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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



BULLETIN

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Roosevelt, New Jersey

November 1981

Election in Roosevelt: Democrats Dominate

Compiled by Ann Baker

The Democrats dominated this year's elections in Roosevelt. The results (not counting absentee ballots, except in the case of Nahmias and Chasan) were as follows: Governor - Florio (D) 273, Keane (R) 83; State Senate - Kane (D) 244, Gagliano (R) 51; General Assembly - Hornik (D) 234, Meehan (D) 225, Muhler (R) 65, Bennett (R)

82; Surrogate - Smith (D) 235, Boyle (R) 58; Board of Freeholders - Kramer (D) 227, MacDonald (D) 273, Larrison (R) 48, Powers (R) 50, Thieke (CP) 20, McCurdy (CP) 20; Roosevelt Council - Nahmias (D) 205, Counterman (D) 241, Chasan (R) 199, Loyer (R) 29. All public questions passed except for question number 7 "Riparian Lands."

Analysis of Roosevelt Council elections

By Ann Baker

The voters of the state of New Jersey have nothing on the voters of Roosevelt for producing a close election in 1981. Two times in the ring has produced a hair's breadth victory for Norman Nahmias, not a rescuing defeat for Howard Chasan in their race for the open seat on Roosevelt's Borough Council. The outcome of the June primary was a spread of 14 votes for the winner, Nahmias. Chasan closed gap in November, with the final count giving him 199 votes to 205 for Nahmias.

It should be clear to every-

one in Roosevelt who is paying attention that there is a lot of political maneuvering going on. What is not clear, is why. The material circulated around town prior to election day by the four candidates for council reflected the prerogative of political candidates to name the issues to suit themselves. Does the outcome suggest that the voters subscribed to one version in preference to the others? The answer can only be speculative at this point, since early answers to such political questions most often

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Analysis

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reflect the pre-election position taken by the respondent.

Newspaper articles about Roosevelt appearing in the two months before election focused on conflict between the mayor and the majority of the council over the issue of future growth. In Howard Chasan's "Dear Neighbor" letter to the electorate on October 27, he addressed the question of future growth. "There is much talk of a major housing development of many hundreds of units which would change us into something we would no longer recognize as Roosevelt. I do not want this to happen."

Norman Nahmias, running with incumbent Bill Counterman, circulated a campaign piece disavowing a commitment to such a proposed development. "We do not believe that uncontrolled or major development is the answer to Roosevelt's high tax rate."

Instead, these two candidates "plan to work to reduce the demoralizing bad feelings (Cont'd. on next page)

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Peter Berlinrut...Issues &
Debate

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features

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features

Carol Watchler...borough news

Helga Wisowaty...senior news

Adeenah Yeger...fire company
reporter, typing, features

Council, among other things, hears water and sewer report, passes cable T.V. ordinance.

By Carol Watchler

In the November 11 Borough Council meeting, chaired by president Lou Esakoff in the absence of Mayor Barth, the New Jersey Department of the Treasury confirmed figures on in lieu of taxes payment in a letter from the Commissioner.

Also, the Department of Human Services apologized for misinformation given at a December, 1980 meeting of borough members held prior to the purchase by the department of a house for use by the department. It was erroneously reported by a (Cont'd. on next page)

Analysis

(Cont'd. from previous page)

that have developed between the Borough Council and the Mayor, Borough employees, Board of Education, etc."

Counterman was easily and predictably re-elected. The campaign was between two candidates who did not have the name recognition -- at least among new people in town -- which goes with holding office. The close outcome does not establish the preference of the electorate on the issues of conflict and future growth.

It is safe to say, however, that a contractor such as Philpot, without prior experience in a development the size of the one proposed for Roosevelt, is going to have a difficult time finding the financing required for such a project in today's economy. The building industry has been hit very hard by the combination of high interest rates and recession. This being the

case, the fever that came over some of Roosevelt's public officials regarding the prospects of future growth should subside for the time being.

If it does, and conflicts continue between the mayor and the council, the citizens will certainly have the right to question the source of such conflicts. At this point, the existence of conflict would be only the topic of conversation at the post office, and not the subject of newspaper articles were the press not notified. (Has it served some party's purpose to have the press present whenever the opposition can be made to look bad?) If the contention persists when the issue of growth is dormant, the people of Roosevelt will be forced to push beneath the surface to determine what other agendas exist.

Council

(Cont'd. from previous page) department employee that the borough would not lose any revenues. The borough is receiving payments, but not for school.

A special report was given on the status of the water treatment plant. It was stated that the projects are on schedule and will meet the deadline of December 20. Meanwhile, water and sewer operator Bill Kowalski indicated a variety of problems at the sewerage plant, including the emergency of a burned out pump motor.

(Cont'd. on p. 4)

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Council

(Cont'd. from p. 3)

Another motor, not owned by the borough, had been temporarily installed, but it was to be removed lest it be damaged. A clearance was sought from the Department of Environmental Protection for bypass of sewerage on an intermittent basis and authorization was given for repair funds to be spent upon certification by the borough attorney that an emergency did exist.

According to a letter and a report by fire chief Jim Manzi, another area requiring attention is the state of the fire truck. The present vehicle would require in excess of \$50,000 to refurbish. A new custom outfitted truck could take a year to prepare, and cost over \$57,000. Matching town needs with a suitable used vehicle poses a major problem as such vehicles cost between \$20,000 and \$40,000 and previous owners do not recommend them as the primary vehicle. The council took no official action at this time.

The borough is advertising for the position of deputy borough clerk who would fill the position of clerk in the absence of the regular clerk. The person hired would be paid on an hourly basis as needed. Typing skill is required. A motion was also passed to hire additional part time maintenance help.

