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# ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



# BULLETIN

Published by Roosevelt P.T.A.

Vol. II, No. 9

Roosevelt, New Jersey

May, 1979

## Sen Bradley to Speak to R.P.S. Grads

By Pat Kaye

United States Senator Bill Bradley has agreed to be the guest speaker for Roosevelt Public School's graduating class of nine students this year.

Responding to a request signed by eighth graders, Bradley, a Democrat, agreed to speak after graduation ceremonies were rescheduled for Sunday, June 17, at 6 p.m.

Students decided to invite a guest speaker after they discussed ways of changing this year's graduation exercises. Principal Lew Gantwerk learned last week that the Senator had accepted the eighth graders' invitation.

The presence of a famous guest speaker

FINAL READING WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

will not keep graduates from being participants in their graduation evening. Each eighth grader will be deciding during the next weeks what contribution he or she will make to the ceremonies. A chorus of R. P. S. students, under the direction of Laurie Altman, will provide music for the evening.

The School Board is planning a punch and cake reception following the ceremonies.

The list of graduates includes: Jerrie Rebecca Barth, David Wayne Dey, Eric K. Jaeger, Jacqueline L. Meyers, James Anthony O'Brien, Richard Orlen, Barbara Anne Nancy Parisi, Taffy Le Pence and Richard Todd Snow.

## Zoning Ordinance Takes Aim at "Nuisances"

By Bob Clark

On Wednesday, May 23, at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, the Borough Council will hold a public hearing and final reading before voting on the Borough's tough new zoning ordinance.

If passed, the ordinance will go into effect just one week prior to the state deadline.

An official zoning map accompanies the ordinance, which may be examined at the Borough Hall. The industrial zone would be reduced from its present size, and

some acreage will be rezoned for agricultural use. Residential and commercial zones would remain the same. Seventeen residential building lots remain undeveloped in the Borough.

The new ordinance promises stricter maintenance standards and prohibits a number of "nuisance factors" that the Planning Board felt are threatening the Borough's traditional sedate and fiercely proud residential life style. For example,

(Continued on Page 18)

## Borough Seeks Senator's Help

By Bob Clark

At the May 9 regular meeting of the Borough Council, Mayor Leon Barth announced that he and Council members Bill Counterman and Aaron Datz had met that day with two representatives from the New Jersey offices of Senator Bill Bradley to discuss federal funding possibilities for the Borough's water and sewer projects.

Barth said that for some time he has been "thinking about the fact that the federal government put us here out in the middle of nowhere, and that they owe us." This prompted his call to Bradley's office and a plea for federal funds.

Barth noted that Bradley's aides were skeptical at first but became quite sympathetic after a ride through the town. Counterman said they were very knowledgeable about grants, including the ones for which the borough has already applied. Barth mentioned that the Borough has a finite bonding capacity and is looking for grants rather than loans.

Datz observed that Bradley's aides were impressed with the history of Roosevelt and "realized that this is a special place that shouldn't be forgotten."

"They left promising to keep our plight in mind," Counterman noted.

Council member Lou Esakoff cautioned the Council not to allow Roosevelt to become a "grants junkie," depending too much on government largess.

## Message From the Mayor

We are expecting Senator Bill Bradley to speak at our local graduation exercises on June 17, 1979. Coverage from the media is expected.

While in Roosevelt he will be taken on a tour of the town. Cooperation in beautifying our community would mean a small effort on everyone's part - just making your property neat and presentable.

If you care, he'll care.

Mayor Leon Barth

## June is First Aid Fund Drive Month

Mayor Barth has proclaimed the month of June as First Aid Month. The Roosevelt First Aid Squad will conduct its Annual Fund Drive on Sunday, June 10, starting at 10 a.m. If you plan to be away or it is more convenient, please mail your contribution to the Squad prior to that date.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad in conjunction with the Monmouth County Board of Health conducted a free Hypertension Screening on April 23.

Out of 70 residents, two were found to have elevated blood pressure and three tested borderline high.

The Squad appreciates the efforts of all those who made the flower and plant sale so successful, especially those who worked all day in the rain.

## Calendar on Page 19

### ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly by the Roosevelt PTA, Roosevelt, New Jersey.

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# Board Hears Parents on Kindergarten

By Hortense Sochowitzky

At its regular meeting on May 8, the Board of Education heard requests from two groups of parents regarding the structure of the kindergarten for 1979-1980.

One group requested a full day program for next year's kindergarten children, to be combined with the first grade, and the other group asked that the program continue for a half day, as it is now conducted. Parents of both sides were heard, and the question was referred to the Education Committee for discussion and recommendation to the entire Board.

Since kindergarten is not mandatory in this state, the Board moved to apply to the State Department for permission to have a kindergarten for a minimum of two-and-one-half hours daily.

Kindergarten roundup will be held May 17. Children will be screened for vision, hearing, speech and gross motor coordination on Wednesday, May 23 and Friday, May 25.

The Board heard a letter from Glenn Stewart requesting that a sports program be set up in the school for next year, with paid coaches, to insure an organized program in three seasonal sports, namely soccer, basketball and baseball. The letter was referred to the Negotiations Committee for consideration.

The Board appointed Lew Gantwerk as Administrative Principal for the coming school year.

Dan Powell was appointed school custodian.

A school calendar for the 1979-80 school year was accepted and forwarded to the teachers for suggestions.

The Board approved a list of nine graduates (see names in related story beginning on page 1).

In further action, the Board referred its annual plan for Special Education to the Education Committee. This must be approved at the Board's June meeting. The Board also accepted with regret Elly Shapiro's resignation from the position of school nurse for next year, and Eugenia Herman's retirement as teacher at the end

of June 1979.

Tuition of \$150.50 for a summer course in physics at Trenton State College for Iris Uklist was approved.

It was agreed that the Anderson Bus Company would be paid \$45.00 per day to transport one child to the Coastal Learning Center.

There was much discussion about transportation of students and adults to the Guggenheim Museum in New York on May 22 for the showing of films made by the students of Roosevelt School this year. It was agreed that the Board would pay for buses for all students and faculty. All other adults would be charged \$2 per round trip, and Senior Citizens, as well as children under 18 years who are not associated with the program, would be charged \$1.

The Principal reported on plans for painting the exterior of the school building. Several suggestions have been made by John Ord, who acted as consultant, and a meeting was arranged with an architect and the Building and Grounds Committee to choose the best plan.

