

bulletin

Roosevelt Borough



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PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEE HIRED, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Copies of the Borough Council's November 14 agenda were in the hands of many of the eleven Roosevelt citizens witnessing the meeting. It included "Motion to fill the position of the Public Works employee." In the public portion of the meeting, after Saul Ernstein pointed out that junked cars and trucks, without inspection stickers, are in streets and on properties in the Borough, and after Lou Esakoff complained about the incompetence of U.S. Water employees, Clifford Fischer challenged the Council about the hiring. He asked for a promise that the person hired as the Borough's maintenance employee would be the one who is most qualified. Councilman Nestor Sabogal replied that all the Council members involved in interviewing candidates agreed the person he was going to nominate was the most qualified to do a good job at all the many aspects of the Public Works employee's job. Skills, motivation, being a self-starter, and

willingness to do all the kinds of tasks expected were considered. Richard Hutchins took his turn asking why he, with 20 years of experience in construction and municipal service jobs, was sent a

letter saying he was not qualified. Mr. Sabogal read from his copy of the letter that went to Mr. Hutchins to clarify that it did not say he was not qualified, but rather he was not the most qualified.  The public portion being completed, the Council acted on five resolutions. Mr. Sabogal made a motion that Gayle Donnelly be hired as the Public Works employee, filling the position vacated when Ed Davis resigned in September. Mr. Esakoff called out for the Mayor

to read the job description. Mayor Allen said this portion of the meeting was not open to debate by the public, for which he was denounced by Mr. Esakoff as he left the room. All Council members present then approved of hiring Mrs. Donnelly, with the exception

(cont. on pg. 12)

Borough Council Report

by Herb Johnson

Borough Council Election Results

By Mary Alfare

In the November 8 General Election, 71% of eligible Roosevelt voters returned incumbent Rose D. Murphy to the Borough Council with 207 votes. Paul Hoogsteden was also elected with 288 votes. John Towle polled 184 votes.

Veterans Update

By Peter Warren

A number of Roosevelt war veterans have discussed adding to the names on the Veterans' Memorial on the school grounds. If you are a veteran of any war, and now live in Roosevelt, or have lived in Roosevelt, please get in touch with Carl Johnson (448-4909), Saul Ernstein (448-0064) or Steve Yeger (443-5848).

Assunpink's 25th Anniversary

By Peter Warren

The November 1970 issue of Roosevelt News, precursor of the Bulletin, describes the completion of 2,100 acre Assunpink Park which includes large areas of Roosevelt south of Clarksburg Road, Tamara Drive and Pine Drive. The park is created from land bought by the Green Acres Acquisition Program. Park operations are financed from the sale of 160,000 hunting and 150,000 fishing licenses.

Bulletin Board

By Peter Warren

☞ **New Year's Day Get-Together.** As usual, the Borough Hall will have its annual Open House, on Saturday afternoon, January 7, 1995 [Note Date Change] from 3-6 pm for you to meet and renew friendships.

☞ **Solar Village welcomes residents and relatives who qualify under HUD regulations.** Enquiries should be sent to the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation at Box 535, Roosevelt.

☞ **The Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation requests vendors who live in Roosevelt to submit an expression of interest in being considered for bids of Solar Village projects to the Corporation, Box 535, Roosevelt.**

☞ **Your house number should be clearly visible from the street. Please change it, if it is not now clearly visible.**

☞ **Know Your Town.** At Borough Hall, copies of Jason Cohen's 1994 *Utopia to Suburbia: the Architecture and Urban Planning of Roosevelt, New Jersey*, Kim Brodtkin's 1992 *From the Jersey Homesteads to Roosevelt: Community and Identity in a New Deal Settlement* may be purchased for \$10 each, and Gail Hunton's application for Roosevelt's historic designation, for \$5.

☞ **Donate a Car!** A car you would otherwise junk, of course. Herb Johnson did, as a charitable contribution to the National Kidney Foundation. You can, too. For details, call Krys at Borough Hall.

☞ **TO REPEAT,** the speed limit in Roosevelt is 25 mph.

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Crumbs from My Table and Calendar

Artwork by Jonathan Shahn.

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In its years-long quest to determine the correct number of residences to allow in the 500 acres of Roosevelt's northern farmlands, the Planning Board received at its November 9 meeting significant new data from two of its members: Mayor Lee Allen and Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin. Mr. Ticktin revealed that a previous misinterpretation of the state building code by the state Department of Education (DOE) had underestimated the capacity of the Roosevelt Public School (RPS). Mayor Allen advised that his preliminary calculations of the effects of new home construction in the Borough showed substantial per-household savings off property taxes and water-sewer rates.

At Mr. Ticktin's request, DCA's Bureau of Local Code Enforcement reported that RPS's seven classrooms could accommodate 218 students, or 78 more than the 140 figure previously based on DOE's calculations. Using the amount of 218, and assuming RPS capacity as the only constraint on residential development, Mr. Ticktin calculated that anywhere from 323 to 372 new three-bedroom homes could be built in the northern farmlands without necessitating a costly expansion of the school. He cautioned that "it is apparent that the school capacity must be firmly established before any definitive statement can be made as to the number of new homes that can be accommodated."

Board Chairwoman Gail Hunton said she would send a letter to the School Board asking for advice as to the optimum class size in the K-6 school. She and Mr. Ticktin noted that educational standards (student-teacher ratio) might limit the capacity per classroom to substantially less than the approximately 31 students, one teacher and one aide per class allowed under the code.

Meanwhile, Mayor Allen produced a 13-page analysis of updated fiscal data, which he said showed that "if 250 [three-bedroom] homes were dropped into the community, we would lower the [property] tax rate by \$1 per \$100 [of assessment]" or about 20 percent, and the water



and sewer rates "would drop between \$60 and \$70 per month." He acknowledged that he had used demographic multipliers (numbers of children per household) which may or may not be accurate. Mr. Allen said the data for his analysis had to be verified, updated with 1995 budget figures and the new school capacity data, and reviewed by other knowledgeable persons before the bottom line benefits could be accepted. Board member Harry Parker pointed out that Mr. Allen's calculations depended on a certain number of homes being built and wondered whether market conditions would allow that to happen.

In the meeting's only official action, the Board passed the formal resolution appointing Alan Mallach as pro bono consultant to advise the Board on a possible planned community development ordinance governing the northern farmlands. Chairwoman Hunton, Mayor Allen, Mr. Ticktin, Mr. Parker, and Board members David Leff and Joseph Zahora voted in favor, while member Jeffrey Hunt abstained. Members Bert Ellentuck, Paul Henry and George Vasseur were absent.

Regarding water and sewer system constraints, Mayor Allen said the figures had not changed in the last two years. He said he would make available the documentation on both the sewer plant and the water plant. Mr. Allen added that the Borough Council expected soon to receive formal notice of the lifting of the state's sewer connection ban. When it was pointed out that present flow limits are routinely exceeded, the Mayor said, "Flow limits are not so strictly enforced so long as you are meeting your biological requirements." He added that Roosevelt's "theoretical biological load is 1,500 people." The Board also noted the need for a new water tower and refurbished filtration. Mayor Allen said the Borough is looking into grants available to small communities (particularly those with high monthly rates) under the federal Clean Water Improvement Grant program.

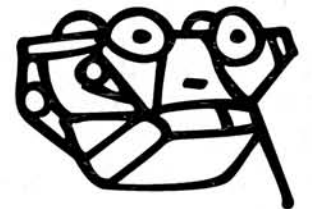
Mr. Hunt asked whether Roosevelt could at-

(cont. on pg. 16)

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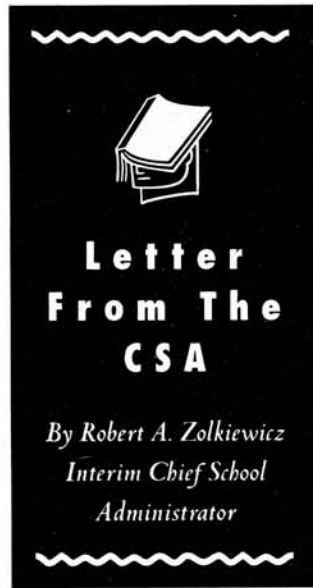


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Don't Speed in Town!

The school year has been busy with the building addition and renovation to the Roosevelt Public School. At this point of the construction project, most of the exterior work has been completed. The interior finishes are still being completed. The scheduled completion date is December 2, 1994.



Clerk have been relocated to the former Chief School Administrator's offices. The Child Study Team will occupy the current School Business Administrator/Board Secretary office. The second grade class, currently in the library area will be relocated to the former Kindergarten room. The balcony area in the gym has been

renovated into an art and music classroom. During the winter recess, when school is closed, we expect to begin moving programs and/or classes to their new locations. The kindergarten class will move to the new addition. Also moving to the new addition will be students in the pull-out programs of speech and resource center. The new addition will also have two handicapped access men's and women's lavatories and a conference/child study area.

