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Roosevelt Borough



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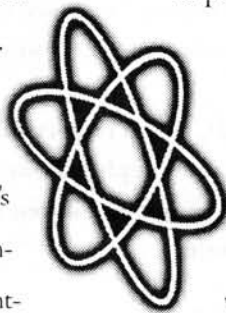
Residents Organize Rally Against Nuke Site on March 22

By Joann San Nicola

At 7:45 p.m., March 22, Mike Hamilton opened this public fact finding meeting in the lobby of the Roosevelt Public School. In his opening remarks, he indicated that he felt that the town council was "filtering" information to the citizens. He felt that this meeting would shed more light on the proposal.

✿ Mr. Hamilton introduced Ms. Diane D'Arrigo as the guest speaker. She works for the Nuclear Information and Resource Service, located in Washington. Ms. D'Arrigo's educational background is in chemistry and environmental studies. ✿ In the presentation, Ms. D'Arrigo pointed out that "low level" does not always mean low risk. Medical waste, which has a short half life, is only a small part of the deposited material, and is often used as a means of "putting a foot in the door" for more dangerous elements. According to Ms. D'Arrigo, nuclear facilities are the largest generators of this waste.

(cont. on pg. 12)



Government Bodies and Public Debate Nuke Plan on March 27

By Bob Clark

Would a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility be a panacea for Roosevelt's high tax rate or a can of worms dooming the bucolic way of life of the Borough and nearby communities? Hundreds of people from Roosevelt and other towns as far away as Pennsylvania

overflowed and surrounded the Borough Hall on March 27 to hear John Weingart, Executive Director of the New Jersey Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility Siting Board, and Deputy Director Jeanette Eng respond to tough questions about benefits, disadvantages and safeguards if the facility were located in Roosevelt.

The vast majority were there to voice their dismay that such a facility would even be considered for Roosevelt. Several, especially a contingent from Millstone Township, seemed bent on rudely shouting down the idea and anyone interested in discussing it. Ann Baker and others admonished them, with little effect, that Rooseveltians

(cont. on pg. 8)

**RESOLUTION 53/95 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT CONCERNING THE PENALTY IMPOSED ON
THE ROOSEVELT BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Roosevelt Board of Education has been assessed an "Excess Administration Penalty" by the New Jersey State Department of Education in the amount of \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, the penalty was assessed without any prior notice to the Board of Education as to what would be considered "excess administration" costs thus affording the Board no opportunity to tailor its budget to State guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the notice of the alleged excesses and of the penalty was first provided in February of 1995 with respect to the 1994-95 school fiscal year which commenced on July 1, 1994; and

WHEREAS, items comprising "excess administration" costs include positions and services mandated by the Department of Education including but not limited to nurses, guidance counselors, child study teams and librarians; and

WHEREAS, the penalty imposed on the Board will cost each household in the Borough of Roosevelt an average of \$80.00; and

WHEREAS, the conduct of the Department of Education, as it relates to the citizens of the Borough of Roosevelt, is wholly inconsistent with the Whitman administration's purported goal of promoting fiscal responsibility and providing property tax relief.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roosevelt that it opposes the "excess Administration Penalty" imposed upon the Roosevelt Board of Education as a *de facto* penalty upon the residents of the Borough of Roosevelt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council respectfully request Senator Robert W. Singer and Assemblymen Melvin Cottrell and Joseph Malone to ardently oppose the penalty and to restore the State aid being withheld from the children and taxpayers of the Borough of Roosevelt;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Robert W. Singer, assemblyman Melvin Cottrell, Assemblyman Joseph Malone, Governor Christine Todd Whitman and Commissioner Leo Klagholz.

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Borough Council Sets Budget Hearing for April 10th Earlier News on Waste Facility

At the March 13 meeting of the Mayor and Council, Council member David Donnelly announced that John Weingart, Director of the State of New Jersey's Low-level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility Siting Board, would meet with the Borough Council, the members of municipal boards and all interested Roosevelt residents at 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 27, at the Borough Hall.

Last month, the Council discussed a New York Times article which stated that a municipality having the facility would receive two million dollars each year. That is more than Roosevelt's school and municipal tax levies combined, the Mayor observed. However, Mayor Allen and Council members said they will oppose siting in the Borough unless they and Roosevelt's residents are confident that the facility will be as safe as the Department of Environmental Protection declared it will be.

Paul Hoogsteden reported, as Finance Committee Chairman, that the public hearing on the 1995 Municipal Budget will be on April 10, 7:30 p.m., at the Borough Hall. At that time, residents may offer suggestions, objections and questions. Extra copies of the Budget are on the Borough Hall's counter. Mr. Hoogsteden told the Council that if it wants to change any line item more than 10% during the year, the Budget must be formally amended.

George Vasseur, Chairman of the Council's Environmental - Health & Safety Committee,



reported a hazard from two "eight foot wide plows and seven foot wide trailer without plates" being left in the roadway on North Valley Road. No warning lights or reflectors were present to indicate a temporary danger. He also complimented the two Fire Company members who were present, thanking them for their volunteer efforts and appealed for more men and women to volunteer to take the training to qualify for fire-fighting service.

In the public portion, fire-fighter Jack Rindt asked if the Committee decided to replace or repair the fire truck, explaining that he used to start the truck and drive it around town every other Tuesday until January, when he reported to the Council that it was not safe anymore because the power steering failed. He added that he brought the Council a list of used fire trucks which were not very old, with descriptions, locations and prices in February. Mr.

Vasseur asked if Mr. Rindt and Fire Chief Kim Dexheimer agreed on a recommendation. Receiving "no" as the answer, he explained that the Borough paid over \$4,000 for repair and tune up by an authorized Mack Truck mechanic in December.

Mr. Vasseur would see if he, himself, a competent automobile mechanic, could be permitted to make adjustments on the truck voluntarily. The next morning Roosevelt's fire truck was seen being driven by Mr. Rindt out of the Firehouse, to School Lane where it maneuvered the tight circle by the school easily, after which the driver waved to the bicycling reporter who was admiring the performance!

Rose Murphy, Chairwoman of the Utilities Committee, reported that the NJDEP granted waivers to discontinue monthly testing of the Borough's water for asbestos ("determined not vulnerable to asbestos contamination"), lead and copper ("levels have been so low that quarterly testing is adequate for safe monitoring").

Filter media replacement is to begin on March 20, 1995, as guaranteed by A.C. Schultes, Inc., even though the parts for the inlet valves, which were to be repaired for two of the four filters, have not arrived yet from California. Schultes, Inc. had insisted that they be closable before the work began. At the Council's Special Meeting on February 27, Mrs. Murphy reported that she ordered the valves to be repaired for \$500 after getting bids from two com-

(cont. on pg. 4)

**Be a good
Citizen!
Attend Borough
Council
Meetings the
second Monday
of each month.**



(*COUNCIL from pg. 3*)
panies. The low bid for new valves was \$2,900. The other company wanted \$3,600 for new valves and \$800 for repaired valves. At that time, Mrs. Murphy was told that filter media replacement would begin March 6 and she arranged for Public Works employee Gayle Donnelly to video-tape the procedure and document the condition of the filter tanks, pipes and media.

Applied Wastewater Services, Inc. begins its contract to manage Roosevelt's water and wastewater plants on March 22; but, its director, as well as Councilmembers Vasseur and Murphy, said they would be at the water plant on March 20 to observe the replacement of the filter media.

At the public portion of the March 13 regular meeting of the Council, Nona Sherak requested formal approval of her and of at least one resident who has children who view cable television, to serve as co-chairs of the Borough's Cable TV Committee. She wants to get Monmouth Cablevision for its Science Fiction station and possible lower rate; but, she wants to be fair if families with children would miss some of the

stations Monmouth does not give.

About the blow-off valve which Mayor Allen said, at the February 28 meeting, would be installed on the right-of-way of Maple Court in front of Ms. Sherak's house, she urged the Mayor to have the valve installed nearer to the end of the line which she believed was at the Prezants' house. Cliff Fischer and Mary Alfare raised questions about blow-off valves which the Mayor and Mrs. Murphy answered.

Spraying to eliminate ticks in Roosevelt was brought up by Ms. Sherak. Mrs. Alfare discussed the State's experiment two years ago. It cost \$80,000 and resulted in a 90% kill rate in the woods between Lake Drive and Empty Box Creek. The great cost made it seem prohibitive, but it may have been due to all the careful research measuring the effects. The borough can get exact procedures from the state. Granular Sevin was applied in the spring, and liquid Sevin was sprayed in the fall.

Herb Johnson reported that he and Teri Nachtman wanted storm water catch basins with large openings to be child-proofed. They saw them on Eleanor Lane and North Valley

Road in the vicinity of Jersey Homesteads Park (where the Japanese cherry tree orchard should be blossoming soon). The Mayor said he would have the public works employee put grates over them promptly. The next day Mrs. Donnelly was seen measuring the gaps to have grates made to fit.

The Council passed the following resolutions: (1) refund overpaid taxes (between \$50 and \$1,403) to seven Roosevelt property owners; (2) oppose the closing of Marlboro State Hospital; (3) award a contract for conducting remedial and site investigation regarding the clean-up of hazardous wastes, at and near the 40 North Rochdale Avenue garage, to Schoor DePalma and Canger Environmental Services, Inc. for no more than \$54,421, the amount of the State grant the Borough accepted, for the purpose mentioned at the February 27 Special Meeting; (4) support NJ Senate Bill S-1144 which concerns arbitration of police and fire service salary issues (Mr. Johnson objected to opposing unionized police and fire people's efforts to achieve good wages and benefits.); (5) oppose the State's penalty to Roosevelt's school board.



Plan for Northern Area Development Presented

The Roosevelt Planning Board began to discuss a long-awaited draft of a planned community development (PCD) ordinance for 500 acres of northern farmlands at its March 8 meeting. Alan Mallach, *pro bono* consultant for the Board on the project, detailed the proposed ordinance's provisions on behalf of a drafting committee that included Board Chairwoman Gail Hunton, and members Michael Ticktin and Bert Ellentuck. Ms. Hunton said the Board would continue to deliberate the proposal over the next few months before making a recommendation to the Borough Council. The ordinance would not become part of the town's official zoning regulations until passed by the Council after a public hearing.

The draft would allow detached or semi-detached single family houses, townhouses or office/research buildings as conditional uses. The area is currently zoned to allow houses on 10-acre agricultural lots, as well as a small industrial district at the northeast corner of North Rochdale Avenue (Rt. 571) and Oscar Drive. Mr. Mallach explained that the building lots would be restricted to two western tracts across Nurko Road from one another at the Borough's border with Millstone Township and one eastern tract at the other boundary with Millstone north of Oscar Drive (occupied now mostly by the Beer property). To take advantage of the greater number of buildings allowed by the proposal, developers would have to show that owners responsible for 75 percent of the land on either side of North Rochdale had agreed to participate. Mr. Mallach said the proposal would create "a framework for developers who ask what they can do." He added, "It en-



courages people to communicate with one another."

Mr. Mallach pointed out that if all of the new construction were houses, the ordinance would allow 110 to 120 units - 45 to 50 on the eastern side of North Rochdale and 65 to 70 on the western side. He noted that this would amount to a gross density of about one unit to every four acres of northern lands. Since much of the acreage is not "buildable" due to a power line right of way, existing structures and wetlands, the actual or net density would be comparable to that found in the "historical village," according to Mr. Mallach. Meanwhile, large, contiguous expanses of open space would be preserved forever by conservation easements or public ownership. There would be no buildings in wetlands, woodlands and certain farmlands. No driveways would be allowed to open onto Rochdale Ave. Mr. Mallach said the proposal tried to maintain the "corridor viewshed" to the maximum degree possible.

Mr. Mallach said the ordinance would not require flat roofs, but would limit their

pitch. There would be green buffer areas within the developable area. Lot sizes would be slightly larger than those required by the PCD ordinance that governs the Notterman tract, which lies east of North Valley Road and south of Eleanor Lane. Lot size standards would be about 20 percent less than those required for the existing village, according to Mr. Mallach.

Chairwoman Hunton stressed that there would be "no guarantee" that any development under the proposal would have either a positive or negative impact on the tax or utility bills paid by Borough residents. Based on expert advice, which some in town have challenged, the ordinance drafting committee had concluded that approximately 185 new housing units could be absorbed by the Borough without requiring capital improvements to the Roosevelt Public School.

All the new construction would have to connect to Roosevelt's water and sewer systems. Developers would also have to pay for costs of town services directly attributable to the development. Councilman Stuart Kaufman, also a Planning Board member, said the sewer system now has excess capacity, but he added that the water system does not. Lift stations on both sides of North Rochdale would be required to push the added sewage into the present collection system. A sewer line would have to run up to 1,400 feet to link the proposed western development area to the Pine Drive sewer line. The Borough might have to mandate a right of way for the line across the Gerling property, which parallels Pine Drive.

Mr. Mallach said the State Council on Affordable Housing has set a requirement

(cont. on pg. 13)

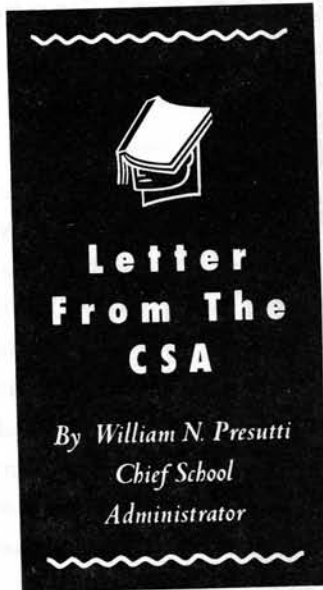
Spring is in the air and many exciting things are taking place at school.

On April 24, 1995, the school will be celebrating Earth Day. Gayle Donnelly and the school staff are planning a great day for the students including a scavenger hunt, a school

compost bin, an assembly and "healthy snacks" provided by our PTA. In addition, we are working on plans to do some gardening around the school building. It is so rewarding for me to see how informed our students are about the environment.

Our "Senior Citizen" reading program is well on its way. We had two volunteers from the community come forth to read to our first and second graders. If anyone else is interested, please call Joanne Cohen at the school. We'd love to have you.

I am beginning to work with volunteers to set up the school/community library. We are in the process of doing an inventory of the books that are on the shelves and setting up a date for Monmouth County to begin sending books. IF YOU COULD HELP BY VOLUNTEERING IN THE LIBRARY, EITHER TO SET-UP/INVENTORY OR STAFFING THE LIBRARY, PLEASE CONTACT ME AT THE SCHOOL.



The PTA has also been busy planning for the spring - events include the Town-Wide Garage Sale and the Art Fair - more information will be forthcoming.

As you know, Roosevelt was one of 70 school districts in the State to receive a penalty for "excess non-

instructional costs." In short, the rules regarding "non-instructional costs" were changed mid-stream and without consideration for the individual needs of small districts. Ultimately, it will be the students who will feel the repercussions of this penalty since many "non-instructional costs" are mandated by the State. The district has been proactive in working to have the penalty revoked through the filing of an appeal with the State Department of Education, testifying at the Senate Education Hearing and the formation of an *Ad Hoc* Committee by the Board of Education. If any member of the community is interested in joining the *Ad Hoc* Committee, please call Walter Landgraf, Business Administrator/Board Secretary at the school.

Enjoy the spring...a time of rebirth that uplifts us all.

Together we can make great things happen!!



CLEAN UP YOUR ACT AND GARAGE FOR A WORTHY CAUSE

Town-wide Garage sale to raise money for the Roosevelt Elementary PTA May 20 and 21

Save these dates and get ready to sell and donate your treasures or White Elephants \$6.00 to have a place on the Roosevelt Great Yard Sale Map For information on how to help, donate, or sell.....call Diana Moore 448-7742 or Ellen Silverman 490-0557

Calling all Artists

The Roosevelt PTA is sponsoring the Roosevelt Art Fair June 3, 11AM-5PM at the Roosevelt Public School.

Deadline date for registration is May 13th.

For contract and more information, please contact Diana Moore 448-7742 or Ellen Silverman 490-0557

Nursery School News



By Marsha Agress
Head Teacher, RCNS

It's finally April, and spring is here at last. The children will make ducks with umbrellas and learn the saying that "April showers bring May flowers." This month pink color bags will be made and numbers will be reviewed through 8.

We will have fun playing with magnets, and learn that some things "attract" and some things "repel." Earth day is in April, and we will talk about the importance of keeping earth's water, air and land clean. We will make litterbug bags to encourage throwing garbage into bags and not on the street.

For the letter O, we will make Ollie the Octopus, counting all 8 legs, and an ocean scene filled with fish, sand and shells. We will plant flowers for P, and have

our annual parade. Each child will be encouraged to have their parent come to school with a special pet (either real or stuffed).

