

bulletin

Roosevelt Borough



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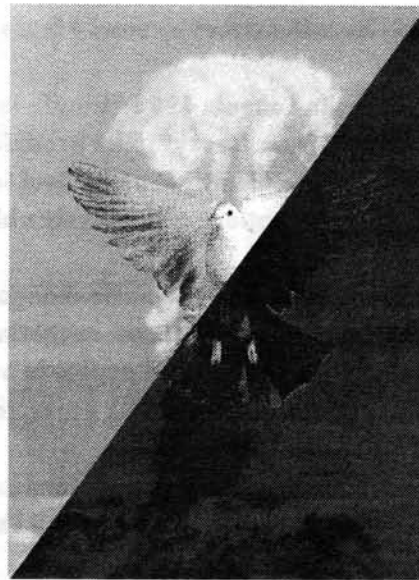
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Borough Council Report *by Herb Johnson*

Tax Increase Discussed Various Suggestions Offered

On August 8, eleven Roosevelt residents spoke at the Borough Council's first meeting since property owners received notice of great tax increases. Some complained; some raised questions or made suggestions; some did all. After over an hour's discussion, Margaret Schlinski exclaimed "This was the best council meeting I have ever attended." Council members present were Rose Murphy, Nestor Sabogal, David Donnelly and Peter Warren. Absent were Stuart Kaufman and George Vasseur. In other matters it was reported that residents hired to work for the summer under Roosevelt's full time public works employee Ed Davis' supervision were doing exceptionally well. Their wages are

funded by a county grant of Federal Youth Employment Funds. Peter Warren reported that the Newark Museum will bring a tour to Roosevelt in October and another group is arranging a November tour here. In the public portion of the meeting, Dan Ward



See Hiroshima Day Poems On Page 10

called for big reductions in taxes. He said he made improvements and put an addition on his home and now the large property tax increase is making it doubtful that he can make his payments. He asked why the school tax levy jumped so much this year and why the municipal tax levy jumped so much last years. He has two children who will soon start school and he wants a local school for Roosevelt's young students, but he questioned whether or not a separate school district is needed and if the State would pay for

(cont. on pg. 6)

From the Editors

This issue marks the first of the 1994-95 editions of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin and we look forward to giving our readers a continuing lively, interesting and informative publication which they will look forward to receiving at the beginning of each of the nine monthly editions when it appears. (We omit August, September and January.)

Along with the generous contributions some of you have sent us, some have told us how they feel about The Bulletin. For the most part, we have achieved very good marks. In answer to what is liked best, the three most frequent responses are:

- It keeps us informed about the town.
- Like the new format
- Rebecca Reuter's food column

We are hopeful that those who have been preoccupied with summer activities, as well as the unusual hot weather, will now remember that it is only through the financial support of the community that our paper can exist. We need your financial help and also, we want to know "how we're doing?"

Please let us hear from you.

Notices

By Peter Warren

- ☞ **October 11 is Voter Registration Deadline: Borough Hall open until 9 p.m.**
- ☞ **New Year's Day Get Together. As usual, the Borough Hall will have its annual Open House, on Saturday afternoon, January 7, 1995, from 2-4 p.m. so that newcomers and older residents can get acquainted 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 by now. 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.**
- ☞ **Preparation of the 1995 Roosevelt Phone Book, with over 100 name changes from the 1994 edition, will require an editor and staff (advertising, layout and marketing). Please offer your services to the Bulletin so that the new phone book will appear in early 1995.**
- ☞ **In mid-September, JCP & L contracted, before winter storms wreak havoc, for removal of tree branches which might interfere with power and phone lines.**
- ☞ **Applications are being sought for the position of Roosevelt superintendent of public works. If you are interested in either full or part-time position, please ask the Borough Clerk for a job description and application form**
- ☞ **If we haven't mentioned it before, the speed limit in Roosevelt is 25 MPH.**

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"Plan for Pungency" and Calender Art By Jonathan Shahn. Photos and other artwork by Fletcher Grayson.

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Planning Board News *By Bob Clark***Planned Community Development For Northern Area Proposed
Alan Mallach To Serve As Planning Consultant**

Development pressures and the Council's introduction of a measure to abolish the Borough's much praised Planned Community Development (PCD) ordinance governing the Notterman tract have prompted the Planning Board to accelerate long pending plans to guide development of the Borough's northern farmlands. The Council withdrew its proposal, but Mayor Lee Allen elaborated on the reasons for its introduction at the September 21 Planning Board meeting.

In a September 19 letter to the Board, the Mayor expressed the desire to enact a more comprehensive ordinance "which will address all of the remaining undeveloped land within the Borough" - northern farmlands, as well as the Notterman tract, which lies south of Eleanor Lane and east of North Valley Road. In the letter and the September 21 discussion, he questioned the wisdom of planning in reliance on school capacity that might change with regionalization. He also urged a reassessment of "the current apportionment" of possible new houses to "equitably" allocate them between the northern lands and the Notterman tract. Lastly, he claimed the current PCD ordinance "places the entire burden of utility planning onto the shoulders of the developer" and called for "planning by local officials in the delivery of water and sewerage services".

Several Board members and speakers during the public portion of the meeting defended the wisdom of the existing PCD ordinance, which became law in 1988 after lengthy input from concerned residents and design and planning professionals. Board Chairwoman Gail Hunton said years of consideration of appropriate development for the northern lands was about to culminate in draft amendments to the PCD ordinance being prepared by Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin, a member of the Planning Board. She urged the Mayor and Council to allow that process to go forward. Mayor Allen said, "The goal I have set for the Council is to try to enact something by the end of the year."

Referring to possible regionalization of the school district, Board member David Leff said Mayor Allen was "suggesting we make plans based on something that may or may not exist" in the future. Noting that a School Board regionalization study is expected soon, Planning Board and School Board member Harry Parker predicted that regionalization probably will not occur within the next five years because of the present requirement that all participating districts consent to regionalization. Mr. Ticktin added that even with regionalization, school capacity would continue to constrain development because residents would probably not want to participate in regionalization unless they received assurances that all K-6 students in town could attend Roosevelt Public School.

Mr. Ticktin suggested calculations to determine "allowable average density" in two proposed new PCD districts - one for the northwest farmlands west of Route 571 and one for the northeast farmlands east of Route 571. His draft calculations led him to conclude that for single family development the proposed northern districts should be allowed no more than one dwelling unit

(cont. on pg. 14)

Fall Litter Pick-Up Scheduled

By Gail Donnelly

Join us for Roosevelt's semi-annual litter pick-up. We will meet on Sunday, October 30, at 10:00 in front of the Post Office. Bags and gloves will be provided. T-shirts designed by Jonathan Shahn will be given away and lunch will be at Lenny and Michelle Guye-Hillis' after the pick-up.

The litter pick-up is sponsored by the Roosevelt Environmental Commission with funds coming from the NJ Clean Communities Grant. Last April we collected 1,000 pounds of trash from our road sides.



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 ASCII files on 3 1/2 inch diskettes to: The Bulletin, P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

PTA News By Alison Edwards Petrilla

For RPS students, school was still a cloud on the horizon, but back on September 2, PTA parents had already sprung into action for the year. On that date, the group hosted a welcome back luncheon for the school staff, featuring delicious homemade contributions from our expert cooks.

The official opening of school six days later saw more PTA action as the group welcomed incoming students with token gifts of new folders and pencils. Then our annual fall fundraiser kicked off on September 16, a 3 week sale of a wide assortment of window cling-on decorations, gift wrap, cards and candies from Kastle Kreations. Kim Grasso and Vinnie Jackson chaired this activity.

Our new officers were on hand on September 21 to host the first regular PTA meeting of the school year, the annual Membership Tea. President Vinnie Jackson, Vice President Kathy Vasseur, Treasurer Dianna More and Secretary Nancy Hamilton welcomed back both experienced PTAers and new recruits, reminding the troops that meetings are now scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Parents who couldn't make it to the meeting can rest assured that membership remains open all year, so please contact Vinnie Jackson if you wish to join (426-0311). The group then rounded off the month's activities by providing refreshments for Back to School Night on September 26.

October promises to be equally busy. The regular meeting is set for the 5th, then Chair Terri Skye and her army of talented cooks will host the Second Annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser on Sunday, October 16, from 4-7 p.m. at the Borough Hall. The committee has already announced its intention to seat and satisfy all comers this year, and advance orders would be much appreciated. Further information will be posted on the Bulletin Board, and flyers will be distributed townwide. Meanwhile, set aside the 16th for this memorable treat!

Just three days after that, PTA members will be back at RPS helping out on School Picture Day. More information again will be made available as the 19th nears, but our current plan is to include a Family Portrait session in the evening if enough families express an interest in this.

Filling out the October calendar will be the annual Scholastic Book Fair. To be held during school hours on October 26 and 27, and also from 6:30 - 8 p.m. on the 27th only. The Fair offers RPS children and any other book loving Rooseveltians the chance to buy and browse among the year's newest children's books.

Thanks, this issue, go to that dedicated team of cooks and helpers who made the Teachers' Luncheon so successful: Evelyn Edelstein, Kim Grasso, Nancy Hamilton, Shelly Hatzfeld, Vinnie Jackson, Dianna Moore, Kim Rindt, Diane Rocchia, Colleen Rossi, Mary Anne Sabogal, and Kathy Vasseur. You were wonderful!



Nursery School News



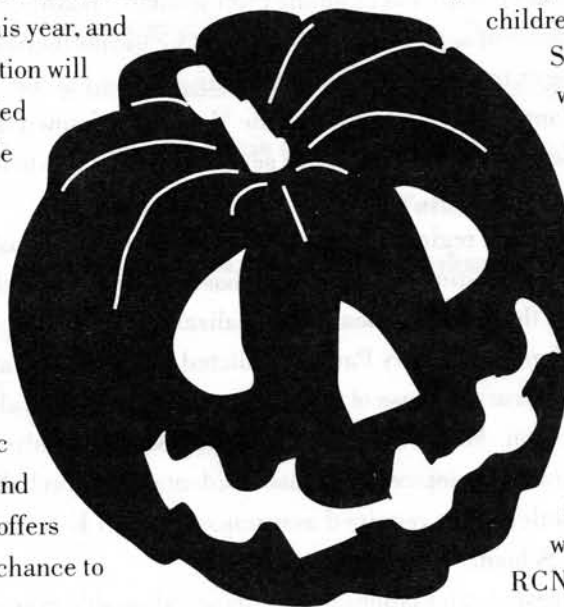
By Sandy Wolk

School is back in session. I've been listening to many wonderful stories about summer vacations. I enjoyed mine - swimming, playing, and spending time with my own children.

September came and went very quickly.

We got to know our many new classmates, got reacquainted with old friends and also became familiar with our re-organized surroundings. Our students were all welcomed into the

RCNS family as their pictures were hung on the RCNS family tree bulletin board. We've had fun playing in our special learning centers: Arts and crafts, Kitchen




and Housekeeping, Toys and Blocks, Legos and Puzzles. Tears of apprehension became smiles of joy as the days went on.

Our September and October curriculum focuses on learning about ourselves: our birthdays, telephone numbers and parts of our bodies. We have also been practicing new songs that we will sing throughout the year.

We made Apple prints and "A" books to reinforce our letter for September. We made puzzles to help us learn the numbers 1 and 2. We had fun making our circle collages and traffic lights with green, yellow and circles.

Our letters for October are F and H. Our friendly neighborhood fireman will teach us about fire safety and bring a fire truck for the class to see up close. The fall season will be welcomed by making leaf bracelets and a squirrel and nut project. We will celebrate Halloween in lots of "spooktacular" ways. We will march in a parade wearing costumes made by the children. We will hopefully have many happy faces on our pumpkins and ghosts. We will also take a trip to a pumpkin patch and enjoy a hayride and puppet show.

We hope you all have a safe and happy Halloween and happy haunting everyone! 

Yoga Classes To Resume

By Deborah Metzger

Need a Little Balance in Your Life? - Try Yoga!

What happened to those lazy days of summer? Is there something that happens to you after Labor Day - more commitments, less time for yourself, less hours in the day? Yoga might be just what you're looking for to bring some balance back into your life.

It's becoming apparent that

there is more to yoga than performing a number of exercises slowly. Dr. Dean Ornish has demonstrated that lifestyle changes, including a yoga oriented program, can actually reverse the symptoms of heart disease within 12 months. Kharim Abdul Jhabbar credits yoga for extending his basketball career well beyond the age when most such athletes retire. Even Jane Fonda has recently released a yoga video!

Did you know that there is a weekly yoga class held right here in town? Yup, you don't even have to get into your car and drive for 1/2 hour, or wrestle household members for the use of the video and quiet floor space. It's held at the Synagogue on Wednesday nights.

What is yoga?

Yoga is a scientific, time tested 6,000 year old system of self improvement. You might say its the longest lasting exercise fad! The word yoga comes from the Sanskrit root "yug" which means to join together. There are several different forms of yoga which offer different paths of achieving the same goal - each suited for different personalities or life stages. Hatha Yoga (or the yoga of physical well-being) is the way most Westerners are introduced to yoga.

"Ha" is the sun and "tha" is the moon. In other words, yoga is a way of joining together and reintegrating op-

(cont. on pg. 12)

Board of Education News

By Joann San Nicola

The regular meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education was called to order on Thursday, September 22nd at 7:46 P.M. by President Mike Hamilton. Board members Conover and Hatzfeld were not present. Dr. Lobman, the outgoing CSA, and Walter Landgraf, the new Board secretary, were also present. The Board then went into closed session at 7:55 and were still in closed session when this reporter left at 9:00.

Since I could not be present during a closed session, I will give a brief rundown on the printed agenda.

The Board discussed and voted on the policies of public participation, evaluation of individual performance, research, evaluation and school level planning.

There was to be a discussion and update on interim and CSA searches. Mr. John Barron of Lakewood had been asked by the Board to attend as a candidate for said position.

A discussion and vote was taken regarding the appointment of Ms. Ilene Levine as the school's administrative assistant, responsible for assuming the administrative responsibilities to the school in the absence of the CSA and to serve as the school's Affirmative Action Compliance Office. For these services Ms. Levine would receive a stipend.

A vote was taken to approve the addition of Joanne Didato and Donna Rossi to the substitute list for the current school year.

Updates on the building project were given, along with a report on the regionalization feasibility study. I hope to give you a much more complete report in the next publication.



(COUNCIL cont. from pg. 1) school improvements which the State mandates.

Mayor Allen explained that the addition and other modifications to the school were necessary to meet State requirements for a room for every grade, for a certain size library, and for other student activities. The school board had been denied a "cap waiver" last year and could not get enough funds from taxes or the State to cover expenses. This year the cap waiver and the school budget were approved. As a result, the tax levy was increased enough to make up for the deficit, which was even more than expected because the State did not increase its state aid portion from the previous year.

Mr. Ward and others kept probing, appealing and making suggestions. Assessor and Planning Board member Michael Ticktin explained the relationship between high taxes and the need for enough new homes to fill the school. The Mayor had said "We have room for 50 more students in our K-6 school."

David Lust called for another study of school use and alternatives because the "town has changed since the study of six years ago."

Mary Alfare pointed out that a big factor in the school tax increase was East Windsor's

\$2,000 per student increase in tuition for our seventh and eighth grade students. She proposed that everyone get more people to write appeals and complaints to Governor Whitman and our legislators. (Their addresses are posted on the bulletin board by the post office.) Mr. Ward said he wrote and his responses were, "Go to your Borough Council".

Ms. Schlinski called for "radical action" such as building public sentiment for all families to say they do not need the school; they will "home educate" their children. She praised our school as "exceptionally superb" and said

it attracts young families and good teachers to Roosevelt. (She served as a member of the School Board until last year.)

Paul Hoogsteden had a long list of questions he had written for this meeting. Among other things, he asked whether savings were possible by school regionalization; whether next year's school taxes were expected to increase; and, whether any developers are trying to buy building sites in Roosevelt.

From conversations with Millstone's mayor, Mayor Allen had doubts that Millstone would want to regionalize with Roosevelt, or pay tuition for

their students to attend our school, even though their schools are overcrowded. Mr. Ticktin said that we should await the results of the regionalization study that is due out in October.