Although much needs to be done to complete the project and all the moves necessary, it is anticipated that all will be in place when the school reopens after the winter recess on January 2, 1995.

During January, 1995, an Open House will be presented by the Board of Education to give the community an opportunity to view and tour these new facilities. It is also anticipated that at this Open House, your new Chief School Administrator will be introduced.

Have a wonderful holiday season and I thank each of you for the kind courtesy extended to me.

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Have a wonderful holiday season and I thank each of you for the kind courtesy extended to me.

The New Chief School Administrator

By Teri Skye

The Roosevelt Board of Education proudly announces the arrival of Mr. William N. Presutti as Chief School Administrator. Mr. Presutti will begin at our Roosevelt Public School on or before February 6, 1995. He is currently the Director of Special Services and Curriculum in Little Falls, NJ. Mr. Presutti did his undergraduate work at Scranton University and he graduated from Central Connecticut State University with a masters degree in Special Education. He has been in the field of education for 16 years and brings to RPS a wealth of knowledge and experience. He feels a strong commitment to work with children to ensure they get the best education possible.

Mr. Presutti says he is "very glad to be aboard, and looking forward to starting with us." We, the Roosevelt Board of Education, hope that you will join us in our excitement as we extend a warm welcome to Mr. William (Bill) Presutti as the new CSA at RPS.

1995 Roosevelt Telephone Book

By Bob Clark

The Roosevelt PTA will be sponsoring the 1995 Roosevelt Telephone Book fundraiser. The telephone book is currently in the planning stage. We are hoping to add Post Office Box numbers to the new edition.

If your name, address or phone number is not listed correctly in the 1993 book, we would like to have the opportunity to make the correction in the 1995 book. Also, if you would like information about having your business listed in the Business Services section of the book, please call. The person to contact is Maureen Clark, 443-5883, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM.



Nursery
School
News



By Marsha Agress
Head Teacher, RCNS

It is hard to believe that it is already December and the year is almost over. Signs of winter approaching can be seen everywhere.

Many exciting activities are planned for this month. The children will be busy learning about the color brown. They are enjoying making color bags to fill with things that are the special color of the month. A major focus this month will be to make projects that begin with the letter B such as a big, brown bear; a bird feeder; and balloon prints. The children will also learn about numbers through 4.

We will learn about things that are safe to taste and not safe to taste. When the children make bird feeders, they will learn that some birds do not fly south for the winter, and that we can help them to find food in the winter months.

Special holiday presents will be made as well as wrapping paper, decorated by the children. We will string fruit loop necklaces as part of our holiday treats.

We are looking forward to 1995, and hope that it is a hap-

py, healthy year for everyone. From the Board: Thanks goes out to Tracey Stiles and Olga Wysiwicki for all their help in our recent fund raiser with the Sisterhood's Chinese Auction. Thanks Tracey and Olga!



Roosevelt Board Of Education News

By Joann San Nicola

The regular monthly meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education was called to order at 7:30, November 17th, by President Mike Hamilton. In attendance were eight of the nine members, Mr. Robert Zolkiewicz, interim CSA, and Mr. Landgraf, BS. Also present was Mr. William Presutti, whom Mr. Hamilton introduced as the new CSA.

In the course of routine business, the Board approved the placement of Elaine Bogoloff on the substitute teachers list; and, Mr. Hartman reported that on Sat., Nov. 19th, he would be attending a regional meeting that will be dealing with the vital issue of state pay for state mandates.

A question was raised about the school insurance coverage for various groups using the school and grounds. The Board will meet with the agent to arrange adequate coverage.

The building project is scheduled for completion early in December and all classes will be well situated by the end of the holiday vacation. It was decided to enclose the condensers with fencing to protect the children from harm. They are outside the library and easily accessible to anyone. New energy saving lights will be installed in the gym and all purpose areas, at no cost to the town, since the cost is covered by historic grant money.

Mr. Zolkiewicz reported that the sixth grade cleared \$400 plus in their pie sale drive, which gives them about one third of the needed funds for their class trip at the end of the school year. Applicants are being interviewed for position of Special Education Aide. The winter concert will be held on December 14th at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The Kreps band will be performing at R.P.S. on December 9th.

The meeting went into closed session at 9:00.



A Tree in Roosevelt

By Michael Hamilton, Dad & Board Member

In March of this year, a rather extraordinary group of concerned citizens came before the Roosevelt Board of Education in order to address an environmental concern that had come to their attention regarding the building project. They had heard that The Board was planning on cutting down a tree that stood in the way of construction of the new addition to the school.

What impressed us most about this group was not the natural beauty of the subject of their concern, a sweet gum tree that drops those spiny balls all year round. The fact that these were third grade students was a relief, at least they would not hurl all manners of insult and innuendo at us. We would hear them out, smile at their polite requests and cute manner, compliment them on their concerns, and then do what we needed to do.

The third grade sent a letter to request that the Board address their concerns at the next Board meeting. At the first meeting they asked us to see if we could save the tree. Perhaps we could move it, or redraw the plans. We responded that we would look into the matter. They presented us with a book entitled "Ideas, Poems, and Pictures About the Sweet Gum Tree" by the Third Grade. Several third graders read their poems and they were quite touching. Poetry sometimes has a way of cutting through all of the logical/rational thinking about things and gets right to the heart of the matter which was their love for this particular tree.

Well, a month went by, many subjects came and went before the Board, and before long it was time for another meeting. We had a packed agenda, but who should appear before the Board again but those tenacious little third graders. By this time their cuteness had worn off and they were becoming a bit annoying. Their spokesperson cut right to the chase, asking Jim Hatzfeld, the chair of our buildings and grounds committee what had been done since our last meeting with them. Jim shifted around a bit in his seat and managed to mumble something about how we would again look into the matter. The spokesperson for the third grade said that she felt that they were not being taken seriously enough and that they felt as if they were being treated as "cute children". By this time I noticed that several board members had their heads down taking notes, others were starting to fidget nervously in their seats. As if this wasn't enough, they brought some

"adults" with them to help drive home the point that they were indeed to be taken seriously.

After this meeting our sons and daughters initiated a well orchestrated plan of civil disobedience and guerrilla warfare aimed at wearing down the enemy, (easily achieved since they seemed to have boundless energy, and we had so many meetings during this time). I remember one incident when I arrived home around midnight after a grueling meeting to find on my desk a Shel Silverstein tree poem on a yellow stick up note, left by my daughter Katy. This grated on my nerves much the same way a smiley face sticker saying "Have a nice day!" would to someone who was having a rotten day. Being in no mood at this late hour, I hastily penned the following mock poetic reply not thinking that it might be used as blackmail:

"Ain't no use in tryin' to stop it,
The Board of Ed is gonna chop it!"

The addition to the school is almost complete. It is most certainly a tribute to these children that the tree (affectionately known to many as "Base") still stands. In looking back I see that I and many others had indeed labeled this group as a bunch of cute third graders. We had assumed the elevated and enlightened status of parents and Board members. We had underestimated these children and momentarily lost sight of the fact that this is their school. This was no ordinary group of third graders; this was Ilene Levine's Roosevelt Third Grade Brigade. Somehow along the way these children had become true Rooseveltarians; they thought for themselves, spoke what was on their minds, and wouldn't take no for an answer. We were reminded that children are people, small on the outside but much bigger on the inside, where it matters! Learn to hear what they have to say and you will experience your own childhood again, not as something that has ended, but as a stream that is always there flowing, just below the veneer of adulthood. The following are excerpts from, "Tree Poems and Landscapes" by the Third Grade, March 1994. I hope you will enjoy them as we have.

“Every time I climb a tree
the moon looks at me.
Every time I climb a tree
my father calls me.
Every time I climb a tree
the birds sing to me.
Every time I climb a tree
my cat comes to me.
Every time I climb a tree
my brother teases me.
Every time I climb a tree
I feel like me.”

“Tree, tree- As beautiful as can be.
If this tree is cut down
I will not smile; I will frown.”

Shiri Yeager

“I climb a tree
and it wishes it could climb me!”

Jeff Posseil
Jimmy Carroll

“Buttresses are brown,
leaves are green,
If you cut this tree down
you will be mean.”

George Jackson
and Katy Hamilton



“The tree was the place
I went under for shade.
It was where the birds
and the squirrels stayed.
It stood upon
The fresh green grass.
My love for the tree
Will never pass.”

Nick Malkin

“Oh no more gumballs falling from the tree,
no more shade for me to sit under...
but in our hearts we know,
it will be with us forever and ever.”

