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RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY

New seniors' director brings enthusiasm, experience

Clark's new Director of Senior Citizen Affairs not only brings years of experience to her new position, but also an out-going personality and a love of people.

Appointed by Mayor George Nucera as director last week, Lillian Krov, Woodland Road, has years of experience in dealing with people. She has been a teacher for 44 years, 18 of them spent as a business instructor at Union County College.

Lillian attended Trenton State Teachers College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree. She also holds two Master's degrees, one from Rutgers in education and one from New York University in business administration.

She started her career as a business teacher at the high school level, then went on to instruct at a business school before landing her position at Union County College in 1969. She retired in 1987 after a long career including a stint as an accountant for a CPA firm in New York City.

While at Union County College, Lillian had a special assignment assisting minority students in applying for scholarships and also served as coordinator for a college-wide United Way campaign in 1986.

Lillian is married and has two sons, one of whom is a former president of Clark's Municipal Council. She is also happily involved with her three grandchildren.

Hobbies include travel, reading and square dancing. Lillian is a member of the executive board of the Y Squares, a dance club in existence for 25 years.



LILLIAN KROV...is Clark's new Director of Senior Citizen Affairs.

Another interest is her involvement with the Clark Democratic Club, of which she is vice president and her work as county committee woman for Ward 1, District 1.

The Department of Senior Citizens Affairs offers recreational activities for people 55 years of age and older. Facilities located at Brewer School include an all purpose room, an auditorium/gym and conference room where seniors can get together and share activities and hobbies.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Brewer School and are open to all senior residents of Clark.

Parenting talk planned by PTAs

The Valley Road School PTA and the Hehny School PTA will jointly sponsor guest speaker, Mr. Bob Lento, who will speak on "Practical, Positive Attitudes for Parenting and Disciplining."

This will take place on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m., at the Valley Road School cafeteria. All are invited to attend.



GIA MARIANO of Clark, is the "Student of the Month" for March at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.

happening in Clark," said Lillian.

Another project close to her heart is a form of communication between the other senior organizations in town. "We have a lot of groups in Clark," she noted. "I think there should be better coordination and communication among all their activities. I don't know what's going on in other groups and I might be interested in going to something. A coordinator would notify groups from a central point."

April 23 is the date set for a barn dance for seniors and their guests. Admission is \$3 and hot dogs will be served. The Y Squares will demonstrate square dancing.

Things look bright for seniors in Clark with the addition of Lillian's special brand of enthusiasm. "I can do anything that is a challenge as long as I believe in it," said Lillian. "And I believe in us."

Gia Mariano of Clark, an individual known for her academic talents as well as her extensive involvement with activities both in and out of school, has been named as the "Student of the Month" for March at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.

The Johnson Regional senior has been designated as the school's "Student of the Month" based on her nomination by a fellow student or faculty member and her eventual selection by a committee comprised of five teachers.

Gia's designation as "Student of the Month" marks the beginning of a new student recognition program at the Clark-based high school.

New since Lillian took office is a newsletter expressly for seniors "to tell them what we have to offer and what's happening in Clark."

Miss Mariano is an achiever in the classroom — she currently carries a 3.4 grade point average on a scale of 4.0 while taking a very competitive schedule of classes, and she is ranked 18th academically in her senior class out of approximately 200 students. Gia lists English, History and Spanish as her favorite subjects, citing her interest in reading, government and international communication. She gained valuable academic experience last summer when she took two English courses at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and earned a B and B+ as final course grades.

Gia's success in the realm of academics is amazing when one considers the myriad of activities with which she is involved. Currently, she serves as the vice president of the Johnson Regional Student Council, vice president of the school's Spanish Club and Spanish Honor Society and is a student in the Johnson program for Gifted and Talented youngsters.

During the fall, in addition to being the Rifle Squad Captain in the Johnson Color Guard, Gia entered the Union County Junior Miss Scholarship Pageant and finished as the First Runner-Up. In the past, she has been a member of the school choir and winter track team and has played roles in Christmas plays and musicals at Johnson Regional.

Active in her church as well, Gia has been a vocalist at St. Agnes Church in Clark for the past four years and will participate in religious education classes at St. Agnes during the past two years. The personable 17-year-old, who hopes to attend the Cornell University or American University in the fall, has also been selected for membership in "Who's Who Among American High School Students."

"I'm looking forward to attending college, but I hate the thought of leaving this school," said Gia. "I really love this place — these have been four wonderful years. I truly believe that you can benefit from school only as much as you put into it. During my time here at Johnson, I've learned how to deal with people and I've learned to believe in myself. I was brought up by my parents to appreciate the value of hard work, and I like working hard at whatever I do — it gives me a great sense of satisfaction."

Gia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mariano.



HONORED...Mr. John Aragona (center), recently designated as the "Outstanding Teacher" at Johnson Regional High School, receives congratulations from his Principal, Mr. David Carl (left), and Mr. Melvin Altman (right) of Clark, a member of the Union County Regional Board of Education.

Aragona designated "outstanding teacher"

For many students, the prospect of going to a chemistry class can be very frightening.

