

# Bulletin

Volume 29 Number 6

April 2005

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

### Gray Water Ordinance Deferred; Hope for Early Action on Gas Station Property

By Michael Ticktin

At a special meeting held on March 7, and again at the regular meeting on March 14, the Borough Council voted to defer action on the proposed ordinance to authorize the acceptance of “gray water,” liquid waste that can be processed by aerobic bacteria, at the sewage treatment plant. The gray water would be brought to the plant by truck and the municipality would receive payment for each load treated. The ordinance would require testing of each load to make sure that it did not contain anything that would be detrimental to the sewage treatment system.

At the March 7 public hearing, and in leaflets and a letter in *The Examiner*, Jeff Ellentuck had expressed opposition to the proposal, citing traffic safety concerns and concerns about risks of damage to the sewage treatment system. Councilman Jeff Hunt assured the Council that these concerns were unfounded, that the trucks that would be used were smaller than trucks already going down Pine Drive to the plant and that the gray water haulers are licensed and have reputations to protect and would therefore be most unlikely to bring any waste that would damage the treatment system. He contrasted their care and responsibility with the indifference to the wellbeing of the community shown by the anonymous resident who has been disposing

of toxic substances by flushing them into the sewage system, where they have been detected.

Only four members of the Council—Jeff Hunt, Michael Hamilton, Pat Moser and Peggy Malkin—were present at the March 14 meeting. Mayor Neil Marko was not present. Mr. Hamilton indicated that he could not vote for the ordinance unless the issues of limitations on summer hours for delivery to the early morning and allowing only a single hauler, so that there would be no question as to responsibility in the event of any mishap, were addressed. Mrs. Moser stated that she wanted to have the matter reviewed by the Environmental Commission before she would vote on it. Mr. Hunt, although stating that he regarded the safety concerns as “overblown,” agreed that it would be better to err on the side of safety, even if that meant deferring the opportunity to receive revenue for the utilities systems from gray water haulers. Thus, the matter was tabled until the April meeting.

Also at the meeting, Administrator Harold Klein reported that the engineering work involving the former gas station property was approaching completion and that it was his expectation that a “letter of no further action” would be received from the Department of Environmental Protection

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

As happens every year, at this time we are beginning to feel the pinch! If you haven't made a contribution yet, or can possibly give more, we would appreciate it. We need you! This ran last month — it's even more **urgent** now.

Remember the Student Talent Show on April 17 at 7 p.m. to benefit the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year-end trip. Everyone in town is welcome!

During the winter months, the library will not be open on Wednesday evenings. But it may be visited from 3 to 4 p.m. most days when the staff is available to help check out books. Dr. Weinbach says new hours will soon be given as Spring continues.

Be a good citizen and attend the Borough Council Meetings on the first three Mondays in the month at 7 p.m.

Be sure to attend the PTA meeting on April 12. One of the topics for discussion will be the future of our school.

We would like to welcome the new Spanish teacher, Ms. Sylvia Rainer.

Senior Citizens, think about becoming a member of the Roosevelt Community Shares Agriculture. See page 13.

Be sure to vote on 4/19 for the School Board members, as well as for the School Budget at the Borough Hall, 2:30 - 9 p.m..

PLEASE REMEMBER: Thoughtful neighbors pick up after their dogs. Are you a thoughtful neighbor?

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Calendar & Breaking Bread Art  
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Roosevelt Borough *Bulletin*, Inc. is a  
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# Vote for “Village” Trustees

The Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation, the non-profit organization which owns the Roosevelt Senior Housing Village (sometimes called the “Solar Village”), is looking for a few good members to elect our Board of Trustees at our next annual meeting. The Corporation owns the 21-unit complex located at the intersection of North Valley Road and Farm Lane. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Development, holds the mortgage on the property, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provides rent subsidies for qualified residents who have been approved to live there. An agent manages and maintains the facility with money from the rental payments and the federal subsidies.

The Corporation’s by-laws require that there be at least 35 members, all

of whom must reside in Roosevelt. We encourage residents of the Village to become Corporation members. Rooseveltians already recruited as Corporation members in previous years should contact Bob Clark, a member of the Board of Trustees, at 443-5883, to indicate whether they wish to continue as members. Those who want to become new members need only contact Mr. Clark and make arrangements to pay to the Corporation’s Treasurer the \$5 fee required by the by-laws. Multiple residents of a single household may become members upon payment of a single \$5 fee.

Each year, on the first Thursday in May, at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, the Corporation holds its annual meeting. This year, the meeting will occur on May 5th. At the annual meeting, the members will nominate

and elect the Board of Trustees. All seven trustees must be members of the Corporation. From among themselves, the trustees then elect a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Members, trustees and officers serve without compensation.

Current trustees are Pat Moser, President; Dolores Chasan, Secretary; Bill Counterman, Treasurer; Leonard Sacharoff; Louise Baranowitz; and Bob Clark. One vacancy is expected to be filled by the Board at its March 22nd meeting. All are expected to seek re-election at the annual meeting on May 5th. ■

## THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going. Contributions are tax deductible

### PLEASE NOTE:

Due to postal regulations we can only ask for “donations” rather than “subscriptions” from out-of-towners who wish to receive the BULLETIN.

We will be pleased to continue sending them the BULLETIN when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

# From the Mayor

Greetings everyone. The big issue of the month is gray water. As I write this, the ordinance is tabled, the attorney and the engineer and our operator are reviewing some of the fine points of the ordinance and we will be back to moving it forward in April. I would like to review what is going on with this ordinance, what has been done, what has been said, some of the rumors and the facts.

Over the last several years, our water and sewer utility has been beset by many problems. As you may or may not know, both of our wells needed to be replaced. In addition, after years and years of Councils thumbing their noses at the State, the DEP finally said to us that either we put in new user water meters and start billing by consumption, they will deny us permission to operate a utility. Furthermore, we have been trying to be proactive in our repairs and maintenance of the water and sewer plants. Lastly, we replaced and repaired our metering. These are the meters that tell us how much water has been treated by the water plant, how much has arrived at the sewer plant, and how much treated water we will release into the Assunpink.

So with all these expenses, with all these repairs, and even with the most efficient management and operations we can have, our financial people still had to raise the warning flags. As a result, a rate increase was required. What you may not realize about our rate increase was that it was just the minimum. We did not increase the rate to the level of where we will be able to build a reserve. We only increased it enough for us to cover what we need to operate the plant. If we have another serious problem, we

may have to borrow money to fix it.

Sometime last year, when the topic of the financial health of the water and sewer utility was being discussed, someone, I don't remember who, brought up the topic of gray water. Our new metering and some research by our operator now showed that we were well under our limit of influent. My understanding is that our current license allows us to take 250,000 gallons of water into the plant a day; our average has actually been around 160,000 gallons. This is in contrast to the 200,000 to 300,000 or higher that we thought we were taking in before we repaired the metering. It may be possible, therefore, to accept gray water and thus increase our revenues.

A meeting was scheduled last year with our water and sewer engineer to discuss the possibilities. Some of the questions that we asked were what is gray water, what could we accept, where could we accept it and how could we accept it. The main question, though, was is it risky to accept gray water? Our engineer explained to us that gray water is the term in the water and sewer industry for what goes down the sinks, showers and toilets in a building. The point is that it is rather dilute and is quite raw, in the sense that it really is untreated. The other things we might consider accepting, but he recommended against, were what he called septage. Septage is what comes from a septic tank. The difference is that septage is not at all dilute. Also, inside a septic tank, the waste products have already partially decomposed. The engineer also specified, due to some specific engineering reasons, that the only feasible place to accept gray water would be at the sew-

age treatment plant. Furthermore, if we limited it to around 10 to 12 thousand gallons per day, our plant and operator could handle it with ease.

At this point the Boro Engineer, and the Boro Administrator got together with the Council and started putting together an enabling ordinance. They started by getting ordinances from other towns that accept gray water and also by talking to other towns about the whole process. After we had put together an ordinance, the Council decided to make sure that the public was in the loop. So instead of just introducing the ordinance and then voting on it, flyers and letters were produced and everyone on the proposed route was explicitly notified. The Council then scheduled a special public session where we would talk about gray water. After mailings, and notices in the Bulletin, and even door-to-door canvassing, only a few showed up at the special meeting. Everyone there was given the chance to speak. The Council felt comfortable about what we were doing. And then we introduced the ordinance.

