

Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

VOL. 17 NO. 1

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1983

USPS 115-760

20 CENTS

Mayor issues challenge for 1983-- Re-assess priorities with limited finances

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is the complete, edited text of Clark Mayor Bernard G. Yarusavage's address at the Township Council re-organization meeting on Jan. 1.

Let us begin the New Year on a note of faith and hope. The rate of inflation has leveled off. However,

Regional seeks vocational grant

The submission of an application for a \$4,000 grant from the Division of Education and Career Preparation of the New Jersey Dept. of Education to provide in-service education for the vocational instructors within the four high schools of the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which includes Clark, was approved by the district's Board of Education recently.

Additional training in the implementation of the Individual Educational Plan for special-needs students requiring vocational education and for the integration of vocational student organization activities within the curriculum will be offered. Approved to receive the amount of \$300 added to their 1982-1983 salaries for having 20 to 24 years in the district were: Harold Burdge, David Carl, Peter Festante, Monroe Nestler, Tom Santaguida, Margaret Halsey, Inez Wagner, William O'Rourke, Angelo Salardino and Thomas Spencer.

Trenton has not given us relief from the "CAP" law restrictions in time for the 1983 budget, but there are promising signs.

The challenge of 1983 for small communities will be in resolving the ever-growing financial burden brought on by reduced revenues from state and federal aid programs.

This means we will have to prioritize as never before so we insure keeping our township safe and with no further reduction in municipal services. We will have to apply all of our experience, ingenuity and imagination in problem solving. The new members of the Council might provide that source of talent.

There have been some personnel changes this past year. A new business administrator and tax assessor joined our staff.

I am sorry to note we will have to find a replacement for our director of public works and engineering, who is moving on to a bigger job and greater opportunity in the private business sector.

During this past year, we have accomplished the following:

- Installed a traffic light at Liberty St. and Broadway.
- Purchased new equipment for the public works department, which included a new front-end loader and leaf rake.
- Constructed a field house and Little League

field at Hutchinson St. in conjunction with the access road and parking area, which is in the process of final completion.

- Improved recreational facilities at Curry Park.
- Replaced over 100 sidewalk slabs that had been raised by tree roots, and had been identified as potential safety hazards.

- Started Clark Community Pool improvements including the construction of volleyball, basketball, shuffleboard and tetherball courts.
- Through the township treasurer, earned over \$200,000 from interest and other sources.

Looking forward into the new new, our aims

are reflected in the Capital-Improvement Budget:

- Lexington Blvd. improvements-new curbs, road reconstruction and drainage.
- Terminal Ave. Pumping Station-replacing obsolete equipment. The station is essential to handle sanitary discharge from the Terminal Ave. industrial area as well as several establishments on Featherbed La.
- The installation of a traffic light at Westfield and Terminal Aves.
- Municipal Building improvements.
- Resurfacing of various streets.
- Resurfacing of the various municipal roadways, which may make the township available for state aid on a reimbursement basis.
- The purchase of a traffic safety van for the police department which will

upgrade emergency and traffic services.

- Continuation of the sidewalk-replacement program.
- Miscellaneous drainage projects.
- State St. improvement-new curbs, road reconstruction and drainage.
- The purchase of a new fire truck.

Monies were appropriated in 1982 for the Post Rd. and Post Circle improvements which will be conducted in the spring. Improvements will include repairing sections of curb, new drainage structures and re-surfacing.

Once again, I point out it will take a team effort, and I call upon all the members of the Governing Body and all township employees, directors and department heads to put forth their best efforts for the people of Clark.

Board okays economics class

A new course, "Co-operative Home Economics," to be offered at Clark's Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School and Berkeley Heights' Gov. Livingston Regional High School, was approved recently by the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which governs the two schools.

The 15-credit work-study program will replace two previously approved work-

study programs, and the change is required by the State Dept. of Education as part of the district's application for designation as a Local Area Vocational School District.

