

bulletin

Roosevelt Borough



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CONTRACT AWARDED TO REPLACE FILTER MEDIA AT WATER PLANT

The saying, "The wheels of government grind slowly", was not confirmed at the Roosevelt Borough Council meetings from December 5 to January 9. First of all, the Council's Regular Meeting,

on January 9, was declared a record breaker by Mayor Lee Allen because it ran only fifty minutes, even though, as a Council member added, "... there was no Monday night football game to hurry home for!" Present were Council Members David Donnelly, Stuart Kaufman, Rose Murphy and newly elected Paul Hoogsteden. Secondly, the Council acted quickly by awarding a contract for replacing filter media in the four filters at the water treatment plant for \$19,900 to A.C. Schultes,

Woodbury, NJ, after considering these five factors: (1) Louis Esakoff and Rick Hutchins said at the October meeting that filter media never needs to be changed, just back-flushed; (2) about ten years accumulation of iron sediment "sludge" filling half of

each of the four filter tanks, determined to be a likely cause of discoloration, would be removed once Mrs. Murphy found where the Borough could dispose of the sludge; (3) at the December 12

Regular Meeting, the Council approved a contract for Russell Reid, Inc. to remove 22,000 gallons of iron sludge from the water treatment plant for no more than \$10,000; (4) at a December 26 Special Meeting, with members Donnelly, Kaufman, Murphy and Vasseur present, the Council authorized the Water and Sewer Engineer to advertise for bids to replace the filter media, and it authorized the Borough Attorney to draft a contract for that work; and, (5) as of January

9, there was still 5,000 gallons of sludge to be removed; so, we do not know yet if removing the sludge will clear the water, making media change unnecessary.

In the public portion of the December 12 meeting, Michael Ticktin asked the Council what

(cont. on pg. 19)

Borough Council Report

by Herb Johnson

ON THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW COUNCIL, JANUARY 3RD 1995

By Lee Allen, Mayor

Tonight, we gather here for the fifty-ninth time in the history of the Borough of Roosevelt to organize another Borough Government. Tonight is also a milestone of sorts when you consider the makeup of the people sitting at the tables in front of you.

We welcome the addition of Paul Hoogsteden who, as the most junior member, also represents the newest addition to our community. Paul brings a wealth of financial experience that is invaluable during these troubling times in our challenge to balance the needs of rising municipal costs with our citizens' ability to pay. Along with Paul, we also welcome the return, for her second term, Rose Murphy.

As the undeniably hardest working member of this body, Rose has displayed her deep concern for the people of our community with her outstanding leadership in managing the Water and Sewer Utility. Before that, her leadership as chair of Public Works strongly influenced our obtaining DOT Discretionary funds for the reconstruction of Farm Lane. As Community Development Block Grant Representative, Rose has continued to successfully convince her peers in other communities to support our needs. The Block Grant Program has provided more than \$270,000 in funds toward repairing those roads torn up during the sewer line replacement project.

Beginning his fifth year as a Council Member, Stuart Kaufman has embraced the sense of urgency required to start taking care of our infrastructure proactively. His understanding of construction has been invaluable as we attempt to address the needs of the future with an eye toward reducing these costs to the current and future residents of our community.

Starting his second year as a Council Member, George Vasseur brings a valuable perspective as a long-term second generation resident. His background and understanding of construction and water supply systems provide much needed insights in the decision making process. He is becoming more comfortable with the roles and responsibilities of the Council.

As a third year Council Member, Dave Donnelly continues to provide his special talents as an arbitrator and communicator. His background in finance and his continued involvement in the recycling industry is a valuable asset to the people of Roosevelt.

Our other third year Council Member, Nestor Sabogal, while away on a much needed vacation, is definitely here in spirit. His contributions concerning administration and employee relations provide this Council with a high level of professionalism.

Individually, these people represent a formidable cross section of the types of issues this Council addresses on a daily basis. Together, as a team, this group can aspire to accomplishments that can make this community proud.

Speaking of pride, there are several accomplishments this past year that deserve recognition and reflection. On May 27th, Eleanor Lane was completed which has addressed a major concern of both residents and the Council. This project, funded primarily by a NJDOT grant of \$146,000, will serve this community for years to come and reduce the expense of maintaining that road today and tomorrow.

(cont. on pg. 6)

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The Roosevelt Planning Board canceled its December meeting and reorganized during its January II meeting. Stuart Kaufman replaced George Vasseur in the seat reserved for a Council member. The Board unanimously elected Gail Hunton Chairwoman, Bert Ellentuck Vice Chairman and Ann Kassahun, who is not a Board member, Secretary. Other members of the Board are Mayor Lee

Allen, Michael Ticktin, who fills the position reserved for a Borough official (in his case, Tax Assessor), David Leff, Joseph Zahora (Alternate), Paul Henry and Jeffrey Hunt. Mayor Allen said he was working on appointing someone to a vacant alternate position, and had not yet spoken to Harry Parker about reappointing him to the seat reserved for a Board of Education member.

Ms. Hunton announced that the Board expects to soon receive from its ordinance committee a long-awaited draft of a planned community development (PCD) ordinance that would, if enacted by the Council, control development of the northern farmlands. The Board expects to discuss the draft at its February 8 meeting. Ms. Hunton, Mr. Ticktin and Mr. Ellentuck are members of the ordinance committee. Mayor Allen reported that an engineer for a developer interested in one of the tracts in the northern lands had discussed the property with the Borough Engineer.

The Board named Michelle Donato as Board Attorney and Alan Mallach as pro bono Planning Consultant. Mr. Mallach is working with the



committee on the proposed PCD ordinance. He is a former Chairman of the Roosevelt Planning Board and is a professional planner who heads Trenton's Housing Department. He lives in Trenton and maintains a weekend retreat in Roosevelt. He also drafted the PCD ordinance that now governs development of the Notterman tract east of North Valley Road and south of Eleanor Drive.

The Board designated the Asbury Park Press and the Messenger-Press as its publications for legal notices. Board meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month.

Mr. Ellentuck requested figures reflecting daily flow records at the Borough Sewerage Plant. Mayor Allen said he had entered those figures into the Borough's computer and would supply them to the Board. He and Mr. Kaufman noted that the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) had verbally notified the Borough that its ban on sewer connections had been lifted. They said they expect written notification before the February 8 Planning Board meeting.

Mr. Ellentuck mentioned that a neighbor had constructed a shed slightly at variance with side yard requirements. He asked whether the Zoning Officer had approved the location. Mayor Allen said the owner had obtained approval from John Sullivan, the Zoning Officer, but Mr. Sullivan had mistakenly allowed placement of the shed a couple of feet closer to the side yard line than the ordinance allows. Mayor Allen said he told the

(cont. on pg. 7)

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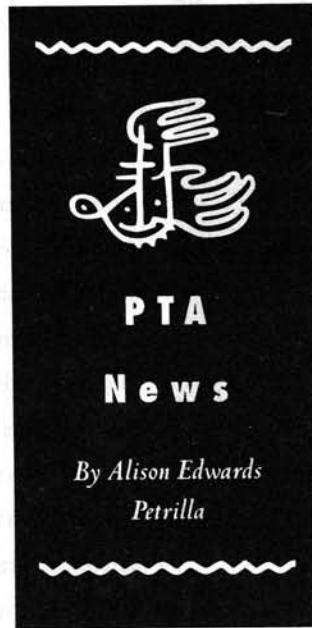
December was a quiet month for the PTA, but get ready, Roosevelt - WEEEE'RE BACK! There's so much to tell about, in fact, that our report is divided into time frames, starting with:

THE PRESENT

February means Fundraising - and a lot of hard work - for our energetic membership. For one thing, this is our target date for distributing the New, Improved, Up-to-the-Minute Roosevelt Telephone Directory. In addition to providing names and addresses of all residents new and old, this edition will offer P.O. Box numbers for each entry. The directory still costs only \$5, and PTA members will be selling copies door to door.

The annual Valentine's Day Flower Sale will kick off on February 1, and orders will be taken through the 10th. Individually wrapped carnations, complete with greens, will be offered for \$1.50, and a February 14 distribution date is guaranteed. Lastly, February 7 will see the close of our Avon Fundraiser, which started on January 24 and features gift items for Valentine's Day and the spring holidays.

Our biggest endeavor this month, though, is the annual Winter Carnival, set for Saturday, February 25 from 10:30 to 1:30. Our most popular event of the year, this fun filled gala features games, crafts, a Chinese auction, refreshments and prizes for everyone. Kids of all ages will find something to enchant them, and we're looking for volunteers of all ages to help things



run smoothly. Please call Vinnie Jackson, 426-0311, if you have any questions or would like to help out.

