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To burn ... or not to burn? Concerned Citizens favor exploring alternatives

Approximately 100 people turned out for Monday night's forum between the Concerned Citizens of Union County and Rahway's Municipal Council over alternatives to incineration.

Bob Carson, vice chairman of the Concerned Citizens of Union County, began the evening with a slide presentation which documented the emission of dioxins and poison gases from incinerator smoke stacks.

One of the biggest problems is making sure that the facility is run properly, said Carson. "It requires testing on a daily basis and we've found out from other facilities that this just is not being done. Not to mention the truck traffic that will bring approximately 1400 tons of garbage through our area every day. This means about 350 to 400 trucks per day. Who is going to patrol these trucks to make sure they take routes designated specifically for them?"

A 20-year contract with Ogen Martin is a 20-year contract with a hungry garbage-eating monster who has to eat every day," he continued. "Do we really want this in our backyard? And rumor has it that Ogen Martin stands to earn \$12 million to \$25 million per year. We can't actually find out the true figure until the contract is signed. This is not a done deal. It is up to us to make a big stink with our assemblies and even with the governor if necessary. Call the governor and get the moratorium passed!"

Barbara Canfield explained the alternative to incineration. "Whatever you can burn, you can recycle," she said. Alternatives include source reduction, recycling and composting. "No incineration is involved. Because of the way the composting system is constructed, all the air is recirculated and does not cause any dioxin, PCB's or toxic ash. It is environmentally preferable. Currently, seven counties in New Jersey are looking at this alternative. It's much cheaper and much healthier."

Mayor Jim Kennedy explained that the City's hands may be tied as to alternatives to incineration. "What people have to understand is that the contract was signed several years ago," he explained. "The current administration does not have the option on that position. Just like any real estate deal, there are clauses that prevent a change of administration to jeopardize the contract. After legal counsel's advice on litigation matters, it is not advisable to present the community and taxpayer to expensive litigation."

Even though the forum was well-attended, with detailed facts and statistics, this may be the calm before the storm. Round Two comes when Ogen Martin addresses members of the Concerned Citizens of Union County to answer those "hard questions." The date of this meeting will be announced.

Parents of students with handicaps from Union County are invited to apply for membership on the state Parent Advisory Council for the Handicapped.

Parents are needed to serve for three-year terms on the Council, which meets every other month and advises the Department of Education on critical issues affecting special education.

Nominees must be parents or guardians of children with handicaps who have been or are involved in special education. All applications must be submitted to the Council by Friday, March 22.

Current Council members will review applications and interview candidates. Dr. Jeffrey Osowski, Director of the Division of Special Education, will make final selections based on recommendations from Council members.

Applications may be obtained from the Department of Education, Division of Special Education, Attention: State Parent Advisory Council for the Handicapped, 225 West State St., CN 500, Trenton, NJ 08625.

City man charged in purse snatch try

Police have arrested a 25-year-old city man for allegedly snatching a woman's purse inside Pathmark's store at 1600 St. George Ave.

The man, Darrell Powell, was charged with strong-arm robbery, assault and possession of a controlled dangerous substance. Powell was held in lieu of \$25,000 bail.

Rahway Board sets meeting

A Special Meeting of the Rahway Board of Education will be held on Thursday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the Louis R. Rizzo Board Meeting Room at the Intermediate School.

The purpose of this meeting is a private meeting and possible public action on student discipline matters.

Engineers to review city's sewage flow

by Pat DiMaggio

The City will contract with an engineering firm for a study of their flow rights

and related problems with the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority (RVSA).

At a meeting held last week, Rahway's Municipal Council approved a resolution authorizing an agreement with Orma Inc., a professional engineering firm, for the study of the City's flow rights. The RVSA has alleged that Rahway exceeds its flow rights, and the authority has recommended a connection permit curtailment.

Because of a dramatic increase in the sewerage bill, the City authorized the agreement to better verify the flow as well as its sewerage strength. The agreement will not exceed \$10,000 for 1991, and the contract will provide for basic services at the prevailing hourly rate of the firm as well as the utilization of the City engineer's staff as part of the investigation team as an economical measure.

