

Drink up
Despite warnings about the dangers of caffeine, Harvard researchers say coffee is safe for pregnant women.

Page A2

Takes blame
Ronald Reagan, in his first press conference of 1982, took blame for a controversial tax exemption decision.

Page A3

Too much
The Knicks made a desperate comeback but there was just too much Larry Bird as the Boston Celtics won.

Page B4

The Journal-News

Wednesday,
January 20, 1982

A Gannett Newspaper Serving Rockland County

25 cents

A year later

23 ex-hostages to join in reunion

Iran feeling the effects—A13
From Journal-News wires

Former hostage Paul Lewis said there was nothing special on his calendar for today, even though it's the first anniversary of the day he and 51 other Americans were freed from 44 days of captivity in Iran.

"I'll be in school and I don't think I'll notice unless someone reminds me," said the 24-year-old former Marine sergeant, now studying agricultural economics at the University of Illinois in Champaign.

Nationally, there are no reports of plans for big reunions or major festivities to mark the anniversary. Former President Jimmy Carter, who left office the day the hostages were freed, had no special activities planned. Neither did President Reagan, the White House said.

But they will be celebrating Sunday afternoon at Stewart Airport outside Newburgh, where the former hostages first set foot on American soil after their release from Iran. Twenty-three former hostages are expected to return Sunday for a two-day reunion and

celebration in their honor, according to the Eastern Orange County Chamber of Commerce, which is planning the event.

A private dinner and reception is planned for them that day at the airport.

On Monday, Jan. 25, a public ceremony will be held at the airport between 10:15 and 11 a.m. to dedicate a bronze plaque commemorating their arrival there a year ago. A six-inch-wide bronze star is also to be embedded in the airfield at the exact location where their plane landed last year. Monday's celebration will be called "Freedom Day."

After the ceremony, the hostages are to travel by bus to the Hotel Thayer at West Point. They will follow the same route taken Jan. 25, 1981, traveling along Temple Hill Road, which has since been re-named "Freedom Road."

A noon luncheon is planned at the hotel. The former hostages are to return home after the meal.

The former hostages expected to attend include:

(Please turn to back page)

Wife's affidavit could blow whistle on Abscam probe

Jack Anderson on ABS-CAM—A13
By RALPH SODA
Copyright 1982.
Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON — Startling new evidence which could blow the lid off Abscam — the Federal Bureau of Investigation's most famous sting operation — was filed in U.S. District Court here Tuesday.

The evidence is in the form of an affidavit alleging an FBI coverup of perjury by Melvin Weinberg, con-man extraordinaire and the government's chief witness in the celebrated scam which resulted in the conviction on bribery and conspiracy charges of 18 persons — including six members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. senator Harrison A. Williams, D-N.J.

The source of the new evidence is Weinberg's estranged wife, Cynthia Marie Weinberg. Specifically, she alleges her husband lied under oath before Abscam juries when he denied receiving expensive gifts — TV's and stereo equipment, for example — from targets of the sting operation.

Moreover, she says FBI agents were aware of the perjury.

"I make this affidavit because I feel my husband committed perjury with the knowledge of the FBI which injured a number of innocent people and I want the truth to be known," Mrs. Weinberg's statement concludes.

The statement is a bombshell. Among other things, it asserts:

• That four of the FBI agents

most closely connected with the sting operation were themselves beneficiaries of expensive gifts from Weinberg.

• That Weinberg kept secret diaries throughout his career as an FBI sting man and that he secretly taped for his own use many of the transactions with the government as well as those with the Abscam targets.

Taken together, these claims represent a frontal assault upon the government's case in Abscam. They assail the credibility of FBI agents and the chief witness alike.

Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson reported earlier this week that Mrs. Weinberg has been telling her story to his reporters since November. The affidavit was obtained from her last week by Richard I. Bast, of International Investigations, a storied Washington private detective. Bast is employed by New York Attorney Michael Dennis, who represents former U.S. Rep. Richard Kelly, D-Fla., a convicted Abscam defendant.

