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Clark Patriot

"A Voice for All, an Echo for None"

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DiFrancesco: Delay vote on school tab

Senate Minority Leader Donald T. DiFrancesco, who represents Clark, said the Democrats' refusal to push back the deadline for approving local school budgets "will create financial chaos for school districts throughout the state."

Sen. DiFrancesco added, "The Democratic leadership in the Senate is punishing local school districts by refusing to vote on the budget-deadline bill sponsored by one of its own members. Matthew F. Fein, chairman of Bergen County."

"The bill was scheduled for a Senate vote recently, but the Democrats who control the Senate would not allow the vote to take place," the Clark senator noted.

The minority leader declared, "The uncertainty surrounding this year's state budget process illustrates the need to delay local school budget deadlines until the most accurate school aid figures are available."

"During the arduous budget deliberations this year, state aid to education figures changed constantly. The end result was school districts were forced to adopt budgets anticipating more state aid than they actually would receive."

"These school districts were left with no other choice but to cut programs or lay off teachers," the legislator explained.

Sen. DiFrancesco said, "The school children of this state have suffered enough because of the partisan games the Democrats engaged in during this year's

budget deliberations. The Democrats who controlled the appropriations process cut \$14 million in state aid school districts were counting on to balance their budgets."

"It is time to think first about the education of our children rather than gaining political advantage. I urge you to reconsider their decision, and approve a delay in school budget deadlines to coincide with the governor's annual budget message," he asked.

The lawmaker pointed out, "The Kean Administration has proposed a sensible and reasonable alternative to the haphazard school budget process over the past few years. For five years, school districts initially have been promised one amount of state money, and then received another after the state budget was finalized. It is time to stop this juggling act by giving school districts from the start, accurate state-aid figures."

Under the bill, school districts would be notified of the amounts of state aid they will receive for the upcoming school year after the governor has finalized his state budget. As it now stands, school districts must receive state-aid figures by Nov. 1, prior to the completion of the governor's budget, the Republican explained.

The annual school elections in which school budgets are presented to the voters would be pushed back to the third Tuesday in April, he concluded.



REMEMBERING THEIR HEROES - Thirty-five pupils from the Charles H. Brewer School in Clark conducted their own "Veterans Day Observance Program" on Nov. 10 at the War Memorial on Broadway, Clark. The students are members of Walter E. Boright's "America, My Heritage" course.



FOR THE DISABLED - Betty Lipper, the president of the Union County Assn. for Children with Learning Disabilities, looks on as Gladys Parrin, the director of special services in Clark, receives a proclamation of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders declaring "Learning Disability Month" from the association Board of Trustees member, Surrogate Rosa Marie Sinnott. The Union County unit, with an office in Westfield, serves the approximately 25,000 learning-disabled children in Union, Essex, Morris, Middlesex and Somerset Counties, their families, professionals and communities. (Please see a story inside.)

Public Works aide sees pact conflict

By R. R. Faszczewski

An apparent conflict over some of the terms of the recent contract settlement between the township and Local No. 8 of the Civil Service Employees Union surfaced at the Township Council's Nov. 15 session.

According to Leo Standish, the shop steward for Local No. 8 in the Public Works Dept., under the terms of the contract those who are to work overtime are to be called in according to a list supplied to the police dispatcher, giving him the order in which the workers are to be called in.

Mr. Standish complained Mayor Bernard G. Yarusso had issued an executive order conflicting with this understanding, taking people out of the bargaining unit who he has no authority to take out.

He also said public works director, John Desch, recently had sent the list down to the dispatcher, and had not told him or her what names to begin with when starting to call. He said the dispatcher should not have to do the paper work for the Public Works Dept.

In addition, the shop steward said in the copy of the contract he was given there was no mention of the part of the agreement which says the \$7,500 maximum limit on accumulated sick pay for present employees does not apply to employees who have already accumulated over the maximum amount.

Mr. Desch replied the list has been established from top to bottom with only those employees on vacation, sick time or compensatory



TIME FOR TEA - At the recent Carl H. Kumpf School Room Mothers Tea in Clark there were over 80 people present. Dr. John T. Farnella, the superintendent of schools, right, welcomed the group and discussed the

need for school-parent communication. Philip Foster, the principal, left, also gave opening remarks. With the school officials, shown, are Rita Daniels and Barbara Bennett, the Room Mother Committee chairwoman.