Christina Septak

Sharing the Bounty- in the Spirit of the Season

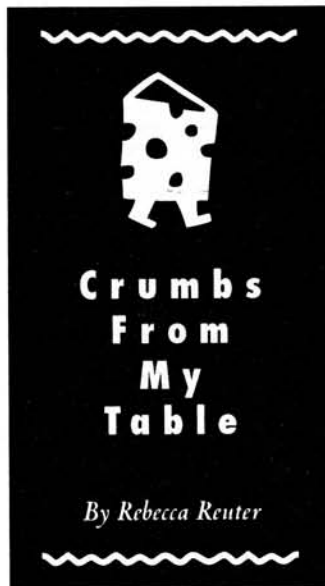
I've read the magazines and I've heard the complaints, so I know that gardeners spend a lot of time trying to banish bugs from their gardens. I admit to wasting time on seek-and-destroy missions myself.

I've finally come to realize, though, that not all bugs are pests. And another thing...not all pests need be banished. Some are as valuable for their beauty or their usefulness to other managers of the garden — like birds, snakes, and toads — as the crops they consume. Some are worth keeping for their joke value alone, the occasional “ha!” they evoke. Just when you think you're solo in the garden, you sweep back the big skirt of a cabbage and discover a colony of black aphids being hustled from one leaf to another by the ants that herd and ‘milk’ them.

Now I don't recommend letting aphids have their freedom in your garden crops. Not aphids, truly, because I know that they have a way of multiplying (asexually! live birth! everywhere!) and spreading and insinuating their colonies between the ruffled leaves of kale. Or they squeeze into brussels sprouts so that you can peel and peel away the wrappings and still every layer reveals another (single parent) family of aphids to be evicted, till finally there is nothing left but a tiny nub of a sprout, and you know if you uncurl it that you will find the tiniest aphid of all peering up at you.

Well, but I find myself feeling very protective of some of the bugs in the garden that I used to rush to crush. Like an ant shepherding aphids, I now tend the carrotworm caterpillars. I find them in the parsley, eating their way up the stalks, and I find them in the carrot patch, bobbing on the ferny foliage.

The carrotworm, also known as the parsleyworm, is the larval stage of the black swallowtail butterfly. It is the insect version of a plump, paint-spattered zebra, all black and white stripes,



dappled with spots of day-glow yellow. If you tap it lightly on the top of its fleshy little head, it will sprout two gelatinous orange horns to scare you away. The horns emit a sweet fruity scent. I've had friends that were less entertaining, and I find I really like this bug.

So I move these caterpillars out of harm's way when I find them in the garden. I have a special patch of parsley mixed with a few carrots over in a corner by the fence, and as I find them I carry them all over there and tuck them in among the leaves. Sort of a protected zone. Let them run wild in there, as it were.

What does any of this have to do with food, you ask? It's about the carrots that the caterpillars and I share.

A carrot is a biennial plant; it lives for two years. In the first year of its life, a carrot grows a long tap root below ground and a green leafy top above. Winter comes, then spring, and in its second year the carrot sends up a tall flower stalk, gets pollinated, sets seed and dies. But in the world of agriculture, we hungry grubbers-in-the-earth gobble that fat root in its first year, before it ever finds out about the wasps and the bees.

If flowers do form — and you can go out and plant a supermarket carrot if you like, in order to produce a plant that will make flowers next summer — the flowers will look similar to Queen Anne's Lace, the non-edible “wild carrot.” The large flat flower heads are made up of many tiny flowers, set like pave diamonds in a brooch, and they will attract a multitude of nectar-seeking bugs.

Tiny parasitic wasps, as well as lady bugs and butterflies, visit the flowers. Maybe a “parasitic wasp” does not sound like a bug you would want to make friends with, but as wasps go these are tolerable because they're so tiny and don't sting like the big ones do. What they parasitize is caterpillars mostly. They lay their

eggs in the backs of the soft green cabbage worms that make doilies of whole cabbages, and in the enormous tomato hornworms, as well as in the beautiful carrotworm caterpillar. Large papernest wasps also sting caterpillars and carry them back to their nests as baby food for their larvae.

I plant and tend carrots. But then I eat the root, destroying the plant before it can complete it's life cycle. I also tend the caterpillars, which munch the foliage. Little wasps eat the nectar of the carrot flowers, then lay young that feed inside the caterpillars, destroying them. The caterpillar, if it survives to adulthood, becomes the black swallowtail, which also sucks nectar from the flower, then lays its eggs on the plant. The eggs hatch into caterpillars that eat the foliage. Some folks kill the caterpillars, but I don't. Because it's a small world, no?

Carrot and Orange Soup

adapted from The Silver Palate Cookbook by J. Rosso and S. Lukins

Melt in a pot: 4 tablespoons butter

Add, cover, and cook till tender: 2 cups finely chopped onion

Add: 2 lbs carrots, peeled and chopped
4 cups chicken broth

Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer till carrots are tender.

Strain the soup, pour the solids into a food processor, add 1 cup of the liquid to the solids, and puree till smooth.

Return everything to the pot.

Add: 1 cup orange juice, and enough extra broth to give the soup the desired consistency.

Season with salt, pepper, and fresh orange zest.



When we first moved here, almost everybody we met seemed to have a story on how they "ended up" in Roosevelt. I got lost one day driving from Princeton to Toms River and wound up stumbling onto Roosevelt and driving around what I would learn later to be Homestead Lane, Pine and Tamara Drives, rubbernecking at the marvelous, white boxed "pattern houses". "What kind of place is this?" I wondered out loud. It didn't look anything like a traditional stodgy New Jersey town, and the simple, elegant houses didn't emit the ostentatiousness of recent suburban development mansions. Instead I was struck by the diverse charm of houses that seemed to have started out as the same, more or less, but then had evolved over the years into real, unique homes befitting the personality of each owner. I liked that. I also liked seeing people wearing their art on their sleeves, so to speak. And when a friend, visiting later, said that he thought every house should sport a homemade sculpture or totem pole and flowers, I assumed he was talking about Roosevelt. So, I drove home and told my wife that I'd finally found a place that I could imagine living in.

And that was good, because during the past few years, I'd been losing my enthusiasm for moving to a small town or to the city or - never! - to the suburbs, and really had started wondering about living anywhere in America. It all was starting to seem so bland, unexotic, predictable. For years we had been trying to leave Princeton. Every time we received a letter from a prospective employer in Washington State, Oregon,



Finding

A New

Place To

Live

By Ron Coster

North Carolina, Florida and so on, we should go to the library and research and actually move for a while to those places, at least in our minds. We'd spent a while in Tampa, drinking in the perfect sun and Cuban cigars; hiked the mountains overlooking the Puget Sound; and, shuffled

down sand pathways with fishermen on North Carolina's Outer Banks. But the most exotic place we did and didn't move to was Poland.

About five years ago, just after the Eastern European countries had broken from the USSR, Polish universities were looking for professors who could speak and teach English. After sending off a slew of letters, I finally was offered a job teaching American Literature in a town called Bydgoszcz. My starting salary would be 1,000,000 zlotys a month, which sounded great until I learned that its American equivalent was \$28 and that in order to survive, we would have to get involved in "shadier business." Since we were expecting another child at the time and the prospects of returning to America with a new baby and just zlotys in hand was discouraging, we decided to stay here. In retrospect, living overseas probably would have been a good way to get in touch with my "roots" and for our kids to learn Polish and live among Europeans, and I'm sure it would have looked different from America, but it didn't happen.

So when I came home that day from Toms River and told my wife that I'd stumbled on a remarkable looking place - a lower income version of Carmel, California - that had been built by liberal socialists as a WPA project, from plans reportedly drawn up for houses in Arizona or California or some other warm place, we were really happy to have found a real place to move to, and shortly afterwards we started looking for a house in Roosevelt.



I hate the guardrails. For those who haven't see them, drive down Tamara Drive through the once forested place just beyond Bernarda Bryson Shahn's house and look for the rusting metal structures that now grace the landscape.

Perhaps I am more aware of this particular spot in Roosevelt than others. Every day I usually walk with my seven month old son, Daniel, down to where Empty Box Creek crosses under the Tamara Drive roadway. We used to sit and watch the water, listen to the sounds of nature, watch the leaves fall - precious activities that are every day becoming more difficult for our children to experience. Often we would encounter other children tossing twigs into the stream or searching for frogs. We can't do that any more. The guardrails are up. Actually, the guardrails are just the icing on the proverbial cake in this place; a cake baked using ingredients arising from the wholesale extermination of small but one beautiful corner of our town. At one time, this area was so pleasant and inviting that my wife and I would occasionally take our daughter there for an afternoon picnic. I recall a cool, green stretch of road where the trees formed a near perfect arch overhead. The trees were decimated during the great \$140/month (now down to \$130 - gee - thanks, guys!) sewer plant improvement. The resulting wasteland was further scoured of life by the "improvements" to Tamara Drive. Somehow flowers and trees don't flourish beneath bulldozers, black-top machines and barrels of petroleum gunk.

