

RAHWAY News Record

New Jersey's Oldest Weekly Newspaper--Established 1822

VOL. 167 NO. 35

RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1989

USPS 454-160

25 CENTS

Incinerator airing

Turnout for DEP hearing is surprisingly light

Martin: 'All systems' and residents remain

by Pat DiMaggio
Officials almost outnumbered the residents who attended the Department of Environmental Protection's public hearing on the permit process for the proposed resource recovery facility to be built in Rahway.

The DEP welcomed public comment Monday afternoon on the proposal to build and operate a mass burn incinerator to be located on Routes 1 and 9. More than 30 representatives of the DEP, the Union County Utilities Authority and Ogden Martin Systems were available to listen to comments and criticisms from the approximately 40 citizens who attended the hearing in the Rahway High School auditorium.

The incinerator will be designed, constructed and operated by Ogden Martin Systems Union, Inc. and will be located on a 22-acre site bordered by U.S. Routes 1 and 9 and Patterson Avenue in Rahway. The facility will have the capacity to process 1,440 tons of refuse per day. Commercial operation is scheduled to begin in April of 1991.

Many of the speakers were from other towns and represented local, state and grassroots organizations. Proponents for the facility stressed cost effectiveness and safety. Opponents cited financial burdens and health hazards.

Debbie Hart, representing the Consulting Engineers Council of N.J., urged the DEP to issue the permit. "The council supports incineration as one component of the overall plan for the solid waste problem," said Hart. "Time is running out and recycling itself cannot do the whole job."

Union County's plan of recycling, incineration and the utilization of landfills was also approved by Erica Shiftman. "I support the efforts of the officials who have planned for safe disposal of our garbage," she said. "When operated by trained professionals, resource recovery will be beneficial to the entire county."

"From Rahway's standpoint, all systems are go,"

said Mayor Daniel Martin. "We've worked closely with the UCUA, the DEP and the Department of Transportation in our attempt to leave no stone unturned. This is the day we've been looking forward to for several years."

Many of the opponents of the incinerator were just as vocal in their comments against the facility. Eddie Smith said residents were living in an "unfortunate community." "Information we've received suggests we are going down the wrong path with resource recovery," he said.

Smith cites health hazards associated with mass-burn incinerators, especially to residents of the 4th Ward. He also questioned proper use of the land on which the facility will be built. The site was previously used as a municipal and private landfill and was not cleaned up before the sale in accordance with ECRA regulations, according to Smith.

The technology used to solve Union County's waste problem was called "obsolete" by Neil Seldman, Director of Waste Utilization for the Institute for Local Self-reliance, Washington, D.C. "Because the cost of mass burn has risen, new technologies, including source separation, are now commercially available," he noted.

"I urge the DEP to understand how new technologies are allowing communities to recycle and reduce waste by pollution free means," Seldman said. "I urge the DEP to use stricter scientific standards and to suspend any further discussions on this plan."

Assemblyman William Pascrell, co-sponsor of a bill that would place a moratorium on the construction of incinerators, also spoke vehemently against the facility. "Mass burn incinerators are a failed technology," he said.

"I ask the people of Rahway to fight this with every ounce of energy," Pascrell said. "It will be an environmental nightmare and a fiscal nightmare. Taxpayers deserve better. We can't afford to build an in-

cinerator in the state of New Jersey."

Ann Parker eloquently summed up the feelings of many of the residents in attendance and especially those in the 4th Ward when she cited emissions from the facility and the health hazards involved. "We've been told the incinerator will lower our taxes," said

Parker. "But what good will a few more dollars do us when our children are exposed to chemicals coming from the smokestacks? What good will a few more dollars do us when we plant our gardens but we can't eat our vegetables? What good will a few more dollars mean when we are afraid for our children playing

with hundreds of garbage trucks on our streets? I wish the officials spent as much time investigating recycling as they have in planning a multi-million dollar health hazard."

The public comment period will end on September 12 and those residents who were unable to attend the

public hearing will be allowed to address their comments to Edward J. Londres, P.E., Assistant Director, Division of Solid Waste Management, N.J. Department of Environmental Protection, CN 414, 401 East State Street, Trenton, N.J. 08625; (609) 292-6724.

Rahway "Y" picks Hogan as new exec

Sara H. (Sally) Hogan, formerly Sr. Program and Membership Director at Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, starts September 1 as the new Executive Director for the Rahway Y. She brings the experience of her 11 years of increasing responsibilities at Fanwood-Scotch Plains, starting from program and leading to administrative roles.