It was announced that the teachers' job action is over.

The Board also agreed to spend \$32 for Joyce Usiskin's attendance at a meeting of N.J. school attorneys, and \$120 for insurance policies to conform to the Board's fiscal year.

## PIONEER WOMEN ARE TAKING BAGEL ORDERS, PLANNING FLEA MARKET

The Pioneer Women have found a secret place to buy great bagels and will deliver orders on Sunday mornings.

All kinds of bagels are available at \$2 per dozen.

Call your order to Marilyn Ticktin (448-0363) or Rosalind Carmen (448-2484).

On Sunday, June 10, the Pioneer Women will have a Flea Market in front of the store, so butter your bagel and come with it to browse.

# Council Asks Attorney to Rule on Borough's

By Bob Clark

The ghost of the Roosevelt Market continued to haunt the Borough Council at its May 9 regular meeting.

Borough Clerk Liz Johnson read four letters from residents Natalie Katz, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mellor, Irv and Merle Rose and Maureen Clark all decrying the condition of the abandoned premises and imploring the Council to take corrective action.

Mayor Leon Barth said that notices of violations of ordinances had been sent out. The Council has also asked Borough Attorney Samuel Sagotsky to determine whether cause exists for nonrenewal of the store's retail liquor distribution license, which comes up for renewal on July 1. The Borough can issue only one such license because of its small size.

## ZONING OFFICER CHANGES

Mayor Barth received with regret the resignation of Peter Berlinrut as Zoning Officer. Berlinrut, who will continue as Building Inspector, resigned the zoning job "due to the pressure of other duties." Barth appointed Paul Eichler Zoning Officer. Eichler will bear primary responsibility for enforcing the Borough's tough new zoning ordinance (see related story this issue).

## FUNDS AUTHORIZED

On the recommendation of Borough Engineer James DeMuro and Public Works Chairman Bill Counterman, the Council unanimously approved the purchase of a post-filter chlorination machine for the water treatment system from Layne-New York for \$2,476. Counterman also announced that patch work is continuing on Borough roads. He said that the Public Works Committee is looking into the possibility of a hydraulic dump attachment for the new Borough truck to aid in road work by Borough employees. He noted that the Public Safety Committee is pursuing the purchase of emergency radio equipment in conjunction with the First Aid Squad.

The Council unanimously approved the

expenditure of not more than \$1,000 to purchase and install two air conditioning units totaling 20,000 BTU's for offices in the Borough Hall.

## SUMMER PROGRAM

The Council unanimously approved giving \$800 to the PTA for its Summer Recreation Program. Recreation Committee Chairwoman Esther Pogrebin said that at a meeting with PTA representatives "they sufficiently impressed us with the need for the money." Elly Shapiro thanked the Council for its confidence in the PTA.

## HISTORY PROJECTS

Library Committee Chairwoman Marilyn Magnes said that several groups are working on historical projects. One group is seeking a grant to finance the collection of old photographs and the taking of new ones. Michael Ticktin has formed an historical society open to anyone. A third group is seeking funding for a folk history from the National Endowment for Humanities. Finally, the Borough's application for placement on the State and National Historical Registry is pending.

Mayor Barth proclaimed June to be First Aid Month.

During the public portion resident Bill Margolis said he was "shocked" at the "lack of democratic participation by the people in town" in comparison to previous years. He was particularly concerned that young people do not attend more official meetings.

## AGENDA MEETING

At the Monday agenda meeting Barth announced that he had received a letter from Arnold Diaz of CBS News asking for information about newsworthy events in town.

Barth also said that the annual Mayor's conference in Princeton on May 24 would feature a discussion of nuclear energy.

Lynn Friedman told the Council that the First Aid Squad had offered to help the PTA organize the 4th of July celebration. The event might start later in the day with hot dogs for dinner and no break in activities before the fireworks display. Council member Lou Esakoff said that he objected to the "carnival atmosphere" of last year's

## Only Liquor Permit

celebration.

In other agenda meeting matters, Council member Esther Pogrebin said that resident Dave Davies spoke to the Senior Citizens Group about funding for senior citizen housing. Several people formed a committee to determine if 15 or 20 people are interested enough to obtain HUD financing. At the urging of Council member Ted Marton, the Borough attorney is looking into the use by individuals of parklands to insure that the Borough does not lose control over or title to such lands. A letter from Anthony and Shirley Young stated that they had deducted \$1 from their last water and sewer payment due to a day without water and poor service. Liz Johnson refused to accept less than the full payment and the Council seemed to be in general agreement that it had to require full payment. Esakoff said he was concerned about a \$654 insurance bill for 11 months coverage on the new Borough truck. Council member Aaron Datz said he would inquire about the added cost.

### SENIOR CITIZENS INVESTIGATE GOVERNMENT HOUSING PROGRAM

By Helga Wisowaty

The May meeting of the Senior Citizens was interesting and informative. David Davies spoke to the group about a housing subsidy program available to low income families and senior citizens. HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) is the government agency involved with these projects. A committee was formed to check into the possibility of such housing in Roosevelt.

The plans for the May flower sale, shopping trips and the annual picnic to be held in July were discussed at this meeting.

Refreshments were served.

## Artists Plan Special Sale Sunday at Synagogue

On Sunday, May 27 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. an art-studio "clearance sale" will be held at Congregation Anshei Roosevelt, the synagogue on Homestead Lane.

A number of local artists are cleaning out their studios to make space for new work. This will be an opportunity to collect some fine art at relatively inexpensive prices.

The following is a partial list of the artists whose signed works will be on sale:

Josette Altman; Jack Bernowitz; Mary Jane and Peter Berlinrut; Bernarda Bryson; Meriam Bell; Morris Chasan; Liz Dauber; Ingrid Jordan; Andrea Lakin; Jacob Landau; Sol Libsohn; Harry Mack; David Stone, Stefan and Tony Martin. Bob Mueller, Frances Orlando, Gregorio Prestopino, Ani, Edwin and Louise Rosskam, Michelle Shandis, Herb Steinberg, Jan Terry, Peter Vince, Ralph Warnick, and Tony Wisowaty.

For further information about this event, call Leah Bookman, 448-2392. The synagogue will receive 10% of the artists' proceeds.