Mr. John Aragona, a teacher of chemistry at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, is well aware of the "fear" that some students have when it comes to subjects such as chemistry. But he's not offended by the perceptions of these students — instead, he acknowledges and understands them, making every effort to quell the anxieties of the youngsters through his teaching style.

Aragona, a member of the Science Department at Johnson Regional since September, 1989, has been designated as the school's "Outstanding Teacher" in conjunction with Governor Thomas Kean's Teacher Recognition Program. This honor is based upon his "use of effective instructional techniques and methods" as well as his "development of feelings of self-worth and esteem of learning" in his students during the 1986-87 school year.

As the "Outstanding Teacher" from Johnson Regional, Mr. Aragona will receive a certificate of commendation from Governor Kean and will participate in the Governor's Convocation on Excellence in Teaching during the spring.

In addition, the Union County Regional High School District will be provided with a \$1,000 grant in Aragona's name, which can be used only for an educational purpose as designated by the honored teacher.

"I like to think of my approach to teaching as something which can be termed 'humanistic,'" explained Aragona. "You can't stand in the front of a classroom and spew out facts like a computer. Many students enter a chemistry class intimidated by the teacher and by the subject matter they will have to learn. As a teacher, I have to eliminate that intimidation factor and attempt to make the students in my classes as comfortable as possible."

"Teaching here at Johnson has been a great experience," said Aragona. "We have an outstanding environment for teaching and learning in this school — a great administration, faculty and student body, an atmosphere of discipline and fine facilities. And, after 19 years here, I still get a charge out of teaching!"



OUTSTANDING TEACHER...Mr. John Aragona, recently designated as the "Outstanding Teacher" at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark.

"I really enjoy the contact with the students," he continued. "And there's nothing that makes me happier in a professional sense than to see a motivated student working hard. In my mind, motivation is more important than natural talent — I am most impressed by the student who tries his or her best, regardless of their academic ability, and gives the maximum effort in class every day."

School Board Candidates to avail selves at meeting

Candidates for the Local School Board of Education have been invited to speak at the next meeting of the Clark Republican Club on Thursday, March 17. The meeting will begin at 8:30 p.m. and will take place at the Franklin State Bank.

"Three-year term aspirants Laurie Runyon, Anita W. Altman, William Brittan, Toby D'Amola Jr., John A. Fitzpatrick, Michael J. Dudek and John Shroock, as well as the two men seeking the two-year unexpired term, James L. Pressman and James E. Kehoe have accepted and will attend," said Bernard Yarusavage, club president.

"A great deal of public interest has been indicated in this year's School Board Election, and this will be one of the few opportunities for the citizens to meet all of the candidates. The meeting is open to all, and an invitation on behalf of the club is extended to all the people of Clark," concluded Yarusavage.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Casino trip offered by Republican Club

The Clark Republican Club is sponsoring a bus trip to Trump Castle Casino in Atlantic City on Saturday, March 26. The bus will be leaving from Broadway and Liberty Sts. at 10 a.m. and will return approximately 7:30 p.m.

Cost of a ticket will be \$20 and \$27 will be returned (\$22 cash and \$5 deferred), and will be sold on a first come-first served basis. For further information call Bernie Yarusavage, 381-7270 or Carole Hayden, 388-7916.

Student trips OK'd

by Pat DiMaggio
The Regional Board of Education approved trips at their regular meeting held last week for students at Arthur L. Johnson High School.

Students will attend the Columbia University Scholastic Press Conference to be held March 16 to 18. The spring conference is devoted to newspapers. Anticipated costs are \$26 per student and \$1,125 for rental of a bus for transportation to and from New York City.

Johnson advisors and students participating in the trip include the following: Denis Borai and Douglas Felter, advisors; Melissa Binz, Eva Anisko, Nicole Barr, Marc Bongiovanni, Donga Herbetter, Carrie Risko, Stacy Obedin, Steve Lambert, Jason Kresge, Elana Sperling, Donna Black, Kevin Fazzendero, Joseph Grande, Edie Ernstein, Chris Lindquist, Joanne Goldberg, Maria Cunnello, Lori Christian, Gia Mariano, Jen Burns, Terry Loong, Hilary Altman and Kris Viera.

Students will also be attending a vocal music trip to Orlando, Florida, from May 13 to 16. Members of the choir will be judged by a panel of music judges at the music festival. Expenses incurred by the trip will be paid for by fund raisers.

The Arthur L. Johnson High School band received approval to attend the Quebec Music Festival, Quebec, Canada, on April 29 and 30 and May 1 and 2. Fifty-two students will participate in the program accompanied by twelve chaperones including the band director and band front supervisor. Cost per student is \$269 which will be paid for by monies raised by students and band parents.

In other business the board:

— Employed Richard Esandrio to replace Arthur Krupp as an instructor in the Adult School to teach computer programming for a full stipend of \$448.75.

— Employed Steven Morek as a student custodial assistant for a maximum of three hours per day at \$4.50 per hour.

— Appointed the following assistant lacrosse coaches, Steve Cicciotti and Steve Shohfi, \$1,867 each; intramurals coach (spring), John Redfern, \$707.