

'Butt out' may be new school policy



PRIDE OF ALJ... Scott Obedin, the Valedictorian of the Class of 1988, addresses his classmates during the 32nd Commencement Exercises of the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, held last Thursday at Nolan Field in Clark.



'DIPLOMA'CY... Steven Gomich (left) receives congratulations and his diploma from Mrs. Virginia Muskus (right), Clark representative to the Union County Regional Board of Education, during commencement exercises of the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.



HAPPINESS IS... Michele Cetanon receives her diploma from Mr. Melvin Altman (right), Clark representative to the Union County Regional Board of Education, during the commencement exercises of the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School.

by Pat DiMaggio
Smoking will be banned at Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark if the Regional Board of Education approves a proposed new policy that will affect students and teachers in the regional district.

The Regional Board of Education completed a policy entitled "A Total Ban on Smoking in the Regional District" at their June 7

meeting. A second reading and possible final adoption of the policy will take place at the July 5 meeting of the board to be held at the Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights.

"Smoking is considered a medically unacceptable practice," stated the policy. "It has been linked to the acquisition of a number of serious health problems which

may be life threatening. In order to discourage students from acquiring or continuing the habit of smoking and to provide an improved health environment and promote general wellness of staff in the workplace, all smoking is being banned from the Regional District High Schools. If staff members are permitted to smoke, at the same time that students are restricted from this activity, the district would be encouraging a double standard.

The ban would affect students and staff in Regional District facilities, on its property or in its vehicles.

The following provisions are included in the policy:
--A smoking ban for all facilities, on school sites, on

athletic fields, in buildings and on vehicles when transporting students.
--Effective September 1, 1988, there will be no smoking by any staff member at any time -- not just during the school day -- in all facilities of the Regional High Schools, on school sites, athletic fields, in buildings and on school vehicles or contracted vehicles.

This ban will pertain to teachers, teacher aides, administrators, supervisors, interpreters, secretaries, clerks, custodians, maintenance staff, cafeteria employees, bus drivers and all other employees.

--During the 1988-89 school year, the Regional District will provide a free smoking cessation program for any staff member or student desiring to participate.

--All prospective employees will be informed of this policy prior to employment.
--Citizens who are observed smoking on school sites, at athletic activities, in buildings and at graduation ceremonies will be asked to refrain from smoking. Announcements will be made requesting the public not to smoke at school activities and events.

--Board of Education members will observe the total ban on smoking when on school sites, on athletic fields or in school buildings.

--Signs will be posted at school entrances announcing a total ban on smoking.
--Staff members will be periodically reminded of the total ban on smoking.
--Supervisory staff shall enforce the total ban on

smoking in the following ways: Students will continue to be disciplined for violations by the school administration.
--Violation of the policy by staff members will lead to a verbal reprimand by the staff member's immediate superior with notification of the violation to the building principal; for the second vi-

olation -- a written reprimand from the principal, or superintendent if appropriate, with a copy filed in the personnel folder.
--More than two violations without participation in a smoking cessation program will be considered as a violation of Board of Education policy and will be treated accordingly.

Board of Ed hires; approves policies

by Pat DiMaggio
Clark's Board of Education hired summer employees and approved policies at a meeting held on June 14.

The following Clark residents were hired for summer hours: Working supervisors, \$7 per hour, grounds -- Ken

Sarnecki, painting -- Christopher Gonczik; painters/groundskeepers/maintenance, \$5.50 per hour, Thomas Belverio, Craig Chern, David Flammia, Michael Klimko; custodial aides, \$4.50 per hour, John Duch, Charles Corniglia Jr., Chris Beer, Michael J. Sabba, John DeCaro, William Lebers, Chris Linquist and Michael Mulberry.

The board also approved policies on "Comparability of Personnel," "Comparability of Materials and Supplies" and "Compensatory Education/Chapter 1 Basic Skills Improvement."

In other business the board:
--Approved the revised Library Skills Curriculum.

--Submitted an application for Basic Skills in the amount of \$107,556.

--Accepted the receipt of \$43,120 in Flow Thru Funds.