Brought to a second reading was Ordinance 88-2, which provides for inspection of dwellings and permanent structures with regard to violation of the New Jersey Housing Code. The borough

will seek enforcement in the case of the vacant property at Farm Lane and Rochdale which members of the council agreed was a danger due to broken windows.

Following action at the previous council meeting, a motion was made by Aaron Datz to pay Marilyn Magnes for eighteen hours of training the borough clerk at six dollars per hour. The council had already heard a letter from its attorney calling in question the Sunshine Law and the placement of councilpersons in

(Cont'd. on next page)

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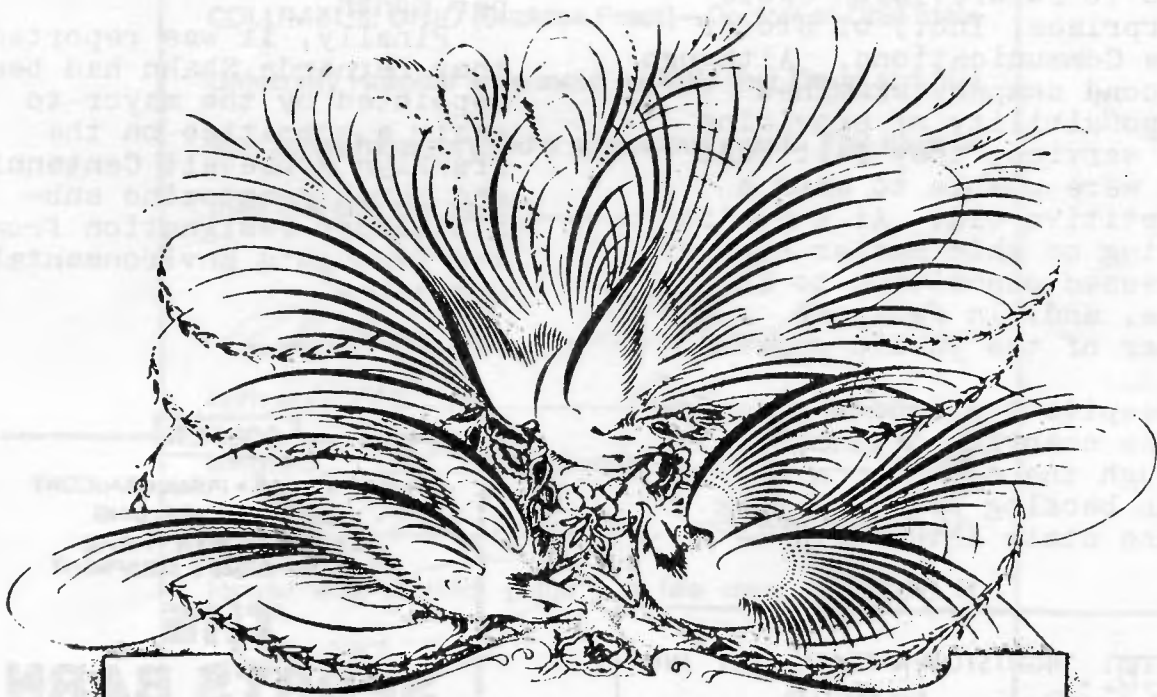
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Council

(Cont'd. from previous page)
that position. They further had a statement from councilman Esakoff which included information that the previous borough clerk was sought to do this job but requested \$30.00 per hour. All members of the administrative committee as well as the mayor considered this excessive. The former deputy clerk, according to Esakoff, was not available and so the alternative was Magnes. At the time the attorney had said there was no conflict of interest.

In response to Datz's motion, Esakoff reiterated that the situation was an emergency and needed action. Councilman Weiner asked why it was that when Esakoff had called the attorney, he had considered the arrangement all right, but had had a different response when contacted by the mayor. Magnes requested that the motion be withdrawn citing that she had "acted in good faith, above and beyond the duties of a councilperson" and that she was "sorry the mayor chose to make this into a controversy" and that she was aware that if she had
(Cont'd. on p. 6)



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Support the First Aid Squad!

By Hortense Sochowitzky

What are your thoughts when you hear two blasts of the siren? Most of us probably think: "First Aid call; I wonder for whom? I hope it's not serious." Some of us may think: "Whoever it's for, they'll be in good hands with our first aid squad." And perhaps: "Another call; the squad sure is busy these days." Maybe even, "Gee, I missed them when they came around for money. I must get in touch with them."

Yes, money is important to them, and of course, ultimately it is of great importance to all of us. Who knows when we may need their services?

Let's look at their average monthly figures:


The squad has a brand new ambulance, for which they must pay \$386.09. Insurance for the ambulance is \$142. Gasoline amounts to \$60. This does not include costs of repairs to the vehicle. Oxygen costs, consumable supplies, including bandages, etc. Maintenance of radio equipment is \$67 per month; dues to state and district first aid councils is \$7 per month. The phone costs are about \$26. This

totals \$9,427 for the basic needs for one year, exclusive of general maintenance of the ambulance, repair and replacement of equipment like blood pressure cuffs and stethoscope, or needed purchase of new equipment.

The Borough Council gives the First Aid Squad \$1,720.00 per year. The rest must be raised by the squad members and by those of us who care.

This year, as in the past, there have been a variety of fund raising means used:

First, the door to door Sunday collection netted \$2,300. The plant sale, held in May, brought in about \$400. Last month's flea market raised \$475. (A little more was raised by the sale of flea market leftovers at Englishtown market by two squad members who got there at 6 a.m.) The recent sale of pies brought \$250. A horse show at Footlight Farms brought out First Aid caterers who made \$135, and during the hunting season, intrepid freezing squad members sold sandwiches, cake, pie and coffee to freezing hunters from 7 a.m. to 4:30. In the past pancake breakfasts and hoagie sales helped raise funds also. The squad wants more ideas to stimulate the raising of
(Cont'd. on p. 8)



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First Aid Squad

(Cont'd. from p.7)

money. (They never seem wanting in ways to stimulate energy and devotion.)

