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RAHWAY, N.J., THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1990

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RESTORATION UPDATE ny Dan Costiean

popcorn-and-soda store.

parts of the building,

removing an air-cooling

plant from the stage, sprue

ince November, 1981.

The work was completed

# And Beyon (6th in a series)

A couple of installments igo we traced the roots of Union County Arts Center restoration to 1962 when a team of volunteers brought the Rahway Theatre's long-idle pipe organ back to life ("Moonlight on the Ganges,"

ing up the dressing rooms and making plumbing & heating repairs. Much of To complete the picture, we need to pick up on the succession of more recent o the present stage of the

By the late 1970s, it had begun to look as if the Rahway Theatre on Rahway's Irving Street was not going to survive even as the udget cinema it had be come. So Robert Balfour, a member of the original organ restoration group who had become that in strument's chief curator. organized a small group to Rahway Landmarks to raise noney to buy the theater. That goal took until 1984 restoration

Conrad Schmitt Studios, prominent theater-restoring firm in New Berlin, Wisconsin,-had\_agreed\_to\_ restore the building's lobby areas on a deferred payment basis. Rahway Landmarks | tion and audio systems, and | (Photos are by Arts Cenwork by wielding sledge | ed and bricked the sidewalk | Szabocsik.)



FROM SHOP TO OFFICE ... This booking and sales office in the theater building (seen from the business end of the ticket-selling counter) was transformed t volunteers from a second-hand store.

the work was to "bring up to code" a building that had in front of the building. In been closed to the public October, the old marquee

came down. The following year saw n time for use of the house completion of asbestos for a Martin Luther King removal, complete restoraribute in January, 1986, tion and expansion of the followed by the Union lobby lavatories, installation of the present marquee, County Education Association's sellout presentation of relocation and renewal o the musical play "Shenan the balcony fire stairs and doah" in March. But there construction of a complete was still much to be done. new roof.

In 1987, one of the two In January, 1990, Con stores flanking the theater's rad Schmitt Studios reapproprate under the name outer lobby was converted peared on the scene in the by volunteers to a finished persons of painter-decotwo-room operational and rators Allen Thielen and start of the following year, | contract had been negotiat- | tative corner of the audibegan in ed with the New York ar torium. The purpose was to restore the lobby's Greek revival elegance. chitectural firm of Meyer, give an idea of how the Yowell & Gifford to pre- whole auditorium would pare a master plan for the look when finished, and I that experimental beginnin In 1988, technical im has since blossomed into the provements were made total auditorium restoration backstage and in the projec- now nearing completion.

volunteers laid the ground | the City of Rahway widen | ter staff photographer Paul

# **Rahway Volunteer E-Squad** laments diminished funding; asks residents' help

Volunteer 1st Aid the financial operating costs

Many reasons have been

drop in funding, most hav-

ing to do with the general gate of the economy an

New Jersey's tax problems,

recently disclosed in variou

reports. These factors,

coupled with the need to

during the day to bridge a

manpower shortage, fore-

ells of serious financial pro-

blems ahead for the squad.

Emergency Squad is se However, some hard overlooked this year's fund 1988-89. riously under the previous decisions must be con- drive is asked to send in



ticket-selling office. And Robert Whitman to prepare CLOCK TURNED BACK .... Ed Melfe had been the to accomplish and, at the before the year was out, a a "test strip" in a represen- Rahway Theatre's chief usher in the 1930s. Here, in 1985, as a Rahway Landmarks volunteer, he helps

> States of a WOODY HERMAN THE VITTON COUNTY ARTS CENTER A PASSANS WOODY NEWAN & HLS ORCH ON STAFE AUG. 16TH 8 30PM TONIGHT 8 30 PM



The annual fund drive that is the primary source of to maintain this effort to the best in EMS alive in our OLD MARQUEE ... It had three layers of successive that is the primary source of the interview of the second reconstruction reflecting changing styles over the

by Pat DiMaggio Jean D. Kuc, who began as a secretary in City Clerk back to school after all these years," said Jean. "But I enjoythe work. I like dealing Francis Senkowsky's office | with the public and find the two years ago, has just been | laws of the City very interest officially certified as a Registered Municipal Clerk. At a meeting held last week, Rahway's Municipal Conncil approved a resolution commending Ms. Kuc for her "professional competen-

ry in the execution of her duties." Kuc, who was raised in Rahway, attended Roosevelt

School, the former Junior High School, and is a graduate of Rahway Senior High School. She began her position as secretary under City Clerk Francis "Bud"

Senkowsky two years and has completed all the more mandated by course work mandated by "She's very outgoing, de the state to qualify as a Registered Municipal Clerk.

Clerks appointed by the this office." council have three years in which to complete their working under the direction nly one year. She attended Lutgers University in New srunswick for courses vering the duties of the nunicipal clerk, records

management, and municipal finance administration and elections "It was a challenge, going

Rahway Republican Mayoral candidate James J. Fulcomer announced recently that he will wage a | the facts that the Democrat "determined campaign" to revitalize the downtown his business out of downbusiness district of Rahway as part of his strategy to develop tax relief for Rah-

vav residents. "Besides cutting unnecessary items out of the city been successful, all three udget, we must attract good rateables to the commercial zones of Rahway in order to shift the tax burden away from Rahway homeowners and renters. Essential to this trategy is the determined evitalization of downtown Rahway," said Mayoral can-

lidate Fulcomer. He said that the failure of he Democrat opposition to

ð,

for the ensuing year lies in serious jeopardy because o this shortfall.