I've tried to imagine the logic that resulted in the guardrails. Why were they

I Hate

The

Guardrails

By Brad Garton

such a necessary project? Of course, from an aesthetic perspective, the rusted metal does work well with the twisted carcasses of fallen trees in the background - perhaps it is meant as a comment on post-industrial man. Too bad for us that the outdoor installation is permanent, however.

I doubt that the Council had an artistic experience in mind when they endorsed the environmental destruction of Tamara Drive. Probably the two most popular reasons they will give for the guardrails are:

I. They were built for SAFETY!

This tired old excuse has been used time and time again to justify projects that Rooseveltians neither want nor can afford. Think how much SAFER Lake Drive is now that the drag strip runs unhindered to Rt. 571. Farm Lane is certainly much SAFER after becoming part of the Roosevelt Speedway. And, I have noticed that mo-

torists are much more cautious now that Tamara Drive is wide, smooth and built for speed.

I'll bet that there was a desperate need for the guardrails. A catalog of fatalities involving vehicles plunging into the depths of Empty Box Creek along Tamara Drive will surely reveal that this is one of the world's true danger spots. Tank goodness we're protected! Thank goodness we're now SAFE!

2. The State MANDATED the guardrails.

Aw, c'mon - when will we stop treating State mandates as edicts from the mouth of God? It's time to just say no. What would be the result of not following every single solitary precise word of each State mandate? We might get fined! Ooooooo, we're so frightened! How much worse could it be? The penalties we pay in fines at this point might be less than what we are paying in order to meet the mandates. Perhaps if we simply told the State that we cannot afford to meet their blanket requirements, they might be willing to negotiate or compromise. At least we would have a bargaining position. This seems to fly in the face of current Council strategy, however: capitulate to all demands and then hope for the best. Yikes!

There is a third reason for the work being done around town (including the guardrails), work which is being undertaken to change the character of our town forever. Maliciously or unconsciously, the Council had adopted a pro-residential development mindset that has infected all policies relating to the future of the Borough.

It is a subtle third reason that is the most

(cont. on pg. 13)

(COUNCIL cont. from pg. 1)
of Councilman David Donnelly who abstained.

Councilman Kaufman appealed for at least ten more people to be volunteer fire fighters with the Roosevelt Fire Department. He said there was a fire at a Nurko Road address this past week and Kim Dexheimer, the Fire Chief, was the only fire fighter who went to the fire. Gayle Donnelly asked how many hours of training would be required. Someone said 28 hours. Mary Alfare said that 50 years ago, Roosevelt had the first woman fire department member in the United States - Gus Chasan, who resides on Farm Lane. The next day, Mr. Dexheimer was contacted. He said that there are six members of the department and that the training requires three weekends and several evenings for a total of 80 hours. James Carnevale, who was also at the meeting, stressed the urgency of the Council helping to get more volunteers for Parks and Recreation and the First Aid Squad as well. Paul Hoogsteden urged the Council to show appreciation for volunteers frequently.

The Council approved of spending up to \$1,300 to "porcupine" (cut the roots out of

sewer lines) on Homestead Lane, and \$700 for coring and asphalt testing as required by N.J.D.O.T. on Eleanor Lane. It also approved use, by Ann Goldman of the Borough Hall meeting room, once a week, for a pre-school age children's play group if proper insurance coverage is confirmed.

Resolution #129/94 was approved. It authorizes the Mayor to apply for a grant of

\$4,000 or more from the N.J.D.E.P. to expand the Borough's litter reduction program. Also, it designated Gayle Donnelly as the Clean Communities Coordinator, a volunteer job she has performed for three years. Two other resolutions approved are to oppose bills in the NJ Senate which would have the effect of increasing Roosevelt's expenses.

The U.S. Water Company's

reports for August and September monthly operation and maintenance were posted on the bulletin board at the meeting, and listed in the Agenda as correspondence. Among the recommendations made by U.S. Water was this item: "The failure of well No. 4 would leave the Borough with no water source. The No. 3 well should be repaired or replaced so it can be used as a backup source." ❁

A View From A Council Seat

By Stuart Kaufman



Facts of a recent event: there was a house fire on Nurko Rd., Roosevelt's response was one person, no equipment, no truck. Millstone's fire company responded and the fire was brought under control. This is a true story. Think about Roosevelt's response, there was no response! In the time it took Millstone to respond, lives could have been lost. This time we were lucky. Roosevelt does not have a first response fire company. Our fire company needs volunteers. This is a town crisis. You have direct say on how much the council spends on fire fighting. What do I mean?

The borough fire truck is an antique, its capacity to serve our community is very limited and new equipment should have been purchased years ago. The time for making a decision is now. A new year is coming and a new budget with it. The council can not justify spending tax dollars for new equipment if there are no volunteers to use it.

The council has agreed to make this a top priority on its agenda for the new year. We intend to blitz the public for volunteers. Volunteer drive dates will be announced, and at these times you will be able to sign up, get information or give information. If by mid year we are still in the same situation, I will recommend that the council no longer fund Roosevelt's fire company and look to Millstone or an other municipality for first response to a fire. Please keep in mind that outside fire protection will cost us more. Expect to hear more on this subject from now on. In other words, we're going to make pests of ourselves until you come out and volunteer. ❁

(*GUARDRAILS cont. from pg. 11*) disturbing to me. For the past five years, I have watched as the Lee Allen/Peter Warren "New Dawn" Council has done virtually everything possible to "clear to allow for development." (quote from Lee Allen; November 1994 Borough Bulletin.) It is this blindered belief that further residential development will bring more "ratables" that has driven the decisions resulting in our incredible tax rate and our mind boggling water/sewer bill. So we wind up paying for the future development in order to attract the development that will reduce our payments - cart before the horse? Jeez, the horse is dead and the cart is broken - and the Mayor and Council are proud of their record of achievement !?!

How has this happened? How has this pro-development mindset affected the governance of our town? Basically, "improvements" are being undertaken with the premise to plan for residential growth - at least 300 units more, if I read scattered public statements correctly. Perhaps by using the silly neo-positivist numerical arguments so beloved of the pro-development camp, the Tamara guardrails can give a better indication as to the scope of the future residential development conceived by the Council.

Because the guardrails on Tamara Drive are approximately 3.6 times as long as the equivalent guardrails on Rt. 571, we can assume that the Council is planning for a proportional increase in the traffic along Tamara Drive (why else would they build such lengthy guardrails?) Assuming a rate of 1.79 cars/household and factoring in the current traffic differential between Rt. 571 and Tamara Drive, we can extrapolate to an equivalent expansion of 14.97 - which leads to - Holy Smokes! 300 new units! [note: I hope that my little exercise in Sarcastic Math here will be taken about as seriously as the other "studies" designed to show how much we need further residential development.] For all the rhetoric, the Council isn't truly desiring an increase in ratables with this talk of projected development. "Development" to the Council refers exclusively to residential growth. Any planner will tell you that increasing "ratables" almost always means fostering commercial development. Have we? What have we done to attract business to Roosevelt? Has the Council worked with the State Chamber of Commerce? Have we contacted the Small Business Administration to see what we can do to make our town viable? People such as the Rossis and the Rocchias should be en-


couraged to continue working in town. Instead, I suspect they are becoming mightily discouraged by the tax rate and utility bills imposed upon us by our wise and fearless Borough leaders - all because of some wondrous vision of townhouses and condominiums surrounding Roosevelt. And we are already paying to make them possible.

It's just sad. Most sane people look at residential development as a negative drag on the local economy. Call the New Jersey League of Municipalities, look at any number of studies of towns similar in size to Roosevelt, ask regional planners with no vested interest here in Roosevelt: all will tell you that residential development is at best a break even proposition.

Let's give the Council the benefit of the doubt, and assume that we may experience a slight (and, believe me, it will be slight, if any) decrease in our municipal bills. What sort of development will it be? What will we lose?

Take a look around. Townhouses and condos "in keeping with the character of the Borough"? -HA! From the beautiful curbs of Nurko Road to the guardrails of Tamara Drive, the actions of the Council speak far louder than words. You see, the guardrails are more

than just a mere eyesore; they are a symbol. They represent a systematic attack on the very uniqueness that makes Roosevelt a desirable place to live. Read the recent activities of the Council as a text, and you will find it has a straightforward and terrible story to tell. It's the story of Dutch Neck, of Plainsboro, of Grover's Mill. It's the story of greed fueled by a misguided and poorly imagined conception of what our town should be and how we should live. It makes me hate the guardrails even more.