Do you know that all squad members go through intensive training that culminates in certification as EMT - Emergency Medical Technician, and takes about two years to achieve? This includes CPR, defensive driving, light extrication and childbirth. At present, three of the 10 members who respond to calls, have this certification. Others are studying.

These are the basic facts. I've said nothing of the quality of the work of the squad members, and the speed with which they answer calls. Almost everyone who has been the recipient of their services testifies not only to their efficiency and skill, but to their gentleness and good feeling as they go about their work. Whether it was my own 87-year-old, 75 lb. visiting relative several years ago, who was picked up by a big burly male squad member as if she were an eggshell and carried out to the ambulance with consummate

gentleness, or my teen age son more than 20 years ago who was too weak to walk but didn't like going on the stretcher, or an injured neighbor, bleeding profusely, who wanted to "refuse treatment," but whom they persuaded to go to the hospital -- I have witnessed how they are speedy, but patient; gentle but firm when necessary; understanding of emotional needs -- and they get their patient to the hospital quickly and with the necessary emergency treatment on the way. Therefore, I feel strongly, the need for all of us to

Support the First Aid Squad.



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Issue & Debate**Problems seen in water, sewerage systems**

By Steven Yeger

Next to air, water is the most plentiful compound used by all living things. Water supplies to most populations are classified in two ways: surface supplies -- when taken from streams, lakes, or reservoirs; or ground supplies -- when taken from wells and springs. In this general area both types are in evidence. Roosevelt water comes from a well which taps into the Raritan Aquifer. Four wells have been dug in the history of the town; the newest one is located near the water plant.

After being pumped from the well, the water is brought to the treatment plant, aerated, treated with lime, put through water filtering system and then treated with chlorine. The treated water is then pumped up to the water tower from which it is released to the community on demand. Theoretically the system should work, but theory and practice do not always coincide and for years Rooseveltians have complained about the water.

Over the years, residents have enjoyed some of the benefits of the system. On the other hand, its inadequacies are seen in ruined laundry, tiles and other substances that have become very difficult to clean, and sometimes water that is hard to swallow.

In my opinion, inadequacies in the supply system account for the dark orange color of the water that occasionally comes out of the faucet, and for the sediment that sometimes forms (which best can be seen if one lets a glass of the coloured water sit for a few hours -- as much as an eighth to a quarter of an inch of sediment can form at the bottom of the glass).

The problems, as I see it, are corroded water pipes and seepage from breaks in the water lines. Seepage lets in dirt, soil, stones, and possibly other ingredients. Corrosion of the lines accounts for the rust. Another problem involves the sewerage plant which cannot handle the present amount of sewerage. This means that excess sewerage bypasses the plant and goes directly into the stream and eventually the water table.

Reflecting on the history of the borough, it's not too difficult to understand why the federal government put these facilities here. In their effort to create this "contemporary" (1935 standard) community, a modern system to transport water to residents and a processing plant for sewerage was put in the plan. There are advantages to having such plants. It is quite difficult to find a source of
(Cont'd. on p.10)

water, sewerage systems

(Cont'd. from p. 9)

water that can meet modern requirements for a public water supply.

Generally, these requirements are: 1) the treated water should contain no organisms hazardous to health; 2) be sparkling clear and colorless; 3) be good tasting, odorless, and preferably cool; 4) it should not form scales or be corrosive; 5) be reasonably soft; 6) be free from objectionable gases (hydrogen sulfide) or minerals (iron and manganese); 7) and be plentiful and low in cost. During a crisis (like a drought), such a system makes a difficult situation easier to handle.

As for rehabilitation efforts, money for the new well came from a Community Development Block Grant Program (the mayor managed to coax \$200,000 for it). To upgrade the water plant, the town has taken a \$300,000 loan from the Farmer's home Administration, and they are holding another \$200,000 in case we need it. Overhauling of the sewerage plant, however, remains in limbo as the town waits for the Environmental Protection Agency to complete a three phase process. Phase I, simply a study of the problem, is not yet completed. Phase II and III, design and construction, await the completion of Phase I. Should we get EPA approval, what we can hope for is that they will pay 75% of the cost while the town will have to borrow to pay the 25% remainder (the total cost is estimated at one million dollars).

Walking through wooded areas in town, people can come across foundations that were laid out but never built upon, manholes and fire hydrants isolated and overgrown. Obviously, part of the founding plan was to expand and seemingly the expansion was provided for. No matter if you argue that the town is growing too fast or not enough, one thing can't be denied, our public facilities have been neglected. It may seem that we are on our way to correcting the problems, but we all should have learned the lesson from past and make sure not to repeat it in future considerations.

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Why I like living in Roosevelt

By Ann Baker

It seems like a good time to say what is on my mind, using the forum provided in the Borough Bulletin, time to express my anger at the statements I have read in the press against Roosevelt, and my reasons for choosing to live here. I did not choose to live in Roosevelt because I was afraid of change and desired an isolated community which time has passed by.

I have lived in Roosevelt since July 1979. I had reasons for choosing to live in Roosevelt, and those reasons have been enhanced since I moved here. I think I made a good choice. My reasons have a lot to do with the fact that my head clears remarkably as I drive from the central Jersey congestion around Hightstown to Roosevelt, a short five miles away. The clearing is purely physiological, I assure you, and it means that I can breathe through my nose. Meanwhile, I am only five miles away from the New Jersey Turnpike and the access that gives me to the entire state, an access that is very important to the work I do.

I made the decision to move from a rental situation in Pennington on the Saturday afternoon I came home and found them cutting down the trees in the woods across the street in order to "develop" the corner. Now I sit in my Roosevelt kitchen and follow the seasons in the woods across Tamara Drive from my house.

