

# Clark Patriot



"A Voice for All, an Echo for None"

VOL. 20 NO. 48

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1986

USPS 115 760

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## GM contract not renewed

## Hyatt doors to close next summer

Hyatt Clark Industries will shut down production on Aug. 31, 1987 due to the decision by General Motors not to renew its contract to purchase roller bearings from the employee-owned company.

Howard Kurt, President of Hyatt Clark Industries (HCI), said the decision was based on several factors which included foreign and domestic competition. Kurt said GM was also worried about the ability of HCI to come out of Chapter 11 proceedings. "We are disap-

pointed," said Kurt. "When we heard of the other GM plant closing, we knew we were in trouble." Kurt said there was little hope of selling the company. "We tried last year when we had the GM contract, without it I can't see us doing anything," said Kurt. "We will have to liquidate." Kurt said that sale of the plant would include the building and land.

When asked if the company would offer any educational or job training programs for employees, Kurt said they were "working with the state to see what we can put together."

U.A.W. Local 736 President Joseph Meitz refused comment on the plant closing and any union plans for support for production workers.

HCI had gone to court last January to file for bankruptcy under Chapter 11. After operating under a deficit, negotiations had begun previously with General Motors to provide debt service relief in the amount of \$6 million. A plan was formulated between employees and

HCI and GM to contribute matching funds of \$3 million each, which would be put back into the company to allow it to become more competitive in the world market for roller bearings.

In September, 1985, after meetings, GM said they would provide no more money and suggested that HCI look for outside investors. After going through an evaluation period, the Oklahoma City based LSB Company made a bid to acquire Hyatt, sub-

ject to approval from GM, the major creditor. A closing date for the sale was set for Dec. 31 when, in the process of shutting down for the Christmas holidays, HCI was notified by GM that they would not back LSB and would not be responsible for any loan guarantees.

In February, 1986, the management and union of HCI came to an agreement on a renegotiated contract which added to the cost of effectiveness of the plant and was allowing HCI to continue operations.

## Officials wish everyone "a happy and safe holiday"

Thanksgiving Day, November 27, kicks off a month-long odyssey of planning, shopping and family gatherings and township officials have messages for residents for a safe and happy holiday season.

Mayor George Nucera, who plans to sit down to a Thanksgiving dinner with his family, wished everyone a safe and sane holiday. "We've had a good year," said Nucera. "We hope something encouraging comes along for the Hyatt plant. It is unfortunate at this time of year that those employees have a lay off hanging over their heads."

Nucera also called attention to the planned Arthur L. Johnson football game to be played on Thursday and said he hoped as many people as possible would go out to support their young athletes.

Chief Anthony Sinar of the Clark Police Department reminded residents that drunk driving patrols would be on in the evenings during the season. "We want to see no one injured or hurt due to excessive alcohol consumption," said Sinar. Chief Sinar also plans to have a Thanksgiving dinner with his family. "We have a rather large family," said Sinar. "Most of the children and grandchildren will be in for Thanksgiving."

Donald Kelleman, Chief of the Clark Volunteer Fire Department, said his department would be standing by for the football team and the planned bonfire on Wednesday. "We wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday and would like to remind residents to be careful with fireplace fires, portable heaters and Christmas trees," said Kelleman.

Senior citizens are planning a Christmas party for the week of December 15, according to Director of Senior Citizen Affairs Peter Campagna. He said the exercise class will host a party at the Brewer School.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Paul Ortenzio, who plans to attend a football game and enjoy a meal with family and friends, had a special message for parents of children in Clark. "Thanksgiving Day is a special time in the rush of our modern existence," said Ortenzio. "It is a time of preparation, a mad dash to get things done and the most heavily travelled day of the year."

"While the day is always hectic," he continued, "it gives us a chance to relax and take stock of what is around us. The family setting will be repeated throughout our land as grandparents, mothers and fathers and the children of the family gather for a special meal. It is in the eyes and hearts of our family that we find the true meaning of this day. Beyond the food and the house, it is the family for which we give thankful prayer."

