

Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

VOL. 22 NO. 22

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1988

USPS 115-760

25 CENTS

Mayor, council candidates on primary slate

by Pat DiMaggio
Republicans and Democrats are gearing up for the June 7 primary in Clark in which voters will be asked to choose between the current mayor, a former mayor and six candidates seeking three seats on the Municipal Council. They will face off against each other again in November in the general election.

The mayor and each council member elected will serve a four-year term and earn a salary of \$4,200 for the mayor and \$3,600 for each council member. Republican candidate Bernard Yarusavage will try to regain the position of mayor. Yarusavage served as mayor for 12 years before being defeated in 1984 by present Mayor George Nucera. Yarusavage also served as a councilman for eight years and on the Planning Board for more than 12 years. He is employed by Exxon Chemicals Corporation in the Technical Services Division. Also running on the Republican ticket is incumbent Councilman Bernard Hayden who switched his party affiliation several months ago. Seeking an At-Large seat, Hayden has

been active in local government since 1975. A graduate of Upsala University, he is currently employed as the N.J. Territory Manager of the Institutional Food Service. Republican Joseph Rybak is also seeking an At-Large seat on the council. Rybak is a member of Clark American Legion Post #328 and has been honored as "Citizen of the Year" by the

Clark B'nai B'rith Lodge #2882. He is employed by Merck & Co. Former Councilwoman Ruth DeLuca is seeking a return to the council in an At-Large position. DeLuca formerly served as representative to the 3rd Ward. A former member of Clark's Board of Education, DeLuca is employed by Eastern Airlines as a reservation agent.

Seeking his second term as mayor, Democratic incumbent George Nucera is credited with expanding senior citizen activities in the Township as well as a recreation program for children. Nucera opened up the former Brewer School to a wide range of activities for residents and has appointed a Director of Senior Citizen Affairs along with a Director of Recreation. Nucera served an unexpired term on the Township council and in 1982 was elected to a four-year term. He is employed as a school

administrator in Belleville. Incumbent Councilman Fred Eckel is seeking his third term in an At-Large seat. He is employed by the Newark Police Department and currently presides as council president. Democratic incumbent Joseph Pozniak hopes to

represent the Township for his fourth term in an At-Large position. He is a former council president. Newcomer Marie Soyka hopes to join her Democratic partners for the third At-Large seat. Mrs. Soyka is employed in an attorney's office in Linden.

Inzano new student director

by Pat DiMaggio
The appointment of a staff member was rescinded by Clark's Board of Education in favor of a new Director of Student Personnel Services at their regular meeting held last week.

The appointment of Enid Golden, a teacher from Perth Amboy, was rescinded by the board in favor of the appointment of Frank Inzano as the Director of Student Personnel for Clark's elementary schools. Golden was approved by the board at a May 10 meeting.

Mr. Inzano will assume his position as of June 1 at a salary of \$44,000. Inzano has been with the Clark

public school system since 1975 as a guidance counselor and school psychologist.

The board also accepted the retirement resignation of Rosalind Achel, school nurse, who has served in the capacity for 19 years. Dr. Alexander Kowalenko and Dr. Nito Santiago were appointed as school physicians at a stipend of \$21,500 each and Harold Lamont was hired as a custodian for the Valley Road School at a salary of \$18,796.

In other business the board:

Dominique Russomanno as substitute teachers.

—Approved a Summer School Program for three special education students at the Kent Place School's Summer in Summit 1988 in the amount of \$1050.

—Approved "Program for the Disruptive Child" and "Program for the Disaffected Child" as curriculum guides.

—Submitted an application for the Drug-Free Schools Community Act with the following schedule: Clark Public Schools, \$3044; Mother Seton, \$1137.42; St. Agnes, \$549.48; St. John the Apostle, \$394.55.

—Accepted a grant in the amount of \$4620.

—Approved Advanced Study Grants for Alfred W. Smith in the amount of \$247.73 and Carol Spieker in the amount of \$247.73.

—Approved the Princeton Laboratory as environmental consultant in compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, 1986, with initial costs for inspections, management plans and on-site training in the amount of \$15,550.

—Approved lunch prices for elementary schools from 90 to 95 cents per meal, teachers' lunches from \$1.40 to \$1.50 and milk from 25 to 30 cents for half-pint.



BOARD TALK... Melvin Altman (left) and Mrs. Virginia Muskus (right), Clark representatives on the Union County Regional Board of Education, field some questions posed by students from the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School during the recent Student/Board-Press Conference for freshmen.

Regional board of ed business

by Pat DiMaggio
Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark has accepted the donation of a gas chromatograph unit, an analytical tool which separates and identifies components of mixtures to be used in science and chemistry classes.

