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FAIRPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT Lieutenant Scott Copp surveys fire damage to the roof of Keenan Funeral Home last Thursday morning following a blaze which caused heavy damage to the roof and rear portion of the structure.

Kelly Burgess

Fire strikes Main Street

Keenans homeless, business still open.

By Hank Kula

Dick and Sally Keenan and their family are literally picking up the pieces of their home following last Thursday's fire which heavily damaged the rear portion living quarters of their business, Keenan Funeral Home at 41 South Main Street, Fairport.

About 80 firefighters from Fairport, East Rochester and Egypt responded to the alarm which sounded at 8:27 a.m. Departments from Penfield and Bushnell's Basin filled in at the empty stations.

The fire was declared under control at 9:53 a.m.

According to first Assistant Fire Chief Peter Kenney, the blaze was apparently started by an electrical problem with heating tape used to melt snow from the roof.

"With the attic and some false ceilings, it was a matter of chasing the fire," Kenney said at the scene. "We think it burned in the crawlspace and we really didn't know until it came out."

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Lawler dead at 95

Fairport loses a friend

"He was everyone's friend."

It was a brief and simple statement which summed up what the late Vincent J. Lawler, a longtime Fairport resident and public servant was.

Mr. Lawler, of 19 Fifth Avenue, Fairport, died Friday at his home. He was 95.

"I was a pall bearer for Vinny this morning," Fairport Mayor Vincent G. Kennelley said following services for the longtime Fairport municipal commissioner on Monday. "I'm proud to have been asked by his daughter to do it because he was a great man."

Mr. Lawler had worked for American Can in Fairport and retired as a shipping supervisor in 1955 after 46 years there. A former Fairport Village Board member, he was appointed to the Fairport Municipal Commis-

sion in 1955 and served on the commission until last April, a period of 30 years.

According to Kennelley, he was retained as an honorary consultant after he stepped down from the position. His longevity was due to his ability to get along with everyone Kennelley said.

"Vinny was everybody's friend and I sincerely mean that," Kennelley said. "Even though he was a Democrat, he was retained by each and every mayor who succeeded, Charlie Stauber who appointed him in 1955. 'I think that says a lot.'"

Mr. Lawler served as Fairport Fire Department's Chief during 1937 and 1938 and served as a firefighter for more than 52 years. He also served as a member of the board of directors

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King is new trustee; water rates to rise

A 10-year member of the Fairport Planning Board and employee at Kodak has been appointed to the village board of trustees.

Clark T. King, 44, of 43 Red Maple Drive, Fairport, has been appointed to the board by Fairport Mayor Vincent G. Kennelley. The appointment was announced publically at Monday's village board meeting.

King, a Perinton native who has resided in the village for 21 years, comes from a family that has been in the community for five generations. He and his wife Sharon have three children.

"I'm very pleased," he said of the appointment. "I've had a long-term commitment to the community, but I

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Genese dropped as planning counsel, will reapply despite party politics

By Hank Kula

Aftershocks of the historic split in the Perinton Republican Party last March were felt at the Town of Perinton December organizational meeting for 1986 as the town board refused to reappoint Charles Genese as town planning board attorney.

Genese had been chairman of the Perinton Republican Committee at the party caucus in March, when members split over their choices for Perinton Town Clerk. Then Deputy Town Clerk Mary E. Ellsworth and former Town Leader Shirley Muench fought for the party nomination.

Muench obtained the party nod, how-

ever, later withdrew her candidacy and Ellsworth was voted town clerk last fall. The local party organization had apparently "buried the hatchet" in their dispute just prior to elections.

Genese, as chairman, had supported all the chosen party candidates, but was accused by some committee members and party candidates supporting Ellsworth of rigging the caucus agenda.

"First of all they (the town board) obviously have the right not to appoint me," said Genese last week. "The real question is that the issue lies in the reason. The only thing I was told was that it was politics."

"Jim Smith said it was politics and that was the end of it."

Genese was appointed planning board counsel in 1982, replacing former board attorney Jack Fulreader who resigned. To some members of the party Genese's appointment was a political one.

Since 1982 the town legal review committee has researched the issue of hiring town attorneys and recommended to the town board last year that the positions be advertised publically and open to applicants. The board approved the recommendation.

Early last week, Town Supervisor James Smith declined to comment publically other than to say that the decision not to reappoint Genese "was in

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