With the current disregard for the environment in the U.S. Department of Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency, will I come home some day and find "developers" cutting down those woods which are now protected from the chain saw?

In the ten years I have lived in central Jersey I have observed the quick turn-around from open fields, farmlands and woods to another unsightly development -- apartments, tract houses and condominiums. Who is going to prevent the destruction of our oxygen-producing woods and farmlands which enables us to breathe clean air? Who is going to save the underground aquifers which enable future generations to have a safe, clean, plentiful water supply? Who is going to say "no" to those developers who create a run-off problem by black-topping new roads, parking lots and driveways. When the rain water cannot seep naturally into the ground, it gushes into storm sewers and creates flood conditions which otherwise would not occur.

I like living in Roosevelt. I have a lot of grass to cut for six months that I would not have if I had bought a similarly priced "development" house in Hamilton or Kendall Park. But I don't mind because I think space is valuable. Congestion contributes to human tensions, and a lot of congestion has been artificially created by developers, who prosper and then go on to their next shopping center or

(Cont'd. on p.12)

living in Roosevelt

(Cont'd. from p.11)

housing development. So much of what is built today, especially for homeowners, is shoddy and gaudy. Furthermore, very little of this development has helped those with real housing needs.

I like living in Roosevelt. There are a lot of friendly and interesting people in town. I don't think that is unrelated to the way in which our town is laid out. Some people in Roosevelt have a sense of their roots being here, and that is a valuable perspective to retain. Some people in Roosevelt are not from the original families but they respect the very special history of this town. Some people in Roosevelt are here because it seemed like a nice town to raise kids in.

We all go to the post office and the deli. We meet and talk together. We identify with the town, and with one another. We are interested in Roosevelt's problems and its future, but we also recognize its very real assets.

It's a town where we can all get involved in the way things are done, if we want to. The access to decision-making is immediate. And the interest level in the town is high, if the conversations at the post office are any kind of barometer. Since this is the case, we

do not have to accept only one solution to our problems. If our tax bill seems high, we can work together to explore other possibilities without allowing Roosevelt to be completely transformed into Everytown by someone else's agenda.

Mayor Barth seems inclined to reduce the number of cornfields. I don't know what he has against cornfields, but since they feed us, I'm for them. "It still could be the 1930's for us in many ways. We're pretty isolated out here." Mayor Barth in Asbury Park Press, August 30, 1981, page A23.) Quite obviously, having put 26,000 miles on a new car in nine months I don't feel isolated. In fact, it is impossible to feel isolated in any part of New Jersey, or the whole northeast. This is not Nevada, if it's isolation you're looking for. As far as the 1930's are concerned, Reaganomics may push us into that frightening economic situation, but just because the town of Roosevelt does not have properties that sell for \$150,000+ does not make this a Depression town.

It is not a fact that a major housing development within Roosevelt's borders would reduce our taxes. Even the proposed "Clearbrook style" adult housing, which would not add to our school population

(Cont'd. on next page)

(Cont'd. from previous page)

does not guarantee a reduction in taxes. The opposite is more nearly the case -- our taxes would increase to absorb a greatly increased burden on the borough's resources. This has been the standard pattern where development has taken place. Ask your friends in all of these surrounding communities if their taxes went down when new subdivisions were built.

If it's a reduction of taxes we want, there must be a far more comprehensive study of how to accomplish that goal. But we must also reflect on what will be the result of reduced taxes. A year ago people voted for a president who promised lower taxes. Many of us now have misgivings about the effect of that tax cut on a variety of crucial programs. Figures on paper designed to produce a "balanced budget" existed only in the wishful thinking of David Stockman. Figures on paper designed to prove that Roosevelt residents will pay lower taxes must face much closer scrutiny.

I think it's easy to appeal to citizens through their pocketbooks. I also know that such an appeal is based on a calculated grab for political power rather than a real assessment of human needs and ways to meet them. A promise to cut taxes is a guarantee of votes. Votes put a person or persons into positions of power where they can control

the decision-making process. In Roosevelt that does not have to happen. It is possible for us all to be as involved and as informed as we want. I think that is an important function of being a citizen, and that is the final reason why I like living in Roosevelt.

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Letter to the Bulletin**Primary unit "experiment" questioned**

To the editor,

Just for the record, I would like to let the Borough Bulletin's readers know, that the parents of what used to be the Primary Unit could not possibly protest a primary unit experiment, for no experiment is taking place, and no primary unit is in existence at the present time. I would like to remind people that the so called "Experimental nature" of Ms. Hetrick's program was implemented in Roosevelt at least 10 years ago, as many parents and staff who were directly involved in it, I am sure, remember. It has been reworked ever since with some variation on the same theme for the last 10 years, according to the success or failure of each particular year.

The only experiment taking place in grades K-1-2 this year is that for the first time since I have had a child attending R.P.S. (1966) we managed to put three grades and three teachers within one room, each grade being individually taught by its own teacher; three different classes going on at the same time with small book cases as dividers and no noise barrier, making it impossible for a child to concentrate on his/her teacher's voice while another class is being conducted a couple of feet away. Quite an innovative experiment indeed! (To say the least).

I happen to be in favor of a primary unit with team teaching whether it includes K-1,

1-2 or K-1-2. We've tried it all over the years. I have been satisfied with what we had in the last few years even though some improvements were always needed. I am annoyed to hear this program called experimental in a town that has struggled with it for at least 10 years, especially at a time when all signs of a primary unit have vanished. Furthermore, the decision to stick those three grades together (decision that the Board of Education was not even aware of till school started) came way before any serious talk of team teaching arose. Considering the fact that such programs should be planned carefully, ahead of time and with trained teachers, no matter how good they are (and we have the best), one can't help wonder if convenience was not a factor here (a classroom after all was said to be needed for another program necessitating the 2nd graders to lose their space and be added to room 7). This is a senseless and regrettable situation, and even though I am confident that our children will learn despite everything, (thanks to the excellence of our teachers) it is a pity that their learning process cannot take place in a more comfortable environment, without interference from adults trying to be right at all costs and forgetting the only thing that counts: the children.

