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# ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



# BULLETIN

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## LOVE OF LIFE

### *Etiquette For the Motorist ~ 2*

By Josef G. Solomon

The previous article on this subject was so well received--that means nobody tried to run me down--that here comes another.

The one thing about driving a car that disturbs me the most is the indifference some people show toward their own continued existence. They cut in front of another car, pass on the shoulder of the road, turn left in front of oncoming traffic, etc. In general, they act as if they just don't care. That's bad enough, but I totally fail to understand pedestrians who seem not to care. A driver at least has the illusion of safety afforded him by the shell of steel. When I lived in a large city that contained a mammoth university, an employee of the electric company remarked to me that he hates to drive near the university, because the students walk across the street without even looking. He said that he and his friends refer to those students as "educated idiots". It's a good description. In the same way that a man who does not read has no advantage over a man who cannot read, someone who crosses the street without looking--even though he

knows better--has no advantage over a person who does not know better. And, of course, they're both likely to be killed. That's what bothers me the most: not only that these people seem not to care about their own lives, but that they think that a stranger will, even when they themselves don't.

#### So Far, So Good

So far, anyone who depended on me not to kill them has been right. However, some who depended on other motorists were dead wrong. Sometimes, pedestrians start across the street, shoot a quick glance at me, and then glance away, making sure not to look at me again as they continue serenely on their journey. In that one half-second glance, they were able to determine that I was not drunk, not on drugs, not a homicidal maniac--and then they bet their life on that one glance. Look, guys, don't depend on me not to kill you. I will do everything I can do, to avoid hitting you, but what if I fail? Take some responsibility for your own life. Isn't it important to you? Don't dump it all on me. I don't want that total responsibility, and you shouldn't give

(Cont'd. on page 3)

### FREE

Exercise class every Tuesday and Thursday. 10 am to 11 am at the Borough Hall

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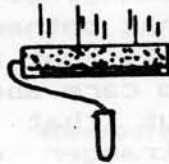


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Editorial policy of the Borough Bulletin is to welcome open expression of ideas and opinions either in the form of articles submitted for publication or Letters to the Editors. All material should be typed, double-spaced with margins of no less than 1 1/2", on standard white typewriter paper. It is requested they be held to 3 double-spaced typewriter pages. The Editors reserve the right to reject any material they deem inappropriate.

it to me.

That reminds me. In this country, as in most, we drive on the right side of the road. That means that you should walk on the left side of the road. (Actually, of course, you should not walk in the road at all; if you must do so, however, then you should stay to your left.) And why is that? So that the cars coming toward you on your side of the road--that is, the cars that will come closest to you--are coming from in front of you, where you can see them. Thus you will be able to decide whether you'd better jump out of the way. And that is what is meant by the rule, "Walk Facing Traffic." If you're walking on the right-hand side of the road, you have no chance to see what's about to hit you. I used to tell my children, "Don't walk so that the driver can't kill you unless he breaks the law; walk so that he can't kill you even if he breaks the law."

#### A Not-So-Bright Idea

To change the subject somewhat, there are drivers who refuse to be persuaded by the evidence of their own eyes. Maybe they just stop thinking when they start the engine. "So what if we're lost? We're making good time!" The specific action I had in mind is driving with the brights on in fog. In fog, you can see better with the low-beams than you can with the high-beams. This may seem paradoxical, but it is true, because the light from the high-beams reflects off the particles of fog back into your own eyes. You would think that anyone could immediately tell the difference. On the same subject, don't keep your brights on when you are driving close behind someone; the high-beams bounce off the mirror into the driver's

eyes. Again, one would think that, the first time someone experiences that, he would learn not to do it to anyone else. It doesn't seem to work that way, does it?