Our spring vacation is from April 14 through April 21st. I would like to wish everyone a very healthy, happy holiday.

Ms. Sally and I would also like to extend our thanks to all the parents that helped sell candy bars. The money earned helped purchase a TV/VCR for the after school program and needed supplies for the nursery school.

Roosevelt Board Of Education News

By Joann San Nicola

Board President Mike Hamilton called the March 17th meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:45 p.m. Two members were absent.

Councilman Dave Donnelly spoke briefly about the March 27 informational meeting concerning the low level toxic waste disposal proposal. There was a communication problem, and the Board had not received an invitation to attend as a group, as the initial notice implied. After some discussion, it was decided that Mr. John-Alder and Mrs. Cokeley would represent the Board at the meeting.

The Ad Hoc Committee has scheduled an open meeting for March 29 to discuss the Administrative Penalty levied against our school district. Since it ultimately concerns our finances, everyone is urged to attend. The meeting will convene at 8:00 p.m. at the school.

There has been no final report on the regionalization study.

Superintendent Presutti reported that Sandy Phillips, the music teacher, will resume her duties on March 22. The library inventory is almost complete and should be fully operational soon.

Mr. Presutti also mentioned that he is meeting with the Student Council for the purpose of deciding on a motto for the district. This, of course, would enlist the aid of all of the students. It's a great idea and should generate enthusiastic school spirit!

A final "punch list" for the work done on the school was done on March 15th. The Board will request a copy of said list, and on April 10th Board members Hatzfeld, Parker and Newrath will go over the list line by line and oversee all the corrections that must be made to insure that all problems have been addressed. They will also meet with Mr. Landgraf to develop a five year maintenance plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Senior Citizen News

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Our President, Jeanette Koffler, chaired this meeting.

We are privileged in having our blood pressures taken before the meetings by Diane (everyone respects her). We also enjoyed the information given to us by Michelle Cooper, also a nurse and involved with geriatrics.

At this meeting, our treasurer, Millie DiGiorgio did her usual good job of collecting dues and making us aware of expenditures and the balance in the treasury.

We have a Nutrition Program on the agenda. The days and times have to be established. This will be held at the community room in Clarksburg. All seniors are welcome.

The bus we get for shopping (not food), on the third Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. of each month, is one we look forward to.

Jeanette furnished the goodies, cheesecake, cookies, etc., which were delicious. Thelma, as she does frequently, made the coffee and tea. It went fast.

'Til next month..

(NUKE PLAN from pg. 1)
 have a tradition of civil discourse.

Many of those in attendance bluntly indicated, some with signs and others with harsh words that no financial incentive would justify assuming risks they believe to be inherent in such a facility. Some had their skepticism magnified at a March 22 meeting at the Roosevelt Public School. At that meeting Diane D'Arrigo, Waste Project Director of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service, a non-profit public interest group, showed slides of open dirt storage trenches and stacked drums and warned residents that "the rules can change after the courtship is over."

The Siting Board staff had been invited to the joint public meeting of the Mayor and Council, Planning Board and Environmental Commission to assist in fact-finding about any radwaste facility. The School Board also sent representatives. Any siting process, including state and local permits and approvals, would take at least a couple of years, even if a municipality were to volunteer tomorrow to be the host community and were able to meet all of the siting criteria. None of the public bodies made any official decision at the meeting.

The Siting Board is searching for a single New Jersey municipality that will volunteer a site to store radioactive materials generated by nuclear power plants, as well as medical, industrial and research operations. According to information supplied by the Siting Board, 55 percent of the volume and 93 percent of the radioactivity entombed at the proposed disposal site would come from nuclear power plants.

The municipality that volunteers a site will receive upwards of \$2 million a year - taking in 5 percent of the facility's gross receipts (about \$850,000 per year) and receiving payments in lieu of property taxes from the state-owned facility - for the 50 years the facility would be accepting waste. That amount is greater than Roosevelt's current municipal and school budgets combined. However, after 50 years, the revenue from gross receipts would end. Members of the public also questioned if the facility would lose value at that point and, therefore, no longer have to pay as much money to the Borough in lieu of taxes. Mr. Weingart stated that other ways of providing payment could be negotiated.

Other incentives that could be promised to the host community as part of what the speak-

ers called "binding agreements" include:

- improvement and maintenance of the buffer area around the facility for recreational purposes;
- community improvements, including road repairs and construction of new school facilities;
- funding to ensure long-term monitoring for health and environmental concerns, including an independent monitor or inspector hired by the town; and
- establishing a fund to guarantee property values in the surrounding area so that people who sought to sell their homes would not have to worry that they might suffer a financial loss because of public perception of the facility.

Several members of the public were unwilling to accept any assurances that the Borough would not be stung by broken promises. This happened several years ago when state officials verbally promised Roosevelt payments in lieu of property taxes for a house the State purchased as a home for autistic children. It turned out the State reimbursed Roosevelt for municipal purpose taxes but not for school taxes, which constitute the lion's share of local property taxes. When confronted with the promises that

had been made at a public meeting, state officials merely replied that the Human Services representatives had mis-spoken. Other verbal assurances made regarding the autistic home also proved to be bogus, and Roosevelt was eventually stuck with an abandoned, deteriorating dwelling for years before it was rescued by a private purchaser. This left a bad taste that enhances Rooseveltians' skepticism about promises from State officials.

The \$100 million facility would accept radwaste from more than 100 generator storage sites presently scattered around New Jersey. Generators can no longer ship their waste to a South Carolina facility that had been accepting it until July 1994. According to Siting Board literature, the average annual volume of radwaste generated in New Jersey is 35,000 cubic feet - about the size of nine two-car garages or 100 parcel delivery vanloads. Deliveries could be two vans a week, or they could be clustered for a particular month. Factors such as the decommissioning of large nuclear generating plants (there are four in New Jersey) and increased use of radioactive materials by academic, medical and industrial facilities - or further waste reduction by generators — could raise or low-

er this annual volume. Residents wanted to know whether waste from other states could find its way into the New Jersey site. Federal law allows states to form regional compacts which protect a disposal site developed within that compact from having to accept waste from outside its compact region. New Jersey is part of the Northeast Compact, a two-state compact with Connecticut. Mr. Weingart said each currently plans to develop a disposal facility to handle its own waste. Public questioners also wanted to know how the State could guarantee safety when some of the waste will need to be stored for 500 years.

Any facility would require 50 acres for the actual storage structures surrounded by another 50 to 100 acres for a buffer. The waste, packaged in containers, would be encased in reinforced concrete. When filled, the structures would be closed and covered with several layers of earth, sand and clay to direct rain and runoff water away from them.

If the disposal site lived up to all the promises made for it, radiation exposure to those living along its 100-acre perimeter would be limited to 25 millirems per year. That is one-tenth of the radiation an average American receives annual-

ly from natural sources such as radon, cosmic rays, rocks and soils, and food and water, according to Weingart. Some questioners were convinced that radioactive material would leak into the area's water supply and would not accept Mr. Weingart's and Ms. Eng's statements that they were not aware of any situation where an aquifer had been tainted. Others were equally convinced that collisions involving transport vehicles or natural disasters would release dangerous radioactivity. They derided the speakers' contentions

that these occurrences could be prevented or remedied without harm to people.

The Siting Board has adopted several criteria for determining whether a site is suitable. Some would seem to be potentially prohibitive for any site located in Roosevelt. For example, the site must be located in a geologically suitable area where the waste would not be placed in wetlands. However, wetlands are scattered all around Roosevelt's 500 acres of northern farmlands. Siting must also consider historic, cultural, re-

ligious, or ethnic significance. Ralph Seligman reminded Mr. Weingart that the entire Borough of Roosevelt is listed on the state and national registers of historic places, in part for its cultural, religious and ethnic heritage. In addition, siting must consider known habitats of rare, threatened or endangered species. The local Environmental Commission has identified such species in Roosevelt.

Mayor Allen said the Council would make no decision without a binding referendum. Several of those present shouted that the apparent opposition should convince the Mayor and Council that the town should withdraw from the fact-finding process. Mr. Weingart said he would not return to Roosevelt unless invited again. Mayor Allen said that those present at the meeting did not necessarily speak for a majority of the townspeople. Planning Board member Jeffrey Hunt asked whether there would be a "preemptive referendum" to decide whether to end the process immediately if a majority of residents signed a petition indicating their opposition. Mayor Allen said that would be up to the Council. All this boded a large turnout for the next Council meeting.

