

# Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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## Council disagrees on liability for new fire sub-station

by Pat DiMaggio  
The Clark Municipal Council defeated a resolution reducing the professional liability insurance coverage of the architectural firm designing the new fire sub-station at their regular meeting held last week.

A resolution reducing the amount of liability insurance from \$1 million to \$500,000 was defeated on a vote of three in favor with Councilmembers William Caruso, Fred Eckel, Robert Ellenport and Joseph Pozniak dissenting. Bertoni Associates, Sewaren, must provide a certificate of insurance for at least \$1 million of professional liability insurance.

In voting against the decrease, Councilman Ellenport said he did not believe it to be "in the best interest of this town."

"Five hundred thousand dollars is sufficient for this project," said Councilman Bernard Hayden in support of the resolution. "This is just a stall tactic on the part of those who do not want the fire sub-station to be a part of this town."

Councilwoman Carol Pluta also presented a petition signed by residents of

Hillside Avenue to the council complaining of "deplorable conditions" on their street. Pluta said the street was paved in the last two months and wooden curbs were installed on one side of the street and with asphalt on the other. "What is the ordinance on curbing?" demanded Pluta in a shouting match with Council President Joseph Pozniak. Mrs. Pluta was told that the township would re-inspect the street.

In other business the council: —Authorized the tax collector to refund a payment made in error to Sears Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$1,483.90.

—Authorized pay increments in the amount of \$500 to Deputy Municipal Court Clerk Betty Mussarelli and Municipal Court Clerk Dorothy Tyrrell.

—Created an emergency appropriation in the amount of \$10,000 for the defense of a suit by the Borough of Mountainside against the Railway Valley Sewerage Authority and the Township of Clark.

—Authorized Fink and Roemer as special counsel on behalf of the Township

in the lawsuit entitled Borough of Mountainside vs. Railway Sewerage Authority. —Created an emergency appropriation in the amount of \$5,000 for continuing services provided by Computil Utility for data processing of traffic violations.

—Cancelled the Executive Session and regular Council Meeting scheduled for the month of August.

—Removed the name of Helder Gomes from Maintenance and Emergency Lifeguards for the Municipal Swimming Pool Utility and added it under First Year Guards also adding the name of Thomas Gull under Maintenance and Emergency Lifeguards.

—Appointed Leonard Korman to fill the vacancy of Henry J. Krohn on the Board of Adjustment and appointed Edward Velze to fill the unexpired term of Donald Broughton.

—Established the following annual salaries: Public Works Repairer Phillip Venditto, \$16,178.25 and Communications Operator Robyn Lang, \$13,156.

—Refunded a duplicate payment for taxes to Gustave and Lilla Lewis in the amount of \$935.09.

—Approved the bid of John Jovino Company, Inc., New York, for the purchase of firearms in the amount of \$14,986.12 which includes a trade-in allowance of \$6,160.

—Authorized the payment of \$569,922 to Schifano Construction Corporation, Middlesex, for the resurfacing of various streets and curbing of Leferts Lane.

—Authorized the payment of \$5,500 to Schifano Construction Corporation covering catch basin reconstruction on Willow Way and Woodland Road.

—Approved a resolution urging, in the strongest possible terms, Union County install the left turn traffic signals for motorists making left turns from Raritan Road onto Central Avenue in both directions.

—Awarded a contract for trimming and removal of trees to Dave Clark Tree Service Inc., Clark, in the amount of \$19,830.

—Approved the bid of O.B.T. Corporation, trading as Mobil Radio Dispatch, for a three-year contract for the total annual sum of \$5,048.80.

### August Council meetings cancelled

The Municipal Council of the Township of Clark has recently adopted a Resolution stating that all Council meetings for the month of August (executive scheduled for August 3 and regular scheduled for August 17) have been cancelled.



John O'Brien

### John O'Brien appointed lab manager at SAMH

John O'Brien, of Clark, has recently been promoted to the position of Laboratory Manager at South Amboy Memorial Hospital and Community Mental Health Center.

Genilyn D. Tope, Assistant Administrator, Professional Services, said, "I'm proud to announce Mr. O'Brien's appointment. His experience and expertise, especially as our Chief Technologist, makes him the best possible choice for Laboratory Manager."

Mr. O'Brien began working full-time at South Amboy Memorial in 1974. For several years prior to that, he had been a full-time lab technician at Memorial General Hospital in Union while working nights and weekends in South Amboy Memorial Hospital's lab. "I liked the personal atmosphere of this hospital, so when a full-time position was offered I took it," he explained. He has also been a lab technician at Alexian Brothers Hospital in Elizabeth, and has done lab work during his two year "hitch" in the Army. While at South Amboy Memorial Hospital Mr. O'Brien has served as the

section head of the lab's chemistry, serology and urinalysis areas and as Chief Technician.

As Lab Manager a few of his responsibilities involve problem solving, scheduling, ordering supplies, being aware of new equipment and methodologies, doing tests and keeping records.

"It's an all inclusive position overseeing the whole management of the lab, involving both personnel and work," he described. He added that it's also a 24-hour a day, seven day a week job. "I receive phone calls at all hours because of various problems which arise, but, that's part of being a manager," he said.

According to Mr. O'Brien, community hospitals like South Amboy Memorial give patients better quality care. "Sometimes there can be so much activity in one area in larger institutions that a patient's problem can be ignored. Here, because we're closely knit, we're a little more personal with our patients," he explained.

Married and the father of four children, Mr. O'Brien enjoys football, baseball, gardening and traveling.

### Tips for your fire extinguisher

The following information is offered by the Township of Clark Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Fire Prevention:

If you have used your rechargeable fire extinguisher, get it checked immediately and recharged if needed. Find a local service center in the yellow pages under "fire extinguishers."

Check the pressure gauge to make sure the extinguisher hasn't developed a slow leak. If the pressure is down, recharge or replace the extinguisher.

Have it checked professionally as often as recommended by the manufacturer.

Lift the extinguisher off its bracket to make sure it's in good condition and easy to remove by all members of the family.

## Crossing guards settle contract

by Pat DiMaggio

The Clark School Guard Association has negotiated a contract with township administrators retroactive to January 1 through December 31, 1989.

School guards will receive \$6.95 per hour with raises to be negotiated for 1988 and 1989. Guards will also be paid for snow days in accordance with the policy of the Board of Education and

will receive a normal day's pay for the following holidays: Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Good Friday and Martin Luther King's Birthday.

School guards will be allotted an additional \$120 per annum for a clothing allowance and the Township will furnish each guard with a safety vest. Each guard is entitled to two day's leave with pay in the

event of a death in his or her immediate family.

All school guards may participate, at their own expense, in the group hospitalization, medical, major medical and Rider "J", prescription and dental insurance plans written on behalf of all Township employees. Upon retirement, guards may elect to continue to participate in medical coverage at their own cost and expense.

## Merck quarter sales increase 24 percent

Merck & Co., Inc. announced sales of \$1.2 billion for the second quarter of 1987, an increase of 24 percent from the second quarter of 1986. Net income for the quarter was up 36 percent to \$235.1 million, and earnings per share of \$1.72 increased 40 percent.

For the first six months, sales of \$2.4 billion were up 23 percent from the 1986 first half. Net income increased 32 percent to \$436.3 million, and earnings per share rose 36 percent to \$3.19.

"New products were key factors in first-half sales growth," said P. Roy Vagelos, M.D., chairman and chief executive officer of the health products firm. "Unit volume gains were registered by both our domestic and international operations."

"The effect of stronger foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar also was favorable, adding 7 percentage points to the first-half sales growth."

"Sales outside the United States accounted for 51 percent of sales for the first six months, compared with 48

percent for the same period last year," Dr. Vagelos said.

"Income growth and improved earnings margins resulted from strong unit volume gains, a better product mix, a lower effective tax rate, the continuation of cost controls and productivity improvements, as well as the favorable effect of exchange," Dr. Vagelos said. Earnings per share also benefited from the company's repurchases of Merck common stock during 1986.

In the human and animal products segment of Merck's business, six-month results reflected the strong acceptance of "Vasotec," Merck's angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor for reducing high blood pressure. "Vasotec" was introduced in the United States in January 1986 and in Japan last July. It has been marketed in a number of other major markets since 1985.

"Pepcid," the H2-receptor antagonist for treatment of ulcers that Merck launched in several European markets in the second quarter of 1986 and in the

United States in the fourth quarter, also showed rapid acceptance.

Other newer products in the human and animal health products segment with unit volume gains for the first half of 1987 include "Noroxin," the oral antibiotic marketed abroad since 1983 and introduced in the United States in the fourth quarter of 1986; "Recombivax HB," Merck's new form of hepatitis B vaccine — the first vaccine made by recombinant DNA technology licensed for human use — which was marketed in Germany last year and became available in the United States in January; and "Primaxin," an injectable broad-spectrum antibiotic, introduced in the United States in December 1985 following earlier introductions abroad.

Unit sales declined for a group of longer-established human health products, including "Aldomet" and "Indocin," due to competition. Ivermectin, Merck's animal antiparasitic, registered significant volume gains in the first half.

### Township committee members named

by Pat DiMaggio  
Clark Municipal Council President Joseph Pozniak has announced township committees to serve residents for the next three months.

Committees are as follows: Safety, Councilman Fred Eckel, chairman, Coun-

cilman William Caruso; Public Works, William Caruso, chairman, Fred Eckel, Legislative, Councilman Robert Ellenport,

chairman, Councilwoman Carol Pluta; Finance, Robert Ellenport, chairman, Fred Eckel and Councilman Carmine Cristiani; Pool, Fred Eckel, chairman,

Councilman Joseph Pozniak.

Council sessions for the next three months include: Library, Robert Ellenport; Public Safety, Fred Eckel; Recreation, William Caruso; First Aid Squad, Joseph Pozniak; Board of Education, Robert Ellenport; Senior Citizens, Joseph Pozniak.

### Saudi Arabia Days At St. Agnes School



FOREIGN GARB...Mrs. Ann Oates, third grade teacher at St. Agnes School in Clark, models a Saudi Arabian garment. Mrs. Schurtz-Leon, a Clark native who is visiting from her home in Saudi Arabia, explains that the long robe is called a thobe, the head scarf is a ghutra and the colored headband is called agal to the very interested third grade students.



ARABIAN DAYS...Christy Latch, a student at St. Agnes School in Clark, demonstrates a dancing abaya or dress and fancy veil during Mrs. Schurtz-Leon's talk of the beliefs and customs of Saudi Arabia. Mrs. Schurtz-Leon, a native of Clark, visited the class from her home in Saudi Arabia, where she has lived for five years.



THE ITALIAN HONOR SOCIETY at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark recently held its annual induction ceremonies to welcome six new members to their organization. Pictured here are new

members, from left, Jerry Pumo, Lisa Macera, Kenny King, Steve Monek, Mark Bongiovanni and Lynn Miele. Mr. Giovanni Gallone is the Advisor to the Johnson Regional chapter of the Italian National Honor Society.