## TAX RATE ANNOUNCED

### TAX RATE ANNOUNCED

Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin advises that the tax rate for 1979 in Roosevelt is \$4.126 per \$100 of assessed value of your home. That total is based on the following rates:

County tax rate	\$ .65
County library tax	.02
County health services	.02
Municipal tax rate	.47
School tax rate	2.97

The overall tax rate is down nearly 10 cents from last year's rate of \$4.22, due to a decrease in the amount of local taxes needed to support the school budget.

# The Scott is a Piper

By Elly J. Shapiro

Even in pre-Alex Haley times people sought their identity and heritage.

Scott Emmans became involved in his search at age 9, he says, "to preserve my Gaelic culture."

Born in Ledgewood, N. J., of Scottish and Irish parents, Scott's quest for his Scottish identity led him to become schooled in Gaelic, to master the bagpipe and to learn Highland dance.

He received much of his training during summers at the Center for the Advancement of Highland Arts, a Gaelic college in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia which he attended for three years. His parents gave him the magnificent bagpipes that were handmade in Glasgow, Scotland of engraved silver, ebony and ivory. At the Center, he took lessons from Seumas MacNeil, a world champion piper and Joint Principal of the Glasgow College of Piping.

The bagpipe is a wind instrument, consisting of a leather pouch fitted with 5 wooden pipes. The player blows air into the bag through the blowpipe. Another pipe, called the chanter, has a double reed and eight open holes on which the melody is played. Three drone pipes are present, each of which also has double reeds. Two of these sound one octave below the chanter and the third sounds two octaves lower. The player holds the bag under one arm and blows air into it. The pressure of his arm forces the air out again. It is an ancient instrument having come to the Scots via the Romans. It is, curiously, mainly a martial instrument.

Scott attended competitions all over Nova Scotia and during his second summer he began to win prizes. It was in his third year, at age 16, when he began to take first prize regularly. His highest honor came when he won the top prize for all of Nova Scotia as best bagpiper. The

reason for these accolades was evident when Scott performed an impromptu concert during our interview at his home on Rochdale Ave. Much like a modern day Pied Piper, he no sooner started to play, when children drifted in from outside to explore this strange sound.

He transported us back to a Highland Mod, usually a week long affair of dance, food and competition. He told us of Tossing the Caber, a game in which a long, heavy wooden pole, not unlike a utility or telephone pole, is hoisted and tossed by each man in the competition. Judging is done not only on distance of the toss, but also on how straight the caber has landed.

"I beat all of the men there when I was 16," he says with a grin. Does he wear a kilt? Dress regalia is a requirement to enter any highland competition, 30 of which are held on the East Coast annually. He wore dress regalia to play at Annapolis and when he played on the steps of the White House. And as for that age old question, "What do Scotsmen wear under their kilts?", well, that's when the Blarney began to show through.

(Editor's note: If we all had the luck of the Irish, we would have discovered Scott Emmans' unique talents before he and his family decided to move to Colorado. We wish them luck in their new home.)

## FLOWER SALE A SUCCESS; BASKET SALE CONTINUES JUNE 2

A third annual Flower and Basket Sale was again a great success and as always, proceeds are for the First Aid Squad.

Because of the rain, the entire basket collection could not be displayed. Shoppers will get another chance to select a basket on June 2, when volunteers will continue the sale in front of the store.

Sale organizers Ellie Bermowitz, Clara Levinson and Ilus Lobl thank the hard working volunteers who helped.

# Mayoral Candidates' Statements

The Bulletin invited the six mayoral and council candidates to submit statements about themselves, or the issues as they see them, or whatever they wanted to say in 225 or fewer words. On this and the next two pages are their statements, untouched by us except to conform to the format and presented alphabetically within each category. Read them and vote.

## LEON BARTH

Once again, I am asking for your support in the coming primary election for mayor of the Borough of Roosevelt.

Despite my previous announcement, I have decided to run for the position. This decision is based upon my sense of commitment and responsibility toward our town.

At the moment, our community is in the first stage of two major public works projects and is seeking federal funds for these, the new well and water system and upgrading and replacing much of our sewer system as well as other projects. The recent first meeting with representatives from Senator Bradley's office which I initiated is an effort to search out other areas of financial assistance for Roosevelt. I feel that continuity of leadership at this time is most critical.

I am thankful for your support in my ten years of participation in elected office, two terms as borough councilman and one term as mayor, and ask that you continue your support of me in the June 5 primary.

## RALPH B. SELIGMAN

I have lived in Roosevelt for 30 years. My profession, community planning and development consultant, brings me into daily contact with municipal problems throughout New Jersey and New York. It also involves me with state and federal agencies which administer grant and other programs; with congressmen, state legislators and county officials; and, in an advisory capacity, with elected and appointed officials of many municipalities. Above all, I actively participate in the day-to-day efforts of municipalities to achieve their goals amidst the press of competing interests.

As chairman of Roosevelt's Planning Board, I am delighted to have had the opportunity to donate my professional skills in preparing our recently completed master plan and zoning ordinance.

Roosevelt has special social and physical assets. I would like it to remain a stable, attractive place to live-and one which our citizens can afford. I am well aware of the range of problems facing us as our town's facilities age. But there are many paths to solving these problems. We need external aid, but we must also draw on the ingenuity, cooperation and expertise of all our citizens. Although like many communities we are hard-pressed financially, we are fortunately rich in human assets. I would be happy to place my own professional skills and contacts at the disposal of our town as its mayor.

# Statements by Borough

CARL W. JOHNSON

Since the Bulletin has been kind enough to grant the Borough Council candidates an opportunity to express themselves, I would like to introduce myself to the voters of Roosevelt.

I am Carl W. Johnson of 44 Pine Dr. My family and I have resided in this community for eight years.

If elected my background as a construction cost analyst with Underwood Mortgage and Title Co. and New Jersey National Bank will aid in decisions concerning repair and maintenance of roadways and utilities in Roosevelt.

I would like to see the development of Roosevelt as a residential community continue in a positive direction and not stagnate, as a town surely must when progress ceases.

The need for property tax relief indicates further development (residential or commercial). This need not mean that the uniqueness of Roosevelt must be sacrificed in the name of progress.

Unfortunately, space does not permit me to comment on other important issues at this time. I would welcome an opportunity to go into more detail at another time.

In the past few years Roosevelt has seen some negative changes. Now it is time for some positive moves. Let the first move on your part be a vote for me.

Don't forget to vote June 5th.

Thank you.