Next year's school tax levy will probably be slightly higher, the mayor guessed. Most teachers advance a step on their salary guide. The Borough Council froze all salaries of employees except for one because of extra working hours.

Sol Libsohn commented about the prospect of building new houses in Roosevelt, "Extra houses don't always mean lower taxes." He called

Zoning Amendment Withdrawn After Protest

By Michael Ticktin

The most notable occurrence at the September 12th meeting of the Borough Council was something that never actually happened.

Included in the agenda, under "New Business", was the proposed introduction of an ordinance to repeal Ordinance 97-14. This is the ordinance, drafted by Alan Mallach when he was Planning Board Chairman, and adopted in 1988 that allows "planned community development" as a conditional use in the "Notterman tract" between North Valley Road and the cemetery. Under the conditional use, 54 homes can be built; without it, only 10 or 11.

At the August Planning Board meeting, Mayor Lee Allen expressed what he said was a belief current in the community and among Council members that the Nottermans had no intention of developing the property and that the focus of development planning should therefore be shifted to the northern part of the Borough, where the D'Amico and Nurko families had expressed an interest in building. When they learned of this statement, the owners of the property, Dan and Abby Notterman, wrote to the Council saying that they were indeed actively seeking an interested developer.

Despite the Nottermans' letter, the proposal to rescind the conditional use zoning of their property was placed on the agenda. The Nottermans appeared at the meeting to protest the proposed change and to argue for the reasonableness of Ordinance 97-14. They also had their attorney advise the Council that any repeal of the ordinance would be challenged in court.

Planning Board members Bert Ellentuck, Gail Hunton and Michael Ticktin also protest-

for the Council to get other communities with problems similar to Roosevelt's to join us in protests and appeals.

Mayor Allen explained another way borough officials are trying to reduce taxes. "We've appealed to Senator Lautenberg to revise the Federal Clean Water Act guides because the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, DEPA, has Roosevelt under a ban against adding any homes to the sewerage system. There is still too much infiltration of ground water into the sewer lines."

Mr. Lust asked if the borough requested the state budget planning assistance

promised by the Governor. Answer: "The school board requested the state's aid in planning."

Bess Tremper proposed that the Council call a community meeting about these problems, to which Governor Whitman, State legislators, State education officials and our School Board, as well as townspeople, would be invited. Leonard Sacharoff and Mr. Ward expressed strong support for that idea.

Mr. Hoogsteden deplored waiting for State officials to help. He called for the Council to accelerate finding alternatives to reduce taxes, and to

organize letter writing campaigns in which copies of all letters are sent to the council. Hand delivery of a box full of letters would increase the effectiveness of visits by Roosevelt's delegates to officials in Trenton and to our U.S. Senators and Representatives.

The Council adopted a resolution endorsing a proposal to increase, by 5% a year for four years, from 68% to 88%, the amount of public utility tax revenues dedicated to municipalities to offset property taxes.

Payments approved included \$2405 for an emergency repair to the water main by 25

Tamara Drive; \$4861 repairing water main leaks by 35 Homestead Lane; and \$8800 for curbs on Tamara Drive.

In other business, the Council authorized setting up an escrow account to pay for replacement of a water line on the Borough's right-of-way, to be funded by the tenants at 11 Tamara Drive, by a contract drawn up by Borough Attorney John Ross, and the Borough's Utility Committee. Even though the flow at the property meets the normal standard, the tenants offered to pay for replacing the line from the water main so they could have better volume when more than one spigot is opened.

Administration Committee Chairman, Nestor Sabogal said the policy on sick leave and half days being permissible is unclear. Deputy Borough Clerk, Nancy Warnick assisted the Council by clarifying the employees' situations. The committee agreed to improve the policy. This prompted Mayor Allen to congratulate Rose Murphy for her work, in the previous year, in developing a new policy on vacation leave. That policy, the Mayor said, is being called a model of effective vacation policy by local governing bodies in New Jersey.



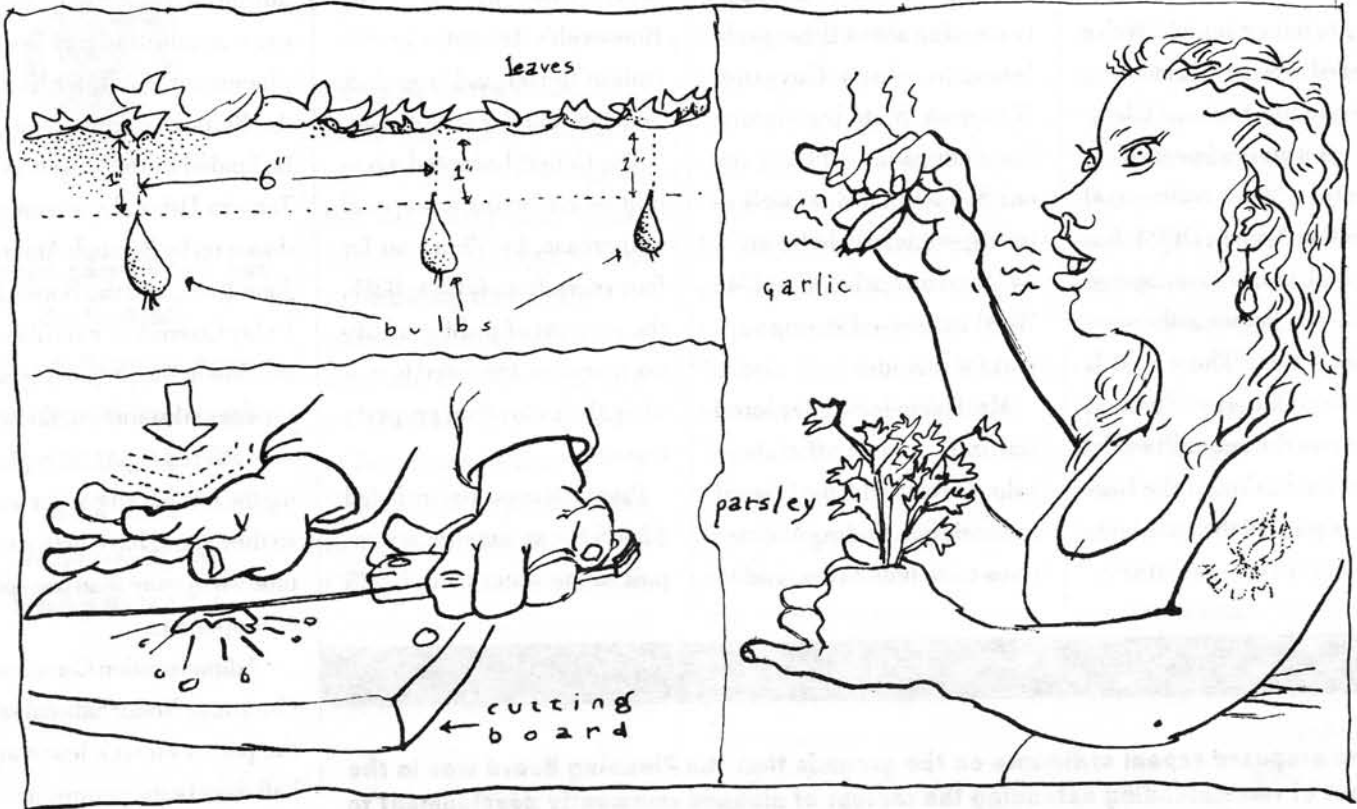
ed the proposed repeal ordinance on the grounds that the Planning Board was in the process of recommending extending the concept of planned community development to the northern agricultural area and that this was inconsistent with repeal of the existing ordinance, that the Planning Board had not been consulted prior to this action and that, as Mr. Ellentuck suggested, there appeared to be some reason for this proposal being made at this time that was not being stated.

Mayor Allen responded by saying that it was his intention that introduction of the repeal ordinance would get the Planning Board to move more quickly. The Planning Board members replied that the Board, of which the Mayor is also a member, is already dealing with the issue and had no reason to be rushed. Mayor Allen also stated that he wanted a "level playing field" in which building would be done at the same acres per unit density in both the northern area and the "Notterman tract".