Josette Altman

Letter to the Bulletin

Dear Editor,

In a sense this memo is an exercise in futility. I am most apocalyptic in my anticipation of the future. I watch our youngsters for whom I have a "magnificent obsession" and grieve, constantly, that for them there appears to be little ahead but that all consuming, God knows, pun not intended, prospect of nuclear obliteration. We have reached the incredible point of ability, with the opposition, to overkill at a ratio of 34 to one. We are comforted by the thought that maybe a third of the human race could survive subject to the legacy of post-nuclear problems. The illogical, more than that, the psychotic approach of our national leadership, coupled with the incentives and responses of our intended enemies, to continue to create engines of destruction, boggles the mind to the point of absolute disintegration.

I wish I had answers. My training and experience has taught me to no longer argue man's being a "little lower than the angels" when the truth remains he is a dubious step above the animal. That observation is a slander on the lesser creatures of this space ship earth. I will be criticized for this emotional presentation but out of my own naivete I wish somebody would declare war and nobody would come.

John Grauel

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FIRE COMPANY DEMONSTRATES PREVENTION AT R.P.S.

By Adeenah Yeger

The Roosevelt Fire Company has been drilling at the Monmouth County Fire Academy. Using the facilities and instructors there, they have been going over fire attack procedures and search and rescue procedures.

The Fire Company also assisted in the Halloween and Mischief Nights patrol. Thanks to the help of everyone damage was kept to a minimum.

Fire chief Jim Manzi and assistant chief Dave Zaleski did a fire prevention presentation at the Roosevelt Public School for grades K-5. They showed slides showing some of the common fire hazards and how to prevent them, and also showed the classes some of the equipment used for firefighting procedures including the life support systems. They later met with the teachers to show them how to use fire extinguishers and the do's and don'ts in the event of a fire. All the children in grades K-5 later sent thank you notes.

Roosevelt Community and School CalendarNovember 1981

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|--|
| 16 | Monday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Board meeting - Congregation
Anshei Roosevelt |
| | evening | Parent/Teacher conferences -
R.P.S. |
| 17 | Tuesday, 1-10 p.m. | Food Co-op - Borough Hall |
| | 12:30 p.m. | early closing - R.P.S. -
Program and staff
development |
| | 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| 19 | Thursday, 8:00 p.m. | Borough Bulletin meeting -
Norma Kushner's house |
| 22 | Sunday, 11-6 | Art Fair |
| 23 | Monday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| 26 | Thursday | School closed - Thanksgiving |
| 27 | Friday | School closed |
| 30 | Monday, 8:00 p.m. | Planning Board meeting -
Borough Hall |

December 1981

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | Tuesday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| 2 | Wednesday | Senior Citizens meeting -
Borough Hall |
| 3 | Thursday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Fire Company meeting -
Borough Hall |
| 7 | Monday, 8:00 p.m. | Council Agenda meeting -
Borough Hall |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Deborah meeting - Borough Hall |
| 8 | Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. | Early closing - R.P.S. -
Program and staff
development |

December 1981

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|--|
| 8 | Tuesday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Bd. of Ed. Agenda meeting -
R.P.S. |
| 9 | Wednesday, 7:15-8:30 p.m. | Bockmobile - store parking lot |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Council meeting - Borough Hall |
| 10 | Thursday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| 14 | Monday, 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| 15 | Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. | Early closing - R.P.S. -
Program and staff
development |
| | 1-10 p.m. | Food Co-op - Borough Hall |
| | 7-10 p.m. | Advanced First Aid Course -
Borough Hall |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Board of Ed meeting - R.P.S. |
| 17 | Thursday, 8:00 p.m. | Borough Bulletin meeting -
Freda Hepner's house |
| 21 | Monday, 8:00 p.m. | Board meeting - Congregation
Anshei Roosevelt |
| 23 | Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. | Early closing - R.P.S. |
| 24 | Thursday - 31 | School closed - winter recess |
| 28 | Monday, 8:00 p.m. | Planning Board - Borough Hall |
| 29 | Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. | First Aid meeting - Borough
Hall |

Culinary Delights*Holiday fruit breads*

By Barbara Halpern

Create a holiday gift in your kitchen this year by making a delicious fruit bread. These breads are quick to prepare and are very versatile. Serve them as dessert, or toast a slice and enjoy it with your breakfast.

Cranberry Nut Bread

- 2 c. sifted flour
- 1 c. sugar
- 1½ tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. baking soda
- ¼ c. butter, softened
- 1 egg, beaten
- ¾ c. orange juice
- 1 tsp. grated orange peel
- 1½ c. fresh cranberries, coarsely chopped
- ½ c. chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and flour 9 x 5 inch loaf pan. Sift first five ingredients into large bowl. Blend in butter. Combine egg, juice and orange peel. Add to dry ingredients, mixing just to moisten. Fold in berries and nuts. Turn into pan and bake one hour. Cool before removing from pan.

Apple Nut Bread

- ½ stick butter, room temp.
- 1 c. packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 3 c. unsifted flour
- 2 c. peeled grated apples
- ¾ c. chopped walnuts or pecans
- 1½ tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. grated lemon peel
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- ¼ tsp. nutmeg
- ¾ c. buttermilk

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and flour 9 x 5 inch loaf pan. Cream butter and sugar in bowl. Beat in eggs. Combine next nine ingredients in separate bowl and blend into sugar-butter mixture alternately with buttermilk. Turn in prepared pan. Bake for about one hour. Cool 15 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely.