#### Ignorance, or Ire?

It's hard for me to imagine that people can have avoided learning the principles in the previous paragraph. It is true that "obvious" is in the eye of the beholder, but even so. There's another possible reason for the behavior we see on the roads every day. Once, I was driving around a traffic circle, in the lane next to the curb-lane. Suddenly we came upon a truck parked at the curb. And what did the driver in the curb-lane do when he saw that his lane was blocked? He started to cut in front of me, of course. I honked and waved him in. Do you know what his response was? He continued cutting in, of course, but he made an obscene gesture at me! Why would anyone respond that way to a friendly overture? Apparently, he never looked in his mirror, and so he never saw my wave; he only heard my horn. It was inconceivable to him that someone could be waving him in: The honk must be a protest. Figuring that I was angry at him, he got angry at me. Why? What a lot of anger that man must be carrying around with him! And, you see, carrying that much anger must affect how one reacts to any situation.

Serendipitously, I found an escape for myself: I bought a sedan to replace my station wagon. Now, when someone wants to get in front of me, I wave him in--but I wave through the open sun-roof. That looks so silly that people laugh, instead of misunderstanding me. And then they usually wave "Thanks". Why



do I act this way? Not because I'm so saintly; merely because I'd rather let someone get in front of me than fight to keep him in back of me. Don't make the obvious invalid (and incorrect) inference about my nature: I'm plenty competitive--but when I'm racing, not when I'm driving on the street. The astute reader will have drawn the moral: Driving on the street is not racing. You don't have to fight to keep someone from passing you, and you don't have to get angry if he succeeds. It doesn't matter if he's ahead of you.

#### A Zen Parable

Believe it or not, there is a Zen parable that is quite appropriate here. Two Zen masters were walking down the street. They came to an intersection, and it was very muddy. A young woman was standing at the intersection, trying to decide whether to step into the mud. One of the masters picked her up, and carried her to the other side. The two men continued on their way. Several hours later, the other master said, "It is not right for a Zen master to carry a woman."

The first master replied, "But I put her down hours ago. It is you who are still carrying her!"

#### Pre-Cycle the Bulletin

An undesirable condition exists. It has been observed that some residents of Roosevelt are throwing away their copy of the Bulletin before they even get it out of the Post Office. The remainder of this notice is for those people.

Listen, you birds, a lot of work goes into this newspaper. Have you ever read a small-town newspaper before? If you have, then you know that most of them are really bad. This one isn't. One of the nice features of living in Roosevelt is that there are lots of nice people here: intelligent, educated, talented, giving, etc. Some of us are lucky enough to have friends here who combine several of those attributes. And some of those friends write for the Bulletin. It's well-written. I read every word of each issue. (Admittedly, there's one column I read over and over..)

Anyway, nobody is forcing you to read the Bulletin but, if you don't want it, don't throw it away! Just leave it on the table in the Post Office, and someone who wants an extra copy will be able to have one.

Thank you



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## NEIGHBORS

## A Lasting Profession

As a child, David Schwendeman helped out in his grandfather's taxidermist shop where there were always little jobs for the children to do. Family friends would say, "Look, he's taking after his father and grandfather!" Such, says David, are the pressures that persuade a boy to grow up to join the family business.

David lives at 29 Tamara Drive with his wife Anita (Gigi) who is a plant horticulturist. He is the third generation Schwendeman to become a taxidermist, or as he says, a taxidermatologist, with a BS degree from Rutgers and an MS in Zoology from North Carolina State University.

His grandparents started their shop in 1921 in Milltown, NJ. Grandfather Schwendeman died four years ago leaving grandma the one who still does the best skinning in the family. His father is David J. Schwendeman, chief of taxidermy and model-making for the last 20 years for the Department of Exhibition of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The great Hall of Reptiles and Amphibians is largely the product of his specialized skills. He is apparently the artist of the family, creator of miniature animal sculptures that are cold-cast in bronze and available for purchase at the Milltown shop.