## ALJ students appear on David Toma Show

A group of students from Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School recently appeared on The David Toma Show. The group, led by Kurt Epps, English teacher, and Aldo Collura, Foreign Language Supervisor, traveled to WOR-TV Studios in Secaucus, to tape two teen oriented shows.

The show, which stars Clark resident David Toma, deals with helping teenagers to avoid drugs and alcohol and helps teens and parents communicate about family problems.

The group consisted of 23 students, grade level 9-12. Students were asked to sign up for the show via an announcement in school. All students who signed up and submitted the proper release forms were permitted to attend. WOR-TV provided lunch and beverages for the students and chaperones, and a chartered bus was used to transport the students at WOR's expense.

Students were encouraged to participate in the question and answer portion of the show. The show was seen on WOR-TV Channel 9 on November 9th.



KUMPF'S TENNIS TEAM IN TOP FORM... The Carl H. Kumpf School of Clark 1986 Tennis Team, coached by Mrs. Sandra Powora, had an exciting season of skillful strategies and strong fundamental strokes. The team used a challenge ladder so they could determine fair matches with their opponents. According to Mrs. Powora, "Everyone improved tremendously as the season progressed and the level of interest and skill remained high." Pictured are members of the Carl H. Kumpf School 1986 Tennis Team. Front row (left to right): Sherry Stotok, Jill Margulies, Michelle Wang, and Jodi Jordan. Middle row (left to right): Danielle Fidurski, Garry Harrington, Brett Ashley, John Frantantoni, Fred Gallo, Andrew Cospolo, and Jimmy Jordan. Back row (left to right): Aaron Sommerstein, Evan Murray, Lee Cohen, Brian Montgomery, Frank Pasquale, Jonathan Doyle, Chris Ebert, and Chris Ruffolo. Missing from photo is Tiffany Bridgman.

## Eligible Clark residents can get butter and rice on December 11

Mayor George G. Nucera has announced that the Commodity Distribution Program for the Township of Clark, advises eligible residents that surplus butter and rice will be available on December 11 at the Senior Citizen Center, Brewer School, between 1 and 4 p.m.

Eligible residents should bring proof of income or participation in the Food Stamp, SSI, Medicaid, AFDC or GA program. Seniors who do not have proof of income will be allowed to sign a self-certification form attesting to their income.

The income guidelines have recently been increased. They range from \$9,916 for one person to \$13,394 for a couple and increase by \$3,478 for each additional household member.

Participation in the program is open to all, regardless of race, color, creed, sex, or handicap.



KUMPF STUDENTS LOOK AT WORLD OF BACTERIA... Mrs. Jane Murray's sixth grade science class at the Carl Kumpf School in Clark learned there is more to science than meets the eye. They were recently treated to a special lesson in microbiology by guest speaker, Mrs. Amy Wang, dietitian at Lyons Hospital. Through a "hands on" approach, students identified bacteria all around them by isolating the germs on culture plates. Pictured identifying bacteria are (left to right): George Santolano, Michelle Wang (Mrs. Wang's daughter), Mrs. Amy Wang, Nicole Micapollita, and Nick Houtsticker.

## Crossing guards needed in Clark

Mayor George G. Nucera has announced the Clark Police are recruiting adults for the position of school crossing guards. The salary is \$5.95 per hour and includes benefits. Inquiries may be made at the Clark Traffic Bureau or call 383-3838.

## School district to receive additional funds for HSPT testing

The Regional District Board of Education voted to accept additional funds in State Aid for High School Proficiency Test (HSPT) remediation at its regular meeting held on November 3.



WALK-A-THON FOR FUN... Rahway Hospital employees (from left) Bolinda Sooa of New Brunswick, Erimene Rigors of Somerset, Paq McMillan of Clark, and Grace Lewis of Plainfield, enjoy a Saturday morning outdoor walk through Rahway River Park. Along with almost 40 other employees, they participated in a three-mile walk-a-thon just for fun, sponsored by the hospital's Wellness Committee. This was just one of the events the Committee has organized in order to encourage employees to lead healthy lifestyles.



Thanksgiving Blessings to All... Thanksgiving

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