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# Clark Patriot



'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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## Governing Body authorizes \$250,000 to bond refund of Hyatt Clark firm taxes

By R. R. Faszczewski  
A \$225,000 bond ordinance to pay the cost of a tax refund to Clark Hyatt Industries was unanimously adopted on Dec. 19 by the Township Council.

The refund, on 1982, property taxes, is the result of a July 13, 1983, New Jersey Tax Court judgment rendered against the township. Although the tax refund totaled only \$215,304.60 the remaining \$9,695.40 in the ordinance will be used to pay the costs of printing the bonds and bond-anticipation notes, accounting fees and financing and legal expenses.

According to Township Attorney Joseph J. Triarsi the measure had been delayed because it required a hearing before the state Local Finance Board.

He added that hearing was held on Nov. 12 and the measure was approved. The attorney also said if the law, under which bonds will be issued at \$45,000 per year over a five-year period, had not been approved it would have forced the Governing Body to put all the expense of the tax refund in the 1984 municipal budget.

A proposed ordinance to include the leasing and control of cats in the same category governing punishment of dog owners who do not control their animals was defeated because of a tie 3-3 vote.

First Ward Councilman Raymond Krov was not present at the time of the vote, under which Councilmen-at-Large Fred Eckel

and Joseph B. Pozniak were joined by Second Ward Councilman George Nucera in supporting the measure and Third Ward Councilwoman Ruth DeLuca, Fourth Ward Councilman John Bodnar and Councilman-at-Large George Sanguiliano voted against the measure.

Before the vote Councilwoman DeLuca had read the section of the current ordinance which says animals (now referring only to dogs) must be leashed on the property of their owners or properly controlled when they are off the property.

She also referred to a letter from township health officer, Anthony D. Diege, in which he called the proposal for cat control totally impractical because cats are nocturnal animals, they cannot be fenced in and doing so would be dangerous to others.

Mr. Diege suggested the councilmen look at ordinances for cat control from other municipalities before making a decision and take into consideration amending the present ordinance only to the extent that licensing and immunization would be better enforced.

Councilman Bodnar said if there was a great deal of concern for cat control in the township then another ordinance could be amended to provide for licensing and immunization, not the dog control ordinance.

However, Councilman Pozniak replied cats were just as destructive as dogs.

the rabies situation with cats had become serious in the township and he saw no problem with enforcing cat control.

Councilman Sanguiliano said the measure as proposed would use the valuable time of the police for something that was not practical at all.

Councilman Nucera replied that in the interest of controlling the rabies problem further clarification of cat-control laws would be needed in the future.

The councilmen also authorized the director of revenue and finance to issue tax refunds totaling \$7,318.70 for appeals by Villa Contracting Co., Inc. of 1154 Westfield Ave., for property at 1050 Raritan Rd., Harry Kominakis and John Kallas for property at 1030 Raritan Rd., Friendly Ice Cream Corp. for prop-

erty at 1463 Raritan Rd. and Carl F. and Nancy L. Young for property at 61 Colonial Dr.

Mr. Triarsi explained without the current re-valuation process, which is being undertaken to bring property values up to their current worth in Clark, such appeals would be common in the future and awards would have to be made in the same way every year.

In other action, the Council:

- Authorized a partial payment of \$12,472 minus \$1,247.20 retaine to New Prince Concrete Construction Co., Inc. of Hackensack for road re-construction and surface-drainage improvements on the upper portion of Lexington Blvd.

- Accepted public improvements installed by Anthony Ginesi in connection with the development of Madison Hill Manor and directed the discharge of the sureties listed with the project subject to the developer posting a \$2,400 cash bond for shade-tree planting and a two-year maintenance bond amounting to \$16,000.

- Adopted an ordinance establishing the recently-negotiated salary increases for municipal blue-and-white-collar workers.

- Approved the 1984 salaries for department heads and non-classified employees.

- Okayed the minimum and maximum salaries recently agreed to for the police captain.

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## Board votes \$22,339,055 tab

A tentative 1984-1985 school-year budget of \$22,339,055 was adopted on Dec. 20 by the Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education, which governs Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark.