KEN KAYE

As a candidate for councilman in the June Primary, if I am to ask for your vote, you should know some of my opinions.

These are serious times for Roosevelt, and careful thought must be given to the future of our town. We will be updating water and sewer facilities in the near future. These improvements will have to be done efficiently and sensibly. I feel my experience as a general contractor and a businessman will be valuable in dealing with the professionals who will advise the Borough and the tradesmen who will be bidding for contracts and doing the work.

As a town, we have always valued our open spaces. As we approach questions of expansion, I believe we must be careful not to "develop" away our privacy.

Most of us have been guilty of apathy, complaining and downright negativism about repairs to the aging systems that serve our town, about rusty water and rising taxes. I think we need to take a new, positive attitude and get these matters taken care of as quickly and efficiently as we can so that we can get back to the everyday pleasures of living in a small country town.

I have lived in Roosevelt for 25 of my 32 years. I have some energy and some expertise to offer, and I am willing to serve on the Borough Council.



# Council Candidates

BRUCE LAKIN

I am running for Borough Council primarily because I like living in Roosevelt and intend to stay here for many more years. I appreciate the town's surroundings, its sense of community and its unique historical tradition. I would work towards preserving these attractive features in Council and feel I can offer some special skills.

I have Masters Degrees in Political Science and System Science. I've served in the faculty of one of the State colleges and currently work for a state-wide network which supplies computing services to most institutions of higher education and agencies in New Jersey.

This background will be applicable to the major issues facing Roosevelt, the maintenance of public services and management of development.

My experience in a technical field and dealings with government bureaucracies on many levels should be directly relevant to the water and sewerage project. My familiarity with the governmental mode of operation has been gained through attending meetings, submitting grant proposals, and reading and writing technical reports.

This experience has been combined with a long abiding interest in "growth issues:" market and population pressures; primary and secondary effects, e.g., tax rateable, service delivery, intangibles; landowner's rights to fair market value vs. the municipalities definition of "community interest" via zoning and the planning process.

The intent of this article is not to thoroughly discuss the issues, but that I desire to serve, I have a systematic approach to problem solution and I recognize the issues.

LESLIE WEINER

I've lived here 27 years and each spring the trees and grass grow lovelier. Last year I wrote most of the Council's application to designate Roosevelt an historic landmark (application will be completed this year). Designation will be more than a source of pride, the town will benefit in concrete ways.

Our major problem will be financing the costly repair of our water sewer system. The Council will be undertaking commitments which will oblige us for decades to come. It will have to act as a zealot, as knowledgeable watchdog, protecting our future solvency. I hope to be able to contribute to the necessary sense of prudence and caution.

I have read and attended meetings on our new Master Plan and fully support its outlook. I am a life insurance agent and produced playwright, educated at University of Virginia (B.A.) and Hunter (M.A.). I served a term on the School Board. No other town bears a more unique history. It'll be a privilege working to maintain Roosevelt as a decent place to live.

## Berlinrut Gives "The Colloquists" a Chance to Speak

By David Herrstrom

Peter Berlinrut, a contributor to Harper's and Commentary, has recently committed that quintessentially American and subversive act of publishing his own work, a novel called The Colloquists. Given the current glut of fad books, it's no wonder there is much good writing that never gets published through established channels. Continuing the tradition of Walt Whitman, our first truly democratic poet, Peter refuses to be victimized by the publishing establishment. Like the printmaker and potter, he has taken matters into his own hands and has had his book printed.

A "colloquist" is a talker, one who revels in the thrust and parry of conversation, and the book is accurately titled. Its core is the witty, sinuously precise, sometimes exasperating and hard-edged, but always entertaining conversation among three old friends, who from time to time abandon their families and meet for a few days of nothing but talk.

Berlinrut's book has the excitement of a college bull session without its usual liabilities. The three colloquists on this occasion meet in a favorite Newark hotel, which is something of a homeground for all of them. One is a retired high school teacher. Another is a retired army general, who in being an active military insider is nevertheless a human outsider, and the third is a writer who has led a knockabout life and come to distrust words.

The time is a weekend in September, 1970. The third character begins by stating an idea which he claims has been the premise of his life and believes to be the key of human nature. This is the fuss that sets off the drama of the book. The other characters raise questions, agree, qualify, and argue violently. The ideas expressed gain our interest, not because they further an arbitrary plot but because they are arresting in themselves, whether true or false.

By the time their weekend is over and the men have to go their separate ways, they are changed, because they have had to confront and review their lives in light of the challenge posed by the third man. And by the time we as readers leave the end of the book, we are changed, because we, too, have participated in this dramatic event.

The colloquists do more than air biases and exchange canned opinions. They use conversation to explore the meaning of their lives. There is excitement in any exhibition of courage, but there is also beauty here: three men who, in a casual phrase of Peter's I've never forgotten, "borrow their sanity from each other." The Colloquists is subversive not only of corporate publishing, but, more important, of ourselves, as it challenges us to question our values. Read it, if you dare.

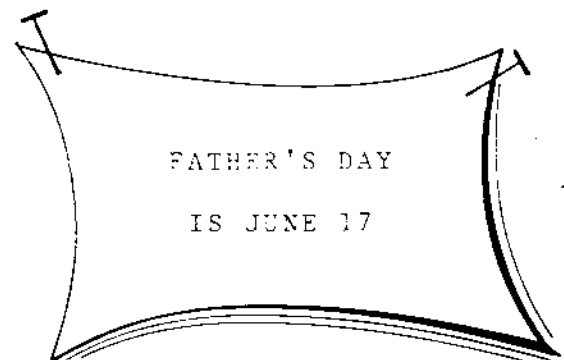
The Colloquists is available in hard-cover for \$10 from the author.

### SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO FORMER RESIDENTS

Rooseveltians offered their sympathy recently to Andrew and Ellen Murray on the death of their son Joseph R. Murray, age 10, on May 2.

The Murrays lived at 72 Pine Drive for four years. Joseph and his sister Susan attended Roosevelt School.

The present mailing address of the Murrays is Green Avenue, RD #2, Belle Mead, N. J. 08502.



# HISTORY of GROSSMAN MEMORIAL TRACED

By Irv Rose

At the Roosevelt School, the Jacob Grossman Memorial Gallery lends dignity and beauty to an ordinary corridor wall.

The gallery, presently a grouping of pictures also raises questions about the identity of the man for whom the collection is named.

