

# RAHWAY News Record

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## Latest raises for school brass represent lowered percentages

### Grimes, Luddington oppose increases

by Pat DiMaggio  
Rahway's Board of Education approved salaries for the top four administrative positions in the district at the regular meeting held last week.

The board approved a 6.5 percent increase in salary for Superintendent of Schools Frank Brunette for a total 1989-90 school year stipend of \$96,000. Assistant Superintendent of Schools Nicholas Delmonaco received an increase of 3.9 percent for a total salary of \$81,400. Business Administrator/Board Secretary Anthony Rocco, Jr. will

receive a stipend of \$75,500 after a 6.7 percent increase and Board Attorney Leo Kahn will total \$43,000 with a 4 percent raise.

Board Members Ray Grimes and John Luddington voted against the increases. Board Member Antonio Garay did not attend the meeting.

"We are tremendously happy with the services of these people, especially Mr. Kahn," said Board President Peter Kowal. "The lower percentage increases should not give anyone the feeling that we are dissatisfied in any way. But we tried to look at

what Rahway can afford right now and felt we had to bring down the percentages. These increases are the lowest in the last four years since I've been a member of the board."

In comparison, the district's teachers are in the last year of their three-year contract which granted them an increase of 8.95 percent in the first year, 9.25 percent in the second year and 9.35 percent for 1989-90.

In other business the board:

- Accepted the resignation of Kim Curtis, attendance officer.
- Adjusted the 1989-90 salary for Diane Camera to \$42,278 for 30 credits beyond the Masters Degree.
- Reappointed Barbara Goldner as an aide to a classified student at Roosevelt School at \$6.35 per hour.
- Approved the transfer of Sharon Pace from half-time Kindergarten at Franklin and half-time at Roosevelt School to full-time Kindergarten at Roosevelt.

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— Reappointed the following personnel to work as needed in the Adult Basic Education program at a rate of \$17 per hour for professionals and \$8 per hour for clerical assistants: Francis Gavin, guidance counselor/coordinator; Sandra Murphy, reading; Loisene Clark, writing skills; Maureen Mulligan, math; Joseph Caggiano and Linda Communale, English as a Second Language; Con-

stance Waters, Evening School for Foreign Born Residents; Patricia Abatemarco, clerical assistant; Carol Reese, Clementine Skarzynski, Charles Backmann and Milady Jimenez as substitutes.

— Approved a contract with Morton, Russo & Maggio, Architects and Planners, to provide architectural and engineering services for miscellaneous work at Roosevelt, Cleveland and Franklin Schools at a fee not to exceed \$8,000.



**EOP AWARD WINNER . . .** Edward Miller of Rahway, right, receives a \$1,000 National Action Council for Minority Engineers Award from Dr. George Simms, director of New Jersey Institute of Technology's Educational Opportunity Program at the 1989 Freshman Summer Awards Banquet. The award is given to incoming freshmen for academic progress made during the EOP's summer program.

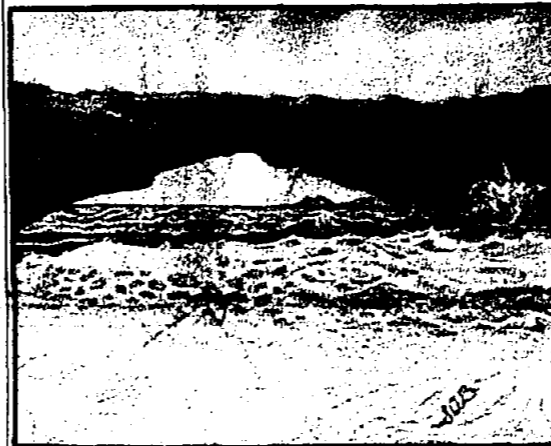
### Mayor calls special meeting

Mayor Martin has called a special council meeting for tonight (Thursday, Sept. 28) at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers at City Hall to act on a resolution authorizing a development agreement between the City of Rahway and Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc.

The meeting will include a detailed presentation concerning the Hartz Mountain matter.

### Donations needed to help Hugo victims

The Salvation Army of New Jersey is accepting monetary donations for aiding the victims of "Hurricane Hugo" in Puerto Rico. Donations made payable to The Salvation Army should be sent to The Salvation Army, "Hurricane Hugo," P.O. Box 3170, Union, NJ 07083.



**NATURAL BRIDGE . . . ARUBA**, by Rahway artist Sheila O. Barrera, will be on exhibition in New York City in mid-October. This reproduction does not do justice to Ms. Barrera's colorful painting.

