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Clark Patriot

"A Voice for All of Clark"

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Mankind's good points explored by students

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following thoughts on the attributes of certain human qualities were composed by students in Mrs. Rose Chandler's seventh grade class at Clark's Valley Road School.

* * *

Acceptance is good to have. It will help you accept things as they are. I need my acceptance when I broke the star – Kathy Connors.

Charm plus sincerity is good to have. It will make you charming and sincere. I will use my charm and sincerity when I visit my grandma because she is sick – Melissa Setlak.

Cheerfulness is good to have. It will make you cheerful. I was cheerful on the first day of school – James Hodak.

Compassion is good to have. It will make you compassionate. I send my compassion when I helped my brother. He was crying because he fell off his bicycle – Carrie Ann Rubio.

Consideration is good to have. It will make you considerate. I use my considerations for my mother when I watch my brother – Jennifer DePazzo.

Creativity is good to have. It will make you creative. I used my creativity when I made a boat – Raymond M. Johnston.

Dependability is good to have. It will make you dependable. I have used my dependability when people trained me to do a job right – Jeffrey J. Judge.

Determination is good to have. It will make you determined. I used my determination when I first took a two-wheel bicycle and fell off. But I kept on trying until I could ride it – Karen Madden.

Enthusiasm is good to have. It will make you enthusiastic. I get enthusiastic when I play with my cousin's baby sister. Lauren, because she can throw a ball and talk and run, and she's only two years old – Kenneth Soko.

Cruelness is good to have. It will make you cruel. I will be cruel to the first one I hold of baby brother – Robert Fiumano.

Graciousness is good to have. It will make you gracious. I send my graciousness when I met the new teacher and the class – Stacie Setlak.

Honesty is good to have. It will make you honest. I used my honesty when my mother asked me who dumped the garbage and I said, "I did." – Simon Oppenheimer.

Impartiality is good to have. It will make you impartial. You will be able to think of things to do. I used my impartiality when I built a table – Eric Patrow.

Inquisitiveness is good to have. It will make you inquisitive. I used my inquisitiveness when I asked my teacher about a house in a picture. I said, "Where is the house?" She said, "It is in Switzerland" – Natalie Davis.

Integrity is good to have. It will make you honest. I will use my integrity if I ever break my mother's perfume. I will tell the truth – Angel Young.

Joviality is good to have. It will make you jovial. I use my joviality when I say, "Come on over and play with us" – Ryan Smith.

Optimism is good to have. It will make you optimistic. I used my optimism when I did my mathematics paper. I tried again and I got it right – Dawn DiGiacomo.

Patience is good to have. It will make you patient. I used my patience sitting here waiting for an idea – Marcia Perez.

Permanence is good to have. It will make you permanent. I use my permanence when my father showed me how to make a bird house. I even put my finger and wore right on working. It didn't hurt much – Michelle Zawoysky.

Reliability is good to have. It will make you reliable. I used my reliability when my mother asked me to take out the garbage at 5 o'clock. She said she would count on me to do it without anybody reminding me and I did it – Richard J. Gagliano.

Sensitivity is good to have. It will make you sensitive to other people's feelings. I used my sensitivity when I didn't tell my boy to my class – Tracy Marsh.

Thoughtfulness is good to have. It will make you thoughtful. I will use my thoughtfulness when I help my friends when they fall down – Karen Hulbert.

Understanding is good to have. It will make you understanding. Once I lost a football game. I felt very angry. My friend got angry. I cried and cried. Now I can see my understanding. I felt my friend hates a football game. It will make me feel better – John DeCaro.

Investing wisely can beat inflation, see page 2

Township ruled by many bodies

EDITOR'S NOTE: The recent attempts to find a replacement for former Fourth Ward Township Committeeman John Bodnar, Jr. may have aroused the curiosity of some township residents about the origins of the present form of municipal government. The following is an account of how the Council was formed, its structure and its history.

* * *

The residents of Clark, effective Jan. 1, 1961, as the result of a referendum held on the preceding October 3, 1960, adopted a plan by Mandatory Plan F of the Faulkner Act, New Jersey's optional municipal charter law.

An elected Council is composed of seven members and an elected mayor, each of whom serves for a term of four years. Three of the councilmen are elected at large and one councilman is elected from each of the four wards into which the township is divided.

The terms of the council-at-large overlap those of the ward councilmen, so an election is held every two years for one councilman-at-large and for one ward councilman, as the case may be.

The mayor is the chief executive officer of the township. His main function is to supervise the administration of the charter and the ordinances of the township and the general laws applicable thereto, to make certain appointments and to represent the best interests of the people.

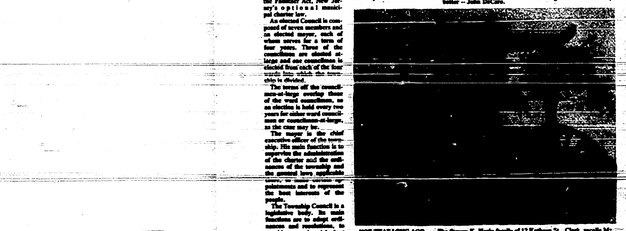
The Township Council is a legislative body. Its meetings are in public and its records are available for public inspection. It adopts the annual budget and makes certain appointments and to represent the best interests of the people.