On Tuesday, Dennis filed a motion with U.S. District Court Judge William Bryant in Washington, D.C., calling for a new trial for Kelly in light of Mrs. Weinberg's allegations.



Relatives grieve

Father Richard Jagger comforts grieving parents of students who were in the Stor Elementary School of Spencer,

Parents charge school closing figures wrong

Taxes spark dispute—B2
By LEN MANIACE
Staff Writer

The Clarkstown School District ignored a potential housing boom when they recommended closing two elementary schools this June, according to parents fighting the proposal.

About 38 new housing units — estimated to add more than 1,400 children to the district — were not considered in estimating future enrollment, said school activist Phyllis Bulhuck at a public hearing on the school closings Tuesday night.

Later, Superintendent of Schools Donald Van Wagenen admitted he did not consider the housing estimates in his projections, but insisted his figures — based on a state Education Department formula — were valid.

A crowd of more than 800, most, if not all, opposed to any closings, overruled the Clarkstown North High School auditorium for the first of two public hearings on a series of alternative plans that could close two schools in June because of declining enrollment. Another hearing will be held Feb. 2.

About 55 speakers criticized the plans, while not one member of the audience spoke for the closings — a proposal favored by a slim majority of the School Board at last count.

Tuesday's meeting, twice postponed by last week's snowstorms,

was the public's chance to comment. School officials, who for the most part remained silent in the face of criticism, will get their chance to comment at a workshop session set for tonight. A decision is expected Feb. 10.

Under the highest-ranked proposal, Van Wagenen suggests closing the Chestnut Grove and Street elementary schools. The next plan would see the Congers and Chestnut Grove schools close, while the Little Tor and Strawtown schools.

There was no preference, however, for any of the plans among parents at the meeting. They wanted all the schools to remain open.

Parents questioned the accuracy of Van Wagenen's estimated savings, and many of those who did not doubt them insisted the cost reduction does not justify shutting any schools.

"It will save me \$40 out of the \$2,000 I now pay in taxes each year. And for this I am asked to move 1,000 children, to put my children in overcrowded schools and to see my property probably devalued. For \$40 I could go to dinner once, maybe," said Susan Staub, the parent of a Laurel Plains student.

Mrs. Bulhuck, who for the third year is heading up the fight to close district schools, said the housing boom could hit the district within

(Please turn to back page)

Rockland lawmakers blast tax hikes in state budget

What budget means to you—A9

By RICHARD WOLF
and KEVIN MCCOY
Staff Writers

ALBANY — They could have organized a second Boston Tea Party in the state Capitol Tuesday, and almost every single legislator there and in Rockland would have joined up.

In this case, the villain was not England but an Irish-Catholic governor armed with an unpopular budget. And the cry was not "No taxation without representation," but "No taxation during an election year."

It didn't matter. What it amounted to was a sense of unified defiance against Gov. Hugh Carey's proposed \$2.7 state budget for 1982-83, a budget that calls for a variety of new or increased taxes and fees to fund its programs. And nowhere was that defiance more clearly stated than among Rockland lawmakers.

Without exception, Rockland's state and county legislators lambasted the governor's proposal to increase motor vehicle registration fees and gasoline taxes as a means of financing the state highway and bridge reconstruction everyone agrees is needed.

And with equal unanimity, they predicted it would not fly.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're going to have to

make his budget work without any increase in fees or taxes," said Assemblyman Eugene Levy, R-Suffern, the senior Rocklander in Albany with 13 years under his belt. He was still listening to the governor's budget presentation when he said it.

State Sen. Linda Winkow, D-Spring Valley, actually reacted even faster. She said she would oppose any increase in the gasoline tax two weeks ago, when Carey hinted in his State of the State message that such a hike may be proposed.

