

Sept 9, 1982

Clark Free Public Library  
303 Westfield Ave.  
Clark, N. J. 07066

# Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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## Rent-control decision up to voters--unless

By R. R. Fawcett  
Township voters will apparently get a chance to decide the fate of Clark's year-old rent control ordinance when they go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 2, General Election.

According to Mrs. Katherine Clancy, assistant township clerk, her validation of 2,822 signatures on petitions calling for the binding referendum of the future of the ordinance was upheld last week in Superior County by Judge Edward McGrath.

The judge's ruling was made necessary because of a suit filed by the Clark Tenants Assn. challenging approximately 255 signatures on the petitions. Although Township Clerk Edward R. Padusniak Tuesday filed the necessary

papers with County Clerk Walter Halpin for the case to be placed on the ballot, Mrs. Clancy said an appeal of Judge McGrath's ruling was expected from the tenants' group.

Township Council, acting on an ordinance to repeal the rent control ordinance, Aug. 20 voted 4-3 against the repeal, thus making the referendum necessary. Had the Governing Body voted to do away with the ordinance the question would have been mute--unless, of course, a court case was successful in upholding the ordinance.

Although the president of the tenant group, Sanford Krasky, was reportedly unwilling to give up on the tenant suit, he did admit a referendum would serve to "find out once and for all

where the issue stands with the people in this town." Mr. Krasky added he was glad the issue would be up to the people instead of the councilmen.

The tenant suit had contended Mrs. Clancy had erred because she should have invalidated an additional 255 signatures of the more than 3,000 originally submitted.

The requirement to put the question of the ballot is 2,608 valid signatures. Now, with the McGrath ruling, there are more than 200 in addition to the amount required by law.

Organizers of the petition drive and members of the Governing Body agreed the best solution to the problem is placing the question before the township's more than 10,500 voters.

Reportedly approximately 1,400 of the township's registered voters are tenants.

At the court hearing last week, attorneys for the petitioners, John Dillon, James Kehoe, Theresa Ward, George Amoroso and Thomas Winters, claimed 348 signatures invalidated were valid. Among them are reportedly 299 signatures in which nicknames were used.

Township Attorney Joseph J. Triand and the petitioners' attorneys, Irving Klein and Pat Dilanni of Clifton, said in their closing remarks the Clark Tenants Assn. had been unable to provide conclusive evidence fraud and forgeries existed in the petition.

While the tenant group had not charged the township clerk's office with knowingly defrauding the public by validating certain signatures and petitions, the tenants' organization claimed the organizers of the drive were responsible.

Mr. Dilanni reportedly asked the judge to accept the additional signatures cited as a possible hedge against the throwing out the more than 200 signatures the tenant group had shown were on petitions that were from another set of organizers. That set included Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Dillon and Mrs. Kehoe.

The attorney for the tenant group, Sheldon Siegel, had contended the 255 signatures were from "old" petitions which represented wholly different organizers and rent ordinances. He had reportedly said the signatures had been signed by people thinking they had been objecting to a 3% rent ordinance, and not the one with the current 7 to 8% levels.

Reportedly Mr. Siegel did not produce any witness to confirm this contention, and had been cited for this by defending attorneys.

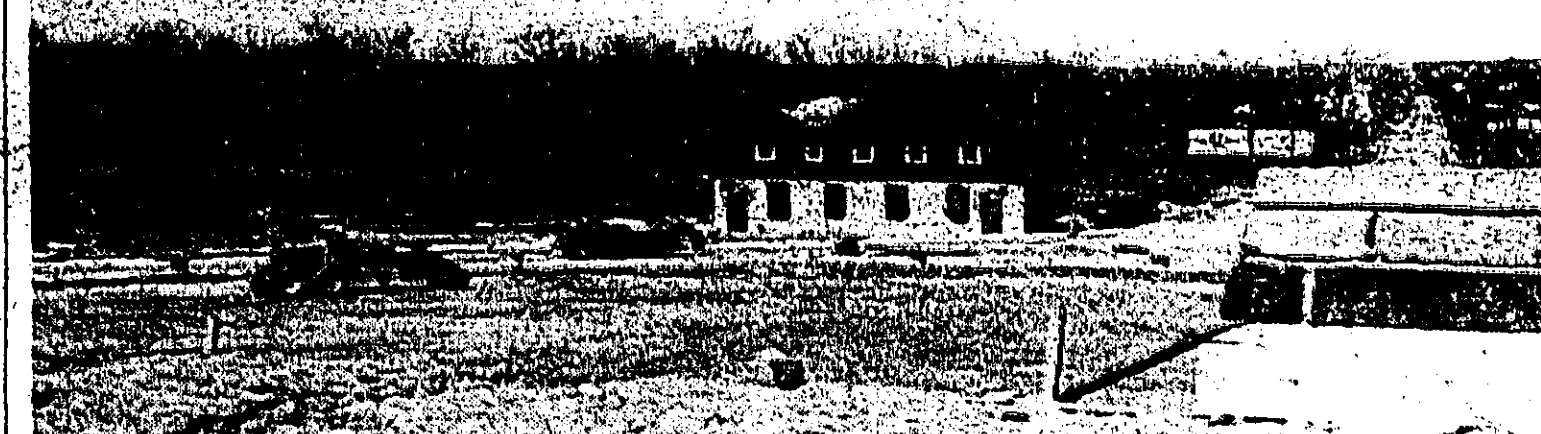
Although "senior citizens" have declined to say what their strategy will be should this issue be placed on the November ballot, it is expected they will enlist the help of the New Jersey Tenants Organization in fighting to retain the present ordinance.

