

# Clark Patriot



PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
RAHWAY, N. J.

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

VOL. 17 NO. 36

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1983

USPS 115-760

20 CENTS

## New county schools superintendent favors letting local districts map own destinies

By R. R. Faszczewski

A new mood is apparently sweeping school districts in Union County and the recently-appointed Union County superintendent of schools, Dr. Vito A. Gagliardi of Clark, sees his role in this movement as that of a technical assistant to help local school districts do their own educational planning and not solely as an enforcer of state regulations.

Under the recent revisions of the state's Thorough and Efficient Education Law, initiated by New Jersey Commissioner of Education, Saul Cooperman, Dr. Gagliardi sees the law becoming a planning model for school improvement and views his job as targeting instruction to a specific population of students.

The new superintendent also wants to encourage community involvement in the educational planning process by urging parents to become more involved in planning their children's educations.

He told The Clark Patriot the new focus of the state monitoring process to determine how well schools are fulfilling their mission will be composed of 10 elements to be initiated over the next two years.

These are: Planning, school-community relations, comprehensive curriculum/instruction, attendance, facilities, professional staff, mandated programs, achievement of mandated basic skills, equal opportunity and affirmative action and financial affairs.

The new county schools head sees Union County as a microcosm of the state because it has 21 municipalities, just as the state has 21 counties, pupil populations range from around 200 in Winfield Park to about 15,000 in Elizabeth and all strata of socioeconomic conditions are represented.

He also pointed to the diversity of the county which ranges from "the bays of Elizabeth to the mountains of Watchung."

A 1957 graduate of Linden High School, Dr. Gagliardi served in the United States Marine Corps for three years before embarking on his academic career.

He received his bachelor's and masters degrees from Kean College of New Jersey

in Union and his doctorate from Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey.

In 1964 the new county schools head began teaching elementary school in Westfield.

Later he became an administrative principal in the Washington Township Schools in Mercer County, where he served as superintendent of schools from 1970 until joining the state department of education in 1981 as director of the School Executive Academy, and later was appointed assistant deputy commissioner.

Dr. Gagliardi assumed his new post, based in Westfield, in early July.

Going back to the way he sees his new role, the edu-

cator said under Commissioner Cooperman, of whom he considers himself a "disciple," the focus of the office of the county superintendent is now to provide assistance in helping districts fulfill their own educational goals based on what they feel should be done educationally and how they feel it should be accomplished.

Under the new state monitoring plan, announced by Commissioner Cooperman on Aug. 3, school boards will be freed from the constant monitoring of the past.

Instead, all districts will be checked for certification in the 10 areas outlined above over the next two years. Once certified, they

will not be monitored again for five years.

If, on the other hand, some districts have problems meeting certain requirements, they will get help from Dr. Gagliardi's office to get their certification.

Responding to questions about some local issues, the superintendent told The Clark Patriot he would like to see the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which includes Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, come up with its own plan for re-structuring the four high schools in its jurisdiction.

Because of decreases in enrollment the district's Board of Education has been studying different ways of utilizing the

schools, the other three of which are located in Springfield, Kenilworth and Berkeley Heights, to the best educational advantage.

Dr. Gagliardi's philosophy is to "give local boards the most latitude to work with the community in doing what is best for the kids."

On the subject of girls' athletics he said most of the municipalities in the county seem to be moving ahead well in increasing opportunities and there is no reason for his office to be concerned with this area.

The schools head feels the fact that he is a resident of Union County will help him to better understand the problems of the schools, although he will treat all school districts equally both

in terms of the positive aspects of his office's powers and in administering any regulatory discipline he may find necessary.

He did see an advantage, however, in the Union County Educational Services Commission's recent agreement to rent the Charles H. Brewer School in Clark, which was closed by the township's elementary Board of Education for its purposes at the end of the last school year, for instruction of special education children.

The educator told The Clark Patriot it is to the county's advantage whenever a vacant school building can be utilized for edu-

cational purposes rather than allowed to lie fallow.

He is very pleased with the facility itself and feels the county will make good use of it in educating handicapped children.

On the issue of family life education, which Clark and the other districts in the state were mandated to begin this month, the new superintendent said there have been no problems and the new program is going in rather smoothly.

**Play it safe**

DRIVE CAREFULLY!  
IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!

**Miss Price gets masters from Rutgers**

A Clark woman, Miss Debra Price, of 13 Linda Ln., was recently awarded a master of science degree from the Graduate School in New Brunswick, a division of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, at commencement exercises.

**Miss Villa receives degree from Rutgers**

A Clark scholar, Miss Patricia Villa of 35 Hilltop Ave., was recently awarded a bachelor of science degree in engineering from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, in New Brunswick at commencement exercises.

the prerogatives of the Legislature regarding the tax structure and spending policies," he concluded.



## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - New Jersey Democratic Sen. Bill Bradley meets in his Washington office with Miss Lori Luxenberg, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Luxenberg of 115 Stonehenge Terr., Clark. Miss Luxenberg was New Jersey's delegate to the 37th Annual Session of Girls Nation recently held in Arlington, Va. under the aegis of the American Legion Auxiliary. She is a senior at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark.