Jacob Grossman was a person who believed that a citizen living in a community should be an active voice in the community. Whether or not people agreed with Jacob Grossman, they knew he cared about his town. He died in March, 1967,

## *Roosevelt is Setting For Film On Shahn*

"On location" shooting for "Remembering Ben Shahn," a 60-minute color video tape honoring the painter on the tenth anniversary of his death, took place on May 5. Directed and produced by Professor Terence Ripmaster of William Paterson College, author of The Arts Catalogue of New Jersey and producer of "Arts in New Jersey," a weekly cable TV show, the tape documents the life and art of Ben Shahn.

The TV crew visited the artist's home and filmed his wife, Bernarda, as well as Jacob Landau, Stefan Martin, Pearl Seligman and Ed Roskam in an animated discussion about knowing, working and arguing with Ben Shahn. At the school, where the mural was filmed for the first time in color video, Gregorio Prestopino was the host. The final tape, funded by the New Jersey Council on the Arts, Warner-Lambert Co., and others, will be presented to WNET, the New Jersey State Museum, and all sponsoring agencies by the end of June.

after having served as a Councilman, a member of the Planning Board, a member of the Board of Education, Justice of the Peace and Treasurer of the Roosevelt Memorial.

His greatest efforts were directed toward the school, and after his death a group of his fellow townspeople (led by Sarah Goldberg, Al Hepner, Bernarda Shahn and the late Isidore Sackowitz) decided that a fitting memorial would be a gallery of art contributed by local artists to hang in the school for the enjoyment of the children and visitors to the Roosevelt School.

Each June at graduation, another work of art is added to the collection to honor this outstanding citizen. The art is now purchased by the children of Jacob Grossman: daughters Barbara Krulewitz and Judith Cohen and son Steven, who recently moved from town.

His grandson, Steven's son Jacob, always felt special that his name was affixed to a permanent place in the school, his parents report.

It is fitting that even in death Jacob Grossman has given his community pleasure. He is remembered as a man who worked for his community, who lived his belief in our town.

## TENANT ACTION NEEDED TO CLAIM REBATE

If you are a tenant, you are probably eligible for a state tenant rebate.

Submit your name and the date you began renting to Louise Prezant, Tax Collector, before June 8.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Roosevelt's water-table is so high around my house you have to pull the bathtub plug to let the water in."

By John Grauel in a speech at the Synagogue, May 4.

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

# School Year's End Approaching

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that this is the last column before graduation. This year, graduation will take place on Sunday evening, June 17. We have just eight graduates this year and although the class is small, the Graduation ceremony will be very special (See story, Page 11).

We've completed this year's achievement testing in all the grades. The scores will be available to parents at the end of the school year and during the summer. Please call the school for an appointment.

In September I wrote that the school staff and School Board are committed to developing an educational program which will help each child become as confident and competent as is possible.

In looking back over this year, I believe we've moved toward this goal in a number of areas. The basic instruction the children receive has continued and they all seem to be making real progress toward becoming competent people. Our artist in the school program has provided an opportunity for each child to be involved in music, pottery, weaving and film making. Children have been involved in a winter music program and a program which looked at the values we share in America. There

Lew Gantwerk

**FIRST AND SECOND GRADES  
MUST ADD MONDAY, JUNE 18  
TO THEIR SCHOOL CALENDARS**

This year's school calendar allowed for one snow day, which was used during a winter storm. The primary room had to be shut down one day because of a heating problem. Since we have an obligation to provide 180 days of school for each child, school will end for the first and second grades on Monday, June 18. It will be a 12:30 p.m. closing.

The last day of school for all other grades is Friday, June 15.

Lew Gantwerk

have been a number of individual class projects which have been stimulating for the children. Throughout the year the staff has continued to try and improve the conditions for learning in school through out Tuesday early closing workshops, courses and other professional advancement programs.

As children grow, we face many difficulties. School is often a place where these difficulties have to be faced. There are problems of dealing with learning, with learning to have social interaction. We are aware of the problems and continue to try and deal with them in as personal, humanistic and sensible way as we can. We hope that, each year, we get a little better at doing our jobs.

Lew Gantwerk

**STUDENTS SHOULD USE  
ALL LUNCH TICKETS  
BY CLOSE OF SCHOOL**

Please encourage your children to pay careful attention to the number of meals left on their lunch tickets. Tickets not completely used will be cancelled out at the end of the year. There will be no tickets carried over to next year and no refunds.

**PTA PRESIDENT RESIGNS:  
MOVING OUT OF STATE**

PTA President Ruth Emmans has sent in her resignation, effective immediately, because the Emmans family is moving to Colorado.

An interim president will be elected at the June meeting to preside until September. Any nominations will be welcome at that time.

# Fifteen Students Make Honor Roll at Hightstown High

Fifteen students from Roosevelt are listed on the most recent honor roll at Hightstown High School. That number represents nearly 37 percent of the 51 students attending Hightstown High from Roosevelt.

Congratulations for achievement are in order for:

Grade 10: James Braun, Elean Heakoff, Rachael Mueller, Anne Parisi, Paul Reberstein, David Seliz and Damon Tigliano

Grade 11: Elecia Asakinazy, Andrew Braun and Robin Mandell.

Grade 12: Mark Peters and Chris White.

Grade 13: Lisa Katz, Ben List and Dan McKeenan.

## SUN FINALLY SHINES ON PTA EGG HUNT

By Barbara Boyles

Sunny weather on Sunday, April 22 allowed a belated egg hunt to be held. With several hundred eggs hidden around the school and the Memorial, a large crowd of children spent a happy hour hunting for plastic, candy-filled eggs and four special glitter eggs.

In the older group David Dey and Jennifer Block received large baskets of toys and candy for finding the two special eggs. Thea Goetzmann and Jeffrey Solomon found the glitter eggs hidden for the younger children.

The PTA would like to thank Evan Alter, Justin and Thea Goetzmann for filling all the plastic eggs with candy and Debbie Friedman and Tessie List for hiding the eggs and providing assistance throughout the hunt.

