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Two incumbents file for three Board seats

By R.R. Fazzerowski

Two of the three incumbents of the Clark Board of Education had filed for re-election as of the press deadline for this week's issue.

Board Vice President Raymond B. Krow will be seeking his second three-year term on the school body, and Mrs. Madeline Reinsch will be seeking her third three-year term in the Tuesday, March 25, elections.

Although the filing deadline for nomination petitions is today at 4 p.m., Board President Mrs. Thelma Purdy, a member of the body who would be seeking her sixth three-year term, had not filed for re-election as of Feb. 7, reports Board Secretary Philip A. Miller.

Mr. Miller said late to eight applications had been taken out as of last Thursday, three of them by the president of the Clark Republican Committee, James Kaber.

In last year's voting the two incumbents, John A. Fitzpatrick and Michael J. Dudek, tallied 864 votes between them, with 433 cast for Mrs. Marie Sopka, the third victor.

Mr. Fitzpatrick led the three with 472 votes and Mr. Dudek had 392.

A total of 706 votes were cast for three Taxpayer Coalition candidates, Mr. Krow; John J. Dillon and John J. Schenck. Mr. Krow received 231 to 279 for Mr. Dillon and 196 for Mr. Schenck.

A seventh candidate, Joseph Ciccone, polled 225 votes.

Although the Board's budget was considered by many to be raised by taxation for capital outlay last year and contains no such amount this year, the current expense portion voted on in 1979 was $3,941,499, compared to a tentative total of $4,249,250 for 1980.

The hearing date for the budget was not decided as of press time this week.

Township residents last year cast 374 votes in favor of the budget and 341 against it.

* * *

In addition to casting ballots for the township Board, residents will decide on one of the two Clark seats on the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education.

The only candidate who had filed for that seat as of press time was the incumbent, Mrs. Virginia R. Meskus, who was elected in 1974 and re-elected in 1977.

In addition, Roland F. Hecker, the Berkeley Heights incumbent, will be seeking his third term and Mrs. Margaret D. Hough of Springfield will be seeking her second term.

Last year's capital expense budget was $11,591,948, the capital outlay was $12,495,164 for this year. The capital outlay was $207,323 last year, compared to a tentative 1980 tab of $280,000.

Last year current expense was approved district-wide by a 2,305-to-1,513 margin and capital outlay was passed 2,115 to 1,002.

However; although Clark has approved the budget for the current expense 406 to 374, it turned down the capital outlay 401 to 373.

About 10.3% of the registered voters, or 4,604, cast ballots in the district.

The public hearing on the district's budget is scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, at Gov. Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights.

* * *

One factor which may effect the township school body elections is the continuing controversy over the sale of the Abraham Clark School to the Polish Cultural Foundation of Irvington.

Township officials said last week he hadn't received petitions for election from any of the residents of the area surrounding the school, who have filed suit to block the sale, some of them have vowed to make their feelings known at the polls.

Maguire to Congress: 'Don't probe 'Abscam' '

The House and Senate Ethics Committees should defer their own investigations in the official corruption matter "until evidence and testimony has been presented to properly-empaneled Grand Juries," according to Assemblyman William J. Maguire, who represents Rahway and Clark.

He said the public has "little or no confidence" in Congressional bodies investigating their own members "and we should avoid the risk of compromising any evidence that could shed light on the scandal."

"The Justice Dept., the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other trained law-enforcement agencies and persons have been involved in the investigation for two years," the assemblyman added. "This is where the matter belongs without legislative body involvement."

Assemblyman Maguire said the Senate Ethics Committee and the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct "whitewashed" recent cases involving Sen. Herman Talmadge and Reps. Charles C. Diggs and Daniel J. Flood who were accused of a mix-me of campaign funds, kickbacks and indecent groping.

"Our democratic process simply can't tolerate a further erosion of public confidence and another whitewash or compromise of official evidence would be damaging," he added.

The legislator noted elected officials at every level of government will suffer as a result of the scandal.

I presume the scandal will dominate the headlines for months," he declared. "The best way to protect the integrity of the Congress, the Senate and the New Jersey Casino Control Commission is to let justice be done through the established Grand Jury, indictment and trial process."