A resolution creating a Rahway Against Alcohol and Drugs (RAAD) Committee was also approved by the council. In compliance with the governor's "Blueprint for a Drug Free New Jersey," RAAD pledges to work toward the accomplishments of the following goals: Organize and coordinate the efforts of school, police, business groups and other community organizations to fight drug and alcohol abuse; adopt clear procedures for the intervention, treatment and discipline of students abusing alcohol and drugs; provide a comprehensive drug and alcohol abuse education and outreach program for parents, and provide a comprehensive substance community awareness program.

The council also approved the appointments of an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee reporting to the mayor. The committee will be composed of, but not limited to, a substance abuse coordinator, a representative of the Police Department, a Board of Education member, a member of a local community organization, a representative from a local religious group and interested private citizens.

The council also approved the appointments of Councilman Chester Holmes as a member and Councilman Alex Shipley as an alternate to the Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee, Councilman Dennis Henaway as the Geriatric Center and Councilwoman Nancy Salvo to the Planning Board.

The council also approved the appointments of Barry Henderson as director of the Police Department and James Heller as director of the Fire Department.

Four honored for civic contributions

by Pat DiMaggio

Rahway's City Council honored four residents for their community-minded endeavors at their regular meeting held last week.

Lillian Hannibal and Police Officers Louis Garay, Paul Shuster and Ronald McKeown were commended by the council with resolutions presented by Mayor Jim Kennedy.

Lillian Hannibal has served as past president of Rahway High School's Parent Association and has served as a member of the Executive Board of Columbian, Roosevelt and Rahway High School's Parent Teacher Associations.

Ms. Hannibal is a former member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee and the Tercentenary Committee, a historian for the Rahway Branch of the NAACP and was a representative of the Rahway Board of Education.

An outstanding and well-respected speaker, poetess and historian, Ms. Hannibal also served for several terms as a trustee of the Rahway Free Public Library and has been active in the New Jersey Library Trustee Association and in the Friends of the Rahway Library organization. Listed in the Oryx Press, she has been very active in several religious, civic and community organizations, and has received several awards for her dedicated community service.

Louis Garay was commended for his 26 years of dedication and service to the City of Rahway. Officer Garay was appointed to the Rahway Police Department on October 7, 1964, and started his career as a foot patrolman. He continued in Traffic Enforcement and attained the rank of Corporal. Garay holds a Police Department Certificate for Excellent Police Duty and is a recipient of the 200-Club Valor Award and the Union County Police Chief's Valor Award.

Officer Paul Shuster began his career with the Police Department on October 7, 1964, as a foot patrolman. He rose through the ranks, performing various police functions and attained the rank of captain.

A graduate of Rutgers University with an Associate Arts Degree and a Bachelor of Science Degree, Officer Shuster also attended Northwestern University and the California Institute of Specialized Management. He is an Air Force Veteran.

Also appointed on October 7, 1964, Officer Ronald McKeown started as a foot patrolman and rose to command the Traffic Bureau while attaining the rank of Lieutenant. A graduate of the Northeastern Traffic Institute, McKeown also served in the Army in the Division of Military Police. He holds four Police Department commendations and is a recipient of the 200 Club Valor Award.

Free lupus forum set in Montclair

The Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter, is holding a free public education forum on systemic lupus erythematosus, a chronic, arthritis-related disease, on Wednesday, March 27, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Montclair Community Hospital, Montclair.

Rheumatologist, Lesley Ann Fein, M.D., will give an overview of lupus and discuss genetic factors involved. Maria Howard, MSW, will talk about the emotional and social aspects of dealing with lupus. An audience question and answer period will follow the speakers' presentations, and free literature will be distributed.

Systemic lupus erythematosus is a disease in which the immune system malfunctions, and it can affect many parts of the body including the heart, muscles, kidneys and joints. Although a chronic disease, lupus can be controlled through proper treatment.