The end result was that Mayor Allen asked that the proposal be tabled. The Council, however, voted that it be withdrawn.

In other news the Council announced the resignation of Borough Public Works Employee Ed Davis. Applications to fill the position are now being taken. Also, Teri Nachtman and Joan San Nikola reported on the efforts of the Citizens Action Committee to get the Governor and our legislators to take an interest in our property tax problem. Thus far, the only response from the legislators were simply refusing to acknowledge that the reduction in the State income tax, a high priority of the Whitman administration, has reduced the revenue available for aid to municipalities and school districts and that much of our local tax burden is due to State mandates.

Plan for Pungency



There is something in the air of October, in the dew-brewing nip of cool nights, that makes me giddy. It is my favorite month. Leaves, crops, vines and weeds drop off and draw back from the landscape to reveal the hump of the hills and the sheared-fur backs of the fields huddled up to the woods' edge. We who grow gardens have a chance to clean the slate again. All that outgrew us, the weeds and the wild tomatoes, and all that spent the summer mocking our poor taste and excess, the rank pink zinnia waltzing the magenta celosia, all wither to the same middling size and neutral hues. We can see the shape of the earth again and make promises to be more discrete next chance we get, next spring. Now is the time to roast the ripe peppers, outside on the grill where everyone can smell

them, and cook down the last plum tomatoes into a thick sauce for the winter; time to pull in every errant squash grown over the fence, and search out every over fat bean for the soup pot. Time to haul in tools, tear down trellises, strip off leaves, and grind up twigs. There is also a little planting out to be done now. October 15th is the traditional date in our area for planting garlic. I also plant shallots on this date. They are less hardy but most will survive the winter under a mulch of leaves. Both are bulbs, like tulips and daffodils, and will like them spend the winter quietly underground, growing roots and resting fat and squat in the earth. Come March they begin to grow upwards, the garlic in stiff flags and the shallots in little clumps of hollow greens. All very tender, all very tasty. All very easy to grow.

If you want to grow some garlic and shallots of your own, you can start very simply by buying a few bulbs from the supermarket produce department. Pick the fattest and firmest you can find, separate the cloves and press them into the ground, tail down, point up, covered with an inch of soil, wherever you wish. Line the walkway or plant them in groups, six inches between cloves, in the flower bed or anywhere else they'll get plenty of sun. Obviously, avoid exposing them to chemicals that aren't meant for consumption.

By late March your cloves will begin to send up shoots, though some types will start earlier, in the fall, and grow right through the winter. Ha, you are a gardener! You can clip off the tender shoots and steam them to eat as very tasty garlic greens, sauteed in oil and tossed with pasta, or run them through the blender with olive oil, roasted peanuts, salt and pepper, to make a springtime pesto sauce that is like a dream of summer on a cold day. They can also be sliced and added to other vegetables, such as peas and beans. The tops will grow back again if you have

To neutralize garlic breath: Nibble a sprig of parsley.

To control the garlic bite: Garlic's potency in a dish depends on how much surface is exposed and on cooking time. Minced garlic releases more flavor than whole or sliced cloves, and raw or quickly cooked garlic has more bite than a much larger amount roasted or stewed.



To peel and mince garlic easily: Crush the clove with the flat of a large knife, remove the skin, which will come off in one piece, and crush the clove again. It will now lie like a squashed spider on the chopping board and can be minced in an instant by wildly rapping it with the knife blade. Watch your fingers. It may take you a few tries to feel comfortable with this reckless method, but once you have mastered it you will scoff at those who painstakingly dissect cloves into tiny rectangles. Watch out for their knives, too, when in scoffing distance.



To find out if it's true: Put a clove of garlic in your shoe and see if you really can smell it on your breath in a few minutes.



To remove garlic and onion odors from hands: Rinse them under cold running water, rubbing a piece of silverware lightly between them as if it is a bar of soap.



To eat garlic for breakfast: Make toast, which acts like a rasp when you rub it all over with a peeled clove of garlic. Which do. Butter lightly and serve with coffee.



cut them young enough.

Some types of garlic, the hard-necks, or rocamboles, also send up a flower scape early in the summer which you should cut off to encourage larger cloves, and which can be eaten in the same way the greens are. Cut them from the plants before the flowers burst out of their veil. Pull the cloves of all varieties out of the ground when the tops have half-died. This usually happens between the middle and the end of July in my yard.

If you plant garlic and shallots this month you may not grow bulbs that will outweigh store-bought ones (or you might!), but they are cheap and easy to grow and you will get to eat the greens next spring. The real treat, though, is to slip the skin off a really fresh garlic clove or shallot.

The smooth oval of a fresh shallot fills its skin in a way no supermarket bulb, exhausted with long travel and jaded by the rough paws of grocery clerks, ever does. The meat of the bulb has a translucence which you do not see in a produce department allium. It is sticky with juice and still alive, and a small shallot, chopped fine and sauteed quickly, adds flavor that a dried out bulb will never match.

Hiroshima Day Meeting

By Bess Tremper

On August 6th, the annual commemorative observance of Hiroshima Day was conducted at the Roosevelt Memorial area.

In addition to a stirring speech by Jeffrey Laurenti, executive director of multilateral studies at the United Nations, there were folk songs by Judith Trachtenberg who was accompanied by Ed Cedar, a number of dramatic readings by high school students, and the following two poems read by their authors:

BREATHING THEIR BODIES

By Wes Czyzewski

We have breathed their bodies for years
not like smoke but invisibly
as pheromones that trigger the heart

and as oceans endlessly recycle
by now we've all tasted Napoleon's urine

if the heat's intense enough
the air absorbs bodies
disintegrated by volcanoes
comets or man-made suns

Thera, Tunguska, Nagasaki -
we have all eaten that molecular grief
of lives burned to shadows
into dust as fine as the spiritual ash
that settles on God's palm

disinterest blooms its fractal rose
across the dead generations
and memory's bruised shape
reminds us that loss sucks

its half-life of poisoned regret
weakening currencies and making the goalie slip

Our measure of blames's preserved
in tree rings and ocean sediment
and in the nutlike folds of the brain

APOCALYPSE, NOW

By Dina Coe

This happened years ago.
The dog was loose, running.
I wandered the yards and gave up
to the midmorning lull.
He went home for rope.
How vacant the sky and how still.
Then its blankness felt like nothing but time
stacking up wildly before
tension broke and some end
filled the air. I wasn't sure
if that meant the bomb
or a second coming, or both.

But the dread was sure,
my attention caught like a twig
that must snap or the thing
really happen. If it snapped
the thing wouldn't. Then I could see
twig yielding twig,
and broken field straw
shone through a hedge.
The present returned, unburnt,
untransformed. The objects in the backyards
were as solid as cabbages
staying where they are, all winter.

The air was grainless as water.
The gnarled cherry branch
climbed within it, planter pots hanging empty;
there was an unfinished terrace,
a bush of bare wands.
Objects seemed to stand still,
were still as they seemed.
And so things might go on
only gradually changing, if the world,
unlike me, can resist the belief
they'll end suddenly
or come again.

(YOGA from pg. 5)

posites, contradictions, fragmented and broken parts of life, the yin and the yang, the warm and the cold, the sun and the moon. Hatha Yoga is not only the practice of physical postures, but includes breathing techniques and deep relaxation which complement the postures.

Thousands of years ago, the great Yogis of India spontaneously experienced Hatha Yoga postures as a natural part of their spiritual practices. In their meditative states, the yogis did not consciously perform the postures - the postures happened spontaneously. They found that they could pass these practices, with their impressive physical, emotional and spiritual benefits on to their disciples. Yoga further evolved as a natural form of folk medicine. Breathing exercises were taught and used by practitioners and sages who deeply understood the therapeutic effects of Yoga for various diseases.

Is Yoga a Religion?

Yoga is often mistakenly equated with Hinduism. The fact is that Yoga actually predates Hinduism, historically, and is not a religion but a separate tradition of physical and psychological processes that lead to self-discovery. Though not a religion itself, yoga can enhance sincerely held religious beliefs as the student

builds a strong sense of self through physical and emotional health and awareness. Religious traditions can help express awareness of self and the world around us and the connectedness of all things.

