

# RAHWAY News Record

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**'ROUND THE OLD OAK . . .** The red ribbon symbolizing support for a drug-free community is being tied by (l-r) Lynn Dolce and Olga Sica, co-chairpersons of the Community Unity Day Committee, Intermediate School Builders Club members Joey Wysocki and Arisha Jetter and Superintendent of Schools Frank Brunette.

## Rahway is 'wrapped together' as a community against drugs

Residents are being asked to "tie a red ribbon" around the old oak tree to show their support of the Rahway Advisory Council for a Drug-Free Community. October 28 will be Red Ribbon Day for students throughout the district, their parents and residents, who will unite in their efforts to work toward a drug-free community.

The Rahway Advisory Council for a Drug-Free Community was formed by Jackie Toriccollo and Elaine Ross, the district's student assistance counselors. The plan of the council is to unite the community in the war against drugs with the idea of leading up to a Community Unity Day in the spring.

The first step in the battle is Red Ribbon Day, to be held October 28.

Businesses, organizations and churches, as well as residents and students, will be asked to show their support of a drug-free community by tying a red ribbon around a tree, on a doorknob or on a mail box, somewhere where it will be visible.

"We will be trying to get every facet of the community involved in this war on drugs," said Lynn Dolce, co-chairperson of Community Unity Day. "We hope to raise community awareness of the Drug Advisory Council, and this will be a symbolic gesture showing we are united against drugs."

On October 27, students in each of the district's schools will tie red ribbons around the trees on school property, and elementary students will be given ribbon pins to wear to show their support of drug-free schools, according to Dolce. Residents will be asked for their participation on October 28, by tying a red ribbon somewhere on their property or by wearing a red ribbon pin to show that they are also working toward making Rahway a drug-free community.

"One of the goals of the Drug Advisory Council is to bring together parents, educators, civic and religious leaders and young people, united in a common

effort . . . a drug-free Rahway," said Dolce. "We need to let our children know that we love them and that we care and are here to help as a community and as individuals. The red ribbon is the first symbolic gesture in our pursuit of a drug-free community."

Show your support of a drug-free community by joining in on October 28. A little red ribbon, prominently displayed, will go a long

way in demonstrating to your children and the youngsters in your neighborhood that you care enough to get involved.

If you are interested in serving on the Community Unity Day Committee to help plan activities for the spring, call Olga Sica, co-chairperson, at 382-3570, Jacquelynn Toriccollo at 396-1069, or Elaine Ross at 396-2906.

## Rahway NAACP names '89 service awardees

The NAACP Rahway Branch is proud to announce the names of the Community Service Awardees for 1989. They are Mrs. Mildred Holmes Denson, Reverend James W. Ealey, Mr. Nathan (Nate) Givens, Jr., Mrs. Louvenia Hill, and Mrs. Donald A. Parks.

The awardees will be honored on Friday evening, November 10, at the Annual Freedom Fund and

Awards Banquet sponsored by the Rahway Branch. The theme is "80 years later: The Struggle Continues."

The banquet will be held at 7 p.m. at the Landmark Inn, Route 1 & 9, Woodbridge.

For reservations, the public is urged to call 815-1928 daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## New escrow ordinance has property-owners crying 'rip off'

### Two claim overcharges for consultant 'services'

by Pat DiMaggio  
At a meeting held October 10, residents voiced their displeasure over a new policy approved by Rahway's Municipal Council. The council recently approved an escrow ordinance which states that fees for the services of a professional consultant hired to investigate matters before the planning and zoning boards would be paid for by the applicant and not by the City. Money is put into an escrow account by the applicant and charges incurred by consultants are paid through that account.

In the past, charges for professional services for planners, engineers and consultants for matters including variances, additions to properties or developments were billed to the City.

Michael Murphy, of East Scott Avenue, said that when he applied for a variance for

his property he put \$1,000 into an escrow account. He later received a check for \$25 dollars and a letter stating that his account was closed. The voucher enclosed listed charges from a planner who stated he met on a number of occasions with Murphy and his attorney. "This voucher is an outright lie," said Murphy. "I never met with this man, and my lawyer had one four-minute conversation with him. I paid \$975 of my money for a voucher that is a lie."

Don Somers, of Tinton Falls, who is also a property owner in the City, complained of his experiences with the new ordinance. Somers said he was asked to submit \$500 for the escrow account for his application before the Planning Board to have a fence erected. He was later notified he would have to add an additional \$750 to the account, he said.

"You have just issued a license to steal," said Somers.

Business Administrator Joseph Hartnett said he was made aware of Murphy's situation the day before in a phone conversation and said he was investigating the charges and the vouchers. "This is a new ordinance and a new system," said Hartnett. "These people have legitimate complaints and they will be looked into. The situation needs to be investigated and reviewed and satisfactory answers must be found."

Also at the meeting, Sharon Surber of Bryant Street asked the council to support Assembly Bill A 4105, which would place a moratorium on the construction of resource recovery facilities in the state.

