken must also contend with new financial woes.

These include an expected shortfall of nearly \$7 million in next year's municipal budget, Mayor Patrick Pasculli said. The city, which received \$2.5 million in Aid to Distressed Cities in 1988, will probably request \$7 million for 1989, Pasculli said.

This year, \$120 million was distributed throughout the state, but the number is expected to be lower next year, said Barry Skokowski, director of the state Division of Local Government Services.

As part of the aid request process, the division will audit of spending and administrative practices in Hoboken, Skokowski said.

Pasculli traveled to Trenton yesterday with a group that included Business Administrator Edwin Chius, Law Director Eugene O'Connell and Assemblyman Bernard F. Kenny Jr., D-Hoboken. He was welcomed by Skokowski and others in the state division.

Both city and state officials termed the meeting "very productive."

—RANDI GLATZER.

# 14th St. viaduct may close

By Peter Weiss

The 14th Street viaduct, over which officials estimate some 17,000 vehicles travel daily between the Union City-Jersey City border and the northern end of Hoboken, may be closed for six months or more in order to speed its reconstruction.

For more than a year, there has been only one lane of traffic each way on the viaduct while work was under way, but county officials yesterday reported that its condition is worse than anticipated and work is already well behind schedule.

County Engineer Borivoj Jasek said the state Department of Transportation has recommended closing the viaduct to facilitate the work.

Corrosion of some structural beams was found to be worse than originally thought, he

## Repair may take six months

said, and it would be faster to replace them if work could be done across the entire width of the roadbed at one time.

If the viaduct is not closed, said Jasek, the \$8 million project might not be completed for more than two years. The original completion target was next May.

Jasek said there are a variety of reasons for falling behind schedule, including advanced deterioration of the viaduct.

Jasek said his department and the DOT are now preparing traffic rerouting plans.

They should be completed by the end of January, he said, after which there will be meetings with local officials and the public before a final decision.

Local officials said they're not happy with the situation, but don't see much choice.

Hoboken Mayor Patrick Pasculli said he has already started talks with NJ Transit about rerouting buses which use the viaduct.

In his layman's opinion, the viaduct should be rebuilt as soon as possible because of its deterioration, he said.

"We'll try to minimize the impact as much as possible," he promised.

Closing the viaduct "is the only solution to get out of a bad situation," said County Freeholder Francis Fizzuta of Weehawken, whose district includes that part of Hoboken.

"That bridge is a disaster waiting to happen."

In a related matter, the freeholders yesterday approved a 60-day extension in awarding a contract for reconstruction of the Manhattan Avenue retaining wall above the western end of the viaduct.

Bids received for the project were some 50 percent above the \$12 million the county allocated for it, and the county must find additional funding sources before it can award a contract.

Jasek said the delay is unrelated to the viaduct problems.

A nearby road project was approved by the freeholders, who agreed the county will contribute \$200,000 to the cost of improvements to Boulevard East in Weehawken, near the

Hartz Mountain waterfront project.

Hartz's share of the project will be more than \$500,000, officials said.

The firm of Day and Zimmerman Inc., of Florham Park, was awarded a \$298,320 contract for engineering services related to the new county jail under construction in Kearny.

The freeholders agreed to match a \$5,550 state grant to promote tourism in Hudson County.

The money will be used to publish a newsletter highlighting local points of interest.

A \$61,975 grant from the state Law Enforcement Planning Agency was allocated to four county institutions:

- The Jersey City YWCA is getting \$24,778 for counseling battered wives;
- Christ Hospital in Jersey

See GRANTS — Page 11.

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## Donald Guider, 61, Hopatcong fire chief

By Jim Kopchans

Donald Guider, a native of Hoboken, died Monday at Somerset Medical Center, Somerville. He was 61. He was a transportation aide at the Lyons Veterans Administration Hospital for the last 10 years.

Guider moved to Hillsboro 11 years ago and joined the Lake Hopatcong Volunteer Fire Department. He subsequently was named chief.

He was a member of the state Exempt Firemen's Association and the New Jersey Volunteer Fire Chief's Association.

During World War II, Guider served as a Marine corporal.

He was a member of the American Legion of Lake Hopatcong and also belonged to the Knights of Columbus Council in Mount Arlington.

Surviving are his wife, the former Margaret Roling; two sons, Donald and Joseph; a daughter, Margaret Daingault; two brothers, James and Joseph; four sisters, Agnes O'Connell, Mildred Fay, Doree Gorman and Marian Dann, and eight grandchildren.

A Mass will be offered Friday at 10 a.m. at the Mary Mother of God Church, Hillsboro. Bongiovi Funeral Home, Raritan, is in charge of arrangements.

## Police plan divides City Council

Continued from Page 1

her proposals, even from the city."

"The board has already decided not to accept any other proposals," said trustee Felix Rivera.

"Their request can go elsewhere as far as I'm concerned." Despite that opinion, it is likely that the board will entertain the city's plan should the council agree to move forward, according to board President Joseph Rafter.

"I'm wide open on leasing space in the school. The school board has yet to act on the offerings and according to one member, should not accept further proposals, even from the city. ... I'm willing to look at anything."

Rafter said his primary concern in this matter is generating money to lower the school budget.

He added that the school should be used for culturally or socially oriented service such as a new police headquarters.

But before the school board considers the plan, the City Council must approve it.

Placing the matter before the council on relatively short notice (members were formally notified of the plan at Monday's caucus) with the participation of the county prosecutor apparently at stake angered council members some concern.

