

## Hopewell urging boycott of TV crossing 'replay'

By RICHARD C. FIRSTMAN  
Staff Writer

Hopewell Township is preparing for a nationally televised Christmas Day reenactment of George Washington's crossing of the Delaware River by encouraging visitors to stay away.

Township officials expect the reenactment, part of the state-sponsored "Festival of the Ten Crucial Days" to present parking, traffic and security problems they would rather not have to deal with.

"Sure, we realize the historical significance of this," said Public Safety Director Michael S. Arcieri. "But we don't have the facilities to accommodate thousands of people.

"You can't put bleachers on the river bank, so we have no provisions for seating. And the crossing only takes about 30 minutes . . . there's not much to see. So we're encouraging people to just stay at home and watch it on television in front of a warm fire."

IT IS NOT UNUSUAL for the township to discourage participation in the Bicentennial — when it's in its own backyard. During the summer of 1975, Arcieri, then mayor, led a fight to keep all nationally-promoted Bicentennial activities out of the township.

In August 1975, the township even went as far as to threaten to sue state and federal government agencies responsible for the Bicentennial. It claimed that it could not afford the cost of the big birthday party, nor could it handle the thousands of visitors expected at Washington Crossing State Park.

The suit was abandoned when lawyers convinced township officials they would have little chance in court.

Though the summer crowds never materialized and the township did not have to pay for any of the park activities, Arcieri is still worried about what the Christmas Day reenactment will bring to the rural township.

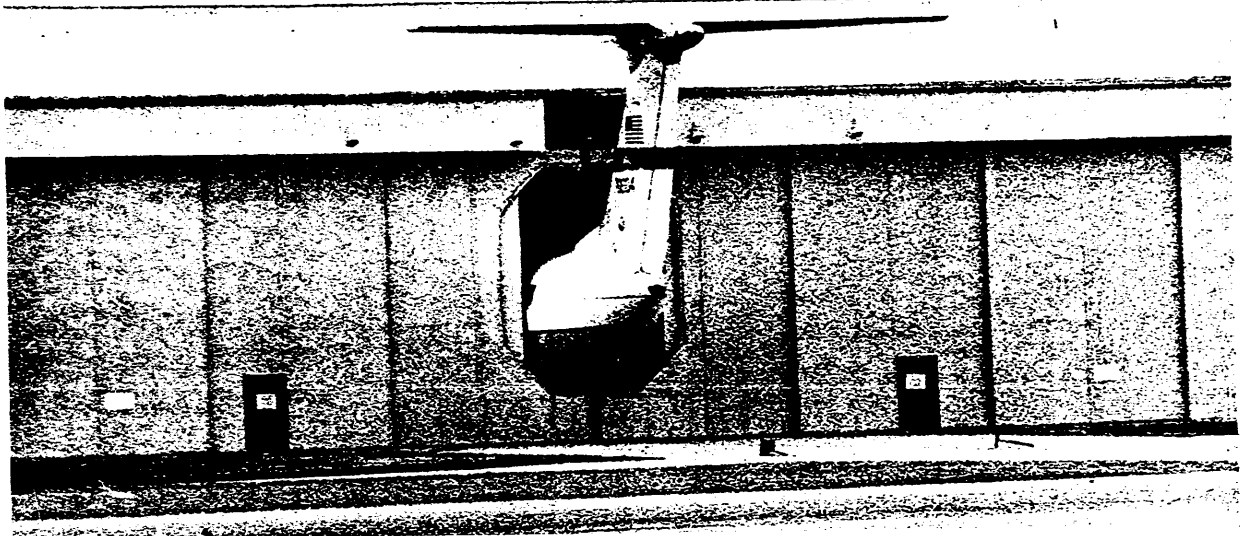
ARCIERI SAID he has been informed that President Gerald Ford,

President-elect Jimmy Carter and the governors of the 13 original states have been invited by the state Bicentennial Commission. He said he doesn't know if any have accepted, nor does he know how many other visitors to expect.

"We can't predict how many people will show up, because there are so many variables, starting with the weather," Arcieri said.

If the government officials come, security could become the No. 1 concern, but Arcieri said the biggest concern right now is parking. "We don't have any place to park thousands of cars."

He said it is not beyond the realm of possibility that the township will have to be "closed" if it becomes evident that it cannot "absorb" any more cars.



Staff photo by Martin D'Arcy

**Out in the wind** This isn't the result of some Sunday pilot's mistake. This transport plane at McGuire Air Force Base has its nether regions out in the wind for a reason. While the rest of the plane fit comfortably in the hangar, the tail section was just too tall to go in. When the problem was first noticed, some unsung genius came up with the door-within-a-door idea.

## Princeton splits on revaluation despite new faces

By CELESTINE BOHLEN  
Staff Writer

PRINCETON — The addition of two new members has not changed the borough council's commitment to property revaluation.

After seating William Selden and Leona Medvin, both elected last Tuesday to fill unexpired terms, the council again split over the politically-volatile issue, with mayor Robert Cawley again casting the tie-breaking vote in favor of the program.

