



Sandra Antenori Zahner

Sandra Antenon Zahner was born in Northeastern Pennsylvania and graduated from Blakely High School in Peckville. She went on to Marywood College in Scranton and during the summer months she worked at the Haven Restaurant in Point Pleasant Beach. One month before graduating from Marywood, Sandy was considering a move to Massachusetts to begin her teaching career. However, a visit to Marywood by Mr. James Williams, Point Pleasant High School principal, and Dr. Lawrence DeBellis, Superintendent, resulted in Sandy being offered a teaching position.

In addition to a Bachelor of Science degree from Marywood, Sandy also earned a Master's Degree in Student Personnel Services from Newark State College. Subsequently, she pursued Stevens Institute, and Kean University. Sandy began her career



in Point Pleasant as a home economics teacher. She later became a guidance counselor and then High School Director of Guidance. She was the first female administrator in the Point Pleasant School District. As Guidance Director, she instituted the Academic Awards Evening Program in the high school and also the Armed Forces Career Day. As a member of the Ocean County Personnel and Guidance Association, she served and chaired many committees including the founding committee for the Reister Scholarship for Ocean County high school graduates. In 1997 she received the Counselor of the Year Award.

In 1989 she became District Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services responsible for the Child Study Team, Special Education, Basic Skills, the Substance Abuse Program, and coordination of district guidance. In her role as special education supervisor, Sandy initiated the first summer programs for preschool and elementary disabled students and enhanced the Special Needs Parent Group providing evening information programs for parents of students with disabilities. Under her leadership the district achieved full compliance with the New Jersey Special Education monitoring process for 6 consecutive years.

As a member of the Ocean County Supervisors of Special Education Association, she instituted and developed an annual county scholarship for Special Needs Students.

During her 33 years in the Point Pleasant School District, Sandy



participated in numerous organizations and activities. At the high school, she coached the girls bowling team for several years, culminating in 1972 with the Southern Division and All Shore Conference Championships. Sandy was advisor to the home economics club, which started annual Christmas parties for Special Needs Students at the Little Carpenter School. She also served as a visiting team member of the Middle Atlantic States Evaluation Team and is a past President of the Point Pleasant Teachers Association and the Point Pleasant Administrators Association. She is currently a member of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association.

Outside of school activities, Sandy also did volunteer work at St. Edmond's Home for Crippled Children; was a member of the Point Pleasant Substance Abuse Community Alliance Organization and Project Graduation committee; and is a founding committee member of the Point Pleasant Foundation. For the past ten years Sandy has worked in the admissions office at Ocean County College and is presently an adjunct instructor in special education at Georgian Court College.

Sandy resides in Spring Lake Heights with her husband of 20 years, Jay. She is the daughter of Emma Merli Antenori and the late Ralph Antenori and the niece of Gino I. Merli, Congressional Medal of Honor winner. She has two brothers, Frank and Ralph, and two generations of nieces and nephews.
