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Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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Poll shows residents don't know senators

A recent poll by the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University in New Brunswick showed more New Jerseyans can name the governor of New York than their own United States senators.

The poll, on government in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, found, on the positive side, nearly nine out of 10 New Jersey residents can name Brendan T. Byrne as the governor.

Four out of five state residents know he is a Democrat. Three out of five could identify the Democrats as the party in control of the Legislature.

On the negative side, the telephone poll of 1,005 people found:

Only one out of three could name Harrison Williams, Jr. as a United States senator from New Jersey.

Only one out of four could name Bill Bradley as a United States senator from New Jersey.

One out of two could name Hugh Carey as governor of New York, and

One of 10 could name Richard Thornburgh as the governor of Pennsylvania.

The poll, part of a series on residents' perceptions of their state, said: "It is not surprising that the residents could name the Byrne as governor. He has been in office since 1973.

On the other hand, 50% of those surveyed could not name either of New Jersey's two senators, a percentage that is much lower than the national average.

But the recognition of Sen. Williams in office since 1958 has dropped as his years of service have increased, the poll said.

"In national surveys, about 30% of those interviewed can name at least one of their state's United States senators," said the poll's associate director. "In comparison, New Jerseyans are less knowledgeable about their United States senators."

She added the low level of interest in state politics is not unusual.

"Unless a state has a controversial issue such as the tax question in New Jersey in 1973 and 1976, or a state-wide election, most state residents focus their political attention on the more visible national concerns," the spokeswoman said.

Knowledge of state officials was more likely among those who use newspapers as their source of information about New Jersey, the poll added.

Gov. Carey was more likely to be named by northern than central or southern New Jerseyans and by those who read New York newspapers and watch New York television stations.

In comparison, southern New Jersey residents and those who read Pennsylvania newspapers and watch Pennsylvania television were more likely than others to name Mr. Thornburgh as Pennsylvania's governor.

Board approves roofing contract at Valley Road

By R. R. Faszczewski

An $11,800 contract for the replacement of the Valley Road School cafeteria was awarded to the Atkin Roofing and Sheet Metal Works, Inc. of Roselle by the Board of Education on Aug. 19.

Voting against approval were Board members, Peter Cummiskey and James L. Kehoe.

Mr. Cummiskey, saying he had consulted other contractors in the town who had told him the roof could be placed on top of the present one at some savings to the Board.

However, Board member, John A. Fitzpatrick, who does some roofing work, said the roof would have to be completely rebuilt because a roof on top of another roof would be too heavy for the school's rafters.

Another member, Edward Dreyfus, said the fact Mr. Cummiskey sought other bids on his own was "less than constructive" to the school district.

In other action, the Board members:

—Recognized the attendance of Mrs. Muriel Cassidy, curriculum co - ordinator, and Miss Patricia Finnel, a first - grade teacher, at the Southeastern Regional Conference of the International Reading Assn. in Norfolk, Va., from Wednesday to Saturday, Nov. 12 to 15.

Board members question quality of lunch plan

By R. R. Faszczewski

The possibility of a subsidized lunch program or brand lunches for the township's four elementary schools was raised by Board of Education members at the body's Aug. 19 meeting.

Both Board vice president, Mrs. Eileen Mezzo, and member, Edward Dreyfus, responding to complaints about the quality of lunches served at the schools not being of the highest standard, said the school body should look into alternatives.

It was claimed the lunch system is now only required to meet a minimum standard and that such subsidies of lunches several years ago had proven unsatisfactory.

In a related matter, the Board approved an increase in the price of the student lunch from 65 to 70¢ and that of the adult lunch from $1.05 to $1.10.

* * *

In other action, the Board members:

—Approved the school district's participation in the National School Lunch Program for reduced-price and free lunches for children in lower - income categories.

—Okayed the placement of a handicapped child in the Mount Carmel School for the Handicapped in Westfield.

—Agreed to the placement of a handicapped child in the Kenilworth School for the Middle Phase, Grades, for three hours daily, as recommended by the child study team.

Board hires top teacher

By R. R. Faszczewski

The retroactive employment of Mrs. Barbara Notaro as a head teacher at Valley Road School for this year during the Summer Recreation Program was approved by the Board of Education on Aug. 19.

* * *

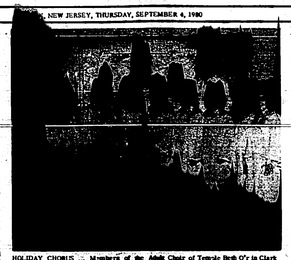
In other action, the Board:

—Approved advanced study grants for five teachers.

