

Clark Patriot

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RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY

VOL. 22 NO. 26

CLARK, NEW JERSEY, THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1988

USPS 115-760

25 CENTS

Zoning laws introduced for seniors' housing

by Pat DiMaggio

An ordinance that will set zoning restrictions for housing for senior citizens was approved for first reading at Clark's Municipal Council meeting held last week.

Councilman Carmine Cristiani introduced a measure that will set regulations for the construction

of "adult communities" in the Township. The term "senior citizen housing" was removed from the ordinance so residents would not misconstrue the term to mean subsidized construction.

The ordinance sets a limitation of 26 units of 1.3 acres not to exceed three stories for seniors 55 years

of age and older. Mayor Nucera said the only proposed projects to come before the Planning Board are condominium-style, individually-owned units. He said there had not yet been plans for rental-style units presented to the Planning Board. "There is a feeling in this community that people don't want that kind of housing," said Nucera.

Councilman Cristiani said that he believed that 38 percent of the population in the Township would qualify as seniors and that 30 percent own their own homes. "Many would like to live in Clark but they are moving to Jackson Township and we are losing good citizens," said Cristiani. "They are not able to afford

the big barn they raised their children in."

A public hearing and possible final adoption of this ordinance will take place at the July 18 meeting of the council.

The council also honored a fifth-grade student at Valley Road School for her "honesty and integrity." Councilman Bernard Hayden read a resolution com-

mending Holly Fewkes for her actions last March when she found a large sum of money during her morning hour as a school safety patrol. Holly immediately turned the money over to school authorities who found the rightful owner.

"She is a real role model for students in this Township," said Hayden.



OFFICER COMMENDED ... Berkeley Heights Police Officer Michael Mathis was recently awarded the Combat Cross Medal by Police Chief Ralph DeLuca, at left, for his recent actions in single-handedly apprehending two car thieves. Officer Mathis gave chase on I-78 through Hightstown, Irvington and Newark, and was shot at during the apprehension. Through his actions, related car thefts and an armed robbery were solved. Mathis, a lifelong resident of Clark, is a graduate of A.L. Johnson Regional High School. He has been on the Berkeley Heights force a year and a half, beginning his career as a dispatcher prior to his completion of the Union County Police Academy in Cranford.

'Self'-centered lessons presented to board

by Pat DiMaggio
Members of Clark's Board of Education were instructed on the elementary school guidance program at their regular meeting held last week.

Sidney R. Hochman, a guidance counselor at Valley Road and Hahny Schools, presented a lesson to board members on "self"-centered classroom lessons used in grades 1 through 5 and on individual/small group counseling. Demonstrations included use of the "Magic Coloring Book" used in grade 1 and the "Magic Needle" used in grade 5.

The "self"-centered classroom lessons for grades 1 to 3 include discussions about self-awareness dealing with the emotional self,

the social self, and the physical self. Grades 3 to 5 learn about self-awareness, self-image, and self-esteem.

"The lesson includes a filmstrip and we talk about a 'circle of feelings,'" said Hochman. "There is no such thing as a wrong answer in my class."

Hochman went on to explain the use of the "Magic Coloring Book." There are no colors in the book, just

as people are colorless without feelings, he said. Students are then asked to put a color on a specific feeling, red corresponding to anger, for example, and throw the imaginary color at the book. After students identify their feelings with a color, the book is then open to show its transformation into a multitude of differing colors.

"This shows the child we

all have some emotions just as we are all wearing similar colors," said Hochman. "Emotions change just as colors change."

"Mr. Hochman's lessons include a multitude of materials, most of which he put together by himself," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Paul Ortenzio. "We are very happy with the program."



MATH WHIZZES ... Four students from the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark: (L to R) Linda Jeney, Daniel Sweeney, Scott Obedin and William Draghi recently turned in exceptional performances on the American High School Mathematics Examination and earned the right to take the American Invitational Mathematics Exam, a competitive test reserved for the nation's top mathematics students. Jeney, a junior at Johnson Regional, achieved the third highest score among students from Union County on the invitational exam. Collectively, the four students recorded the third best team score in Union County on the invitational test.