"Taxidermy is both an art and a science," says David B, the younger. Its benefits include preserving individual trophies for hunters and fishermen, supplying educational specimens for museums and universities, decorative objects for homes and stage props for theatrical productions. There are 200-300 taxidermists in the country with

some 33 in the New Jersey Taxidermist Association of which young David was president for several years. These experts take pride in their cooperation with conservation groups and federal wildlife agencies. They give advice on how to trap pests like woodchucks or create realistic displays of natural scenery, complete with bugs, plants, and as the case may be, plain or exotic creatures of the wild.

A responsible taxidermist is a protector of endangered species and is afforded official permits for processing rare animals. Taxidermists engage in refurbishing and restoring old specimens that have gone moldy or moth eaten. They invent or explore new techniques and methods, revealed in as many as half a dozen periodicals devoted to maintaining quality and advancing knowledge in the field. To the question of "How about pets?", David resolutely states his firm's policy: "With birds, fish or deer-heads, well, there is no cuddling up to them. Even a pet parrot can make a beautiful showpiece. But a dog or cat who can no longer wag a tail or bark or meow, it would be morbid to preserve it, so our policy is strictly no domesticated pets."

To illustrate the versatility of the profession, he gave an amusing example. Their shop in Milltown was commissioned to produce an artificial eagle for a TV commercial for a company called Eagle Telephonics. Chicken and turkey feathers were combined with latex masks and plastic feet and bills, all assembled into the likeness of an eagle. (Since eagles are a highly endangered

species, no parts of a real one could be used). The model was hollow in order to house a mechanism for turning the head and eyes for lifelike movement. It was a great success but was shown on a TV Bloopers program because of errors, not by the bird but by the actor working with it.


David deplores the fact that hunters are so closely linked in the public mind with the practice of taxidermy. Nature-lovers misunderstand the profession as inimical to wild life. David claims that most hunters are genuinely devoted to the protection of nature and support the limits and restrictions which promote control of animal population and preservation of life in the wilderness. David looks a bit grim, in contrast to an habitual crinkly smile, at the thought of antivivisectionists and supporters of animal rights. He wants everyone to know that taxidermists do not exist just for the mounting of sportsmen's booty, though they do perform the function, but also serve to prepare dead animals for important studies of life cycles and habitats of innumerable species, as well as for their other academic and practical pursuits.

Someday he would like to write a definitive history of taxidermy which has as its first famous practitioner Charles Wilson Peale, the painter of Washington's portrait. He was a natural scientist who, in the early 18th century, organized the first natural history museum. David sees himself as a scholar-scientist who cares deeply about his profession but cannot always find the leisure to do the writing and studying he would like. Taxidermy is not a highly profitable field and he must supplement his income with outside laboratory work such as he is doing on the hepatitis virus and

its antibodies as found in and carried by woodchucks.

People often call taxidermists from the brief listing that appears in the yellow pages and sometimes ask mistakenly for a taxicab instead. One day in the Milltown shop, a colleague visiting the Schwendemans answered the phone, said "What the Hell" and dashed out of the place. He had decided for once he would take the caller to her destination as a fare. Although driving a cab is not one of the requirements, being a taxidermist demands such a variety of skills and knowledge that someday, David feels, this unique combination of art, craft and science will be fully appreciated as a valuable resource in the modern world.


By Adeline Weiner



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**SCHOOL BOARD NEWS**

**Budget Approved**

By Herb Johnson

Three incumbents and Marilyn Vitolo were elected to the Roosevelt Board of Education on April 2. The current expense budget of \$806,964 (\$48,000 more than last year's) was approved by a vote of 50-14. Local school taxes will total \$380,495 (\$16,000 less than this past year). Also approved was a transfer of \$36,000 from "current expense free balance" to the "capital outlay" account for improving the school gymnasium's windows and ability to reduce heat costs, by a vote of 61-6. The Borough has 542 eligible voters.