## STUDENTS ASSIST WITH FILM PREVIEW

By Barbara Boyles

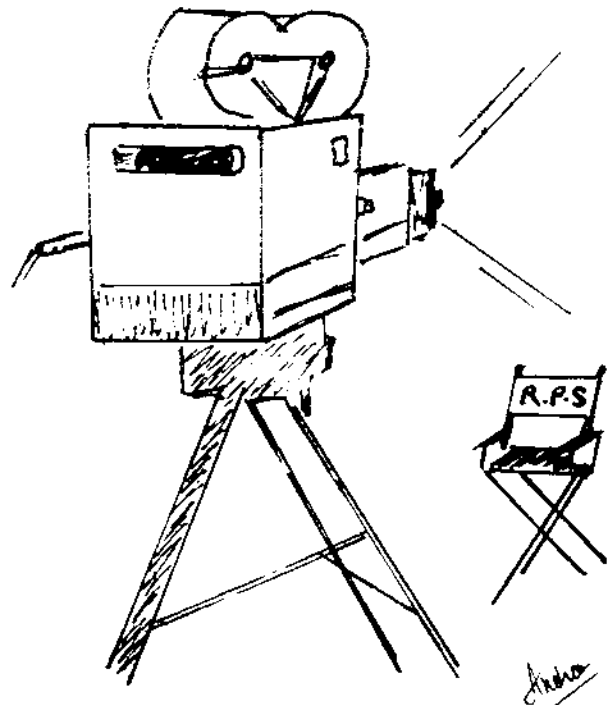
At the April 19 PTA meeting a large group viewed a sneak preview of the students' films that were being prepared for showing at the Guggenheim Museum.

While several students described the film making process and told of the many hours of careful, exacting and exciting work, Lew Gantwerk showed their films. It was an impressive presentation and an exciting introduction to the May 22 show at the Guggenheim.

Regular PTA business was also discussed, including plans for the summer program and the filing of all members.

A slate of PTA officers for next 5 months was read and it was announced that the election will be at the June meeting. The nominees include Kelly Shapiro, president; Nancy Warnick, vice-president; Barbara Boyles, vice-president; Judith Goetzmann, corresponding secretary; Sheila Jaeger, recording secretary; and Carol Zaleski, treasurer.

In response to a successful square dance, President Ruth Emmans announced that a May Disco was being planned, with one night for children and another for adults.



# Nuclear Incident Spurs Local Response

By Pat Kaye

Spurred by incidents at the nuclear plant on Three Mile Island, Pa., 40 residents met April 27 at the Borough Hall to hear anti-nuclear arguments, and two dozen Borough residents traveled to Washington on May 6 to demonstrate against nuclear power.

Sara Prestopino organized the Rooseveltians who boarded charter buses in Princeton. Other residents used private cars to go to Washington to participate in a national protest.

Pearl Seligman introduced the panel on April 27, as members of the New Jersey Safe Energy Alliance (SEA) argued against the use of nuclear power.

Tom Head, a technical writer for ABC Television, Sidney Goodman, a professional engineer, and Isabelle Sayen, a political activist, made up the SEA panel.

Head talked about energy sources other than petroleum and nuclear energy. The whole world's economy is based on energy, he said, so renewable energy sources--solar, wind, methane, grain alcohol, hydroelectric--should be emphasized.

Goodman reminded the audience that energy cannot be produced, but can only be converted. He argued that "Nuclear fuel production cycles are so costly that they require as much energy as is produced."

Nuclear power plants, he pointed out, have a 30-year life span. Harmful radioactive wastes, on the other hand, have life spans that have never been measured, he said.

He charged that supporters of nuclear power have committed fraud by misinforming the public about the cost and the potential health and safety hazards of nuclear power production and subsequent waste disposal.

Sayen outlined bills in Congress and the State Legislature that, in the opinion of SEA members, warrant support from the public.

She said SEA is fighting to have on-site storage of spent radioactive fuel banned at plants like those in Salem County.

## A Newcomer Discovers Roosevelt Mail Secret

By Lynn Friedman

I first met Bernie Suttake at a mutual friend's home in East Windsor. After discovering that Bernie recently purchased the Bressler house on Elm Court, I listened as he related this story:

Bernie had been living here a few days, when he realized that he had not received any mail. Although he could not even find his mailbox anywhere on his property, he continued to believe mail was delivered door-to-door. With the passing of a week and still no mail, the situation reached crisis proportions, requiring immediate intervention on Bernie's part. His trip to the Post Office was most profitable as our newest neighbor discovered that Roosevelt encourages active physical fitness programs by requiring all residents to pick up their daily mail.

Now that Bernie has overcome this barrier, he is ready for our community's color blindness test: Is the water red or not today?

BETTER LATE  
THAN NEVER  
DEPARTMENT

A late but official Bulletin welcome is extended to Catherine Sajgo and children Karen, age 16; Terri, age 12; and Ernie, age 11.

The Sajgo family moved to 2 Tamara Drive last August.

# Test Your Mussels, Recipe Tells How

By Elly J. Shapiro

Jim Dulicai loves good food. His hobby is preparing such food, and to my delight he offered to share a mussels with white wine appetizer recipe with us.

Five pounds of mussels are needed for this dish, which will serve 8 to 10 people. The mollusks must be fresh, as they deteriorate quickly and are then a source of infection. To test for freshness, try to slide the two halves of shell across each other. If they budge, chances are you have a shell full of mud. Discard any mussel if its shell has opened, since it is dead.

Scrub the mussels with a brush, wash-

ing thoroughly, and then either pull or cut their beards off.

Now, melt 1/4 cup butter in a dutch oven large enough for all the mussels with extra room for them to open. In this butter, saute 2 cloves of garlic (minced) and 1 teaspoon of oregano. Add 6 shallots or scallions, also minced, and saute. Add parsley or other seasonings of your choice. Simmer this two minutes, then add 1/2 cup dry white wine and a bay leaf. Add mussels and cook several minutes, agitating the tightly covered pan every minute very strenuously. Serve as soon as all of the mussels have opened. Do not overcook. Remove the mussels, reduce liquid in pan and pour over mussels.



## KAUFMAN FAMILY WELCOMED

Howard and Donna Kaufman moved into 23 South Rochdale Avenue in April, along with their daughter Kristine, age 5 1/2, and son Craig, 10 months. Welcome to the Kaufmans, who moved here from Jackson Township.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 9 P.M. Cong. Anshei Roosevelt

# SQUARE DANCE

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# תפ"וק Borough Once Had

By Michael Ticktin

As everyone in Roosevelt either knows or should know, the name of the Borough prior to the death of President Roosevelt was Jersey Homesteads. What is not, and probably never was, generally known is that the name originally was to have been Assifa Homestead Community. (Assifa is a Hebrew and Yiddish word meaning "gathering.")