Drum & Bugle Corps will perform July 2 at Robinson Plantation

The newly-formed Drum and Bugle Corps of Clark Boy Scout Troop #145 will perform over the Fourth of July weekend at the Dr. William Robinson Plantation, 593 Madison Hill Rd., Clark. Sponsored by the American Legion #328, the Corps will make the second appearance of its career Sunday, July 3, when the Clark Historical Society opens the doors of the Plantation to the public between 1 and 4 p.m. Displayed on the lawn of the Plantation, as they were

for Gov. Byrnes at the State House and in Elizabeth at the Elizabethtown Gas Co. will be eight-foot banners, commemorating the bicentennial of the U.S. and made by Clark's fourth grade students in 1976.

The banners have been given to the Historical Society and will become part of the Clark History Room collection.

Admission is free to the circa 1690 Robinson House, grounds, Museum Shop and program.



RICH HERITAGE ... Rev. Charles Davis, at right, present pastor of the Clark Alliance Church, received an official resolution from Clark Township Business Administrator, Joe Monaco, on the occasion of the church's celebration of 50 years in its present home on Denham Avenue.

Clark church recounts history in wake of last month's birthday fete

On Sunday, May 15, the Clark Alliance Church celebrated its 50th anniversary, making it the longest existing congregation in Clark. The various festivities marking the occasion began with a morning worship service and continued through the afternoon into the evening.

The Clark congregation has a rich heritage. Approximately 50 years ago a group of people who were meeting in the old Bethlehem Chapel in Clark joined forces with another group meeting in a Rahway storefront. This newly combined church body began meeting in a portable schoolhouse in Clark and existed there until the present building site was dedicated on April 17, 1938.

Since its formation, the Clark Alliance Church has ministered to the surrounding community. It is just recently that it has witnessed rapid numerical growth

through the addition of young families and the building of a new sanctuary.

The morning worship service on May 15 was attended by nearly 200 people. One former member of the church during the early years commented, "there were times when we did not have this many worship here over two months. This is thrilling!"

The afternoon was highlighted by the recall of former church members. Among those present were charter members, Marion Reider and Lillian Durmer, who were present at the 1938 dedication. Also, two former pastors, Rev. Stephen Bishop and Rev. David Arnold, returned for the gathering.

The afternoon speaker was Dr. David Rambo, the president of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. He

challenged all present with the theme "Take the Mountains" - a challenge not to rest on the laurels of 50 years but to press on in ministering to the surrounding communities.

The festivities ended with a reception at the church which continued into the evening.

Rev. Charles Davis, the present pastor of the church, remarked "This day was a complete success. We set out to proclaim the name of Jesus and his faithfulness to us as a church body, and this was the result." Davis later noted, "The enthusiasm of the day points to the importance of Clark Alliance Church to its community as it provides a genuine worship setting for families."

A free newsletter commemorating the event is available by phoning the church office, 888-1272.



OUTSTANDING ... Tracey Clark (second from left) and Robert Gallo (second from right), seniors at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, were recently honored as their school's outstanding student-athletes at the 11th Annual Union County Interscholastic Athletic Conference Scholar-Athlete Dinner held at the Town and Campus in Union. Pictured with Tracey and Robert and Johnson Regional Principal David Carl (left) and Director of Athletics Louis Peragallo (right). Tracey, who was a standout volleyball player at ALJ will be attending the University of Pennsylvania, and majoring in Biomedical Engineering. Robert, a mainstay on the Johnson football and lacrosse squads, will matriculate at Rutgers, where he will major in Business.

The Spirit That Was...



The men who signed the Declaration of Independence knew the heavy responsibilities that came with independence. Each one was aware of the dangers and hardships that lay ahead, as they signed. It was not a time for sunshine patriots then. It is not a time for sunshine patriots now.

Just as our forefathers knew hardship and discouragement, so do we at times... but they prevailed... and so shall we, because we live in the most advanced... most beautiful... most compassionate land civilization has ever known.

...Still Is!!!

Join with us in celebrating Our Freedom, by cutting out the flag in this issue, and displaying it in your window, your car, your business, or your front door... on Monday, July 4, 1988.

Be proud of the flag of your nation... we are!

LET'S ALL CUT OUT...AND DISPLAY OUR FLAG...WE WANT TO SEE FLAGS EVERYWHERE!!!