In the last Borough Bulletin, Lee Allen issues a heartfelt call for more participation by the public, and Peter Warren appears to lay much of the blame for our astronomical tax rate at the lack of public involvement(!). I guess my question would be: what exactly do you want us to participate in? If it is participation in the planning and foresight that has indeed given us our ludicrous tax and utility rates (and has cost each of us about \$20,000-30,000 in real property value), then I will politely - but not respectfully - say no. The guardrails have already been built. 

Roosevelt
 ~~~~~  
**Weather**  
 ~~~~~  
Almanac



By Ron Filepp

**LIQUID
 LEAVES**

December is here. The leaves are off all but the most stubborn trees and off many a homeowner's yard and mind. Raking leaves is the yard chore I most dislike. I started pondering the dreaded chore on a sunny, warm Friday in October when Robin and I spent a day out looking at foliage.

One of our stops was at Walnford Park. It's a county park southeast of Allentown. The 18th century house, mill, barn and out buildings are be-

ing restored and will be open to the public in a couple of years.

The foliage was at peak color. We wandered through the park enjoying the falling leaves, golden sunshine and warm breezes. Trees were giving their leaves up to the wind. The sycamores seemed deliberate in their choice of time to let one of their giant leaf boats float away. Other trees broadcast small clouds of leaves with each light breeze.

Many leaves landed in the brook by the mill. They wound down the brook, through the mill run and downstream under a bridge. Sunlight passed through the water and you could see leaves on the surface and at different levels through to the bed of the stream. They swirled, floated, dove and rose, some lazily, others swiftly, as they moved to their destinations.

In my imagination I conjured a river of leaves. Not dry or wet leaves but liquid leaves. The multicolor leaves, in eddies, were coursing away from my yard. They moved in a vast river to some final resting place off my lawn - but not on yours.

"When leaves fall early, fall and winter will be mild; when leaves fall late, winter will be severe." The leaves seem to have fallen right on schedule this year. Perhaps this proverb pre-

dicts an average winter with snowfall from December through March totaling about 24 inches.

Weather Table

October 15 - November 15

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	60.0	40.0	50.0	0
16	64.0	34.0	49.0	0
17	64.0	34.0	49.0	0.35
18	70.0	40.0	55.0	0
19	74.0	49.0	61.5	0
20	66.0	60.0	63.0	0
21	68.0	50.0	59.0	0.03
22	68.0	43.0	55.5	0
23	64.0	52.0	58.0	0
24	65.0	47.5	56.3	0.45
25	63.0	48.0	55.5	0
26	56.0	39.5	47.8	0
27	57.5	34.0	45.8	0
28	59.0	33.0	46.0	0
29	62.0	40.0	51.0	0
30	66.5	44.5	55.5	0
31	73.5	44.0	58.8	0
1	70.0	63.0	66.5	0.15
2	57.0	47.0	52.0	0.35
3	62.0	36.5	49.3	0
4	72.0	39.5	55.8	0
5	70.0	50.0	60.0	0
6	69.5	53.0	61.3	0
7	56.5	47.5	52.0	0.05
8	????	36.5	????	0
9	70.5	50.0	60.3	0
10	53.0	42.0	47.5	0.58
11	49.0	31.0	40.0	0
12	50.5	28.0	39.3	0
13	61.0	43.0	52.0	0
14	63.5	42.0	52.8	0
15	67.0	47.0	57.0	0.05
Total Precip				1.66

Twenty-four inches doesn't seem bad compared to last winter's snow fall. The winter of '93 - '94 brought 36.5 inches of snow to Roosevelt. This total pales by comparison to the deepest seasonal snowfall in the United States. One thousand inches (83.3 feet) fell in the winter of '55 - '56 in Mount Rainier National Park. Imagine shoveling that from your driveway!

We should count our blessings and heed the implied warning from an area hardware store. As early as September I saw a crude, homemade sign in front of the store in North Brunswick. In cold, blue letters on a snow white background it read "ICE MELT." Under "Ice Melt" the sign mournfully announced "Snow Shovels" in black letters. A sophisticated television ad could not act as a better reminder of last winter. Nor could it more effectively convince the still winter-weary to prepare for the onslaught of another cold season.

OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER

October was a very dry month this year. Only .67 inches of rain fell. Normal rainfall for the month is 3.42 inches. There was no measurable rain from the second through the 22nd.

We also saw many clear to partly cloudy days in October, making it another pleasant month following a spectacular September.

The first half of November brought mild temperatures, as high as 72 degrees on the 4th. There was a little more rain too - 1.18 inches - and more windy days. The first day that brought a low temperature in the 20's was November 12.

Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and remember "Turkeys perched in trees and refusing to descend indicate snow."

WEATHER WORD

"Graupel" is snow pellets. The pellets are BB to marble-sized and are heavier and grainier than snowflakes. Graupel usually falls in quick showers and bounces once or twice upon hitting the ground. Thunder and lightning can accompany the showers. Graupel is sometimes called soft hail. Source: Skywatch East by Richard A. Keen



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION UNVEILS BOROUGH FIELD GUIDE

The next knock at your door may very well be a commissioner from the Roosevelt Environmental Commission. The long awaited Field Guide for the Borough of Roosevelt has been completed, and the commission-

ers will be out canvassing the borough to present each household their own free copy.

The Field Guide came about as the result of a grant from the Office of Environmental Services, Department of Environmental Protection. For production of the Field Guide, the REC turned to area graphic artist Fletcher Grayson. His designs and photography were perfectly matched to the text written by Commissioner Wayne Cokely.

The guide will be sent to many other Environmental Commissions, as well as schools, libraries, County and State organizations and the Governor. Additional copies will be made available for purchase at the Post Office on December 17.

I think you'll find that the guide is easy to follow. The borough is broken into different areas: Greenbelts; Swamps;



Fields and Meadows; High and Dry areas (are there any?); and, Lawns and Gardens. In addition to maps, a checklist is contained of Flora and Fauna.

We hope you and your families will use the guide to explore

each of the six sections in the book and enjoy the rich biodiversity that Roosevelt's environment holds. How many plants and animals can your family identify and check off?

In other REC news, the Commission will be putting the final touches on another grant. This project was sponsored by a SBA Tree Planting Grant which gave the borough over \$7,000 to be used for tree plantings. The Commission has hired local Landscaper Mark Roberts to plant five Scarlet Oaks at the Pine/Tamara triangle and plant six White Pines to help screen the wastewater treatment plant. The Commission will be needing volunteers to build berms and plant ground cover. Please watch the bulletin board and come on out! Thanks for your support.



The Litter Pick-Up

By Gayle A. Donnelly

27 adults and 17 children attended our semi-annual litter pick-up on October 30. Because we have consistently kept Roosevelt clean, we have less litter along our roadways. Thanks to our volunteers!

Jonathan Shahn did the T-shirt design which is a drawing of "Varieties of Litter"; you know, beer cans, soda bottles, cigarette butts etc. Lenny and Michelle Guye-Hillis as usual, had a delicious lunch for every one afterwards. Jonathan, Lenny and Michelle thank you for making litter fun!

Kirk Rothfuss had called me prior to our event, to see if we could take garbage that had been dumped in the woods behind his house. Since John Minton, the County Clean Community Coordinator, comes to our event to take our litter away, it was possible to do this.

I know there is a dumping problem on Witches Hollow Road which needs to be addressed with Millstone. If you know of other areas that need cleaning up, please let me know. Funding comes from the NJ Clean Communities Grant.




(PLAN BD. from pg. 3)

tract tuition-paying students from other communities to fill the excess capacity in RPS. It was noted that the tuition payment has proven to be a barrier to this solution in the past. Mr. Hunt also asked if adult education had ever been discussed. Ms. Hunton and Mr. Allen responded that districts usually just break even on their adult education programs.

Mayor Allen said he "would like to see" a review of the historical information pertaining to the number of houses originally planned for Jersey Homesteads. He produced a 1938 zoning plan, which showed future residential areas that would have allowed quite a few houses on the property currently covered by Eleanor Lane development and the Notterman tract, as well as the Green Acres land along Clarksburg Road and the Brown Street extension that was taken over by the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. Although the Green Acres and Wildlife Management acquisitions of the late '60s and early '70s resulted in a safe and beautiful passageway into the Borough from the southeast, they may have prevented Roosevelt from achieving the optimum size envisioned by Jersey Homesteads' planners — in the absence of offsetting development in the northern farmlands.

The Board received a letter from Peter Warren in which he criticized as harmful and misleading the following statements, attributed to a Board member by a local newspaper:

"The town is in a very sad financial state of affairs. There are a number of abandoned houses; there are a number of people behind in their taxes."