It is quite amazing, what with all the efforts by the Council to get public opinion, all the effort to encourage people to come to meetings, all the effort to explain what and why we were doing what we were doing, that there are still those in town that believe that we are trying to pull something over on the town. Indeed, private meetings were held, letters written to the paper, and rumors started in just the few days after the introduction of the ordinance. In fact, many of those who are complaining about this ordinance did not even attend the well-publicized open

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# From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

Thank you to all of the people who completed our school survey. We are in the process of tabulating the results and the findings will be reported in the next Bulletin. I can tell you now that of the 430 surveys that were mailed to households, there was a 13% return.

Thank you, too, to Target shoppers who name our school for a donation from their Target shopping. This quarter I received a check for the school for \$126.00. That money may not seem like a lot, but it will buy plenty of pencils and crayons for our students!

I'm proud to tell you that some of our sixth grade students have volunteered to help the senior citizens in Solar Village by bringing the seniors' garbage cans to the curb for pick up. We know the student services are appreciated and we will continue to provide service learning opportunities for our children.

I recently visited Hightstown High School to meet with Mr. John Ward, the newly appointed principal. Mr. Ward has been in the East Windsor district for many years, and as we walked through the high school together, it was nice to note how many students he knew by name. The atmosphere in the school was friendly and productive. The construction is still underway, but it was easy to see

how the additions and renovations would look when completed. I look forward to continued dialogue and communication with the high school and of course the middle school.

In March the students were treated to workshops by Rebecca Kelly, a storyteller/book artist. Ms Kelly dazzled the students with stories that inspired them to create their own books with an array of artistic mediums. This was another wonderful program sponsored by our PTA.

This week Silvia Raines, our new Spanish teacher, began classroom instruction. Ms Raines is a Roosevelt resident in the process of earning her Master's Degree in Education. We welcome her to RPS for the remainder of the year.

We are taking advantage of free programming sponsored by the Solid Waste Planning Section of the Monmouth County Planning Board. Workshops have been set up to coincide with Earth Day in April. All classes will be reviewing recycling procedures so that we can implement a new all school recycling program.

Enrollment at school is cyclical, and is now at a low student population of 83. For the next school year, two small classes will be combined in order to provide students with a social and academic environment more con-

ducive to effective learning.

Because of the low enrollment of school at this time, we are feeling the pressure of the new legislation known as S-1701. RPS administration, along with the Board of Education finance committee, met with the County Superintendent in an effort to preserve our district status. It appears that the underlying intent of S-1701 is to eliminate small districts because the legislature claims that small districts significantly contribute to increasing property taxes. In addition, S-1701 allows the county superintendent to take over district budgets that he or she does not approve. To be approved, the administrative cost per child amounts must not be over the cost of last year's amount. We have worked hard to accomplish that goal.

The budget presented for approval presented a flat tax for Roosevelt, with no increase for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. It doesn't matter. We also presented the many cost saving, shared services we have implemented; such as sharing a music teacher with East Windsor. it doesn't matter. If we had the top test scores in the nation, it wouldn't matter. The bottom line is that the legislators want the public to believe that rising property taxes are the result of administrative costs of a school district. Their solution – consolidate or eliminate administrators in the first step of merging school districts.

What do the people of Roosevelt want? In order to communicate all the information regarding S-1701, and understand the response of Roosevelt residents, the Board and Administration are planning a town meeting. This meeting is planned to

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## April School Dates

**April 8. . . . . Pizza**

**April 12. . . . . PTA meeting - 7:30 p.m., Town Meeting 8 p.m.**

**April 15. . . . . Pizza**

**April 19. . . . . School Election - Borough Hall, 2:30 - 9 p.m.**

**April 22. . . . . Pizza**

**April 25. . . . . School Closed**

**April 28. . . . . Board of Ed Meeting - 7:30 p.m.**

The Borough of Roosevelt Recreation Department is offering the following upcoming programs and trips:

### Yoga

Our very popular Yoga program will continue at the Roosevelt School. Hatha Yoga is an ancient form of healing that can bring you energy, strength, flexibility, and balance. Classes will be instructed by Gina DiArchangel, a certified Yoga Instructor and Licensed Social Worker with over 16 years experience in the Health and Wellness field. While yoga mats will be provided, participants are welcomed to bring their own. Further information can be obtained at Borough Hall or by calling 448-0539, x3.

### Ballroom Dancing

We are proud to offer a new Ballroom Dancing program to the community. Classes will be instructed by Candace Woodward-Clough. Candace has extensive training in Ballroom Dance, Jazz, Tap, Acting and Singing. She has acted, danced in or choreographed several Off-Broadway and summer stock productions, as well as movies, soap operas and videos. Classes will be offered at the Roosevelt School on the following Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.: April 4, 11, 18, 25. The cost of the program is \$50.00 per person.

### George Street Playhouse

A bus will be traveling to the George Street Playhouse on Tuesday, April 19th to see *The Last Five Years*. The show is an innovative musical love story that chronicles the relationship of a young writer and actress as told from each of their perspectives, and in both directions. Cathy starts

their story at the brink of their break-up and travels backwards through time, while Jamie begins at their first date, moving forward through their engagement, marriage, and ending in the present. The New York Post calls it, "A real modern falling-in-and-out-of-love musical...compulsively enjoyable...the two characters make beautiful music together." Bus departs from the Roosevelt School at 6:30 p.m. and returns approximately 11:00 p.m.. The cost, including transportation, is \$25.00.

### Kelsey Theatre

A bus will be traveling to Kelsey Theatre (Mercer County Community College) on Sunday, May 22nd to see *MDE Exposed*. In the show, the Mercer Dance Ensemble, a modern dance company featuring Mercer County Community College's most talented students and community members, presents a light-hearted, lyrical look at life expressed through movement and music. Bus departs from the Roosevelt School at 1:00 p.m. and returns approximately 5:00 p.m.. The cost, including transportation, is \$15.00.

### Community Summer Camp

The Recreation Department is now accepting registrations for our Community Summer Camp. This year's summer camp program will run from Tuesday, July 5th – Friday, August 19th. Students will participate in sports, art, computers, swimming, special events, and weekly trips.

Registration forms for all of the above programs and trips are available at Borough Hall. You can also contact the Recreation Department at 448-0539, x3 and a registration form will be mailed to you at home. ■

# RCNS April Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

Spring is finally on it's way, and hopefully warmer weather will be here to stay. We will learn about April showers and the water cycle. The students will also find out about the importance of rain to us and our environment.

April is a wonderful time to learn that some animals are born and some are hatched from eggs. The children will learn about baby animals and different animal habitats.

To celebrate Earth Day, our class will learn how everyone could participate in keeping our neighborhood clean. We will make litter bags so we remember not to litter.

The children will bring "stuffed" or real pets to school for our pet show this month. They each get a turn to talk about their pets and how to take care of them. It's very interesting to see how many different kinds of pets are brought to school.

We are continuing to participate in the "Book-It-Program" to promote reading at home.

Our Open House on March 13th was a great way to show families in our area about our school. We are accepting applications for "Little Hearts Day Camp" and our school year beginning in September. If anyone is interested in learning more about our programs, please contact me at 609-426-9523 to get the information you need or to schedule a visit. We would love to see you. ■

By Clare Sacharoff

## Gray Water, Frog Calls and Flowers

We had a very spirited meeting on March 16th - much to my surprise. I had spoken to our recording secretary about an hour before our scheduled start time to prepare an agenda. Almost as an after thought I said let's put the GRAY WATER issue on the list of topics to be discussed. Either news travels very fast in Roosevelt Or I was left out of this particular loop! Nearly all members were in attendance and 8 to 10 visitors were there for public comments.

The topic of interest was GRAY WATER and Ordinance #212. A revision of the ordinance was read and discussion was opened first to the Roosevelt Environmental Commission and then to the assembled public. Several additions and corrections were mentioned that would make Ordinance #212 a better document and more favorable to our town. For example, it was recommended that a trace sample about the size of a soda can be retained from each truck load. This would help pinpoint the origin of specific contaminants should a problem arise. This made sense to me. More details will be in the minutes of this meeting. The main concerns were traffic safety, damage to our system and expenses eliminating any profits or worse. If a major problem occurred it could cost us money! I for one need a little more time to think about our town accepting Gray Water from outside sources. Is the hassle worth the projected \$35,000.00 in extra income to our Water/Sewer budget's bottom line?

The Mayor and Council Representative were encouraged to consider the revisions presented. The Roosevelt Environmental Commission postponed any vote to support or

reject the ordinance pending further discussion. Rumor has it that by the time you read this article the Mayor and Council may already have adopted the ordinance. Let us remember that this is an experiment lasting for only one year. Let us also be thankful that Roosevelt has so many intelligent and caring citizens willing to share their knowledge and expertise. And finally let us also continue to be vigilant!