Incumbents Margaret Katz, Debra Allen, and David Keller were elected to serve three year terms by 54, 49, and 54 votes respectively. Ms. Vitolo, who resides at One School Lane with her husband David Vitolo, and their children aged one and five years, was elected to serve a two year term--by 17 people writing in her name in the place for two-year term candidates and then marking a check mark, cross or plus sign in front of her name. Ten other people wrote her name there but did not realize that a mark had to be written in front of her name. Seven other people wrote in her name for three year term candidates, but these could not be counted.

David Bulkin, Carol Watchler and this reporter were the only Roosevelt residents to attend the school board's explanation of the budget at the March 14 public hearing for which the board sent invitations to all post office boxholders. Mr. Bulkin suggested that not enough umbrella insurance was budgeted and he requested

that sample ballots be sent to all post office boxholders. During the public hearing, one board member after another explained the items on the budget that each was most related to. The public's response was that the board was very clear, helpful, and dedicated to providing good schooling for Roosevelt's citizens aged 5-18 years at a very reasonable cost.

At the March 21 school board meeting, a letter from the Roosevelt Teachers' Association was read. It commended Helen Barth, the principal's secretary very highly for all the ways she helps the school succeed in its daily missions. Michael Block attended and discussed responsibilities he would assume whenever his men's basketball group used the gym. Margaret Katz reported for the High School Committee that Sharon Skillman would go to France for three weeks in April as part of the high school exchange-student program.

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <p>Martin Schwartz, DDS, PA<br/>Lydia Kernitsky, DMD</p> |
| <p>One Mile Road Ext<br/>East Windsor New Jersey 08520<br/>(609) 448 6300</p> |  |

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## COUNCIL REPORT

*Citizen Apathy Exhibited*

By Dominick Vigiano

Fewer than twelve Roosevelt citizens attended the regular Council meeting on April 10 during which the regular order of business was suspended in order to accomodate the budget hearing. During the public discussion on the budget, Mr. Lou Esakoff, a member of the Welfare Board, queried why the welfare funds were reduced from \$500. to \$100. without consultation. He pointed out that the reduced figure would be of little use to help someone in need during these times of inflated costs.

A letter from Borough Tax Assessor, Michael Ticktin, was read expressing his displeasure in not receiving any increase in salary in the Salary Ordinance currently under review. Letters from Mr. Lou Esakoff and Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Metzger supporting a raise for Mr. Ticktin were also read. The new Salary Ordinance was introduced and a public hearing is scheduled for May 8.

In other business, the installation of a storm drain on Farm Lane was addressed by Council, who stated in response to questions by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Hartley, that the legalities of property acquisition have necessarily delayed progress.

A request for a zoning change from Industrial to R100 (Residential-2 1/2 acre lots) for 11.93 acres on the corner of Oscar Drive and Rte 571 was submitted to the Planning Board.

A motion by Councilperson Leefer was passed to erect "No Thru Trucks" signs on Homestead and Farm Lanes. This action would prevent serious damage to the sewer system under the roads caused by the vibrations of the heavy vehicles.

The problem of speeding was acknowledged by Council whose members were responsive to the suggestion from the floor that 25 MPH signs be erected on all Roosevelt side streets.

Councilperson Watchler thanked the volunteers, particularly the youngsters, who turned out for the recent roadside clean-up activity. She also expressed her appreciation to Rossi's Delicatessen who provided refreshments.

Any low-income or handicapped youngsters are invited to contact the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program through Ms. Watchler or the Borough Clerk regarding summer jobs.

Council person Lee Selden requested anyone interested in the Dog Census Taker position to contact her. She is also open for specific suggestions regarding the "Welcome to Roosevelt" sign which is under consideration.

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## PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

By Stanley Sussman

The moon has landed in Roosevelt. Well not really! Only pieces of the moon are here. For those of you with prior understanding that the moon is made of green cheese, I'm sorry to report that it is not true.

One of the most recent activities in RPS is our involvement in the "Lunar Sample Project" under the direction of NASA. As one of the first districts in the country to become involved in the project we are proud to host actual samples of the moon's soil, brought back to Earth by our Astronauts.