So, How Do I Begin?

The techniques of yoga and tips on establishing your own personal practice can be learned from any of the many good books on yoga readily available in bookstores. There

is no need for any expensive equipment or clothing. All you need is a quiet space, comfortable clothes, a towel or mat to lie on and possibly a cushion or chair for extra support. The aid of a video or audio tape

Public Utility Tax Revenue are those monies that utilities (Bell Atlantic, JCP&L, PSE&G) pay to municipalities for having their equipment in the municipalities. The Tax Revenues are used by municipalities to offset property taxes.

BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT

RESOLUTION #106/94

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16.

WHEREAS, the proposed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 16 provides that commencing July 1 in the year following the adoption of the Constitutional amendment, the municipal share of this fund shall increase by 5% and it shall increase each year thereafter for the following three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, if this resolution were adopted in the November 1994 election, the municipal share would increase from is current 68% to 73% beginning in July 1, 1995; 78% beginning July 1, 1996; 83% beginning July 1, 1997; and 88% beginning July 1, 1998, and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Roosevelt strongly supports this constitutional amendment which would dedicate public utility tax revenues to the municipalities to offset their property taxes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT as follows:

1. That the Governing Body of the Borough of Roosevelt does hereby formally go on record as supporting the passage of Senate concurrent Resolution No 16, which would require, by constitutional amendment, a dedication of the public utility tax revenues to the municipalities exclusively to offset property taxes.

2. That certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Municipal Clerks in the 30th Legislative District; 30th District Legislators, Senator Robert W. Singer, Assemblyman Melvin Cottrell and Joseph Malone.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Donnelly, Murphy, Sabogal, Warren

NAYS: none

ABSENT: Kaufman, Vasseur

can be helpful if you learn better that way. Participating in a yoga class is a different experience than practicing on your own as the energy tends to enhance your own practice.

And...it just so happens that the next 8 week yoga session at the Synagogue begins On Wednesday, October 5. you can sign up for the full session or just come for a single class at any time during the session (especially if you just got around to reading your Bulletin on October 6th!).

For more info, call Deborah Metzger at 443-3759. Deborah is a certified Kripalu Yoga Teacher and Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapist.



The Jersey Homesteads Historic District Advisory Council

By Art Shapiro, Borough Historian

The Jersey Homesteads Historic Advisory Council has been busy with several projects that may have interest for Roosevelt citizens old and new.

If you have not seen it yet, try to get to the New Jersey State Museum which currently has a display on the history of Roosevelt. Many of the displayed artifacts are on loan from the Council. In addition, members of the Historic Council have been of assistance to authors who have written about aspects of our town including an article in the Architectural Digest, an article in the "Jerusalem Post", three local newspaper stories, and at least four college theses. This collaboration also has made available to us copies of famous architect Alfred Kastner's collected papers of the original plans and drawings of our town.

The Council also put up an historical display in the Borough Hall for a tour group from the New York 92nd Street Y, who came out for the day. We're getting more and more tours to Roosevelt. In November, a tour group is coming from Edison. Because people are interested in the Shahn Mural, the Bust, various artist's works and other aspects of the town, the Historic Council is exploring ways of raising money by publishing postcards and photographs of these unique aspects of Roosevelt.

In addition, as the town Historian, I have been asked to give several talks and a slide show developed on the town to various groups in the area. We are exploring grant possibilities to develop these materials further to be available for the Council and school. Historic Council member Helen Barth and I are working with school officials and teachers to develop curricular materials on Roosevelt's unique history with the hope of re-establishing its connection to our school. We are also hoping to reinstate an award to be given at graduation exercises in Roosevelt for a meaningful essay on an aspect of Jersey Homesteads' history, similar to the discontinued Benjamin Brown Award.

The Historic Council is involved with other interesting projects as well, including: working with the World Zionist Organization to place a plaque commemorating the linkage of the Jersey Homesteads, Benjamin Brown, the Hechalutz Farm in Etra and the beginnings of the Israeli Air Force; working with Rutgers University on grants for the organization of the Roosevelt Archives; establishing a plaque in Roosevelt commemorating the first 50 original Homesteaders; establishing a rotating display of Roosevelt history (in yet to be acquired display cases) under the mural in the school; and, working with other town committees. A long term dream of the Historic Council is to get backing from private donors to establish a Jersey Homesteads Museum in town in one of the original houses not yet altered.

The Council meets every other month, usually on the third Wednesday. A complete schedule will be published in the next Bulletin. Our meetings are interesting and are attended by as many

(cont. on pg. 22)

(PLAN. BD. from pg. 3)
per four acres - compared to the one unit per two acres which the current PCD ordinance would allow for the Notterman tract (referred to by Mr. Ticktin as the southern PCD district).

Assuming that the average household for three bedroom houses -the size likely to be constructed in Roosevelt - would contain .29 K-6 pupils and that the optimum school enrollment would be 140. Mr. Ticktin concluded that the optimum total number of three bedroom homes in town should be 483 (140 divided by .29). Based on the current enrollment of 85 students and the current inhabited, non-senior housing stock of 306 houses, there are .278 K-6 pupils per house in Roosevelt. Thus Mr. Ticktin maintained that his .29 figure was "conservative". Mr. Parker cautioned that the validity of the .29 multiplier should be tested by looking at the numbers of students generated by new three bedroom homes in nearby communities.

Excluding Solar Village, which does not supply children to the school, there are 312 existing dwellings in Roosevelt (six not presently inhabited). Add 54 single family houses currently allowed by the southern (Notterman) PCD district, plus 14 units for buildable lots elsewhere in town, and one arrives at a figure of 380. This would allow

103 houses to be divided between the two proposed PCD districts in the northern farmlands (483-380=103), according to Mr. Ticktin's calculations. Based on acreage in those areas, Mr. Ticktin concluded under one set of calculations that 61 units could be built in the northwestern district and 42 in the northeastern. He added that for the revised PCD ordinance to succeed, it would have to allocate clusters of housing and open space for at least 75 percent of the "qualified acreage" in each district.

Board member Jeffrey Hunt disputed Mayor Allen's contention that possible new houses should be allocated more uniformly between the Notterman tract and the northern lands. He said there are significant differences between the two areas. He emphasized that the town's original plan called for construction of residences in what is now the Notterman tract and no alteration of the agricultural scheme for the northern properties. The Mayor indicated his aim was to have the Board weigh new conditions not faced by the original planners, including recently determined wetlands delineations, to determine whether present differences between the two areas continue to justify allocating more houses to the Nottermans than to the other property owners.

Chairwoman Hunton said she was pleased to announce that Alan Mallach, a former Planning Board Chairman and the author of the original PCD ordinance, had consented to serve as the Board's consultant on a pro bono basis during the process of drafting a revised ordinance. Mr. Mallach, a licensed professional planner, who maintains a weekend retreat in Roosevelt and is employed as Trenton's Director of Housing, agreed to review and comment on the ordinance and to provide additional planning advice. When Ms. Hunton noted how much other towns pay for such expertise, the Board quickly and unanimously passed a motion to accept Mr. Mallach's offer.

During the public portion of the meeting, Daniel Notterman, speaking for himself and his sister, Abby, said they were "eager to develop as quickly as possible" in a manner "consistent with the existing (PCD) ordinance". He offered "to work with the Planning Board and Council, taking wetland constraints into consideration." Lastly, he expressed a willingness to help to update the plan for the Notterman tract to meet current conditions but said it would be another matter to "tamper with fundamentals".

Kirk Rothfuss urged Mayor Allen to "slow down a bit" and to try to convince property owners to work with the Planning

Board and "come up with something that other residents can accept". Henry John-Alder said the Board should "be much more cautious with the multipliers" and to consider the demands for costly new services that large influxes of residents are likely to generate. Chairwoman Hunton added, "The bottom line is that people cost money." She said development offers "no pot of gold" even though "some new development may infuse the town with new energy."

Council member Rose Murphy expressed concern that present language in the PCD ordinance would require costly piecemeal upgrades to water and sewer facilities every time a few houses were built. She also questioned why landowners with similar acreage should be allowed different capacities of homes. Mr. Ticktin replied that it is normal to allow different densities for different tracts.