The Regional Board of Education approved the donation from Hummel Chemical Company, Inc., South Plainfield. The unit will be used for instructional purposes, especially project use in areas such as the Gifted and Talented Programs. The equipment is very expensive to purchase and the unit being donated is only five years old.

The Board of Education was restricted to comment on agenda items only at the beginning of the meeting. The public was allowed an open forum at the end of the meeting, many of which have not ended until past midnight.

The public should have a voice, said Dolina. "This is the way we find out what you want us to know."

The board then went on to discuss the amendment on three separate occasions during the course of the meeting. Finally, at 11 p.m., after discussing the proposal again, the board finally agreed on a resolution allowing residents comments on general areas before voting begins. By that time, most of the residents had already left the meeting.

The current nine-member board, all recently elected in the last three years except for longtime members Michael Dudek and Thelma Purdy, seem determined to make changes in policies and processes for the children at the elementary level. Board Member Donald Paris, in his sixth year on the board, did not attend last week's meeting.

The board also discussed an amendment to a policy which would allow a tape recording to be made of the meeting. Meetings are presently recorded by secretary Maryann Streisel. After discussing the amendment two more times, the board directed Business Administrator H. Edward Flanagan to borrow a recorder and microphone for one meeting.

Lisa Macera takes top honors in Mr. and Ms. ALJ Pageant

"Made in America" was the theme and the jammed Hough Auditorium was the place when the "Mr. and Ms. A.L.J. Pageant" made its seventh annual triumphant appearance at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.

A total of eleven Johnson Regional students participated in this year's "Pageant," a patriotic extravaganza of song, dance, dramatic and comic dialogue and personalities, all conducted within the confines of a hall decked out in red, white and blue.

Lisa Macera, a junior at Arthur L. Johnson, captured top honors in the pageant and was awarded the title of "Ms. A.L.J."

Rounding out the top five finishers were junior Donna Miller, junior Christina Zavolas, senior Hilary Altman and senior Jim Lapidus. Jim, as the highest finishing (and only) male performer in this contest, earned the title of "Mr. A.L.J." for 1988.

The Mr. and Ms. A.L.J. Pageant opened with a group song and dance number, featuring the entire cast and performed to the tunes of "American Made" and "Living in America." Then, after the individual introductions of the cast members and judges, the eleven contestants moved into the three stages of competition upon which they would be judged: Outfit of Choice, Talent Competition and Formal Wear Presentation/Private Thoughts.

In contrast to the competitive nature of the pageant, the witty verbal exchanges and contestant interviews conducted by Master of Ceremonies Kurt Epps and Guest Host Vic Rispoli provided an informal and personal side to the evening's proceedings.

With the talent competition carrying the most weight in the judging process, these five-minute long segments performed by each individual proved to be the centerpiece.



MS. ALJ... Johnson Regional Junior Lisa Macera is pictured here moments after winning the 1988 "Mr. and Ms. ALJ Pageant."

Board of Ed amends policy on public participation

by Pat DiMaggio
It took three hours and three separate discussions for the Clark Board of Education to agree on amending a policy at their regular meeting held last week.

At the beginning of the meeting, John Dolina, Chairman of the Policy Committee, suggested an amendment to a board policy which would allow the public attending the meeting the opportunity to speak on any item before voting by the board begins.

Gagliardi named Burks Scholar

Vito A. Gagliardi, Jr. of Clark has been selected as a Burks Scholar for the 1988-89 academic year at Washington & Lee University School of Law.

Washington & Lee officially describes Burks Scholars as third year students chosen for their superior academic achievements, their demonstrated ability in legal research, writing and oral advocacy, and their potential for effective teaching.

They are teaching assistants in the first year Legal Methods and Moot Court

Special meeting

There will be a Special Meeting of the Clark Board of Education on Tuesday evening, June 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the Administration Building on Schindler Road. The purpose of this meeting is for self-examination of Educational Objectives.

The meeting is opened to the public, but they may not participate.

Smoking ban to be discussed

The Union County Regional High School District No. 1 Board of Education, which governs policy at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, will hold a Student Affairs Committee meeting on Thursday, June 2, 4 p.m., at Jonathan Dayton Regional High School to discuss a possible total ban on smoking in the regional district.

The public is invited to attend.

Book club to meet

The Clark Public Library Book Club will meet on Monday, June 20 at 2:30 p.m. Scott Turow's "Presumed Innocent" will be discussed.



"MR. ALJ" JIM LAPIDUS, for 1988, performs some musical variations on an acoustic guitar.



MASTER OF CEREMONIES Kurt Epps (left) makes a point while Guest Host Vic Rispoli listens during a scene from the "Mr. and Ms. ALJ Pageant" held recently at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark.