

# Clark Patriot

'A Voice for All, an Echo for None'

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SAVE THOSE TREES... Genevieve Olterzewski stands in front of trees lining the north side of King Street. Clark's Municipal Council approved an ordinance that calls for their removal for a street improvement program.

## 'Originals' shows off seniors' talent

Senior citizens at Union County College have collectively shown the world that with age comes a developed talent -- in some cases a talent in creative writing.

Some specialize in prose, others in poetry. Their themes range from traditions to memories, with hints of personal dreams peppered everywhere. What they have in common, however, is a zest for life despite the writers' advanced years.

To advertise their vitality, participants in the College's Learning Is For Ever (LIFE) Center gathered all the

seniors' creative work and compiled it into a 22-page booklet entitled, "Originals." Some class members authored original work, others helped in the editing and assembly of it. Still, each contributor donated his/her special talent in sharing a writing skill that many of them never knew they had.

The LIFE Center offers courses to senior citizens in an effort to keep them a part of the world around them. Some classes are for credit and others are simply for personal enrichment.

Those interested in

further information about LIFE, or in obtaining a copy of the "Originals" should call Prof. Oscar Feinstein, LIFE director, at 709-7390.

"Originals" was edited and assembled by Mona Hollander of Cranford, Consuelo Mottes of Scotch Plains, Max Stolman of Hillside, and Fran Wilkin of Westfield, who also wrote original pieces.

Other contributors are

Bernice Kaufman of Clark, Lou Kousin of Cranford, Jack Zyberman, Marjorie Gerber, Joseph Derman, Frances Cohen, Leah Geller, Hannah Friedman, Ida Sildker, Herman Pussman, Bernard Ahrend, all of Elizabeth; Hermina Rapoport and Esther Wolin, both of Linden, and Hildegard Carlson, Emma Burns, Lilian Ross, Adele Kimowitz, and Ruth Symes, all of Union.

To pursue or continue a career in HVAC on a part-time schedule, call John Dolinaj at 889-2000, ext. 215.



INTERIORS... Dorna Herbster, a junior at the Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School in Clark, responds to a question regarding her project, "a Showcase of Interior Designs," during the recent Union County Regional High School District Gifted and Talented Student Exposition held at the Jonathan Dayton Regional High School in Springfield. Over sixty students from the four Union County Regional High Schools participated in this annual event.

## Residents decry tree removal

by Pat DiMaggio  
Residents of King Street asked Clark's Municipal Council, at its June 18 meeting, to reconsider an ordinance that calls for the removal of trees lining the roadway for a street improvement program.

The council approved a bond ordinance authorizing the improvement of King Street from Bartell Place to Benjamin Street. The ordinance includes road resurfacing, the installation of Belgian block curbing, installation of storm drains, the removal of certain existing trees and the planting of replacement trees.

Before final adoption of the ordinance, residents of King Street let their views be known during the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Genevieve Olterzewski,

King Street, asked the council to reconsider their decision to remove 12 trees lining the northern side of the street. Olterzewski said the trees, ash, maple, chestnut and linden, were planted by her father-in-law 30 years ago and provide needed oxygen, remove pollutants from the air and service to cool the air in the summer and break the cold winds in the winter.

"These trees are vitally important to the ecological balance of the King Street neighborhood," said Olterzewski.

Olterzewski said that during a 1987 meeting with members of the council, property owners were opposed to having Belgian block curbing installed on King Street if it meant sacrificing the 12 trees.

"We are not opposed to the improvements to the

road," said Olterzewski. "However, we do not see the necessity for the removal of the 12 trees."

Frank Decker, also of King Street, spoke in support of saving the trees. "We don't want to see the trees go," said Decker. "We are much chagrined about losing

the trees. If anything could be done about saving them, it would benefit the street."

Decker also said that unless the street is leveled off, flooding would continue in the area.

"Because of the trees and because of past administrations, every time a new layer

was put on that street, in an attempt to save the trees, it resulted in one side being higher than the other," said Councilman Carmine Cristiani.

"It is a painful decision to remove these trees," said Councilman William Caruso. "But they cause a safety

problem with the wires that are there. Our main concern is to solve a problem that has been there for a lot of years. Money has been included in the project to replace the trees. We've tried to think of other ways of doing it, but we haven't thought of any alternatives."

## Council tables adult housing ordinance

by Pat DiMaggio

At its regular meeting last week, Clark's Municipal Council tabled an ordinance creating zoning regulations for adult housing communities.

Several residents questioned regulations included in the ordinance dealing with zoning, the number of parking spaces allowed per unit and the density and height of proposed units.

At last month's meeting of the council, an ordinance regulating construction of adult housing was introduced and approved for first reading. The ordinance set a limitation of 26 units per 1.3

acres not to exceed three stories for seniors 55 years of age or older.

Councilman Carmine Cristiani, who introduced the ordinance, said he believed that 38 percent of the population of Clark would qualify as seniors.

The ordinance regulates zoning requirements for condominium style housing units. There are no plans to develop low-cost senior citizen housing in the Township at present, said Mayor George Nucera.

The council voted to table the ordinance and bring it back to the Planning Board, said Cristiani. "In the state's

Master Plan, Clark is considered a stable community," said Cristiani. "They will expect Clark to expand and they expect us to increase our density by 30 percent. If we don't do it, the state will do it for us."

In other business the council:

--Approved for first reading an ordinance adopting a map depicting the location and boundaries of Drug-Free School Zones.

--Authorized the payment of \$8,684.90 to Berione Associates for architectural services.

--Urged the governor and

legislators to provide for a system of affordable automobile insurance for all residents of the state.

--Authorized work to be undertaken by the Clark Public Library for replacement of three faulty thermostats at the cost of \$2,025.

--Approved a resolution supporting the equalization of rates charged for solid waste disposal in New Jersey.

--Authorized the payment of \$4,400 to Sign A d in Neptune, for the purchase of a double-faced illuminated sign for the Township.

--Cancelled council meetings to be held in August.

## Free outdoor concert

Local residents are cordially invited to enjoy some upbeat music in a pleasant outdoor setting when the Union County Regional Pops Ensemble presents a Free Outdoor Concert on Monday, August 1, at 7 p.m. at the Clark Municipal Building (formerly Brewer School), Westfield Ave., Clark.

The Regional Pops Ensemble, featuring local students and residents, will perform a lively blend of jazz, popular concert pieces during their show in Clark.

For more information, please call 376-6300, extension 328.



RUNNING FOR OFFICE... Among the candidates present at the Kick-Off Campaign Picnic held recently at the home of Marty and Rosetta Scura and sponsored by the Clark Republican Campaign Committee, were, from left, Mayoral candidates Bernie Yarusavage and Council-at-large candidates Ruth DeLuca, Joseph Rybak and Bernie Hayden.

## Blood needed to stem critical shortage

The North Jersey Blood Center issued a call for action today, warning that without the help of the entire community, blood shortages will again threaten our area.

Local organizations and community groups are urged to sponsor summer blood drives, and area residents should call the Blood Center at 676-4700 for donor hours and information on other ways that they can help.

"Blood Centers across the country experience blood shortages every summer," said Susan Kemper, Blood Center Spokesperson. "This is a very dangerous situation -- one that we must not allow to continue. Blood must always be available, ready for any emergency. It is often a matter of life and death."

Many factors contribute to the chronic summer blood shortages. Although there are fewer scheduled surgeries, the need for blood may actually rise. Summer activities can lead to summer accidents, and the need for blood in emergency situations is much more urgent and severe.

While the need for blood increases, blood collection becomes more difficult. Many organizations are unable or unwilling to schedule summer blood drives.

Some community groups are not active during the months of July and August. Businesses are reluctant to schedule blood drives because vacationing employees cause a smaller turnout of donors.

"Few people are willing to take on a special project, like organizing a successful blood drive, during the heat of the summer," said Kemper. "It isn't always easy. It is, however, vitally important that blood drives are scheduled."

For more information, contact the Blood Center at 676-4700, during regular business hours.



OUTSTANDING... This year's "Outstanding Teachers" from the Union County Regional High School pause for a picture during the Governor's Convention on Excellence in Teaching, held at Princeton University. They are, from left, Mr. David Van Hart, Jonathan Dayton Regional High School; Mrs. June Wessel, Governor Livingston Regional High School; Mr. John Aragona, Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School, and Miss Jeanne Meeker, David Brearley Regional High School. These four individuals were among some 1,700 educators from throughout New Jersey who were honored as "Outstanding Teachers" under Governor Thomas Kean's Teacher Recognition Program.