The Roosevelt Fire Company and First Aid Squad Needs You!!!

By Jack Rindt, Fireman

Help your town and your neighbors get involved. Volunteer for the Fire Company, First Aid or both. Members are needed badly. To join either company, see any member for an application.

Coming soon there will be an Emergency Service Open House at the Borough Hall. All are welcome. Just come and see the equipment.



Eating Out(side)

It's picnic time, time to pack a snack and take a hike. Time to slip out of the office and munch your lunch. Time to clamber into the car and cruise to where the breeze blows. Time to cart the kids to a grassy slope and let them roll in their feed. Time to make time: for a meal in a meadow, a cracker in the grass. Feast your eyes on the view and turn your nose to the wind.

I love the diners, and the pizzerias, too. They've got ambiance and bustle and soda straws. You can thrill your senses with alternating blasts of cold air and hot, as first the front door and then the kitchen doors swing open. You can bask in the scents of coffee, spices, cigarette smoke, and burnt toast. The faint odors of soured milk and bleach that rise from the counters always thrill me. The squeak of vinyl and the feel of sticky-smooth formica makes my skin tingle. But enough is enough; winter's over. Let's go out.

A French lawyer and gourmet, Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, wrote in his 1825 book, (translated) *The Physiology of Taste*, on the delights of what he called "hunting luncheons." They are, says Brillat-Savarin, "one of the most delightful of all occasions when eating counts in the pattern of life." I agree that the best outdoor eating comes "after several hours of exercise [when one's] face has been caressed by the early-morning breeze" and "the sun is about to stand at its peak in the sky."

And I'm all for dining as he proposes, in a shady spot, on a cushion of grass, hard by a murmuring stream. I'm even up to bringing along his suggested wine (white, which "stands up better to movement and heat, and is more exhilarating"). The recommended crusty bread, cold chicken, and Gruyere cheese sound good too.

I'll probably never experience anything like Brillat-Savarin's description of a high society hunting picnic, though, at which "watchful servants arrive, laden with those jars consecrated to Bacchus, where artificial cold chills at one time Madeira, strawberry juice, and pineapple," and I despair of ever being met "at the appoint-



Crumbs From My Table

By Rebecca Reuter

ed hour," by "light carriages with prancing horses ...laden with lovely women decked with feathers, and with flowers." Brillat-Savarin could expect that the sides of the light carriages would open out to reveal "the treasures of Perigord, the marvels of Strasbourg ... and everything that can be carried away from the most knowing culinary laboratories."

I'm more likely to settle for a paper-wrapped hoagie dripping oil by the Assunpink lake. If I'm lucky, the appointed hour will bring me the quick flash of a red-winged blackbird, truer harbinger of spring than feather-decked hats. Chances

are I'll be toting my own beverages too, maybe a sticky bottle of juice, a liter of cherry seltzer, or a paper cup sloshing coffee. Not nectar of the gods, exactly, but everything tastes better outside anyway.

Though mail-order catalogs and housewares shops carry a range of woven wicker baskets complete with strapped-in plates, cutlery, and goblets, people don't use those things any more than they use light carriages or eat "treasures from Perigord." My own casual survey reveals that sandwiches and cold chicken, neither of which require even a plate, are still the first foods that come to mind when "picnic" is mentioned. *Real* picnic food is eat-out-of-hand and drink-from-the-bottle food. Paper towels are optional.

The only essential ingredients for a picnic are a good view, good weather, and *something* to eat. You can take a peanut-butter sandwich, or a hoagie from the deli. You can take leftover oatmeal in a cup if that's all you've got. Just take it out, take a friend, and hie thee to a hill with it.

Even Brillat-Savarin, who enjoyed picnicking pleasures way beyond my scope, admitted that none of the fancy accouterments were indispensable, and that a simple lunch outdoors, with "games and gay nonsense" could have "no less charm about it for its lack of luxury, no less gaiety and pleasure."

Sandwich for a Sack

Buy a loaf of very crusty Italian bread, split the top from the bottom all down the length of it, and pull out about half of the soft insides, as if you were making each long piece into a canoe. Save the soft bread for something else, or give it to small children who will roll it into balls between their palms and feed it to the dog. Into this empty loaf you can now layer an assortment of whatever you can get that is good. Cut the finished sandwich into five or six pieces and wrap them in waxed paper "to go" (plastic wrap will make them mushy).

Try: Slices of fresh mozzarella, tomatoes, basil leaves, olive oil, and black pepper. Fresh mozzarella is available at Italian groceries, floating in water in the deli case.

Or: Grilled or broiled slices of eggplant and sweet red peppers. Maybe some sauteed onions and mushrooms, or a little Italian sausage. Brush the eggplant lightly with vinaigrette before grilling. Grill the peppers till the skin turns black, then cool and scrape most of the skin off with a butter knife or fingers. Add some arugula or basil to the sandwich, and drizzle it with olive oil and vinegar.

Or: Cold roast chicken with leaf lettuce, thinly sliced sweet onion, mayonnaise or oil, and a sprinkle of coarse salt and pepper. "Cold roast" really means "leftover," so I won't give a recipe... but I *do* think that Louise Rosskam's method of roasting the bird with a whole lemon inside it makes really delicious leftovers.



(RESIDENTS RALLY fr. pg 1)
 She spoke of "compacts", which are waste deposit groups having their own commissioners and are self governing. Their decisions override local and state governments, yet these commissioners are not liable if anything goes wrong at the site. Ms. D'Arrigo then presented a slide show on toxic waste sites. Many of the sites shown, however, were not germane to our decision making process because they showed many open dump sites common in the late sixties and early seventies.

Her presentation appeared to be slanted to the negative aspects, which will sharpen and focus our line of questioning in investigating all of the facts. When asked about health studies on the subject, she said that none were valid for one reason or another. She had no statistics on damage to aquifers, property values, or long term effects on the site community.

A question and answer period followed the slide presentation. At one point the discussion became very heated, with "Who wants it!", "Why Roosevelt?", and "Whose idea was this?" thrown out to the floor.

It appeared to this reporter that many of the attendees were from Millstone, while many of

our prominent citizens were not present. Most of the questions asked were those which are uppermost in the minds of everyone. Concerns about health and safety, property values, and long term effects on the environment were voiced frequently.

If nothing else, the meeting provided fodder for questions at the general town meeting. It

is, however, in the best interest of every citizen to keep an open mind, gather the hard facts and research the proposal in order to make an informed decision. As we approach the twenty-first century, nuclear power touches every aspect of our lives. It is incumbent on everyone to see that this power is harnessed in the safest possible way! ☀

**FORMER
 ROOSEVELTIAN
 WISHES TO BUY AN
 ORIGINAL ROOSEVELT
 HOME, DETACHED,
 WITH BACK YARD
 FACING ONTO THE
 WOODS. CAN CLOSE
 IMMEDIATELY.
 PLEASE CALL MELISSA
 HECHT, 443-4271**

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 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

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.

(PLAN BD. from pg. 5)
of 34 units for Roosevelt. He added that the Borough can obtain credit for 2I units in the Solar Village if it "submits a plan showing a realistic potential to meet the rest of its obligation." Therefore, the draft ordinance requires developers to set aside five percent of any housing units for low income housing and five percent for moderate income housing.

Manufacturing would not be allowed in the new development. Ms. Hunton said office/research was allowed, despite the lack of a market for such facilities in the area, because "people want it, and we would incur their wrath if we were to exclude it, no matter how unlikely it may be." Mr. Mallach said there would be "no major downside" from including office/research.

The Board also confirmed the time and place for a joint public meeting with the Council, Environmental Commission and Board of Education to "review siting requirements for the low-level radioactive waste disposal facility in New Jersey, as specified by the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility Siting Board." The meeting, at 7:45 P.M., March 27, in the Borough Hall, was scheduled to have the Siting Board's Executive Director, John Weingart, provide information.

Earlier in the evening, wear-

ing the hat of citizen/applicant, Mr. Mallach and his wife, Robin Gould, obtained a variance from the Board allowing them to expand an office on the western side of their Pine Drive home into the side yard. Mr. Mallach pointed out that the present wall is already just 15 feet from the side yard boundary, although the zoning ordinance requires 25 feet. He said the additional five feet would allow him to install south-facing windows in the room, which he uses as a home office. This would enable him to remove the current west-facing windows. This would afford

more privacy to the neighbors in that direction, according to Mr. Mallach. He added that those neighbors told him they had no objection and "thought it was a great idea." No neighbors who received notification registered any objection.

