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Foot Patrols Beef Up Security

Housing Unit Residents Rest Easier



FOOT PATROLS ANNOUNCED ... Mayor Jim Kennedy, second from right, announces start of two-man foot patrols at Rahway's federal housing units. With Kennedy are, from left, Public Safety Director Barry Henderson, Federal Housing Executive Director Jack McGrath and Housing Authority Board President Donald Stewart.

by Pat DiMaggio
Residents of Rahway's federal housing units are able to rest a little easier since increased police protection began on Feb. 17. Concerned residents have fought a long battle against crime in their neighborhood, and an increased police presence in the area will allow families a measure of

safety, according to officials. Plans for additional two-man foot patrols were recently finalized by Mayor Jim Kennedy, Public Safety Director Barry Henderson, Rahway Federal Housing Executive Director Jack McGrath and Housing Authority Board President Donald Stewart. The increased police

presence is being funded by a federal grant in the amount of \$96,000. This money will pay the salaries of two police officers who will patrol on foot seven days a week. Henderson stated that the increased patrols, which began Monday, will vary from day to day depending on the activity and need. The officers will patrol six hours

a day in addition to the normal patrol that the Rahway Police have been providing. In addition to being a deterrent to narcotic activity, the officers will also interact with residents and will assist with any social needs. They also will advise the residents on appropriate government agencies available to assist them.

The officers will work with juveniles living in the housing units in an effort to establish a rapport, and hope to present themselves as role models. "It is important for the police to be sensitive to the needs of the public and hopefully, this project will bring us even closer together in our efforts to fight drugs," said Henderson.

Kennedy has expressed support for the plan, and said he hoped the combined efforts of the police department and residents would result in fewer drug pushers and other criminal elements out of the area and the City.

Kazar Leaving UCUA Position

Citing personal reasons and a desire to embark on new career opportunities, as well as a belief that he has fulfilled the objectives he set out to accomplish, Joseph E. Kazar has announced that he will not seek renewal of his current contract as Executive Director of the Union County Utilities Authority (UCUA).

Kazar agreed to remain in the position until June 1 to allow a successor to be chosen, and he will be available to the Authority on a contractual basis during the transition period.

Kazar, who was responsible for the administration of the Authority since it began operations in 1987, and managed the county's solid waste programs as a program planner since 1977, had been one of the principal participants in the development of Union County's four-part integrated solid waste management program, including the recently initiated construction of a \$155 million, 1,440-ton-per-day resource recovery plant in Rahway.

In addition to Kazar's day-to-day oversight of the Authority and its \$30 million operating budget, during his tenure the Authority implemented an extensive curbside recycling program serving 75,000 of the county's households, recognized as one of the most successful and cost-effective recycling programs in the country.

Kazar also was extensively involved with the planning and permitting process for the resource recovery facility, which received final state approval in December 1991, as well as participating in the complex financial transactions associated with the project's \$282 million bond issue.

UCUA Chairman Angelo J. Bonanno said that Kazar's resignation was accepted with regret by the full board of the Authority.

"As Executive Director of the UCUA, Joseph Kazar has done an outstanding job," Bonanno said. "His assistance with guiding the UCUA through various Authority projects has helped make those projects become a reality."

Bonanno noted that a new Executive Director has not been named. He explained that the Authority will immediately begin a full search for Kazar's replacement.

Six Candidates For Three Seats

by Pat DiMaggio

Three incumbents and three candidates have announced their intentions to seek a seat on Rahway's Board of Education. Voters will decide who will fill three positions on the board when they go to the polls in the schools election on Tuesday, April 7.

Each seat carries a three-year term on the district's governing body, which sets policies for four elementary schools, one intermediate school and one high school.

Board President Mario Kurylak and former Board Presidents Peter Kowal and John Ludington II and all incumbents who will vie to return to the board. They will be joined on the ballot by candidate Michael Kureczka, Fred Brown Jr. and Charles Laskowski.

Boxing Tickets Pay For Vests

Rahway Honorary Police Benevolent Association Local 31 and the Police Explorers are co-sponsoring opening night of the New Jersey Golden Gloves Tournament on Friday, Feb. 28, to help local police raise money to purchase bulletproof vests.

The first of 12 matches at the event begins at 8 p.m. at Rahway Senior High School, 1012 Madison Ave. Advance tickets, at \$12 for ringside and \$7 for general admission, may be purchased by calling 499-0249.

"Almost every Olympic fighter has gone through the Golden Gloves," said 20-year police veteran Dan McGrath, Chairman of the Vest Fund Committee. "It's used as a stepping-stone to the Olympics, and it's the biggest boxing event of the year."

McGrath came up with the idea of creating an ongoing fund for the vests, which must be replaced periodically, and it was adopted by the Honorary PBA, which was founded by local business owners in the 1960s to assist the Police Department.

According to Capt. Edward Tilton, each new vest, costs about \$400, and every individual in Rahway's 74-member Department has one. Costs are borne by the Honorary PBA, not the taxpayers.