—Hired Mrs. Marilyn Lanzberg as computer teacher at Carl H. Kumpf School for the 1980 - 1981 school year at $7.50 per hour rate.

—Okayed the employment of Mrs. Anna Wyda as a cafeteria aides for this school year at Frank K. Hobaly School at $3.85 per hour rate.

—Added Leonardo Navarro to the custodial substitute list for this year.



HOLIDAY CHORUS ... Members of the Adult Choir of Temple Beth O'r in Clark are shown rehearsing their performance during the temple's 10-day High Holyday Observance, which will begin at sundown on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

Social Security Act marched into action

(See photograph on page 5.)

The crisp black and white poster urged its readers in 1936 to "Join the March to Old Age Security."

The idea of a "march" was not new to the audience. Four years before, in the summer of 1932, needy veterans from across the United States had marched on Washington, D. C. to persuade Congress to vote early payment of the wartime service bonus the World War I veterans had been promised.

But the Bonus Marchers, as they were called, did not succeed. In fact, they were dispersed by troops commanded by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, four troops of armed cavalry, six tanks, and a column of infantry, using bayonets, gas masks and tear - gas bombs.

Whereas the Bonus March had ended in frustration, the new poster for the "March to Old Age Security" spelled out a different message. It summarized the provisions of a national system of Social Security that had been signed into law on Aug. 14, 1935.

Popular pressures for income security had mounted to the point where they could not be ignored. And the popular mood found some persuasive spokesmen.

The act passed in 1935 was far from perfect. Even before monthly benefits were paid out, the act was amended in 1939 to include benefits for dependents and survivors. And the 1939 amendment also advanced the date when benefits would first be paid, 1940 instead of 1942, as originally scheduled.

Those amendments in 1939 were the first in a long series of legislative changes that have expanded and improved the program over the years.

The signing of this act marked the first decisive step in the march toward old age security in the United States.

Brewer paving gets approval

By R. R. Faszczewski

The repaving of a portion of the Charles H. Brewer School parking and play area was expected to be completed by the opening of school yesterday, reported Board of Education Secretary Philip A. Miller at the school body's Aug. 19 session.

Awarded the $12,240 contract was Mellisat Paving of New Providence.

* * *

In other action, the Board:

—Approved a joint transportation agreement with the Plainfield Board of Education to transport a handicapped child to the Midland School in North Branch for 1980 - 1981.

—Okayed a joint transportation accord with the North Hunterdon Board of Education to transport a handicapped child to the Millburn School in Millburn for the same period.

—Okayed a joint transportation agreement with the Kenilworth Board of Education to transport a handicapped child to the Hillside Avenue School in Cranford at $15 per day for this school year.

—Gave its permission for a joint transportation accord to transport a Linden student to the Millburn School retroactive from July 7 to Aug. 1 of this year.

—Approved the tuition and transportation for a pre - school handicapped child recommended by the child study team.

Bikeways requested for Clark

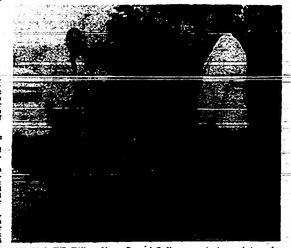
The N. J. Dept. of Transportation was petitioned by mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage of Clark for the construction of bike paths along the Garden State Parkway.

"With the department's policy to force its hand in the matter, and Clark, they have always wanted the footpaths that were part of the scene, since the inception of the Parkway," noted Mayor Yarusavage.

"These paths were located safe distances from the roadway. They were no menace to the motorists but certainly were convenient to the residents of Clark and in particular to those residents living adjacent to the Parkway. In fact, these good citizens maintained the area over these many years at their own expense, cutting the grass, cleaning the trash and removing the unsightliness," explained the mayor.

"The least the Dept. of Transportation can do is recognize the needs of the people for recreational facilities and restore the paths for bicycling and hiking," said Mayor Yarusavage. "We are reminding the D. O. T. of their promise in a letter from the supervising engineer, Clifford A. Ellis, to "maintain or relocate the footpaths within the right - of - way in conjunction with the proposed widening of the Parkway," said Mayor Yarusavage.

Mayor Yarusavage investigated the area over the weekend with Councilman at Large Joseph B. Postiglione and Fourth Ward Council candidate, Joseph E. Alacchi, who reside in the area and are familiar with the problem.



POINTING THE WAY ... Mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage is shown pointing to the bed of the old foot path which was recently torn up. Looking on are Joseph E. Alacchi, left, and Council President Joseph B. Postiglione.