The office extension is part of a project that will include expanding the living and dining rooms into the rear yard. Mr. Mallach said he rejected adding a second story or a peaked roof because, "I prize the lines of our house and have come up with a solution that would not materially affect that." He noted that the eastern side yard ex-

tends 44 feet so that the aggregate side yards will still exceed 50 feet. Moreover, the neighboring house to the west is an attached house with a large side yard that during the non-winter months renders the house virtually invisible, except for its second story addition, from the Mallach house. Mr. Mallach contended, "The siting of the house provides a basis for treating this as a legitimate variance application."

Mr. Ellentuck said he was "concerned that there is not a reason on the ground for which the permit should be granted." He commented that some subsequent owner of the neighboring house might not appreciate the reduced distance. He also expressed concern that granting the variance might set a harmful precedent. Mr. Ellentuck cast the sole vote against the variance. Voting in favor were Chairwoman Hunton, Councilman Kaufman, Mayor Lee Allen, Paul Henry, Jeffrey Hunt, David Leff, Harry Parker and Joseph Zahora.

Edith Walls, who did not make a formal application, asked the Board for informational guidance regarding an expansion of bedroom walls into the side yard of her Tamara Drive home. Board members advised her that she might not need a variance if she could keep the added width to eight feet in front and 12 feet in the rear.

Stefan Martin Memorial Benefit Concert

By Chris Martin

Ron Orlando and Dirt Cheap are coming out of retirement to play along with the Roosevelt String Band at the Grace N. Rogers School, Stockton Street, Hightstown, NJ, on May 13th at 8:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door (\$5 for seniors and students.) Shortly after the passing of Stefan, Ron Orlando explained that he wanted to do a concert to raise money for the memorial fund Bernarda Shahn started at the memorial service for Stefan. All proceeds will go to the Stefan Martin Foundation, a non-profit organization. The first goal will be to establish a memorial of some kind in Roosevelt for Stefan. The other goals of the foundation will be to help the arts, environment and philanthropic concerns for endangered species.

This wonderful show is being brought to you with the help of Roosevelt Arts Project, John Bates and Outa Sights and Sounds, an organization that promotes folk music on the east coast and the Stefan Martin Foundation.

Please come out and bring your friends. You won't want to miss this one! For more information, please call Chris Martin at 448-2118.



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



By Ron Filepp

**A SHORE
 THING**

What a difference a few miles can make. On March 14 at about 3pm Robin and I went to the shore to visit family and stroll on the boardwalk. Robin drove the car while I closed my eyes and rested.

On I-195 near Route 9 I felt a chill and opened my eyes. We were socked in! We had gone from sunny, warm and dry weather in Roosevelt to cloudy, cold and foggy weath-

er in 20 minutes. Temperatures in the upper 60's in Roosevelt gave way to temperatures in the 40's at the shore. On shore breezes brought in the clouds, fog and cold air off the water.

It is typically cooler at the shore in the spring and summer than it is inland so, we both brought coats. But we were not prepared for such a dramatic difference in the weather. We decided not to walk on the boards because no hats and no inspiration to walk in near precipitation caused hesitation.

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE,
 NO IT'S ...

... Sky Awareness Week, an annual celebration of the sky that occurs this year April 23 - 29. Sky Awareness Week has been celebrated for the last five years.

The theme of this year's celebration is "The Sky: Where Meteorology and Astronomy Meet." Weighty questions are to be considered: How does the weather affect those interested in studying the sky beyond our atmosphere? How do astronomical factors affect watching the weather sky?

If someone asks you why your attention is fixed on the sky instead of the yard work they think you should be doing, tell them you're participating in Sky

Awareness Week activities. Have the two questions mentioned above memorized and repeat each in a serious tone. It will

Weather Table

February 15 - March 15

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	38.0	14.0	26.0	0
16	37.5	33.0	35.3	0.45
17	44.0	30.0	37.0	0
18	49.0	24.5	36.8	0
19	50.0	23.0	36.5	0
20	52.0	23.0	37.5	0
21	43.0	35.0	39.0	0.10
22	38.5	28.0	33.3	0.05
23	44.0	32.0	38.0	0
24	47.0	28.0	37.5	0.28
25	40.0	22.5	31.3	0
26	32.5	27.0	29.8	0
27	37.0	25.0	31.0	0
28	49.5	34.0	41.8	0.53
1	46.0	34.0	40.0	0.40
2	40.0	27.5	33.8	0
3	43.0	30.0	36.5	0
4	40.0	34.0	37.0	0.09
5	50.0	30.0	40.0	0.05
6	56.0	30.0	43.0	0
7	62.0	38.0	50.0	0
8	72.0	38.0	55.0	0
9	36.0	28.0	32.0	1.26
10	37.0	20.0	28.5	0
11	50.0	24.0	37.0	0
12	60.0	30.0	45.0	0
13	66.0	33.0	49.5	0
14	65.0	38.0	51.5	0
15	68.5	44.0	56.3	0
Total Precip				3.21

buy you time. Better yet, you might be able to convince your inquisitor to join you in watching the show.

The main objective is to get people to look up and enjoy. Most people can recall looking at clouds to see the shapes of animals and objects. Here's an excuse to relive that childhood activity.

Cumulus clouds, the big puffy ones, are particularly suited to resemble solid and bulky objects like a ship or a head. The higher, icy cirrus clouds have a more ethereal presence. Their wispy forms sometimes look like a horse's tail. One type of cirrus cloud is even called "mares' tails." Middle level altocumulus clouds can take center-stage of a sunset sky as they reflect reds, purples, whites and greys. Set against a deep, blue sky the sight can take your breath away.

WINTER '95

In the winter of '94 there was a lot of windshield scraping, driveway digging and slipping and sliding going on in Roosevelt. Area stores were hard pressed to keep up with the demand for snow and ice removal items. By contrast the winter of '95 found children playing in shirt sleeves in mid-January and some spring-blooming bushes were in flower then as well. Mid-March had

anxious gardeners out in tee shirts working up a sweat turning the soft, dry soil.

The average temperature for the winter of '95 in Roosevelt was 36.1 degrees. The icy winter of '94 had an average of 27.7 degrees. This last season also had fewer days with temperatures that fell below freezing (61) than the year before (73). Daytime high temperatures failed to reach above 32 degrees on only nine days this winter.

Last winter the mercury failed to get above freezing on 26 days.

The lowest temperature in town from December 1 through February 28 was seven degrees - recorded on February 6. The highest temperature for the three-month period was 69.5 degrees on January 15.

Snow fell on eight days from December through February. Few of those snowfalls brought any accumulation and some

of the snowfalls were mixed with rain.

Snow accumulation this year was less than half of the '94 total. December '94 through February '95 left less than 12 inches on the ground. The same period the year before piled 26 inches of snow on the ground. March 1994 brought an additional 10.5 inches. As of this writing there was no measurable snow in March 1995.

LOSING ALL YOUR

HIGHS AND LOWS

Adding the total snow accumulations of the past two winters in Roosevelt gives a total of approximately 48.5 inches. The total average snow accumulation for two winters in our area is 48 inches. These two extreme winters have kept us on track with the averages. Statistics are such dutiful minions.

WEATHER FINDING

The light of the Full Moon has been found to raise the temperature on earth by two-one-hundredths of a degree above the temperature that would be experienced on a similar night with a New Moon. The finding was recently made after analyzing data collected by a satellite over seventeen years.

Springfest at the Reed House!!

By Chris Martin

Shannon Grover of Reed House Limited Edition and the Stefan Martin Foundation want to welcome you to the First Annual Springfest at the Reed House with games, music, poster contest and more on Saturday, April 29. The focus of the poster contest is "Love our Earth & Recycling". Sunday, April 30, will be an open house showing of the works of Stefan Martin. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Stefan Martin Foundation.

The Better Beginnings Day Care Center will be on hand with a bake and flower sale. Along with tee shirts and crafts some of the proceeds will benefit this wonderful center. Hours for both days will be from Noon to 6:00 p.m. A reception will

be held on Sunday, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the judging of the kids' posters at 5:00 p.m. with awards. One winning poster will be published and sold throughout the year. Any school or non-school children's group is welcome to attend. Please have rough drafts of posters

ready before the weekend.