Rinaldo cites Miss Pietchell

A township student, Miss Melissa J. Pietchell of 31 Cromwell Ct., is one of five Union County women nominated by Rep. Matthew J. Rinaldo, who represents Clark and Rahway, to compete for admission to United States service academiers this summer.

The five are among 50 county residents nominated by Rep. Rinaldo to compete for academy vacancies being allocated to the 7th Congressional District.

Miss Pietchell will compete for admission to the Naval Academy in Annapolis.

In addition, the representative nominated Patrick Geiser of 28 Autumn Ave., Clark, for the Merchant Marine Academy.

Those nominated will be required to compete for appointment through a process administered by the academies. Final appointments will be made by the academies following their evaluation of the candidates' college - entrance-examination results, their academic and extra-curricular records in secondary schools, and their potential for careers as officers in the armed services.

(Continued on page 7)

Filing date for Boards is today

The filing deadlines for candidates who wish to run for the three seats on the Clark Board of Education and the Clark set on the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education are today at 4 p.m.

Township petitions may be submitted from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at the Board of Education offices on Schindler Rd., Clark.

Those for the Regional Board may be submitted at that Board's offices at Jonathan Dayton Regional High School in Springfield during regular office hours today.

The filing date was incorrectly reported in last week's edition of The Clark Patriot.

Sen. DiFrancesco introduces bill to ban drug-tool sales

Legislation to prohibit the sale of drug paraphernalia, now commonly available in so-called "head shops," was introduced by State Sen. Donald T. DiFrancesco, who represents Clark and Rahway.

Sen. DiFrancesco's amendment to the New Jersey Controlled Dangerous Substances Act would provide penalties for "the manufacturing, possession, advertising, sale or use" of certain items defined as drug paraphernalia.

The legislation, drafted after a recommendation of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, provides a comprehensive definition of the term "drug paraphernalia," and includes particular descriptions of the most common forms of these items.

It also outlines the more relevant factors a court or other authority should consider in determining whether an object comes within the definition.

"Until now, prosecuts charged with trafficking drug paraphernalia have been too vaguely-worded and too limited to withstand Constitutional attack or be very effective," said the senator.

"As a result, a $1 billion industry has developed which promotes two glamorous, high-risk pastimes for adults and children alike," the 22nd District legislator noted.

Among the penalties set forth in the drug bill is a five-to-ten-year prison term for "the delivery of drug paraphernalia by a person 18 years of age or older to a person under 18 years of age," an offense defined as a crime of the second degree. The delivery or manufacture of drug-related items would be a crime of the third degree, with imprisonment from three to five years and a fine of up to $7,500.

"When items such as cocaine spoons, roach clips and pipes are sold openly in readily available and attractive malls and other shopping areas, we make a mockery of laws prohibiting the use of controlled, dangerous substances," said the lawmaker.

"The use of illegal drugs has reached epidemic proportions, especially among young people who can see the contradiction in banning marijuana while at the same time allowing the sale of papers for the rolling of joints," he added.

The Republican noted the length of the bill attests to the difficulty of defining all of the various objects sold for "planting, processing, concealing, compounding, injecting or otherwise introducing into the human body," unmodified, dangerous substances.

"After much research and study, I feel we have a reasonable and effective piece of legislation to prohibit the marketing of drug paraphernalia," Sen. DiFrancesco said.

Council fails to act on school re-zoning

The Township Council decided Feb. 4 to take no action on requests by the Valley Road School Parent-Teacher Assn. and several residents to re-zone as residential the Abraham Clark School property until the Planning Board makes a decision on a subdivision of the property applied for by the Board of Education.

The property was acquired from the Board of Education by the Polish Cultural Foundation of Irvington last fall, pending final determination by the court.

A pre-trial conference was scheduled for yesterday, at which time an official trial date was to be announced.

Meanwhile, Douglas Hansen, Planning Board attorney, said recently even with the case in litigation, the property could be re-zoned residential.

Township Attorney Joseph Triarsi, however, advised Council such action would potentially expose Clark to litigation.

He added preventing commercial zoning on the property and re-zoning it residential would deny "just use" of property already owned and would more than likely be illegal.

The cultural foundation, which acquired the land for $401,000 despite public outcry, has indicated a desire to create a center of culture at the facilities, to foster awareness of Polish Culture.

