

# Ocean Village Is Hit By a Power Failure

By ARTHUR BROWNE

Hundreds of tenants of the Ocean Village apartment complex in Arverne, many of them elderly, were without lights and water for more than 18 hours yesterday after a short circuit in an electric metering system knocked out power throughout the development.

A spokesman for the Long Island Lighting Co. said the short circuit, as yet unexplained, occurred at about 10:30 p.m. Saturday and burned out all power lines into the 11-building high-rise complex between Beach 56th and Beach 59th Sts.

The failure stalled the development's water pumping system and stopped elevators, trapping tenants in the upper reaches of the buildings.

"Everything went out last night, but this morning I had to find out how critical the situation was," said Harry Hirsch, 70, a retired news photographer of the old Mirror who lives on the 17th floor of a building at 57-15 Shore Front Parkway. "There are no windows on the stairways, so I had to make my way down using matches: It wasn't easy. I had to rest after every flight."

## Stays in Lobby

Hirsch, recuperating from open heart surgery, spent the day in the lobby of his building with about a dozen other tenants who braved the trip from their apartments in the 19-story building.

"I finally had to come down this afternoon because I had no water to wash with or drink, but I know there are a lot of people still up there," said Joseph Nocera, 58, who lives on the 15th floor. "I came down by candle, but I'm certainly not going up

## Sometimes We Must Call

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that way. I'm not as spry as I used to be."

Throughout the day crews of the Long Island Lighting Co. worked to bypass the faulty metering system, but hadn't succeeded in restoring power by late afternoon.

Employees of the complex spent the day carrying water to tenants, several of whom said they had been told to expect power to be restored by 7 p.m.

No management official could be reached to give an official estimate on when repairs would be finished, or to say how many tenants were affected by the power failure. However, it is understood that most of the apartments in the complex, which opened only last December, are still vacant.

# Mrs. Lueken Moves Vigil To Fair's Vatican Pavilion

By THOMAS COLLINS

Barred by court order from the "sacred ground" in Bayside Hills, Veronica Lueken and about 250 of her followers yesterday transferred their vigil to the Virgin Mary to the site of the Vatican Pavilion of the 1964-65 World's Fair.

It was the first time in five years that Mrs. Lueken, the 52-year-old Bayside housewife who claims to speak directly and often with the Virgin Mary, conducted her weekly meeting away from St. Robert Bellarmine's Church at 56-15 213th St.

"It is sheer providence that we are here on the holy place once blessed by Pope John XXIII and Pope Paul VI," Mrs. Lueken said after her two-hour prayer session in the current Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. "The crowds will soon multiply beyond our dreams, and we are happy to follow the instructions of the Holy Lady."

Countersuits between Mrs. Lueken's followers and the Bayside Hills Civic Association were dropped last week in an agreement reached before Jamaica Supreme Court Justice Joseph J. Kunzeman. The homeowners promised not to harass Mrs. Lueken if she ceased conducting the weekly vigils on the public streets and malls near St. Robert's.

## 5-Year Vigil

For the past five years, Bayside Hills homeowners had watched in anger as up to 1,500 pilgrims seeking a vision of the Virgin Mary flocked to the church site where Mrs. Lueken claims she had the first of her many visions of the Virgin Mary.

A week ago, Mrs. Lueken said she had a vision of the Virgin



News photo by Anthony Casale  
Followers of Veronica Lueken gather around statue of Virgin Mary on site of Vatican Pavilion on World's Fair grounds.

Mary and was instructed to move her vigils elsewhere. She said this vision made possible the agreement reached in court.

Yesterday, within a few hundred feet of the World's Fair Unisphere, the peaceful atmosphere was in marked contrast to the raucous and heavily policed vigils held in recent months in Bayside Hills.

During the World's Fair, Mi-

chelangelo's masterpiece, the Pieta, was displayed inside the Vatican Pavilion, which was blessed by Pope Paul VI, who said, "We welcome all visitors." The pavilion site is now marked by a benchlike marble resting place called an exedra.

## Chant Rosary

Yesterday the smiling pilgrims placed their white statue of the virgin on the exedra, then prayed and chanted the rosary with Mrs. Lueken in front of it. Many wore the white berets of the Canadian religious sect, Michael.

The site was selected with the help of several civic leaders late last week after Mrs. Lueken was unable to get permission from the Parks Department to hold the vigil in Alley Pond Park, the public property nearest the "sacred ground."

But Mrs. Lueken confidently maintained that the vigils would be held away from the Bayside Hills location only temporarily. "Soon Bishop Francis Mugavero (of the Brooklyn Diocese) will receive an unquestionable vision instructing him to open St. Robert Bellarmine's as a basilica named for the Holy Lady," Mrs. Lueken said.

# They'll Work Together on Two Parks

By ROBERT LANE

Two city agencies agreed yesterday to join with the newly formed College Point-Whitestone Recreation Association to maintain and improve Frank Golden and McNeil parks.