Mandate by state on family courses opposed by Board

By R. R. Faszczewski

The township Board of Education Aug. 19 approved a resolution to send a letter to the president of the State Board of Education expressing its opposition to mandated family life education courses.

Board president, Mrs. Thelma Purdy, replying to a letter from the Clark Taxpayers' Coalition urging the move, said she would recommend the state keep the courses voluntary and in the same basic format as in the past.

Responding to John Schorock, the president of the coalition, she recommended residents support two bills currently in the Legislature dealing with the topic.

Mrs. Purdy noted the New Jersey Education Assn. has expressed its agreement with the opposition to these mandated courses, and added the Clark residents' opposition would be expressed in the letter to the state.

Besides, according to Dr. John T. Farinella, superintendent of schools, he noted in schools' last implementation of the mandated courses yet. Therefore, they cannot be yet

* * *

In other action, the Board:

—Approved the transfer of Mrs. Hercicles Caro from Carl H. Kumpf School to the superintendent's office, with no change in salary or employment classification, for the 1980-1981 school year, effective Aug. 20 of this year.

—Okayed the transfer of Mr. Kay Quirk from the superintendent's office to the Kumpf School office, with her employee classification to be changed from clerk/typist to school secretary and her annual salary for the 1980 - 1981 school year to be changed from $10,800 to $11,520 per year pro - rated from Aug. 20 of this year to Tuesday, June 30, of next year.

—Authorized Board Secretary/School Business Administrator Philip A. Miller to have an engineering study done of the heating - plant needs of the Frank K. Hobaly School before a second heating boiler is provided for the facility.

—Accepted the proposal of C. W. Budinger of Moonachie for student insurance for the 1980 - 1981 school year in the amount of $7,985. Mr. Miller explained the crossing legislation by denying the taxpayer's assessment contingent on the receipt of a letter from the board's architect confirming a conversation with Big Top on Aug. 19 in which the firm had incorporated the bid specifications, said Mr. Edward Dreyfus, said the second letter was necessary because the bid had come in a great deal lower than other bids, and he wanted to make sure the specifications were completely understood by the contractor.

Building agency faces third test in Legislature

The pending Senate bill to create a State Building Authority is not the first attempt to authorize the issuance of bonds without voter approval.

Nor is it the first attempt to authorize the authority and the state violated several provisions of the State Constitution, particularly the requirement for voter approval of creation of debts.

The State Supreme Court heard the case and, in June, 1953, reversed the lower court decision by a 5-3 vote. Thus, the state's first building authority came to an end. The reason: the state reverted to other financial arrangements to provide office buildings and other facilities without voter approval.

In 1969 the Legislature made a second effort to create an authority to provide office buildings. At the time it was called a "general state authority but his programs and financing techniques were the same. The type of services it would be authorized to provide was extremely broad: Motor - vehicle inspection stations, office buildings for any state agency, a variety of facilities for the state police, National Guard armories, electronic-data-processing equipment and facilities, fish hatcheries, land for fishing, water-supply and pollution - control facilities and purchase of mass for lease of the educational facilities authority.

The Legislature would retain the power to veto any project, while the governor would be given veto power over any action by withholding approval of the authority's decisions. The authority would be frozen with no funds, if either the Assembly, after an adverse action giving it second reading without reference to committee, the measure was subsequently referred to committee where it died.

That the 1980 State Building Authority bill is the third effort to create such an agency in 30 years.

Industrial engineer campaigns to fill Fourth Ward vacancy

A supervisor at the General Motors Training Institute in Union, Republican candidate Joseph E. Alacchi of 109 Dorset Dr., is seeking the Fourth Ward Township Council seat given up by Democrat, John Bodner, Jr., last year.

Mr. Alacchi, president of the Clark Lions Club, received his bachelor of science degree in industrial engineering and his masters degree in business administration from New York University.

A member of the Union County Assn. for Retarded Persons, he is past commander of Clark Post No. 1364 of the American Legion.

The C. O. P. hopeful is also a member of the Clark Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans.

A member of the Rahway Elks Club Local of the Honorary Policemen's Benevolent Assn., he is a parishioner of St. Agnes R. C. Church of Clark.

A member of the Club Republican Club, he is a veteran of the Army, having served in the South Pacific during World War II.

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This is the third in a 10-part series of articles on the candidates for mayor, councilman-at-large and Fourth Ward councilman in Clark.

Joseph E. Alacchi, Jr.

The series will cover all candidates from both major parties in the Tuesday, Nov. 4 General Election.

Next week's article will be on Peter M. Cousins, Mr. Alacchi's Democratic opponent.

Dems want census data challenged, see page 2