Speaking of vigilance did anyone hear the Wood Frogs calling this past February/March? I thought for sure someone near the end of Pine Drive would have called me by now. That is a sign that Spring is around the corner. Now how about those flowers. Angel has reported that our Snow Drops, Hyacinths, Grape Hyacinths and a few Crocuses (or is it Croci?) are up and blooming. Just in time for a very early Easter. Please call me if you have any news, notes or observations appropriate for this column.

Our next meeting is April 20th, 7:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall and I wish you all the best for the Holy Days (or holidays) of Spring. Thank you for reading. ■

Dale Weinbach, chief school administrator addressed the senior club at their March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. She discussed the possibility of students volunteering to help seniors take their garbage bags to the curb and return them. Mrs. Chasan will submit a list of interested seniors to Mrs. Weinbach. She also stated there were three Macintosh computers to be given away and if more than three people were interested, there would be a lottery to determine the winners.

Also, the school library will reopen in April - hours yet to be determined.

On March 15<sup>th</sup> there was a trip to the Freehold Mall. Box lunch was held on Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

The deadline for getting tickets to the George St. Playhouse is April 1<sup>st</sup>. The play will be held April 19<sup>th</sup>. Bus will leave approximately 6:30 p.m. from the school and return to Roosevelt 11:00 p.m.

The senior citizens will donate \$25 to Homefront.

Hostess for April will be Florie Johnson. Doris McIntyre was hostess for March. ■

## Zoning: Look Before You Leap!

*by Ed Goetzmann, Zoning and Housing Officer*

Are you thinking about a modification to your yard? To your house? Your parking area? Are you thinking of adding a window? A door? A fence? A shed?

The guidelines for all of this, and much more, are carefully explained in the "Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of Roosevelt." The intent of this ordinance is to keep our Borough safe and beautiful. For more information, please call me at 443-4948 **before you start!**

Please share your news with us! Submit your newsworthy (or not so newsworthy) personal/family milestones and happenings to us, by e-mailing Linda Silverstein at TheSilversteins@aol.com.

Let's start out with the kids. Although they're already well into the third marking period of the school year (hard to believe, isn't it?), following is a list of students who achieved honors during the second quarter at Hightstown High School:

**High Honors**

- Reuben Alt (12th grade)
- Lysa Cousineau (11th grade)
- Hunter Ellentuck (9th grade)
- Nick Gates (12th grade)
- Briana Parsons (10th grade)
- Danielle Petrics (12th grade)
- Emily Silverstein (10th grade)
- Matt Stinson (9th grade)
- Cecelia Ticktin (10th grade)
- Jason Vazquez (12th grade)
- Gabrielle Velasquez (9th grade)
- Caitlin Wong (10th grade)

**Honors**

- Anna Breslaw (12th grade)
- Beth Breslaw (9th grade)
- Heather Cordo (11th grade)
- Anthony Grasaso (12th grade)
- Ryan Grasso (11th grade)
- Suzanne Herlihy (10th grade)
- Jennifer Iacono (12th grade)

Kreps Middle School information was not available at the time of this writing.

Both schools are currently under major construction and appear to be dealing with the associated inconveniences.

Other school news – HHS presented its spring musical *Once Upon*

A *Matress* last month, featuring Roosevelt residents Cecelia Ticktin and Anna Breslaw. They were sensational! Several members of the high school's band and choral groups (including a number of Rooseveltians) performed at the Harrogate International Music Festival in England last month. They also had the opportunity to tour London and the surrounding area during this fabulous trip.

Fellow residents Ani Rosskam and Bill Leech recently embarked on a new endeavor which highlights their talents, by creating original design notecards available through Blani.com. Best of luck!

The following is a direct message from Frances Duckett:

You are all invited to check out Culture Shock, a free art show which runs from April 2-24 at the Maplewood Arts Center, 1978 Springfield Ave. It is open weekends 2-5 p.m. or by appointment (973)762-2268. The show features work by eight returned Peace Corps volunteers, including Roosevelt resident Frances Duckett (Jamaica, '83-'85). The show culminates with a round table discussion by the volunteers on April 24. For more detailed information e-mail Frances: fduckett@comcast.net.

The Rutgers Symphony Band will premiere Mark Zuckerman's "Beside the Still Waters" on Tuesday, April 26, 8:00 p.m. at the Nicholas Music Center, Rutgers, New Brunswick. Admission is free.

That's it for this month. Please keep us informed – if you're moving into, out of or just around town, let us know! ■

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coincide with the PTA meeting of Tuesday, April 12. The PTA meets from 7:30-8:00 at the school. At that time Jill Lipoti, the Board president, will be reviewing the 2005-06 school budget. The next portion of the meeting, at 8:00, will be dedicated to a discussion of S-1701. I urge everyone to attend.

School voting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2:30-9:00 at Borough Hall. Voters are asked to approve the school budget and to fill three seats on the Board. Incumbents Jill Lipoti, Assenka Oksiloff and Jaymie Kosa are seeking re-election. ■





April Showers bring PTA Dollars... or, March comes in like a Velcro Wall and out like a cookie. Having just held a successful Winter Carnival, all PTA members are entitled to say, "Phew!"...

OK, that's enough relaxing, onto new news. But first, let me thank all the volunteers who helped on the Winter Carnival, ranging from RPS graduates and neighborhood seniors (some of whom were not even related to me!) and RPS parents. With about 20 games, 10 crafts, food and auction, it takes over 70 people to run this event for the day, and we did! Our Velcro Sticky wall stuck, and as kids were flying and sticking we all pondered the endless possibilities of having one installed in our own homes to ensure knowledge of our children's whereabouts.

But, no rest for the weary PTA. Mid-March we hosted a workshop for the "Partnership for a Drug-Free NJ" which contained information we don't think we need to know but we do. Did you know that the average age that a child begins to be aware of the concept of drugs is seven? And, that while a parent may think that 12 or 13 is a good age to begin precautionary measures, those pedaling the illegal substances start to approach our children by age 9.

On to equally addictive but less dangerous material, we began an Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough and Brownie Sale. Still time left to order! And, on the health scene, watch out for our coupon sale for workouts at a local gym. (A cookie, a workout, a cookie, a workout.)

Also in March, we sponsored a two-day workshop through the NJ Young Audiences Commission. Hosts who helped them create books of different kinds, pop-up books, picture books, etc., visited all grades. This is some of

our hard earned fundraising money at work and we hope the students enjoyed it. We also contributed to this year's yearbook in hopes of keeping the costs down for the individual students.

This month we hold our annual "Book Swap" which involves no money, not even trading beads, just books. All the students bring in a book or two in good condition. We sort and organize and hold the Book Swap. Everyone gets to leave with a book that is new to them and nobody has to spend money. This year Dierdra Pizzarelli is running the event, and as always we say, "Thanks for Swapping". Also, our Student Talent Show will held on Sunday, April 17 at 7 p.m. to benefit the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year-end trip. Everyone in town is welcome.

We are running a heated election race for next year. This year's candidates so far are Diedra Pizzarelli and Jill Joyce for Co-Presidents, Amy Block for VP, Kelly Mitchell or Michelle Orlick for Secretary and Leslie Carnevale up for 4th year reelection as Treasurer. Anyone interested in hearing their platforms or challenging them must attend the next meeting, Tuesday April 12th. Also at our next meeting, School Board President Jill Lipoti will speak about the upcoming school budget followed by an open Q and A session in which she and Dr. Weinbach will discuss any "current goings on." This will also be open to anyone in town interested in finding out more about our school and how it is operated.

Coming up in May we have a Dance, a Plant Sale, A week to appreciate teachers, a Velcro Swimming Pool and as always a small group of dedicated PTA members who are always happy to see new faces! ■

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"sooner rather than later" and that the Borough would then be in a position to proceed with the sale of the property. He also reported that requests for bids on a contract for the revaluation of properties in the Borough, as ordered by the Monmouth County Board of Taxation and the Director of Taxation, had been sent to six of the twelve firms on the Division of Taxation's approved list, but that no bids had been submitted. However, one of the firms did submit a counterproposal. Assessor Michael Ticktin recommended that the bid request be sent to all of the firms on the list. Mr. Klein said he would do so.

In her report as liaison to the Senior Citizens' Organization, Councilwoman Pat Moser commended the sixth grade students for their efforts to assist the residents of Solar Village by moving garbage cans for them.

In the public portion, Lou Esakoff once again brought to the Council's attention the water, determined to be chlorinated and potable, that is continually flowing past his house. He protested against this waste of water that the Borough has paid to pump and treat. He also complained about a sinkhole in the pavement in front of his house and asked that its cause be determined. He said that the "quick fix" of filling it with asphalt would not work. He also protested the presence of unregistered cars on various properties and asked for stricter enforcement and higher fines for violators. Councilman Hunt, who was presiding at the meeting in the absence of Mayor Marko and Council President Beth Battel, said that it has been the practice of Zoning Officer Ed Goetzmann to enforce the prohibition on unregistered cars through periodic "sweeps."