For more information, contact Shannon Grover at the Reed House Limited Editions, 200 N. Main St., Hightstown, NJ 08502, 609-443-1105; or, Chris Martin, 10 S. Rochdale Ave., Roosevelt, NJ 08555, 609-448-2118.



Reed House by Stefan Martin

WEATHER WORD

A "Dry Line" is the boundary between warm, dry air and warm, humid air along which thunderstorms form. Source: *The Weather Book* by Jack Williams



A Series of Interviews with the Younger Artists in Town: A Portrait of David Herrstrom

By Judith McNally

The time is 7:30 a.m. David Herrstrom has caught an early bus, commuted over an hour to his New York office and is already hard at work. But he's not working on a project. He's writing poetry for an hour or an hour and a half.

He's not drawn to being an artist. "I'm driven. New York energizes me. I'm like an anthropologist." Regarding his early hours, David adds, "It's not that I have discipline. I don't feel right unless I write."

Forty-nine now, the impulse to write poetry flowered in David when he was 15. "I grew up in the sticks in northern California. We had just gotten a TV and I had to find language for the experience. I wanted to be a geophysicist - bound and determined. Then I got encouraged in English classes. This impulse to write beat everything else out. I was really taken by surprise. I ended up with a Ph.D. in English Literature from NYU."

He now works full-time as a manager of information development and on-line information systems for Citycorp Dealing Resources.

"Sometimes," says David, "I eat lunch real quick and try to write more."

He writes lines down on the back of a memo.

It's all part of trying to be accessible. "I'm trying," says the poet, "to be absolutely clear about the experience. I hope there'll be an electric arc where the other person says, Yes! I don't write for myself only; I have to give these things to other people. If I'm sharing this, it's a community. If you cut yourself off from that community, to me, that's tragic."

He recognizes a wide range of poetry in this country today. "There are poles. There are a number of strands of poetry in America. That's what makes it interesting. There's rap. There are cowboy poems. The oral tradition always informs the written. They inform each other."

He works, "just about every day, and more on Saturday and Sunday." Part of what he has to show for it is a volume, *Appearing*

by Daylight, published in 1992, but written in his 20's, with drawings by Jacob Landau.

If David's not writing, "I get anxious, I get tight, less tolerant. It's like being barred from the thing you have to do." But, he adds, "My impulse is to work - that this work will continue to be known."

David counts as an early influence his dad reading aloud from the Bible every night. "I was very lucky. Those rhythms of the King James Bible stay with you." He also read "Howl," by Allen Ginsberg, on a retreat at age 15. "That was the extent of my poetic universe." Later, he cites evening seminars with M.L. Rosenthal in the Village, and Princeton's USI workshop with Alicia Ostriker, Rod Tulloss, David Keller, Cynthia Gooding and others.

The state of poetry today is, "Wonderful! I'm thrilled by the variety. I can hear John Ashbery the same night as Victor Hernandez Cruz. People are pushing the envelope at both ends."

He continues, "Poetry is there to resonate with its beauty. It doesn't do anything."

Asked how a poem can heal, he replied, "It's not therapy. It brings tremendous forces into equilibrium, healing in the way a shaman heals, mediating the known and the unknown."

Is there a primary function of a poem? "No," said the poet. "A poem serves many functions." For David, "This is something I need. It gives me pleasure. What's wrong with pleasure?" Hearing T.S. Eliot on a scratchy old record when David was 17 gave him pleasure.

Asked why he thinks the very first poem was written, David mused, "I suspect it was the need to savor a particular experience. A need to fix it forever and then go on. This is for my children, my tribe; we will come to be believed because we will continue to be known."

Travelling to the present, David was asked what he thought would happen at a major peace conference, if each participant were asked to write a poem. "What would ensue," David pondered, "would be a celebration of gift giving. You'd end up with

the usual mix of lies and truth. I think we'd be quite delighted with how many things are out there that we think of as poetry."

Does he have any advice for would-be poets? "When you are compelled to make something, you will make it."

A resident of Roosevelt for 20 years, David lives with his wife Connie, a Fee-Only Financial Planner. Their daughter Tristen is a graduate student at Boston's Northeastern University in industrial-organization psychology.

David, who loves giving readings, makes his next appearance in April as part of the Poets in the Schools programs, sponsored by the NJ State Council For The Arts.

As president for several years of the Roosevelt Arts Project, David's busy life also includes strong interests in Spanish language and literature, plus his weekly appearance on the tennis courts.

He describes the duality of his world: "For a living, I'm designing virtuality in a hyper-text realm. At the tail end of the 60's, academia seemed provincial, whereas now I'm out in the middle of a hyper-graphic revolution."

"As a poet, my goal is beauty in my work. I can't separate spirituality from beauty. I have to have both in my life."



☞ Diane and Joseph Zahora of School Lane, are joined by big brother, Joseph (age 4), in welcoming Rebecca Elizabeth Zahora, born February 22.

☞ Robert Warnick, of Roosevelt, and Kellie Camacho, of Savannah, Georgia, are engaged. No date for their wedding has been set.

☞ Manny Koffler, of Homestead Lane, celebrated his 85th birthday on January 23.

☞ Deidre Sheean and Ronald Kostar moved into 18 Pine Drive last fall with Nathaniel (age 9) and Devin (age 3).

☞ Art Exhibition at Peddie School: The work of Robert Mueller and Amy Medford are included in the exhibit, Peddie's Small Works which opened at the Mariboe Art Gallery of the Richard L. Swig Art Center with a reception on March 24. The exhibit will continue until April 28.

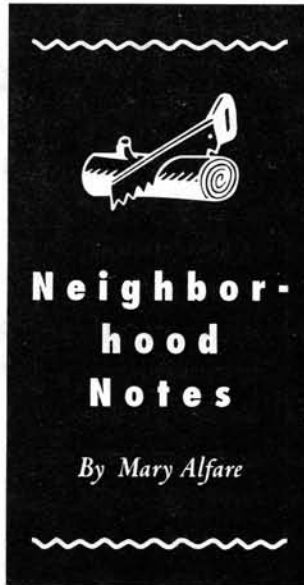
- From RPS:

☞ Work is underway to re-open the library for students and the community. Volunteers are needed for day and evening hours. For information or to sign up call Helen Barth at 448-2798.

☞ Watch for PTA fliers and information on the Town-wide Garage Sale, the June Art Fair and the Comedy Club Trip.

- From Kreps Middle School:

☞ Sean Parker, grade 7, placed as a runner-up on the Kreps Wrestling Team at the



Garden State Middle School Wrestling Tournament on January 21. (Sean still awaits information on whether he made the final cut to become part of the Olympic Development Team).

☞ Kathleen Alfare, Grade 8, placed fourth in the E.W. Regional Spelling Bee sponsored by The Times.

- From Hightstown

High School:

☞ Jessica Hague, grade 10, as a school Red Cross Club member, received a certificate for her volunteer work with the district's elementary school "Families and Schools Together" program.

☞ High Honor Roll (2nd Marking Period): Grade 9 Avery Cayne, Jack Cummings, Sarah Henry and Rachel Ticktin; Grade 10 Eric Nachtman. Regular Honor Roll: Grade 10 James Edelstein, Jessica Hermann, Christopher Lepore and Meira Yeger. Grade 11 Christina Henderson and Stefanie Miller.

(Call or write Mary Alfare at 609-443-4243 or P.O. Box 58, Roosevelt, NJ, 08555. Items may also be dropped off at 51 Lake Dr. Please include name and phone number of contact person for clarification. *The Bulletin* reserves the right to edit submissions.)



Our Children's Voices

Note: We continue to publish samples of RPS's participation in the Writing Workshop Program. The following were done by 5th grade students.

AT NIGHT

By Brandon Lugannani

At night he comes out
to destroy things.

At night his five strong
legs stomp on things.

At night he rips apart
things with four big arms.

At night he takes a big breath
and is about to flow fire.

But he just swallows and says
"What a spicy meatball."

A WISE MAN

By William Edelstein

I live for life,
I hide from all noises stirring,
I know he's out there,
I know he's alive, at least
I wish he was, he's whoever
you want him to be.

OUR TEACHER

By Josue Ortiz

Mr. L
Is a ringing bell
He is always ready,
He is always steady.
He is a great teacher!

DOGS

By Shaun Conover

My dogs chew on my pogs,
and take jogs,
chasing frogs all through the bogs.