### Rahway artist to exhibit in New York

Artist Sheila O. Barrera has been a Rahway resident for over a year now, and has been studying painting at the Claude H. Reed Cultural Center with instructor Janice DiGiorgio on Thursday nights. She is also a graduate of Pratt Institute, (BFA 1977) as well as a member of The N.J. Center for Visual Arts.

She is among the artists who will be taking part in the "Artists for a New Civilization" art show, on Saturday

and Sunday, Oct. 14 and 15, at the Van Dyck Studios, 939 Eighth Ave., New York City. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"I will be displaying a number of oil paintings that I worked on during our Thursday night classes here in Rahway," says Barrera, "as well as some watercolor paintings and bronze sculptures I worked on at home. Some of the watercolors are of local scenery from the area."

### Northeast corridor trains post improved on-time results

Trains on the Northeast Corridor posted a 90.5% on-time rate in August, up from the 86.4% on-time rate recorded in July.

Systemwide, NJ Transit achieved 93.3% on-time rate in August. A train is considered on time if it arrives at its terminal checkpoint within five minutes of its scheduled arrival time.

NJ Transit has awarded a contract for the overhaul of 230 Arrow electric cars currently in use. The Arrowcars used on the Northeast Corridor are 11- to 12-years-old and are due for an overhaul.

As part of the overhaul, the electrical systems will be converted to alternating current propulsion which will provide a more reliable service. Major systems, such as brakes, heating and air-conditioning, will be rehabilitated.

Northeast Corridor trains serve Trenton, Princeton Junction, Jersey Avenue,

New Brunswick, Edison, Metuchen, Metro Park, Rahway, North Rahway, Linden, Elizabeth, North Elizabeth, Newark and New York City.

A rail shuttle links Princeton Junction with Princeton.

### Rahway man dies of accident injuries

Edward Weingarten, 71, of Rahway, has died of injuries sustained in an auto-pedestrian accident Monday on St. Georges Avenue.

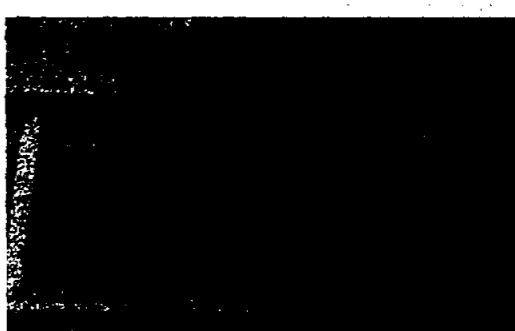
Mr. Weingarten had been attempting to cross the busy thoroughfare at 9:15 a.m., when he was accidentally struck by a vehicle driven by Morton Seligman, 76, of Elizabeth. No charges have been made against the driver.

The victim died early Tuesday morning.

### Members, friends turn out for gala open house at landmark Rahway showplace

Approximately 150 members and friends showed up for the informal open house at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway, Sunday afternoon. Attendees were treated to free refreshments consisting of cakes and other pastries baked by women volunteers, and pizzas donated by Gino's Pizzeria, a neighbor of the arts center on Irving St.

Upon entering the lobby, visitors were greeted by the nostalgic sounds of the theater's vintage Wurlitzer pipe organ being played by a volunteer musician. At one point in the course of the afternoon, the visitors assembled in the spacious auditorium for a short talk by the arts center's voluntary president, Eric L. Rickes.



**PLAY A PART . . .** The Union County Arts Center, at the junction of Main, Hamilton & Irving Streets and Central Avenue has an ongoing membership drive. Volunteers are needed for many tasks. (Photo by P. Szabocsk)

Rickes called attention to improvements that were both visible and invisible. Among the "invisible" ones he named were the completely new roof, a new smoke release system in the stage area and the total absence of asbestos anywhere in the building.

Chief among the visible improvements recently completed, according to Rickes,

are the brand new marquee, the new brick sidewalk and completely renovated (and enlarged) rest rooms.

Rickes briefly discussed the arts center's recent failure to receive an expected \$400,000 matched grant from the State Arts Council. He indicated that a new application will be filed for part of the \$11 million still available under a special grants program.

Rickes also announced that the planned interior renovation of the 60-year-old theater's once-elegant auditorium will be postponed until next summer, and that, in the meantime, a new season of performances is being planned.

The most recent performance before the center was closed down temporarily in anticipation of further interior alterations was that of singer Crystal Gayle in June, which netted approximately \$9,000 for the arts center in operating funds.

A return engagement by the celebrated singer, tentatively scheduled for sometime in February.