Glassman considers drawings a waste of time

By Bob Clark

Former Borough resident David Glassman presented another in a long series of development proposals for his 15-acre tract to the Planning Board at its October 26 meeting.

In a letter Glassman requested that the land, located on the southern side of Cemetery Road east of North Valley Road, be rezoned from agricultural to 2½-acre residential.

Glassman attended the meeting to support the rezoning but refused to submit any drawings showing any plans that he may have for the tract. When Mayor Leon Barth said he would like to see what the land looks like on a drawing, Glassman re-

ferred the board to its own maps and said that "drawing some lines on paper would be a waste of time." Glassman claimed to have no current intention to subdivide the land but noted that it could provide four or five lots, based on existing topography.

Board member Aaron Datz stated that he would like to see some plan that would provide "an idea of what the town would look like" under Glassman's proposal. Glassman appeared willing at one point to submit a drawing but later refused and asked the board to vote on his request immediately.

No one of the board made a motion, no vote occurred, and the meeting ended 17 minutes after it began.

MISS NATIONAL TEENAGER FINALIST

Sharon Skillman, age 15, of Rochdale Avenue, was selected as a state finalist in the Miss National Teenager Contest. Sharon, daughter of Roosevelt resident Barbara Skillman, graduated from the Roosevelt Public School this past June, and is a freshman at Hightstown High School.

Sharon said that she saw the contest advertised in Seventeen magazine and mailed away for the information. A few weeks after sending in the proper forms and her photograph, Sharon learned that she had been selected as a state finalist. The finals will be held in June in Cherry Hill, N.J. Winners selected from the 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico will be judged in scholastic achievement,

leadership, poise, personality and appearance. The young lady selected to represent New Jersey will go on to the national finals in Florida.

Although a number of local organizations declined to sponsor Sharon, contributions made by Kepner Trigo, the Roosevelt Deli and a number of out of town supporters, will enable her to participate in this event.

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DAVID ARNOLD

Friends of David Arnold will be pleased to learn that he has won the first round of auditions in the National Opera Institute Career Grant Competition.

David was one of many hundred singers participating in nation-wide auditions held in eight American cities this summer.

The final round of auditions will be held next February at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. We wish him good luck!

Incidentally, David's bus into Manhattan from New

Jersey got stuck in the Lincoln Tunnel on the afternoon of the audition. He was scheduled to sing at 5:30 -- the last singer on the final audition day. The auditions were running late -- but not late enough. The judges were just rising to leave when David burst into the hall. His shirt stuck to his skin given the warm afternoon, the rushing and the nerves. But he sang Gruenberg's "Standin' In the Need of Prayer" and Wagner's "Evening Star" and everyone except David sensed that the day had won him something.

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Rossis offer wine, beer, and a bissel schnapps?

By Andrea Lakin

After waiting approximately two months for liquor license approval from the Borough Council, and four months of construction, Roosevelt Wine and Liquor is scheduled to open for business during the week of Nov. 16. The store, licensed to Mrs. Carol Rossi, will be managed by her son Pete Rossi.

The store will carry beer, wine, and to begin with, a limited selection of liquor. Customers are encouraged to suggest their favorite alcoholic beverage to expand Mr. Rossi's stock.

The liquor store is approximately the same square

footage as the adjacent Roosevelt Deli, which is also owned by the Rossi family. Although store hours were still uncertain at this time, Pete Rossi did say that they would make deliveries during regular business hours. He also stated that all efforts would be made to discourage the liquor store from being a "hangout."

When questioned about the new storefront on the Deli and Liquor store, Pete said he wanted to "pick up the appearance around here. They don't want another thing like that!" he commented, indicating the rundown condition of the former Roosevelt grocery store.

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Louise Prezant**

December is P.T.A. membership month

By Alice Lifland

Remember when it was bad form to be a card carrying member of a certain organization? All those committee hearings...it was years before I could wear a pink scarf comfortably.

Well those days are gone - we've come a long way baby and all that. These days many of us carry a whole pouch full of cards. There are some I would never leave home without:

(1) My Shop Rite check cashing card...needs no explanation

(2) My Sears credit card... it revolves and revolves

(3) My Amocc gas card... though it expired last April Eldon Laue accepts it anyway

(4) My Lord and Taylor charge card...just for nostalgia

AND

(5) My P.T.A. membership card...you guessed didn't you?

December is P.T.A. membership month. We will continue the membership drive we began on Back to School Night in the hopes of securing 100% family membership. We're about three quarters there. We have a list of those who did and those who didn't, so when a P.T.A. representative calls for your support, say "yes." Be a joiner! Add one more card to the collection.

The P.T.A. Board extends a very sincere thank you to all those who very graciously helped make the Art Fair a success:

Edythe DiTursi - President
Barbara Halpern - V.P.
Ellen Francis - Recording Secretary

Donna Suk - Treasurer
Chris Somma - Hospitality
Judith Goetzmann - Membership

Alice Lifland - Bulletin reporter.

We appreciate it when a plea for assistance is met with a smile and a "Sure, I can help."

Support your P.T.A. Throw a caution to the wind and be a joiner.



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School Board news

By Arlene Rashkin

The Roosevelt Board of Education at its regularly scheduled November meeting once again entertained comments from the public on the much-debated Primary Unit. Board member Jeb Shahn's report to the board from the Education Committee, which has been charged with "monitoring the progress in the unit and reporting monthly to the board" apparently did little to quiet the concerns of many of the parents and board members in attendance.

"The discussion was frustrating and annoying because nothing has happened," Ms. Brahinsky, a parent of a child in the unit responded when asked for her impression of the meeting.

