Drug raid nets 21 at housing project



FORE-TEE'N' THOUSAND DOLLARS RAISED ... Richard Vossier, President of the Rahway Kiwanis Club, left, presents John L. Yoder, president of Rahway Hospital, with a check for \$14,000 which the Kiwanians raised for the hospital during their 5th Annual Golf Tournament at the Colonia Country Club last June. Strong participation made this the Kiwanians' most successful tournament. To date the Kiwanis Club has raised in excess of \$50,000 for Rahway Hospital through this annual fun-filled event.

Rahway and Cable — Perfect together? Cablevision rep lists municipality do's and don't's

by Pat DiMaggio between the City of the distribution plant, two-Rahway and Suburban Cablevision will end on June 27. Many residents of Rahway take for granted the services provided by cable television channels and are unaware of the fact that municipalities are limited in the demands they can make when approving a viding service to new denew contract, according to

The City presently receives two percent of recurring charges on basic television revenue and a rental fee of \$4,000 for allowing Suburban Cablevision to locate its satellite dish on top of Rahway's water tower on Westfield Avenue, according to Senkowsky.

Suburban Cablevision currently services over 5,435 cable subscribers in Rahway, which represents approximately 54 percent of the homes passed by the company's lines. Average cable penetration in New Jersey is 50 percent, according to Greg Vandervort. vice president of marketing and administration for Suburban Cablevision.

The company was founded in 1973 and is the largest cable company in the state and the 6th largest cable system in the nation, according to Vandervort. Suburban serves more than 200,000 subscribers in 42 municipalities through its

2,500 miles of cable plant. Suburban Cablevision is committed to rebuilding the cable system in Rahway which will enable them to increase the channel capacity, said Vandervort. Currently the system is capable of 40 channels and plans to be capable of 54 channels within the next two years.

Types of services a municipality can and cannot ask for in a cable contract were listed in a letter from Patricia McGrath, Office of Cable Television, Board of Public Utilities.

Included in the list were such items as specific lengths of a franchise up to 15 years, a specific minimum channel capacity, an Icil to include in their or-

The ten-year contract capacity, the rebuilding of way capability, two-way services, the expansion of the primary service area, service to downtown, commercial and industrial areas, institutional networks, construction deadlines, restoration of landscapes and streets, tree trimming, provelopments, local office loations office hours one outlet of free service at each school and/or library, and prohibition of obscene ser-

> Municipalities are prohibited from denying renewal without following federal and state procedures and making the required findings and cannot enforce

upgrade of the system requirements that have become commercially im-McGrath.

> pality cannot do in cable service renewal is to base renewal actions on cable TV rates, impose signal quality standards, impose requirements to meet community needs and interests for which costs are unlibrary or impose requirements which are duplicative

Other things a munici-

Television's regulations.

practicable, according to

needs and interest of the Cedervall, was given by community, ask for specific | Kenyon College history or even broad categories of professor, Roy Wortman, at than one free service contains sity.

Cedervall was an orprogramming, request more | Western Reserve Univer-

selling cocaine in the drugover 50 narcotic arrests in plagued Capobianco Federthe past year and have exal Housing Projects in Rahecuted four search warrants in the housing complex. The Last Thursday, at 5 a.m., a physical layout of the comthree-month joint investigaplex facilitated street sales by dealers who used tion by the Rahway Narcotic lookouts to warn them of Enforcement Unit and the

Members of the Rahway

An early morning raid last | Police Department Narcotic

week resulted in the arrest of | Unit. Detective Bureau and

21 individuals accused of Patrol Division have made

Union County Narcotic police presence, said Wohlt-Strike Force culminated in the arrests of 10 juveniles In December, residents of and 11 adults for selling the housing project banded cocaine hydrochloride, together in a tenants associamore commonly known as crack, according to Sgt. Paul Wohltman of the Rahway drug dealers. Residents marched around the complex on two occasions carrying signs and shouting "no The undercover opera-

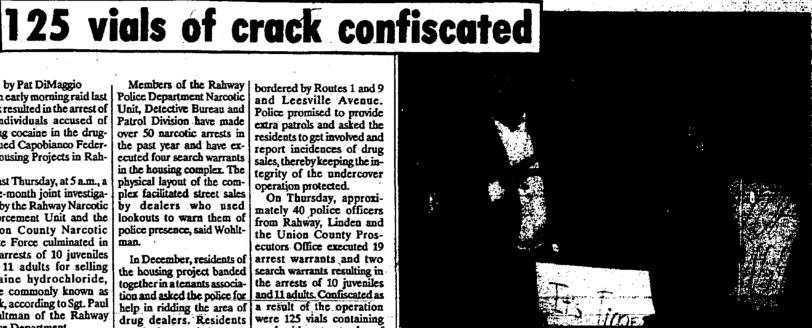
more drugs."

