

Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

VOL. 17 NO. 19

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1983

USPS 115-760

20 CENTS

Changes in municipal accounts decrease 1983 budget by \$225

By R. R. Faszczewski

The 1983 municipal budget, introduced by Township Council on March 7, was adopted unanimously on April 25, and the \$5,123,024.02 figure for appropriations decreased from the \$5,123,249.02 set forth at the introduction.

There were also several amendments among the municipal accounts which were changed and received final approval along with the tab.

Among them was the amount to be raised by taxes for support of the municipal budget, which decreased from the amount of \$1,831,532.02 to the amount of \$1,831,307.02.

Total general revenues also decreased, from that of \$5,123,249.02 to that of \$5,123,024.02.

Salaries and wages for Township Council were halved, from \$28,400 to \$14,200, as was the salary-and-wage account for the Mayor's Office, which went from \$4,800 to \$2,400.

However, the salaries and wages for the municipal court clerks went from \$32,259 to \$33,509.

Salaries and wages in the Business Administration Dept. went from \$72,711 to \$68,461. Those in the Dept. of Public Works and engineering dropped from that of \$78,296 to \$70,796.

However, the other ex-

penses section of the Public Works Dept. Bureau of Roads, Road Repairs and Maintenance rose from that of \$135,110 to that of \$151,710.

The salaries and wages in the director's office of the Dept. of Revenue and Finance jumped from \$30,882 to \$38,862.

Unclassified salary adjustments dropped from \$27,954 to \$22,954.

Total operations within the state "CAPS" limit on spending will now cost \$3,191,665 instead of the \$3,183,665 originally introduced.

However, salaries and wages with the "CAPS" dropped from \$1,842,073 to \$1,834,073.

Deferred charges in connection with the anticipated 1983 deficit for the municipal swimming pool utility increased from \$27,742.78 to \$35,742.78.

Expenditures for Social Security taxes, decreased, from \$97,114 to \$96,889.

Municipal statutory expenditures within the "CAPS" limit increased

from \$299,902.03 to that of \$307,677.03, and total general appropriations for municipal purposes within the limit went from that of \$3,497,567.03 to that of \$3,497,342.03.

Additional membership fees in the dedicated swimming pool budget went from \$8,000 to zero, and the deficit in that account went from \$43,456.24 to \$51,456.24.

It had been estimated when the tab was introduced that township residents would have to pay a tax rate of approximately \$4.49 per \$100 of assessed valuation, up 29¢ per \$100 from last year's rate.

At that time the total rate was broken down to approximately \$1.32 for support of the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which includes Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, up 13¢ from 1982; \$1.63 for the township's elementary schools, down 1¢; 91¢ for county taxes, up 2¢; and 63¢ for local purposes, up 15¢.

This was estimated at that time to mean a total tax of about \$2,245 on a home costing \$50,000.

However, the fact that some of the above figures were changed since the introduction, and the fact that Township Council has called for a \$425,000 cut in the 1983-1984 elementary school budget because of its defeat in the April 12 school election, may cause either an increase or a decrease in

the above tax-rate figures.

The Governing Body's cut of the school tab was expected to be taken up at a discussion among the Board of Education, the Council and the Union County superintendent of schools this week.

It may or may not be appealed to the state commissioner of education, depending on the outcome of that discussion.

This will have an impact on the final tax rate.

Although the regional school budget was not approved by Clark voters, it was approved in the come six-community district as a whole.

Hopefuls told release dates

ATTENTION: ALL CANDIDATES IN THE TUESDAY, JUNE 7, PRIMARY ELECTION.

The Clark Patriot will publish a pre-election advance issue on Thursday, June 2.

All biographies and/or pictures of the candidates which they would like to appear in the advance issue should be in the hands of the editor at 219 Central Ave., Rahway, N. J. 07065 **NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 26.**

In order to give candidates a chance to respond to any charges made by opponents, **NO CHARGES WILL BE**

United Way to honor contributors

The United Way of Eastern Union County will hold its Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at noon on Friday, May 20, at the Kingston Restaurant on Morris Ave., Union.

Reports of the past year will be given by the president of the Eastern Union County United Way, Clarence Bauknight, 3rd, and his vice president in charge of campaign, Christopher Armstrong of Rahway.