"I felt railroaded because of David's (Herrstrom) haste in moving to the next topic," boardmember Sandra Orlando said, "and there has not been any real movement. We've put it off and we can't let it go any further. It should be discussed at the next Education Committee meeting and I'm going to ask that each of the three teachers involved make an effort to attend. This can't wait until the December board meeting. We will need to call a special meeting to decide what to do." Ms. Orlando, who is also a parent of a child in the unit continued, "It's too bad that

this is happening. With the room arranged the way it is the kids are on top of each other." She went on to identify two possible solutions. "Either we get rid of the partitions in the room and really open up the space, or, if this isn't possible, we need to move the second graders out." Ms. Orlando stressed that she supported a team approach but felt that it was not working in the unit because "There was not enough planning. The teachers are not trained in the approach and don't know how to go about it." Ms. Shahn's report mentioned planning time. She continued, "There has in fact been a total of 70 minutes of planning time during which the three teachers have been together since September."

When asked for comment, board member David Herrstrom agreed that a "clear mandate needs to be voiced by the board. The board will have to take a stand one way or another. I feel that if the board gets behind Ms. Hetrick and there's a clear message then the unit could be successful. I feel people haven't given it a chance. In hindsight it's easy to say that there wasn't enough planning...but teaming has been standard practice in Roosevelt for years." Mr. Herrstrom continued, "A recommendation must come from the board clarifying why (Cont'd. on next page)

School Board news

(Cont'd. from previous page)

it's a sound program, detailing a monitoring procedure and backing it up with a schedule. If we're going to invest money here I'm not in favor of accordion partitions. I think we should put money into our human resources and pay the teachers for extra time spent to meet together so the unit can work."

"I think this issue has become a lightning rod for other feelings," board member Herrstrom said when asked about the lack of progress that has been made by the board toward resolving the debate, so far. "I think some people feel that Beverly has difficulty in communicating her vision... what she has in mind. It's important to remember that we're all in this together. Some members like to see themselves in an advisory relationship to the board, but we all share the same concerns. While the process will never satisfy everyone, the last thing anyone wants to do is sacrifice a child."

Other business transacted by the board included the reading of new policies pertaining to teacher observation, family life, and student field trips. A student grievance policy and policy relative to the sanctioning by the board of non-school related activities were tabled pending further clarification and discussion.

These policies will be discussed at the next Policy Committee meeting on Nov. 17.

On November 28, at 8:00 p.m. the public is invited to the school to hear Ms. Hetrick's report on the results of last year's Basic Skills testing. The Basic Skills Tests are administered each year to targeted grades throughout the state.

Board member Irma Esakoff, in her transportation report, informed the board that a letter has been sent to Gratton Bus Company requesting that a driver whose performance had raised much concern in the community no longer transport Roosevelt students. She added that the matter has also been turned over to the school's attorney for further study.

The next Education Committee meeting will be on Nov. 18 at 7:00 p.m. and the next scheduled agenda meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 1.

The policy of the Bulletin is open expression of ideas and opinions. The authors have sole responsibility for content. The Bulletin is open to discussion, disagreement and commentary through letters to the Editor, or interested persons may submit articles to be considered for publication.

Anyone for a cultural revival in Roosevelt?

By Peter Berlinrut

Modern realism doesn't take too kindly to any belief in any golden age of the past, when human life flowed along like music. The age of Pericles was pocked by slavery, physical disease that left people dead or crippled in their prime, etc. The Renaissance was no better and who wants the Victorian era with its elegant hypocrisies and genteel indifference to the child labor in the collieries? No, whatever the case with our stunning problems, we don't fall into the error of sighing over the vanished Edens of earlier times. Nevertheless we are still attracted to a question that may be perennial but is especially relevant in our time: What ails our age? What is wrong with contemporaneity? -- not by any standards of perfection or Utopia but by very opposite and down-to-earth standards.

But let me turn away from the large general question and get down to cases: what is wrong with Roosevelt? What is wrong with our cultural life? Fifty or sixty years ago a town with our potential would have had the following cultural activities (and I am not relying on imagination or daydream, I am relying on memories, having lived in an experimental town that resembled Roosevelt in certain important respects): It would have had a working dramatic group that had enough impetus to reach out for the better plays of past and present, and produced them. Theater, as everyone

knows is about as universal a function as there is. North, south, east west, developed, underdeveloped, primitive societies, all peoples go in for some form of theater, dramatized ritual or pageantry. I think it serves a human need for which there is no adequate substitute. In fact, there was some sort of dramatic group in Roosevelt in 1953 when I moved here and there has been at least one effort to revive theater here but it is in limbo at the moment.

What about a discussion group? I remember fondly and gratefully such a group meeting weekly or biweekly, with an outside or local speaker to introduce a subject, followed by lively and open discussion. It gave participants opportunity to express themselves; it brought people into greater contact with important matters and taught civility and good manners in confronting differences of opinion. By no means least, it bred conviviality in the coffee and pie sessions that followed the talk. There might be better ways to spend a Saturday evening but there surely are worse ways. And what about musical recitals and choral groups? I know we have a number of talented instrumentalists whom it would be a pleasure to hear in recitals. The same is true of vocalists of varied schools. I am happy to note that Laurie Altman is trying to start a choral group and I hope he is successful. I recall enjoyable concerts given by choral groups in the past, one coached by Eve Hecht, (Cont'd. on P.26)

cultural revival

(Cont'd. from p.25)

the other by Clarence Moore, both highly talented and successful in producing public performances worth hearing.

What has happened to us? Is it the age of television? Are we all sunk in the abyss of spectatoritis? Or are we all numb with despair and helplessness in the face of the nuclear age and its grim prospects? Or is it something more subtle; that it may need a century or two to recover from the fearful wound of the Holocaust? Whatever it is, our conscious values have to come to the

fore and declare: let us bestir ourselves. This may be the hour for Roosevelt (and perhaps the world along with it) to break out of these awful doldrums and look to life again.