Organizers of the petition drive are expected to continue their fight to have the ordinance repealed.



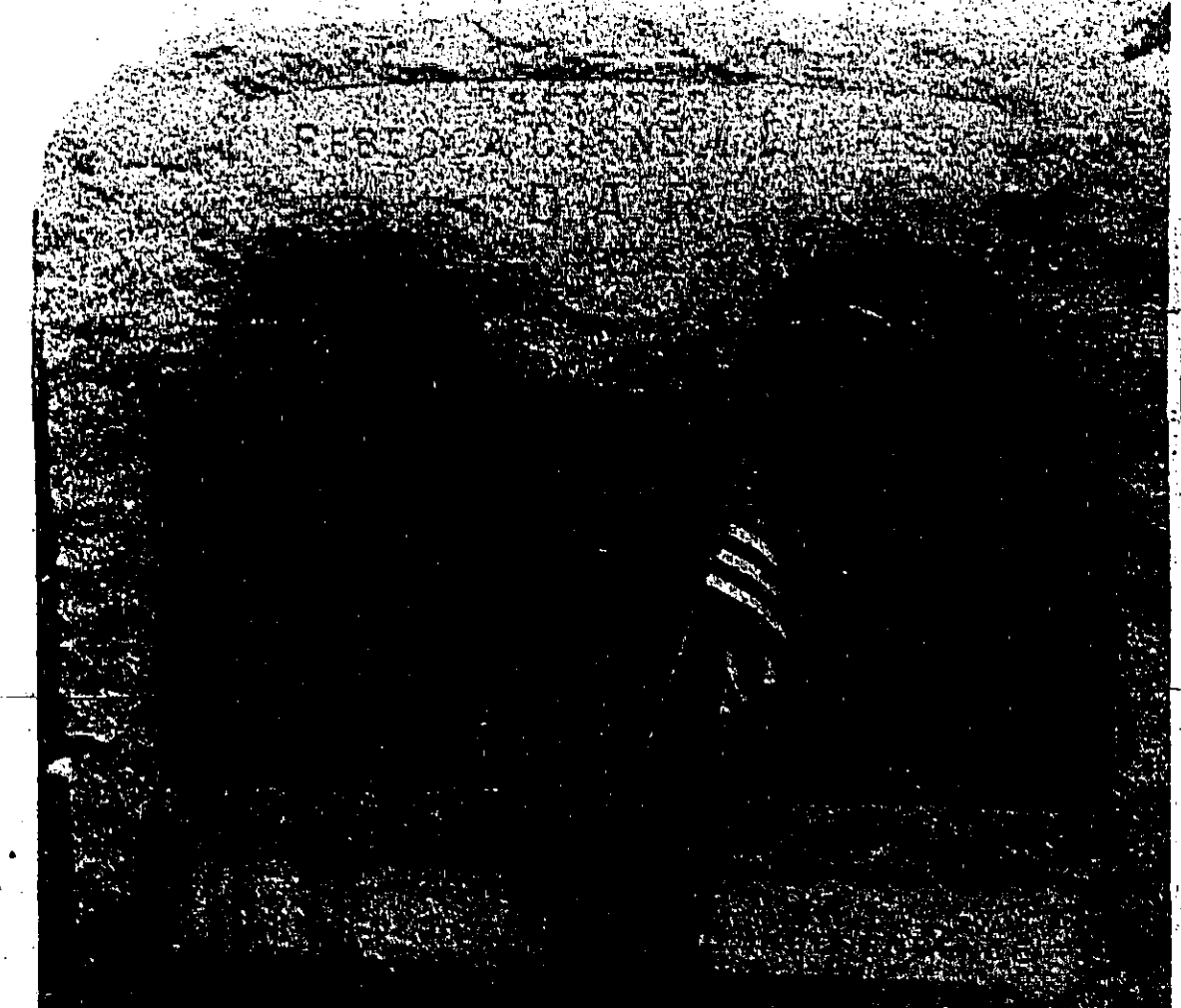
**PLENTY OF HEAT** - Situated at 823 Old Raritan Rd., Clark, this home features three fireplaces, and is similar in construction to the Westfield historic landmark, the Miller-Cory house. The home was built during the early

1820's. Roman numerals were marked on the beams in the attic as a method of co-ordinating the building of the structure.



