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\$21.3M school budget awaits voter approval

Rahway hit hard by state funding shortfall

by Pat DiMaggio
Rahway's Board of Education budget for the 1989-90 school year totals \$21.3 million, an increase of 11.5 percent over the current year's budget, and voters will be asked to support the spending plan when they go to the polls on April 4 in the schools election.

The Board of Education

adopted the budget at a special meeting held last week after adding an additional \$75,000 to the total. The \$75,000 will be added to the tuition account but will serve as a hedge against a future shortfall as the budget includes no surplus funds, according to Finance Committee Chairman Robert Munsey.

Board Members approved the addition of \$88,500 in the teachers' salaries account to reduce the number of proposed reductions in staff from 10 positions to 7. The \$88,500 comes from a reduction of \$17,000 in the teaching supplies account and from deleting \$71,500 for transportation for non-public schools.

Transportation for non-public schools, known as courtesy busing, allows students in grades K-6 to be bused when they fall under the state guidelines for transportation. Students who attend St. Mary's, St. John Vianney, St. John the Apostle, and St. Agnes Schools, who live more than 1 mile but less than 2 miles

from their schools will not be bused next year.

Rahway is experiencing a \$1.4 million shortfall in full funding from the state, according to Business Administrator Anthony Rocco, Jr. "At this point it does not look good for any additional funding," said Rocco, who said Rahway was one of the "hardest hit districts" under

the Governor's decision not to fully fund education.

"Even if we were to receive additional funds, we cannot use them as revenue for the 1989-90 school year," Rocco added.

"(For a closer look at the budget, see next week's election issue of The Rahway News Record.)

Rahway P.D. to participate in criminal justice course

Students give proposed course high marks

by Pat DiMaggio
Students interested in criminal justice and related fields of study may be able to register for a half-year elective course offered at the High School in conjunction with the Rahway's Police Department.

The course to be entitled "Criminal Justice and You" is currently in development and must receive approval

from the Board of Education before it is offered to students next year.

"So many students who go on to higher education take criminal justice courses in college," said Police Chief Barry Henderson. "We thought it would be a good step to start at the secondary level."

The Police Department already works closely with

the school system by providing evidence technicians, drunk driving education, resource people and guest speakers for various career days and seminars. "By offering an elective, we hope there will be people interested in a law enforcement career," said Henderson. The half-year elective will cover topics ranging from law-related subjects to contract law and liability, according to Detective Marc Schwartzbach, who will coordinate the program with the schools.

"The course will be open to all kids, not just the college bound," Schwartzbach noted. "We feel there is really a need for this program. Kids see us in a different light and it gives them more insight."

In an informal survey, the proposed elective drew the most interest from students, said Charles Backman, Area Supervisor for Social Studies at the High School. The course will advise students on what to expect when they leave High School, explained Backman. "For in-

stance, what do you need to know to begin life as an adult? The course will cover topics like consumer law, bank accounts and worker/employee rights," he explained.

If approved by the Board of Education, the course will be offered to 11th and 12th

grade students next September. Approximately seven class sessions would be devoted to information and experiences related to criminal justice and the functions of the Police Department, according to Backman.

Offers adult pediatric heartsaver course

Rahway Hospital will conduct a BLS B: Adult Pediatric Heartsaver Course in accordance with American Heart Association standards for members of the community on Tuesday, April 4, Thursday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 11. Class will be in session from

6-10 p.m. on each of these evenings in the Community Room.

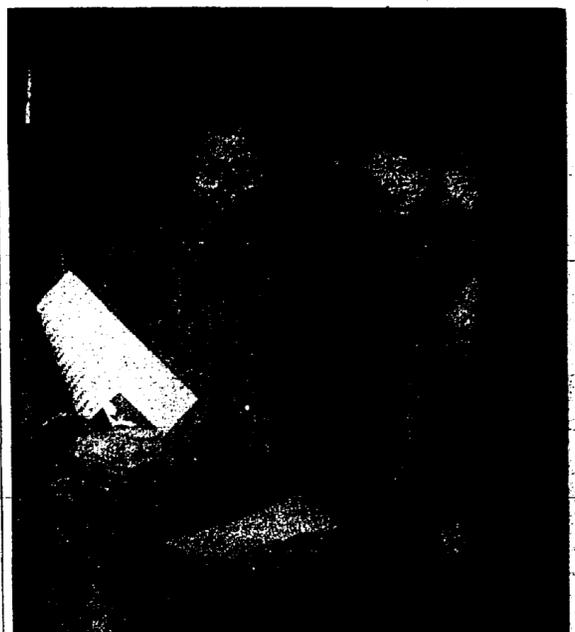
Participants must successfully complete a 35 question test and a demonstration of basic life support skills to receive certification. The fee for the course is \$35 per person.

For further information and to register for the course call the Rahway Hospital Nursing Education Office at 499-6074.

Merchants lauded for swim meet success

Thanks to the generosity of local merchants, The Tournament of Champions State Swim Meet was a huge success. 250 swimmers, 100 volunteers, and many parents enjoyed a great day.

The Tournament of Champions motto is "Special People help Special Children." Among those in our area who helped were The Regina Company of Rahway, and the A&P and Shop Rite stores in Clark.



RAHWAY FAN... Tina Drake of Rahway looks on as entertainment luminary Jerry Vale provides her with an autograph. The occasion was the N.J. Flower & Garden Show, held recently at the Morristown Armory.

Former Rahway principal dies

Roy M. Valentine, member of the Rahway Board of Education and former principal of both the Rahway Junior High and Rahway High Schools, died March 18.