In other action, the Board: --Approved the placement of three students currently enrolled in special education at Johnson at the Occupational Center of Union County in Roselle two days per week.

--Okayed the hiring of Pamela Elmendorf as an instructor in courses at the township school in knitting and crocheting and quil-making as classes for adults at stipends of \$169 for each course.

Adult classes continue signups

The Rahway Adult High School, the Adult Basic Education and Graduate Equivalency Diploma programs are still accepting applications for classes, which meet on Mondays from 6 to 10 p.m., on Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon at the Rahway Junior High School.

Daytime classes are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon at the Rahway Public Library on the corner of St. George and Central Aves., Rahway.

Anyone wishing to attend should telephone 388-8500, extension 235 for an appointment.

The English As a Second Language program meets on Mondays and Wednesdays at the junior high school from 7 to 10 p.m. and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the library from 9 a.m. to noon. Applicants to this program will register at the appropriate class.



LONG-AWAITED MOMENT - Mrs. Eileen Mezzo, the president of the Clark Board of Education, center, accepts the check for the purchase of the township's Abraham Clark School from an official of the Polish Cultural Foundation during ceremonies recently marking the official turnover of the school to the foundation after a delay of more than two years caused by a lawsuit attempting to invalidate the sale. At the ceremony are: Richard W. Kochanski of Linden, the counsel to the foundation; Stanley J. Borowski, the chairman of the foundation's Board of Trustees, who signed the

check; Dr. Caesar T. Gaza, the president of the foundation; Anthony Kolakowski, a trustee and chairman of the foundation's Building Committee; Edward Wojcik, a trustee and a member of the Building Committee; Stanley J. Grabow, a trustee and founding member of the foundation; Dr. John T. Farinella, the Clark superintendent of schools; and Board of Education members, Marie Soyka; John Fitzpatrick; Michael Dudek and Edward Raslowsky. (Please see another picture, inside.)

Pozniak again heads Governing Body

by R.R. Faszczewski
For the third time in four years, Clark Republican Township Councilman-at-Large Joseph B. Pozniak was elected to head the Governing Body when it re-organized for 1983 on Jan. 1.

Although the Council is made up of a 5-2 Republican majority, as it was last year, the 5-2 vote for Councilman Pozniak crossed party lines, with

Temporary tab hits \$977,017.50

The Clark Township Council, at its 1983 re-organization meeting on Jan. 1, adopted a temporary budget for the municipality totaling \$977,017.50, a debt-service budget and payment of interest on bonds of \$42,500 and a temporary budget for the swimming pool utility of \$15,267.

The temporary budget is meant to pay township expenses until a permanent tab is adopted for this year by the Governing Body, probably sometime in March.

Leading the expense list is salaries and wages for

Republican Fourth Ward Councilman John Bodnar, 3rd, and Councilman-at-Large George Sangiuliano, also a Republican, voting against Mr. Pozniak.

A motion by Councilman Bodnar to elect Councilman Sangiuliano to head the body died for lack of a second.

Also chairing the Council in 1980 and 1981, Mr. Pozniak has been a councilman for more than 10 years. A retired businessman, he has

regular police personnel, which will cost the township \$240,000 for the first three months of the year.

The second highest amount is \$54,000 for salaries and wages for the Bureau of Roads, followed by the amount of \$34,000 for street lighting, \$38,000 for salaries and wages in the department of assessments, \$35,000 for fire-hydrant service, \$30,000 for group insurance for employees and \$29,000 for salaries and wages for school guard and special policemen and also \$28,140, are among the highest items.

served on the Planning Board and as the township's representative on the Union County Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the County Development Committee. He is a member of St. Agnes R.C. Church in Clark and Clark Lodge No. 2327 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Sworn in for their first terms at the organization meeting were the four newly-elected ward councilmen: Democrats Raymond B. Krov and George C. Nucera, in the First and Second Wards, respectively; Republican Ruth DeLuca in the Third Ward and Mr. Bodnar in the Fourth Ward.