What ideas do you have? Use the pages of the Bulletin to make them known. Surely there will be offers of help to implement your suggestions. We look forward to more cultural activity as a result of this article.

The Editors

Letter to the Bulletin

Protest council article

To the editors of the Borough Bulletin:

I must strongly protest against the article by Bob Clark in the October issue of the Bulletin ostensibly reporting the October Council meeting.

The part pertaining to the payment to Ms. Magnes for emergency services was loaded with innuendo and misleading statements, to wit:

It is believed that, though unstated, but nonetheless lurking behind the discussion was political chafing over a leaflet...The leaflet's lengthy chastisement of Barth... included a complaint...

The gratuitous reference to the "leaflet" had nothing to do with the payment to Ms. Magnes and cannot be considered

disinterested reporting. Also, what possible connection is there between being opposed to a mayor and councilmen being paid salaries and a councilperson's temporary employment in an emergency?

Mr. Clark writes, "Without referring to the leaflet, Weiner distinguished...payment to Ms. Magnes as the performance of non-council duties." Is this objective reporting? If Weiner did not refer to the leaflet, why does Clark insinuate that he should have? Clark reports that Ms. Johnson was offered the training job but refused it. That's not the way it was reported at the meeting. It was stated that she asked for \$30 per hour and that the committee and the Mayor considered that excessive. (Ms. Magnes agreed to do the job for \$6 per hour and worked 18 hours for a total of \$108, which she has (Cont'd. on next page)

(Cont'd. from previous page)

pledged to the First Aid Squad.)

In his report, Clark again brought up Johnson's resignation. The Council meeting which he is "reporting" contained no reference to it. At no Council meeting, nor in her official resigna-

tion did she accuse council members of a lack of appreciation.

I hope that in the future the editors of the Bulletin will be more vigilant against editorializing by "objective" reporters.

Aaron Datz

BULLETIN

COLUMBUS, OHIO (Buckeye Press)—Doctors at Ohio State University Hospital announced recently that David and Sue Ann Jones have survived a miraculous event: The birth of their first child, a boy.

Samuel David was born at 11:47 AM, on Oct 19, weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, was 21 1/4 inches long, and was fashionably topped with (a thick patch / a few measly strands) of brown hair.

The chemistry between baby, dad and mother seems just right. They are recovering at home, 293 Moull Street, Newark, Ohio 43055.

Holocaust novel reminds us of humanity's evil

By Freda Hepner

William Styron's Sophie's Choice has an enigmatic title. It might more aptly be called "Everybody's Choice," for it is about the nature of evil in the individual and in all of humanity.

The three central characters are Sophie, a Polish survivor of Auschwitz; Nathan, a Jewish victim in New York and Stingo, a Southerner narrator/observer. The story is set in Brooklyn shortly after World War II and the novel is absorbing even though these three characters are neither interesting, funny, nor attractive in any way. They are in pain all the time and they are guilty all the time.

Perhaps it is their struggle with guilt that makes the reader struggle with personal responsibility. How Sophie survived the death camps, and the life and death choices that entailed, is not unique. What is less often discussed are the scars of conscience these choices leave in the survivor. Nathan's rage lives close to home. He can never forget or forgive or overcome his fury. If Nathan and Sophie are prototypes (as Styron clearly intends), Stingo is the young WASP who is inspired by Sophie's sensual beauty and his own loneliness to merge with the couple for a while. We can almost see him, thirty years later, remembering the experience as a romantic episode that happened to him in the past.

The trio become intensely involved with one another, yet their pasts are more passionate than their futures. Their presents, in fact, are struggles with the past. As familiar as the story may be, Styron tells it as a thriller and the reader will find it hard to put down. We can read it as a good novel and leave it at that.

Styron has written somewhere that what happened at Auschwitz is "...the central issue of our time;" that it has "altered forever our consciousness of evil." I don't know if Styron is right. I do know that since Auschwitz - our thinking about what is "human" has changed. We not only trust each other less but also trust the institutions less. The schools, the governments, the religions that used to make us feel safe have somehow lost a little of their authority, their power.

Personally, the phrase "holocaust" when applied to the murder of 6 million Jews and millions of other "undesirables" is very distasteful. It seems to institutionalize genocide and shove it away into the cobwebs of history. Maybe that protects us from facing the horror of the reality. Holocaust is a word that implies a natural catastrophe; a forest fire or an earthquake. I refuse to believe that the evil of Nazism is natural to the human being.

Perhaps the right amount of time has passed - it is not too soon after World War II and it is not too distant so

(Cont'd. on next page)

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that none of us can remember - to look at this history again. Maybe it's time to dust it off and examine what really happened - and more importantly - how we could permit it to happen. If our "consciousness of evil" has been truly altered we will be alert enough not to let it recur. It seems like a good time to take personal stock of our "human nature." Styron's Sophie's Choice is a good place to start.

Food co-op membership

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The Roosevelt Food Co-op is able, with group buying power, to purchase cheese, eggs, dried fruit, grains, beans and a variety of other items; generally at below supermarket prices.

All members of the Roosevelt Food Co-op are working members. This means a commitment of an average of two to three hours a month at a wide variety of jobs at the various times throughout the month.

There is a one time membership fee of \$10 per household (\$5 if it is a one person household) or one half of these fees for senior citizen members.

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CABLE TELEVISION

On Oct. 29, a public hearing was held at the Borough Hall to award a contract for cable T.V. in Roosevelt. The only applicant was the Storer Cable Television Company. They were awarded the contract. The company still must be licensed for Roosevelt by the Public Utilities Commission. They hope to be ready to install cable in nine or ten months.

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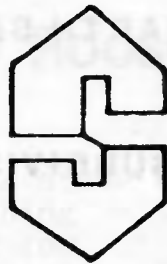
November 13, 1981

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