

Baldino brothers were heirs to \$446,000 estate

By LONNY UNGER
Staff Writer

Before they were gunned down, Leonard and Fred Baldino Jr. had been the principal beneficiaries of an approximate \$446,000 estate, according to the estate's attorney.

The estate was left to Mrs. Smith by her husband, Robert, who died in 1971, according to Mrs. Smith's attorney, C.M. Clark of Coe City, Wash.

The mysterious Baldino case, which has had detectives in Yonkers, Mount Vernon and other Westchester communities baffled, has resulted so far in the following developments.

The Jan. 29 conviction of Randolph Hamilton of Stamford in the fatal shooting May 30, 1978 of Fred Jr. 27, in his Yonkers apartment.

Police, however, still have a number of questions. Those include: why were the brothers killed, who actually hired Hinton, who put out the contract on Leonard's life and who shot Leonard, then 25, to death in July 1975 as he was in a car parked across from his finance's Mount Vernon home.



Firefighters union votes strike deadline

By ED TRAPASSO
Staff Writer

Yonkers firefighters agreed over knotted contract negotiations, voted Monday night to strike if their dispute with the city isn't soon resolved.

Flynn said this morning, "Some members of the executive board believe we should wait until a serious fire is in progress. Other members feel we should do it at a time of day when they aren't ordinarily a lot of fires."

The firefighters, who gathered Monday night for a special meeting at the Polish Community Center, voted overwhelmingly to walk out if the city doesn't deliver a fair package. All but six of the 11 firefighters casting votes opted for the walkout.

Super Senator?

You might recognize the face, but Dallas area news media, the not with this particular costume, guests at this year's party, which is Texas Sen. John Tower dressed, also included several other prominent Supermen at a party in Dallas, Texas politicians, were to be the party was an annual affair dressed as comic strip characters, sponsored by local business for —AP Photo

Mayor vows to stop Ludlow plant

By MICHAEL RODDY
Staff Writer

Westchester will build a sludge dewatering plant in Yonkers despite strong local opposition, including threats of sidewalk strikes by city residents and lawsuits from city officials.

"I don't know if I said that," the mayor said he is meeting with city officials today to seek a court injunction to block construction. And if the lawsuit isn't successful, neighborhood homeowners said they would set up a roadblock in front of the bulldozers.

"They refuse to discuss the merits of our argument," said Velez. "No one disputes it's environmentally unsound to put a sludge plant within 60 feet of an apartment house and close to 300 homes."

DelBello says housing policy needed by July

By MILTON HOFFMAN
Politics Writer

County Executive Alfred DelBello appears to have support on his request that the Westchester Board of Legislators issue a housing policy statement in four months.



DelBello gives county report

School chief nominated

By GAIL HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

After reaching a consensus in private session, the Yonkers Board of Education last night drew up a resolution nominating Dr. Joan Raymond, an assistant superintendent of schools in Chicago, as the new superintendent of schools in Yonkers.

The six members said to be in favor of Dr. Raymond included: Joseph Spencer, vice-president of the Board, Anne Bock, Dorothy DeToro, Seelig Lester, Robert Wenzler and Quentin Hicks.

DelBello was generally shorter and more to the point than in any of his five previous annual messages. He recalled to the Board and a sparse audience, which included his top commissioners and other aides, that he submitted a White Paper Housing Plan for consideration.

Gas rationing power sought

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is sending Congress standby plans for gasoline rationing and other energy saving measures that likely will include allocation of crude oil among refineries and restrictions on weekend retail sales of gasoline and diesel fuel.

But Jim Fishup, an Energy Department spokesman, today denied such reports Monday night, calling them a "total fabrication."

Inside

World/Nation — Iran's new oil exports will start again next week and higher prices are expected. See World Nation.

Sports — After completing the first undefeated season in its history, Indiana State's basketball team is No. 1 in the nation. See Sports.

Index

Campan	A3	Money	B1, B9
Classified	B11-B17	Obituaries	A14
Comics	B6	Sports	B18-B24
Editorials	B12	Street Beat	A1
HELP!	A2	Theaters	B5
Insight	A13	TV	B20
Lifestyles	B1-B5	Weather	A2
Local news	A3	World/Nation	B10

Neighborhood battle was prelude to 'Sam' arrest

By MAURY TERRY and TOM BARTLEY
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As the Son of Sam siege in New York City entered its seventh month in June, 1977, David Berkowitz' battle against his Yonkers neighbors took a more explicit, self-incriminating turn.

With at least two of the aliases, the Son of Sam drew a dark, heavy circle around an embattled Yonkers neighborhood.

More than 18 months after Berkowitz was arrested outside his Yonkers apartment home as the Son of Sam, an investigation by this newspaper has found that if information held by two Westchester police agencies had been put together, Berkowitz could have been arrested at least two months earlier in a host of state and federal crimes unrelated to the murder spree.

left at a double-homicide in April, this one contained references to the killings as acts to "plunge Sam." It was signed "Son of Sam." Unlike the earlier letter, this one was made public.