## Mother Seton adds many new faces

Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark reopened Tuesday with a morning orientation program for new faculty members and a meeting of department chairmen with Sister Regina Marin, the principal, and Miss Joan Barron, the assistant principal.

A later meeting with the entire faculty was followed by a Liturgy celebrated by The Rev. John McGovern, the school Chaplain. Faculty and staff members were guests at a luncheon immediately following the Liturgy.

Today Student Council members and the sophomore class will welcome 165 new freshmen to Mother Seton. Junior and senior classes will begin their school year tomorrow. A Liturgy to celebrate the opening of the school year will be planned by the students for Monday, Sept. 12.

Within the past three years the school has experienced a 10% increase in enrollment each year. Provisions for additional faculty members as well as course offerings have been made to accommodate this continual growth of the student population. In addition, the school will be commemorating its 20th anniversary on Friday, Sept. 16.

Mrs. Catherine Boyle of South Plains will join the staff as a member of the guidance department. A graduate of Carlow College, Mrs. Boyle also holds a master's degree in counseling psychology from Manhattan College. Mrs. Boyle's previous experience has been in college admissions and personnel administration.

Mrs. Darlynn Marsh of Colonia will fill the position of home economics teacher. Mrs. Marsh holds a bachelor of science degree in home economics from the College of Saint Elizabeth.

Mrs. Marsh brings to her position at Mother Seton an extensive background in nutrition, clothing construction and communication skills.

Mrs. Jane Theobald of Colonia will become a member of the health and physical education staff. Mrs. Theobald holds a bachelor of arts degree from Adrian College with a strong background in both physical and health education. She has been active in several sports and coaching activities.

Mrs. Maureen Lewandowski of Westfield will join the staff of the mathematics department. A graduate of Chestnut Hill College, Mrs. Lewandowski is enrolled in a masters degree program at Seton Hall University. Mrs. Lewandowski's background includes experience in computer programming as well as many volunteer activities.

Increased enrollment has created two new positions at Mother Seton. Mrs. M. Kathleen Maher of Summit will join the staff of the business education department. Mrs. Maher holds a bachelor of arts degree from Montclair State College with an area of concentration in data processing.

Miss Colette Martin of South Orange will join the English and mathematics departments. Holding a bachelor's degree from Maria Assumpta College in London, Miss Martin was also studied at the Royal Academy of Speech and Drama on Baker St., London. She has taught English and mathematics at Eastbourne College of Education in Eastbourne, England. Most recently she taught at Our Lady of Perpetual Help High School in New York and has done post-graduate study at Seton Hall University.

Mother Seton offers a complete college preparatory and business curriculum. A full honors program at each grade level is offered in the major subject areas.

Several advanced courses such as calculus, physics and molecular biology are offered to students who successfully complete honors courses. The business curriculum offers a work experience program for senior business students.



THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES - Alice Muir, right, the former president of the Clark Jayceeettes, presents a copy of Clark's Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School Yearbook to Grace O'Connor of the Clark Public Library. The Jayceeettes also donated money to the Valerie Children's Center of Overlook Hospital in Summit, the Clark Emergency Squad, the Clark Historical Society, the National Huntington's Disease Assn. and the Wish Fund for terminally-ill children. They also sponsored a retarded child at camp each summer. The September meeting of the Jayceeettes will be held on Monday, Sept. 12, at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Alice Muir. For further information please telephone 382-1405.

Courses in computer literacy are required of all students, and electives in computer science and word processing are also provided.

The school serves Union, Middlesex and Essex Counties. Busing is available from each county. A Parents' Guild sponsors many social and fund-raising events.

Prospective students and their parents may visit the school at any time or to obtain further information by telephoning 382-1952.

Assemblyman Bob Franks, who represents Clark, noting legislation has been filed which would create a limited Constitutional tax convention in New Jersey, said the bill reflects the "frustration" of county and local government because of costs mandated by the state.

"Several Boards of Chosen Freeholders have endorsed the convention concept because of upward pressure on the property tax caused when the state mandates programs but refuses to send the money to fund them," the Republican lawmaker said. "I believe there is a better, less controversial way to solve the problem."

## Hopefuls told release dates

ATTENTION: ALL CANDIDATES IN THE TUESDAY, NOV. 8, GENERAL ELECTION.

The Rahway News-Record and The Clark Patriot will publish pre-election advance issues on Thursday, Nov. 3.

All biographies and/or pictures of the candidates for that issue must be in the hands of the editor at 219 Central Ave., Rahway, N.J. 07065 NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCT. 27.

In order to give candidates a chance to respond to any charges made by opponents, NO CHARGES WILL BE ACCEPTED LATER THAN 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, OCT. 20, FOR

Assemblyman Franks said his bill, ACR 19, would amend the Constitution to cause the state to provide funding for all its mandates to lower levels of government. He said his legislation is "less controversial" than the new proposal.

"My bill would have the effect of containing the cost of government because the Legislature would naturally hesitate to mandate new or expanded programs when it has the corresponding responsibility to pay the bill," the assemblyman noted.

"To this extent, my bill would be an effective vehicle to help contain government spending."

PUBLICATION IN THE OCT. 27 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 decide which deadlines to decide WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.

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

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★