The admission price will be \$11.50 per person and lunch will include stuffed capon.

Deborah to discuss 'Remembrance'

The Elizabeth Chapter of Deborah Heart and Lung Foundation will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, May 17, at the Young Men's - Young Women's Hebrew Assn. on Green La., Union, at noon.

The program for the day will be a book review by Mrs. Evelyn Olsen, director of the Roselle Library. Mrs. Olsen will review the book, "Remembrance," by Danielle Steele.

Preceding the above Mrs. Esther Sweigman, president, will preside over a business meeting.

ACCEPTED LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 19, FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MAY 26 EDITION.

FURTHERMORE, ALL CANDIDATES WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF TWO ONE-AND-A-HALF-PAGE NEWS RELEASES-TYPED AND TRIPLE SPACED-PER WEEK DURING THE CAMPAIGN.

THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE DEADLINES, except in the case of an election cancellation or postponement, in which event the editor will decide which deadlines to impose **WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.**

ALL RELEASES MUST FOLLOW THE AFFIDAVIT RULES PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER.



AND JUSTICE FOR ALL - The Third Annual Law Day Assembly Program was held at the Charles H. Brewer School in Clark on April 29 for members of the "America, My Heritage" course. Clark attorney, Stanley Fink, center, a member of the Union County Bar Assn., gave oral and visual presentations on our American system of justice. This was followed by a question-and-answer session. Walter Boright, course instructor,

right, organized the program in order to familiarize students with the rights and responsibilities of American citizens. After the program, left to right, are: Back row, David M. Hart, principal; eighth grader, Gail Hyatt, and Daniel Maxemow, a seventh-grade student. Holding the flag in the front are Maureen Kennedy and Gregory Kuyal.

Regional school body advised to restrict committee meetings

By Joan Gorzenik

Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education members were advised May 3 by their counsel to restrict committee meeting attendance to four members or less.

The Board attorney, Frank Skok, presented his recommendation after his examination of the Open Public Meetings Act, or Sunshine Law, as requested by the school body.

According to Board president, Stephen Marcinek of Clark, the investigation and subsequent discussion were spurred by "industrious" board members who wished to attend committee meetings although not assigned to that particular area. The attorney was asked to clarify the effect the state mandate would have on the committee meetings.

Mr. Skok said the presence of five members of the nine-member Board would create a quorum, and, therefore, the school body would be considered capable of transacting business. He said under the law the Board was required to give

adequate notification of the meeting.

After reviewing the act, Mr. Skok said, the terms meeting, public business and public body were broadly defined.

If the Board were to limit committee meeting attendance, he explained, the school body would not be responsible for the notification requirements.

The Board counsel also said he believed the committees would be paralyzed with five or more members because of the notification rules under the act. He maintained holding a committee meeting with a quorum would "leave room for slip ups," and added there would be an increase in the chances of violating the law.

He cited the only alternative for the education body was to continue in the same manner with public notices.

"It would be easy to violate the Open Public Meetings Act, not by design, but inadvertently," he said.

Mr. Skok explained no committee was exempt, al-

though he pointed to two instances where there would be exceptions: The New Jersey School Boards Convention where many Boards gather to discuss public business, and again, the meeting without a quorum.

Board of Education vice president Joseph Vaughn disagreed with the attorney's recommendation, saying, "We conduct the business of six communities, and have special needs. I am concerned with the needs of the communities we serve."

He said as much discussion as possible by Board members should be allowed.

The Board member asserted, "We should reward interest by Board members in representing the communities they serve."

He added he wanted to continue the committee policy as it is without limitations on attendance.

Board member, Charles Vitale, concurred, saying the reasons presented by Skok were not valid. He pointed out a municipality's representative Board member may not be assigned to a

specific committee but may have an interest in it.

The attorney made it clear he was "not an enemy of the Board, but only wished to make the Board members aware of problems they may be letting themselves in for."

The Board president said the discussion would be continued at a future date.

In another matter, Evelyn McGill, the president of the Union County Regional Federation of Teachers, read a prepared statement regarding the discontinuance of summer counseling sessions which would affect 11th-grade students and their parents.