GATHERING OF NATIONS - The fourth graders from St. John the Apostles School in Clark, Linden celebrated "International Day" in honor of United Nations Day. The children wore costumes from various countries and had a luncheon consisting of foods from many countries. Parents, grandparents and friends were invited to share in the day's activities. Mas Jane Kierman, a fourth-grade teacher, is shown, left, with her students, left to right: Bottom, Jamie Valvano, Reyna Jewel, Kristin Smith, Tricia Russell, Patricia Cahill, Danielle D'Andrea, David Hassler and Coleen Weeks; Middle, Loren Malloy, Karen Sanderson, Jennifer Sileo, Debbie Hagopian, Adrienne Strivelli, Patrick Hora, Anthony Ruiz, Thomas Angelo and Frank Viverrito; Top, Rosa Milano, Justin Janisch, Joey Wright, Brad Kalkiewicz, Nicky Sorrentino, Damian Warbeck, Michael Reynolds and Robby Manel.

Brewer pupils honor those who gave all

The students in the "America, My Heritage" course at the Charles H. Brewer School in Clark conducted their Fourth Annual Veterans Day Observance Program on Nov. 10 at the War Memorial on Broadway, Clark.

The course, designed by Brewer teacher, Walter E. Boright, teaches patriotism and American history through the study of important dates, holidays and events in America's past.

Dignitaries attending included Mrs. Thelma Purdy, a Board of Education member; Dr. John T. Farnella, the superintendent of schools; Mrs. Marjorie Cassidy, the curriculum coordinator; David M. Hart, the Brewer principal; and Third Ward Councilwoman-elect, Ruth DeLuca.

Student activities and participants included: The flag salute by William McCarthy; the singing of "America" by Vanessa Accosta, Michele Catalano, Angela DeMarzo and Beth Levy; and student speeches given by Gail Hyatt, Walter Linsenmayer, Laura Aguilero, John Clement, Megan McCutcheon, Tina Katz, Dana DeSanto, Burt Madzio, Scott Sandy, Kelly Richter, Denise Favor and Debbie Jones.

Flowers were placed at the monument by Jeff Reich, Carol Shive, Lisa Venditto, Lisa Palmquist, Maryann DeMarzo, Claudia Hernandez, Peter Czajkowski, Robert Przydzial, Maureen Kennedy, Conice Pile, Sigrid Stabenow, Patricia Zawacki, Linda Burlew and Arthur Williams.

The flower committee was made up of Rachel Groeneveld and Robyn Rosen.

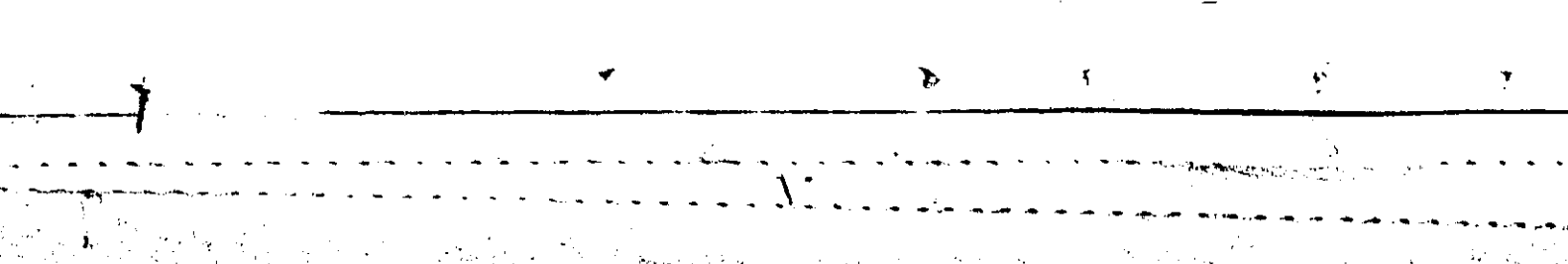
The color guards were Denise Pingor and Perrina Saracino.

The flag committee included Steven Ting and Sean Smith.

The audio-visual committee members were Kathy Edick and Chersil Jones.

The program committee was made up of Lisa Palmquist and Shawn Walsh.

Miniature American flags were presented to the students, compliments of the Clark American Legion Post. Flowers were purchased through voluntary student donations.



"BOBOLINKS" ON PARADE - At the recent Halloween Parade at Clark's Carl H. Kumpf School, the morning pre-schoolers prepare to march in costume. They are, left to right, Amy-Beth Cohen, Michele Thiel, Meredith Stocker, Raymond Doss, Jennifer Seitto and Robert De Marco; second row, Farah Segro, Yvonne Tondera and Juliet Perucci; third row, a room mother, Miss Patricia Mullin, a teacher, and Mrs. Marie Wornicki, a teacher-aid, behind the cart.

Erratum

In a picture on page No. 1 of last week's Clark Patriot concerning the National Council of Jewish Women in Clark, one of the three women pictured, Linda Cohen of Clark, was not identified.

WISHING YOU A HAPPY THANKSGIVING