

April 15, 1982

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# Clark Patriot

A Voice for All, an Echo for None

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## Knights of Columbus mark centennial year

The Knights of Columbus are celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The Bishop Justin J. McCarthy Council No. 5503 of the Knights of Columbus of Clark will highlight the celebration with a Centennial Ball on Saturday, April 24, at the council's newly refurbished hall on Westfield Ave. Clark.

The group will windup their "Knights of Columbus Week" in Clark, April 24 to 30, by starting its Annual

Tootsie Roll Drive for retarded children on Friday, April 30, and continuing on Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2. Members of the township group will circulate throughout Clark in their red and yellow aprons

seeking donations. Last year over \$5,000 was collected.

Below is the complete, edited text of the proclamation by Clark Mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage about the "Knights of Columbus Week." Please see other pictures on the centennial celebration inside.

WHEREAS, the generous dedication of the Knights of Columbus throughout the past 100 years of its life has been of significant importance towards fostering the mission of evangelization of the Catholic Church in the modern world; and

WHEREAS, this love and support for the Catholic Church and its Popes, especially Pope John Paul II, has given cause for our Holy Father to complement and encourage the Knights of Columbus during his pastoral visitations around the globe; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we celebrate with the Knights of Columbus, 100 years of dedication to the virtuous principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, April 24 to 30, is hereby proclaimed as KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WEEK, and every official and citizen of Clark is asked to recognize and offer congratulations to the Knights of Columbus and their families.

## School voting set Tuesday

Board of Education Elections in Rahway and Clark, as well as in the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which includes Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, were postponed until Tuesday, April 20, by an order of Gov. Thomas Kean announced June 1.

It had originally been thought the elections postponed because of the

April 6 blizzard conditions that made access to the polls in nearly 600 school districts virtually impossible would be held on April 13.

However, that date is the last day of the Jewish observance of Passover.

The state school board president, S. David Brandt, of Cherry Hill, also noted the April 20 date would end up saving money for school districts that would have

had to open their schools for the elections in what had been scheduled to be part of Easter vacation in many communities.

The governor also announced he had signed a bill extending the time municipal governing bodies have to review school budgets defeated by voters. The bill, which had nothing to do with the snow emergency declared April 6, gives the governing bodies in Wednesday, April 28, to decide whether to accept defeated budgets.

Under the governor's order, voting machines in the counties affected by the emergency have been impounded. The votes cast

before the order took effect will be counted with those cast on April 20.

## Gettysburg cites Miss Wilkinson

A Clark woman, Elaine Wilkinson, a senior business administration and Spanish major at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pa., was recently named to the dean's honor list for outstanding academic achievement in the fall and January term at the college.

Miss Wilkinson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilkinson of 95 Lefferts La. Clark. She is a 1978 graduate of Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark.

## Candidate disputes newspaper account

An incumbent candidate for the Clark Board of Education, Mrs. Marie Soyka, told The Clark Patriot yesterday, "The statements asserting I want to close Brewer School are totally false. I do not want to close any school in the township."

The article that appeared in the April 8 edition of The Clark Patriot was taken from reports by a local daily newspaper. However, it was not noted a retraction of that article was printed in the local daily newspaper the following day, Mrs. Soyka declared.

The candidate stated while she is in favor of a reorganization of the schools, she again repeated she is not in favor of closing any school.

Mrs. Soyka also announced she has called for an investigation of possible election fraud and possible tampering with preliminary election results in the Clark Board of Education Election.

She stressed, "The people of Clark are shocked." The fact one of the opposing candidates, Mrs. Barbara Pisano, who is acting as an official challenger for the election, was present apparently played a role in the premature opening of the voting machines at the Valley Road School on election day, April 6, which gave her a sneak peek at the votes. My running mates and myself do not have any tally sheet from any of the election districts."

Speaking for herself and her running mates, Mrs. Soyka added, "The integrity of the election process must be of primary concern to every voter in Clark. It seems as though our politically backed opponents will stop at nothing in their reckless attempts to grab control of the Clark public school system."

Another example of the opposition's tactics emphasized Mrs. Soyka, was

when the opposition reprinted and distributed a false newspaper statement claiming Mrs. Soyka wanted the Brewer School closed.

"The opposition knew full well the erroneous statement to close Brewer School had been retracted in the next day's newspaper," she added.

"Of even greater concern to me," stated Mrs. Soyka, "is these people who resort to these tactics want to control the minds of our children by gaining control of the Clark Board of Education. Because of the deep community concern over the opposition's vicious tactics, it is giving Clark a black-eye. I have been forced to contact the Union County Prosecutor's Office to investigate possible election fraud and possible tampering with election results. This is not my style of a campaign, nor is it the style of my running mates, Michael Dudek and John Fitzpatrick, both highly-respected members of our community. The three of us, however, are no longer concerned about our own campaign, but are concerned about the efforts that may lead to the political manipulation of the children's minds should the politically-backed candidates get elected."

"It is ironic to note Council boss, George Sanguliano should allege I have accepted political donations for the School Board Election. He knows I have not; and he also knows I would not. But, Mr. Sanguliano owes the public a complete explanation about how much he and his political cohorts have contributed to bank roll the campaign of the so-called P. A. L. ticket. The financing of that ticket is ripe for investigation," she concluded.