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# The Long Love-Day: The Story of Luongo and Liebttag

*Claudia Luongo is a visual, literary, and performing artist whose "day job" is teacher of the Arts and Humanities at ohn Witherspoon Middle School in Princeton. She resides on Pine Drive with Pompey, her feline muse and critic.*

Write about my family? The history of my mother and father? My parents would always get touchy when my siblings or I would ask them questions of a personal nature. Now that both of my parents were in ill health, how was I going to get any information out of them? They might think that I was preparing a eulogy or something. Well ...I would just have to write from memory. My memories of the things I had read, the pictures I had seen, and the events I had heard about. My memories of the stories.

My parents are reticent, private people, who don't talk about themselves very much, if at all. What I do know of my parents' backgrounds comes from questions I have asked and stories I have been told by my aunts and my uncles, my cousins, and my relatives' significant others. There is a published book about my mother's maternal side of the family, which I read many years ago. But like everyone's family histories, there are stories. Some stories are true, some stories are semi-true, and some stories you probably shouldn't tell. And then, of course, there are those stories



Anthony Luongo and Mary Marlene Liebttag,  
My Parents

that are forgotten....

Anthony Luongo and Mary Marlene Liebttag, my parents, are two people from different backgrounds who found each other at graduate school over half a century ago. My mother, who adores everything Roman, married a descendant of the Romans. My father, not quite fitting in with WASP society, married into it. Their union created five children: two boys - David

Dominick and Michael Theodore, and three girls - Esther Marlene, Julia Rose, and me - Claudia Maxine. We are all named after relatives.

My mother, an aspiring Latin teach-

er, was attending Radcliffe and working towards her Master's in Education. My father was attending Harvard's School of Law.

My mother was born and bred in Indianapolis, Indiana... a product of the "all-American" Midwest... a mixture of English, Scottish, German, Pennsylvania Dutch... and of course, Protestant. While my father was the son of Neapolitan emigres, my mother could trace her ancestry back through the Virginia colony, and back many, many previous generations in England and Scotland. She was descended from the Earls of Minto, but, as was happening with the settlement of the New World, the second sons of nobility often inherited

and developed tracts of colonial land. This was how the maternal branch of my mother's family came to America. One of our ancestors is credited with writing the first translation of the Bible in Native American tongue. We have ancestors who fought on both sides of the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and various skirmishes in between.

Theodore Liebttag, my mother's father, was a successful businessman when he met my grandmother Maxine Elliott. (Maxine's mother was Claudia Hedden - I am named after these two matrons.) Grandpa Liebttag had several businesses, among them an oil business, and one of the first movie

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## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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advertising and poster businesses in the US. (My mother was named after the movie star Marlene Dietrich, and her addiction to the movies started as a little girl, since she was able to go to the movies for free.) Grandma Maxine was a debutante, fashion plate, and sometime model whose specialty was her beautiful legs and small, delicate feet and ankles. She graced many a shoe in many a catalogue. Maybe it was the turn of her ankle that caught my grandfather's eye, but they wed and had my mother, Mary Marlene, and my uncle, Theodore Byron. While my mother was a shy, reserved girl with dark hair and dark eyes who enjoyed reading and learning, my Uncle Teddy was a hellcat, with twinkly blue eyes brighter than Paul Newman's and Steve McQueen's combined, and a temperament to match. I suspect that part of his rebellious nature stemmed from the fact that as a baby and young boy, my grandmother insisted on dressing him somewhat "girly." Uncle Teddy was a very beautiful child with whiteblonde hair that was curlier than Shirley Temple's, and my grandmother enjoyed dolling him up and parading him around.

Grandpa Dominick Luongo served in the Italian navy during World War I. The military was a major influence in his coming to the United States. I don't know all the particulars of how he became a citizen. I do know that he immigrated to America early in the last century, during the window of time that Ellis Island was closed. Dominick entered the Eastern Seaboard through Philadelphia, and came to live on Pearl Street in Elizabeth, New Jersey. My father, my Uncle Mike, and my aunts, Aunt Roseanne and Aunt Johanna, were, for the most part, raised there. Grandpa Dominick actually outlived three wives: Carmella, Esther,

and a French woman named Marie who my father always referred to as "Maman." Carmella, (or Mildred, as she was called by her family) my natural grandmother, was a Spinelli. Her family was from the Oranges and Newark area of New Jersey. As a young boy my father used to help his grandfather hawk vegetables and eggs from the family farm. I believe that the farm, which was mainly for chickens, still exists. My father, who is older than my mother, and who generation-wise could be my grandfather, was a child of the Depression. The household was poor, and all of the children worked. Grandma Esther was a traditional-style wife who ran the household and did all the cooking. I got the impression that whatever she said - went. I also sensed that perhaps Esther and Dominick realized their frustrated desires through the two boys. Esther wanted to be an attorney, and Dominick wanted to be an engineer. Anthony and Michael were pushed accordingly.

Uncle Mike, (a confirmed bachelor for most of his life until he married my Aunt Peggy) had been living in southern California for some time when he invited my grandfather to come out there, as well. Dominick felt that the climate of southern California resembled the climate of southern Italy, so after visiting a few times, he did indeed stay. He bought a house out in Riverside, where he used to garden and tinker around with machinery in his garage. Grandpa Dominick lived to the age of 98. We all feel that he would have lived to at least a hundred if he hadn't decided to die. My uncle Mike said that my grandfather, after learning that he had a tumor in his lung, put his hands behind his head, closed his eyes, and decided that he had had enough. Dominick passed

away in his sleep.

Concerning issues of religion, spirituality, and metaphysics, Grandpa Dominick was a Freemason. My father was an altar boy when he was young, but like my grandfather before him, he later practiced, if he practiced anything, some version of liberal Protestantism. (My father always says that he doesn't need any priest to pray or intermediate for him.) As a youth growing up in the streets of an urbanizing area, my father was known for getting into fights and bossing a gang of boys around. He got into scraps as easily as he got out of them, by utilizing wits and words as much as his fists. (Perhaps this was all in preparation for his future as a county prosecutor and trial attorney.) Anthony was blessed with musical and dramatic flair. I was told that my natural grandmother had a beautiful singing voice and was offered a chance to study opera, but her parents disapproved. My father still possesses a beautiful singing voice, and as a youth he played the clarinet. My Aunt Rose (also blessed with a beautiful singing voice, and who sang for us all the time) told me that he played in a band for the mayor. As for my father's speaking voice, his normal timbre is somewhere between strong and booming. As for his children's speaking voices, we were (and are) constantly instructed not to "mumble" and to speak with clarity, correct diction, and strong enunciation.

My father took his Bachelor's degree at Rutgers College, in the days before it became a state school and was recognized as being one of the oldest universities in the nation. (During the Colonial period Rutgers was originally named Queens College and was one of

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Dear Bulletin,

Please accept this donation in memory of Lillian Warren.

Many thanks for your fine write up of the Memorial.

*Lauren Bonfite*

To the Editor:

The advantage of processing "gray" water would be adding up to about \$50,000 a year to the 2005 Budget.

Questions have been raised about the "gray water" ordinance that the Borough Council is considering. This would run a one-year pilot program to carry what is essentially flush water (very dilute) from local building projects. Until they get hooked into local sewer lines, such water is stored in tanks and emptied into licensed, inspected vehicles which carry this water to local sewage treatment facilities. Legitimate questions can be raised, including the nature and adequacy of testing, the safety of the transport vehicles, etc.

But there has also been considerable nonsense raised. One local lawyer wrote in a local paper that three children had been killed in an accident on Pine Drive, implying by context that a big truck had killed them. He also said that it is not possible for a car and a delivery vehicle to pass each other on Pine Drive because it is too narrow.

The facts are that Pine Drive is sufficiently wide for a car and a delivery truck to pass each other, unless there are cars parked on both sides of the road opposite each other. But that is also true for fuel oil vehicles, which are at least as large as the trucks which may carry the gray water. The answer to that, of course, is careful driving.

Which brings us to another objection by the local lawyer. The three children who were killed by a vehicle on Pine Drive thirty-eight years ago were killed by a neighbor in a private car, not a delivery truck, and not an outsider, in broad daylight on a summer day. One of those children was a classmate of my daughter's, another a friend of hers. The tragedy was horrible enough without it being cynically manipulated for political purposes after all these years.