What the governor proposed Tuesday was a new 8 percent tax on the price of a gallon of gasoline, to replace the current 4-cent-per-gallon tax. That same proposal was killed by the Legislature last year.

Carey also proposed that the current weight-based automobile registration fee be changed to \$8 plus 1 percent of the taxable value of a car, a plan that could more than triple some motorists' registration costs.

Both Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink and Senate Majority Leader Warren Anderson said such measures would be difficult if not impossible to push through the Legislature this year, when all 210 lawmakers are up for re-election. Carey took himself out of the gubernatorial sweepstakes last Friday.

"As of this time, I would not support it," Fink said of the gasoline tax proposal. "I am still unconvinced that

(Please turn to back page)

'Son of Sam' killer claims he was cult's triggerman

From Journal-News wires

David Berkowitz, the Son of Sam killer who terrorized New York in 1976 and 1977, now says members of a Jewish cult had accompanied him as lookouts and helped him to select victims.

Berkowitz, who is serving a 315-years-to-life prison term for six murder convictions, said Tuesday that he was the designated trigger man for a 30-member killer cult dedicated to "violence, depravity, sex and murder."

In a deposition he gave to attorney Harry Lipsig, Ber-

kowitz emphasized that he was the lone triggerman for the Son of Sam attacks.

The deposition was given for a civil liability case involving victims' families and those wounded in the series of 44-caliber killings in 1976 and 1977. Berkowitz gave the deposition at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora.

Lipsig, whose clients Robert Visciano and Salvatore Lupo were injured in separate attacks during the summer of 1977, called on Gov. Hugh Carey and the district attorneys involved in the cases to reopen their investiga-

(Please turn to A8)

INDEX

Action	C1
Ann Landers	C1
Around Rockland	C1
Business	A10-B1
Classified	B9-11
Comics	C11
Datebook	C1
Entertainment	C9
Fashion	C
Insight	A12
News roundup	A1
Obituaries	B3
People	D
Sports	B4
Television	C10
Viewpoints	A12
What's ahead	B2

County manager plan poised for new debate

Lawmakers critical of report—B2
By KEVIN MCCOY
Staff Writer

The often echoed call for hiring a professional manager to handle Rockland County's day-to-day operations is once more poised on the heels of County Legislature debates.

Citing the rising cost and complexity of county government, Clarkstown Catherine

McDougal, the Legislature's outgoing minority leader, Tuesday night announced plans to seek an appointed county manager "to help us get a better handle on our fiscal operation."

"I feel we need a full-time person to oversee the day-to-day operations," said Mrs. McDougal after delivering her final address as minority leader. Citing anticipated 1982 federal and state budget cuts,

(Please turn to A8)

Manager debate renewed

(Continued from A1) she contended that an appointed government head would assist the Legislature in budgeting its revenues to avoid a fiscal crisis. "We shall have an opportunity again this year with the majority caucus, which tax delinquencies, the self-insurance program and OTIS (Off-Track Betting) to produce revenue for the county," said Mrs. McDougall. "How we use that revenue this year will be of critical importance." The call for a county manager comes in the wake of a report highly critical of county government operations. The report was organized by the Legislature county executive post.

Patterned after a system used in Sullivan County, a county manager would be hired by the Legislature and would supervise the fiscal management of all county agencies, which are now administered principally by department heads and their staffs. Supporters of the manager system argue that the Legislature could conduct a nationwide talent search to find the proper administrator for Rockland's \$137 million budget. They also contend that a manager, unlike an elected officer, would report to the Legisla-

ture and would thus have limited potential for gaining widespread political power, a criticism often cited in discussions of a county executive.

