

# RAHWAY News Record

New Jersey's Oldest Weekly Newspaper--Established 1822

VOL. 167 NO. 40

RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1989

USPS 454-160

25 CENTS

**Martin: 'Patience and persistence have paid off'**

## CITY FINALIZES HARTZ DEAL

### Major developer to complete Corporate Center Heller: 'Hartz Mountain wants to be in Rahway for a long, long time.'

by Pat DiMaggio  
A press conference was held on September 28 to announce an agreement between the City of Rahway and Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc. to complete development of the Rahway Corporate Center project. Mayor Daniel L. Martin and Hartz Mountain President Gene Heller announced plans for the major development, which will include office space, an eight-screen movie theater, retail space and a luxury hotel.

The Rahway Corporate Center consists of 14 acres located behind City Hall. Three acres are owned by Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., with a 39,000 square foot office building operated by Chase Trans Info. Hartz Mountain will develop the remaining 11 acres. "Patience and persistence in insisting on a first-class project for Rahway have paid off, first in bringing the world-wide prestige of Chase to our community and now in bringing one of the nation's foremost developers to Rahway," said Martin.

Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc., based in Secaucus, is one of New Jersey's largest, full-service real estate developers. In 20 years, Hartz has developed more than 35 million square feet of office, industrial, commercial, retail and residential space in N.J. Hartz Mountain is the owner and developer of the Harmon Meadow project in Secaucus and is currently developing sites in Cranford and Linden in Union County.

"Rahway is a community we want to be in, and we plan on being here for many years," said Hartz President Gene Heller. "We're going to develop a project here that will be a great asset to the business district and the entire community as well as achieving the high standards and objectives of the Hartz organization." The agreement reached between Rahway and Hartz for the mixed-use development concept includes 120,000 square feet of office space, a modern eight-screen movie theater, 75,000 square feet of retail space and a 150-room hotel.

"These uses not only complement one another but provide magnetism for Rahway's adjacent central business district," noted Heller. "We believe this mix of uses will be a great attraction for bringing people into the area," said Chamber of Commerce President James Kennedy. "This is the boost that the central business district has been waiting for. In fact, just the news that Hartz Mountain is coming to Rahway should start to turn things around for property owners and business people in downtown Rahway." The agreement specifies that Hartz Mountain will have final plans for the development ready in five months. "Hartz Mountain wants to get started in Rahway as soon as possible and to be in Rahway for a long, long time," said Heller.



AT THE THRESHOLD of a major municipal upgrade for the City of Rahway are, left to right (standing), President Jim Kennedy of the Rahway Chamber of Commerce, Councilman-at-large Walter McLeod, Harold Friedman of Chase Trans Info, and (seated in foreground) Gene Heller, President of Hartz Mountain, and Mayor Dan Martin. The occasion: finalization of an agreement under which Hartz Mountain will complete development of the Rahway Corporate Center behind City Hall.

## Hartz impact

**Hartnett: 'Couldn't be more pleased'**

**McLeod: 'People of Rahway will be proud'**

by Pat DiMaggio  
At a special meeting last Thursday, Rahway's Municipal Council enthusiastically approved the agreement between the City and Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc. to develop the Rahway Corporate Center project. The council was united in its support of Hartz Mountain's plans for a mixed-use development for 11 acres located behind City Hall.

feel this is a unique piece of land, suitable for development." Plans call for 120,000 square feet of office space, an eight-screen movie theater, 75,000 square feet of retail space and a 150-room hotel. Horowitz said he has received strong interest from several nationally known food stores to anchor the retail space. As yet, no one has expressed interest in the hotel, but Horowitz is confident that when the property is developed, interest will be shown.

"The administration has been actively pursuing the complete development of this project," said Business Administrator Joseph Hartnett. "We couldn't be more pleased with our successfully negotiated agreement with one of the country's foremost developers." The 14-acre site was purchased by the City 25 years ago under an urban renewal plan. Chase-Manhattan Bank purchased three acres last year and one of their subsidiaries presently occupies an office building constructed on the site.

Several of the councilmembers questioned the impact of the project on downtown businesses. "We feel this project will activate this area," answered Horowitz. "It will be good for everybody. We expect a hub-bub of activity here." Business Administrator Hartnett said the project would result in "hundreds of thousands" of dollars in tax revenues and "many hundreds" of permanent jobs. Construction costs will be approximately \$30 to \$40 million, he said.

The price of the remaining property must be verified by a Housing & Urban Development (HUD)-approved appraiser and will sell for approximately \$2.2 million or \$200,000 per acre, according to Hartnett. Approximately \$600,000 must be paid back to HUD, and the rest of the proceeds must be committed to community development projects in the City, under HUD regulations.

Irwin Horowitz, vice president and general counsel for Hartz Mountain said the company has committed its assets to developing in Rahway and in Union County.

"We feel we've reached a very good agreement for both parties," said Horowitz. "Hartz Mountain is a full-service builder and developer with complete in-house capability from the ground up. We are anxious to be in Union County and

## Dinner-dance to honor Fire Chief and Captain

The Rahway Fireman's Mutual Benevolent Association will be holding a Dinner-Dance honoring Chief James T. Heller and Captain Albert J. Knox for 25 years of dedicated service. The FMBA will also be inducting, as honorary members, Thomas Grahill, Carlos Garay, Ray Mikell, Francis ("Bud") Senkowsky and Simon Kabillo. The Dance will be held October 20 at Cryans in Linden, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. For information and ticket sales, contact John Roy or Ron Knox at Rahway Fire Headquarters, 388-1400.

