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Record

New Jersey's Oldest Weekly Newspaper--Established 1822

VOL. 167 NO. 14

RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1989

25 CENTS

200 pack City Hall to protest spending plan Mayor booed; Hartnett promises 'substantial cuts'

Concern expressed for plight of seniors

Rahway's 1989 municipal budget was the most well-attended meeting of the year when more than 200 residents packed City Hall to voice their opinions on the spending plan.

The "standing room only" crowd was easily angered and frequently_erupted in applause and whistles when residents spoke against rising taxes and complained

entered council chambers atthe start of the meeting.

Rahway's Municipal million spending plan in February in order to comply with the state's deadline. The budget is \$1.1 million over CAP, the increase allowed by the state, and does not include state funds.

of decreasing services in the | Rahway has applied for | The public hearing on City. Mayor Daniel L. Mar- \$2.7 million in Distressed tin was booed by some mem- Cities Aid. Last year, the bers of the audience when he | City received \$1.4 million.

> Business Administrator Joseph Hartnett explained at the introduction of the Council introduced its \$19.1 | budget, that the spending plan would be "substantially cut" before final adoption by the council. "This will not be the budget the City adopts," Hartnett said at that time. "It is just to get the budgetary process started."

until the City hears from Trenton, the budget will not be adopted.

The public hearing afforded residents the opportunity to voice their opinion and concerns on the spending plan. Council discussion was not allowed, except to answer direct questions posed to them.

Out of 28 residents who approached the council to

speak, none were in support of the proposed budget.

"I have one message," said former Councilman James Fulcomer, Midwood Drive. "Cut the budget and cut i now. The number one need in Rahway today is to save tax money. People in the audience have to pay an outrageous tax increase.'

Senior citizens now have to sell their homes," Fulcomer continued, "and they are selling them for less than up to you to make an effort to cut this budget. You can't always go to the state to try to get money."

"Taxes have a negative effect," said Louis Haske, Charlotte Place. "Instead of revitalizing the City, you are chasing businesses out. Everything will just go nega-

Jeffrey Cohen, Maple

three-year terms at the Apri

Eugene Moran received

768 votes to fill the unex-

pired term of former Board

Kowal received a total of

84 votes in Ward 1, 100 in

Ward 2, 216 in Ward 3, 28 in

Ward 4, 123 in Ward 5 and

154 in Ward 6. He received

bert totaled 534 votes.

Member Rick Proctor.

their re-evaluation rate. It is | about his neighbors, many of whom are senior citizens. "When senior citizens' taxes go up, they'll have to start ating dog food." \$15,000 less than what you "I came to Rahway be-

cause it was a middle class, blue collar town," explained Robert Palka, Madison Avenue. "I expected taxes to remain comparable with surrounding towns. If taxes increase too high, I will be

forced to sell my home." "I don't want to walk, want to run away from Rah-way, "said Andy Marino, we are not gettin Abermarie Street, who is trying to sell his home. "The best offer I've received in

people tell me it's warth." "Taxes are souring and we are not reaping any bene-Russell Avenue. "I don't see any improvements in the

door spectacle since the tree-lighting ceremony last December. But this one, in Mayor Dan Martin's words,

tion of Irving Street and Central Avenue as opposed to City Hall Plaza. The occasion is the light

tee ballots. In Ward 1, Herbert received 90 votes; Ward 2, 55 Ward 4, 120 votes; Ward 5, 56 votes: and Ward 6, 110 votes. He also received 13

and 17 absentce ballots.

absentee ballots.

Kurylak totaled 65 votes in Ward 1, 98 in Ward 2, 207 in Ward 3, 39 in Whit 4, 113 in Ward 5 and 215 in Ward 6, Eugene Moran won 86

votes in Ward 1, 103 in Ward ing of the new marquee on the former Rahway Theatre 2. 193 in Ward 3. 45 in Ward 4.117 in Ward 5 and 203 in at 1601 Irving St. - now (of-Ward 6, along with 21 absenficially since 1985) the Union County Arts Center. There is, some may say, enough the arts center as a feen local political power amassed on the canopied point for uniti dais to produce the neces

sary volts. Reference to the Aca demy Award ceremonies soon to commence on the opposite coast are unavoidable. It is March 29 and there are the police barriers, the TV cameras, the temporary stage and an estimated 400 people jamming the sidevalks and barricaded street. The only missing ingredient is expensively dressed film

stars alighting from limos. (Another parallel: noted composer Marvin Hamlisch, who, in just a little while, will be raising his baton to start the annual oscar rites in Los Angeles, occupied the stage of this very theatre just a few months ago in a benefit for the Rahway Hospital.)

Joe Hartnett, the city's Business Administrator, is first at the mike, declaring the auspicious occasion one in which Union County marks itself as "a county that promotes the arts." He acknowledges the presence of several city and county offi-cials who helped make it all possible, observing that

Ludington, Kurylak newly

part of the Releasy family. Hartnett recovers the mike to appounce that he has heen handed a note. (as actions both falls over the crowd.) The note contains a piece of good news: Two of the gentlemen present.