Area residents, however, have expressed their preference for residential development on the tract, saying the center would constitute a major neighborhood disruption and endanger the welfare of children.

In other action, Council President Joseph B. Punish appointed Councilmen-at-Large Joseph F. Farrell, Jr. and Manuel S. Dios to study the feasability of erecting a firehouse.

Student-Faculty game produces $3,814.50

A total of $3,814.50 was collected for the Clark Education Assn. Scholarship Fund from receipts of the township's Annual Student-Faculty Basketball Game played Jan. 26 at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, reports Jeanette Powers, physical education teacher.

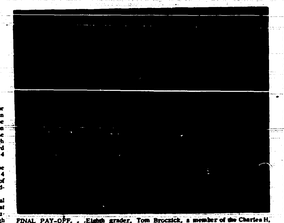
From Charles H. Brewer School the following deposits, totaling $1,035, were made: Two hundred dollars on Jan. 16, $100 on Jan. 18, $300 on Jan. 21, $200, also on Jan. 21; $41 on Jan. 22 and $194 on Jan. 30.

The Valley Road School deposited the following: Seven hundred twenty-five dollars on Jan. 18, $150 on Jan. 21 twice and $268 on Jan. 31, for a total of $1,293.

Totaling $812, Frank K. Hetsey School deposited $410 on Jan. 18, $245 on Jan. 21, $120 on Jan. 22 and $29 on Jan. 30.

Receipts at Carl H. Lodge School were: $152 on Jan. 16, $120 on Jan. 21, $90 on Jan. 22 and $132 on Jan. 30, for a total of $494.

Door receipts totaled $149 and miscellaneous change $31.50 for a total of other amounts received coming to $180.50.



FINAL PAY-OFF. . .Eighth grader, Tom Broccick, a member of the Charles H. Brewer School Basketball Team of Clark is shown, left, presenting a check for $3,814.50 to Sidney Hochman, guidance counselor in the Clark school system and treasurer of the Clark Education Assn. The check is for the receipts of the annual student-faculty basketball game held at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark on Jan. 26.

Kumpf poet to teach next week

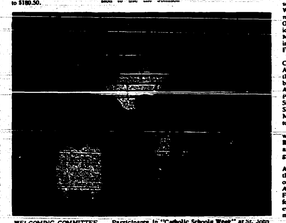
"The Artist in Schools" residency at the Carl H. Kumpf School in Clark, sponsored by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in co-operation with the National Endowment for the Arts and the United States Office of Education will give youngsters a first-hand experience with a resident artist.

She will work with students during the school year in classrooms located within the school, to heighten arts awareness and explore the creative process.

She will be doing her own work as well as teaching students who will be working along with her.

In addition to actual hand-on sessions with students, the artist will serve as a resource person for teachers, students and the community, reports Xavier A. Salemone, assistant principal.

The Kumpf program, "Sun in the Classroom," will begin on Friday, Feb. 22, and conclude on Monday, March 3.



WELCOMING COMMITTEE. . .Participants in "Catholic Schools Week" at St. John the Apostle School in Clark, shown, left to right, are: Back row, Mrs. Phillis Hatin; Sister Mary; Mary Spondzial, Derrick Whitfield, Patrick Sarraga, John Gladdis and Miss Eileen Wichmann, front row, Deborah Yanus, Karen Newell, Thomas Eck and Phillip Duffy. (Please see another photograph on page 5)

Reduced state aid in regional tax levy leads to increase

The Union County office of the New Jersey Dept. of Education has notified the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education it must reduce one figure in its proposed 1980-1981 budget and increase another figure.

Revised state-aid figures for transportation necessitated the Board to vote on Feb. 5 to reduce its total for current expense transportation aid by $13,950, from $603,000 to $589,050.

This reduction means the school board has to vote an increase in the current-expense tax levy from $12,481,214 to $12,495,164.

Board members also approved submission of the district's Annual Plan for the Education of Handicapped Children to the State Dept. of Education after a discussion of the plan by Dr. Frank Kenny, director of pupil personnel services for the district.

Mr. Kenny was also given permission to submit applications for state funds totaling $143,024 for programs for the mentally retarded during the 1980-1981 school year.