A Council president is elected on Jan. 1 of each year by his fellow Council members.

He presides over the Governing Body.

Clark also has departments of law, administration, welfare and health, public works and engineering, recreation and public buildings, revenue and finance, and public safety, in addition to the Office of the Township Clerk.

There is also a planning board, municipal court, recreation commission, library board of trustees, shade tree commission, zoning board of adjustment, the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority, of which it is a member, committees and certain citizens advisory committees.



NOT THAT LONG AGO . . . The Steven E. Martin family of 13 Kathryn St., Clark, recalls Mr. Martin's father-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Charles Hartshorne, who was pastor of Rahway's First Presbyterian Church, the local publication visiting the home of Mr. Martin's family at 98 Broadway to have their locks cut. Dr. Hartshorne and the township's first mail carrier, Joe Hagan, The long-time Clark residents also recall the trolley car from Perth Amboy passing along Broadway on its trips to Westfield. Karl Kammer of 18 Parkview Rd., Clark, remembers as "recently" as 1928 the trolley was the only means of transportation between Rahway and Westfield.

MAKING IT OFFICIAL . . . Clark Lions Club President Ed Kiss, left, of the Policemen's Memorial Benevolent Assn. was formed in Jan. 1969. Instrumental in the organization were Mayor Bernard G. Tomaszewski, hardware merchant Ralph Cimino, Lions Club president Kiss, Mayor Bernard G. Tomaszewski, hardware merchant Ralph Cimino, Lions Club president Kiss, Mayor Bernard G. Tomaszewski, hardware merchant Ralph Cimino, sergeant-at-arms, George Fabry, past president, and Bob Solomon, vice president. The group promotes sportsmanship, good citizenship, and has made award to the Clark Scholarship Fund, various policemen and fraternal, criminal and youth groups.

County aides explore waste recovery plan

A county-based solid waste recovery plant, more proposed for the township but thought infeasible and opposed by Clark officials, may be built elsewhere in Union County in defiance of a state mandate for a 25-year waste disposal contract with Middlesex County.

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has been encouraged by the renewed interest of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and Merck & Co., Inc. of Rahway in the proposal that they take in garbage from several county municipalities and process it for use as an energy source for industry.

Freeholder Thomas W. Long, who was expected to introduce a resolution authorizing the "contract" with Middlesex, told the Board Dec. 27 of last year he no longer favors the contractual terms and suggested the county might take the state to court if it tried to negotiate a long-term disposal commitment on the county.

Although no vote was taken on the issue, some of the freeholders spoke in favor of a county-based plant. The contract mandate has been criticized by several commissioners as unfair.

What apparently prompted the freeholders' resistance to the contract is the revival of a proposal by Merck to erect a resource recovery plant in the county. Such a plant could absorb most of the county's garbage and would preclude the need for long-term landfill dumping.

Freeholder Long attended a Merck-hosted meeting with Clark and Middlesex officials and Department of Environmental Protection and state legislators. It is proceeding with plans for a resource recovery plant.

County Prosecutor Frank Dunleavy said, in his opinion, agreement by a major corporation to build and operate such a plant would constitute a "substantial change" in the contract. Dunleavy said the state would have to discuss with our legal counsel," he added.

County Attorney William McCloud said the DEP's powers to impose such a "dumping arrangement "are relatively clear" and said he didn't know on what grounds the county would bring a suit.

Without a contract with Middlesex, the county and municipalities will be permitted to ship their 1,500 tons of garbage to Middlesex by a small private landfill from now on, provided Middlesex considers a draft sets a fixed amount of garbage to be sent each of the 25 years.

Without a contract with Middlesex or Union County, which further is threatened by the state, Bonnie of the greater distance, the costs to some of the municipalities for garbage disposal will increase this year.

Merck's plans for a resource recovery plant will likely not be carried out unless the state agrees to amend its solid waste plan to use the operation to make it profitable.

EARLY BLOOMERS . . . In celebration of the International Year of the Child, representatives of the Rahway Junior Woman's Club and Rahway Junior Woman's Club sponsored a "Young Town Arts Reception held at the Raritan Bank office of Bennett and Elizabeth Trust Co. in Clark. With the teenagers, above, left to right, are Miss Gloria Milanco, branch manager, and Mrs. Joan Tuohillo, branch manager, Mrs. Roy Tuckel of Clark, right, serves as co-sponsor of the town arts program in the community. Participating schools were Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, Mother Seton Regional High School, St. John's School, St. Agnes' School, Charles H. Brewer School, Frank E. Mahady School and Cecil H. Kimball School. New Jersey Town Arts is a state-wide, arts-in-education program.