THE PAST

At our January meeting, the group wrapped up loose ends and heard final reports on a variety of fall projects. The PTA sponsored Writers in the Schools (WITS) program, which brought a professional writer into each RPS class for a week, was reportedly a hit with students and teachers alike, and PTA members decided to apply for the program again next year. The lucky schools are chosen by lottery after the application period, and can then decide whether or not they wish to implement WITS.

Two of our traditional fall events, October's Scholastic Book Fair and November's Holiday Gift Shop, were also notably successful. Joanne Parker's hard working committee noted that points earned through book sales are being applied to the purchase of books for the newly renovated li-

brary. Thanks also went to Holiday Gift Shop Chair Carol Impellizeri and her crew of patient and helpful volunteers.

Kudos were also given to our tireless bus driver, Dianna Moore, who provided the transportation that enabled the very talented Kreps School Eighth Grade Band to perform at RPS on December 9. Although the 45 minute concert was a real winner, for many of our students, the highlight came at the end of the show, when the three band members from Roosevelt - Katie Alfare, Jessica Hamilton and Dawn Miller - were specially introduced.

Finally, PTA members reported the heartening outcome of November's Penny Drive, which netted over \$400, thanks to the outstanding efforts of our money collectors and penny sleeve rollers, Nancy Hamilton, Carol Impellizeri, Dianna, Alicia and Brian Moore, Joanne Parker, Diane, Christine and Joseph Rocchia, and MaryAnne and Lauren Sabogal. The biggest "thank you" of all, of course, goes to the generous Rooseveltians who came through with all those pennies! The group decided to make this an annual event.

THE FUTURE

In addition to our February Happenings, the PTA will be sponsoring three big events geared to Rooseveltians of all ages. Keep your eyes open for upcoming information about our Comedy Club Trip in April, the Second Town Wide Garage Sale in May and the Art Fair on June 3.



Nursery School News



*By Marsha Agress
Head Teacher, RCNS*

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it is also a very busy month. It is filled with special days, including Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, and it is also Dental Health month.

The children will learn about proper dental health, and that it is important to brush their teeth and to eat foods that do not promote tooth decay. We are planning to have a visit from a local dentist who will tell us about proper care for teeth and gums.

Our color for the month will be red. We will make red colored bags, as well as red jello for our Valentine's Day treat. We will make mailbags and con-

duct an exchange of cards. The children will also make projects with the shape of a heart. There will also be projects focusing on Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. We will discuss why we celebrate their birthdays.

Another shape we will review is oval, when we color eggs for

the letter E. Paper elephants will also be made. For the letter F we will make freckled frogs, and learn a song about "5 Little Freckled Frogs." Numbers through six will also be reviewed.

February is the "heart" of the winter, and we will all be anxiously awaiting spring's arrival in March.



Roosevelt Board Of Education News

By Joann San Nicola

This report covers the December and January meetings of the Board of Education.

The construction on the school has just about been completed. New lights and a fresh coat of paint in the lobby area have made it very attractive. The kindergarten class will have then moved into its new quarters; the library should be up and running in about two weeks.

The school has been the fortunate recipient of several donations: \$200.00 from the soccer club, earmarked for the library; three PBS tapes on the life of Eleanor Roosevelt, courtesy of Frieda Anish; two Audubon tapes from Henry John-Alder; and, three Apple computers, four printers and two joysticks, courtesy of Action Packaging Automation, Inc. These last items were obtained through the efforts of Mr. Landgraf.

The Board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Mrs. Sally Conover from the Board. Anyone interested in filling this position may pick up an application at the school. The deadline for filing is February 2.

Scores from the HSPT (11th grade testing) showed good levels in reading and math, but indicated a need for improvement in writing skills.

Mrs. Diane Rocchia and Mr. Michael Stiles voiced concern about discipline in the school, and questioned the new policy of "detention". Parents must be notified in

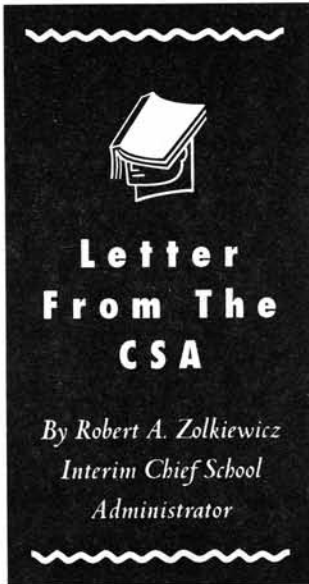
(cont. on pg. 15)

Kindergarten Registration: R.P.S Class of 2002

It is time to register children who will be five on or before November 15, 1995 for kindergarten entrance to the Roosevelt Public School in September, 1995. Registration will take place in the main office on February 8, 9, and 10, 1995 from 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. Bring your child's official birth certificate with the raised seal to be photocopied for our records when you come. Registration materials and a health form will be distributed at that time. If you have any questions, please call 448-2798 during school hours and ask for Helen Barth.