Mary Alfare wondered what became of the growth impact study that the Planning Board had worked on for so many years. Lamenting the mass of information that would have to be included in a formal impact study report, Chairwoman Hunton said, "We never packaged it." She added that the significant data was available and could be summarized "in three pages". She noted that a short piece in the Bulletin might be helpful. Mr. Ticktin

said the "essence" of the impact study consisted of figures pertaining to the impact of development on the school. Referring to Mayor Allen's and certain Council members' attempt to introduce an ordinance to repeal the current PCD ordinance, Ms. Hunton proclaimed, "If part of his objective was to move us off the dime, I think he has done that."

Peter Nurko, who owns a large tract in the proposed northwest PCD district, expressed concern that costs of installing a sewerage base for a development with one house every four acres would drive away potential developers. Mr. Ticktin responded that the proposal does not call for clustering of houses in small, dry areas and the dedication of the rest of the space to open areas. He contended that such clustering might reduce infrastructure costs to affordable levels.

Fire Chief Kim Dexheimer implored the Board to require any new development to install water lines for hydrants. He said that since Roosevelt has no tank trucks to carry water to the scene of a blaze, places such as Eleanor Lane, which has no hydrants, could become a fire fighter's nightmare.



Senior Citizen News

By Helga Wisowaty,
Secretary

Jeanette presided at this meeting which was late in the month because of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. We wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Here we are with October starting, the fall season. The beautiful green of spring and summer being replaced with the glorious colors of fall. During the summer, the club members enjoyed trips to the Garden State Art Center to hear lovely music. Next we went to Delicious Orchards in Colts Neck to buy the fresh fruits, vegetables and the best of pastries (pies, cakes, bread, etc.).

The luncheons are great for catching up on everyone's activities. Sol and Bess are back after a nice long vacation in France. On September 18, those of us who are members of the Emley's Hill United Methodist Church in Cream Ridge, celebrated the addition recently completed. In

addition to the choir, there was music by the Dawn Singers. In the afternoon the annual picnic was held at the Dittmar Farm. There were many activities: swimming, eating, games, singing and playing by Bill Wisowaty. It was a great day.

We wished Happy Birthdays to Gus Chasan, Diane Klein and Helen Mantz.

Our member, Birdie Soifer has been ill. We hope for a speedy recovery. Betty Perrine is recuperating at home. Kitty Yuhas has gone into a nursing home. Betty and Kitty are from the Solar Village.

Until next month.



**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.**



Recycling Dates to Remember

October 5 & 19

November 2, 16, 30

December 14 & 28

Roosevelt Community

Television

Tuesday, 6-6:30 PM,

o n

Storer Cable

C h a n n e l

8



From The Candidates

LETTER TO ROOSEVELT VOTERS

By Paul Hoogsteden

Imagine entering your home and going into your newly renovated basement to do some much needed wash. Imagine stepping off the last step and into a pool of water, sewage water.

Well, this happened to my wife, Irza, and I this past winter and after the insane screaming stopped, I realized that we were at a crossroads in our relationship. Our relationship not with each other but with our town. We had reached a point where the camel's back had been broken. The sewer & water charge, the real estate taxes, the continual power outages and now, a clogged and regurgitating sewer line. There was only one rational choice at that moment and that was to burn the house down, collect the insurance, and to continue our search for Utopia elsewhere.

Luckily, neighbors and council members came to our aid and in time our sewer line problem was solved. The house was again habitable. From this ordeal, we have begun to experience a true feeling of

community and a sense of some of the complexities of running a small town. So, I decided to run for Borough Council.

Following my decision, I began attending council meetings and talking with many of you about your concerns and ideas on town affairs; many similar to my own. I believe that my experience in the business community as an accountant (CPA), tax adviser and volunteer, coupled with a hard work ethic, will bring a fresh perspective to the council.

I ask you for your vote on November 8.

LETTER TO ROOSEVELT VOTERS

By Rose D. Murphy

For three of my four years on Borough Council, I've been Chair of Utilities. I did not join the council to tromp around in the mud, dig ditches, or spend hours knee-deep in legislation, these perks come with the job. I've worked hard and in the process have gained considerable knowledge about how our water and sewer systems work: what costs can be controlled with-

out damage to the systems and those which can't; which environmental rules to obey and which to challenge. I think I've done a good job.

Your vote on November 8 will give me the opportunity to continue using this knowledge to further reduce utility costs and help make Roosevelt more affordable. I'll continue to search out grants that minimize the financial impact of necessary repairs and improvement on residents.

Thank you for your vote on November 8.

TO THE RESIDENTS OF ROOSEVELT

By John E. Towle

The 1994 election is quickly approaching, and I wish to take this opportunity to remind you of my bid for Borough Council as a Republican candidate. The issues that affect us as residents of this community are largely nonpartisan; which should not be construed to mean not important. The major issues of development, capital improvements, property values, the school and, above all, our escalating tax bills have a great impact

on the quality of life today and in the future.

When is this future anyway? It can be argued that the future is today, because the decisions and actions of today largely determine what tomorrow will be like. These major issues demand positive, immediate action.

Why did I mention my party affiliation when party politics don't impact our local issues? To answer that, I must tell a little bit about myself. Relatives of mine have been active at different levels in the Republican Party for many years, from small town councils to the state level. My upbringing included a belief that the public's role in government is very important; the right to vote is a right every person should exercise. Become educated about the issues, or keep quiet about them.

I do not consider myself a politician. I am simply a 3 year resident who intends to live here for years to come; and, I have great concerns over the equality and cost of living in Roosevelt. My wife, Kathleen and I wish to raise our daughter, Shannon, in the same safety and sense of com-

munity I grew up with in a small town.

The particular skills I can bring to the council include a great interest in environmentally sensitive planning for the future. My degree is in environmental planning and I have served on the Roosevelt Environmental Commission for 2 years, and I have 7 years of contract administration and construction management experience with environmental firms and land developers.

I do not profess to have answers for all of the problems Roosevelt currently faces, such as the absurdly high property taxes, but I clearly recognize them as problems which demand whatever immediate action the council can take to deal with them. I agree in large part with the many positive actions of the current council, and do not have barbs to throw at the few actions or procedures I disagree with. That type of behavior, for better or worse, is for the politicians. What I do have is a desire to take part in the decisions shaping our collective future here in Roosevelt, and for that reason I ask you to support me with your vote in November.



Letters



LETTER TO PETER WARREN
TO DINA COE

Dear Dina:

As Chairman of the community Relations Committee of the Borough Council, I am obliged to respond to your letter of August 17, 1994 of which you kindly sent a copy to the Borough Council.

A response to your letter can address issues which apply to the whole community and therefore merits careful consideration of these issues. This is particularly true because both property taxes and water/sewer costs are municipal and not State responsibilities.

Let me first address some of the statements expressed in your letter.

1. It is not clear how "your [Governor Whitman's] cuts in State aid have totally demolished my ability to sustain my life here."

As the school budget shows, the Roosevelt School District can anticipate considerable State aid in the school year

1994-95. The recent sharp increase in school taxes goes to financing pre-Whitman State mandated improvements and the replacement of an obsolete heating system.

The major cause of high school taxes is primarily the under utilization of primary school facilities. In other words, if there were more children in the school, the cost per household would drop.

Your personal "ability to sustain your life here" has been directly enhanced by two sizeable State or County grants; one for home improvement and one for your poetry.

On a larger, townwide scale, Mayor Barth's policy of applying for State and County grants has brought more than half a million dollars into the community since 1991. The results of these grants has certainly raised real estate values, through improved streets and environment.

2. School taxes, the responsibility of the School Board, comprise about half of your combined tax and utility bill. The rest of the bill, with the exception of County taxes, is the responsibility of the Borough Council: in the form of municipal taxes and water/sewer fees.

Water/sewer fees are high for three reasons.

The first reason is that, in the past, the community opted not to accept either grants or low-cost loans for sewer improvements. Therefore, fees are higher than they might have been.

The second reason is that, as with the school, the presence of a larger number of taxpayers in Roosevelt would lower the fee per household: again, it is a question of under utilized capacity.

