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Joseph Hartnett

Hartnett quits UCUA post *Links decision to green light on burner*

Union County Utilities Authority Commissioner, Treasurer, and former Chairman, Joseph Hartnett announced his resignation from that body. He was the sole remaining charter commissioner of the Authority, which was founded in 1986.

Hartnett said his resignation was prompted by an announcement last week by the State of N.J. giving the go-ahead to the Authority's major undertaking, the construction of a waste-to-energy facility in Rahway, Hartnett's hometown. "I

feel my mission is accomplished," he said. "There's really nothing left for me to do." While on the Authority, Hartnett developed a widespread reputation as a strong proponent of good government and ethical

standards. His term commenced in late 1986 with his raising ethics charges against former Union County Freeholder G. Richard Malgrán for resigning that post to become the 1st general counsel to the Authority after the

Authority was created by the Freeholders. The controversy ended when Hartnett was elected Chairman of the Authority and immediately had Malgrán dismissed. Hartnett's tenure on the Authority comes to an end one month after the N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection upheld his position that a solid waste facility in Hillside was operating illegally.

During Hartnett's 4½ years as commissioner, the Authority grew from a \$1 million-per-year agency doing little more than solid waste planning, to a \$35 million operation providing major solid waste and recycling services and

facilities in Union County. "Our key accomplishment of the past few years," Hartnett stated, "has been implementing a truly effective system of solid waste services for most of the residents of Union County. The success of our centralized system approach to solving Union County's solid waste crisis will be to enable the financing of any needed solid waste facilities, such as recycling centers and resource recovery, without having to touch the full faith and credit of the taxpayers."

"In other words," Hartnett continued, "we are a proven success on Wall Street and because of it can raise financing without taxpayer support. That is a major achievement all of us connected with the Authority are proud of." Included in the Authority's system is a contracted transfer station in Linden for solid waste disposal, a recycling program operated by Authority employees for eleven municipalities in the County, and a recycling center in Plainfield.

Hartnett is Senior Vice-President of the Alcan Management Group, Inc., in Westfield, a marketing and management consulting firm he joined last November after 16 years as Rahway's City Administrator.

Rahway's finest award their own for outstanding public service *21 honored at PBA-sponsored Awards Nite*

by Pat DiMaggio
Rahway's Police Dept. honored its own at its Annual Dinner Dance and Awards Night held on January 26 at the Westwood in Garwood. The awards night was sponsored by Honorary PBA Local 51.

One police officer received a Certificate of Merit and 20 officers were recognized with Certificates of Commendation. Award programs are a means by which the Police Dept. may confer upon members recognition for the performance of outstanding service.

These awards, by commending various acts and accomplishments, may promote "Esprit de Corps" and contribute to improved levels of achievement within the department.

• Police Officer Eugene DeCarlo.

On July 23, 1990, Officer DeCarlo took a routine call of a suspicious vehicle and through his investigation apprehended a burglar in the act of burglarizing a home. Officer DeCarlo showed his professionalism by observing the suspicious vehicle and taking the initiative to start checking out the area house by house. He came upon an open storm door and, when attempting to investigate this situation, was confronted by a subject in the act of committing a burglary to the home. Unknown to the officer at the scene, the burglar was armed with a loaded automatic.

Upon observing DeCarlo, the burglar started to run away. Officer DeCarlo disregarded his own safety and chased the suspect on foot through backyards and a wooded area until he was apprehended.

It should be noted that at the time of this incident, it was raining heavily, making the apprehension even more difficult.

Through DeCarlo's efforts, a burglar was arrested, stolen property was recovered and a stolen firearm was recovered. Because of this incident, other burglaries were also solved.

For his actions, Police Officer DeCarlo was awarded the Certificate of Merit.

• Police Officers David Jackson, Kevin Sherwood, Alan Melia, Thomas Hubert and Dan McGrath.

On April 13, 1990, Officer Melia was dispatched to the 100 block of West Main St. to investigate an auto accident.

Officers Jackson and Sherwood arrived first and observed that an auto had crashed into a porch and had severed a gas main. With the automobile's engine still running and the possibility of a serious fire or explosion, the officers removed the driver from the vehicle.

At the same time, other officers immediately started awakening area residents and evacuated them from the scene while the Fire Dept. and gas company were enroute to the scene. In a few short minutes, these officers evacuated about 30 people from the area and continued evacuating while the danger from the ruptured main continued.

For these heroic actions, these men received Certificates of Commendation.

• Detective John Kaczor.

Det. Kaczor was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for his actions in October, 1989. These actions resulted in the arrest of a suspect wanted for a bank robbery which occurred in Rahway. As a result of Kaczor's personal contacts and a network of informants, he was able to identify and charge a suspect wanted for bank robbery.