Finally, who wants poop carried through the streets? Well, actually, it flows under us all the time, in the same dilute form that the trucks would bring it. And in the unlikely (but certainly possible) event of a spill, it is far less harmful to the roads, lawns and people than a spill of fuel oil, which, as we know, can have profound and long-lasting consequences.

Very truly yours,

*Ed Moser*

To the Editor:

One need only to have been raised here to forever think of Roosevelt as home. This past January, Roosevelt lost one of its children, Hallie Carmen-Klare, who grew up living at 43 Tamara Drive. If it's true that a person's character is formed at a young age, then so true it was in the life Hallie choose to live. Hallie is survived by her mother, Rosalind (Sussman) Carmen, sisters Deena and Irene, and brother, Matthew. Her father was the late Abraham Carmen.

She was a friend, a graduate of our RPS and HHS. Besides the great party she had for, I believe her 16th birthday, my fondest memory is of us and

other friends walking around town, in the late evening, singing popular 60's songs at the top of our lungs while outrageously laughing - probably disturbing the peace. What fun we had doing that though.

She moved to Massachusetts long ago, but she remains in the minds of her friends as a Rooseveltian. She did not live a wonderfully long life, but the short time she lived, she lived it accomplishing wonderful things, giving to other people. Always concerned with her fellowman, conscious of social injustices, Hallie became a nurse, dedicating her life to finding proper care for others. A good person.

Following are comments made by Billy Rubin. Billy and his sister, Marsha, also grew up here, right next door to the Carmen family:

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Hallie Carmen. As you can read below, Hallie lived in Cambridge. Many years ago in the 70's, shortly after Marsha moved to Boston, Marsha bumped into Hallie at a job interview and ended up filling the position Hallie was leaving. She was a very special person and will be dearly missed by many.

In her obituary, Billy referred to, is added: "A lifetime of dedication to health care, affordable housing and social justice. A lifetime of love for family and friends..."

Thank you,

*Nancy P. Warnick* ■

## Community Shares Agriculture A Very Roosevelt Kind of Project

By Ann Baker

If you eat vegetables and greens during the growing season, and who doesn't, you should consider becoming a member of the Roosevelt Community Shares Agriculture Project. This will be the fourth year that the Roosevelt CSA has been in operation and the current members feel that getting locally-grown, organic produce is a real benefit.

The project came into existence as a result of the farm preservation efforts of the Fund for Roosevelt. Bob Gold purchased the land on Nurko Road with the intention of doing organic farming. He was excited by the proposal that the farm support itself as a community shares project, similar to the very large Millstone-Stony Brook Watershed CSA.

The idea behind community shares agriculture is that members pay a membership fee in advance for a season's worth of produce, thus capitalizing the purchase of seed and the work of farming the land. Community shares agriculture is not a farm co-operative because its members do not do the actual farm work – the tilling, planting, weeding, and harvesting of the crops. Members pick their produce up on a weekly basis.

From the beginning, the Roosevelt CSA has planted heirloom seeds that have produced tasty vegetables, greens, and herbs we ordinarily don't buy at the supermarket or at farm stands. It was amazing the first year to experience the great variety of garlic and tomatoes, in particular. Now members look forward to the differences in produce that are available.

The farm has now been purchased by Ed and Jackie Goldstein, and will be farmed by a local farm family, Kevin

and Sharon Kyle. They have studied the requirements of organic farming and recognize that they will be working soil that has been well-cared for since 2002.

After extensive discussion, the members have decided that it will not be necessary to go through the bureaucratic requirements to certify the farm as organic. If the Kyles were going to sell the produce to the public, it would be necessary to get certification. However, as a membership organization without a market in the general public, it was decided not to take the steps to be certified by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

The Roosevelt Community Shares Agriculture Project is open to more members. The share fees are \$350 for a regular weekly distribution of produce, and \$600 for a super-sized share. For additional information and to join, call Bobbi Teich at 448-5036 before 9 p.m. or [bobbiteich@comcast.net](mailto:bobbiteich@comcast.net).

Checks are made out to Kevin Kyle and sent to: Bobbi Teich, P. O. Box 246, Roosevelt, NJ 08555 no later than April 10.

- Regular share - \$350.00  
Good for two or three adults
- Super-sized share - \$600.00  
Good for large family or very committed veggie-lovers
- Need a smaller share? You may want to combine with another household.

## REVIEW

### The New Jersey Saxophone Quartet Plays the Music of Mark Zuckerman

By Brad Garton

The Peddie School  
March 6, 2005

I suppose I could say that Sunday, March 6 was an afternoon of frus-

trated expectations for me, but I don't like the pejorative feel of the word "frustrated" when applied to my experience of the New Jersey Saxophone Quartet concert featuring the music of Rooseveltian Mark Zuckerman. On the other hand, I can't say that I was really pleasantly surprised by the concert held at The Peddie School because "surprised" would imply that I was unaware of Mark's musical talent ("pleasantly" works, though). I knew that Mark was an accomplished artist with a high level of compositional skill long before I entered the Mount-Burke Theater. Probably the best I can do is to resort to a tired cliché of the last decade and call it a postmodern afternoon; "postmodern" here meaning that my projected contexts were being radically rearranged as the event unfolded.

A saxophone quartet is in itself a study in context-shuffling. Take the quintessential instrument of the free-flowing, no-holds-barred American jazz tradition — the saxophone — and use it to form an ironic version of an established, 'old' European (in existence for centuries!) musical ensemble — the string quartet — and you have a formula for a complete mash-up of musical traditions.

Mark didn't mash, however, because he isn't that kind of composer. Much to his credit, he has a finely-honed, high modernist sense of control over his music. This was certainly evident in the first piece of the concert, "Jersey Sure" (the punning title itself is a shore sign of modernism). This was a highly contrapuntal, tightly-structured piece. I suppose that the use of a fairly 'jazzy' gesture as the seed motif in the music could be construed as a postmodern affectation, but Mark's firm command of this material belied

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## REVIEW – The New Jersey Saxophone Quartet Plays the Music of Mark Zuckerman

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the looseness typically associated with a PoMo collision.

The second piece of the concert, “Three Improvisations” by renowned jazz saxophonist Phil Woods, was interesting in that it inhabited some of the same major/minor harmonic territory as the first piece. Personally I preferred Zuckerman’s piece, probably because I was listening from a more ‘composely’ perspective and the underlying structural unity of “Jersey Sure” was more appealing to my sensibilities.

I also very much enjoyed the last piece before the intermission, Bob Mintzer’s “Quartet No. 1.” The NJ Saxophone Quartet did a masterful job performing this piece, showing just how supple, fluid and expressive a saxophone quartet can be. I loved the solos (each soloist standing up in turn, a nod to jazz tradition) played over a percolating ensemble. And those voluptuous low open fifths played between the tenor and baritone saxes were unadulterated acoustic joy.

“Send in the New Boy” by Billy Kerr was not my most favorite piece of the afternoon. The first piece performed after the intermission, “New Boy” had some interesting timbral shifts as long, arching scales were passed from one saxophonist to the next. Kerr has been very involved in the New York Saxophone Quartet, and somehow the music seemed a little too “in” for me — I didn’t quite follow some of the compositional choices Kerr was making.

The final presentation of the concert was Mark’s “Four Pieces After Rooseveltians for the Roosevelt Arts Project”. The piece – actually four separate pieces – was being premiered at this concert. During the past year, Mark was the well-deserved recipient of a New Jersey State Council on the

Arts fellowship, and the support yielded a truly wonderful work. Again, I applaud the NJ Saxophone Quartet in their programming of this concert, for Mark’s final piece took the various musical strands from the previous works and wove them into a marvelous set of audio portraits.

Zuckerman spent time introducing each piece verbally, explaining his thinking behind his musical portraiture. He described the first piece, “Caprice (in memoriam Sol Libsohn)” as “exuberant.”

Indeed! This was certainly the joyous Sol Libsohn I remember; a happy amalgam of jazz riffs and solid musical structure. “Intermezzo (in memoriam Judith Trachtenberg)” had an enchanting and soaring middle section, bookended by music with a real tragic dimension. I realize I’m projecting my own knowledge of Judy’s untimely death onto the piece, and when Mark discusses his music he adopts a decidedly constructivist tone, but the emotional content of this piece was very strong for me. Mark discussed “Bagatelle (in memoriam Ed Schliniski)” as celebrating Schliniski’s love of a good ‘argument’. He talked about how Ed could easily switch from one side of an issue to another, and reflected this in an inversion of harmony and melody in the middle section of the “Bagatelle.” I didn’t quite catch all the subtleties of this inversion, for mah Indiana eers doan work that gud. The music and Zuckerman’s rendering of a Schliniski ‘argument’ was great fun, though. The final piece of the quartet, “Finale (in memoriam Bernarda Shahn)” was a tour-de-force of technical and musical capability. I suspect that this piece mattered a lot to Zuckerman, for it was Bernarda Shahn who was responsible for his move to Roosevelt almost

thirty years ago. The triumphal finish, the Quartet almost sounding like a brass quartet, was a fitting end to a satisfying concert.