**The N.J. Consumer Hotline Number is 648-3295**

## Regional tab to decrease

According to the superintendent of schools for the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which governs Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, Dr. Donald Merachnik, the unexpected receipt of \$996,653 in state aid, which had previously not been anticipated, will reduce the tax levy for the regional school system in Clark in its 1982-1983 budget by 13 points.

The reduction will mean a drop of about \$65 a year on the tax on a \$100,000 home, reports Dr. Merachnik.



**NEW CHAPTER IN HISTORY** - The commander of the new Son of the American Legion squadron in Clark, John Mycz, is shown, center, accepting a check for \$300 and a charter for the group from Comm. Joseph Rybak, left, of Clark Post No. 328 of the American Legion and William Wirth, the vice commander of Post No. 328.

## Candidates charge vote improprieties

Clark School Board candidates, Barbara Pisano, Anita Altman and Kenneth J. Lynch, upon the suspension of the April 6 School Board Elections at the direction of the governor, jointly expressed their relief at the suspension due to a number of alleged improprieties they say were discovered during the short period the polls were open, and through the process of closing the polls and securing the voting machines.

Mrs. Pisano, Mrs. Altman and Mr. Lynch stated, "There is no doubt in our minds Board of Education school buses, paid for with taxpayers' dollars, should not be used to transport selected voters to and from the polls."

The candidates' allegations stem from reports from residents solicited by telephone, eyewitness ac-

counts, and photographs taken by an angry taxpayer, they said.

When it was called to the attention of Board president, Mrs. Thelma Purdy, by the candidates' campaign manager, Liz Hudak, Mrs. Purdy remarked, "So what good!" the trio reported.

Identifying alleged improprieties also during the closing of the polls, candidates stated their representatives, along with other challengers present at the time were denied the opportunity to view the securing and sealing of the voting machines in certain districts.

Upon the instruction from a representative of the Union County Prosecutor's Office, the trio said they contacted Mrs. Purdy shortly after the closing of the polls, and requested a committee of their represen-

tatives be afforded the opportunity to inspect the voting machines to be assured they had been properly closed, locked and sealed.

The Board president abruptly denied this request, and stated, "The schools will be open tomorrow morning!" according to the candidates.

The candidates stated they were unjustly denied a reasonable request to see the machines were properly secured.

Mrs. Pisano, Mrs. Altman and Mr. Lynch expressed hope there will be a ruling by the Commissioner of Education's Office pertaining to the use of the buses and the prosecutor's office pertaining to the security of the machines, prior to the continuance of the election.



**HEAR YE, HEAR YE** - A proclamation is signed by the mayor of Clark, Bernard G. Yarusavage, seated, declaring the week of April 24 to 30 "Knights of Columbus Week" in Clark in order to honor the group for its international 100th anniversary. On Saturday, April 24, members of Bishop Justin J. McCarthy Council No. 5503 of the Knights of Columbus of Clark will kick off

the week with a Centennial Ball at their newly refurbished clubhouse at 27 Westfield Ave., which had been destroyed by a fire last year. Looking on at the signing left to right are William J. Zimmerman, grand knight, Ted Przyborski, past grand knight and centennial chairman, and Robert Morrissey, Jr., council program chairman.



**LOCAL PERSONALITY** - At the Monmouth College rehearsal of Arthur Miller's "View From the Bridge," are: Bill Introcasso of Clark, left, who plays a knife-wielding Italian immigrant, and his victim, foreground, Sam Arvanitis of Rumson, cast in the leading role of Eddie Carbone. Others in the drama about life on the Brooklyn waterfront are: Standing, Peter Sroka, of Wall Township, second from left; James Cashmoh of West Long Branch, second from right, and David Dancyger of

Englishtown. The two women kneeling are Debi Yaormina of Sayreville, left, and Terri Rimmer of Freehold. The production will be staged today to Sunday, April 18, in the Guggenheim Theater on Cedar Ave., Long Branch. Curtain time will be at 8:30 p.m., with an additional matinee at 3 o'clock on April 18. Tickets, which are \$5 with a \$1 discount for students and senior citizens, may be ordered through the box office by telephoning 222-7241.

## We'll be moving later this month

TO ALL OUR READERS, SUBSCRIBERS AND ADVERTISERS.

The offices of The Rahway News-Record, The Clark Patriot and The Aton Tabloid will be moving to the FORMER ELIZABETHTOWN GAS CO. BUILDING AT 219 CENTRAL AVE., RAHWAY, N.J. 07065 around THE LAST WEEK OF APRIL.

Although all services of the newspapers will be

available at our new offices, the telephone number, 574-1200, WILL REMAIN THE SAME.

ALSO, THE POST OFFICE BOX WILL CONTINUE TO BE POST OFFICE BOX 1061, RAHWAY, N.J. 07065.

We expect our new location will enable us to continue providing you with the continuously improving, quality service you have come to expect from us.

The candidates' allegations stem from reports from residents solicited by telephone, eyewitness ac-