BERKOWITZ

Letters spin tighter web

(Continued from page one)

the preceding year, Berkowitz had arranged two families in Yonkers. One lived on Wicker Street. The other, a hundred feet away, listed "John West Carr," among its entries in the Westchester telephone directory. The family was headed by a man named Sam.

On Wicker Street, Berkowitz had firebombed the home of Joachim Neto, mailed anonymous threatening and obscene letters to the family and killed their dog with a volley of bullets from a small-caliber rifle. In a carbon copy of those attacks, Berkowitz had firebombed the neighboring Carr home, mailed anonymous threatening letters, then shot and wounded the family's dog with yet another volley of shots, these from a six-caliber semi-automatic rifle.

The "King Wicker" and "John Wheat" aliases were references. Berkowitz now confesses, to the crimes committed on Wicker Street and to the John West Carr telephone letters.

At Yonkers police headquarters, the son of Sam in a private duty noted, clipped from the newspaper and posted on the bulletin board, where Yonkers police officers playfully added new aliases of their own, a Yonkers police source says. But if the aliases and the quality of the writing did not point directly at David Berkowitz as the author, there was no doubt about the writer of the letters that followed.

On June 6, the day after the Brazil letter appeared, Berkowitz dragged his former landlord into the literary circle drawn by Son of Sam.

Berkowitz did that by dispatching a mysterious get-well card to the New Rochelle house he had lived in just before moving to Pine Street. The card was addressed to his former landlord there, Jack Cassara, and used the name and return address of Sam Carr in Yonkers. A day after that, Berkowitz sent an anonymous letter threatening the life of a neighbor living directly beneath him, Craig Glasman. Completing the circle around himself, Berkowitz inscribed his own most recent former address, Cassara's, on the envelope.

Through Cassara, and that choice of address, Berkowitz fingered himself in the crimes committed against Sam Carr and as the writer of the threatening letter to Glasman.

Although all three men had had encounters with Berkowitz, only one—Cassara—could identify him by name. And, after a meeting with Sam Carr, he did.

Cassara knew Berkowitz: as the relatively quiet tenant who had rented an upstairs room of his 174 Colgate Ave. home for \$50 a week from Feb. 11 to April 8, 1976. In renting the room, Berkowitz expressed his dislike for dogs and, just four days before he left Colgate Avenue, he espoused over the hearing of the Cassaras' two German shepherds.

His ranting at 4 o'clock on a Sunday morning woke Jack and Nana Cassara. Jack followed his tenant, who stalked downstairs and out into the driveway, where he paced up and down, glaring at the dogs and cursing them, declaring: "The goddam dogs. It's like a goddammed kennel."

Four days later, neither paying his \$50 rent nor demanding the return of his dog security, Berkowitz abruptly moved out and went to 35 Pine in Yonkers. More than a year after that, the get-well card bearing a puppy's picture arrived in the mailbox. Its message, in red ink, said: "Dear Jack: I'm sorry to hear about that fall you took from the roof of your house. Please be careful next time. Since your (sic) going to be confined for a long time, let us know if Nana needs anything."

The envelope bore the return address: "Mr. & Mrs. Sam Carr, 218 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. 10781." Inside, the card was signed from Sam and Fannie, using the male spelling of Frances, Carr's wife, and dropping the r.

"The scribbled get-well card to a perfectly healthy Cassara from total strangers left Mrs. Cassara, in her words, "nervous and upset." Mrs. Cassara describes what happened next.

On June 9, she called the name listed on the envelope and was told the Carrs had not mailed the card.

But Frances Carr went further. Her family not only had been besieged with threatening letters but their home had been firebombed last year and their dog shot barely more than a month before she spoke with Mrs. Cassara. She expressed her suspicions that the same person could have committed those crimes and sent all the letters. She asked to see the Cassara card and made a date to meet with them the next day to compare the handwriting. At that meeting, held in the Carr home on Warburton Avenue, the families exchanged copies of the mysterious mail they had received.

Even to their untrained eyes, the similarities in the script were evident. "You couldn't miss it, we all saw it at once," Mrs. Cassara recalls. "It was obviously the same person." The two families discussed who they could have in common who was capable of committing these crimes. That person remained a mystery until the Cassaras went home.

There, Steven Cassara, 26, their son, read copies of the Carr letters and recognized the complaints about barking dogs to the tenant who had left so brusquely a year earlier after his encounter with the Cassara dogs.

Unable to remember his name, Mrs. Cassara checked rent receipts, found David Berkowitz, looked in her telephone book and located him now living at 35 Pine St. in Yonkers. Jack Cassara telephoned

Sam Carr. "We've got your man," Cassara said after learning the proximity of 35 Pine to Carr's home on Warburton Avenue.

The Cassara investigation was completed, and it had gone as Berkowitz hoped it would.

In an interview late last year, Berkowitz was asked why he put Carr's name and return address on the card. He replied simply: "Well, I wanted the police to come and find me."

Even as Carr prepared to turn over his new-found information to the Yonkers police, another letter—one that could have led to Berkowitz' immediate arrest—landed in the files of the Sheriff's Criminal Investigation Division in Valhalla. The letter, postmarked June 2, had been sent to one of the Sheriff's deputies, unpaid volunteer Craig Glasman, 25, who lived 38 feet below Berkowitz at 35 Pine St.