Individual screening tests and intake sessions will be scheduled on selected dates in late April. An informal afternoon orientation for parents and students will take place in May. Look for announcements in The Borough Bulletin.





With this, my final article for The Borough Bulletin, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the cooperation and courtesies extended to me by each of you

during the past four and one-half months that I have served the community as your Interim Chief School Administrator. I have gained a greater appreciation of your community and the historic significance of its existence.

I have approached my term as Interim Chief School Administrator with enthusiasm and a commitment to building on the strengths of the school and community. I have endeavored to establish a renewed spirit of cooperation among the staff, students, parents and community. We all need to work together in harmony to create and maintain an educational system that provides our youngsters with the knowledge to meet tomorrow's challenges.


When I began this assignment, the building renova-

tion/addition project was in progress. I have had the pleasure of following the progress of this project and seeing its completion and occupancy. We all can take

great pride in these improvements to the school.

Your Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to a quality educational program. It is my impression that an excellent relationship currently exists between the school and community. Build on this relationship so that the students are the recipients of your efforts.

I wish Mr. William Presutti, your new Chief School Administrator, the best for a long and rewarding tenure in the position. Mr. Presutti assumes his duties effective February 6, 1995.

I wish to again thank all of you for making my experience in Roosevelt such an enjoyable and rewarding one. I truly have enjoyed serving and learning about your community. 

(INAUGURATION from pg 2)

Tamara Drive was completed in October and represents the completion of the sewer project in that part of town. Elm Court was also reconstructed and Brown Street was paved for the first time fulfilling a personal goal of mine and others who wish to provide every resident with the same level of service. The Tamara Drive, Elm Court and Brown Street project was funded primarily by a Community Development Block Grant of \$277,000. What this results in is that in four short years, over \$750,000 of grant money has been used to prepare streets and roads in the Borough for the next twenty years. I do not have to tell you what a significant accomplishment this has been and this Council is not done yet.

South Rochdale, which was included in the CDBG grant award will be addressed in the first half of 1995. While it is not certain what will eventually be accomplished within that time, this Council is committed to using the grant monies completely and doing the job that will serve the community best. Our application for NJ-DOT Discretionary Funds was submitted last week for the reconstruction of School Lane and we are very hopeful that this project may be combined with South Rochdale to achieve

lower costs from a larger project.

Besides our full use of the \$4,000 Clean Communities Grant, a Small Business Administration Grant has been used to plant some beautiful Scarlet Oaks at the newly commemorated Cooperative Circle Park at the intersection of Pine and Tamara Drives. This SBA Grant also provided Yellow Pines and landscaping at the entrance to the Sewer Plant to more effectively screen that facility from the residents of Pine Drive.

In the furtherance of this government's commitment to protecting the community from future tax increases, various items were addressed as we completed the high profile grant projects. This included replacing various water main valves and fire hydrants as the roads were torn up. We continue to seek the perfect balance of private enterprise and government involvement in the operation and management of the Water/Sewer Utility.

Other initiatives will continue to require Council attention. The long awaited fiscal impact study has finally been documented. Revisions to the existing Planned Community Development (PCD) Ordinance are underway as we speak and the Council is committed to this process with the goal of

adopting a new ordinance as quickly as reasonably possible.

We must continue to reach out to our neighbors to attempt to lower the cost of running municipal government at all levels. The Western Monmouth Panhandle Mayors will maintain the dialog started two years ago and all governmental functions - Planning Boards, Boards of Education, Public Works, Administration - will be examined to consolidate and right-size in order to lower the cost of local government.

School funding will continue to be a high priority and our efforts at reform will be sorely needed as we participate with the New Jersey League of Municipalities and other communities to affect meaningful change through legislation at the state level.

As a community, we are faced with unprecedented challenges from outside influences and our own desires to maintain our individuality. As a governing body, this Council will face some hard decisions, some unpleasant situations and some tough questioning by our constituents. We should be confident, however, because through cooperation, teamwork and solidarity, not only can we endure these challenges, we shall succeed.



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

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

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

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

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. 3)

owner he would not have to remove the shed, since he had been mistakenly informed of the allowable location, but he should seek a variance from the Planning Board. No variance had been sought as of the January meeting.