**BELIEVE IT OR NOT** - This was Central Ave., Clark, in 1949. The house in the center of the field, which is very near what is now the circle at Exit No. 135 of the Garden State Parkway, was the township's old

firehouse, how the headquarters of Clark Post No. 328 of the American Legion. The building was moved to its present site on Liberty St. in 1949.



**TOWNSHIP'S NAMESAKE** - The grave of Abraham Clark, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the man after whom Clark is named, was restored by the members of the Rebecca Cornell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Rahway. It is in a historical cemetery in Rahway.



**BACK IN 1910** - An older photograph of the Dr. William Robinson Plantation at 503 Madison Hill Rd., Clark, shows many 17th-century characteristics. The building was reportedly built by Dr. Robinson around 1685. Because of his wealth he could have employed skilled European craftsmen to construct his home. Unusual features of the home include a 20-inch main beam, 26-inch floor boards, gun-stock posts and an overhanging gable. When the workers stripped the house they discovered round studs in the shape of tree trunks.

## Hopefuls told release dates

**ATTENTION: ALL CANDIDATES IN THE TUESDAY, NOV. 2, GENERAL ELECTIONS.** The Rahway News-Record and The Clark Patriot will publish their pre-election advance issues on Thursday, Oct. 21.

All biographies and/or pictures of the candidates which they would like to appear in the advance issues should be in the hands of the editor at 210 Central Ave., Rahway, N.J. 07065

**NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCT. 21.** Any charges to be made against opponents must be in the hands of the editor **NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCT. 21**, so they may be answered in the advance issues.

**THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE**, except in the case of an election cancellation, in which case the editor will have complete discretion as to which deadlines to impose and his usual discretion as to the material to be used.

**B'nai B'rith Women to meet**  
The Toy Chapter of the B'nai B'rith Women of Clark will hold their first meeting of the 1982-1983 fall season today, at 7 p.m., in the Clark Public Library, located on Westfield Ave.

## People of Poland still need your help

Clark Councilman-at-Large George Sanguliano and Clark Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John T. Farinella are the township coordinators for the emergency program called "The Community Relief for Poland."

In a joint statement, both men said, "We would like to remind everyone the Community Relief for Poland is still in operation in Clark. We would also like to offer our sincere thanks to the many people who have already contributed to the

worthy cause. The people in Clark and the surrounding area have been more than generous in the past four months--we have collected truck loads of items. We hope now that summer is coming to a close, and people are returning from vacation, people will again chip in, remind their friends, and continue the fine job they have been doing."

The Community Relief for Poland is a nationwide program to collect clothing, shoes, canned goods and soap for the people in Poland who are still unjustly being held under martial law by their government.

Spokesmen for the county, heading this effort, have reported, after going to Poland many times to deliver supplies, these people are still without the everyday necessities; many are without food and clothing. To insure the supplies are going directly to Poland's imprisoned people, the chairman and co-chairman of this county program personally accompany these supplies to Poland. Having



**FROM GRANT'S TIME** - The Lambert house, built during the presidential administration of Ulysses S. Grant, is situated at 474 Madison Hill Rd., Clark. The structure was built by Albert D. Lambert across the street from his parent's home. While constructing the house during the 1870's Mr. Lambert managed the family's dairy farm. One of his early ancestors, Roger Lambert, settled in Elizabethtown in 1665 with Sir Philip Carteret and 30 settlers.

made up 22-pound packages and working with an address list, they deliver these much-needed supplies from house to house. For people who have specific friends or relatives in Poland, who they wish to receive their packages, arrangements can be made. Information may be obtained from the office of Mr. Sanguliano.

Dr. Farinella is working with the Clark schools, and using the Board of Education building on Shindler Rd. for a depository. Please telephone 574-9600 or bring donations in bags or boxes to this spot.

Councilman Sanguliano asks all Clark residents, organizations and businessmen to please telephone him at 574-9057 or at 382-0334 or bring donations to his office at 138

Westfield Ave., Clark, in the J. R. S. Building. Sure D. Any monetary donations will be welcomed and used to purchase the necessary supplies.

Both Dr. Farinella and Councilman Sanguliano stated, "The people of Poland need your help more than ever, and until they are given their rightful freedom, our aid and the collection will continue."



