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GRACE REPORT... Congressman Matthew J. Rinaldo, center, received a commendation from Michael Kazin, left, state coordinator of the Grace Commission Action Committee of New Jersey, and Oliver D. Filley, a commission member, for his support in Congress of recom-

mendations of the Grace Commission to eliminate waste and reduce the budget deficit. Rinaldo is a member of the Congressional Grace Caucus, which helped to enact 15 bills in the last Congress that will reduce the deficit by \$33 billion.

Rinaldo on budget:

Grace Commission savings top \$57 billion

Rep. Matthew J. Rinaldo (R-N.J.) said recently Congress can trim the federal deficit by more than \$24 billion by adopting additional cost savings recommendations of the Grace Commission.

Together with action taken by Congress on 80 earlier recommendations of the Grace Commission, Rinaldo said it would raise the total estimated savings and added revenues to \$57.5 billion over the next three years.

Rinaldo is a member of the Congressional Grace Commission Caucus and recently met with Michael Kazin, coordinator of the Grace Commission Action Committee of New Jersey, and Oliver D. Filley, a commission member.

"The Grace Com-

mission's proposals have been tremendously useful to Congress in cutting government waste, eliminating duplication of services, tightening up on defense contracts, dropping same programs, and introducing better management and auditing tools in the Federal government," Rinaldo said. He noted that the last Congress approved 15 bills that encompass 80 Grace Commission recommendations. According to the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget, they will result in savings and added revenue of \$33.2 billion.

One of the largest increases in revenue, Rinaldo said, is expected to result from the addition of 9,500 Internal Revenue Service personnel. Better enforce-

ment and higher tax collections should bring in about \$7.2 billion more in revenue in the next three years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. But Rinaldo said billions more could be collected if the IRS had the legal tools to go after the underground economy, which escapes paying an estimated \$110 billion a year in taxes.

The New Jersey Congressman said among the Grace Commission recommendations are changes in the farm subsidy program, military procurement, and privatizing government services, such as debt collection.

Rinaldo said if legislation is introduced to reform the nation's welfare system, as proposed by the National Governors' Conference and the White House, it should

be accompanied by Grace Commission recommendations to improve the income verification system through computer matching. The Grace Commission recommended income tax returns and Social Security wage information be revealed to state and local agencies that administer social welfare programs, such as Medicaid, food stamps, and aid to families with dependent children.

Among the 15 bills approved in the past session of Congress, the largest number target waste and contract cost overruns in the Department of Defense. Rinaldo said it represents the biggest shakeup in defense procurement policies in history and that Congress should monitor the results closely.

Board of Education okays resolution on school election

by Pat DiMaggio
The Regional Board of Education has approved a resolution establishing the date and time for the drawing for positions on the ballot for the April 7 school election.

The board said nominating petitions for membership to the board must be filed with the board secretary on or before February 12. The drawing of names for positions on the ballot will take place within 48 hours of the last day for filing petitions, on Friday, February 13 at 4 p.m. in the Board of Education offices at the Jonathan Dayton Regional High School.

Board of Education seats in Clark, Berkeley Heights and Kenilworth are to be filled. Residents desiring a nominating petition may contact Mr. Harold Burdge, Jr., Secretary to the Board of Education, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

In other business, the board:
—Employed Pam Elmendorf for a quilting

course at Arthur L. Johnson High School fall term of the adult school, at the rate of \$15.75.

—Approved Sandra L. Fisher as a student teacher of Physical Education at Arthur L. Johnson High School.

—Increased the teaching schedule of Mrs. Mildred Mac Lehoue to full-time and adjusted her salary from \$9,986 to \$23,300. Mrs. Mac Lehoue has been a part-time teacher of basic skills mathematics at Johnson and will become full-time because of an increase in the number of students requiring basic skills instruction for the second semester.

—Approved the payment for unused vacation days to William O'Rourke, custodian at Johnson, for 19 days at a total amount of \$2,893.91.

—Employed the following students as custodial assistants for a maximum of three hours per day, at a payment rate of \$4 per hour, effective July 7: Danny G. Crowell, Edward R. Mannix and Richard Mannix, all of Clark.



EXXON GRANT... Rahway Hospital Volunteer Jim Stanton, of Clark, presents hospital President John Yoder with a grant of \$1000 from Exxon Company, received under its Volunteer Involvement Fund. The company aids non-profit groups where its retirees work as volunteers. Mr. Stanton, who retired from Exxon in 1977 after working there for 31 years, has been a hospital audio-visual volunteer for over seven years. The grant from Exxon will be used to purchase new monitors for the AV department. In the past several years, the hospital has received over \$5000 from Exxon through the grant program, and has used the funds to purchase much needed audio-visual equipment. The hospital's AV department is unique because it is staffed entirely by volunteers, under the management of a hospital employee, who run live game shows on the hospital's own television station. Patients can participate in these shows via their telephones.

Poinsettias are a Miele affair

by Pat DiMaggio

Louis Miele has been growing and selling poinsettias personally since 1959. And if the plant you bought or received for the holidays is losing its flowers, if the beautiful red, white or pink leaves are wilting, don't throw it away. Poinsettias do have an after life, if treated correctly.

Miele Greenhouses, 982 Lake Avenue, Clark, grows and sells up to 35,000 poinsettias for the holiday season. Miele Greenhouses, "a family affair," says Louis, has been in business since 1907 on five acres of land.

The production of poinsettias for the holidays starts in April, says Louis.

"We start with stock plants the end of April," he explained. "The 1st of July we take cuttings for Christmas. Depending on the pot size and plant we want to get, we take cuttings up until the first of September. The stock plants are then composted and those cuttings from July to September are what we finish off for Christmas."