Mr. Warren contended that Roosevelt is not in a "sad" state of affairs, and there are "no" abandoned houses in town since "all houses have owners who pay property taxes on them." He added that "few" residents are behind in their taxes. He concluded, "Total tax arrears are about \$108,000 of which all but \$45,000 are for one property, which is a special case." 

By Bess Tremper

Herewith a monthly feature devoted to creating a forum for us all to share humor, anecdotes and items of interest or information with one another.

We'll reserve the right to choose what we print based on appropriateness and length.

We welcome your contributions. Send them along to the Bulletin, P.O. Box 221, BUT be sure to observe our deadline date of the 15th of each month. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

For starters, here is the first piece:

Every morning Devin, my three year old, and I slowly make our way to the post office on a journey that normally takes fifteen minutes but with Devin in tow can take an hour or more. In the "tiny woods", we stop to examine what seems like every leaf and twig or bug that catches his eye. Worms and Daddy Long Legs are his favorites and without hesitation they are often scooped up and jammed into his pockets, surprisingly surviving the journey only to end up quite often on the livingroom rug.

This particular morning was not any different from any other except that instead of lagging behind, I found him running ahead of me, flopping down on his hands and knees to look at whatever little treasure happened to catch his attention. At one point, he dashed under a tall pine, bent down and excitedly called out "Bagels, Bagels!" as he held up what did indeed look like a huge bagel. I reached him just before he could take a bite out of his "bagel" and told him never, never



to eat any thing he found outside - especially bagels. Of course I told him that they were not bagels but something called mushrooms and that they could make him very sick if he ate one. He was disappointed but understood that I was serious, so we settled for breakfast at Rossi's.

By Deirdre Sheean

From An Out-Of-Town Subscriber:

THE PASSING OF TIME

Time is a clock on the wall or, a look-see on a steeple.

An instrument on your wrist, the results apply to all people.

Time must never be taken for granted, we may not last the day.

Can I be any more candid, as the tick-tocks slip away.

Time is very precious for all living things on earth.


We answer to it from the moment of our birth.

Time is gentle so we can extract.

Every last second to be exact.

Time when wasted cannot be retrieved, it must be handled with care.

The passing of time is always believed. Was it not time that put us here?

Sol Axelrod 

Roosevelt Folk Festival

by Robin Middleman and Rod Tulloss

Joyful noise rang out from Borough Hall on Saturday, November 4. The words and sounds of the First Annual Roosevelt Folk Festival were heard by an enthusiastic throng of Rooseveltians and out-of-town visitors. Overflowing onto the floor, the multi-generational audience responded warmly as the musicians played amidst babies, toddlers, scrambling younger kids, sedate and attentive older kids, moms, dads, grandparents, and friends. The self-portrait of Stefan Martin that had recently appeared in the local papers was placed on the piano at the front of the hall and gave the evening's creative explosion an aspect of memorial.

Warren Craig opened with a traditional folk song and followed with some fine compositions of his own. He closed with two versions of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", the first dedicated to that scene-stealing charmer, his son Kyle. The second had new, humorous lyrics commenting on the present baseball strike. Karyn Grunwald sang to her husband Eitan's guitar accompaniment. Her approach is folk classic; and her

voice haunting, in performance of songs that included "Spring Hill Mine Disaster" a vivid song of social protest, and a plaintive Scots-Irish ballad that (what else from the Scots?) painted a portrait of doomed lovers. The level of violence was sufficient so that the Ninja Turtle generation probably didn't know what was happening, but the lovers were definitely wasted by the end.

Judith Trachtenberg, accompanied by David Brahinsky on guitar, sang sensitive interpretations of contemporary folk songs including "When Fall Comes to New England" and a fresh take on a pop standard, Buddy Holly's "Every Day" - the latter with the nostalgic participation of the audience. (In fact, the audience was often seen to be singing along throughout the evening - even picking up on refrains to completely unfamiliar songs.) Judy's voice has a special timbre that she plays upon masterfully to convey emotion whether the song is "first person" or narrative.

David Brahinsky presented a wonderful range of songs, from the funny "Hot Frogs" to a moving interpretation of "My Old Man." "Hot Frogs" - a terrifying and ridiculous tale of escaped frogs ("They're radioactive and looking for fun. You can kiss 'em, but watch out for the tongue.") required audience participation. One half of the room were frogs; the other half, the terrified

populace. Adults and kids grunted and screamed appropriately and with great gusto - ending each refrain with "Hot frogs on the loose!" David closed his solo portion with "Satisfied Mind" another one of the songs that can't be heard often enough. Then Bob Husth, who designed the Folk Fest flyer and (shades of the political season!) matching buttons, joined David for several rousing versions of old favorites.

John Parrott opened his set with an amazing performance of a traditional folk piece on harmonica and high-speed, muted triangle. He moved on to a selection of his own works, including "The Last American Heros" (a somewhat unassuming, but potent song about working parents); "They Want to Be Rich" (the philosophy of a Vietnam Vet elevator operator working in midtown Manhattan); and the wry and lively "Play, Boy, Play" (a piece "spoken" by the drunk who always seems to be in the first row, in places John has played). Since a number of the pieces were unfamiliar to the audience - even to some of John's Folk Festival colleagues - someone asked him if the material were new, and John said that, no, he just had a big store of old words back home. Well, we should have known from the polish of the performance, but had just let ourselves be sucked in by it!

Serendipity brought us Greg and Paul Prestopino to join

(cont. on pg. 20)

Our Children's Voices

By Bess Tremper

The Roosevelt Public School is about to participate in an exciting new Writing Workshop Program, partially funded by a grant from the New Jersey State Council On The Arts.

It will involve workshops with a writer who will meet with the students in grades 3 through 6 for one hour each day for four days to stimulate, encourage and help the students to develop their writing skills.

In cooperation with the school, the Bulletin will publish samples of the students' work each month beginning in our February issue. We look forward to seeing the results of this innovative program.



**Stefan Martin
Memorial
Show & Sale
Dec. 17th (Sat.) 9 - 6
& Dec. 18th (Sun.)
10 - 6
At The RPS Gym**

TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to all the voters who turned out on November 8th. A special "Thank You" to those of you who supported Paul Hoogsteden and me.

I will continue working hard for the next three years with the objective of making Roosevelt more affordable for all of us.

Please try to come to Council meetings on the second Monday of each month and find out for yourself what is going on.

Feel free to contact me at 448-5802 or at the Borough Hall. I welcome your input.

Rose D. Murphy

TO THE EDITOR

On November 8, a majority of those who participated in our municipal election process decided to give me an opportunity to serve you as a member of the Borough Council. I would like to give my sincerest appreciation to those of you who supported me with your vote and especially to those of you who took the time to share their experience and concerns with me during the campaign.

As your representative, I promise that I will work hard for you and do my best to be responsive to your needs and to the needs of the town. I look forward to meeting and working with

all of you as well as the other members of the Borough Council and the Mayor.

Please feel free to share your knowledge, problems and ideas with me in our continued effort to make our town an even better place to live. If you wish to meet with me, I will be available at the next town council meeting on December 12th. Otherwise, please write me at P.O. Box 270 or call me at 448-7358.

Sincerely,
Paul R. Hoogsteden

TO THE EDITOR

I would like to express some of my thoughts in regards to Councilman Peter B. Warren's retirement from public life at the end of the year.

In the stereotypical retirement scenario, a person is usually subjected to a rite of passage with



a gathering of colleagues, the same number of tired old jokes about liberation from the rigors of the workplace, some kind words that may or may not be meant, or even represent the

truth of that situation and a gold watch to mark the passage of time to eternity.

Retiring from public life in Roosevelt is a little different, since for the most part, those involved gladly volunteer to do so and seeing that there are constraints in the expenditure of public funds - depending, of course, on who is doing the spending - gold watches are not the gift of choice, but involves a far simpler expression of gratitude, in the form of an inscribed plaque, featuring the rather dated Blue Eagle of the New Deal's National Recovery Administration.

When Mayor Leon Barth retired in 1991, after years of service to the community at the end of serving a term he did not seek, he received such a plaque and the few kind words as described above.

When Howard Prezant similarly retired from the Council in 1993, after years of devotion to the welfare of this community, he also received a com-

memorative plaque, that, in this instance, had not even been planned for or authorized by the Administration or the Council.

Councilman Peter B. Warren saw to it - unilaterally - that such a minor gesture not be neglected and he was inappropriately castigated by the Administration for an expenditure of sixty-five dollars of public funds to that end, at a time, oddly enough, when the Mayor and two Council members had just spent over \$1,800 for a dog and pony show in Atlantic City.