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### Board of Ed reaffirms its AA support

The Rahway Board of Education is an Equal Opportunity Institution and employer. In order to assure equal educational opportunity as both a school district and as an employer, the Board has approved Affirmative Action Plans for School and Classrooms and for Employment. These plans are revised regularly.

The Affirmative Action plans document the measures the district takes in order to provide equal opportunity and to protect the rights of all. They are available for anyone to read from the offices of the Principals or school libraries.

Rahway's Affirmative Action Officer is Mr. William J. Cladek, Area Supervisor of Special Education (7-12). His office is located at Rahway High School, 1012 Madison Avenue, and he may be contacted at 396-1097 to answer any questions regarding Affirmative Action.

The District Desegregation Officer is Nicholas F. Delmonaco, Assistant Superintendent of Schools. His office is located at the Rahway Intermediate School, and he may be contacted at 396-1000 regarding District Desegregation actions.

### Mackie Post schedules dinner-dance

James E. Mackie American Legion Post 499 and the associated Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor its annual dinner-dance at St. Thomas Hall on St. Georges Avenue (between Church & Millers Lane) in Rahway on Saturday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m. to midnight.

The event will feature the music of Lindsay Nelson and will honor Commander Berley Hanna, Unit past president while Mrs. Wilson and Unit president Margaret Stockley.

A donation of \$30 per person is requested for admission.

For tickets, phone Mrs. F. Bryant, 388-3890; Mrs. M. Stockley, 388-6848; Mrs. B. Hanna, 574-8270; or Mr. W. Toy, 381-1640.

## Increased student enrollment causes concern on staff size

### Conditions may require new hiring

by Pat DiMaggio  
Increased class sizes drew fire from a board member who asked for the immediate hiring of two staff members at last week's Board of Education meeting (September 19).

Rahway Board of Education member Ray Grimes cited current class sizes throughout the district. Three kindergarten classes at Roosevelt School number 27, 27 and 25, said Grimes, and other elementary classes have grown due to increased enrollment this year.

Grimes suggested cutting monies from other accounts to fund the hiring of the new staff members. He suggested the cuts be made in the Servicemaster and administrative accounts and the account which funds Project ACE (Alternative Center for Education).

Frank Brunette, Superintendent of schools, said he was well aware of the problem, but said budgetary restraints prevented any immediate action. "I've encouraged the board committee to meet," said Brunette.

"We are faced with the reality of an increase in student enrollment with a limited amount of money to spend."

Brunette agreed there was an immediate need in the Kindergarten classes. The administrative code states that when a Kindergarten class exceeds 25 students, the county superintendent must be informed, and an additional teacher or aides must be hired, said Brunette.

The board created and posted the position of part-time Kindergarten teacher, and, at the end of the meeting, approved a motion to reappoint Lorie Tschoepe as a part-time teacher at Franklin School.

Lillie Henderson, Chairperson of the Educational Committee, said the matter has been studied and a recommendation will be made. "The board works through a committee structure," she said. "We were notified at the beginning of the school year about the matter of class sizes and we are aware the issue needs attention. The committee will bring its recommendations back to the board."

"I feel the administration is looking at the problem," said Board President Peter Kowal. "We had the luxury

in the past of smaller class sizes, but until we get a recommendation, we will wait to make our decision."

The board also approved a new business agenda including the acceptance of funding in the amount of \$6,160 in Flow-Through Funds, the approval of a Block Grant application in the amount of \$17,801, acceptance of the resignation of Neil Sachs, basic skills math teacher at the High School, and the naming of Deborah Melao to the Substitute Teachers List.

### Woman's Club to meet

The GFWC Rahway Woman's Club has scheduled its first fall meeting for Friday, Oct. 6 at noon. It will be held at the 2nd Presbyterian Church, corner of Main St. and New Brunswick Ave.

### Board of Adjustment to meet

The Rahway Board of Adjustment has scheduled a special meeting for Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall to discuss the Hamilton Laundry application.



**UNION COUNTY HONORS MERCK . . .** Union County honored Rahway, with a resolution for their financial assistance in celebrating the 1989 Summer Arts Festival, according to Joseph Sulga (2nd from right), Union County Freeholders, Welfare, Recreation and Leisure Committee Chairman, and the Recreation Advisory Board. The Summer Arts Festival is held each Wednesday at Echo Lake Park, Mount Pleasant, Department of Parks and Recreation. The resolution was signed by Sulga (2nd from right), Public Affairs, Merck, at a press conference held at the Merck Building, Rahway, N.J. The resolution provides their financial assistance, which enables us to provide a "public," Sulga and Welsh said. Merck donated the "Experience," held on July 12.