"When you put something on the table for a vote with very short notice, you put them on the spot," said Councilman Thomas Newman.

"For us to turn over Rue School presupposes that the council is in agreement that the prosecutor should come to town," said Councilwoman Helen Cunniff.

"That has never been discussed in the council."

Councilman Joseph Della Fave, who campaigned for mayor promising to relocate the department, said DePascale should not get involved with internal matters in Hoboken until three ongoing local investigations are completed.

"I want the record cleared before we have these interac-

tions," said Della Fave.

"We're laying the groundwork now and laying the groundwork is involvement."

DePascale has said he would not accept an appointment to head the police and fire departments until those investigations are completed.

At least three councilmen, David Roberts, Steve Cappiello and Richard Del Boccio, all members of the council Public Safety Committee which helped identify the Rue School site, are likely to support the plan.

A fourth, Robert Ranieri, said he is likely to follow the majority on the issue.

"I shall support the majority on this," said Ranieri, who called the presentation of the proposal heavy-handed.

"I don't want to be labeled sour grapes. I don't want to be accused of being an obstructionist."

Ranieri, however, said he felt closing Rue School in the first place was a mistake and that an out-of-use waterfront building is a more favorable site for relocating the police.

## Police plan causes concern to council

By James Efstathiou

A proposal to relocate the Hoboken Police Department into a vacant neighborhood school building has drawn a mixed reaction from residents and law-makers.

The plan will be introduced to the City Council tonight in the form of an ordinance allowing the city to negotiate a lease agreement with the Board of Education for the use of David E. Rue School. The school board has scheduled a special meeting for Jan. 7 to discuss the future of the school which closed in June due to falling enrollment and budget cuts.

The administration, with the support of Hudson County Prosecutor Paul M. DePascale, wants to move Police Headquarters out of the basement of City Hall, a substandard facility by all accounts. DePascale has made relocation of the department a precondition for accepting an appointment as acting director of public safety, a move that would bring county funds to upgrade the department. He has identified Rue School as the best available site.

"When John Q. Public comes in with a complaint, he's

thought it over a few times," said Police Chief George Crimmins, who supports the move. "He's looking to have some respect and dignity shown to him by our men. Our guys give it but the physical condition is not conducive."

Critics, however, have questioned the wisdom of moving the department into the school, located in heart of a residential neighborhood at Third and Garden streets. Parking, already scarce, is a primary concern, as is the prospect of 24-hour activity associated with police operations.

"It's already tough for parking," said Toni Piccolo, who has lived half a block away from the school for over a year. "But I'd feel better having the station next door."

"One thing I'm concerned about is parking," said Jim Hallock, a long-time area resident. "The police all drive to work and they park wherever they want to and they've got the cruisers too. I suppose if we had a big crime problem here it would be a good thing leasing space in the school. The school board has yet to act on the offerings and according to one member, should not accept fur-

See POLICE — Page 11.

## Condos exempted from rent controls

By Jo-Ann Moriarty

The Hoboken City Council last night amended its rent control law in a way that critics say will lead to more condo conversions and the further displacement of the city's poor.

By a vote of 7 to 2, with Councilmen Joseph Della Fave and Helen Cunniff in opposition, the council amended the existing ordinance to exclude single unit, owner-occupied condominiums, including

did not object to the language in the amendments.

However, they as well as tenants and their representatives contend that the second section of the amendment will cause further condo conversions, eroding the existing affordable housing market.

That section will decontrol from the local rent law rehabilitated condominiums if the owners have spent 50 percent of the pre-rehabilitated market value of the building in renovations.

The section allows owners

of condominium buildings, including large-scale investors, to set their own new base rent if they can prove to the local rent leveling board that they made the renovations.

Additionally, condo owners can further increase without limits the rents every time the unit is vacated. However, while the tenants are there, the increases above the new base rent will be subject to the rent control law.

Della Fave, arguing that more study was needed on that section, said the city was creat-

ing a new rental market by virtually removing the units from local rent laws.

Moreover, he said that the city does not have enough safety nets in place to handle those displaced in the event of more condo conversions.

"The rent control law was equitable. It gave everyone an 11.5 percent return on their investment while keeping rents under control and preventing tenants from being gouged," said Annette Illing, chairman

See CONDOS — Page 18.

## In Hoboken, no politics?

Some good news from Hoboken comes from the Housing Authority, which has devised a new system for awarding apartments in the city's five public housing projects.

In Hoboken, one gets points toward gaining an apartment. In previous years, the system has been a political football, the subject of complaints of favoritism.

Well, that's nothing new in Hoboken, where everything seems to be a political football at one time or another. Nonetheless, one shouldn't have to make back-room deals with politicians to put a roof over one's head.

What's new here is that people can gain points for being involuntarily displaced — either by gentrification or disaster, for paying more than half their income in rent, for living in substandard housing, for being a resident of Hoboken, for being handicapped, for being a veteran, for being on the authority's waiting list for five years.

The city has 1,353 apartments, and about 750 people waiting. About 35 apartments open up each year.

Any change that makes the process of gaining housing more equitable is a good move. Given the dimensions of Hoboken's housing crisis, it sounds like intelligent thinking by the authority.

This comes after Marine View Plaza instituted a lottery system to establish a waiting list for apartments. The struggle to institute the lottery took three years of fighting by tenant advocates. It shouldn't have been so hard, and it should have come sooner.

Let's hope point system is indeed fair and unswayed by politics, and gets Hoboken's people what they need — affordable homes.