But members of the Legislature's majority caucus are expected to oppose the manager proposal and instead revive talk of a county executive. An elected officer overseeing county government, unlike a manager, would be directly responsible to the voters, supporters argue. County executive backers also say creation of the position would give Rockland

THERAPEUTIC HYPNOSIS
WEIGHT • SMOKING • ALCOHOL
ALL SESSIONS
By Qualified Psychotherapist
CALL FOR INFORMATION OR APPOINTMENT
DURING BUSINESS HOURS
Rockland Office 425-0091

A Nu-Dimension In Dental Care.

Affordable... Convenient... Personal

- Complete professional dental care for the entire family. Concerned doctors provide individual patient care. Open 7 days and 5 nights, weekdays 10 AM to 9:30 PM, Saturdays and Sundays 10 AM to 5 PM. Emergency treatment available. Mastercard, Visa, and many insurance plans accepted.
- Affordably priced, Nu-Dimensions' fee schedule makes a regular dental program a reality.
- Full-mouth Exam (with x-rays and consultation) \$15.00
 - Simple cleaning (polishing) 15.00
 - Fillings (per surface) 10.00
 - Root Canal
 - 1 canal 90.00
 - 2 canals 140.00
 - 3 canals 190.00
 - Crowns and Caps (porcelain to metal, each) 215.00
 - Dentures (basic upper or lower, each)
 - Full 189.00
 - Partial 199.00
 - Periodontal treatment (no case to exceed) \$95.00
 - Orthodontia available at similar affordable prices.
 - Consultation 10.00
- Additional charges may be incurred for related services which may be required in individual cases. Above fees in effect for cases started within 60 days.

Located in Sears
Nu-Dimensions®
Dental Offices
Nu-Dimensions®, conveniently located throughout New York and New Jersey.

'Son of Sam' claims he was cult's gunman

(Continued from A1) Berkowitz's contention that he was a member of a fabled cult was first brought to light almost a year ago in a March 19, 1981, copyrighted article in Gannett Westchester Rockland Newspapers. That story was based on letters Berkowitz sent to writer Maury Terry. Berkowitz was a resident of Yonkers and a U.S. postal worker at the time of his arrest. Berkowitz Tuesday did not disclose any facts that could be used to corroborate or dispense his cult claims — contentions discounted by the New York City Police Department, which maintains Berkowitz had acted alone. But the Son of Sam stated in the court deposition that:

- The group's membership was evenly split, male-female.
- About half the cult's members are now dead, either through acts of violence or suicide. The dead include John and Michael Carr; literally the sons of Sam Carr. Berkowitz' former neighbor.
- The cult members were predominantly white and predominantly white-collar workers, with about 75 per cent of the membership located in the New York City area. The cult had three officers, one a woman. The officers wore special costumes.
- The cult members killed animals as well as humans. Berkowitz said it was his "understanding" that other members of the group had killed in non-Son of Sam cases.
- Members used hallucinogenic drugs.
- Although he bought the gun and ammunition, the ammunition was kept by the cult and dispensed to him for the Son of Sam killings.

Berkowitz emphasized that he was the lone trigger-man for the Son of Sam attacks that he pleaded guilty to, but said other members of the cult — usually three or four at a time — accompanied him on his hunts for victims and served as lookouts. Queens District Attorney John Santucci reopened the case in 1979 after a series of articles in Gannett Westchester Rockland Newspapers raised the possibility that Berkowitz did not act alone. John Carr died in February 1978 at the Minot Air Force base in North Dakota of possibly self-inflicted gunshot wounds. His brother, Michael, subsequently died in a one-car crash on a New York City highway.

Charlotte Dougherty says: "I LOST 74 LBS."

and 82 inches... 15 pounds the very first week!"

