



Sponsored By:

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON
UNIVERSITY HOSPITALWith News & Classifieds From: **The Star-Ledger**➔ **SEARCH**

Pick Newspaper

Enter Keyword(s)

GO ➔

➔ **FIND A BUSINESS**

Enter Category

Home

News+Biz

Local

Sports

Forums+Chat

Cams+Radio

Living

Entertainment

CLASSIFIED

Search[Back To Your Search Results](#) | [Search Again](#)**The Star-Ledger**Click here
to subscribe!» [Get More News](#)

Dead man's N. Caldwell home held gun cache

Bomb squad removes gunpowder, grenade

Tuesday, March 04, 2003

BY ELIZABETH MOORE
Star-Ledger Staff

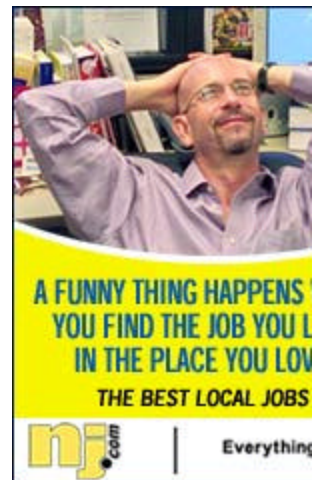
He was an electrical engineer who lived alone on North Caldwell's Orient Way.

But it appears Henry Jasinski Jr. was also an avid gun collector and amateur inventor after police searched his home this weekend, finding the deceased man inside the second-floor master bedroom.

Inside his home were 32 guns, 11 swords, eight or nine knives, 20 canisters of gunpowder, a taser gun, a vintage hand grenade, a homemade rocket launcher and several 2-gallon containers of everything from chloroform, nitric acid, sulfuric acid to hydrochloric acid, mercury and potassium, police said.

It is suspected the 57-year-old Jasinski died of natural causes and had collected the chemicals for several years to use in a garage workshop for inventions.

MORE SEARCHES

Classifieds» [Jobs](#)
» [Autos](#)
» [Real Estate](#)
» [All Classifieds](#)**Death Notices & Obituaries**» [Death Notices](#)
» [Guest Books](#)
» [News Obituaries](#)**Local Businesses**» [Find A Business](#)**Entertainment**» [Movies](#)
» [Music](#)
» [Arts & Events](#)
» [Dining & Bars](#)**Local Web Sites**» [Community Connection](#)➔ **SEND THIS PAGE****Get The Best Lo**
[Jobs](#) | [Autos](#) | [Real](#)
[All Classifieds](#) | [Place](#)» [Win tickets to see Champions](#)
» [Shopping: Malls, Stores, Yellow Pages, Shoppers Guides](#)» **Advertise With U**

▼ Information from Our Advertisers

*Changing your ticket
will cost you nothing.***virgin atlantic**

"They had been stored for quite some time," said Joseph Clark, North Caldwell's police chief. "There was a large amount of dust on them."

Police, who first arrived at the two-story home at about 10 p.m. Thursday after a friend called to say he had been unable to reach Jasinski by telephone for several days, believe he had been dead for about two weeks.

His two pet birds also were found dead in the house, Clark said. The house and garage were cluttered and in disarray, police added.

Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura said K-9 dogs discovered the grenade and gunpowder, which were removed by the sheriff's department bomb squad. Fontoura said the gunpowder will be destroyed, and the grenade was turned over to an Army unit at Fort Monmouth.

Most of the guns -- which included rifles, shotguns and handguns -- were legally owned by Jasinski, Chief Clark said. The hand grenade, found in a drawer, might have been a vintage one kept as a collectible, he said. The rocket launcher was homemade and does not appear to have been used.

The chief said the chemical materials were stored in a garage.

After speaking with neighbors and examining the house at 1 Orient Way, Clark said, it appeared the homeowner made digital thermometers and an array of electronic gadgets in his garage workroom. Police were not certain if the man was retired. As of last night, they had yet to locate any next of kin, and were hoping his relatives would contact them.

The Nutley hazardous materials team, the Essex County Sheriff's Office and an emergency response team from the state Department of Environmental Protection, along with a private contractor, were called to the home during the weekend to remove the chemicals, Clark said. The North Caldwell Fire Department and the West Essex First Aid Squad also responded.

Because of the large amount of chemicals, Clark said, federal agents were called and found no evidence that the man was involved with any organization or was using the chemicals to make weapons. He said the man had no criminal record.

"We sealed off the house, but there was no danger to neighbors," Clark said, adding that police officers went door-to-door on Sunday to let neighbors know they were removing chemicals but that there was no need to evacuate.

State crews completed the cleanup yesterday.

"They went through the house two or three times to make sure all items that needed to be removed were removed," the police chief said.

Elizabeth Moore covers West Essex. She can be reached at emoore@starledger.com or (973) 392-1852.

[About Us](#) | [Help/Feedback](#) | [Advertise With Us](#)

Use of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#). Please read our [Privacy Policy](#).
© 2003 [NJ.com](#). All Rights Reserved.