The programs will include a learning resource center at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark and a class for the trainable mentally retarded, and an after-school program for handicapped students at Johnson.

District co-ordinator of mathematics, Joseph Scott, was given the Board's okay to participate in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Chicago, Ill. on Thursday, March 13 and 14, at a total anticipated cost of $100.80.

The head soccer coach at the township school, Larry Sturchio, received approval to participate in the World Cup Sports Clinic on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 16 and 17, at the Ramada Inn in Montvale at a total anticipated cost of $139.

A debate coach and a forensic advisor were appointed at Johnson, effective Feb. 4 of this year, at stipends totaling $365.

A winter instruments coach was named at the school at a stipend of $125.28 and a spring instruments coach was named at a $355 stipend.

Board members also approved the submission of an application to the State Board of Education for $10,000 in adult-vocational-education funding to maintain an evening vocational school for the school year ending Monday, June 30.

The Jersey Lyric Opera Company was given permission to use the Johnson auditorium and two dressing rooms on Sunday, May 18, from 5:30 to 11 p.m.

Board Secretary Harold R. Burdge, Jr. was given permission to advertise the 1980-1981 school budget in one of three daily newspapers circulating in the district, and in the Feb. 28 issue, and in the "Regional Review" the budget is available to the public in the secretary's office prior to the public hearing on Tuesday, March 4.

The district's business office was authorized to cancel the 1978-1979 union receivable from the Highland Park Board of Education in the amount of $1,415.60.

Also, the facsimile signatures of the people who hold the positions of superintendent, principal, Board president and Board secretary at Johnson, as of Saturday, March 1, will be used as the official signatures on the diplomas for this year's graduating classes at all four regional high schools, thanks to Board approval.

POLISH CELEBRATION. . .Clark Mayor Bernard G. Varnavage, in shown, center, signing proclamation declaring tomorrow as Polish National Alliance Centennial Day in honor of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Polish National Alliance, a fraternal organization. Robert Makransky, president of Clark Lodge No. 2026 of the alliance, and Mrs. Magdalena Varnavage, fraternal insurance counselor of the Alliance, are shown seated in front of the mayor. The members of Council, rear, left to right, are, standing, 1950 members, look on. Mrs. Varnavage is the daughter of the late August Dziezinski's grandson.

St. John's opens house

St. John the Apostle School in Clark is one of 263 elementary and secondary schools in the Newark Archdiocese which celebrated Catholic Schools Week, Feb. 3-9.

The theme this year was "The Catholic School, One of the Family." They opened "Catholic Schools Week" with a family Mass on Feb. 3, at noon.

One of the many activities planned was a Mass and luncheon honoring senior citizens. A buffet luncheon was provided by sixth-to-eighth-grade parents. The seniors were entertained by members of grade eight and a sing-along was enjoyed by all.

Registration for new students was also held during the week, as well as open house. Students in grades four to eight held mini-courses such as crocheting, art, basketball clinic and cooking.

Feb. 8 a student/faculty basketball game was played at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Auxiliary to attend county talk

Delegates from Clark Unit No. 328 of the American Legion Auxiliary, President Mrs. Mrs. Thomas Radzicki, Mrs. Gustav Rau, Mrs. John A. Gudor and Mrs. Michael Grenek, and delegates-at-large, Mrs. Joseph Walsh and Mrs. William Cox, will attend the meeting of the Union County Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary at Martin Walthert Post No. 3 in Westfield on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 8:30 p.m.

The unit and members of Clark Post No. 328 of the American Legion will attend the Annual Dance sponsored by the Union County Area Council of the American Legion at Post No. 3 of the Legion at 589 Maple Ave., Rahway, on Saturday, Feb. 16, reports Mrs. Krow, president of the township unit.

Proceeds from the affair will go to aid the Legion's Rehabilitation, Americanism and Children and Youth Programs.

The unit will hold its Annual Chinese Auction at the post home on the corner of Liberty St. and Westfield Ave., Clark, on Wednesday, Feb. 20. Featured will be a food basket, prizes and gourmet dinners. Light refreshments will be served.

Tickets are $2 and may be obtained by telephoning Mrs. Krow at 388-5509 or at the door. The doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

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