In a meeting with Police Chief Barry Henderson, Captain Edward Tilton and hases being made by the Detective Chester Holmes, residents said they feared for their safety in the complex

bordered by Routes 1 and 9 and Leesville Avenue. Police promised to provide extra patrols and asked the residents to get involved and report incidences of drug sales, thereby keeping the integrity of the undercover operation protected.

On Thursday, approximately 40 police officers from Rahway, Linden and the Union County Prosecutors Office executed 19 arrest warrants and two search warrants resulting in tion and asked the police for and 11 adults. Confiscated as help in ridding the area of a result of the operation were 125 vials containing crack with a street value of \$2,500.

Also confiscated was \$1,500 in cash. The names of the juveniles were not released because of their ages. Adults arrested were: Tariq Mustafa, 20, Theresa Mustafa, 18, James Wilder, 18, Sean Person, 19, Harry Qualls, 21, Aaron Vannetta,



DRUG PROTEST ... Capt. Edward Tilton (2nd from left) chats with a parameter December's drug protests by tenants of Rahway's Capobianco apartments.

18 and Roger Storey, 35, all of Rahway.

Also arrested were Clifford Cranford, 19, James Cranford, 20, Howard Smith, 18, all of Linden and Michael Kennedy, 31, of Perth Amboy. All of the ar-

rested individuals were transported to the Union County Detention Facility. Adults were held in lies of Police Department is or bails ranging from \$5,000 to mitted to clearing the \$30,000, according to

Wohltman. "Further arrests are

Steinberg case points up

need for abuse prevention

nected as a nesult of the in vestigation, said Set Worldman The Rahva federal housing project drug dealers. The effort

Labor History Society memorializes Cedervall

At the December 17 meet- | Cleveland area during the ng of the Greater Cleveland on the life of the late former councilman of Rahway Tor

by Pat DiMaggio

Police Department.

tion began in November of

1988 and consisted primarily

of the targeting of suspects by the local Narcotic

Division resulting in pur-

Narcotic Strike Force un-

dercover investigators

of the Office of Cable (famed IWW) in the Ohio, 1913-1950."

1930's and early 1940's, Labor History Society, a talk along with his brother, Frank tapes in 1981 of a meeting Cedervall. Those were the about the IWW in Cleveland days of great economic struggle and rise of many Wortman spoke. The popular "Solidarity Forever."

of the book entitled "From | torical Society library where ganizer for the Industrial Syndicalism to Trade the Cleveland group meets Workers of the World | Unionism: The IWW in | regularly.

ing was a presentation of labor songs such as the presentation was by John Grabowski, curator of manuscripts on labor history Prof. Wortman is author at the Western Reserve His-

The tragic death of Lisa | services and programs for | a peer support group and Steinberg as a result of child abuse and the resulting national concern for the problem of child abuse. But child abuse can be

prevented, says a New Jersev organization which has been working for ten years to spread that very message. Preventing child abuse in all its forms is the goal of the N.J. Chapter, National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse. The non-

profit membership organization works to meet that goal through increasing community awareness and education, sponsoring prevention programs and program development and through advocacy efforts. "The Steinberg case

shows us that we need to look at ways to prevent child abuse from happening," said Mary Beth Pavelec, Executive Director, New Jersey Chapter NCPCA. "The Lisa Steinberg case has focused attention on the problem of child abuse. We need to refocus that attention on the solution - prevention. Working together, we can prevent the tragedy of child abuse."

According to Pavelec, individuals, organizations and communities can work to prevent child abuse in many ways. Comprehensive community-based programs that serve families have been shown to be successful. Programs which provide perinatal services support for new parents and education for all parents are among those advocated by the N.J. Chapter NCPCA.

Other effective child abuse prevention programs include high quality, affordable child care cape ties, self-help groups and family support services,

abused children and young adults. The health care secpublicity surrounding the tor, social services agencies murder trial of Joel and professionals, community schools, even the workplace, all play a vital leadership role in child abuse prevention.

"This year, the members of the N.J. Chapter NCPCA are commemorating our 10th anniversary of working here in the state to educate people on how to prevent child abuse," said Pavelec. "Our early efforts to increase public awareness of the existence and extent of child abuse have been successful. Today, people are aware of child abuse and are better able to recognize it in its many forms. We're confident that child abuse can be prevented in New Jersey.

Programs sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter NCPCA to serve the state's children and families include the Parent Linking Project, a comprehensive prevention program which provides free day care to the infants of teenage mothers. In return, these mothers agree to complete high school and attend weekly parenting, child development and vocational awareness seminars.