Hogan has an extensive background in aquatics, having served on the East Field Committee for the Y. She also has been involved in the Area Program Cabinet.

These committees have stressed the importance of YMCA professionals in the continued growth of the Y

mission of providing services and activities that help all people to develop in mind, body and spirit; to fulfill their responsibilities to one another and the community and to improve the quality of life.

Hogan is looking forward to continuing the growth of the Rahway Y as it strives to meet the community needs through Y programs and goals. Her knowledge of finance and budgeting have played a significant part in the planning and development of sustaining and capital campaigns for Fanwood-Scotch Plains.

These strengths will be extremely valuable in helping the Rahway Y as they continue their renovation and modernization. Hogan has a B.A. in Physical Education from MacMurray College in Illinois and an M.S. in Recreation from Indiana University. She and her husband and three children reside in Fanwood, where she is a member of the PTA and the Scotch Plains Women's Club.

No recycling pick-up Labor Day

The Union County Utilities Authority (UCUA) has announced that there will be no curbside pick-up of recyclables in Rahway on Monday, Sept. 4, due to the Labor Day holiday. Residents living on the west side of the railroad tracks should hold their recyclables until the next scheduled pick-up on Monday, Sept. 18.

Recyclables will be collected east of the railroad tracks on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

The UCUA's regional recycling program collects tied bundles of newspapers, glass bottles and jars, and aluminum beverage cans at curbside every other week, except for holidays. Recyclables should be placed at the curb no later than 7:30 a.m.

50/50 Raffle
benefit for the
Rahway Y

Rahway Y is sponsoring a 50/50 raffle for the Union County Y. The raffle is open to all residents of Union County. The drawing will take place on December 1 at the Y.

Prizes include:

- 1st Prize: \$1,000
- 2nd Prize: \$500
- 3rd Prize: \$250
- 4th Prize: \$100
- 5th Prize: \$50
- 6th Prize: \$25
- 7th Prize: \$10
- 8th Prize: \$5
- 9th Prize: \$2
- 10th Prize: \$1

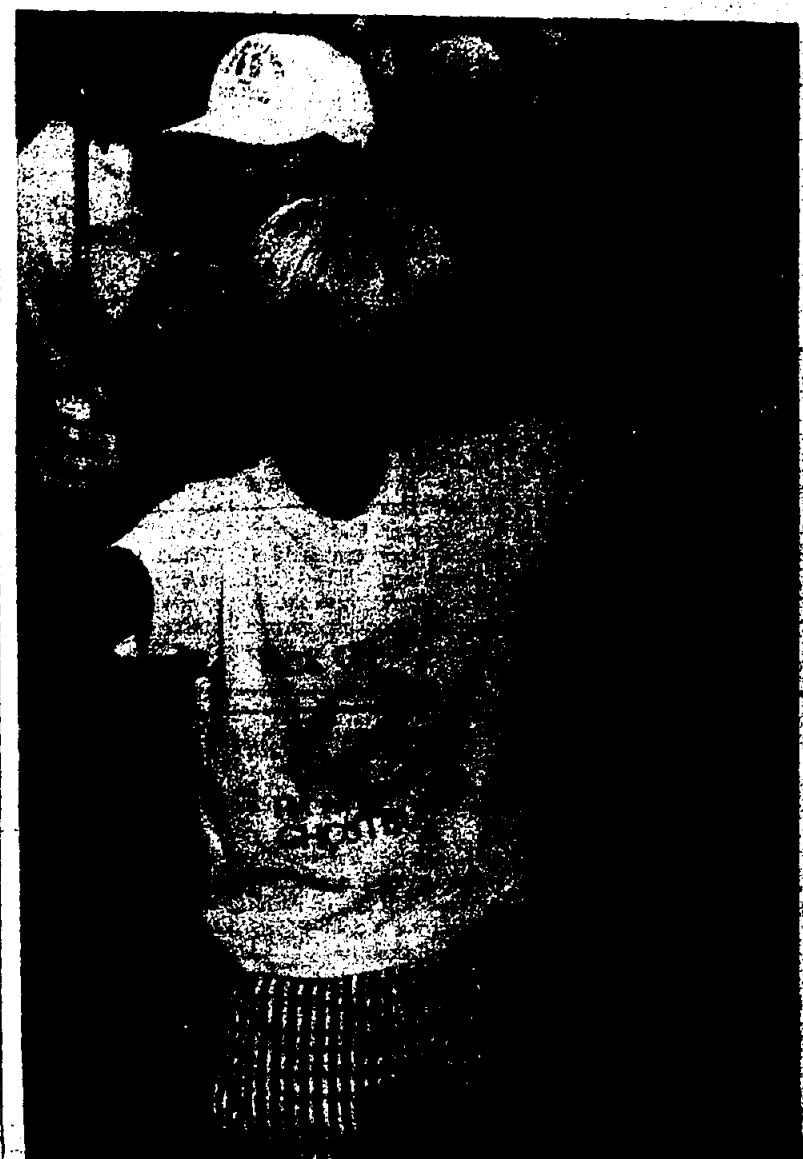
For more information, call the Y at 875-1234.