In July 1969, when the Eagle landed on the Moon a new era in the study of Earth's relationship to the solar system began. Until 1969 we had only two types of material from space; Earth rocks and meteorites to study. Since obtaining samples from the moon, however, we have discovered some interesting and informative facts. For example, Moon rocks are different from both Earth rocks and meteorites, but are most like those found on Earth.

Besides learning more about the chemical composition of the Moon, we have acquired more knowledge about the age and composition of our solar system. Because the Moon is in an extremely slow rate of change, we have found out more about what the Earth was like in its geological past. Since the Moon has no atmosphere it is constantly being bombarded by particles from the Sun in the form of solar winds. The moon rocks contain some of these particles; therefore, we can acquire more knowledge about our Sun from them. The study of samples from the moon helps us to find out more about the early history of the other planets. It

also helps us to know how planetary magnetic fields were developed, and maybe even how the building blocks of life originated.

Many mysteries about the Moon remain unsolved. For example, we do not yet know the chemical composition of all the surface of the Moon. We have yet to decide if the Moon is molten inside or if it has an iron core. We do not know why the Moon once had a magnetic field but does not have one now. We have not yet decided what the youngest age is of rocks on the Moon or if the Moon is really "geologically dead".

One purpose in our school for involvement in this project is to stimulate a scientific interest in what the Moon can tell us about our environment in the solar system. Another purpose is to provide an opportunity for direct study of six types of samples obtained on the Moon.

Ms. Levine is directing the project in RPS. She has received special training from NASA project directors. During the project pupils in grades 3-8 will have the opportunity to study the Moon samples visually with a microscope. They will also view a slide presentation about the history and composition of the Moon prepared by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's lunar scientists. Before actually examining the moon samples, the participants will also view the movie "Reading The Moon's Secrets". A booklet entitled "What's New On The Moon" will also be read.

Upon completion of this project, we hope our students will have a fuller understanding of the world in which we live and how the acquisition of new knowledge can help us to adapt to our changing environment.

Senior Citizens Meeting-4/4/85

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

We welcomed our president, Esther Pogrebin back at this meeting. Jeannette Koffler received our applause for the excellent job she did while Esther was away. Jeannette ran into complications when she went to pick up the cheese to be distributed in Roosevelt. The cheese was moldy; had white spots and was crumbly. Jeannette contacted the appropriate departments responsible for the cheese and finally Congressman Smith's office to have samples sent to Rutgers University for analysis. New cheese will be distributed as soon as we are told that it is ready.

A concert will be given by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra on May 18 at the Garden State Art Center. We hope to get a SCAT bus for transportation.

There will be an Art Show at Thompson Park from May 2 - May 16 at the visitors' Center in Lincroft, New Jersey.

The trip we planned to Hershey Park in Pennsylvania will be taken at a later date. We are

also hoping to take a trip to New York to take the boat ride around New York that we've enjoyed before. This will be in June.

We were pleased to learn that the Casino funds are again to be used for Seniors only. Under a previous administration much of that money was diverted.

The New Jersey Federation of Senior Citizens Convention will be held at Mercer County Community College on May 23 (Thursday) from 9am-3pm.

A committee has been established to plan a party for all Senior Citizens sometime in May. The committee includes Rosa Gross; Thelma Thompson; Fay Libove; Jeannette Koffler; Sue Schmidt; and Ellie Bermowitz. We lost a long time member when Esther Frucht died recently. Esther was active in both our Club and Deborah. We paid tribute to her in many ways. We'll miss her very much and will remember her as a good friend and an elegant lady.

Birdie Soifer and Helga Wisowaty were hostesses.

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Crime Watch Committee  
Public Meeting  
May 22 at 8pm  
At the Borough Hall

According to police records, communities which have active Crime Watch Committees reduce their petty crime statistics drastically.

If you're inclined, please join us

If you're unsure, please come and listen

If you've bemoaned the lack of police

in Roosevelt, or summer vandalism,

please help us.