Glasman, who refused to be interviewed for this series, wrote last November that he had received a letter threatening the letter threatened his life. "We will kill you. We will murder you," Glasman quotes the letter as saying at one point. It concluded, "Die Craig Die."

Almost a month earlier Glasman had received a vile phone call at 2 a.m. from a voice that he never identified. He demanded to turn off his television set. Glasman is convinced now that his caller was Berkowitz. At the time, however, he simply shrugged off the call. The letter threatening his life was a different story.

Since the threat had been sent through the U.S. Postal Service, it represented a federal as well as state crime. Glasman had the option open to any Yonkers resident of reporting the matter to the city police or the FBI. But Volunteer Deputy Glasman had a third alternative and, understandably, it was the one he chose. The material was turned over to the Sheriff's Department.

The letter to Glasman, mailed the day after Cassara received his get-well card, bore Cassara's return address. It was also the most recent former address of Glasman's upstairs neighbor Berkowitz.

The Sheriff's Department, however, did not contact the Cassaras and therefore did not learn of Berkowitz, the family's former tenant, or of the crimes they suspected he had committed against the Carrs.

The sheriff, moreover, did not notify the Yonkers police of the crime committed against Yonkers resident Glasman. For all they, the sheriff's investigators knew, 30 people in the same neighborhood could have received the same kinds of letters, and turned them in to Yonkers police, a New York detective says.

In addition, that notification would have reinforced the story Sam Carr was telling the Yonkers police at that time: "It would have been the case-breaker," the New York detective maintains, pointing out that through Cassara and his New Rochelle address on the letter to Glasman, Berkowitz would have been linked to the crimes committed against both Carr and Glasman, now his close neighbors.

Sam Carr went to the Yonkers police four days after Cassara received his card to New Rochelle, three days after Glasman received his letter in Yonkers, and the day after he and Jack Cassara compared their strange mail. The Glasman letter remained in the sheriff's hands, undisturbed but for a futile fingerprint check.

Carr, the victim over the past eight months of an arson, dog shooting and hate-mail campaign, gave the police on June 11, the name, address and telephone number of David Berkowitz, copies of the letters Carr had received and the card Cassara had received, and background information on Berkowitz' hatred of barking dogs.

Two weeks later, on June 28, Judy Flacido, 17, was celebrating her graduation from St. Catherine's Academy in the Bronx not 12 hours earlier. She planned to attend Pace College in White Plains that fall, majoring in pre-law. She had a lot to look forward to.

But at 2:30 a.m. her thoughts were not on her academic future. She, like so many other young women in the New York area, was preoccupied with Son of Sam.

Flacido and a friend, Salvadore Lupo, 20, were sitting in a car outside the Elphias discotheque in Queens. They were sharing a cigarette and talking about the 44-Caliber Killer, wondering who it could be. At that moment, the killer was standing on the sidewalk, pointing a gun at her head.

Suddenly, four explosions split the night, gravely wounding Flacido in the head, neck and shoulder. She staggered from the car, dragged herself 20 feet along the darkened roadway, and collapsed to the pavement. She survived her wounds. Lupo was also wounded, but not as seriously as Flacido.

In Brooklyn, Stacy Monkowitz and Robert Violante had not yet even met each other.

And in Yonkers, sources say, Sam Carr's letters had been bundled up with a copy of Berkowitz' hate-orientation. Pine Street apartment lease and slipped in the FBI, where the material lay dormant until August. Sources say that was the result of the investigation conducted on Berkowitz. "Maybe a little more effort would have been expended if it was someone other than Sam Carr," a Yonkers policeman acknowledged after Berkowitz' arrest. "But he's always been a habitual complainer."

TOMORROW: How David Berkowitz remained at large for four more shootings.

Dear Jack
I'm sorry to hear about that fall you took from the roof of your house.
Just want to say

"I'm sorry"

But I'm sure it won't be long
Until you feel much better.

Healthy,

well and strong!
I hope to be caught real time.
Since you going to be confined
for a long time, let us know
if Nana needs anything.
Sincerely: Sam & Fannie

Part of the correspondence compared by the Cassara family, which received the get-well card above, and the Carr family, which received the letter reproduced at right.

I am sure you are a very good person and what kind of family you are for me and also... I have no love for any other human beings...
My life is destroyed now. I have nothing left except... I can see that I have no peace in my life or my families life until I kill you.



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Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Date of Birth _____ Phone No. _____
 Married Single Number of Children _____

MALE		FEMALE	
AGE	MONTHLY PREMIUM	AGE	MONTHLY PREMIUM
20	\$7.50	20	\$6.50
25	\$8.00	25	\$7.00
30	\$8.50	30	\$7.50
35	\$9.00	35	\$8.00
40	\$9.50	40	\$8.50
45	\$10.00	45	\$9.00
50	\$10.50	50	\$9.50
55	\$11.00	55	\$10.00
60	\$11.50	60	\$10.50

TOMORROW: How David Berkowitz remained at large for four more shootings.

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