The third reason is that residents do not help the Council find areas of possible economies.

Municipal taxes could be lowered if residents insisted on strict budget discipline. But how many residents pay any attention to the municipal budget before it is voted or have any idea of where economies could be made?

3. Your neighbor's house has, in fact, been sold; a dozen other houses have been recently sold or rented. There is no evidence that Roosevelt houses are unsaleable.

What will the future be for towns such as this?

Let me answer this for Governor Whitman.

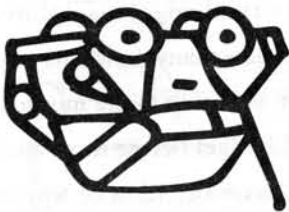
One possibility is that the

cont. on pg. 19

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 Bulletin
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 08555-0221**



**Don't
 Speed
 in
 Town!**

**Et Nos Illis...
 And We
 Change Too...**

By Peter Warren

New Kids on the Block...Cory Craig; Grace Lloyd; Nathaniel (age 9) and Devin (age 3) Dostar; Harry (age 7) and Arianne Jean-Baptiste (age 2). **Moving Out...**/after 13 years, to Holland, Pennsylvania, musician Roy Merriwether & Jerri Collins; after nine years, to Twin Rivers, Edmund & Paula Haemmerle. **Moving In...**Lori Daume (back from California); Thomas & Lisbeth Gianfagna to the Haemmerle house on Eleanor; Jeff & Sharlene Ellentuck to the Shally house on Pine Dr.; Cydney Westmorland, to the Mogin house on Homestead La.; David Geber and Kate Murphy to the Selden house on Tamara Dr.; Tomasz Majorczyk & Elizabeth Huang to the Corman house on Lake Dr.; Ronald Kostar & Deidre Sheean to 18 Pine Dr.; Pablo Medina to the Eichler house on Pine Dr.; Frederick Powers & Colleen Grennen to the Bermowitz house on North Valle Rd.; V.K. Laksmanan to the Solar Village; Joseph, Patricia and Patricia, Jr. to the Burdash house on School La.; Lee Frassell, Stephen Dachiek & Catherine Duffy to the

Merriwether house on Pine Dr. **Return of the Native...**Jeff Ellentuck, David Geber, Bill Henderson. **On the Market...**As of September 15, 21 houses, one lot advertised for sale. **Sheriff's Sale...**Of long-vacant house at 4 Tamara Drive, Starting at \$89,552 scheduled for September 26; three others in foreclosure limbo. **Registrations...**Number of voters newly registered over the summer, 21. **On Safari...**Paul & Jayne Henry to visit friends in Belize; Steve Yeger, to ancestral village in Transylvania; Sol Libsohn & Bess Tremper to Paris and other points in France; Howard & Louise Prezant to Atlanta to visit their son and daughter-in-law; Len Sacharoff, to Atlanta, to a reunion of his unit in 82nd Airborne Division; Bob & Susan Dermody to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. **Gravel Stipend...** Brookdale's Center for Holocaust Studies makes the Rev. John S. Grauel memorial scholarships available to teachers' training program to study "Teaching the Holocaust" in Israel. **Champions...**St. Paul's Lutheran Church in church baseball league, with Brad Johnson playing left field. **Anchors Aweigh...**Chris Suk enlists in US Navy. **Roosevelt Makes...**Action Packaging exports 30% of its output. **Showing...**Landau and Shahn

prints at NJ State Museum through December 31. **Restored...**18th Century Wanford estate under supervision of Gail Hunton. **Awards...**NJ State Council on the Arts \$7,000 poetry grant to Dina Coe; Kreps School Spanish award to Sarah Hayne Henry. **Saved...**By last minute efforts of Maureen Clerk, John Hazrll, Mary King and Mark Klatskin, traditional July 4th picnic. **Break-ins...**Of three cars on night of August 22-23 reported to State police. **Nature Rampant...**'Coon kills Hillis' pet chickens; Squirrel invades Perrine apartment; Turtle lays eggs on Prezant lawn. **Completed...**Reconstruction of Tamara Dr, Elm Court and Brown St. by Straight Curb in mid-September. **Matching Up...**Millstone Township reconstruction of Nurko Rd. to Roosevelt border planned for near future. **Contaminated...**390 sites in Monmouth County reported by DEP, including one (the garage) in Roosevelt. **Resigned...**After seven years with the Borough, our public works employee, Ed Davis, to take a job with ADL alarm systems. **Flowing...**Sewerage June 2000,000 gpd; July 176,000 gpd; August, 189,861 gpd (DEP ceiling 250,000 gpd). Water June 157,000 gpd; July 138,000 gpd; August 104,000 gpd (conservation goal 90,000 gpd).

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outlook will be gloomy, not because of State policy but because 90 percent of the residents do nothing to help the town.

For example, last week a resident appeared at a Council meeting to inveigh against high taxes. He, it turns out, has not only never, never taken part in any organization to help the town, but has never even bothered to register to vote. Many residents seem unaware of what is going on and not the least bit interested in finding out.

Not enough people are pulling their weight to make a change for the better.

The other and more optimistic possibility is that more and more residents will mobilize their efforts and abilities to work with existing organizations such as the Council, the School Board, the Planning Board and others to help the town become an even better place to live.

I hope you will be one of them.

TO THE EDITOR
LETTER IN RESPONSE

By Dina Coe

I recently received from Peter Warren, as Chairman of the Community Relations Committee of the Borough Council, a supercilious reply to my complaints as an overburdened taxpayer in Roosevelt, actually the copy of a letter I wrote to Governor Whitman. I want to draw at-

tention to the unfairness and inconsideration being suffered by homeowners with limited incomes and the several fronts these are coming from, one of which is the ostensibly progressive Monmouth County Community Development Program, which Warren mentions in his letter as having provided me with a "sizable" enhancement of my ability to sustain my life in Roosevelt. I hope my attempt to share my problems will help others with similar problems, if only to

know they aren't alone.

Warren's rhetoric notwithstanding, all any of us who live in Roosevelt have to do is mention the amount of local taxes we pay to most anyone living elsewhere in the state to know that our taxes are way out of proportion to taxes paid elsewhere, to the value of our properties, and often to our individual abilities to pay and to our use of services. For instance, individuals with low incomes and without children (and who perhaps want but cannot afford children) are supporting what might as well be a private school for the children of parents who may be far better off than that taxpayer. Individuals who live alone, use minimum water and put minimum waste in the sewer system are supporting the car washing, swimming pools, lawn watering, and laundry and showers of entire families.

As we all know, a certain amount of unfairness is inherent in the tax system. Therefore, when taxes rise astronomically, then certainly those among us who live on marginal incomes and find ourselves in dire straits deserve at least a recognition of our predicament, not a denial and condescending sermon. After all, we have been con-

Solar Village Rescue Plan - 3

By Peter Warren

Trustees of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation met on September 13 to start work on a management plan and budget for 1995. The Corporation's policy will emphasize access to Soar Village by residents and their relatives and participation in contracts by Roosevelt businesses.

Over the summer, the Trustees fired the former management company and is investigating, with the Department of Agriculture, recovery of possibly misappropriated funds. A new company, Lower County Property Management, which manages numerous other FmHA financed projects has been retained by the Trustees and has got off to a good start.

The debt to FmHA has been refinanced to pay, up to date, \$68,000 in tax and water/sewer arrears. Neglect of grounds and buildings by the past management is being remedied.

The next trustees meeting will be held on October 18. The annual December membership meeting, of the reconstituted membership of 35 families will be held on December 6; members will vote for three openings on the Board of Trustees. Candidates with business experience will be sought.



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tributing just as much to the education of the children of Roosevelt, the pay of its employees, the rebuilding of the sewer system, etc. as many with more to spare, and doing so therefore at greater personal sacrifice.