The first use of the term "Jersey Homesteads" is in the name of a corporation owned by the Federal Subsistence Homesteads Corporation. (All of this corporation's stock, in turn, was held by the Secretary of the Interior as trustee for the United States of America.)

Jersey Homesteads, Inc. purchased the land which now comprises the Borough from its private owners in 1933 and 1934. Its certificate of incorporation, a copy of which is on file in the office of the New Jersey Secretary of State) indicates that its incorporators were Federal employees, one of whom, Frank Fritts, was general Counsel of the Division of Subsistence Homesteads, U.S. Department of the Interior. Yet this certificate includes among the corporation's purposes "to make loans for and otherwise aid in the purchase, construction, equipment, improvement, maintenance and supervision of subsistence homesteads in the subsistence homestead community to be located in the State of New Jersey and to be known as Assifa Homestead Community" and "to aid persons by loan or otherwise to acquire lands, buildings, tools, machinery, livestock, seeds, fertilizer, construction materials, books, clothing, food, feed and any and all commodities or things necessary or useful in connec-

tion with the life of such persons in the said Assifa Homestead Community."

It is most unlikely that the name Assifa was selected by Mr. Fritts or one of his Interior Department colleagues. Its origin becomes clear when we see from the application for authorization to do business in New Jersey that the corporation's president was none other than Benjamin Brown, the founder of the community who was cited in obituary notices, as a "Jewish Agro-Industrial Cooperative." The corporation's vice-president was Morris Feinstone, the leader of a Jewish trade union federation in New York. The secretary, Jonah E. Wise, was a prominent Reform rabbi and the son of Isaac Mayer Wise, founder of American Reform Judaism. The treasurer was Alfred Wallerstein, a Brown associate whose other affiliations, if any, I have been unable to discover. The fifth director, in addition to the four officers, was Elias Lieberman. (My research indicates that there were two prominent Elias Liebermans in New York at the time who were about the same age. This Elias Lieberman was probably the attorney who wrote Labor Before the Bar and The Collective Labor Agreement rather than the educator who edited Poems for Enjoyment and who wrote "Lavender, My Lavender," the City College song.)

This Federally owned corporation doing business in New Jersey under the control of a group of Jewish activists filed its only annual report to the New Jersey Secretary of State in 1934. Between that time and the building of the houses in 1936, Jersey Homesteads, Inc. transferred title to its lands to the United States of America, which continued to own them until the sale to the



## Hebrew Name

אֶסִּיפָה

occupants began in 1947. It would appear that the transfer of the lands was a consequence of the transfer of the Subsistence Homesteads program from the Interior Department to the Resettlement Administration of the Agriculture Department. It is interesting to note that, when the Homesteaders arrived, they became tenants of the Resettlement Administration. The residents of the Assifa Homestead Community were to have been lent the money to acquire their homes; the Homesteaders had to wait until after World War II for the achievement of that goal.

Paradoxically, the one thing that Jersey Homesteads, Inc. left to the community was its name, which, while descriptive of the work of the corporation - the establishment of a community of subsistence homesteads in New Jersey - was clearly not intended to be the community's name.

According to Israel Weisman, the name Assifa had to be discarded because of pressure from persons in Washington who were willing to tolerate (or perhaps unable to clock) the establishment of a Jewish cooperative community but would not let it have a Jewish name.

One is reminded of the story of the anti-Zionist who said he would accept Israel, however grudgingly, if only it would change its name to Irving.

Jersey Homesteads was finally established as the name of the community on May 29, 1937 when it was incorporated as a borough by the New Jersey Legislature, creating a new municipality out of what had been part of Millstone Township.

Evidence that the Hebrew term was not in universal use as the name before then is found in the chapter on Jersey Homesteads in the 1942 Agriculture

Department book entitled A Place on Earth: A Critical Appraisal of Subsistence Homesteads. In the speeches, letters and newspaper articles quoted in that chapter, the community is continually referred to as "the Hightstown project," "the Hightstown colony" or simply "Hightstown." The fact that it was in Millstone seems to have gone unnoticed.

### JOHN GRAUEL WARNS: HOLOCAUST STILL WITH US

By David Herrstrom

Addressing an audience in celebration of Israel's Independence Day, May 4, at the Congregation Anshei Roosevelt Synagogue, John Grauel argued that the Holocaust is not history. It cannot be isolated and confined to an "event," comfortably and conveniently past, he said. The Holocaust is, rather, the state of mind that gives rise to and condones genocide.

It's dangerous, he reminds, to view the Holocaust as uniquely Jewish. If the Holocaust is understood only as Jewish victimization, it's easy to complacently conclude that it has not occurred since. The subsequent genocide in Uganda and Cambodia, however, make clear that the Holocaust is a continual threat. As a result, Grauel emphasized, its banishment must be accomplished again and again.

Stalking the front of the synagogue, rubbing his forehead in circles, and punctuating his remarks with humorous asides, which at times undercut the emotional cliff he has pushed us onto, Grauel spoke with the conviction of a Biblical patriarch. It was evident that he took seriously the final words of King David's poem, Psalm 107, reciting in the opening liturgy: "Whoever is wise, let him take note of all this."

# ROOSEVELT - Minutes Ago

By Arthur Shapiro

In June of 1939: The Chairman of the Special Committee for Decoration Day reported to the Borough Council that 10 cents had been collected for flowers from each family. Apparently, after spending six dollars, the Committee had some extra money. Acting on the Committee's recommendation, the Council passed a motion to distribute the balance "between the two schools, the Shul and the Talmud Torah." (Since the balance to be distributed was \$6.25, I wonder who received the extra penny?)

A year and a half later, in January of 1941, the Principal reported such important information to the Board of Education

## *Zoning Ordinance Takes Aim at "Nuisances"*

(Continued from Page 1)

no more than 100 square feet of "junk" (unregistered cars, wood, debris, etc.) may be stored on a residential lot. No yard or open space shall be used for the regular parking of motor vehicles or open storage of travel trailers, mobile homes, boats, construction materials or household materials.

Home occupations must give no external evidence of nonresidential use, involve no more than one nonresident employee, generate no nuisance factors, afford parking for more than two vehicles at any given time, be conducted solely by the owner or tenant and his family residing on the premises and be conducted entirely within the principal structure, without exterior storage of equipment or materials. Construction of separate buildings for workshops, studios or storage creates a conditional use, which would require permission from the Planning Board. One sign no larger than two square feet would be permitted.