If you have any ideas regarding this issue,

please share them.

This meeting is both to give you information on how a Crime Watch Committee operates and to organize one in our town. We hope, in a few weeks time, to be a "Crime Watch Community". A Crime Watch Committee is exactly as stated—a "watch and reporting" group of concerned citizens—nothing more. We will try to have one or two individuals who are active in other community Crime Watch Committees participate and answer your questions, as well as Detective Jim Hennon, who will share with us his expertise in the field.

We need your help.

For further information, please call:

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### In Memoriam

Lore Riedel Phillips, aged 66, of Pine Drive, died on April 12th after a short illness. She had lived in Roosevelt since 1948.

She had been employed by the NJ State Rehabilitation Commission as a rehabilitation counselor for twenty years until her retirement in October 1983. Earlier, she had done secretarial and other office work. When her youngest child was in high school, she returned to college and received a Bachelor's degree from Cornell University. After a year of teaching science at Freehold High School, she went back to school and earned a Master's degree in rehabilitation Counseling at Seton Hall University.

Lore was active in the PTA and as 4-H and Girl Scout leader for many years in Roosevelt. She taught more than one generation of Roosevelt children about wildflowers and gardening. Her own garden was for many years a colorful showplace. She wrote poetry, played the piano, and was interested in all the arts. For a short time last year she worked on the circulation of this newspaper.

She is survived by an older brother, three daughters: Lar- amie Palmer of Oregon, Charlotte Phillips of New York, Elinor Tucker of Washington, D.C. and six grandchildren.



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### Invention Show '85

By Barry Kanczucker

March 21, 1985, was a very big day for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders because that day we had an Invention Exhibit. In the morning we had the whole school look at our inventions. Since we were studying inventors and inventions, Ilene gave us the idea to make our inventions. So for 3 months, we worked on our inventions and invention logs.

At night we had a contest for who would compete against other kids in Central New Jersey. Our families and friends came to see our show in the school gym. The judges were Mrs. Sochowitzky, Mr. Scalf, and Mr. Barth, who all were very interested on our work.

There were 2 divisions: 3rd/4th grade division and 5th grade division. We now have four inventions representing Roosevelt Public School going to the Regionals. They are Olivier Altman and Dylan Orlando, Alternate Representatives for the Fifth grade, with their "H and C Heating-n-Cooling Mug." The Fifth grade Representatives are Rachel Brahinsky and Traci Connaughton with their game "World".

In the 3rd and 4th grade division is Joey Trabb, the Alternate Representative, with his "Track for Blind Runners". The Representative is Brian Maltby with "The Automatic Blackboard Washer".