The tab includes a total current-expense budget of \$21,600,340 and a debt-service budget of \$738,715. There will be no capital outlay for 1984-1985.

The amount to be raised by taxes in support of the current-expense tab, which the voters will cast ballots on at the Tuesday, April 3, 1984, school election, has not been determined yet.

The public hearing and possible final adoption of the budget by the school body will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 1984, in the Instructional Media Center at Gov. Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights.

Board members also heard a report by Dr. Francis Kenny, the district's director of pupil personnel services, in which he pointed out the average scores of Johnson pupils on the Scholastic Aptitude Tests have increased by 7 to 9% since 1978.

Dr. Kenny noted the verbal scores had increased from the 45th to 54th percentile in the five-year period and the Clark students had increased average scores above those of their peers at the state, middle states and national levels from 4% to 8% of the student body.

The scores in mathematics in the above categories increased from the 51st to 58th percentile and of the students who had scored higher than the average had increased from 9 to 12%.

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## Franks: Don't hush voice for aged

Assemblyman Bob Franks, whose district includes Clark, said today he is "angry and shocked" at attempts by the American Health Care Assn. to weaken ombudsman programs for the institutionalized elderly.

The assemblyman added the association is actively lobbying in Congress for a bill that would cripple the ombudsmen by disallowing surprise visits to nursing homes and other institutions by state inspectors.

New Jersey was the first state to enact an ombudsman program and 24 other states followed suit.

Assemblyman Franks said the association represents the owners of about 8,000 institutions for the elderly throughout the country.

"We should strengthen rather than weaken the ombudsman program," he noted.

"The federal legislation supported by the association would dismember the program at the expense of our state's 100,000 elderly in our 300 nursing homes, 21 county hospitals and 500-plus boarding homes."

The legislator added he will introduce legislation in the Assembly urging Congress to resist the association's lobbying efforts.

"Our state's program, under Ombudsman John J. Fay, is working effectively and well," the lawmaker said. "Regrettably, the ombudsman program is in a power struggle with a powerful lobbying group in Washington and I want our Legislature to speak out strongly in defense of our program."

Assemblyman Franks explained, under the association's proposal pending in Congress, inspectors of the state's institutions would be

limited to normal working hours. He said this would eliminate evening visiting hours for friends and relatives as well as onsite inspections "during the critical evening and night time hours."

He added the proposal would also deny access to medical records to verify complaints of patient abuse.

In New Jersey the ombudsman reports directly to the governor. Under the association's proposal the ombudsman's office would be located in a "state aging unit" which Assemblyman Franks says would weaken the program, "by effectively isolating the office from the state's chief executive."

"Clearly, the association doesn't want any effective form of oversight," he added. "We should strongly resist their efforts to cripple this program."



ON THE SET - Republican Rep. Matthew J. Rinaldo, whose district includes Clark, and Loretta Swit, the star of the television movie, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," share center stage with the figure of O. G. Readmore, a cartoon character in the movie, during a reception at the Library of Congress. The American Broadcasting Co. produced the movie in conjunction with the

Library of Congress for the purpose of encouraging children to read. It was recently shown on ABC television stations. Rep. Rinaldo, the ranking Republican on the House subcommittee which has jurisdiction over telecommunications issues, was among the members of Congress invited to the affair. Miss Swit is a native of Passaic.



IT'S MUSIC - The fourth-and-fifth-grade play at Clark's Frank K. Hehny School, is performed during a recent assembly at the school.

### Jose Cardoso in 'Who's Who'

A Clark student, Jose Cardoso, is included in the 17th Annual Edition of "Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1982-1983."

The students are selected by high school principals and guidance counselors, national youth groups, churches or the company which publishes the volume based upon their performance in scholarship award contests or extra-curricular activities.

### Township Council to re-organize

The Clark Township Council will hold its re-organization meeting for 1984 on Sunday, Jan. 1, at noon, in the Council Chambers of the municipal building on Westfield Ave., reports Township Clerk Edward P. Padusniak.