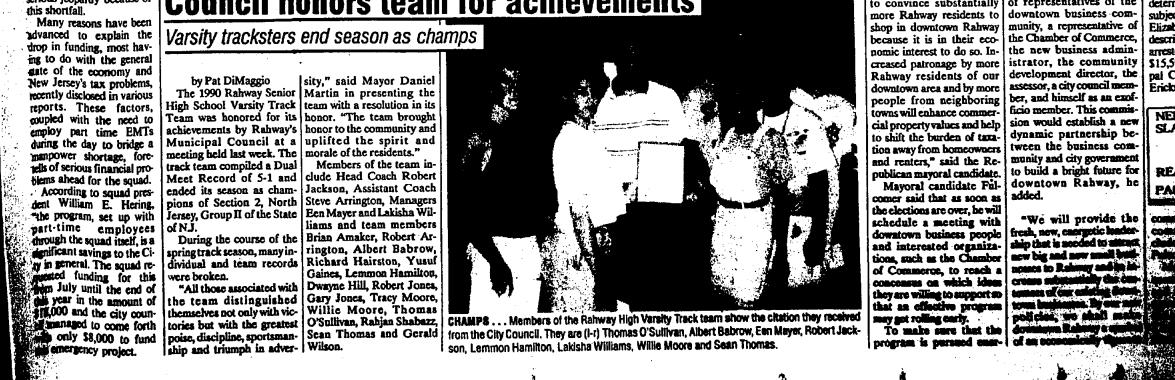
year. The squads budget of \$115,000 required to meet be financial and the squade budget of start applications or possible.

# **Council honors team for achievements**

advanced to explain the Varsity tracksters end season as champs

High School Varsity Track team with a resolution in its Team was honored for its honor. "The team brought employ part time EMTs | achievements by Rahway's | honor to the community and Municipal Council at a uplifted the spirit and meeting held last week. The morale of the residents." track team compiled a Dual Members of the team in-Meet Record of 5-1 and clude Head Coach Robert ended its season as cham- Jackson, Assistant Coach According to squad pres-dent William E. Hering, pions of Section 2, North the program, set up with Jersey, Group II of the State the program, set up with Jersey, Group II of the State

by Pat DiMaggio sity," said Mayor Daniel The 1990 Rahway Senior Martin in presenting the



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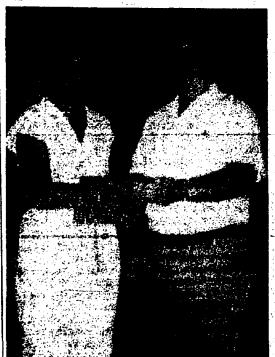
# Kuc commended on municipal service competency

The position of City Clerk is appointed by the Munici-pal Council and responbilities include serving a secretary to the count preparing the agenda for colongs, recording minutes of the meetings and keeping records of all contracts. "Bud" Senkowsky, who is contemplating retirement in February, says Kuc has all the requirements for a successful career in Municipal 20vernment.

"She has adapted to th responsibilities of the office," said Senkowsky. pendable and expresses he own views, which is good for

grandmother for the first Municipal Clerk.

"I enjoy working for the City of Rahway," she noted. "It's interesting and fun Rahway has been a very fair



schooling and become cer-tified; Kuc completed the the mother of four children resolution from Mayor Daniel L. Martin, commending her equisite requirements in and will soon become a achievements in attaining the designation of Registered

# Correction

employer in giving people a week, it was stated that the of Martin SL and between chance to go to school to bet- City Council approved for the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 1st reading an ordinance Mondays to Fridays on Pier-that "will prohibit parking at pont St. from West Milton Ave. to Elm Ave."

In a front page story last | all times on the easterly side

The part of the passage referring to Martin St. is correct as it stands. The part referring to Pierpont St. should have read. "...and will permit 4-hour parking between the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays to Friday (excluding holidays)...." (etc., as it stands).

# Police arrest

# burglary suspect

On August 14 at 10:56 a.m. the Rahway Police were called to investigate the attempted break and entry of a private home in the 800 block of Pierpont St. The police were advised that the person who had attermited to break in had fled on foot. Police units arrived on the scene and a description was given out over the าสตัด.

Detective Paul Meo who was on patrol at the time observed a person fitting the description given. Upon determined that this same



A RITAL. water and the

Fulcomer to wage 'A Determined Campaign' to revitalize downtown Rahway

> revitalize the downtown area I between City Hall and the Arts Center is symbolized by nominee for mayor moved town Rahway and both the Democrat mayor and business administrator sold their tavern in downtown Rahway. If their policies had would still be there, he added, but "they failed."

Mayoral candidate Fulcomer said that over the years many studies have been made. But, he noted, the ruling Democrats, despite election year public relations, have failed to carry out all the fine ideas from the business community that merit determined and elentless implementation.

"The first thing that must towns will enhance commer-

comer said that as soon as added. the elections are over, he will



## James J. Fulcomer Mayoral Candidate

getically, Mayoral candidate Fulcomer said that he would establish a special Downbe done is for the new mayor town Commission consisting further investigation it was to convince substantially of representatives of the more Rahway residents to downtown business com- subject, Jason Costine of shop in downtown Rahway munity, a representative of Elizabeth, was the person because it is in their eco-nomic interest to do so. In-the new business admin-arrested and held in lieu of creased patronage by more istrator, the community \$15,500 bail set by Munici-Rahway residents of our development director, the pal Court Judge David P. downtown area and by more assessor, a city council mem- Ericksen. people from neighboring | ber, and himself as an exofficio member. This commiscial property values and help | sion would establish a new || to shift the burden of tara- dynamic partnership be- SLANT ON LINE tion away from homeowners | tween the business comand renters," said the Re- munity and city government publican mayoral candidate. to build a bright future for Mayoral candidate Ful-downtown Rahway, he