Last month the council had voted to proceed with a revaluation in the borough, which was last done 12 years ago.

ON THE AVERAGE, properties in

the borough are now valued at less than 50 per cent of their true market value but the rate of increase reportedly has varied in different neighborhoods, making for an unequal distribution of the tax burden.

Gus Escher, the council's finance committee chairman, last night repeated his arguments against the program, noting that he is "more convinced than ever that the timing is unnecessary."

Escher, Nelson Van Den Blink and council president Martin Lombardo last night voted against an ordinance authorizing payment for the revaluation, expected to cost \$36,000. A final hearing on the ordinance is scheduled for Dec. 9.

STEPPINI IN AGAIN as the tie-breaker, Mayor Cawley defined the issue of revaluation as one of "equity."

"The principle here is the taxation of property. The property tax has been called regressive and many other things," he said. "It may be. But if we're going to do it, it should be done fairly."

New member William Selden, who succeeded Janice Schaefer to an unexpired term on the council, followed in his predecessor's footsteps and seconded councilman Joseph Moore's motion to proceed with the program.

Selden noted that, if the council did not approve the revaluation, it might be forced to take the action by the

courts. "I think it would be unfortunate for one branch of government to tell another to do something it should have done anyway," he said.

LEONA MEDVIN, widow of the late councilman Murray Medvin, also voted in favor of revaluation, as her predecessor Marvin Trotman did last month.

The arguments against revaluation hinge on the effect an increase in assessments could have on certain neighborhoods in the borough where values have more than doubled in the last decade.

"Revaluation will help change the character of this community, something nobody wants," said Lombardo

last night. "I am fearful that, for a number of people who are just hanging on now, even a slight increase in taxes will drive them away."

HOWEVER, COUNCILMAN Joseph Moore, due to step down in January, pointed to the "stern" recommendation for a revaluation issued over the last six years by Princeton assessors.

"It's not the kind of issue that people like to talk about," he said, "but hopefully, the council will have a greater regard for regulating assessments than it has had in the past."

Selden, a Republican, and Medvin, an Independent, were formally sworn into office last night in a room packed with friends and relatives.

## It's time for flu shots in 3 Jersey counties

By RAMONA SMITH  
Staff Writer

Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean County residents will begin rolling up their sleeves for swine flu shots next Wednesday as New Jersey's mass inoculation program moves into its third phase.

Free shots will be given to residents of nine southern and central New Jersey counties from Tuesday to Nov. 28 under a schedule released yesterday by the state Department of Health. The first clinics in Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean will open Wednesday, Nov. 17.

Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset and Middlesex counties, however, will wait until the fourth and last round of immunizations, scheduled for Nov. 30 through Dec. 12.

The immunization clinics are open to all residents 18 years and older who want protection against swine flu. Elderly and chronically ill people will be able to get "bivalent" vaccine at the clinics to protect them against both swine flu and "A Victoria" flu, the predominant influenza strain last winter.

MOST CHILDREN under 18 are not being inoculated. Those with chronic ailments can get a special vaccine if they provide proof of their medical problems.

Some 78,000 residents of Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren counties — about 28 per cent of the eligible people — were inoculated during the first phase of the mass immunization program, which began Oct. 20.

An additional 40,000 people in Essex and Bergen have received shots during the program's second phase, which ends Sunday, according to Rick Sinding, a spokesman for the Department of Health.

The inoculation program got off to a slow start in New Jersey and other states when several elderly people died after receiving the shots in the Pittsburgh area and elsewhere.

SOME STATES halted their programs temporarily and later resumed the shots. New Jersey went ahead with its program but thus far has fallen far short of the 60 per cent immunization level that the state's supply of vaccine would be able to provide.

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## Morrisville OKs police contract

MORRISVILLE — Morrisville Borough Council has approved a new two-year police contract that gives most officers a 15 per cent pay boost over the next two years.

Starting salary for a new patrolman will be \$10,000, effective Jan. 1, 1977. The \$10,000 starting salary will remain throughout the two years of the contract.

After 18 months of service, an officer will make \$12,009 in 1977 and \$12,849 in 1978. A three-year man gets \$13,180 in 1977 and \$14,234 in 1978.

A sergeant will get \$14,405 in 1977 and \$15,557 in 1978.

## Kovacs triggers Hamilton Democrat fight

By HENRY BYRAN  
Staff Writer

Elmer Kovacs may have triggered a wide-open battle for control of the Hamilton Township Democratic party by his announcement that he will run for council in 1977.

In the same breath, he openly attacked the only Democratic councilman, Fred Gmitter.

Kovacs, an executive committee member of the Hamilton Democratic Club, said he definitely would not run on the same ticket as Gmitter.

That pledge was followed by an attack on Gmitter, who Kovacs says is in conflict of interest by holding a council seat and the municipal party chairmanship simultaneously. He charged that Gmitter is strictly a disruptive influence on Council by thwarting "even worthwhile" Republican actions that may be in the best interests of the township.

Kovacs, who unsuccessfully ran for reelection on the school board in March, is closely aligned with former Hamilton Committeeman Albert DeMartin, who described Kovacs as

a "hard-working school board member who would make an excellent councilman."