In addition to the Tournament, donations toward the fund may be made to Rahway Honorary PBA Local 31, P.O. Box 273, Rahway, NJ 07065.

NAACP Deplores King Bust Defacing

The Rahway Branch of NAACP deplores the recent defacing of the memorial to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Rahway.

"It is sad to think," stated Cora Snowden, Rahway Branch President, "that someone would react in this

sickening manner to a statue dedicated to a man of peace such as Dr. King. We in the NAACP call on the community to turn to each other - in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King - instead of on each other."

Eight Drug Arrests After Police Raid

Seven adults and one juvenile were arrested during a raid Friday night at a Rahway residence and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession with intent to distribute and possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

Police said the adults who were arrested were Annie Cain, 40; Clarence Thomas, 25; Tyrone Guina, 31; DeWane McAllister, 20; and Michelle Qualls, 26, all of Rahway; Michael Franklin, 35, of Colonia; and Hugh Bonker, 20, of Elizabeth.

Bail was set on each, ranging from \$15,000 to \$45,000.

Confiscated in the Leesville Avenue residence, according to police, was an unspecified amount of what is believed to be cocaine and assorted paraphernalia.

Police said a search warrant was executed at 9:45 p.m. by the Rahway Police Narcotics Enforcement Unit, assisted by the Patrol Division following surveillance of the location during the past month as a result of reports of alleged drug activity from neighbors.

Rahway Resident On Dean's List

Michelle Brennan, daughter of Janice Brown of Rahway and Thomas Brennan of Somerset, has been named to the Dean's List at Seton Hall University for the Fall 1991 semester.

Michelle is a member of Beta Alpha Psi, the National Accounting Honor Society, and will graduate in Spring 1992.

Rahway Student Now At Wroxton

Virginia Faulk of Rahway, a junior majoring in Political Science on Fairleigh Dickinson University's Teaneck-Hackensack Campus is spending the spring semester at Wroxton College, the British Campus of FDU between Stratford-upon-Avon and Oxford, housed in a fully modernized 17th Century Jacobean mansion with 56 acres of lawns, lakes and woodlands.



ST. MARY'S PROCESSION ... Mayor Jim Kennedy presents Proclamation to St. Mary's School, Rahway, New Jersey, for its participation in the "Discovery of Catholic Schools" program.



FIRE PRODUCTIONS ... Two members of Rahway's Fire Department were presented in ceremonies last night with the award for their participation in the "Discovery of Catholic Schools" program.



POLICE ANTI-DRUG ... Police officers at a press conference following a raid on a Rahway residence.

RAHWAY'S ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT FOR 1992 ... From left, standing: Mark McLendon, James Farrell, Mona Johnson, Andrew Ingram Esq., Kevin O'Brien and Paul Sefranka. Seated: Peter Zelenik, Chairman William E. Hering and William Rack. Missing from photo: Paul DeCarlo.

Zoning Board Reorganizes

At the Zoning Board of Adjustment's recent reorganization, William E. Hering, who has served as Chairman for the past two years, was selected for that position again.

Kevin O'Brien was picked for Vice Chairman, along with William Rack as Board Secretary. Recently appointed to the Board as Alternates were Mark McLendon and James Farrell, but Farrell has since assumed the full board member position.

Others serving on the Board are Peter Zelenik, Paul Sefranka and Paul DeCarlo.

Board Attorney is Andrew Ingram Esq., and Board Administrative Officer is Mona Johnson of the Building Code Office.

The Board reaffirmed its contract with Rosa Associates for Planning Consultant for the ensuing year. The difficult work of this Board addresses various requests for variances from the city's zoning laws. "Many times, this is a difficult task," stated Hering. "As you must weigh parking impact, use volume, property lines, setbacks and all problems associated with growth while trying not to adversely affect the intent of the zoning laws."

From time to time, emotions run high, but the Board tries to strike a fair and just balance in what often is a delicate task at best.

Laundry Employee Robbed Of Payroll

Police are investigating the armed robbery of a Hamilton Laundry secretary who was taking several thousand dollars in payroll money from one building to another.

The holdup occurred about 5:40 p.m. on Feb. 12 outside the laundry, Hamilton Street. Police said the employe was carrying the payroll when she was approached by two black

males, one of whom had a handgun and threatened to shoot her.

The victim was punched by the other suspect while the gunman grabbed a purse containing the money, according to police.

Anyone with information is asked to call Det. Stuart Buckman at 388-5600, Ext. 449, or the Rahway Police Tips Line, 388-1553. All calls will be kept confidential.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH DAILY LESSON ... Shakira Johnson reads short biography to students at Franklin School via P.A. System. First of many Sixth Grade students selected, Shakira and others conducting daily readings during February to emphasize contributions of many well-known, and lesser-known, African Americans.

We Salute Black History Month

protect our children... DRIVE SAFELY