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RAHWAY News Record

New Jersey's Oldest Weekly Newspaper—Established 1822

VOL. 169 NO. 18

RAHWAY, N.J., THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1991

USPS 454-160

25 CENTS

Henderson, Okaly, Garay win Laskowski misses board seat by 11 votes



Lillie Henderson

Steven Okaly

Antonio Garay

by Pat DiMaggio

Residents chose three candidates to represent their interests on Rahway's Board of Education when they registered their votes Tuesday night in the school election.

The top three vote-getters were Lillie Henderson, Steven Okaly and Antonio Garay. They will begin their three year terms when they take their seats at the board's reorganization meeting to be held later this month.

Lillie Henderson will begin her fourth term on the board with a total of 835 votes. Ms. Henderson is a community activist employed by the Woodbridge Developmental Center and is a past president and vice president of the board.

Steven Okaly garnered 739 votes to gain a seat on the board. He is employed as a salesman for Kohl and Madden Printing Ink Company and has served as an assistant coach for soccer and CYRC baseball.

Antonio Garay won his second term on the board with 621 votes. Garay is employed by Laminare Corporation, and has directed the Rahway Recreation Department kids wrestling team for the past 12 years.

Candidates who were unable to draw enough votes to secure a seat on the board were Charles Laskowski Jr., with a total of 610 votes, and Samson Steinman who garnered 588 votes.

Rahway pair arrested in teen sexual abuse

Two Rahway men were arrested Monday morning on a federal charge of transporting minors across state lines for sexual purposes, and one was arrested on a state charge of sexual assault, Rahway police reported.

The men, Dallas Hubbard, 30, and Rodney Polard, 36, are being held in federal detention pending bail, and bail on the state charge was set at \$25,000 for Hubbard, police said.

According to police, the 6:06 a.m. arrests grew out of an investigation which began with a Jan. 4 report received from the New York Police Department that a 13-year-old male had allegedly been sexually assaulted in Rahway.

The victim, who had been reported missing the previous day to New York police, was located at Penn Station New York. Police said the victim at that time related that he had been abducted from New York and brought to Rahway by an individual named "Dallas."

After an interview by Rahway Det. William White, it was determined by police that a sexual assault which was alleged by the victim could have occurred at 256 E. Grand Ave.

At this point, police said they began to investigate what, if anything, did occur.

As the investigation continued, police said they received another report on April 2 from the Elizabeth Police Department, indicating that an investigation was underway by that department into a report of a 14-year-old male alleged to have been sexually assaulted in Rahway.

According to police, White interviewed the second juvenile, who related that his alleged assailant was called "Dallas" and "Rodney."

Police said both alleged victims reported that they had felt like they had been drugged, both were from New York City, both had frequented the Penn Station Arcade, and both had made contact with a person named "Dallas."

Due to the interstate nature of the investigation, police said they contacted the Newark FBI office for assistance, and Agent Brad Orsini was assigned to the case.

Orsini and White obtained a federal search warrant for the suspects' apartment and arrest warrants for both men. The search warrant was executed by FBI agents and Rahway police Monday morning.

Budget goes down by 52 votes

by Pat DiMaggio

Residents again defeated the Board of Education's budget on a vote of 662 opposed and 610 in favor. The defeated budget fell by 52 votes with a voter percentage of 11.8 turning out for the schools election. The \$26.9 million spending plan will now go before the City council for possible reductions.

The defeated budget included a local tax levy of \$17,643,622 and was \$51 under the state allowed increase cap. The spending plan included a current expense portion of \$26,151,759, capital outlay of \$26,699 and debt service of \$749,529.

In the past 10 years, only two budgets have met with

voters approval, according to Superintendent of Schools Frank Brunetti. Last year, Rahway's Municipal Council cut \$450,000 from the schools. "This budget was a maintenance budget," said Brunetti. "Depending on an agreement with the council and final figures, it will not continue maintenance. If a serious amount

is reduced, it certainly would impact our educational programs."

Before finally adopting the 1991-92 school year budget, the Board of Education transferred funds to reinstate two elementary schools positions and two elementary aides.

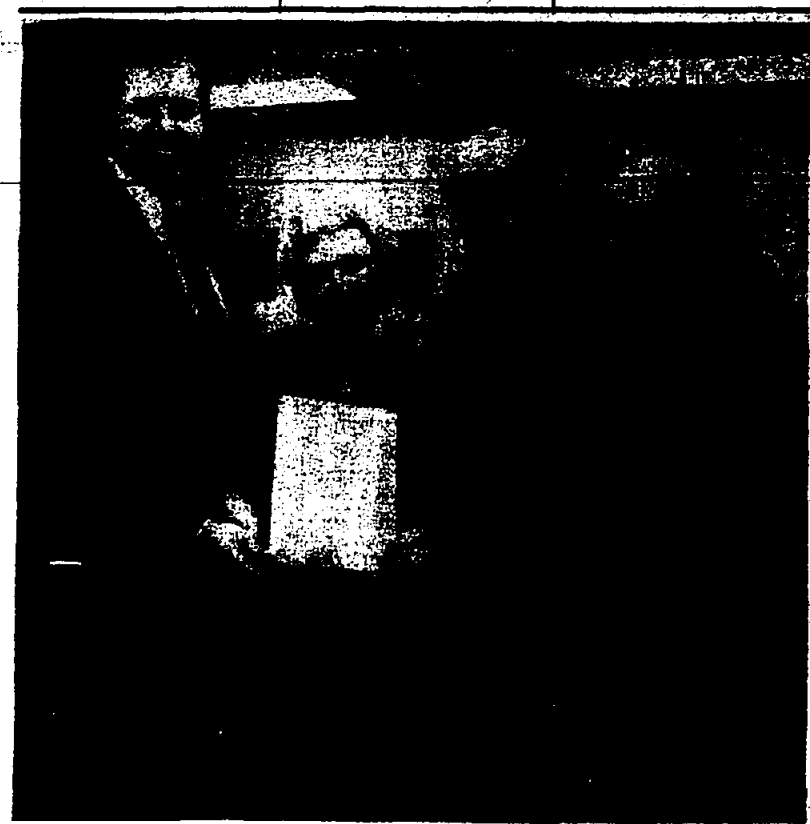
Crossing guards succeed in raising money