- No diet pills or injections
- No starvation or hunger
- Lose under a doctor's supervision
- Choose delicious, satisfying meals
- No food decisions
- Computerized "Weightminder™" guarantee

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE, NO-OBLIGATION WEIGHT ANALYSIS

Over 450 Centers Nationwide
nutri/system
weight loss centers

151 So. Main St., New City, N.Y.
(Suite 110, across from Burger King)
638-1535

COMMUNITY COUNSELING ASSOCIATES
STATE CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL STAFF
INDIVIDUAL • MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

- FLEXIBLE FEES
- QUALIFIED FOR INSURANCE

634-7416
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

WORKING PARENTS
FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN YOUR CHILD MAY ATTEND PRIVATE KINDERGARTEN BUT YOU MUST REGISTER NOW

FREE BUS SERVICE (from many school districts) call 359-4362
PRE-SCHOOL PLAYHOUSE

Children's Funland

Full Day Nursery School
A creative program designed to enhance self-discovery and emotional security. Spacious indoor and outdoor areas. 52 weeks per year. Half & full day programs. Flexible hours. 48 Western Highway, Blauvelt, New York. 359-8019

TIDY CAR ANNOUNCES THE GRAND OPENING
of our New Location at 17 East Rt. 59, Spring Valley. SAVE YOUR CAR FROM WINTER DAMAGE. CALL US FOR...

- PRESERV-A-SHINE, the ultimate paint sealant. A unique protection system that seals out chemical damage and maintains a showroom finish for new or old cars.
- UPHOLSTERY GUARD - 2 to permanently protect fabric interiors from stains.
- Upholstery and carpet cleaning in addition to vinyl roof cleaning and reconditioning.
- An economically priced Buff/Shine-Simonize.
- "Executive Class" hand car wash.

CALL US FOR... 20% OFF ALL SERVICES (Good Wash Excludes Detailing & Buffing) Beautifully Protected Vehicle

Auto Cair (Associate Dealer) 17 E. Rt. 59, Spring Valley 356-6989

Sears BIG SALE

\$80 OFF Big-Screen Color TV With One-Button Color. 359.95 Reg. 5439.95. 19-in. Diag. Meas. Picture. Adjustable 1-Button Color tunes in picture automatically. Super Chroma™ black matrix picture tube. Automatic Frequency Control.

\$30 OFF Portable Stereo. 2194. Reg. 1149.95. 1199.95. Cassette play/record. AM/FM stereo radio. "Boom" box. AC/DC. Batteries extra. AC line cord included.

\$200 OFF BetaVision Video Cassette Recorder. 5318. Reg. 999.95. 799.95. Up to 5 hrs. per tape. BetaScan search.

\$150 OFF 25-Watt Component Stereo System. 9257/94265. Reg. 1349.95. 2199.95. AM/FM-FM receiver has filters, loudness contour, 2-way speakers.

\$30 OFF FREE-ARM 2-Stitch Sew Head. 1211. Reg. 139. 109. Straight and zig-zag. Makes buttonholes.

\$70 OFF 6-Stitch Free-Arm Sew Head. 2065. Reg. 129.95. 159.95. 6 built-in stitches • 4 utility-2 stretch. Built-in buttonhole. Free-arm makes sewing cuffs easy.

SAVE \$40 Powerful Power-Mate Vac. Regular \$199.95. 159.95. Beater bar brush helps get out deep, embedded dirt.

- Powerful 2.0 HP (peak) motor. .85 HP VCMA delivers strong suction.
- Beater bar brush helps get out deep, embedded dirt.
- Edge cleaning channels for cleaning close to walls.
- Adjusts to 4 carpet pile heights.

\$40 OFF Kenmore SteamType Carpet Cleaner. 8190. Reg. 1169.95. 129.95. Spray hot solution into carpet. Loosens dirt then quickly vacuums it up. Dries quickly. Why rent?

\$25 OFF Powerful Upright Vac. 3180/3660. Reg. 99.95. 74.95. Powerful suction and a beater bar brush for thorough cleaning. Edge cleaning 4 heights.

SAVE \$20 Power-Mate Canister Vac. 2065. Reg. 119.95. 99.95. Revolving beater brush powered by its own motor to help get out deep-down dirt. Tools for above-the-floor cleaning.