Freeholder Chairman Paley and Alan Gardiner, Merck & Company's V.P. of Public

Affairs — has cack brown

with him a check for \$50,000 as a donation (from the county and Merck respectively) to the ougoing thesere restoration project. The applause is granite. Now comes the big finale

Martin and Tom Co the city's Director of Community Development, are handed the switches that will light the marquee. The switches are thrown and there is an automed a of imaction.

But now the familiar strains of the Z

elected to Board of Ed **Voters defeat school Incumbent Kowal tallies most votes** by Pat DiMaggio One incumbent and two 18 meeting of the board. budget by wide margin newcomers won election to Rahway's Board of Education in the school's elections

Henderson expresses disappointment

by Pat DiMaggio

Voters resoundingly Education budget when they election on April 4.

The \$21.3 million budget drew 875 votes opposed to the current expense portion. with 387 in favor, and 883 votes opposed to the capital outlay portion with 370 in

"Prevent A Litter Month"

'courtesy busing" for non-

public school children. Rahway's school budgets have been consistently

Animal group supports Prevent A Litter Month

arians, last year alone

Friends of Animals provided

Through Friends of Animals

protection organization, low-cost breeding control

would like to recognize program to pet owners. With

April as "Prevent A Litter | the help of over 900 veterin-

is a promotional effort to low-cost certificates for the

reduce the vast number of spaying and altering of

unwanted cats and dogs 70,000 cats and dogs.

The budget will now be ex- | defeated for the past several | all necessary steps to see that signed letter circulated to citizens of Rahway saw fit to

cient education. "It is sad if citizens don't tions, but I am willing to take | Wards.

male cat.

amined by Rahway's Mu- years. "I am disappointed it our children get an educadefeated Rahway's Board of nicipal Council for possible failed," said Board Presition in this school/system. reductions. This year, an undent Lillie Henderson. "The Whatever it takes, I will do." Eleven percent of the voters asked for a defeat of defeat a budget that was 12,991 registered voters in

proposed discontinuation of children a thorough and effi- Thursday. Both portions of the budget, current expense and capital outlay, were support school board elec- defeated by voters in all six

Incumbent Peter Kowai was the top vote-getter to

and candidate Mario the budget because of the geared towards giving our Rahway went to the polls on Kurylak received 754. The three newly-elected board members will begin their

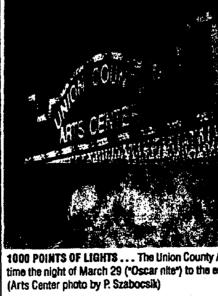
begin his 2nd term on the board. Kowal totaled 828 Candidate John C. Ludigton II garnered 789 votes

held April 4. Another can-

didate, running unopposed,

was elected to a one year, un-

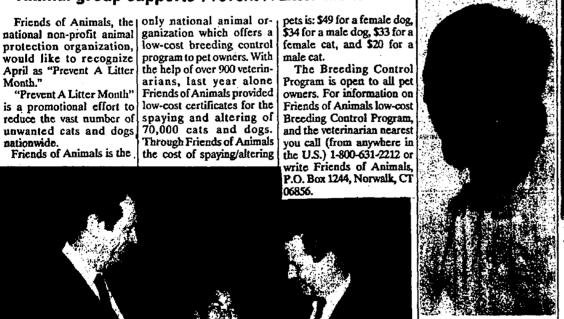
23 absentee votes. Ludington garnered 76 2, 205 in Ward 3, 37 in Ward 4, 120 in Ward 5 and 242 in Ward 6, with 15 absentee



1000 POINTS OF LIGHTS ... The Union County Arts Center's new marquee was lit for the first time the night of March 29 ("Oscar nite") to the enthusiastic applause of some 400 onlookers.



STUDENT MEETS BRADLEY AND KEAN ... Rativery High School freshman, Eric Sloan (conter), talked with Senator Bill Bradley (left) and Governor Thomas Kean (right) at a recent fund-rating dinner for the New Jersey Shore Foundation. Eric, 14, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry programs in engineering.



Christine Zapotocky Delta Gamma historian

Christine Zapotocky of Rahway is serving as historian for Delta Gamma sorority at Bucknell Univer-

Zapotocky is the daughter of Barbara and Adrian Zapotocky of W. Inman Ave. A sophomore in the College of Arts & Sciences, the is a 1987 graduate of Rahway Senior High School.

Bucknell University in

180,868 POINTS OF GENEROSITY . . . Union County Arts Conter Pre up a pair of checks, each representing a \$50,000 donation, one from the Count the other from Returny's own Merck & Co. Flanking Riches and Return Mayor of the Union County Board of Chosen Presimple at left, Brian Febry, Chairmen of the Union County Board of Chosen Presimple highly selective liberal arts: "At left, Brian Fahey, Chalman of the Union County Board of Chosen Tr institution with professional Alan Gardiner, Merck & Co.'s V.P. of Public Affairs, Inset: Joe Herthett, R ministrator, emcood the arts conter's marques lighting caremony. (Arts Conter-