Now that he himself has volunteered to retire from the arena and devote himself to private pursuits, it is doubtful that he will experience anything resembling the procedure described above, for after the Administration's demands - through the local Democratic leadership - for his abject resignation from the Council last year, it would be the height of hypocrisy on their part to offer - at this juncture - any recognition for the services he has performed.

The truth of the matter is, that this Administration is perfectly happy with this list of retirees, since they are three gentlemen, who, prizing principle over expediency, constituted an irritant within the dynamics of the "New Breed", whose main

claim to fame is that they are not disposed to tolerate dissension in the ranks of either the elected or the electorate. (Please read, "From the Mayor" in the November Borough Bulletin carefully and look for the dualism that it represents.)

If Peter Warren - as with Howard Prezant - was at odds with the Administration during his term on the Council, it is simply because he is an honest man who felt compelled to tell the truth in regards to actions and policies that were not mindful of the accepted rules of democratic government. Unfortunately, like a cry in the wilderness, that sort of thing does not win any popularity contests - at least, not in Roosevelt - and it is doubtful that anyone else will have the guts to follow in his footsteps.

The way things work in this Administration, is that every effort is made to disparage and to isolate anyone who does not toe the party-line, to control access to contractors and the news media, or to any relevant information that everyone, be it Council member or taxpayer, has every right to have. The Chief Financial Officer, the Tax and the Water/Sewer Fee collectors, for instance, have been instructed not to release any data except at the Mayor's discretion.

What Peter Warren always fought against, was the closed government that exists and the many backroom activities that are never exposed to scrutiny

at so-called public Council Meetings. What no one has ever done, is to refute the truth of his many allegations - preferring to stonewall his or any one else's questions - and impugning his character or veracity with nothing more than general and somewhat hysterical accusations of not being a team player.

The things that Peter Warren has been concerned with, have produced positive good for the community. He has consistently reached out to people as no one else has, persuading some to become involved to serve on committees, making it a point to greet newcomers, pushing for voter registration and contested elections with both political parties represented. For a Democrat in a political party that has had a lock on this place since the beginning of time, such bi-partisan activities are beyond the orthodox pale.

Peter Warren's latest achievement - when no one else seemed to give a damn that the elderly people of Solar Village were in jeopardy - was to act as the prime mover in getting the Senior Citizens Housing Corporation back on the road to solvency, after it had been decimated by the fraudulent activities of the management firm in charge of that operation. He accomplished that by persuading all of the parties - the Corporation Board of Trustees, the Senior Citizens, FmHA and other interested Rooseveltians - to meet and take the necessary steps to

resolve the situation.

After months of consistent effort, all the goals have been met. A new management firm is in charge and doing an honest job, the Corporation's finances are improving and our senior citizens - residents of Roosevelt - are again secure in the knowledge that they will not be thrown to the wolves. Just as important, Peter Warren's efforts resulted in obtaining additional funds from FmHA to satisfy the \$68,000 due in delinquent taxes and water/sewer fees, funds that the municipality was unlikely to recover by other means.

On a personal note, during a fairly long and eventful life, it has been my privilege to know some exceptional people, the few among the thousands that I have met in this world. Peter Warren, a friend I hold in the highest esteem, is one of them. As much as I would prefer to do so, I can not say that it is possible for me to feel the same way about others presently on the scene, particularly those who presume to be our leaders, for if I did express such sentiments, I would be lying through my teeth.

Gilbert C. de Malvilain

TO THE EDITOR

TO REPEAT, all good things must come to an end; and, by December 31st, I am turning

over these pleasant chores to Whom It May Concern.

Item: The column I have written in the Bulletin since the summer of 1990 under the heading of Omnia Mutantur... also notices to the Bulletin Board;

Item: Welcoming newcomers and registering them to vote, which I have done for the past six or seven years;

Item: Updating the names and addresses in the Roosevelt Phone Book, which I have done for the past six or seven years;

Item: Maintaining press relations with the Asbury Park Press and Messenger Press, which I have done for the past four years;

Item: Keeping a clipping file for the Roosevelt Archives, which I have done for the past four years;

Item: Updating a directory of Roosevelt official and unofficial organizations, which I have done annually from time to time.

Any takers?

Peter Warren


Note: Margaret Schlinski has agreed to take over the Omnia Mutantur / Et Nos Illis column.

The RPS has agreed to take over the production of the Roosevelt Phone Book.



(FOLK FESTIVAL from pg. 17)

Ron Orlando in the closing set. With only brief rehearsal (there were several whispered conversations about the key of a song, and an occasional song list hitting the floor) these master musicians connected splendidly on songs that included "Angel From Montgomery," "Old Hippie," and Ron's tribute to Elvis. Of course, these fellows are masters of "just come in when you're ready." The delighted audience asked for and got an encore. If you haven't ever heard "Dear Abby," you've missed a profound psycho-social commentary on "do something ill-advised, lay the blame and complain" fellow citizens delivered in the form of letters to Abby accompanied by a standard response/refrain: "Dear Just-Married, you've got no complain./ You are what you are, and you ain't what you ain't./ So listen up, buddy, and listen up good./ Stop wishing for bad luck and knocking on wood."

Hats off to all of the marvelous musicians who gave us this great evening of folk music. Rest assured, music fans! The Roosevelt Arts Project will present the Folk Festival again next year - with a minor adjustment in staging (a better-timed intermission). 

Roosevelt Arts Project 1994-1995 Season

The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 1994-1995 calendar of events, featuring the premiere of a transformed play by Neil Selden, a group show by Roosevelt visual artists and the return of your favorite musicians and poets.

At all events we ask only for a suggested contribution of \$5.00, only \$3.00 for students and seniors. Mark your calendars and watch for our brochure and the Bulletin for additional details.

- Saturday December 10, 1994 at 8:00 p.m.**
Poetry and Music - Borough Hall

- Saturday January 28, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.**
Laurie Altman - Jazz - Peddie School

- Saturday February 11, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.**
Piano Fest IV - Borough Hall

- Saturday March 11, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.**
Car, A Play By Neil Selden - Borough Hall

- Saturday April 8, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.**
Roosevelt String Band, In Concert
Peddie School

- Saturday May 7, 1995 at 3:00 p.m.**
Art At The Factory II
Roosevelt Factory Hall

During January, Josette Altman's work will be on display at the Peddie School's Swig Art Gallery. Also, at each event which takes place in the Borough Hall, you will be able to view the works of our local visual artists.

We hope to see all of you at these exciting new performances and exhibits. For additional information, call David Herrstrom, RAP President at 609-443-4421 or any of the RAP trustees or artists.

The work of the Roosevelt Arts Project is made possible in part by your support and a generous grant from the Herman Goldman Foundation.

Et Nos in Illis... And We Change Too!

By Peter Warren


Note to the reader: I wrote the first column in this series in the June 1990 Bulletin: herewith my final column.

New Kids on the Block: Connor Burns Schlegel; Michael McCord; Nicholas Antoniou, age 3. **Married:** No one. **Moving Out:** No one. **Moving In:** Alex & Renee Antoniou, to the Buck house on Lake Drive. **Switching:** Lyn & Leon Lawson to 31 Pine Drive. **Return of the Native:** Tanya & Chris Martin. **On the Market:** As of November 15, 20 houses and one lot advertised for sale. **On Safari:** Walt & Donna Suk to Illinois to Chris' graduation from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center; the Friedmans and Nahmias' to Puerto Rico; Allan Newrath to Evergreen, Colorado; Ben List to La Paz, Bolivia. **Voting Statistics:** Roosevelt adults (actual, not County figures) 599: Democrats 54%; Undeclared 27%; Republicans 11%; not registered 6%; foreign 2%; voted in November election 68%. **Election Memories:** November 1970: registered 434; voting 307; elected Esther Pogrebin Schlieffer (D-196) and Richard Schmalzbach (R-133). **Published:** By Monmouth College Professor Saliba Sarsar, former Roosevelt resident, *Ideology*,

values and Technology in Political Life.

Awarded: To Rod Tulloss, Margaret Lewis/Ruth Leven Research Prize, by the Boston Mycological Club; John Rindt III, age 9, took 2nd place in State wide for sparring and 6th place State wide for form in a AAU Karate Tournament in Pequannock, NJ on November 6. **Exhibition:** Bernard Bryson Shahn continues to be honored. This time her alma mater, from whom she received an honorary degree last year, Ohio University, has exhibited her paintings and

prints from Oct. 21 to Nov. 18 in the Trisolini Gallery of their School of Art. **First:** In class of 2,221 at Trenton State, English Lit major Rebecca Reuter. **Oboist:** Bob Cayne in Shore Pro Musica performance of Saint-Saens' 3rd Symphony. **Talent Show:** Participant at Georgian Court College, Chrissy Drapala. **Junior Olympics:** Sam Parker, age 12, one of 50 out of 3,000 picked for luge finals at Lake Placid. **Special Olympics:** Joel Ortiz, age 10, participating in artistic gym-

nastics in World Games. **Name Changes:** In Roosevelt Phone Book since January 1993 edition, 120. **Street Improvements:** Since 1991, 10,148 linear feet on Brown Street; Eleanor Drive; Elm Court; Lake Drive, Nurko Road, Tamara Drive, costing approximately \$800,000, mostly grant financed. **Flowing:** October, sewerage 138,596 gpd; (DEP ceiling 25,000 gpd), water 107,677 gpd (conservation goal 90,000 gpd). 