The "Parks Partnership Program" followed a tour of the two parks Friday by City Councilman Peter Vallone and association members that was arranged by City Planning Commissioner Martin Gallant, chairman of the Office of Neighborhood Services District Service Cabinet in Whitestone-Flushing.

Recreation Commissioner Joseph P. Davidson and I. Herbert

Harris, assistant commissioner for the parks, recreation and cultural affairs administration, in making the announcement, praised the association for its community interest.

The citizens group, under the leadership of Martin Kelly, will help maintain the playing fields and will watch for abuses, such as vandalism and dog littering.

In return, parks officials will

request a meeting within two weeks with Richard Bernstein of the Public Development Corp., which developed Frank Golden Park at 14th Road and 132d St. before turning it over to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration. They will raise with Bernstein the following issues:

- The landfill program on the adjacent College Point Industrial

Park, which may be causing undermining of the park grounds.

- The extension of the outfield fence on Field No. 1 to protect adjacent homes.

- The addition of three inches of topsoil and seed for the football field.

In addition, parks officials agreed to request the Bureau of Gas and Electricity to install additional lighting at the field-house building, which the association agreed to repair to permit storage of athletic equipment.

# Dems' Meeting Is Bench Mark of the Political Year

By JOHN TOSCANO

What might be termed the kickoff of the political year in Queens will occur Friday evening when the borough's Democrats meet to designate candidates for three Civil Court judgeship vacancies.

The elections to fill these district-wide posts and contests for two Supreme Court vacancies are the only fare on the political menu this year and, consequently, the competition to win an official party designation is keener than in other years.

Insiders report that Joseph Lane, from Denis Butler's Long Island City club, and James Farlo, Astoria district leader Ralph DeMarco's entry, are leading the pack for the nomination in the west Queens district. Two district leaders, Ralph Sherman (Bayside) and Assemblyman Arthur Cooperman (Briarwood) are vying for the seat in the eastern portion of the borough. However, Cooperman may get tripped up because he would be surrendering the chairmanship of the Assembly's Commerce and Industry Committee if he opted for the bench.

Assemblyman Herbert Posner (Far Rockaway), the main contender for the

judgeship to be decided by Rockaway peninsula voters, finds himself in a position similar to Cooperman's because he also heads an Assembly committee. Whoever gets the nod here may be getting a primary challenge from former Democratic district leaders Milton Jacobowitz of Far Rockaway and Bernard Berly of Laurelton.

The contenders will wind up their campaigns to gather support on the

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evening before the caucus when the county organization holds its annual dinner at Antun's restaurant in Queens Village. The \$100-a-head bash will honor City Council President Paul O'Dwyer, who has "proved to be a real friend of Queens on the Board of Estimate," according to party chairman Donald R. Manes. Tickets are moving briskly, Manes said, and a turnout of about 1,300 is expected.

**OFFICE ON WHEELS:** In an attempt to reach as many of his constituents as possible, City Councilman Abra-

ham Gerges (D-Williamsburg) has outfitted a 30-foot house trailer as an office and his aides are touring the district, inviting people to come in to discuss any community problems they may have.

The lanky lawmaker had promised during last year's election campaign to be accessible to the community and appears to be trying to do just that. Previously he established several district storefront offices and is holding town hall meetings to keep his finger on the public pulse.

Incidentally, Gerges and City Councilman Herbert Berman (D-Mill Basin), both freshman legislators, were reminiscing the other day about their college days when both were budding entertainers in the borscht circuit. Gerges tried his hand as a song-and-dance man while Berman played the trumpet in a four-piece band.

**POOR TIMING:** Queens' first family was not among the horde of local residents who made the traditional trek to the mountains or seashore over the Memorial Day weekend. Borough President Manes' wife, Marlene, who's employed as a psychologist in training in the Board of Education's Bureau of Child Guidance, is taking a test today for certification as a school psycholo-

gist, so the Manes and their three children, Beth, Lauren and Eric, had to settle for a back yard barbecue today. Whoever scheduled the test apparently never looked at a calendar.

**SHORT TAKES:** Queens Councilman at Large Jack Muratori (R-Flushing) has been appointed counsel to the Board of Visitors of the Queens Children's Hospital in Bellerose... Deputy Sanitation Commissioner Hank McManus and his wife, Alexandria, Gov. Carey's daughter, who were married about four months ago, left Friday for Ireland on a delayed honeymoon. The Park Slope couple plan to stay three weeks.

The office of Brooklyn Surrogate Nathan R. Sobel is undergoing a \$22,000 renovation to repair the damage caused by the fire earlier this year in which the 68-year-old jurist suffered burns and smoke inhalation... Gerard Carey, chairman of Brooklyn's Community Planning Board 6 (Park Slope), has been appointed counsel to City Councilman Matthew J. Troy's Finance Committee, replacing Anthony Menella... The 38th A.D. Regular Democratic Club, headed by district leader Rita Wheelahan, recently elected Ralph Ambrosio as president, replacing Thomas Davenport.