One of them is 80 years old, and many have 30 or more years of service.

What are they? School crossing guards, and about 20 of them were honored recently at a ceremony at the Union County Administration Building, Elizabeth.

"The commitment and dedication that each crossing guard brings to this job must not go unappreciated," said President Walter E. Bright. "We often just take them for granted because we see them on our streets every morning, noon and night. But that is just the reason they deserve our praise: they are out there, looking out for our children."

"There are plenty of mornings when most of us do not even want to drive to work in the rain, sleet, snow and cold, but the school crossing guards walk or drive to their posts; they brave the elements and rush-hour traffic to protect our youngsters," Freeholder Chairman James Connelly said.



RAHWAY CROSSING GUARD HONORED... Helen Scollar, with 31 years of service as Rahway school crossing guard, receives framed Resolution from Union County Freeholder Walter E. Bright, left, and Freeholder Chairman James Connelly, right, as Rahway Police Sgt. Ed Hannan looks on.

Thief turns self in after TV profile

Steven Jones, a suspect profiled last month on "Suburban CrimeWatch," has turned himself in to the Rahway Police Department, stating that he was overwhelmed with guilt after stealing a diamond engagement ring worth \$2,200 from Kennedy Jewellers in Rahway.

A Somerset resident, Jones was also wanted in connection with similar robberies in Edison, Watchung and East Brunswick.

Marchers oppose city incinerator

About 250 protesters marched to City Hall to demonstrate their opposition to the proposed Union County incinerator which would be located in Rahway.

The march began at Rahway High School about 1 p.m. and ended up about two miles later with a rally featuring speakers from Concerned Citizens of Union County and from groups opposing similar facilities already operating

in Essex and Warren counties. The \$156 million Union County plant proposed to be built at Lawrence Street and Route 1 & 9 would take about two years to construct.

Leaders of the Concerned Citizens said they oppose all incineration and instead advocate recycling and other alternatives which they say would be safer and less expensive.

A final decision on the incinerator is expected to be made within the next two months by the state Department of Environmental Protection and Board of Public Utilities, which jointly regulate resource recovery facilities.

All other required permits have been obtained by Ogden Martin Systems Inc., the firm that would build and operate the plant for the Union County Utilities Authority.

The UCUA must find a place to dispose of the ash and submit plans to recycle 60 percent of its garbage and to acquire garbage from other areas to supply to the incinerator regionally before the final permit can be issued.

Police said the demonstration was orderly and peaceful.

Foundation gala attracts 250

Princeton's Marriott-Forrestal Village was the setting for the Rahway Hospital Foundation's Annual Spring Benefit, a gala for hospital growth and development.

Two hundred-fifty physicians, their spouses, hospital managers and their spouses, guests and friends revelled to the theme of "Moonlight Magic."

Upon entering the fashionable location, guests were greeted by mimes who were appropriately attired for the black-tie event. A sumptuous reception hour was followed by a gourmet

dinner featuring shiitake mushroom stuffed ravioli, raspberry-splashed spring greens, salmon, petit filet mignon and strawberries Romanoff.

In keeping with the theme, the decor included tables set in black and white with four-foot centerpieces of calla lilies. A single spotlight above each table heightened the drama as a second wave of mime performers entertained in medieval royal court costumes. An eight-piece orchestra provided dancers with a variety of rhythms into the night.



ENJOYING HOSPITAL FOUNDATION'S SPRING BENEFIT... John and Elaine Bloomfield of Merck & Co. share moment with Lori Kennedy and Mayor James Kennedy at Rahway Hospital Foundation benefit gala.

Welcome home from the Gulf

Board of Education and city officials joined students from Grover Cleveland School in honoring their "pen pals," Lt. James Jernigan and Navy Seaman Sean Bell.

Mrs. Kureczka's Third Grade class and Mrs. Quinn's Fourth Grade class

began writing to the Rahway residents in September, while the men were deployed in the Persian Gulf for Operation Desert Shield and later, Operation Desert Storm.

Last week, the children gathered to honor the servicemen with a lunch cater-

ed free-of-charge by Michael Kureczka. "We are proud of what you have done for us," said Principal Art Lundgren. "You brought us together as a country and as a community. You also brought us together as a school."