"Twelve years ago, when the City first became involved, the health hazards

associated with resource recovery were not known," said Surber. "I'd like to see some independent thinking on this matter. Don't just go along with the administration. Pretty soon the bumper stickers on our cars won't be saying 'Pride and Progress', they will be saying 'Poison and Pollution.'"

In other business the council:

Approved for first reading an ordinance that will vacate Putnam Street and a portion of Montgomery and Park Street. These streets are "paper streets" with no improvements. The property will be divided equally between the

two contiguous property owners on the undeveloped streets.

Approved for first reading an ordinance that would designate the east side of Elizabeth Avenue, beginning at the northerly curbline of West Scott Avenue and extending 150 feet north, as a bus stop, prohibiting parking on the west side of Main Street from New Brunswick Avenue to East Hazelwood Avenue from 7 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays and prohibiting parking at all times on the east side of Campbell Street from the northerly curbline of West Cherry Street to a point 65 feet north.

## Merck gives grant to lung association

Merck & Co., Inc. has committed \$20,000 to support American Lung Association (ALA) anti-smoking public education programs. The grant will be distributed to local units in the 10 regions in the U.S. where Merck's employee population is concentrated: Rahway, West Point in Danville; Pittsburgh; Elkton, Virginia; Albany, Georgia; St. Louis; Okmulgee, Oklahoma; San Diego; and Wilson, North Carolina.

The grant was awarded in conjunction with the implementation of new rules severely restricting smoking at all Merck sites in the U.S.

"The American Lung Association commends Merck for creating a cleaner, healthier smoke free environment for its more than 14,000 U.S. employees," said Hildy Dillon, ALA Smoking and Health Associate.

Merck announced its intention to go smoke-free to its employees a year ago. It has been offering and will continue to offer smoking cessation programs. "Because Merck has always been a leader in treating and preventing illness, we are

going beyond our workplace to also encourage people in our plant communities to stop smoking," said Dr. F. Roy Waggoner, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Earlier this year, Merck was chosen "America's Most Admired Company" for the third straight year by a Fortune Magazine survey of 8,000 top executives, outside directors and financial analysts. The current issue of Working Mother magazine also names Merck as one of the ten best U.S. companies for working mothers. *picture inside*

## Halloween Dance at Legion Post

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #5, Rahway, will hold its Annual Halloween Dance at the Post Home, 581 Maple Ave., Rahway, on October 29, starting at 9 p.m. It will be a B.Y.O. affair with prizes for costumes, open bar, and music by The Apache Twins.

The admission donation is \$10, adults only. For tickets, call "Edna" at 382-3855.

## H.S. message board earns its keep

The informational message board located on the front lawn of Rahway High School earned \$1,375 for the Student Government Association (SGA) at Rahway High School from July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1989. That comes to 275 paid messages, excluding free public service and school announcements.

The monies earned from the sale of messages is earmarked toward maintaining the message board and surrounding grounds and the "Celebrate Sober - Staying Alive Campaign," aimed to help stop drug and alcohol abuse through a variety of educational programs in both the school and community.

"The SGA is proud of its record and accomplishments working with the Student Assistance Program

and other related agencies," stated Debra Zapotocky, SGA president.

Individuals interested in obtaining space on the message board should make their reservations three to five weeks in advance to guarantee board availability. The cost for each message is \$10.

Checks payable to Rahway High School are accepted as well as cash. The contact person is William M. Roesch, SGA advisor. He can be reached at 396-1100 for specific details regarding the message board.

"The message board, in operation since 1987, has become a vital component in announcing school and community events in addition to the traditional birthday and anniversary messages," Zapotocky said.



**UP, UP AND AWAY . . .** Those who live near the Rahway Hospital may have noticed a helicopter landing on the school grounds across the street from it last month. Indeed, the Rahway Hospital Social Services Department had made aerial arrangements for the transfer of a patient, at the patient's request, to the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. The patient was transported from the hospital to the helicopter by the Rahway First Aid Squad with the cooperation of both the Rahway Police Department and the Rahway Fire Department, who stood by to ensure the safety of all involved.

## Dance Guild plans 25th reunion

New Jersey Dance Theatre Guild is seeking former dancers, performers and teachers as well as Ballet Society members to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of its organization, to be held in conjunction with the 20th season of "The Nutcracker" ballet.

Ballet performances will be held on Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 2 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, Irving Street, Rahway. A Gala Dinner Celebration will take place at The Landmark Inn, Route 1, Woodbridge on Sunday, December 10 at 6 p.m.

Further information concerning the reunion can be obtained by contacting the N.J. Dance Theatre Guild at 1057 Pierpont Street, Rahway, NJ 07065 or by calling the Business Director at 750-0233.

TIRE OF HOMEWORK?  
READ...  
PAGE 2



**LIBRARY ROLE . . .** Carrie Marlowe and Edna... Library at Sunday's Health Fair at City Hall.