Senior Citizen News

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Thelma Thompson chaired this meeting in Jeanette Koffler's absence.

Jean Ryan explained the functions involved in MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) membership and clubs. They are dedicated to educating people about the dangers of drinking while driving.

Much of the meeting was about plans for trips, especially our annual holiday show and dinner. Jeanette will take care of arrangements.

Everyone agreed that we had a great day at Rova Farms and the lunch was very good. They will be seeing us again soon.

Faye Libove is in Princeton Hospital. Our wishes for a complete recovery are with her. Manny Koffler has also been ill. Hope they'll be back with us soon. We miss them.

There are a few changes in the procedures the club has followed and thanks to members from the Solar Village who provide much help to us in so many ways.

Jeanette and Manny, the Nottermans, Ted and Esther Marton along with their families went to Florida recently to help their stepfather celebrate his birthday. He lives close to previous residents of Roosevelt so it was a pleasure to hear about them.

'til next time.

Solar Village Update

By Jean Ryan

December, 1994 marks the end of a difficult year for Solar Village, and the beginning of a new year of re-birth and re-conditioning.


Last spring, The Board of Directors was paralyzed by the shock of discovery that we had been deceived and manipulated into debt and near bankruptcy. A large sum of money in taxes, water and sewer fees was overdue, projects to improve the buildings were started and not finished. In general, buildings in need of repair and services remained at a standstill.

Under the guidance of Larry Suydam of Farmers Home Administration, the members of the board were off and running, with Peter Warren leading the pack. He revived the original concept of a "Roosevelt Village for the Elderly" Corporation, with thirty-five members. Old members were contacted, and new members to supplement the membership not available.

Solar Village was the center of activity with people checking the conditions of windows and roofs. Landscape experts, local and state officials and inspectors everywhere. Peter Warren was using the phone to seek help and advice from far and wide.

Every member of the board was busy without exception. Weekly meetings were attended by many of the town experts in various fields; volunteering their expertise, knowledge and support. Peter even found four volunteers to mow the lawns after three weeks of neglect; and, the bright yellow safety strips on the resident steps testify to Peter's artistic ability. Now Solar Village is under new management and already new windows have been installed to replace the ones that had rotted out.

Starting with very little funds, it will take time to catch up with all the problems that were allowed to develop; so, we are practicing patience and understanding.

The tenants are thankful for all the help and cooperation of the people who were so ready to assist. We are glad our debts are paid to the Borough of Roosevelt, and look forward to a happier 1995. 





**Recycling
Dates to
Remember**

November 2, 16, 30

December 14 & 28

January 11 & 25

**Roosevelt
Community**

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Tuesday, 6-6:30 PM,

o n

Storer Cable

Channel

8



**Stefan
Martin
Memorial**

At the urging of Bernarda Shahn, plans are underway for the establishment of a memorial to recognize the talent and work of lifetime resident Stefan Martin. In answer, many people in the area have offered donations. An account at a local bank is being opened by Art Shapiro who will serve as interim treasurer. Anyone wanting to either contribute or become part of the committee to determine the type of memorial to be developed please call Art at 443-3575 or Bernarda at 448-0440. We welcome input from anyone.



Did you know that the Bulletin is sent to our government officials including the President, Senators and Representatives, both State and Federal? It also goes to area newspapers.



REMEMBER! In keeping with our customary practice, there will be no January Bulletin. The next Bulletin will come out at the beginning of February, '95.

BE A GOOD CITIZEN!

ATTEND BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.

The deadline for submissions of material to the Bulletin is the 15th of the month, except for prior arrangement with the editor.

Please send all articles and letters in clean typescript or as MAC or PC files on 3 1/2 inch diskettes to: **The Bulletin, P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555**

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The Bulletin publishes free of charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax deductible (suggested: \$40.00/year, \$5.00/issue.) Deadline is the 15th.

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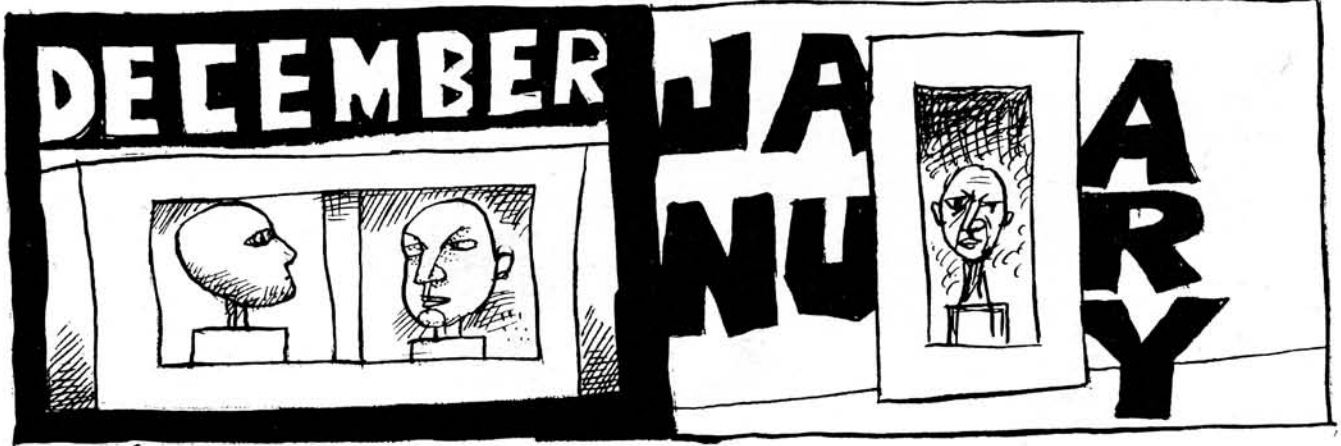
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D e c e m b e r

thur 1 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Agenda Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 5 7:30 PM Council Agenda Mtg.

tue 6 1 PM Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall
2 PM Roosevelt Senior Citizens Mtg.-Jeanette Koffler, 448-2259
6 PM Roosevelt Comm. T.V.
7:30 PM First Aid Squad- Michael Stiles, Pres. 426-4185

wed 7 7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue-Deborah Metzger, 443-3759

8 PM Environmental Comm.- Jim Carnevale, Pres. 426-1728

sat 10 8 PM RAP Program-Poetry & Music- Boro Hall
6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch. 8

mon 12 7:30 PM Council Action Mtg.

tue 13 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

wed 14 ♻️ Recycle
8 PM Planning Board Mtg.-Gail Hunton, Chair-426-4338

thur 15 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Action Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 19 7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

8 PM Synagogue Board Mtg., Michael Ticktin, 448-03636-

tue 20 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

wed 21 7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

sun 25 Christmas Day

mon 26 7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

tue 27 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8
7:30 PM-NJ Homestead Historical Advisory Comm-Art Shapiro- 443-3575

wed 28 ♻️ Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

J a n u a r y

sun 1 New Years Day
Borough Hall Open House

mon 2 7:30 PM Council Agenda Mtg.

tue 3 1 PM Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall
2 PM Roosevelt Senior Citizens Mtg.-Jeanette Koffler, 448-2259
6 PM Roosevelt Comm. T.V.
7:30 PM First Aid Squad- Michael Stiles, Pres. 426-4185

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8 PM Environmental Comm.- Jim Carnevale, Pres. 426-1728

thur 5 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Agenda Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 9 7:30 PM Council Action Mtg.

tue 10 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV

wed 11 ♻️ Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class

8 PM Planning Board Mtg.-Gail Hunton, Chair-426-4338

mon 16 7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

8 PM Synagogue Board Mtg., Michael Ticktin, 448-03636-

tue 17 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

wed 18 7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

thur 19 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Action Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 23 7 PM Roosevelt Nursery School-Boro Hall
7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

tue 24 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV

wed 25 ♻️ Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

sat 28 8 PM RAP Program-Laurie Altman, Jazz-Peddie School

tue 31 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8
7:30 PM-NJ Homestead Historical Advisory Comm-Art Shapiro- 443-3575

All meetings and events will be held at the Borough Hall unless otherwise noted.

Mayor Lee Allen presides at all council mtgs. and can be reached at 448-6978.

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