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25 CENTS

## Kennedy: Martin/Hartnett state aid projections are 'totally unrealistic'

Democratic Mayoral Candidate Jim Kennedy has called for an honest and accurate budget for Rahway, 1990. Kennedy stated "the Administration's budget increased from \$19,152,477 in 1989 to approximately \$21 million in 1990. In addition to this increase, the Administration's projections of state aid are extremely unrealistic." Kennedy predicted, "The failure to accurately predict state aid will only shift increased costs to the property taxpayer. When the state provides its municipal aid to Rahway, it will fall far short of the Martin projections. The City will then turn to increase property tax revenues."

Kennedy stated: "last year the Rahway Administration received only \$1,110,000 in state aid for municipalities. Now, in the face of a \$390 million state budget deficit, the Martin/Hartnett Administration has applied for \$3,399,457 in state aid under the Municipal Revitalization Program."

"The Martin/Hartnett budget projects receiving 75% of that request or \$2,549,593 in state municipal aid. This is totally unrealistic," noted Kennedy, pointing out that "The State budget has only allocated \$120 million for the Municipal Revitalization Program, the identical amount to last year's allocation."

The State Budget has also removed \$20 million in Revenue Sharing Funds, which was included in last year's municipal allocation formula," noted Kennedy. "It is financially unrealistic to expect a phenomenal increase in state aid to Rahway in light of state cutbacks. The Rahway budget would be incredibly optimistic to predict the identical amount of state aid in 1990 as we received in 1989. But it is unbelievable to expect an over 129% increase in state municipal aid."

Kennedy pointed out that "When the state fails to meet these unrealistic aid expectations, the City will then turn to property taxpayers to make up the difference. The City should restrain costs, rather than engage in unbelievable revenue projections." "The Rahway municipal budget should be designed to accurately forecast the costs of services and anticipate realistic revenues. When we unrealistically forecast appropriations,

either from property tax dollars or state aid, we are only temporarily fooling our taxpayers," claimed Kennedy. The Democratic Mayoral candidate concluded: "The State is now faced with the dilemma of meeting excess budget demands, because the prior administration did not accurately forecast revenues. Rahway should accurately reflect its budget demands and resources. We must not allow the City to slip into a similar financial mess."



BUDGET ANALYSIS... The Kennedy team analyzes the Martin administration's 1990 municipal budget. Team members (l-r) are James Jones Jr., Nancy Saliga, Mayoral hopeful Jim Kennedy and Sal Mione. Jones, Saliga and Mione are candidates for council seats.

## Voters to determine fate of \$22.2 million municipal budget \$17.5 million to be raised by taxes 11-pt. increase will impose average \$154 tax boost

By Pat DiMaggio  
On Tuesday, April 24, residents of Rahway will go to the polls in the school election and will have the opportunity to vote on the Board of Education's 1990-91 budget.

The \$22.2 million budget includes an amount to be raised by taxes of \$17,520,800. The school spending plan includes

salaries, attendance and health services, pupil transportation services, plant operation costs, plant maintenance costs, fixed charges such as pension plans, social security payments and unemployment compensation insurance for employees, student body activities, local special projects, special education programs, federal and state

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## School elections polling places

Every citizen of the U.S. 18 years of age or more and a resident of the state six months and of the county in which he claims his vote 30 days next before the election, and who has been permanently registered in the municipal election district at least 30 days prior to the date of the election, shall be entitled to vote at the school election. Application for military or civilian absentee ballots may be made to the County Clerk, Union County Court House, Elizabeth.

The Rahway polling places are as follows:  
Districts 1 & 2 (Ward 1) Grover Cleveland School, East Milton Avenue.  
Districts 3 & 4 (Ward 2) Franklin School, St. Georges Avenue.  
Districts 5 & 6 (Ward 3) Roosevelt School, St. Georges Avenue.  
Districts 7 & 8 (Ward 4) Grover Cleveland School, East Milton Avenue.  
Districts 9 & 10 (Ward 5) Franklin School, St. Georges Avenue.  
Districts 11 & 12 (Ward 6) Madison School, Madison Avenue.