Prohibited nuisance factors include noise, dust, fumes, odors, smoke, glare, vibration, objectionable effluent, vehicular movement, debris, on-street parking be-

as, "...general atmosphere 100% - children have the right spirit. A song and cheer contest is being held, and before long we shall have a J.H. (Jersey Homesteads) School song."

Déjà Vu Department, November, 1938: The school janitor, Mr. Kunin, registered a complaint to the Board regarding a broken window in the lobby of the school. He stated that the damage was done by two boys playing ball in the lobby, which was strictly against the rules. He went on to stress, "...there is very little discipline among the boys and they have gone so far as to break the locks on the doors." (The Board suspended the boys for two weeks and made them pay for the broken window.)

yond the property line, seasonal vehicle parking for more than three months per year and storage of material that allows the breeding of vermin. Such factors must be offensive, annoying, unpleasant or obnoxious or result in a continued or repeated invasion of the rights of neighbors in excess of commonly accepted standards or usages.

Real estate sale signs must be removed no later than two weeks after the sale. Posters must be removed within week of the event publicized. The Borough has the power to sue to eliminate or prevent violations. It can also seek fines of up to \$200 and/or imprisonment for up to 30 days for each day that an offense occurs.

For months, while surrounding municipalities racked up thousands of dollars in consultants' and attorneys' fees, Roosevelt planners have been reviewing drafts prepared by Board Chairman Ralph Seligman, a professional planner, without charge.

Other members of the Planning Board are Mayor Leon Barth, Peter Berlinrut, Councilman Aaron Datz, Virginia Edwards, Mel Friedman and Roy Terry.

## ROOSEVELT COMMUNITY-SCHOOL CALENDAR

May

- 23 Wednesday, 8 p.m. Spec. Council Meeting, Zoning Ord., Borough Hall
- 23 Wednesday, 8 p.m. Parents' Advisory Council, R.P.S.
- 27 Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Art Clearance Sale - Congregation Anshei Roosevelt
- 28 Monday Memorial Day, School Closed
- 29 Tuesday, 8 p.m. First Aid Meeting, Borough Hall
- 31 Thursday, 8 p.m. Bulletin Staff Meeting, Herrstrom Home

June

- 2 Saturday, a.m. Basket Sale, Store Parking Lot
- 2 Saturday, 9 p.m. Square Dance, Congregation Anshei Roosevelt
- 5 Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. Early Closing, R.P.S.
- 5 Tuesday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Primary Election, Borough Hall
- 6 Wednesday, 2 p.m. Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall
- 6 Wednesday, 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. Bookmobile, Store Parking Lot
- 8 Friday Borough Bulletin Copy Deadline, Mail to Pat Kave  
Please note that the copy must be typed
- 10 Sunday First Aid Fund Drive
- 10 Sunday Pioneer Women Flea Market, Store Parking Lot
- 11 Monday, 8 p.m. Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall
- 12 Tuesday, 8 p.m. Regular School Board Meeting, R.P.S.
- 13 Wednesday, 8 p.m. Regular Council Meeting, Borough Hall
- 14 Thursday, 8 p.m. PTA Meeting, R.P.S.
- 15 Friday Last day of school, R.P.S., grades **K**, 3 through 5
- 17 Sunday, 6 p.m. R.P.S. Graduation
- 17 Sunday Father's Day
- 18 Monday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Last day of school, R.P.S., grades 1 & 2
- 18 Monday, 6:30 p.m. Hightstown High School Graduation
- 18 Monday Last Day of School, H.H.S.
- 19 Tuesday, 10 a.m. MCOSS, Borough Hall
- 20 Wednesday Summer Program Registration due
- 25 Monday, 8 p.m. Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall

# PTA SUMMER PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please register your child (children) for the Roosevelt Summer Vacation Program by filling out the attached form and returning it with the \$5.00 registration fee per family and the first week's tuition to Judith Goetzmann, Box 222, Roosevelt, by June 20. Tuition for the five week program will not be raised this season because the Borough Council has given us a stipend of \$800. Camp will run from July 9 through Aug. 10, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The tuition is \$7.50 per week for the first child in the family, \$6.50 per week for the second child, \$5.00 per week for the third child.

Please make payments for the second and third weeks by July 11 and for the final two weeks by July 25. Do not send money to camp with your child. Make all payments to the PTA Treasurer, Judith Goetzmann. Provision can be made for those seeking financial assistance.

Additional forms may be obtained by calling 443,4948.

Check Weeks	Dates	Cost
#1	7/9-7/13	
#2	7/16-7/20	
#3	7/23-7/27	
#4	7/30-8/3	
#5	8/6-8/10	
Total Tuition		\$ _____
Reg. Fee		\$5.00 per family
Total amt. due		\$ _____
Parent's Signature _____		

## ROOSEVELT SCHOOL VACATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Child's last name		First name	Birthdate
Age	Grade as of Sept. '79	Physician's name and telephone	
Mother's name	Home address	Home phone	Business phone
Father's name	Business phone		
Name and telephone of person to be called when neither parent can be reached			
Please note allergies or physical limitations of the camper			

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Title I  
Parent Advisory Council Meeting

May 23, 1979  
8:00 p.m.  
Roosevelt School

Agenda: Membership Enrollment  
Election of Officers

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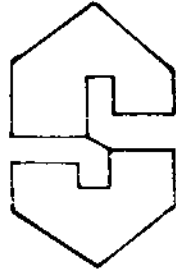


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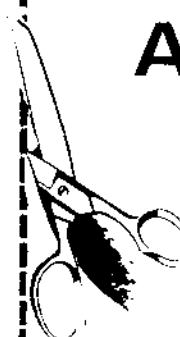
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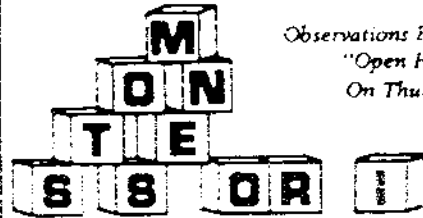
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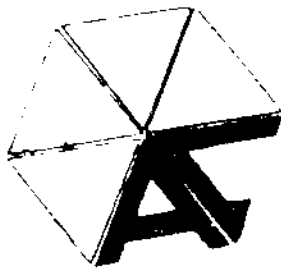
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