Indians double-up to defeat Johnson in basketball tilts

Coach Tom Lenzi's 8-deep Indians Boys Basketball Team won a thrilling 50-45 victory over the Johnson Regional High Bears Portsmouth's Clark Civic auditorium before a full house on Friday, Jan. 11.

The final period, that had the Bears in the lead, was dominated by the Indians who outscored the Bears 20-10 in the final period. The first score of the period came with six minutes and 14 seconds left in the game when Chuck Jones hit on a jump shot from the right side. Then Vincent Johnson hit on a jumper from the left side and it was Rahway 36-35. After a Clark time-out the Crusaders were unable to get their offense back in gear and Johnson Regional scored two free throws. With four minutes and 38 seconds to go in the game the Indians were unable to get the ball back and the Crusaders were on the hook.

Rahway's Indians scored two free throws with three minutes and 32 seconds to go. Kevin Boyle then hit on two free throws and the margin is 41-37 with two minutes and 29 seconds to go. Johnson scored two three in the two minute, six second mark. Andrew Collins then tapped in a rebounder for 42-37. With 1.3 seconds left in the game Coach Clark's senior forward, drove in and picked up a basket for a three-point play. Coach Tom Lenzi's Indians were caught stalling and Henry Trusel scored on a break-away to cut the lead to 45-41, after Johnson made an error in the inbounds pass. Jones, who became hot in the final period, hit on a jump shot from the left side.

Coach Portsmith's team was still in the game when Marcinek hit on a jump shot from the right side and he had to shoot with 48 seconds on the clock. Collins lost a pass from Orlando Thomas for a 47-43 lead with 41 seconds left. Johnson Regional then had a time-out called in order to make it 48-43 with 32 seconds left. Rahway hit a technical for a 49-43 margin. Kevin Boyle made one of two free throws and Johnson Regional scored with 10 seconds left. Jones with 14, Boyle with 13, Andy Collins with four, Alex Johnson was any, Thomas with two and Mitch Trusel with six.

For the Bears, Mike Tarlow with 18, Bob Perrone with ten, Boyle with eight, Bob Jones with six, Trusel with two and Marcinek with five.

Coach Tom Lenzi, in a press release after the game, "We are now getting aggressive and taking the tenacity, we played like I said, we should in the second half."

He said The Rahway Brewer and The Clark Patriot Clark had to "outrebound championship caliber teams. They did it."

Coach Portsmith said, "we lost a number of defensive, we're primarily a defensive ball club, but this team is the greatest in the Crusaders' history."

Clark has never won a conference or county title.

"We think we're very good," the coach said, "not to think everybody is our conference this season is good. The winner could come out of nowhere."

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Saturday detentions solve discipline woes

A program requiring high school students to spend Saturday mornings in school as punishment for tardiness, class-cutting and other discipline problems has been highly successful, a check of the four high schools in Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which implemented the program shows.

Parents of a child caught skipping classes, smoking in school or generally misbehaving, are given the option of having the student suspended from school or put in the Saturday class.

Less infractions result in detention after school. More serious offenses, such as drinking and drug possession in school, result in automatic suspension.

The special sessions seem to have had a strong effect on the students attending them. Very few students return for a second Saturday session; only about 10 at Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark.

In addition, since the start of the semester, only about three to six students at each of the schools have opted to skip the Saturday session and risk getting tagged with a three-day suspension.

Besides cutting down on student problems, the new policy has diminished staffing problems, as well. Whereas, under the old system, a different teacher was needed for each class period to supervise children suspended in school, now only one or two teachers are needed on Saturday to supervise all the week's detention students.

At Johnson, which has 1,340 students, about 18 to 20 students are detained each week, according to Assistant Principal David L. Carl.

Freeholders cite Abraham Clark

This year will mark the 58th anniversary of a resolution, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders on Dec. 11, 1975, honoring Abraham Clark, the signer of the Declaration of Independence from the township was born.

Appointed high sheriff of Essex County in 1772, a post created by England's King George III, he was elected to the Assembly in 1773 and in 1774, where he remained until 1776, when the Royal Council of the Governor passed the following act, "Every right of these people in the Colony of New Jersey are natural-born subjects of the Crown to inheritable of property."

The freeholders went on to protest, not during 1771 and 1774 but continued on an outspoken path, stirring the colonists to vigorous action. And in 1775 and 1777, was twice elected a member of the New Jersey Provincial Congress and in June, 1776, accepted the designation as delegates to the Continental Congress, which convened in Philadelphia on July 2 and July 4, 1776 voted for the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Clark is buried in the Rahway Cemetery on St. George Ave., Rahway, and Friday, Feb. 15, will mark the 256th anniversary of his birth.

During the week of Feb. 11 to Feb. 15, 1976, during the 256th anniversary of his birth the freeholders proclaimed as "Abraham Clark Commemorative Appreciation Week."

Besides Mr. Clark's contribution to the township he also had a high school named after him in Roselle as well as a Sons of the American Revolution Chapter.