To register for this free public forum, call the Arthritis Foundation at 283-4300.



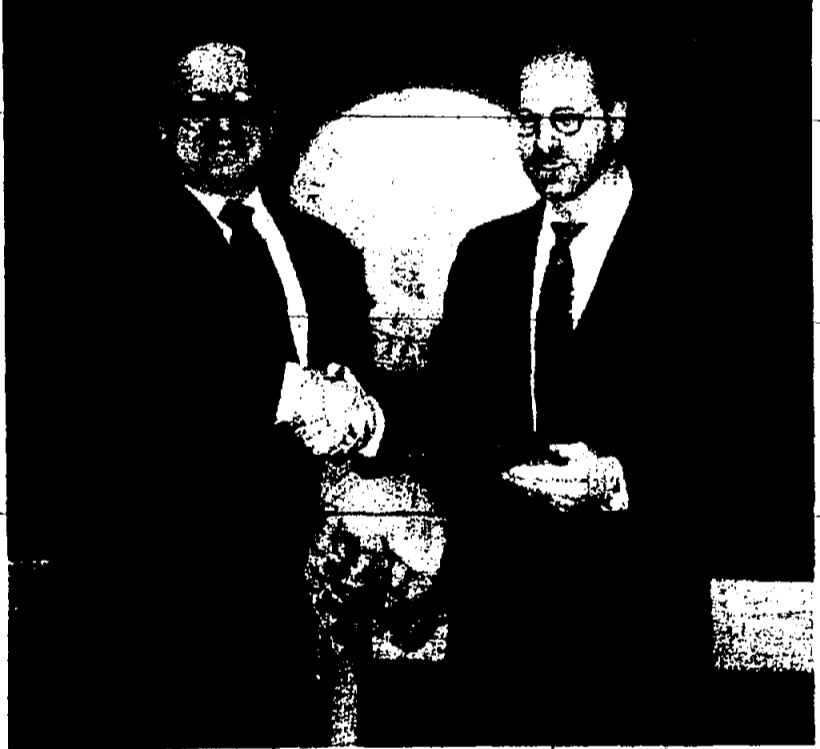
Dr. Eugene J. Lind

Lind appointed Urology Chairman

A member of the Rahway Hospital staff, Eugene J. Lind, M.D., has been appointed Chairman of the Urology Department.

Lind, who has a practice in Edison, graduated from New York University, and is a board certified urologist.

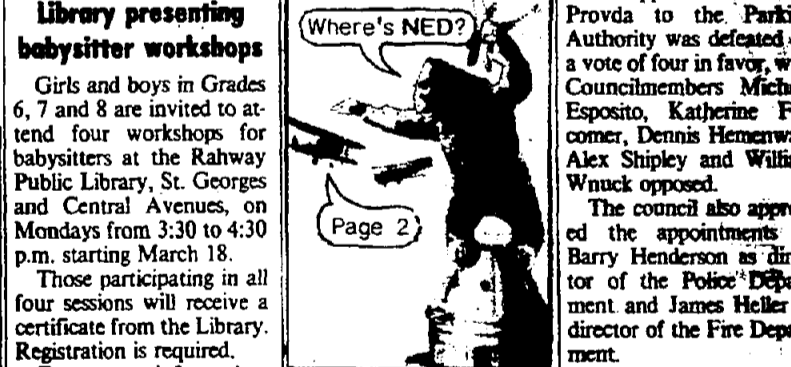
He is a member of the faculty of New Jersey School of Medicine and Dentistry and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.



AWARDS PRESENTED BY MAYOR KENNEDY... Mayor Jim Kennedy presents civic awards to Ronald McKeown (top) and Louis Garay (bottom). Lillian Hannibal and Paul Shuster were unable to receive their awards.



AWARDS PRESENTED BY MAYOR KENNEDY... Mayor Jim Kennedy presents civic awards to Louis Garay (top) and Paul Shuster (bottom). Ronald McKeown and Lillian Hannibal were unable to receive their awards.



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