At the time of Kaczor's actions, there were no suspects in this case and other investigating agencies were stymied. The detective put forth much effort and good police work in apprehending this suspect.

• Police Officers James O'Leary, Richard Golia, Thomas Hubert.

On September 5, 1989, these officers arrested a suspect on a warrant charging him with attempted murder, aggravated assault and possession of a weapon. These officers attempted to apprehend this individual over a period of time to no avail. Knowing the suspect frequented a certain area, the officers continued their efforts on a daily basis until, through diligent police work, the individual was apprehended without a struggle and with no injury to anyone. For these actions, the officers were awarded a Certificate of Commendation.

• Police Officers Joseph Mikajlo and Dominick Sforza.

On December 6, 1990, at midnight, these officers received information which led to the recovery of two stolen motor vehicles and the arrest of an individual for

the theft of both vehicles and the recovery of other valuable stolen property.

Both officers exhibited good judgment in making the apprehension when the individual attempted to flee the scene in one of the stolen vehicles resulting in no injuries to the suspect or the police officers involved.

Officers Mikajlo and Sforza, for their actions, received Certificates of Commendation.

• Sergeant Kevin White, Police Officers Joseph Holly, Robert Conroy, Dominick Sforza and Anthony Aples.

On December 13, 1990, these officers, by their initiative, were directly responsible for the arrest of a subject who had stolen \$10,000 in cash and \$5,000 in property. The apprehension was a result of tracking footprints, with the use of a K-9 dog and good perseverance.

Through their combined efforts, a suspect was arrested approximately one mile from the scene of the crime hiding in an apartment. The suspect was arrested and the victim's property and cash were recovered.

For their actions, Sgt. White and Officers Holly, Conroy, Sforza and Aples were awarded with a Certificate of Commendation for a job well done.

• Police Officer Dominick Sforza.

On January 13, 1990, Officer Sforza apprehended

two individuals who had just committed a burglary.

Officer Sforza's keen observations and quick actions led to the apprehension of these two suspects and resulted in the recovery of all the victim's property and the conviction of both individuals.

For his actions, Officer Sforza received the Certificate of Commendation.

• Detective Marc Schwartzbach.

On November 16, 1989, Det. Schwartzbach, through his own initiative, developed information which led to the arrest of a suspect for transporting narcotics across state lines. Because of the manner and expert way Det. Schwartzbach developed the case, the suspect was arrested only a few hours later.

For his actions, Det. Schwartzbach received a Certificate of Commendation.

(Special thanks to Lt. Arthur O'Leary)

Rahway's Kupka on Dean's List

The duCret School of the Arts in Plainfield has announced that Michael Kupka, son of Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kupka of Rahway, is on the Dean's List for the fall semester. He is a 1989 graduate of Rahway High School.

Mayor announces expanded recycling

Mayor James J. Kennedy has announced that, effective February 4, the City began a pilot program for the curbside pick-up of magazines and books.

Anyone interested in participating should either tie or box old magazines and/or books and put them out at curbside on the day after their first regular garbage collection of the week (example: if your garbage is picked up Monday and Thursday, put out magazines/books on Tuesday only).

Magazines and books will be picked up only Tuesdays/Wednesdays or Thursdays. Residents are asked to call the Health Dept. at 381-8000 and give their address prior to the

day these items are to be placed out for collection. "According to State figures, 13% of our garbage is made up of this type of 'paper' and yet there is no significant recycling being done," said Kennedy. (This would calculate to roughly 1,600 tons for Rahway.)

There is no cost to disposing of books and magazines and, therefore, the City would benefit by avoiding the \$138 per ton tipping charge, currently being paid for disposal.

The Mayor also noted that the program would be staffed with existing personnel and administered through the Dept. of Health, Welfare and Building.

4 youths rob man of 8-ball jacket

On Jan. 30 at approximately 8 p.m., a Rahway resident was approached by four teenagers, one of whom grabbed him and put what was described by the victim as a handgun in his face, and stated "give me your coat and your money." Two of the four suspects stood behind the victim at this time, one of them holding a knife.

Taken from the victim

was a green-and-white leather coat with a picture of an 8-ball on the back. The incident occurred in the vicinity of E. Milton Ave. and Essex St. The perpetrators fled on foot and were not apprehended.

Police are investigating. Anyone with information may call 388-1553, the police "TIPS" line. All information is confidential.



Hurry Home!

By Pat DiMaggio
Residents have heeded the call by Rahway's mayor and council to show their support of the men and women deployed in Desert Storm. Neighborhoods have united in their prayers by displaying the flag and yellow ribbons in the hope that reservists will come home safely. (Pictures by P. DiMaggio)