I have left out one piece in my description above. “Keepsake”, the third piece of the afternoon, was the one that did the context-shifting for me in a directly personal way. The music was originally composed for solo flute in 1983, making this the oldest piece by far on the afternoon concert (most of Zuckerman’s pieces were written quite recently). I followed Zuckerman as a graduate student in music at Princeton, and then as a faculty member at Columbia, in both cases arriving shortly after Mark had left. I knew something of his musical work from that era, and armed with that knowledge I thought I was prepared for this particular piece. My personal context was set. Zuckerman rewrote the piece for NJ Saxophone Quartet member Frank Mazzeo to perform as a soprano sax solo, and I was absolutely floored. The piece was stunningly beautiful. To be sure, my expectations were “frustrated”, but my interior “postmodern” experience of this graceful and lovely music made me happy I was able to attend this concert.

So despite various levels of my own “frustration” and “surprise”, this was a delightful afternoon concert presentation. The Roosevelt Arts Project and the Community Arts Project at the Peddie School (co-presentors of the show) are to be applauded for supporting this work. And of course a lot of credit goes to the New Jersey Saxophone Quartet — Frank Mazzeo, Jason O’Mara, Todd Groves and Jerry Nowak — for producing such a pleasant event. ■

By Jack Rindt, Training Officer

For the month of February the Roosevelt First Aid Squad handled 4 first aid calls and had one training class.

Out of the 4 first aid calls, 2 were mutual aid to Millstone Twp. And 2 were in Roosevelt. The training for February was Recertification on CPR for the Professional Rescuer and the Automatic Defibrillator (AED).

The ambulance that the Squad owns now is a 1988 Ford. We would like to add a second ambulance to the town. This year we are going to start an account for a new ambulance. The cost of a new ambulance will be \$65,000 to \$80,000, so we need the help of everyone. We know that this project will take about three to four years from raising the money to delivery. We already have some ambulance builders sending us information.

On Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> the First Aid Squad will be offering an American Red Cross Child/Infant CPR Course. This is a fundraiser for the New Ambulance. The cost of the course will be \$25.00. The course will be held at the Borough Hall starting at 12 noon and should take about 3 hours to complete. Part of the proceeds will go to the American Red Cross for the certification card and the rest to the Squad. Anyone interested please contact me at 448-9475 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The Squad has put away \$1,000 for the New Ambulance. Any contributions for the New Ambulance please indicate it is for this. Please make out check to Roosevelt First Aid Squad, P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. The First Aid Squad is always thankful when anything can be contributed. A second ambulance in town will help insure that one will always be around and available.

The Squad only has 7 EMTs at this time. We are always looking for new members and we pay for all training. New members can join at the age of 16 and become a New Jersey EMT. For more information, contact any Squad member.

Here are some upcoming dates for Emergency Medical Technician courses.

In Mercer County starting:  
4/9/05 to 6/5/05

In Monmouth County starting:  
5/14/05 to 8/15/05  
6/18/05 to 8/22/05  
8/20/05 to 12/3/05

Please call me and I will let you know where and at what time the courses will be held. ■

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In other business, the Council adopted resolutions (1) awarding a \$4,080 contract for an online data processing system for the Tax Collector and Assessor, (2) authorizing a renewal of the interlocal agreement with Hightstown for the repair and maintenance of streets and roads and of the utility systems, (3) authorizing the municipal engineer to prepare plans and specification for the Lake Drive reconstruction project, (4) setting aside funds to pay the cost of revaluation, (5) authorizing filing of a tonnage grant application, (6) transferring appropriation reserves within the current fund account, (7) transferring appropriation reserves within the water/sewer utility account and (8) authorizing temporary appropriations. Municipalities must authorize temporary appropriations in order to keep operating until such time as the annual budget is adopted and approved by the Division of Local Government Services. A motion to authorize use of the Borough Hall by Donna Balson on March 20 for a piano rehearsal, by the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation for its annual meeting on May 5 and by Nancy Boganski and Jay Goldman for private events on April 16 and May 22, respectively, was also approved, as was a motion referring to the Planning Board, for its recommendation, a proposal that had been informally made by the Pine Valley Swim Club for the sale of the club's property at the intersection of Eleanor Lane and North Valley Road to the Borough. ■

### **RESIDENTS!**

This is your newspaper. We would be happy to hear from you either in the form of letters or articles which we would be pleased to include in our publication each month.

That's what this paper is for — to help us to get to know one another as well as to let you know what is happening in the town.

Let us know what you think, what you do.

How about it?

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## FROM THE MAYOR

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session before the ordinance was even introduced. What are the chief complaints of some of those who criticize these efforts? Some people have raised the issue of traffic safety. Traffic safety is always on the front burner for the Council. To address those issues, we have decided to limit our acceptance of gray water to no more than two 6000 gallon trucks a day, scheduled to minimize the risk to school children. And these trucks, non-articulated and similar to heating oil delivery trucks, are highly regulated and licensed and regularly inspected. They will travel down Pine Drive, turn around and dump their load. No backing down Pine Drive. Another issue raised was what will happen if someone puts something bad into one of those loads of gray water? To address this, we asked our engineer what can we do to prevent this. What we will do is to do a few tests before we accept the load. In particular, we will do some tests that will detect industrial wastes and whether the load is septage or not. Will these tests absolutely determine if a load could cause a problem. Nothing in life is absolute, but according to our engineer they are accurate enough. Some have made hay about the fact that these tests are not absolute. To understand the folly of this comment you have to go back to our metering. Remember I mentioned that we were processing on average 160,000 gallons of waste per day. Well we also determined that we are pumping a little over 100,000 gallons of clean water per day. That means that probably around 60,000 gallons of the water that enters the plant right now is actually fresh water from infiltration. Imagine 60,000 gallons of water diluting the 10,000 gallons

of gray water that we could receive. Also we have the fact that we already receive over 100,000 gallons of gray water per day from the Roosevelt residents. The likelihood that we might get something bad from 10,000 gallons of gray water is small compared to the 100,000 gallons of waste we get daily from the residents. And I am not happy to report that we have had situations in the past where residents have dumped stuff down the drain that affected the processing in the plant. Of course our operator detected these pollutants and was able to adjust the operation of the plant to compensate. Taking all this together, our engineer has advised us that the risks of taking in gray water are indeed small. Lastly, even with all the people we spoke to, we never discovered a situation where a plant was damaged or other bad things happened due to acceptance of a load of gray water.

In April, the Council will take up this topic and the ordinance again. In my business (software), we have an acronym (we have lots of them): FUD. We say that there are those that are spreading FUD. We mean by that there are those that are saying things to just scare people by planting the seeds of Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt in their minds. I invite all to come to the meetings to make sure that clear thinking and not FUD rules the day.

In closing, I would like to remind all of you that your Borough Council and I would like to hear from you. We have meetings the first three Mondays of each month. The first Monday is a Committee Meeting at 7 pm followed by an Agenda Meeting at 8. The next Monday is our Action Meeting at 7 p.m. The third Monday is another Committee Meeting at 7 p.m.. In

May, on the third Monday at 8 p.m., we will also have a Special Meeting that includes a public hearing on the budget. You are all welcome and encouraged to come. If you can't make a meeting, perhaps you want to email us. My email is mayor@borough.roosevelt.nj.us or you can reach the Council by emailing council@borough.roosevelt.nj.us. If you want, you can call me at the Borough Hall (448-0539) and press 1.

Tidbit of information: We were not the first Borough of Roosevelt in the State of New Jersey. In the 20's, what we now know as the Borough of Carteret was in fact the Borough of Roosevelt, named after Theodore Roosevelt. Mike Ticktin recounts a story of his receiving a letter to someone named Samuel Wexler of some Jewish Organization on Railroad Avenue in Roosevelt, New Jersey. Obviously, the State was purging some old nonprofit corporate records and this old organization had as its address Railroad Avenue in the Borough of Roosevelt. The State then addressed the letter, put 08555 on the end of the address and put it in the mail. The Post Office, not knowing what to do with the letter, gave it to Mike who was at the time, the President of the Synagogue. Of course, we might not have been the first Borough of Roosevelt, but I think we are the best! ■



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## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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the Ivy-League schools.) He majored in history, and still enjoys learning and talking about politics, government, and the machinations of war. Anthony received all of his education on scholarship, and was an excellent student. His academic success was rewarded, for when it came time for him to choose a law school, he had several offers of scholarship from several prestigious universities.