See the obituary page inside for details.



PROUD PARTICIPANTS... As a result of a recent Kiwanis Club of Rahway Safety Poster Contest, Kindergarten children enrolled at Rahway Day Care Center received certificates and trophies for their participation. The project helped reinforce issues of safety at home and at school. Pictured with the kindergarteners proudly displaying their certificates are the late Roy Valentine, who headed the project; Alex Medvagy, Teacher Linda Gleason, and Assistant Ruth Baker.

Tax Tip

Earned Income Credit

Low income taxpayers may be eligible to take a special tax credit on their federal income tax returns, which could result in a larger refund. The "earned income credit" is available to those whose income for 1988 was less than \$18,576 and had a child living in their home.

Taxpayers entitled to the earned income credit can subtract it from the tax owed. If the credit is larger than the tax, the difference will be refunded.

Earned income does not include social security payments, welfare benefits or unemployment compensation.

There are certain conditions that have to be met in order to take this credit. For example, a child must have lived in the home for more than half the year and their principal home must be in the U.S. Married persons must file a joint return.

For further information, contact the IRS at 1-800-424-1040.

Legion post slates card party

James E. Mackie, Post 499 of the American Legion in Rahway is sponsoring a card party Friday, March 31 at 7 p.m., at the 59 Main St., Post Home.

The donation for admission is \$5. All units, posts, members and friends are invited.



SELECTED FOR REGION BAND — Three students from the Rahway Public Schools have been selected to participate in the Central Jersey Music Educators Association Region II band and orchestra. Kelly Karnas (left), a seventh grader at the Intermediate School will play tenor saxophone in the orchestra. Band members include seventh grader Janet O'Leary (center) on French horn and sixth grader Rose Gross (right) of Franklin School on alto clarinet. Following five weeks of practice, the Region II Band and Orchestra members will present a concert on March 19, at Union High School.

Senate passes pet sterilization bill

Earlier this month, the Senate passed a bill, sponsored by Senate President John F. Russo, that would make more families' dogs and cats eligible for the state's low-cost pet sterilization program.

The Senate voted 38-0 in favor of the legislation, S. 2977, which has gone to the General Assembly.

"The Animal Population Control Program has significantly reduced the number of unwanted stray dogs and cats in this state," Senate President Russo said. "In the past five years, more than 17,000 pets have been sterilized by veterinarians participating in the program."

Currently, the program serves dogs and cats owned by low-income people as well as pets adopted from non-profit animal shelters. Owners of adopted pets are not subject to income restrictions.

The Russo bill would expand the 1983 law even further to include a broader range of adoption agencies from which dogs or cats may come from in order to be eligible for the program.

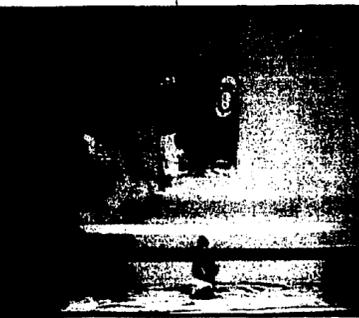
The bill also removes the existing legal requirements that cats be licensed before they are eligible for the low-cost sterilization program because not all communities require cats to be licensed. Senator Russo said the change would help reduce the unwanted stray cat population.

CORRECTION

The article on Mrs. Virginia Apelian's seminars on Armenian history, p. 16 of last week's issue, contained an error in one of the dates. The first paragraph of the article gave the correct dates for the two seminars: April 9 and May 14 (at the Brewer School). The last paragraph erroneously gave the earlier date as April 19. It should have read April 9.



GET WELL WISHES FROM 60 — During her recent stay at Rahway Hospital Evelyn Abrams, left, received 60 get well cards from relatives and friends from all over the U.S. Sitting with Mrs. Abrams is her husband, Herman. Residents of Rahway, the Abrams belong to the Rahway AARP, Chapter 607, the members of which knit lap rugs, such as the one Mrs. Abrams has on in the picture, which are donated to the Skilled Nursing Facility at Rahway Hospital. Mrs. Abrams says of her stay at Rahway Hospital, "The hospital service was wonderful and the food was very good. Everyone here is very nice, but of course I'm looking forward to going home!"



AFRICAN ARTIFACTS DISPLAY — Mrs. Paul Braxton, Kindergarten teacher at Roosevelt School, puts up poster as part of display in recognition of Afro-American History Month. Mrs. Braxton chose to display African artifacts, courtesy of Lilian Hannibal, to reflect the message given by Molefi Kete Asante at the NJEA Human Rights Dinner/Celebration, on "Afrocentricity."

Happy Easter

March 26, 1989



N.A.A.C.P. star search program winners named

On March 4 the Rahway branch of the N.A.A.C.P. held a "Star Search" at the JFK center on Hazelwood Ave. The program was given to interest the youth of Rahway in the arts. The organization is planning to put on a play in the near future.

The first place winners were: Monique Wilks, vocalist; Robert Young, instrumental; Tonya Lee, Vocalist; Tyisha McRae, Vocalist.

Dinner Day Care Children: Kimberley Brown, Jeanine Daniels, Ashley Boston, Fame Wilson and Undray Wilkerson.

Sponsors for the program were: Post 499 Ladies Auxiliary, Dr. Adam T. Mo-Daniel, Councilman Chester Holmes, Mr. Nathaniel Givens of the Flamingo Tavern, N.A.A.C.P. Rahway adult branch, and Ms. Olivia Brown of 'Miami Vice'.

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