--Approved four kindergarten curriculum writers for the summer at a stipend of \$800.

--Awarded a contract to E.R. Barrett Inc., Millington, to repair the roof at Valley Road School in the amount of \$43,525.

--Approved continued participation in the seven school insurance pool with Mecker, Sharkey and DILCO insurance agents.

New funds sought for parking lot improvements

by Pat DiMaggio
Clark's Municipal Council reconsidered bids for the improvement of the parking lot located in back of Police Headquarters at a special meeting held on June 15.

The council approved an ordinance last year appropriating \$60,000 for the improvement of the parking lot and agreed to enter into a plan with Schifano Contracting Company, Middlesex, whereby the surface would be highly coated. Cost of this plan was to be \$37,000.

After further consideration, members of council decided to switch to an alternate plan for improvement whereby the entire surface of the parking lot would be ripped up and replaced with crushed stone and a thicker surface coating. Drainage and storm sewers would also be installed.

This plan would cost the Township \$79,000, which is \$19,000 more than originally approved.

An additional ordinance appropriating \$19,000 would have to be passed by a majority vote of the council.

"I am opposed to putting

any money into that parking lot this year," said Councilman Bernard Hayden. "This has already been handled. We shouldn't keep making mistake after mistake." Hayden said that road improvements were more important and mentioned the conditions on Broadway.

"Broadway should be done before any extra money is spent on the parking lot," said Councilwoman Carol Pluta.

"Residential and commercial streets in this town need work," agreed Councilman Robert Ellenport. "But as important as those streets are, so is the parking lot. It is a danger in that area. It is heavily used by a number of senior citizens and children in this town. The parking lot has to be done." Ellenport said that the library had committed funds to repair their sidewalks.

"We've been putting this off for many years," said Council President Fred Eckel. "It has to be done right or it will cost more in the long run."

D.C. BOUND... A group of students from the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark recently embarked on an educational field trip to Washington, D.C. These semi-annual trips, which are coordinated by Johnson Regional Science teacher Carmine Vitolo, enable students to visit such landmarks as the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Smithsonian Institution and the National Zoo. Pictured here before boarding the bus en route to the Nation's Capital are front row, from left, Gina Faria, Danielle Limone, Melissa Bizub, Angela DePetris, Sherry Fiyut and Donna Soricello. Back row, Mr. John Aragona, teacher of Science; Mr. Kurt Epps, teacher of English; Michelle Dymek, Collette LoPrimo, Abby Chaplowitz, Jannette Digeon, Mr. Carmine Vitolo, teacher of Science; Lia Diamandas,

Volunteers needed to help Clark celebrate 125 years

Mayor George G. Nucera has announced there will be a general meeting held tonight at 7:30 p.m. for the planning of the 125th anniversary celebration of the Township which will take place in 1989.

The Township was incorporated in 1864 named after Abraham Clark, a member of the New Jersey State Legislature, who was also one of the signers of the United States Declaration of Independence.

The major celebration will take place July 1-4, 1989, however, the entire celebration and program will be scheduled and coordinated by a committee to be made up of volunteers who will at-

tend the initial meeting tonight at the Municipal Building (Brewer School) Cafeteria.

Invitations to attend this meeting have been sent to all

businesses, manufacturing corporations, store owners, etc., however, individual citizens interested in helping make this program a success are encouraged to attend.

Clark men are millionaire finalists

Frederick Furst and John Kosinski, both of Clark, are among 260 finalists in a "Pick-6 Lotto" Million Dollar Bonus Game grand prize drawing in Hammondon on June 25.

The finalists won their ways into the drawing by matching, in exact order, the five-digit Million Dollar Bonus Game numbers picked Monday and Thursday evenings as part of the

televised drawings for the "Pick-6 Lotto" twice-weekly game.

In addition to the top prize of \$1 million, the Hammondon drawing will decide a second cash prize of \$250,000, one third prize of \$25,000, one fourth prize of \$10,000 and fifth through tenth prizes of \$2,500 each. The remaining finalists will receive \$250 prizes.



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