The story goes that my father was offered a Rhodes candidacy, but turned it down because he felt that the schools in the States were just as good. I suspect that his old-fashioned mama in New Jersey felt that Massachusetts was far enough away for her sonny-boy, let alone Oxford University in England! Grandma Esther and Grandpa Dominick, although poor and raising children during and after the Great Depression, fully expected their sons to get advanced degrees in "important" professions. My father, "the lawyer," was going to Harvard, and of course he would graduate with the highest honors.

There is a lapse of time between when my father graduated from Rutgers and then attended Harvard. I know that he was consigned during the Korean War, and I also know that some of this lapse between the two degrees was caused by serious illnesses. My father has had last rights performed over his ailing body twice, and twice he has tricked death. I know that one of the illnesses was spinal meningitis, and his fever was so dangerously high that he had to be placed in a tub of ice cubes.

As the son of Italian emigres, my father did encounter some prejudice, but he bonded with a fellow outsider who was Jewish, and the two of them were loyal friends for many years. My father did meet a WASP who opened

up to him - my mother, but that was after he had spotted her from afar. Tony was at the cafeteria commons, when he noticed a young woman who was pretty in the style of Vivien Leigh or Elizabeth Taylor ...dark hair, fair skin, and a slender curvy body. My father, the suave, polite gentleman that he can be, asked to be introduced to that young lady.

My mother, for the most part, led what many would say was a charmed life when she was growing up. My grandparents owned more than one house, and the household included a cook and a maid. The family frequented "The Riviera," which at that time was a type of country club that was not on the banks of a river, but on the banks of a manmade reservoir. As for animals, my mother grew up with a bevy of cats, some of which she would dress up in dolls' clothing. There are many pictures of my mother wearing little more than a pair of overalls, a smile, and a cat in some type of dress dangling from her arms. I also noticed that in a fair number of these pictures, my mother had scabbed knees and elbows, and ripped pants. This probably drove my grandmother more than a bit crazy, for Maxine herself was a girl who had always been a clotheshorse. My mother Marlene, at least as a youngster, was not.

Marlene received her Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University. She majored in Latin and took courses in Classical Studies and Greek as well. She did well in school, but did not have to rely on scholarships to fund her education. When she finished her Bachelor's degree, she left her home state of Indiana and moved to Boston, Massachusetts to continue her education. While attending graduate school at Radcliffe, my mother had a roommate who was always talking about

how wonderful her brother was. This girl would go on and on about how her brother was doing all these interesting and exciting things and how he was going to make a difference in the world. The name of the girl's brother was Ralph Nader.

I don't think that Grandma and Grandpa Liebttag were totally pleased with the union of my mother and my father. No doubt they would have preferred that Marlene had married a WASP from a "comfortable" family. At that time, there were still people in the Midwest who were not familiar with "what" an Italian was. The image of a short, swarthy man speaking broken English, with an organ grinder and a monkey, was a common stereotype. The reality of the Italian side of my family was that although there were members of the family who were poor, through the generations there were also doctors, educators, and business professionals.

My parents are both avid readers, and we kids grew up in a household that was filled with thousands of books. I never needed to go to the library to get research for any of my papers while in elementary and secondary school. Childhood friends used to come to my house to borrow books for their papers as well. Holiday and birthday gifts were often books or specialized encyclopedia sets. If we didn't know the meaning of a word and asked my parents what it meant, their common refrain was "look it up in the dictionary." The reading gene is not recessive in our family, as most of my generation has inherited this trait. I have been acquiring books for as long as I can remember, and my personal collection is in the thousands. If you ever lose a Luongo, go to the near-

*Continued on Page 18*

## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

*Continued from Page 17*

est bookstore or library, and chances are good that you will find him or her somewhere among the stacks.

My parents took an apartment on Westminster Avenue in Elizabeth after they wed, with my father having a law office in town. I remember that for a time, my Aunt Rose and my Uncle Eddie lived in an apartment on an upper story of that same building. They later moved to Roselle Park. My Aunt Rose, who did not have any children, loved us as her own.

Marlene had her babies at an age that even now, could be considered later in life. Apparently, my mother originally wanted to have seven children, because my Aunt Rose used to joke with her about this. (I don't know how my mother managed five. She deserves a medal.) When my mother was in the hospital after giving birth to my sister, I remember my childhood-self telling my parents that they should name the newborn girl after our beloved Aunt. (I guess that was one time that I can say my parents did listen to me!) However, five children made for seven people. Too many people in one apartment, no matter that it was a double apartment.

And the neighborhood wasn't as safe as it used to be; the building had been broken into several times.

The time had come to buy a house in the suburbs.

My parents and my brother David still live in that same house on Parkside Avenue in Freehold where my siblings and I grew up. The neighborhood, which was known as the Coltsbrook Development, is situated on the border of Coltsneck and Marlboro. It was a good place to grow up, and it is a nice place to visit. Newer families seem to think that it is a good place to raise children, too. And yet, surprisingly – or not surprisingly – although I grew up in Monmouth County, I never heard of Roosevelt until I went looking for a house of my own. My sister Julia (whose middle name is Rose!) recently moved into a house that is just down the street from where I live.

This August the original Long Love-Days, Anthony and Marlene, celebrate their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary. I've told the story of my parents and their family background the best that I could at this time. My siblings and I are the present generation of the Long

Love-Days. And to learn about us, you'll have to wait for the next installment in the Luongo saga.

To be written by my sister Julia, of course. ■

### About Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project - find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Pearl Seligman	448-2340
Bess Tremper	448-2701

# Pea Soup



When I was in California visiting my brother we went to a Danish restaurant. It started out as a small diner serving only pea soup. It was called "Pea Soup." The following recipes were side dishes served there. I never liked pea soup but I enjoyed the pea salad. The restaurant was a little house underneath a huge windmill. These recipes are especially good served in the summer.

## Pea Salad

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 cups cooked peas, chilled   | 1/4 cup sour cream           |
| 3/4 cup diced red bell pepper | 2 tbsp mayonnaise            |
| 4 oz. marinated mushrooms     | 1 tbsp chopped fresh dill    |
| 2 tbsp sliced green onion     | 1/4 tsp Worcestershire sauce |

Combine peas, red bell peppers, mushrooms, and green onion in a medium-size bowl. In a small bowl combine remaining ingredients, mixing well. Toss with the vegetables. Cover bowl and chill in refrigerator for at least one hour before serving. Serves 4.



## Pickled Beets

- |                     |                                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10 small beets      | 4 tbsp sugar                          |
| Dressing            | 1 pinch ground cloves                 |
| 1 cup cider vinegar | 1 small onion, sliced fine (optional) |
| 4 tbsp water        |                                       |

Cut tops off beets, leaving about 1 inch of stem and the root ends. This prevents the beets from bleeding. Cook beets in salted water for 15 to 20 minutes or until tender. Cool, peel, and cut into thin slices. Place in a glass dish and pour dressing over beets. Allow to stand 2 to 3 hours before serving. If canned beets are used, drain beet juice and pour dressing over beets. 6 servings

**Why is there Air (Pressure)?**

On a recent Sunday, I was changing the oil in one of our cars when David and Naomi Brahinsky stopped by during their walk with a couple of weather questions. The first: “What makes the wind blow? “A major factor in the creation of wind is the difference in air pressure between two weather systems that causes wind. Wind blows from a high-pressure system to a low-pressure system. Why? Think of an air pump. When you press down on the plunger, you are putting the air in the pump under higher and higher pressure until it escapes through a hose into the outside air that is at a much lower pressure. Wind. I was happy to confirm what David and Naomi already surmised.

Their next question was not so easy for me: “What creates the differences in air pressure? “ I had forgotten what I learned on that subject, so I did a little research.

First we have to know what air pressure is. Air is a physical thing, a collection of gases made up of molecules. The molecules have weight and are subject to the laws of gravity. If gravity did not work on air, the atmosphere would escape from around the earth. Gravity pulls the molecules toward the ground and against any object between the ground and the air molecules. The greater the number of molecules being pulled against you and everything else, the higher the air pressure. One elephant sitting on your head is not going to put as much pressure on you as two would.

So, what causes changes in air pressure? I won't pretend to know all the things that affect air pressure. But here are a couple of significant actors.