## Rahway's Walker at Pendleton

Marine Lance Cpl. Frank N. Walker, son of Foster B. and Mary A. Walker of Fulton St., Rahway, recently reported for duty with 3rd Marine Aircraft, Camp Pendleton, Calif. A 1986 graduate of Rahway Senior High School, he joined the Marine Corps in November 1987.

## Recycle Schedule for Rahway

Attention Rahway residents: The following dates through December are for recyclable items only. Regular garbage collections will continue on the present schedule. If recyclable items are not picked up on the scheduled date, call the "Recycling Hotline" at 753-7276. Put recyclable items at curbside on the following dates:  
West of RR tracks, Mondays, October 16 & 30, November 13 & 27, December 11.  
East of RR tracks, Tuesdays, October 17 & 31, November 14 & 28, December 12 & 26.  
There will be no pick-up on Christmas Day, December 25.

## Blood test available at Health Fair

The City will be conducting its 9th Annual Health Fair Sunday, October 15, at the Rahway Municipal Complex. A comprehensive blood test will be available from 8 a.m. until noon for a fee of \$13. A 12-hour fast (excluding water) is necessary prior to this test. Call 381-8000 to arrange an appointment. Screenings and tests will be available free of charge from 8 a.m. to noon. These will include Diabetes Testing, Blood Pressure, Colon Rectal Cancer, Oral Cancer, Hearing Testing, as well as a Chiropractic and Podiatric examination. Flu shots will be available for senior citizens free of charge.

## The Rahway Fire Dept. Has Important Message: 'Big Fires Start Small:'

### Keep matches and lighters in the right hands."

"Fireplay is the leading cause of fire deaths among preschoolers," says Battalion Chief Fritz of the Rahway Fire Dept. "It kills three out of every 10 who die in residential structure fires in the U.S."

Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, focuses on the need for improved firesafety education, particularly match and lighter safety. Its theme is "Big Fires Start Small: Keep matches and lighters in the right hands."

About 75% of all residential fires in the U.S. are started with a match or lighter, and matches and lighters are what children most frequently use when playing with fire. "Keeping matches, lighters and other heat sources where children can't obtain them is a good way to start making your home more firesafe," says Battalion Chief Fritz. "Teach your children — as well as your babysitters — that matches and lighters are tools for adults only, and reward them for bringing matches or lighters they find to an adult."

Fire Prevention Week is sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and supported by the fire service, schools and civic organizations nationwide. The Rahway Fire Department can give you more information on firesafety for children, and they have special activities planned during Fire Prevention Week that will help Rahway families stay firesafe the year round. For more information on Fire Prevention Week, call the Fire Department at 388-1400.

## Historical Society lists upcoming events

The Rahway Historical Society has listed the following upcoming events:  
Sunday, Oct. 15 - Open House at Merchants & Drovers and Terrill Tavern, 1-4 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 21 - "Pumpkin Patch" sale (same location): homemade pies, pumpkin decorating, apple cider.

## Visiting newsmen gives us 'E' for efficiency

by Pat DiMaggio  
The Rahway News Record/Clark Patriot received a visit last week from a visiting newspaperman who toured the offices and compared the American way of business with that of his country. Roger Mills, visiting Rich and Linda Horling on Tudor Drive in Clark, spent two weeks in the area with his wife Sara and children Hannah and Thomas. Mills, from Sutton, England, is employed as editorial director for a group of newspapers servicing 670,000 people in parts of South and West London.

Mills compared his group of newspapers to that of our *Atom Tabloid*. Both papers are free to the public, but there the similarity ends. Most of the newspapers in his group have 70 to 80 pages, with 20 percent in news content and 80 percent in advertising. It takes more than 4,000 people to hand-deliver the various editions of the weekly *Guardian*.

"I am amazed that here papers are thrown wherever," said Mills. "In England, we must push them fully through the mail slot. As we compete with five other papers in our area, there is quite a bit of competition." With an operation so large, equipment is state-of-the-art. Mills' newspapers employ 240, with 38 reporters gathering local government news. All reporters work on computers linked with the mainframe in the head office. "Although the operation and office is much smaller, *The Rahway News Record* and *The Clark Patriot* do an excellent job on their local coverage," said Mills. "I am amazed at how quickly they are put together and delivered." Mills and his family have enjoyed sight-seeing excursions to the Jersey shore, New York and Philadelphia. He also was amazed at some of the prices of food and gas. "In England we pay about \$3 per gallon for petrol and our steaks are \$7 a pound," noted Mills. "And everyone here works very hard."



FROM ACROSS THE 'POND'... Roger Mills, Editorial Director of the South London *Guardian* in England, pictured with Dan Clark, Editor of the *Atom Tabloid* and *Clark Patriot*. Mills toured this paper on his visit to Rahway. He also was amazed at some of the prices of food and gas. "In England we pay about \$3 per gallon for petrol and our steaks are \$7 a pound," noted Mills. "And everyone here works very hard."



HEAVY CHECK... John L. Yoder, President of Rahway Hospital, 2nd from left, accepts a check for \$13,000 from Rahway Kiwanis (left to right) Richard Voessler, president, Constantine "Red" Vigilante and Sal Prezioso. The Kiwanis raised the funds during their annual golf tournament, conducted each year at the Colonia Country Club for the benefit of the hospital. Vigilante and Prezioso were co-chairman of the event.

GETTING SINGED BY THE BURNING ISSUES? READ... PAGE 2