No Labor Day garbage pick up for Rahway

There will be no garbage collection on Labor Day, Monday September 4. Garbage will be picked up on your next regularly scheduled day.

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 4TH 1989

A SPECIAL GIFT... Rahway resident Bob Wick, center, and his daughter Donna, right, present a check for \$12,000 to Mary Reich, R.N., Nurse Coordinator for Rahway Hospital Hospice. The funds were raised at the 1st annual Harriet Wick Memorial Dinner/Dance. The success of the fund-raiser was due to the tireless efforts of the entire Wick family and their friends who pulled together to collect donations for a raffle, sell tickets, and even cook and serve dinner for the event. Hospice will allocate the donation to patient services.



ITS A KEEPER... Colin Hartnett holds a prize catfish caught at Rahway Recreation Department's Summer Playground Fishing Derby at Rahway River Park.

Fishing Derby 1989

Over 279 contestants participated in Rahway's annual Fishing Derby held this year at Rahway River Park.

Winners in the 8 and under boys and girls smallest included Sam Tays and Kimberly Prakapas with a 3 1/2 and 4 inch sunfish each while Charles Gibson and Melissa Bondar had a 7 1/2 inch and a 10 1/2 inch catfish each.

Prizewinners in the 9 & 10 age group were: Jason Tiffany, Nick Schneider and Tars Ball with 3 1/2 inch and 4 1/2 inch small sunfish each while Andrew Grygo with a 7 1/2 inch catfish and Laura Toth with a 11 inch catfish had the largest.

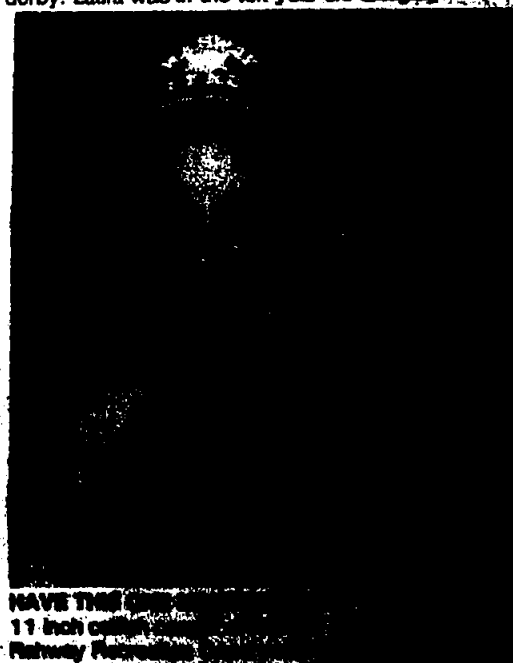
In the 11 and 12 age bracket we had Doug Sager, Debra Milano, and LaWana Byrd with 3 1/2 inch, 4 1/2 inch & 4 1/2 inch sunfish in the small category respectively while David Kopecky, Scott Radtke and Sybil Foushee had 11 inch, 11 inch and 7 inch catfish and sunfish in the largest category each.

Winning in the 13 and 14 age group were: Ken Taylor and Gail Gilchrist with a 5 inch and 6 inch sunfish each, in the small fish section. Prizes for the largest fish in this age group were won by: Anthony Carvano and Jim Lewandowski with an 11 inch catfish each while Noreen Kreisberg won with an 8 1/2 inch sunfish.

Many thanks should go to the Rahway Elks Youth Activities program for supplying the refreshments and to the cities Emergency Management Group under the direction of Milton Crans and Chief Ernie Utrecht for supplying the Police Reserve.



ITS A BIG ONE!... Laura Toth holds a prize winning 11 inch catfish caught at the Rahway River Park at the annual Rahway Recreation Department summer fishing derby. Laura was in the ten year old category.



HAVE THIS 11 inch catfish... Rahway Recreation Department