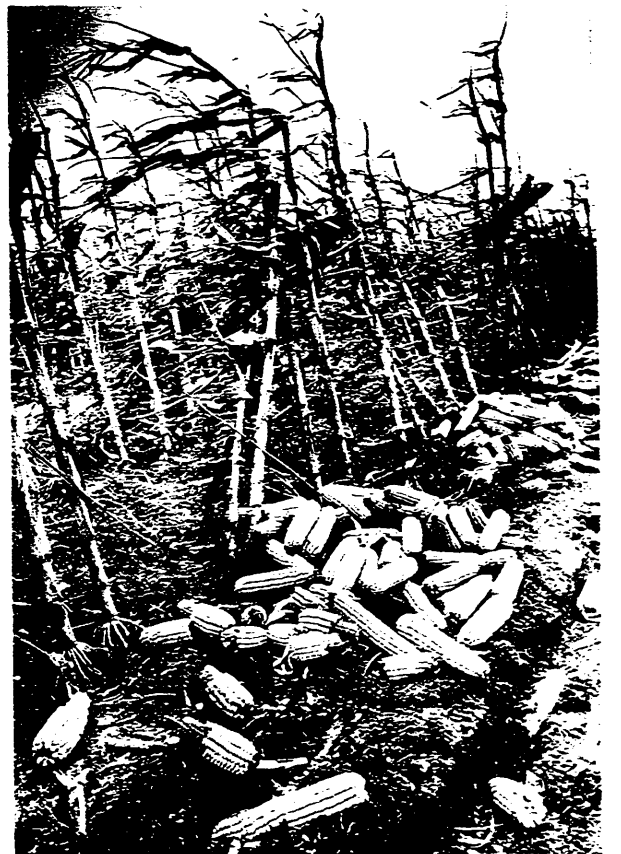
DeMartin echoed Kovacs statement that he too would not run on the same ticket with Gmitter.

DEMARTIN HAS RECENTLY threatened to challenge the newly elected Democratic state Assemblywoman Helen Szabo in a primary fight next year. This morning he said he also is considering running for a council seat in 1977, which if nothing else would badly split the Democratic party in a battle against the GOP

for three open seats and control of council.

Gmitter said he did not want to get involved in an argument with DeMartin directly this morning, but the councilman did have some things to say about Kovacs.

"As Democratic municipal chairman and leader of the Democratic Party in Hamilton, I feel Mr. Kovacs, a disgruntled Democrat, has made remarks that border on absolute lunacy," Gmitter said. "His endeavor to seek election is ridiculous considering his overwhelming defeat



Staff photo by Camy Leone

## Next spring's fertilizer

Not all of the region's corn made it to the feed lot or the dinner table. These fallen ears, abandoned near Old York Road in Hamilton Township, seem destined to return to the earth to nourish next season's crops.

## Millstone mayor held on new drug count

By STEVEN FORD  
Staff Writer

For the second time in two years, state police have arrested the mayor of Millstone Borough on marijuana charges.

Gail Anglada, mayor of the tiny Somerset County community near Somerville, was accused last night of possessing marijuana with intent to distribute after troopers went to her home with a search warrant.

Mrs. Anglada's appeal of her first pot arrest in July, 1974 was rejected

in state Superior Court just two weeks ago.

SHE HAD BEEN convicted of possessing less than 25 grams of marijuana, a lesser charge than the one she now faces. In her appeal, she had claimed that the first search was illegal.

State police at the Somerville barracks said today they went to the mayor's house last night after the arrest nearby of a 17-year-old youth on drug charges. The youth gave the

Anglada home as his address.

Entering the house with a search warrant, police said they discovered two pounds of marijuana, a set of scales, and packaging materials. Some pills were also confiscated.

Another youth who was in the house at the time, 18-year-old Daniel P. Reardon, was also charged with possession with intent to distribute.

BOTH MRS. ANGLADA, 41, and Reardon were released without bail after arraignment in Franklin Town-

ship municipal court.

The mayor, a Democrat, was first elected in 1973. She was voted into a second term last year by the town's 630 residents.

When she lost her appeal in Superior Court on Oct. 26, Mrs. Anglada said she was not able to pay the \$120 fine stemming from her first arrest.

Her husband, Elton, also was charged in that incident. The two have since separated, and Mrs. Anglada has been laid off from her teaching job at Livingston College.

## Byrne takes new tax to task for Rutgers' gridiron ratings

Gov. Brendan T. Byrne finds the inability of the Rutgers University football team to break through into the top 20 ranked collegiate teams in the nation a taxing problem.

The governor issued a statement yesterday, in what observers hoped was a humorous vein, accepting responsibility for the failure of the unbeaten Rutgers eleven to make the top 20 rankings.

"The only logical explanation, in light of Rutgers' outstanding record, is the unpopularity of the New Jersey State income tax," said Byrne, whose own political rating has fallen since the tax was passed at his urging.

Perhaps anticipating just this kind of analysis the governor added, "I thought I had better say that before the political pundits did."