Temperature. Again, air is made up of gases. We know that when gases are heated they expand, which is to say that the molecules of the gases move further apart from each other the higher the temperature goes. So, a defined area of hot air, say a quart jar, will have less molecules, equaling less weight, equaling less pressure, than a quart jar of cold air. Elevation. The higher you go the lower the air pressure. Generally this is so in part because temperatures drop as elevation increases.

There is too much more to say about changes air pressure and what air pressure changes to include in this column. However, I'd like to leave the subject with two sentences from a meteorologist who shall go unnamed: “The air's pressure changes with the weather. Air pressure, in fact, is one of the important (elements) that determines what the weather is like.” Doesn't that draw a beautiful circle?

**Weather Word**

A Barometer is an instrument used to measure atmospheric pressure. Two examples are the aneroid barometer and the mercurial barometer. ■

**March 15 - April 15, 2004**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	53.6	29.7	41.7	0.85
16	63.7	36.9	50.3	0.00
17	41.5	28.6	35.1	0.00
18	34.3	24.4	29.4	0.00
19	32.2	15.3	23.8	0.00
20	41.5	19.4	30.5	0.00
21	40.5	30.2	35.4	0.50
22	44.4	32.0	38.2	0.00
23	41.2	28.4	34.8	0.00
24	34.2	23.9	29.1	0.00
25	34.9	14.7	24.8	0.65
26	43.5	13.5	28.5	0.00
27	36.3	20.8	28.6	0.00
28	36.7	27.7	32.2	0.00
1	41.2	29.5	35.4	0.65
2	37.9	28.6	33.3	0.00
3	35.1	21.0	28.1	0.00
4	36.0	17.6	26.8	0.00
5	40.3	17.6	29.0	0.00
6	48.0	22.0	48.0	0.00
7	62.8	31.1	47.0	0.00
8	46.0	22.6	34.3	0.55
9	33.4	15.1	24.3	0.00
10	35.2	15.6	25.4	0.35
11	50.9	25.0	38.0	0.00
12	45.9	31.3	38.6	0.00
13	46.2	28.9	37.6	0.00
14	42.1	27.9	35.0	0.00
15	46.6	24.4	35.5	0.00
<b>Total Precipitation</b>	<b>3.55"</b>			

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# ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

## 2004-2005 SEASON

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The Board of Trustees of the Roosevelt Arts Project deeply regrets the passing of Bernarda Shahn, a wonderful, articulate person, and extremely talented artist who was among the very first artists in our community to suggest organizing the Roosevelt Arts Project. She was actively involved in our Board meetings until very recent years. We mourn our loss, and we are sad that we will no longer see her rounding the bend on her afternoon walk, or meet up with her, enjoying her alert mind at Rossi's where she stopped for ice cream. She has been a treasure in our community and remains a treasure in our hearts.

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**Saturday, April 2, 2005**

8 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **SOUNDSCAPES AND LANDSCAPES, WITH BRAD GARTON AND KATE JOHN-ALDER**

Landforms revealed in space, soundforms unfolding in time... There is a strong connection between the arts of music and architecture. Award-winning landscape architect Kate John-Alder and composers Brad Garton, Wiska Radkiewicz, and Wes John-Alder, all Roosevelt residents, will present their recent work in an evening of discussion, images and music.

---

**Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, 2005**

8 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND**

The ever popular Roosevelt String Band, with David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar, Howie Jacobson, Sarah Houtz, and Joe Pepitone, will return to perform folk songs of contemporary singer-songwriters and songs from various folk traditions.

---

**Sunday, May 22, 2005**

10 a.m. at the Borough Hall  
(the first day of daylight savings)

**\*SAVE THIS DATE\***  
**You Are Invited!**

### **COMMUNITY-WIDE BOARD MEETING**

You are invited to join the Roosevelt Arts Project trustees in planning events for next year's season, 2005-2006. We welcome your ideas. Is there an event you would like to suggest or do you have any other new ideas for RAP? Do come to our meeting. We look forward to talking with you.

---

**All events are at Roosevelt Borough Hall in the Municipal Building on Route 571 except where otherwise noted. For Further information call Robin Gould, 448-4616.**

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### **Voluntary Contribution:**

For most events \$5 per adult. For the String Band \$10 per adult, \$5 for seniors and children.

**LEAVES**, a 28-page collection of poetry by Roosevelt poets is now available at \$5.00 from the Roosevelt Arts Project. To order, call Robin Gould at 448-4616. Also call Robin for postcards of the Ben Shahn mural, and for CDs of the String Band, of Laurie Altman, and of Anita Cervantes.

For further information call Robin Gould, 448-4616. ■

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**2004 - 2005**

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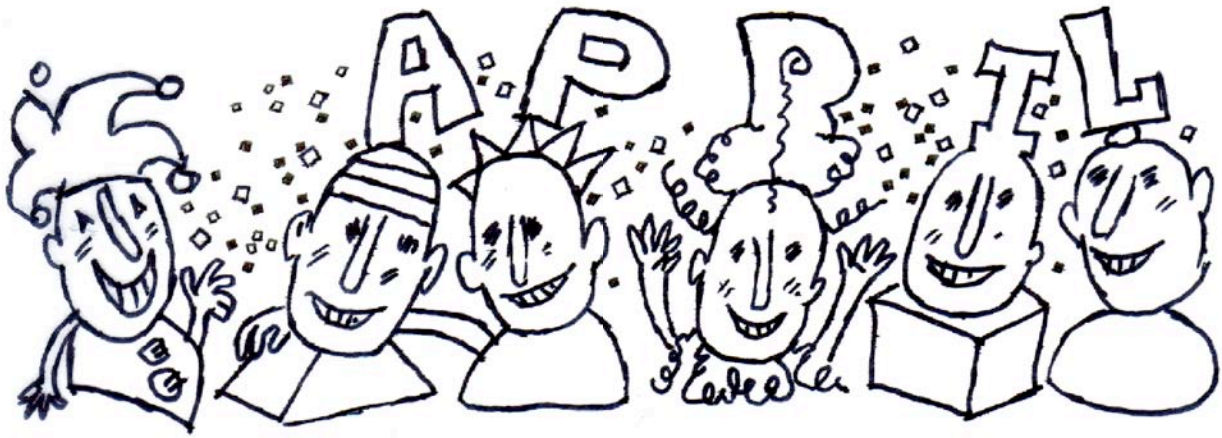
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Please send your events and activities to Jane Rothfuss, Box 122, 448-3713 or email: kirkjane@juno.com

## April

<b>1</b>	Fri		RPS Closed - Spring Break
<b>2</b>	Sat	8 pm	RAP Program, Soundscapes & Landscapes Boro Hall (see RAP Page)
<b>3</b>	Sun		Daylight Savings Time Begins
<b>4</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Meeting Borough Hall Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall Neil Marko, Mayor 609-443-6818
<b>5</b>	Tues	12:30 pm	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall Gerry Millar, President 609-448-0351
<b>6</b>	Wed		RECYCLE
<b>8</b>	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
<b>10</b>	Sun	10 am	First Aid Squad Training Day Jack Rindt 609-448-9475 (call 9 am - 6 pm)
<b>11</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall Neil Marko, Mayor 609-443-6818
<b>12</b>	Tues	7:30 pm	PTA Meeting RPS Larisa Bondy 443-7430
		7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Ralph Seligman 448-2340
<b>15</b>	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
<b>17</b>	Sun	12 pm - 3 pm	American Red Cross Child/Infant CPR Course \$25 Borough Hall Jack Rindt 609-448-9475 (call 9 am - 6 pm)
		7 pm	Student Talent Show
<b>18</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Meeting Borough Hall Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227
<b>19</b>	Tues	2:30 pm - 9 pm	PTA Book Swap RPS Deidre Pizzarelli 609-448-2126
		7:30 pm	First Aid Squad Meeting Borough Hall Jack Rindt 448-6818

2:30 pm - School Board Elections and School Budget Vote  
9 pm Borough Hall

**20** Wed RECYCLE

7:30 pm Environmental Commission Meeting  
Borough Hall  
David Schwendeman, Chairman  
609-443-6204

**21** Thurs 7:30 pm Synagogue Board Meeting  
Neil Marko 609-443-6818

**22** Fri RPS Pizza Day

**23** Sat Passover Begins at sundown

**24** Sun Passover

**25** Mon RPS Closed

**28** Thurs 7:30 pm Board of Education Meeting RPS  
Jill Lipoti 609-443-7430

## May Preview

**2** Mon 7 pm Council Committee Meeting  
Borough Hall  
Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227

8 pm Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall  
Neil Marko, Mayor 609-443-6818

**3** Tues 12:30 pm Senior Blood Pressure Check  
Borough Hall

1 pm Seniors Meeting Borough Hall  
Gerry Millar, President 609-448-0351

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