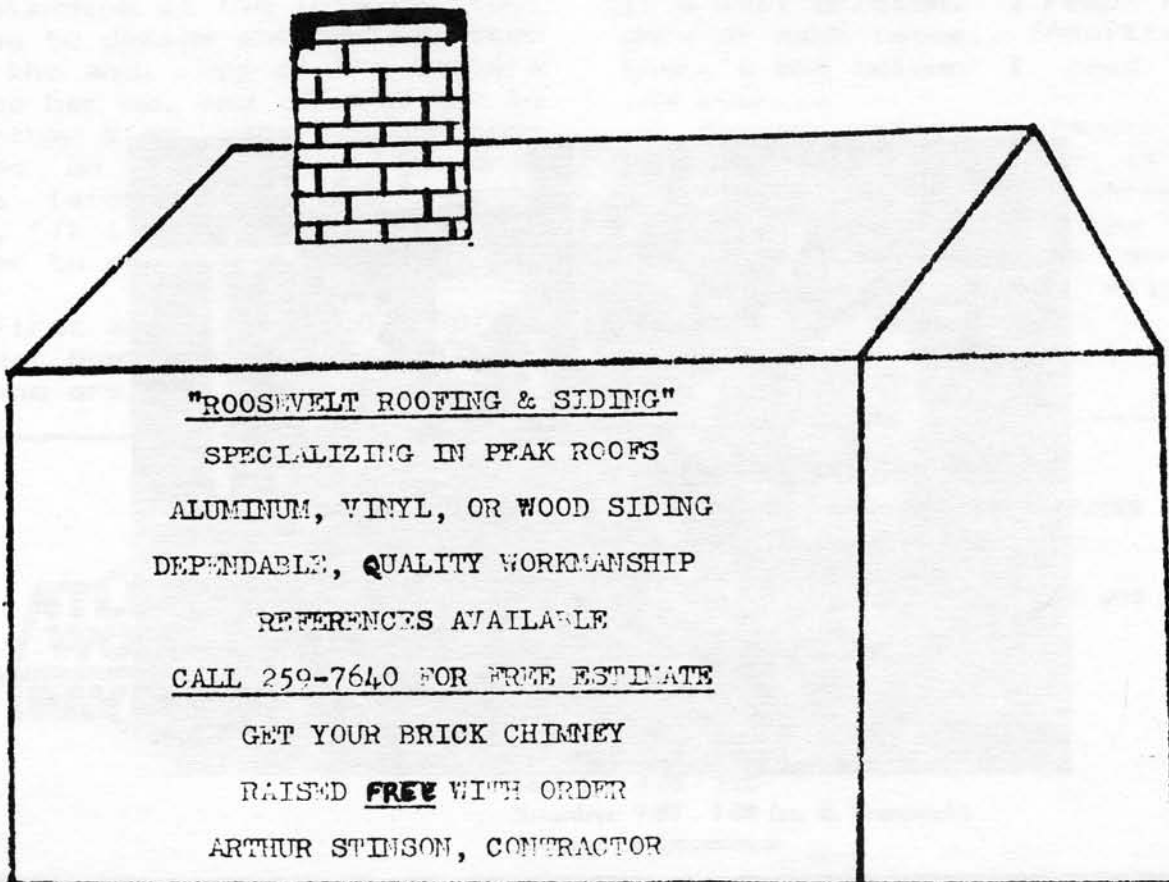
This was a very exciting event even if you didn't win.



## Roosevelt Community Calendar

May 1985

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm    | Monmouth County Bookmobile<br>Post Office parking lot<br>Planning Board Borough Hall        |
| 2. Thursday, 2pm<br>8pm    | Senior Citizens Borough Hall<br>Board of Education Meeting RPS                              |
| 6. Monday, 8pm<br>Hall     | Council Agenda Meeting Borough  |
| 8. Wednesday, 8pm          | Council Meeting   |
| 15. Wednesday 7-8:30 pm    | Monmouth County Bookmobile<br>Post Office parking lot                                       |
| 16. Thursday, 8pm          | Board of Education Meeting RPS  |
| 21 Tuesday, 1-4pm<br>1-8pm | Senior Citizen's Health Program<br>Community Room- Solar Village<br>Food Co-op Borough Hall |



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# ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

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1 School Lane  
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## N O T I C E

### KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP MAY 8

Kindergarten Round-up and Registration will take place May 8, 1985 from 1:30p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the library at Roosevelt Public School. All children who have become or will be 5 years old during 1985 are eligible for kindergarten enrollment.

Parents and incoming students will have an opportunity to meet the teacher and see the classroom. During the round-up parents will meet with the school nurse who will explain all health entrance requirements. Parents are requested to bring their child's birth certificate.

We look forward to seeing you at Kindergarten Round-up.

## N O T I C E

### PRESCHOOL SCREENING FOR HANDICAPPED

Parents of children ages 3 to 5 who have any handicap should contact Anne Hogue, Child Study Team Coordinator, for a screening. The purpose of the screening will be to determine pupil eligibility for a special preschool educational program. Children with any of the following handicaps are eligible: speech, hearing, vision, motor or emotional problems.



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