Louis explained that there is a tremendous amount of varieties. Miele Greenhouse deal mostly with the varieties known as Annette Hegg and V-14 Glory from California.

"We get the stock plants from California in April," said Louis.

"The Annette Hegg comes in red, pink and white marble, a two tone white and pink. The Glory comes in the same colors with Jingle Bell, which is red with a pink blotch." Annette is the strongest and that's what we grow the most of," Louis added. "The V-14 gets a bigger flower, but has to be kept a little bit warmer. We grow it because of the warm spots in the greenhouse."

If kept in a good, bright, sunny window, the poinsettia will do well right up until March, said Louis. "It makes a beautiful green plant over the sum-



POINSETTIA GROWER... Louis Miele of Clark has been raising poinsettias since 1959. For potential growers of the plant, he offers some good advice. Miele is shown here in front of his greenhouses.

mer," he explained. "The biggest thing to watch is the watering. You can water every day to every three or four days. It all depends on the temperature of the house and where it's kept. Most importantly, after Christmas remove the foil so the pot will breathe better."

To bring the plant back into color for the winter, Louis has these directions. From the end of September until mid-November place the plant in a room with no night light what so ever.

He suggests a room that is not used, possibly a spare bedroom where the plant can get daylight, but no artificial light. Continue to water and feed with Miracle Gro or any type of liquid fertilizer once a week.

Louis stresses that you have to take care of it like any other kind of living plant. If the plant is too tall in September, said Louis, cut it back to about 12 inches high, and it will re-shoot. A poinsettia will grow up to three feet high over the summer.

Miele's greenhouses have been cleaned and sterilized to get ready for spring plants, so it will be a long time before you can buy another poinsettia. Follow Louis's directions and you can continue to enjoy the beauty of your plant during the summer.

AL Post 328 to hold International Night

The American Legion Clark Post 328 will hold its 3rd Annual International Night on Saturday, January 17 at the post home located on Westfield Ave. and Liberty Street, Clark.

The menu will consist of ethnic foods with refreshments. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. "The Tony

Paul Band" will perform for four hours, starting at 9 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the Post home (574-8374) and are priced at \$12.50 per person. Chairman Joseph Rybak says the proceeds from the affair will be used to improve the kitchen facilities in the dining area.



STUDENTS AWARDED... The Linden Knights of Columbus Council No. 2859 announced recently the selection of Susan Yanusz and Helena Markovski as the winners of its annual essay writing contest. Both are students at St. John the Apostle School in Clark. Their winning essays were entitled "What I Can Do For My Country." The essays, selected from over 150 entries,

were judged on content, grammar, originality and neatness. Photo shows Youth Activities Director Ted Chesney (left) presenting a U.S. savings bond to Ms. Yanusz while Sr. Donna, principal of St. John the Apostle School, and Grand Knight Jim Brown give Ms. Markovski her bond.

Rinaldo party cancelled

An Inaugural party in Washington D.C. celebrating Congressman Matthew Rinaldo's swearing-in to an eighth term in Congress has been cancelled due to the death of his father, according to John M. Flanagan, Jr., Inaugural Chairman.

Friends and supporters of Congressman Rinaldo who were scheduled to take a bus trip to the Capitol for the reception and dinner are being notified that the Capitol Hill event scheduled for January 17 has been called off.

The Congressman's father, Matthew J. Rinaldo, Sr., of Union, died on December 31 after suffering cardiac arrest. He was 79.

Clark offices closed Monday

Mayor George G. Nucera has announced that the Municipal Offices and the Disposal and Recycling Center will be closed Monday, January 19 in observance of the holiday.

The offices will reopen Tuesday, January 20.

Clark Legion Auxiliary lists events, scholarships

Clark Unit 328, American Legion Auxiliary will send its delegates to the meeting of the Union County Organization, American Legion Auxiliary at the Martin Wallberg Post 3, Westfield on January 15 at 8 p.m. They are President Mrs. Dorothy Rea, 1st Vice President Mrs. Jessie Cox; Treasurer Mrs. Anne Gudor; and Sgt.-at-Arms Mrs. Anne Krov.

Chairman Mrs. Krov stated that scholarship applications have been sent to Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School. Eligible are students in their senior year who are the children, male or female, of a veteran. Ap-

plications for the Claire Oliphant and Dorothy Kellerman scholarships must be returned to Mrs. Krov by March 19.

Chairman Mrs. Cox reported that applications for the Americanism contest have been sent to the schools. Eligible are students in grades six through eight and nine through twelve. The title of the contest is "The Gift of the Constitution... and Justice for All." These applications should be returned to Mrs. Cox by March 15.

The Union County Organization, American Legion Auxiliary will hold a leadership seminar at the Clark Post 328, on the corner of Westfield Avenue and Liberty Street on Saturday, January 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Warren E. Davies, past county president from Roselle Park Unit 60, will give a presentation on Constitution and By-Laws. Mrs. Arthur E. Simmons, past county president from James E. Mackie Unit 499, will give a presentation on public relations. Coffee and donuts will be served.

At 7:30 p.m. on January 17, the unit members will assist the post members with their "International Nite." The dinner will feature ethnic foods from Germany, Poland, Italy, China, etc. The band will entertain from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets at \$12.50 may be obtained by calling Post Commander Joseph Rybak, Commander Donald McArde or the post home.

Vice-chairman Mrs. Rea announced that the next meeting of the Past Presidents Parley will be held at the home of past president Mrs. Rudnicki, 38 Runnymede Road, Clark on Tuesday, February 10 at 8 p.m.

The next unit meeting will be held at the post home on Wednesday, February 4 at 8 p.m.