TEAM - Teens Effect ive As Mothers — provides

isting parent education programs and to assist agencies in developing new programs for high risk parents. The Child Abuse Prevention Resource Center features information, a Speaker's Bureau, a community awareness education campaign and a comprehensive community in volvement program.

parenting education to

adolescent mothers. The

Parenting Education Tech-

nical Assistance Program

offers technical assistance

and training to enhance ex-

"Last year, there were more than two million reported cases of battered, neglected or sexually aliesed children," Pavelec continued. "We owe it to all children to take positive action now to prevent child. abuse. We owe it to ourselves to prevent childhood traumas which will contribute to persistent and costly social problems in the

For more information on parenting and child altime prevention, contact the NJ. Chapter of the National Committee for Preyenting of Child Abuse at 29 643-3710, or write to NIC-NCPEA SI AC





Public hearing addresses cable needs Sheld speaks out against long-term contract

by Pat DiMaggio

A public hearing held Tuesday night to solicit input from residents on determining the current and future needs of cable TV in Rahway drew most of the discussion from representatives of the Board of Public Utilities and Suburban Cablevision. Max Sheld, a former

councilman and the chairman of the Cable TV Committee, was one of only two residents who spoke on the proposed franchise renewal. One of the points Sheld addressed was the possibility of a 10-year renewal agreement. Sheld urged the council not to grant a 10-year contract, saying that the telecommunications industry was undergoing rapid changes, and an extended contract would place the City in a "straight jacket". He suggested the City enter into a three-year extension with Suburban Cablevision "The Board of Public Utilities (BPU) suggested a

3 year extension, what they call breathing space," said Sheld. "At that time we can judge if it is good for Rahway or not good for Rahway." Sheld also urged the coun-

dinance, agreeing to a con-tract, language that will specifically state that the City would not enter into an automatic extension. "It's good for the company, it's not good for Rahway," he explained. "You should bar an automatic extension. Let Suburban prove they've done a good job, then you can give them whatever extension you want."

The City presently receives 2 percent of basic television service revenues and Sheld suggested that Rahway ask for more. "Rahway has proven to be a bonanza and we should be entitled to more than 2 percent," said Sheld. The 1984 Cable Communications Policy Act permits municipalities to ask for as much as percent of revenues, he

Other objections to Suburban Cablevision's package included their policy of asking subscribers to pay for services in advance and the blacking out of programs. Sheld asked for disabled and senior citizen discounts and provide equipment, facilities | \$24 and \$26 million to inand training for educational crease our capability and we and governmental use.

asked what guarantees there were that charges for basic service would not change over the years. "How do we know that what is considered basic TV today will be basic service down the road," he Frank Dejoy, vice presi-

dent and general manager of Suburban Cablevision, answered Gilcrest's question by saying that they could not offer any guarantees. We do not have total control over these programs," he said. "But we are on your side."

Trying to address some of Sheld's concerns, Dejoy contended that during the last 10-year contract with the City, the cable company automatically made improvements to their system and are in the process of upgrading the system from

39 channels to 54. "I don't know of anyone who can say we have not kept pace with the state of the art," said Dejoy in support of a 10 year renewal franchise.
"We have invested between

that investment." Dejoy also pointed out that an automatic extension

is part of the federal act that

there should be a reasonable insurance of franchise renewal. Payment in advance is standard throughout the industry, said Dejoy, and discounts for disabled persons

and senior citizens could be

considered discriminatory. Brune La Rose, director of programming for Suburban Cablevision, said the company has equipment and training available for educational and governmental use. Suburban Cablevision offers four levels of access for communities including TV-3, local access channels that can be utilized by municipalities, a truck available to communities for sporting events and the loan of equip-

Dominic Picardi, coordinator, state and local planning, Office of Cable Television, also explained some of the finer points of refranchisement. He said the BPU does not encourage need assurance that we will a three year contract, rather

ment to community groups

at no charge.

Al Gilcrest, Evans Street, | be able to see a return on | it offers a "window" by which a municipality may begin its renewal process 36 months before its expiration date. He also said that the N.J. legislature caps revenues at 2 percent, but municipalities can petition the BPU for a higher rate. Discounts are not mandatory, but can be given at the cable company's discretion, and are limited, not only by age but also by in-

Picardi also said that a 10 year franchise renewal is the norm in the country today. In order to justify less than a 10 year contract, a community would have to identify problem areas with the cable

Rahway's Municipal Council will hold another public hearing for the possible final adoption of an amendment to an ordinance agreeing to the renewal of their cable franchise at their February 14 meeting.

A very *Happy* Valentine's Day to you and yours 2-14-89