POETRY

By Molly Petrilla

Poetry is a way
Of saying what you want to say.
Especially when you're happy, sad or glad.
Try to write even when you're sick or well or mad.
Read others poems or share yours
Yell when it's good (but close the doors!)

THE BUCK STOPS HERE

By Jason Cokely



The Second Sax, or, Manny for all Seasons

By Arthur Shapiro

Jeannette Koffler has asked us to reprint the following article which appeared in The Bulletin in 1985 on Manny's 75th birthday in order to honor him on his 85th which he celebrated a month ago. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MANNY!

Picture yourself at a wedding with all of the trimmings — a bust of the lucky couple cast in chopped liver, waiters in fancy red jackets and black bowties serving hors d'oeuvres and expensive champagne. You can almost hear the soft mel-low notes of a tenor sax as they drift from the bandstand crying "The Anniversary Song" or "Sunrise, Sunset." If you've lived in this town for any length of time at all, there's no one you can picture flawlessly making that music but Manny Koffler, graduate of the Julliard School of Music and current Second Saxophonist with the Roosevelt Community Band!

In honor of Manny's celebrating his 70th birthday, he was honored by relatives and friends with a well-deserved party on Jan. 19, at the Prospect House in Princeton. But, we honored the man not only because of his chronological age; we honored him because of his just being Manny — long time

friend and neighbor. It's good to know that while most of his contemporaries seem to be migrating to the condominiums of Florida, Manny and Jeanette plan to stay here in Roosevelt, much to the delight of us all. They're beautiful people.

Manny's roots in this town go back a long way. After serving in an army band during World War II, he married Jeanette, one of the local, lovely "Feldsher girls." Then, in 1945, after briefly living in New York, they bought the last Jersey Homestead house available for sale by the U.S. Government. They had twenty-four hours to make up their minds, and decided to take it.

While their children Steve and Susan were growing up in Roosevelt, Manny commuted daily to his job as a food supervisor at Fort Dix. He still has strong feelings about the base as was evidenced to me last June. After graduation exercises, while most local residents were getting Senator Bill Bradley's



autograph, Manny was giving him a stern lecture on the importance of not allowing the army to close Fort Dix. (Apparently the Senator was listening; the base is remaining open!).

Manny's friendships are many and cut across all boundaries. This became apparent to me the other day while I was visiting Bruce and Andrea Lakin, neighbors of the Kofflers'. During our conversation, their four-year-old daughter, Brie, came into the room and said, "Mommy, I picked up my things; now can I go next door and watch television with Manny?"

One of my favorite stories involves Manny's two dogs, Sam and Gigi, both of whom follow him everywhere — even to Sabbath Services. During this year's High Holy Days, one of Manny's dogs was accidentally let into the Synagogue — much to the chagrin of some of the worshippers who began whispering, "Get the dog out! Get the dog out!" Noticing the slight commotion, the rabbi

paused, turned to the congregation, and announced, "Take it easy! Don't get so upset. I know that dog. He comes to services more regularly than most of you do!"

I've gotten to know Manny best over the years during the times we rehearsed and played with the Roosevelt Community Band. Together, we make up the sax section. I'm always entertained by both his musicianship and humor. We often jokingly argue amongst ourselves. One of my favorite "Manny" lines was spoken during one rehearsal when Manny and our piano player/leader had a slight difference of opinion regarding tempo. "If she doesn't watch out, she'll be playing in a three piece band," he said to me in an aside. Out of curiosity I asked, "What three pieces?" With a straight face, Manny answered, "Her, the piano, and the bench!"

Manny's taught me many things over the years, like how to play a B flat two ways and how to trim a chipped reed with a quarter and a match. But, the most important lesson Manny teaches us all is that one can go through life as a "mensch" — a decent, caring human being with a sense of humor. ♣

TO THE EDITOR

Roosevelt has had a history of financial difficulty virtually from the time of its inception. One government regulation after another has flattened us with an ever increasing burden of mandates. Things have become particularly acute in recent years. We have turned on each other like mad dogs, and yet none of us has been able to envision any form of meaningful relief. Now, it appears that we in Roosevelt may be in an excellent position to benefit from still another government regulation.

In recent years, national storage facilities for low-level nuclear material have been closed, and states have been required to make their own "in house" arrangements to replace those facilities. Low-level materials include isotopic by-products of electric power plants and other isotopes that are used routinely in university and pharmaceutical research laboratories and in clinical diagnostic/therapeutic procedures. Some of the more commonly used isotopes include forms of hydrogen, carbon, iodine, phosphorus, sulfur, sodium, and potassium. The radioactivity of these isotopes is generally of low energy and can be stopped completely by a barrier as sim-

ple and common as a sheet of plexiglas. Many of the isotopes "decay" so quickly that they can legally and safely be discarded as regular trash within a year or so. Regulations for the separation of isotopes from other forms of waste (e.g., medical, chemical) are rigorous and strictly enforced, and all isotopes are stored in very stable forms. Liquid waste, for example, is often converted into hardened concrete for storage.

I am one of a number of local residents who uses radioactive isotopes at work. In my biological research, I use radioactive forms of hydrogen, iodine, and phosphorus. I follow appropriate safety procedures and regularly monitor my laboratory for accidental spillage, but my risk is so low that I am not required to monitor my body for exposure or accidental intake. Even though I handle radioactive isotopes on a regular basis, the safety procedures that I follow insure that my routine activities are safe. Moreover, passage through the hallway next to my laboratory is completely unrestricted to the university community. There is



absolutely no risk of exposure, even within a few feet of my laboratory.

As has been reported recently, New Jersey officials have begun to search for a locality receptive to the idea of sit-

ing a low-level nuclear storage facility within its purview. The facility will require something like 50 acres for the storage structures themselves and an additional 100 acres or so of surrounding "buffer". This could easily be tucked away in Roosevelt, and for all practical purposes, we would lead our daily lives completely unaware of the physical presence of the storage facility. The state will provide substantial financial compensation to the municipality that becomes the home of New Jersey's facility. I leave it to others to describe the exact financial incentives being offered by the state, but my recollection is that something on the order of our entire annual municipal and school budget will be paid by the state every year for the life of the facility.

All Roosevelt residents should join me in asking that the Mayor and Council pursue the possibility of siting New Jersey's low-

level nuclear storage facility in our town. The advantages are very real. In addition to the obvious financial benefit, we would be able to settle the growth/no growth dispute once and for all by simply buying all of the available property in town and dedicating it to open space. Disadvantages are not prohibitive to me. The obvious objection that real estate values might be depressed by the proximity of a nuclear storage facility would not seem to be relevant in Roosevelt, where real estate values have already fallen through the floor.

The possibility of substantial local financial relief through our acceptance of New Jersey's low-level nuclear storage facility seems to me the only game in town. Indeed, I do not think we have any alternative. As evidenced by recent analyses of residential growth, the best-case scenario through conventional forms of development would still leave us in an uncompetitive tax situation. As evidenced by recent turns in state and federal governments, any hope of an equitable tax structure is unrealistic.

Let's look at the pros and cons of siting a nuclear storage facility in Roosevelt, and let's be rational about it. Let's be wary of big promises, but let's not reject this opportu-

nity out of hand. If we can satisfy our legitimate concerns about long-term safety and management, then I think we can agree that it would be well worth our while to pursue this strategy.

Henry B. John-Alder

TO THE EDITOR

The letter I wrote in response to your contemptuous dismissal of unimproved roads as a possible way to go, suffered from having an entire sentence collapsed to suggest the opposite of my view. The sentence should read: "We could now feel we had advanced from a rural village (the kind tourists pay money to visit) to a standard suburb (the kind we pay money to escape)." Though I haven't expressed the distinction as eloquently as I'd like, the point is that environments that are pleasurable and healthy and peaceful and individual are increasingly rare and will become increasingly valuable as they disappear. Not only are we in danger of losing for ourselves and our children the advantages of an "underdeveloped" community, but we are risking our only hope of recovering the financial value of our property - and yes, without selling out to the radioactive waste disposers either, low level or not.

Dina Coe

TO THE EDITOR

Yesterday, I went to the creek with my friend. We threw some rocks in the creek. Then we rode up the hill to Diana Moore's house and back down the hill. When we got to the bottom and a car was coming, we pulled over to the rocks and I leaned over to the guardrail, and I almost got cut! I sorta did. I was not bleeding at all, but I had a mark on my finger.

I know that some of you like the guardrails, but the kids can't chase frogs without getting cut or hurt. The rails are very rusty and if you get cut you might get rust poisoning. So, my point is some of the kids hate them. I hate the guardrails more than spinach.