The representative said counselors have been requested to provide the program in the spring of the student's junior year rather than in the summer following the completion of that year.

She added the summer counseling took place at a crucial time in the student's academic year.

She presented the following reasons for the continuance of the summer program:

1. Summer counseling allows for a more complete and conclusive review of student records, including Scholastic Aptitude Test scores, final grades and academic units, all of which are not available in the spring.
2. During the summer more time can be spent with individual students and their parents, without the constant interruptions that occur during the regular school sessions.
3. Summer counseling can be arranged at greater convenience to both parents and students.
4. If the summer-counseling program was moved into the spring semester, counselor availability would be curtailed to others such as students at other grade levels, parents, teachers, and administrators, thus having an adverse effect on the counseling program as a whole.

The federation representative cited the summer counseling session as a program where parent, student and counselor may work together in an appropriate environment to help the stu-

dents arrive at a meaningful decision which might well affect the rest of his or her life.

In concluding, she urged the Board to consider the real needs of the students before making budget cuts.

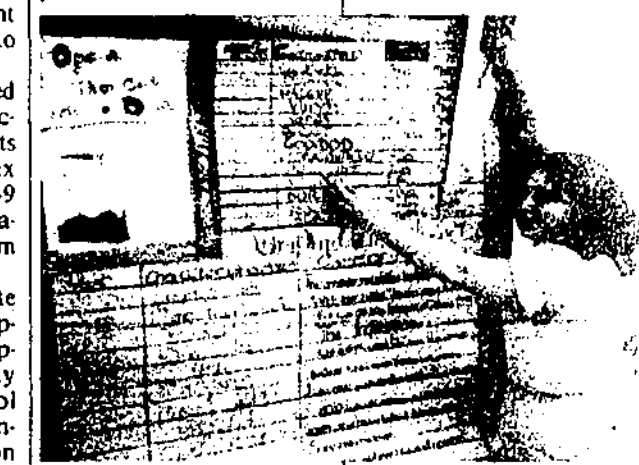
The federation president is also an English teacher at Jonathan Dayton Regional High School in Springfield.

Pool to celebrate 10th anniversary

The Clark Community Pool, located on Oak Ridge Rd., will celebrate its 10th year of operation with a weekend of activities on June 4 and 5 from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, June 4, the pool will open a new recreation area, which features a volleyball/basketball court, two shuffleboard courts and two tetherball courts along with added shaded pavilions.

The pool advisory board will honor 10-year member, Thomas Kelmartin, on Sunday, June 5, at 2 p.m.



OUTLINE OF OPERA - Hilary Altman, a student at Clark's Carl H. Kumpf School, points to the chart she made for an exposition at Middlesex County College in Edison on April 15 which demonstrates an analytical study of the death theme over three centuries in opera.



IT ALL ADDS UP - Jim Lapidus, right, and Steve Gelman, left, work on the original computer programs they presented April 15 at an exposition at Middlesex County College in Edison. Sixteen seventh-grade students at Clark's Carl H. Kumpf School took part in the exposition.

Johnson to present spring concert

The Choral Dept. at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark will present its annual spring concert on Wednesday, May 18, at 8 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

Under the direction of Evelyn Blecke, the 70 students who comprise the Bel Canto and concert choirs and the vocal work-

shop will sing selections from "Bach to rock," culminating in a rock cantata entitled "The Creation," accompanied by piano, bass and drums.

Also, the Choral Crusaders, Johnson's choral parents society, will present awards to graduating seniors.

Some of the selections to be sung at the concert include "Now the Eveitide" by Beethoven, "We Hasten, O Master" by Johann Sebastian Bach and "Chorus of the Faithful" by Telemann. The Bel Canto will present the Johnson alma mater arranged by Mrs. Blecke.

In addition to its many community appearances in Cranford, Union, Elizabeth, and Clark, the Bel Canto participated in the American Choral Director's Assn. Festival of outstanding choirs in Trenton and will appear Tuesday, May 31, at the New Jersey State Teen Arts Festival at Rutgers University.

Pool signups: See inside

Non-residents may join when sponsored by a township pool member.

For more information please telephone 388-0235 or 388-3600.