In other business, the councilmen:

- Designated Summit and Elizabeth Trust Co., United Counties Trust Co., Chemical Bank, Columbia Savings and Loan Assn., Crestmont Savings and Loan Assn., The Howard Savings Bank, United Jersey Bank, National State Bank, Fidelity Union Trust Co., First National State Bank of New Jersey and City Federal Savings and Loan Assn. as depositories for township and Swimming Pool Utility Funds for 1983.

--Gave their approval for The Clark Patriot and The Daily Journal to be official township newspapers for this year.



Joseph B. Pozniak

--Appointed Frank E. Supple as township auditor for 1983.

--Named Henry J. Krohn of 91 Victoria Dr. as a member of the Board of Adjustment for a four-year term.

--Appointed Franklin Stevens, Jr. of 97 Fairview Rd. as a member of the Board of Adjustment for a four-year term.

--Tabled a motion to appoint Carl Gates of 16 Ginesi Dr. as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment for a two-year term.

--Named Elaine Glennon of 30 Spruce St. and Thomas Kelmartin of 87 Nassau St. as members of the Clark Community Pool Advisory Committee, both for three-year terms.

--Appointed Michael Schneider of 109 Amelia Dr., James Gillich of 35 Prescott Turn, William Hofschneider of 48 Fan St., Peter Sachenski of 19 Meissner Way, Thomas Curtis of 163 Stonehenge Terr., Donald Broughton of 67 Armstrong Dr., Joseph Antenucci of 135 Lexington Blvd., Gordon Lechner of 49 Armstrong Dr., Ernest Pauliny of 136 Thomas Dr., Patrick Damelio of 1551 Raritan Rd., William Clancy of 74 Stonehenge Terr., Alexander Miller of 26 Washington St., James Ceresa of 55 Hilltop Ave., Harry Mathis of 65 Hayes Ave., Mark Barr of 505

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ander Miller of 26 Washington St., James Ceresa of 55 Hilltop Ave., Harry Mathis of 65 Hayes Ave., Mark Barr of 505

Goodmans Crossing, Marc Kiempiety of 138 Lexington Blvd. and Richard Nelson of 30 Post Rd. as special policemen for 1983.

--Named Councilman Krov as the Governing Body's representative to the Planning Board for this year.

Mrs. Ogden explains school silence vote

The following statement was issued by Assemblywoman Maureen Ogden, who represents Clark, to explain her negative vote on the bill to mandate the minute of silence in the New Jersey public schools.

Many have asked me to explain my negative vote on the bill to mandate one minute of silence in the New Jersey public schools.

It should be understood that, prior to enactment of this new law, any teacher in the New Jersey public schools was authorized to ask for a period of silence at any time. Any student was able to be quiet and contemplate during the school day. Therefore, this new law is unnecessary.

One has to ask why it was passed. To me, it is an obvious attempt to begin each day of school with a prayer,

although the word 'prayer' is not used in the on-sentence legislation.

It reads as follows: "Principals and teachers in each public elementary and secondary school of each school district in this state shall permit students to observe a one-minute period of silence to be used solely at the discretion of the individual student, before the opening exercises of each school day for quiet and private contemplation or introspection."

I recognize, of course, prayer is an important part of many citizens' daily lives. In the debate on the Assembly floor some members advocated passage because they believed more discipline was needed in the public schools. I agree, but a minute of contemplation at the beginning of each school day is not the way to start. Prayer is an end in

itself. It cannot be rationalized as a disciplinary measure.

It was clear to me, as it was to the 16 other members of the Assembly who voted against this legislation, the new law attempts to thwart the constitutional ban on prayer in our public schools.

Our country was founded by religious dissenters escaping persecution. Do we want the state to tell us how to worship? Do we want one religious persuasion to dominate others of different beliefs?

When one of these tenets is threatened, all others are endangered. Today's majority can become tomorrow's minority. We need to respect our religious differences, and unite in supporting America's unique heritage--separation of church and state.