



Spinney Hill, looking west along Northern Boulevard

Newsday Photo by Ken Spencer

Churches Give \$100,000 For Spinney Hill Rents

By Bradford O'Hearn

Manhasset—The Manhasset Interfaith Council, composed of 10 churches and synagogues, pledged \$100,000 of its money yesterday to subsidize rents in a proposed low- and moderate-income housing project in the predominantly black Spinney Hill section here.

The pledge commits the largely white and wealthy council to help the blacks—about 10 per cent of the community—get the housing they have been seeking for nearly 10 years.

At a press conference yesterday in the North Hempstead Town Hall here, the council chairman, Richard J. Dundore, a bank vice president, handed the letters making the pledge to the chairman of the town's Urban Renewal Agency, Bernard Gartlir, and Town Supervisor Michael J. Tully Jr.

Plans for the 100 units of housing in the Spinney Hill area call for about 20 units to be rented to low-income families. And because the federal well of rent subsidy money is now dry for new projects such as Spinney Hill, the private subsidy was needed to make the project feasible. Under the subsidy program, apartment tenants will pay 25 per cent of their income for rent, and the remainder of the rent will be paid by the Interfaith Council's contribution.

The agency's executive director, Hector Gayle, said the pledge of private funds for such a project was unprecedented in New York State. The money is expected to last from two to five years. By that time it is hoped that federal subsidies will have resumed. Because federal money for urban renewal projects is in such short supply, agency officials said they have applied to

the state for financing under the Mitchell-Lama housing act.

Dundore, who was described by his pastor, the Rev. J. Harold Hadley of the North Shore Unitarian Church, as "a very dedicated man who worked for more than three years on this project," was modest in his own assessment of his work. "This was very carefully considered and openly discussed in the churches over the last three years. I think Manhasset people respond pretty well when they see the need."

But James Parker, chairman of the Manhasset Community Council, which has been working with the Interfaith Council on the project, was more enthusiastic. "I've been here 37 years, and Manhasset was always a leader in helping the poor. We had the first public housing here and we had one of the first community centers."

In an obvious reference to Great Neck, where a public housing proposal of the town's housing authority is embroiled in controversy, Parker said, "Unlike some so-called liberal communities, Manhasset put its money where its mouth is. The [Interfaith] Council never turned us down." We had some differences along the way, but they always said they'd work out a way."

Trying to explain Manhasset's action, the Rev. Mr. Hadley said, "At the risk of being a little cynical, I think that the blacks are not a threat populationwise as they are elsewhere."

In a related matter, Tully and Gartlir said they had been formally notified that the federal moratorium on funding for the Roslyn Plaza urban renewal project had been lifted and the agency is hopeful of getting full funding soon.

Grand Jury Offered Tape Of Testimony

By Manny Topol

Brooklyn—A tape described as a secret recording of a state grand jury session was submitted as evidence yesterday to a U.S. grand jury investigating the possibility that evidence may have been suppressed during the 1967 trial of Long Island organized-crime figure John (Sonny) Franzese for conspiracy to rob banks.

The tape was recorded by Jerome Zimmerman, 41, of East Meadow, who had appeared as a witness before the state grand jury, which was hearing evidence provided by the office of Maurice Nadjari, the special state prosecutor investigating corruption in New York City's criminal-justice system. Zimmerman had been called to testify before the state panel in an investigation of alleged bribery of State Supreme Court Justice Dominic Rinaldi.

Zimmerman testified last week before the federal grand jury that an Internal Revenue Service agent Robert Murphy, had offered him a deal in which the agent would produce documents that would show that Franzese, who is serving a 50-year prison term, was innocent of the charges, if Zimmerman would lie to the grand jury by saying he knew of the bribery.

Nadjari has said that Murphy was not working for his office and that he had no connection with any deal Murphy is alleged to have made with any witness. Rinaldi eventually was indicted on three counts of perjury. In the tape submitted yesterday to the federal grand jury by Franzese's wife, Christine, a voice purported to be that of Stephen Powers, the prosecutor from Nadjari's office who presented the Rinaldi case to the state grand jury, is heard questioning Zimmerman about Franzese. Nadjari has refused to say whether Franzese figured in the investigation of Rinaldi because, he said, he cannot comment on proceedings before the grand jury. However, sources close to the Nadjari's investigation have said that Franzese—in prison since 1969—had no connections with the charges against Rinaldi.

Zimmerman has claimed that Nadjari or people in Nadjari's office knew about the deal allegedly offered by Murphy and went along with it. Zimmerman maintains that there was a direct link between Nadjari's office and Murphy through Powers. Zimmerman also claims that Powers wanted him to sign several papers that contained a false accusation against Rinaldi. Powers has denied that any papers were offered to Zimmerman to sign.

On the tape, in response to a question by Zimmerman, a voice that Zimmerman purports to be Powers' acknowledges briefly that he knew of some form of "a deal" between Zimmerman and Murphy involving Franzese. During the questioning of Zimmerman, the same voice is heard to ask, "Do you know a person by the name of Sonny Franzese?" Zimmerman responds that he had met Franzese briefly on two occasions. A spokesman for Nadjari declined to comment last night on the purported recording of Powers' reference to Franzese.

Zimmerman is also asked on the tape, "Do you know if he [Franzese] has a reputation for being a member of organized crime?" Zimmerman is heard to answer, "According to what I hear from federal agents and people, they claim that the man was just framed to get him off the streets because they couldn't get him any other way." Zimmerman has said that he is a friend of the Franzeses.

Mrs. Franzese was called into the grand jury room yesterday to testify briefly, she said, about the origin of the tape recorded

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A Black Is Named as Deputy to Caso

By Bruce Lambert Jr. and James W. Sullivan

Mineola—Russell N. Service, the only black village trustee on Long Island, was appointed yesterday as a deputy county executive by Nassau Executive Caso. He will take office Jan. 1.

Service, who has been associate executive vice president of the YMCA of Greater New York, will be the only black among four deputy county executives. He will not be the first appointed to such a post, however. Farrell Jones served as a deputy county executive in the Nickerson administration. In Suffolk, Cleveland Johnson, a black, was appointed deputy county executive soon after County Executive Klein was elected two years ago.

Service, a Republican committeeman, said last night that he will serve out the four-year term as Hempstead village trustee

to which he was elected last March, but does not know whether he will run for reelection. He was appointed to the post in 1968 to fill a vacancy and has been elected to the board twice since then.

Caso said that Service will coordinate county programs involving "human services," including manpower training, vocational education, drug prevention and treatment, assistance for the elderly, ex-offender programs and social services to the needy.

The appointment completed Caso's personal staff for his second term. His deputies now will be Thomas DeVivo, first deputy, with a salary of \$45,292; James Shuart, former welfare commissioner, deputy in charge of evaluating and planning programs for all departments, \$44,173; Joseph Driscoll, in charge of coordinating county relations with local governments, \$41,713, and Service, \$37,000.

Service, with 35 years in urban activities in the YMCA, is hardly a typical Long Islander, but observers felt that, in placing a black man high in his administration, Caso was widening his appeal to minority and urban segments to realize his statewide political ambitions.

Caso's aides denied that there was any such motive, however, maintaining that Service was appointed to the post only because he was qualified for it.

Service, 60, lives in Hempstead, with his wife. They have two married sons. He has lived on Long Island since 1959.

He has been active in Nassau County affairs and is chairman of the Black Leaders Council of Nassau County. Service also is a member of the National Association of Black Elected Officials, the State Advisory Council on Vocational Education and the executive committee of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.



Service