And what do people living on say less than fifteen or twelve thousand a year do when their local taxes jump from around \$2,000 to around \$6,000, in just a few years? If, like me, your skills lie in fields which are highly competitive and require some sticking out of hard times to become successful in, you cut back in every area you can. As a result, your house does not get repairs other than those you can do yourself. Its condition deteriorates. Then along comes Peter Warren telling you about the Community Development Program, designed to maintain housing for the future in Monmouth County by rehabilitating houses of those whose incomes are very low. Aha, you say, here is my chance to get something back from these high taxes I've been paying, and who wouldn't like that? So you spend time filling out all the paperwork of applications two years in a row, then lo, come actual pennies from

heaven: a grant.

And, if I had it to do over again, I'd say no thanks. As Peter Warren neglected to mention, that "sizeable grant" is actually a loan I am liable for if I sell my house within six years. And since I can't at my income level go on paying more than fifty percent in local taxes alone, I'll have to sell my house before the bank or the town takes it over. When I do I'll owe the CDP about \$13,000 for a roof that leaks, new windows that have been put in old frames and are likely to cause problems (one professional mason said that I'd be better off with the old windows, whether I can open them or not), a new furnace I did not need, some stucco siding which does not match the stucco already there, a carpenter ant treatment that had zero effect on the ants, new works in the toilet that had no effect on the flushing problem, two smoke detector/alarms and two safety outlets required by HUD, a fogged window pane replaced. Thirteen thousand dollars!

After months of letters, arguments, phone calls, and arranging professional inspections, I have finally caused the CDP to see that the roof they built has caused me a catastrophic leaking problem,

which they have denied and finally admit and promise to correct. When they do so I can erase one of my complaints above, but not the time this problem has cost me, nor the debt I will have to pay regardless. I must mention here that Peter Warren, not entirely enthusiastically, aided me by mentioning my problem with the CDP to a member of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, doing so when I alerted him to my problems with the CDP at a time other Rooseveltians were lined up to receive the grant. Therefore, I am dumfounded by his bland intimation that I should not complain about taxes when I am so favored as to receive this assistance.

As far as the NJSCA Fellowship, the other public money Warren suggests has made such a significant change in my circumstances, I am extremely grateful to receive it. In a society that places relatively small value on art, especially poetry, \$7,000 is a real validation of my efforts - and this I do not consider pennies from heaven, since much effort, time, and financial sacrifice went into making me capable of winning that Fellowship. But as a financial boon - as a "sizeable" en-

hancement of my sustenance - it can only be a token when I reside in a town whose taxes for one year will consume almost every cent of it, minus, hopefully, enough to pay the federal and state taxes.

I am not going to address the projections of Peter Warren's rigid viewpoints. We have all been exposed to these sufficiently. What I am addressing is the reality of the experience we are creating for ourselves here in Roosevelt, and how some of us are being crushed by it, whether we can attend Borough Council meetings or not. Except I will say to Warren's push for development that there is a simpler, less painful, feasible, and likely to be more effective solution to the problem of our expensive school, which is Close It. Oddly enough this is exactly what I have heard the Governor (whom Warren mysteriously seems eager to protect) recommend that small districts do in their plight with cuts in state aid. As far as his baldly ridiculous assertion that property values have risen in Roosevelt since the roads were "improved" (and, by the way, how do you like the noise and excitement of our new speeding traffic?), I'll leave others to the attack.

Roosevelt Arts Project 1994-1995 Season

TO THE EDITOR

By Addie Weiner

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(A proposal for a new column for the Bulletin by Adeline Weiner).

It's been suggested by way of the questionnaire sent to readers of the Bulletin that there be a regular feature on "Whatever Happened to So and So?"

Because I too am interested to know the fate of former Rooseveltians, old and young, I am willing to seek out and do a monthly column on just that topic.

But you, Bulletin readers, will have to play a major role in this endeavor. You can help us by calling or writing in whatever stories or information you may have about former residents, man, woman or child. We will be happy to follow up on information even if it's only a name, address and phone number of a relative, friend, neighbor or even acquaintance.

Call me at 609-448-2358 or drop a line to Box 96, Roosevelt, NJ 08555.



The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 1994-1995 calendar of events, featuring an open studio tour, the first annual fall folk music festival, 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	October 8, 1994 at 1:00 p.m.	Roosevelt Open Studio Tour
Saturday	November 5, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. Borough Hall	Fall Folk Music Festival
Saturday	December 10, 1994 at 8:00 p.m. Borough Hall	Poetry and Music
Saturday	January 28, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Peddie School	Laurie Altman - Jazz
Saturday	February 11, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Borough Hall	Piano Fest IV
Saturday	March 11, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Borough Hall	Car, A Play By Neil Selden
Saturday	April 8, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Peddie School	Roosevelt String Band, In Concert
Saturday	May 7, 1995 at 3:00 p.m. Roosevelt Factory Hall	Art At The Factory II

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.

(HISTORIC from pg. 13)

former residents (some who come from as far as New York) as current ones. For example, Lee Drasen came bringing original photographs of his sister Tamara and an original recording of her singing "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes". Sol Axelrod provided us with photographs of the establishment of our town that included scenes with Albert Einstein. Mrs. Goldstein sent us her husband's original badges as the first Mayor of the Jersey Homesteads. We've even located a sewing machine from the original garment factory. The Historical Council invites Roosevelt citizens to attend our meetings. Others who may have lived in town but now live far away that may have historical memorabilia and photographs that you are willing to share or part with, please let us know. Those who live in town or not too far away, please come and get involved. We'd love to have you there. We might even get you interested enough to become a future member of the rotating Council membership. As Historian, I'll try to keep you appraised in future editions of the Bulletin of how these and other projects are developing!



Open Lap Swimming For Adults And Masters At The Peddie School

The Peddie School has expanded its open lap swimming hours for adults. Starting September 12th, the pool will be open on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and evenings from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monthly fees and season passes will be offered. For senior Citizens, the monthly fee is \$25 and the season pass is \$200. For all other adults, the monthly fee \$30 and the season pass is \$250. Open lap swimming extends through the academic year. Peddie has recently joined United States Masters Swimming (USMS) and now has a club for adult competitive swimmers. For additional information, please contact Program Coordinator Bill Volckening at the Peddie Swimming Office. Telephone 609-490-7547.



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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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OCTOBER



sa 1 2 PM-4PM Rabies
Clinic Boro Hall

m 3 7:30 PM Council
Agenda Mtg.

tu 4 1 PM Blood Pressure
Check Boro Hall
2 PM Roosevelt Senior
Citizens Mtg.-Jeanette Koffler,
448-2259

w 5  Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue-
Deborah Metzger, 443-2259
7:30 PM PTA Mtg.-RPS-
Vinnie Jackson Pres., 426-
0311 8 PM Environmental
Comm.- Jim Carnevale, Pres.
426-1728

th 6 7:30 PM Board of Ed.
Agenda Mtg.-RPS- Mike
Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

sa 8 1 PM-4 PM RAP
Roosevelt Artist's Open Studio
Tour-Judith Trachtenberg,
426-8867

m 10 Columbus Day
7:30 PM Council Action Mtg.


tu 11 6 PM Roosevelt
Comm. TV Cable Ch. 8

w 12 7 PM Yoga Class-
Synagogue
8 PM Planning Board Mtg.-
Gail Hunton, Chair-426-4338

su 16 4 PM-7PM PTA
Spaghetti Dinner-Vinnie
Jackson, Pres. 426-0311

m 17 7:30 PM Council
Comm. Mtgs.
8 PM Synagogue Board Mtg.,
Michael Ticktin, 448-0363

tu 18 6 PM Roosevelt
Comm. TV Cable Ch 8


w 19  Recycle
School Picture Day-RPS-
During School Hours-Vinnie
Jackson, Pres. 426-0311
8 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

th 20 7:30 PM Board of
Ed. Regular Mtg.-RPS- Mike
Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

m 24 Large Garbage Pick-
Up Day
7 PM Roosevelt Comm.
Nursery School-Boro Hall
7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

tu 25 6 PM Roosevelt
Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

w 26 PTA Scholastic Book
Fair-RPS-During School
Hours- Vinnie Jackson Pres.,
426-0311
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

su 30  End Of
Daylight Savings Time
10 AM Clean Communities
Litter PickUp- Gayle Donnelly,
426-1315

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

**Mayor Lee Allen pre-
sides at all council
mtgs. and can be
reached at 448-6978.**

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