

'Exterior' designers eye New Brunswick

By KATHLEEN CASEY

Two architects are walking the streets of downtown New Brunswick, noting architectural styles, periods and details.

They have been hired by New Brunswick City Market Inc. to create a new look for buildings in the city's special improvement district.

The new look is expected to be put into effect by ordinance, with possible financial assistance to be made available in the form of tax abatements, matching grants and low-interest loans.

Thomas M. Clark 3d, City Market chairman, said yesterday the intent is to improve the basic appearances of buildings without dramatically altering their structures.

The project, Clark said, addresses what merchants say is the second most urgent problem of doing business—the general appearance of the downtown.

The most urgent problem, parking, is being addressed through a free shopper's parking program begun March 1 in cooperation with the city parking authority, Clark said. In the first month of the program, he said, 1,000 drivers took advantage of it.

The architects will create an overall design for downtown building facades, especially those in areas the city's revitalization efforts have not reached, and the design will be submitted to the city council for approval, Clark said.

The architects, Michael Mills and Michael Farewell, partners in the Plainsboro firm of Short and Ford, will be paid by City Market, which is funded through a special tax on businesses in the special

improvement district.

They began work about a week ago and will work for three months.

Anna Aschkenes, chairwoman of the City Market design committee, said the individual historical style and materials of each building will be preserved and worked into the overall design.

"We want to enhance those elements while creating a downtown identity," she said.

Mills said, "The architectural diversity of New Brunswick is one of its assets."

The guidelines to be established by ordinance will involve such design elements as signs, awnings, lighting, security gates, public spaces, colors and landscaping, he said.

Guidelines will apply to both older buildings and any new construction.

Clark said there might be a demonstration project to show what can be done with an existing building by way of preserving its integrity while adhering to the common design elements intended to give a certain look to the overall downtown.

The intention, he said, is that the facade work needed to bring a building into line with the overall downtown design be done at a reasonable cost.

Some building owners who want to improve the looks of their buildings have already approached City Market for advice, not knowing quite what direction to take in the improvements, Clark said.

Alluding to that and to the city's more than 10 years of efforts at revitalization, Mills said he and Farewell, "feel like we're jumping aboard a moving train."

Dem trio enters race for W. Caldwell council

By MEG NUGENT

Two political newcomers and a candidate making his second bid for a seat on the West Caldwell Council will seek the Democratic nod in the June 6 primary.

Jere Cole, a 1988 council candidate, and running mate Walter Genuario will be on the regular Democratic Party slate in the primary.

Also meeting yesterday's filing deadline is their opponent, Theodore Zimmerman, a retired chemical engineer who is running on a slogan of "Integrity with Competence."

Winners of the primary will face incumbents Janet May and Robert Massella in the race for two, 3-year seats on the all-Republican council. The Republican primary is uncontested this year.

"The condition of the Democratic Party is pretty poor nationwide; I think it needs an infusion of blood from the grassroots up," said Zimmerman in explaining his first foray into local politics.

Zimmerman also said that if elected, he wants to "change the tax system so the homeowner is not beaten over the head" with increasing taxes.

Two newcomers, '88 candidate contend for places on fall ballot

Genuario, another political novice, said his decision to run is based on a desire for a "viable, two-party system" in a township controlled by Republicans for more than 70 years.

Genuario said representation by both parties on the council will help the governing body "be more responsive to the needs of the town."

Cole, who could not be reached for comment, declared it was "time for a change" when he attempted to land a council seat during last year's election.

Cole is president of the West Caldwell Democratic Association, past president of the West Caldwell Volunteer Fireman's Association and a member of VFW Post 6255.

A graduate of James Caldwell High School in West Caldwell, Cole is employed as general manager for Sunrise Supermarket Services in Fairfield.

Genuario is chairman of the mathematics department at University High

School in Newark.

He is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and was a volunteer for Catholic Community Services.

community Services.

Genuario is completing a master's degree in social work at Rutgers University and works as an intern at the Counseling Center for Human Resources in Bloomfield.

Zimmerman was employed for 35 years as a chemical engineer for the Department of Defense before his retirement in 1988.

Irvington board picks chief

Keri Patterson, in her second term on the Irvington Board of Education, was named board president at a reorganization meeting last night.

She succeeds Sandra Fox, who held the post for the last three years.

Rosie Greggs was elected vice president, succeeding Robert Scannelli.

Appointments made for the coming year were Mary Moore, delegate to the New Jersey School Board Association; Herbert Ramos, delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association's Urban Schools Committee, and Merrick Harris Sr., a new member, delegate to the Essex County School Boards Association.

Harris was one of two new members sworn in at the beginning of the meeting. The other is Perry Schwarz.

Harris, 38, a Public Service Electric & Gas Co. administrator, is the father of two children in the Irvington public schools—14-year-old Merrick Harris Jr., a student at Irvington High, and 6-year-old Erika, a student at the Chancellor Avenue School.

Schwarz, 23, is the son of Assistant Business Administrator Esther Schwarz, a former councilwoman.

A radio announcer for Shadow Traffic, he is working for his master's degree in organizational communications at William Paterson College in Wayne.

5 in Orange family seized for drugs

Orange police yesterday arrested a family suspected of dealing drugs from their home at Cleveland and Hawthorne streets, Police Director Charles Cobbett said.

In the raid, which was conducted in conjunction with the Essex County Sheriff's Department, police recovered 30 vials of cocaine, three bags of marijuana and an undetermined amount of money, Cobbett said.

The raid culminated a three-week investigation that started with an anonymous tip that drugs were being sold on the corner, the director said.

Josephus Williams, 44; his wife,

Clara, 40; their sons, Josephus Jr., 20, and Thomas, 18, were charged with possession of cocaine and marijuana, possession with intent to distribute and possession within 1,000 feet of a school.

Two 17-year-old juveniles, one of whom is another son of the Williamses, and Helen Flintrol, 23, of North Third Street, Newark, were arrested on the same charges, Cobbett said.

Mrs. Williams was released to attend to her other children at home and the two juveniles were sent to the Essex County Youth House in Newark, Cobbett said. The other suspects were held without bail, he added.

Reward offered in Essex murder

Essex County Sheriff Thomas J. D'Alesio said his "Crimestoppers" program is offering a \$1,000 reward for information in an unsolved Belleville homicide.

Belleville police reported that Angela Gaccione was found murdered in her 176-178 Belleville Ave. apartment on Aug. 14. The 40-year-old woman had been beaten to death with a blunt instrument.

Anyone with information about the case can contact the Crimestoppers program by dialing S-H-E-R-I-F-F.

callers will not be asked to identify themselves and all information will be kept confidential.

The case is being handled by Detective Vincent Cappetta of the Belleville police department.

The Crimestoppers program is a nonprofit corporation administered by a civilian board of directors. Funding for the program is derived from the private sector. It is coordinated by the sheriff's office in cooperation with other law enforcement agencies.

Group for the blind seeks more members

The Essex Support Group for the Blind and Visually Impaired will hold a membership meeting at noon tomorrow at St. Matthew's AME Church, 336 Oakwood Ave., Orange.

The self-help group is seeking new members, including sighted volunteers, to help plan and participate in social

events and other activities.

"A lot of times when people lose their eyesight, they have a tendency to lose touch with the public," said Tracey Hall, group president. "This group will help them realize that people with the same problems have been active for years."



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