## Victim/witness assistance gets city council nod

By Pat DiMaggio  
At last week's meeting, Rahway's Municipal Council approved a resolution supporting a Victim/Witness Assistance Program in Union County. The resolution designates the week of April 22 to 28 as "Crime Victims' Rights Week" and urges all residents and private and public agencies to support the enforcement of victim rights and services in Union County through the participation in local and state activities.

Criminal violence preys on millions of Americans each year and the victims of crime and their families and friends often suffer grave financial, physical and psychological losses. Since 1979, the Union County Prosecutor's Office has operated a highly successful Victim/Witness Assistance Program which has served as a model throughout the state in providing direct one-to-one services for thousands of county residents who are victims and witnesses of crime.

## YMCA honors Rahway Savings Institution

The highlight of the annual meeting of the YMCA of Rahway was the presentation of a plaque to recognize Rahway Savings Institution for its dedicated and continuous support. Board President Anthony Pascale related that, for many years, the Rahway Savings Institution on Irving Street has been a staunch supporter of the Rahway Y.

The institution has been a leading contributor to the Y and a source of much needed financial aid at a crucial time in its history. Spearheaded by bank president Thomas F. Grahill, Rahway Savings has contributed a substantial amount of money to the Y since 1985. These much needed funds have been critical to the success of the YMCA as it continues to provide quality programs and improve its financial stability.

## Mayor announces city-wide clean-up for Earth Day

Mayor Daniel E. Martin announced that the City will kick off its "Adopt a Spot" anti-litter program on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22.

Youth groups throughout the entire City are being asked to participate in this one-day clean-up program. Participants will be given awards, cash contributions, donations and free tickets to an upcoming Met or Yankee game this Spring, as incentives to continue the clean-up program on a periodic basis.

## Sunday is Earth Day Mayor launches free-container recycling program

The 20th anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated nationwide this Sunday (April 22). Throughout New Jersey, hundreds of schools, communities and organizations are planning activities to celebrate the day. Watch and listen for announcements.

## RECYCLING 'FIRST'... Mayor Daniel L. Martin presents the 'first' recycling container the City is providing free, to John Burke of Rudolph Avenue, to kick off the City's program to provide each resident with a free container.

Expected grant will provide 2nd container to each homeowner

Mayor Daniel L. Martin provided the City decision to provide the containers to residents was recently reinforced by an article in the March issue of "Biocycle," referring to a Minneapolis study that reported increases of 54% to 97% in community participation in test areas after the containers were distributed.

## Emergency Squad launches \$\$ drive

The Rahway Emergency Squad is commencing its Annual Fund Drive for 1990. As most Rahwayans are aware, the squad provides volunteer ambulance service 24 hours a day all year 'to residents and businesses.

## Housing Authority needs wheelchairs, canes, walkers

The Rahway Housing Authority needs donations of wheel chairs, canes and walkers in good condition for their senior citizens. Call 381-9762 or 388-3546.



Mayor Dan Martin



WHERE'S THE PEPPERONI?... The Ja-Ce Company which services all the Rahway Public School cafeterias conducted their spring Food Services Advisory Council meeting at Grover Cleveland School, Al Penn, Regional Service Manager and Mrs. Cindy Price, District Service Manager explained the five components of a school lunch and how menus were prepared to meet this criteria. Suggestions from students, parents and administrators who attended the meeting were discussed and may be implemented in the near future. Gregory Baker, a third grade student from Cleveland School recommended that the Ja-Ce Company add pepperoni to the pizza, while another student, Anne Marie Derlack suggested that the company continue serving the "California Burger." Pictured (l to r): Gregory Baker, 3rd grade, Isis Pichente-5th grade, Anne Marie Derlack-6th grade and Al Penn-Regional Service Manager, Ja-Ce Co.

This weekend at the...  
Union County Arts Center  
The  
N.J. POPS  
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