

Seven years of work completed:

# Town eagerly watches as Gorman's boat sets sail

By Lewis Goldstein  
Staff Writer

CRESSKILL - One of the happiest days in Bob Gorman's life was the "big event". It was the biggest thing to happen in the town in years.

"Do you think we would miss this. This is what all of us have been waiting for. This is it, this is the main event. I think every phone in the town is ringing right now. I have to make a few calls, but I'll be back. I'm not missing this for the world. This is the main event," one resident said last Thursday while scurrying off to a phone booth in Scofield's Pharmacy.

The main event? To rubbernecking motorists on Piermont Road trying to get a view of what was happening, it probably looked like Noah's Ark was being prepared for towing.

However, to the residents of the town, it was the day when Gorman's 45 foot schooner was to be moved and lowered into the water in Hackensack after seven years and 10,000 hours of work to build and customize it by Cresskill's "adopted son."

The spring-steel based schooner has been covered by fiberglass. The boat was designed by Gorman to sleep nine people in five separate cabins, while being powered by a diesel engine.

## Lots of credit

As Joe Murphy of John Wehrle, Inc. of Hackensack looked on, Norwood's Dave Marcason from the National Equipment Rental in Hackensack helped Gorman strap the schooner down so that it could be lifted onto Murphy's tow truck.

"You don't see many of these. I've pulled airplanes and taken the Christmas

trees to Rockefeller Center, but this is something. This is quite an accomplishment, the guy deserves a lot of credit," Murphy said.

As children, teenagers, adults and senior citizens gathered around the lot next to Scofield's where the schooner had

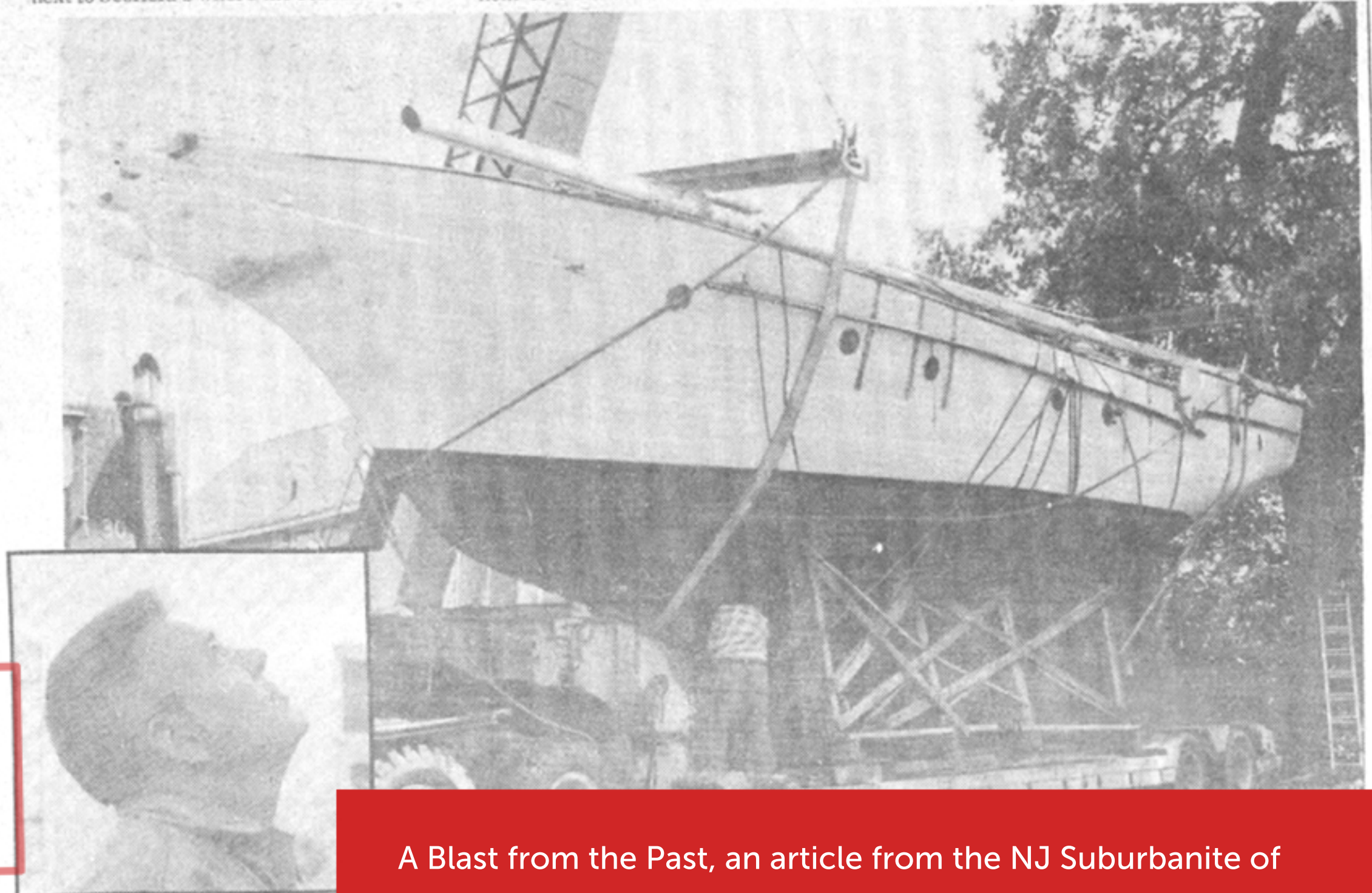
been built, other residents brought their chairs and positioned themselves on the grassy knoll on the west side of Piermont Road.

"The man deserves a lot of credit, this is amazing," said Mike Pansini. Standing next to Pansini was John Cattani, who

recalled the days when Gorman started building the schooner in 1972.

"I remember when he first started building this boat. What is remarkable is that he did it all in his spare time and it's a beautiful schooner. These things are

(Continued on page 48)



A Blast from the Past, an article from the NJ Suburbanite of August 22, 1979 where President Dave Marcason was operating