So, if you come to meetings, you can complain. I don't know if you want your kids to have rust poisoning. So, go ahead and complain. And, if your kids get rust poisoning, blame it on the Council.

*Tina Stephanie Vasseur
Grade 3 RPS*

TO THE EDITOR

In the March Bulletin, I wrote that the dirty water problem was caused by the negligence of the Utilities Chairwoman. Let me explain.

Back in 1983, the then utilities engineer changed the fil-

ter media; in 1989, the then utilities engineer recommended again changing the filter media. Allen and Murphy, the utilities chairpeople since 1991, failed to ask the utilities engineer when the filter media should be changed again, so that when it should have been, it wasn't, with the resulting inconvenience and cost to residents.

Mayor Allen compounds this negligence with a blatant falsehood. Let me quote the March Bulletin, page 6.

At the February 13 Council meeting, "Bob Eisner asked, 'Are the managers of U.S. Water responsible for neglect in not improving the filters a year ago?'" Mayor Allen replied, 'Yes'."

But U.S. Water couldn't have been responsible on February 13, 1994; their contract didn't start until March 22. Allen's pet firm, AWS, was the operator and only lost out on the 1994 contract because they bid \$30,000 more than U.S. Water. Now they're back with us even though U.S. Water did a better job than the Council gives them credit for.

The Council continues to bumble: (1) The State-financed Roosevelt Auto clean-up study is postponed because the Council failed to do its paperwork. Are we in danger of losing it? (2) The no-show, out-of-town zoning officer continues to draw his salary - and no-show, raising again the question of why residents were and are excluded

from applying for this job and why the Council neglected to appraise his blatantly inadequate performance at the end of his first year; (3) The Council seems to have forgotten entirely about the \$54,000 CDBG South Rochdale Avenue repair grant (received 17 months ago in November 1993), which will shortly be withdrawn and lost to Roosevelt due to the delay. This is a pity because the ugly appearance of the street offends visitors entering from Assunpink Park.

Peter Warren

TO THE EDITOR

I've been asked to be a write-in candidate for the Roosevelt School Board. I'd like to accept the challenge for the one year seat that is available.

My goals, with the town's help and support, would be: 1) make sure the students have a first class education; 2) make the school more self sufficient, utilizing the building more as a town center, activities for after school programs, perhaps requesting a fee for use of the building by interested groups within the community - arts, crafts, music and sports etc. Corporate sponsorship may be a possibility if a model plan were developed.

I've lived in Roosevelt on and off for 33 years and have been

(cont. on pg. 22)



**Recycling
Dates to
Remember**

April 5 & 19

May 3, 17 & 31

**Roosevelt
Community
Television
Tuesday
6-6:30 PM
on
Storer Cable
Channel 8**



(LETTERS from pg 21)
a student of the school.

Please write my name on the ballot and remember voting is over spring break. Regardless of who you'd like to vote for, you may need an absentee ballot for your to count on April 18th.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 10 S. Rochdale Ave., 448-2118.

Thank you for you time.

Chris Martin



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

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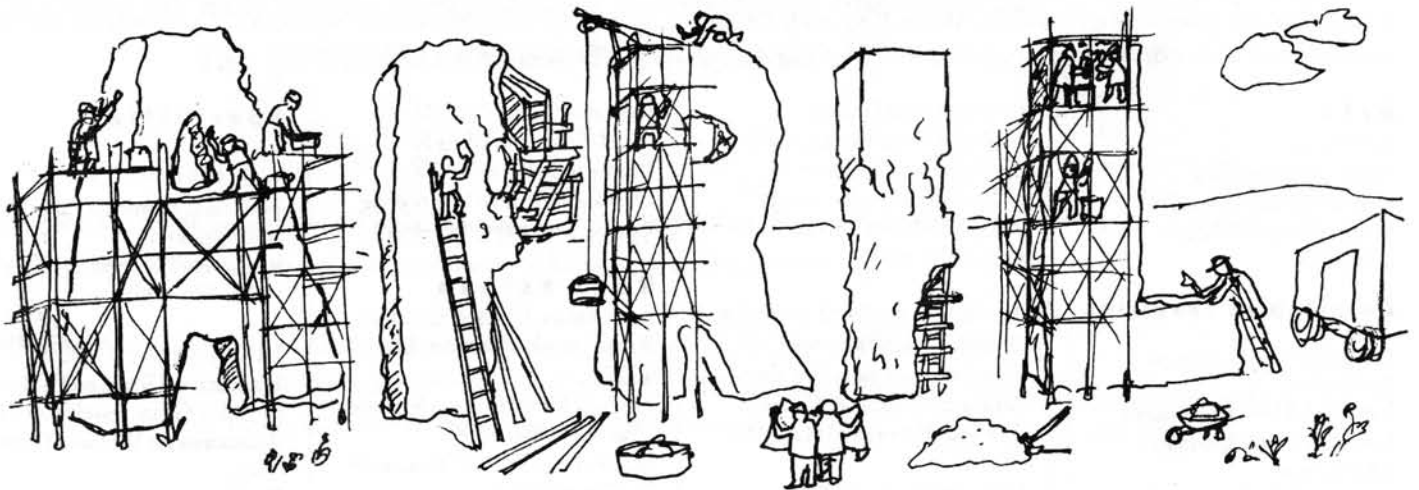
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Please Call
Mary Alfare
443-4243**



sun 2 Daylight Savings Time Begins
10 AM Litter Pick-Up-Gayle Donnelly

mon 3 7:30 PM Council Agenda Mtg.

tue 4 1 PM Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall
2 PM Roosevelt Senior Citizens Mtg.-Jeanette Koffler, 448-2259
6 PM Roosevelt Comm. T.V. Ch 8
7:30 PM First Aid Squad-Michael Stiles, Pres. 426-4185

wed 5 ♻️ Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class*-Synagogue-Deborah Metzger, 443-3759
7:30 PM Roosevelt PTA Mtg.-Discussion on School Budget-RPS-Vinnie Jackson Pres. 426-0311
8 PM Environmental Comm.-Jim Carnevale, Pres. 426-1728

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

sat 8 8 PM RAP-Roosevelt String Band-Peddie School

sun 9 8 AM-Stream Watch (Volunteer Water Testing)-Kirk Rothfuss- 448-3713

mon 10 7:30 PM Council Action Mtg.

tue 11 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

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

fri 14 Good Friday

sat 15 Passover Begins

sun 16 Easter

mon 17 7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.
8 PM Synagogue Board Mtg., Michael Tickin, 448-03636-

wed 19 ♻️ Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

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

sat 22 Earth Day

mon 24 2:15 PM Earth Day Public Program at RPS
7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

tue 25 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV

wed 26 7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

Please call Jane Rothfuss at 448-3713 to put your organization's events on the calendar.

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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ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT NEWS!

OPEN MEETING

On Sunday, April 9, 1995 at 11:00 a.m., the Roosevelt Arts Project will hold an open meeting in the Borough Hall to seek ideas and proposals from community artists, musicians, playwrights, poets and others with suggestions not only for the 1995-1996 season of events but also for the general direction the Roosevelt Arts Project might go in the years ahead.

The Arts Project has several aims in the events it sponsors. For the past several years, it has offered community members involved in the arts a chance to bring new works to the public. And we encourage collaboration between artists, as the events of past seasons have demonstrated. In addition to providing Roosevelt with thought-provoking and enjoyable entertainment during the winter and spring, RAP hopes to contribute to the town's cultural resources alone and in cooperation with other organizations in town.

As in the past, proposed events will be put to the entire Arts Project Board of Trustees for approval, rather than being selected by any individual RAP trustee. Members of the RAP Board are:

David Herrstrom, President	David Keller
David Brahinsky, Treasurer	Deborah Metzger
Robin Middleman, Vice-President	Jacob Landau
Judith Trachtenberg, Secretary	Warren Craig
Bernarda Bryson Shahn	Ellen Silverman
Leslie Weiner	Laurie Altman
Alan Mallach	Fletcher Grayson
	Robert Mueller

In addition to discussing the series of events, we also hope to hear your ideas for special projects such as publications, a postcard series, and anthology of Roosevelt art/poetry/music, an open night of music or poetry or art or theater or.....

The Board of RAP also invites suggestions on ways to improve our process for designing each series and selecting each event. Please feel welcome to come on APRIL 9 to express your ideas to make RAP more accessible and inclusive.

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