Board members requested periodic written reports of Zoning Officer activity; said more communication should occur between the Board and the Zoning Officer, and asked that the scope of the job be specified in writing. Mr. Sullivan does not keep regular hours at the Borough Hall. According to Mayor Allen, Mr. Sullivan drives through town on a daily basis to check for zoning compliance and meets with applicants by appointment.

Chairwoman Hunton reported that the DEP had officially dropped its inquiry as to whether the driveway from the Gerling house to North Rochdale Avenue encroaches on wetlands in violation of state law. She added that the Planning Board has no jurisdiction in the matter.



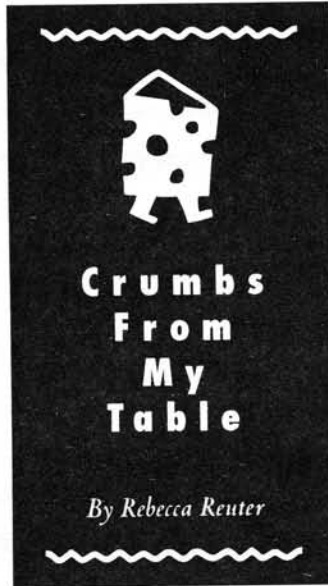
Nut Case

The problem with pine nuts is getting them out. Each comes chastely sealed into a small, smooth and seamless shell. There are no cracks in which to sneak a prying thumbnail. Two walnuts forced together in the palm have bumps and wrinkles that catch and crush each other. But navy bean-size pine nuts are smooth as sanded wood. This I discovered while sitting on a hillside of scrub pine in New Mexico.

Tiny nuts lay scattered all over the needle-carpeted ground. The sky was a slab of bright blue overhead, the wind was blowing hot over the hill. Below the trees the deep gully of a dry arroyo reflected brilliant sunlight back to the sky. But in the low grove the ground was cool and soft as a fur rug. Pine cones and nuts everywhere. I popped a nut in my mouth and tried to crack it between my incisors. It flew out like a wooden arrow — pwing — and landed between my dog's front paws. She eyed me doubtfully and curled her tail over her nose. I tried again, this time between the molars. The shell cracked, then crunched, then collapsed into the soft oily nut inside. A nut-meat and shell patty. Yuk. I spit it out. Frances sniffed, tasted it, and sat up. Food? A few more tries and I had the technique. A gentle crack with the molars, then pry off the shell with fingernails to get to the fragrant white meat. A morsel of fresh nut, juicy with oil.

Frances was distinctly interested by now, standing as straight and perky as any hound at the hunt. Her eyes followed the nut as I processed it with teeth and nails. I picked another nut, cracked it, and gave it to her. She slurped it off my fingers and raised a paw for more, but it was my turn. The next was mine too because I was, after all, doing all the work.

Frances grew tired of waiting for my charity and decid-



ed to crack her own nuts. Lacking both patience and fingernails, she worked out her own technique. She snuffled among the pine needles to find a nut, crunched it twice and swallowed it whole. We spent several hours among the pines that day, poking at the needles and shaking out cones for seeds.

I remembered all this when I came to the end of the dirt trail on Pine Drive a few days ago. As I walked out of the woods I passed a pine tree which threw into my path, like a snare trap, the scent of needles, both fresh and dried, and of sap

that oozes down the bark in spring. I was wrenched by the leg and tugged upside down into a memory of scrub pine, New Mexican sunshine, arroyos flowing in streams of dust, my dog Frances, and the pinon nuts.

Pine nuts are actually the seeds of pine trees, and develop beneath each of the wood-like scales of a pine cone. The cones of the scrub pines I remember had scales which had opened far enough to release the seeds to the ground. More could usually be shaken out of fallen cones. Pine nuts are produced by several species of pine trees, and most nuts are shipped from Spain or from Italy, where they are called pignoli. I don't know how the Spanish and Italian nut producers get the seeds out of their shells. Maybe they have trained the dogs to do it.

Nuts are sold in tiny bottles in specialty sections of the supermarket. You can buy them there for an exorbitant price-per-pound and wear them like jewels. But if you want enough to cook with you should buy them where they are sold in bulk, such as the farmers' markets or Italian and Asian grocery stores. They are, as pine nuts go, cheap this year at around \$5 to \$8 a pound. I have seen them sold at more than double those prices in the last couple of years.

Greens with Pine Nuts and Raisins

Into a skillet put:

2 lbs. washed, trimmed, and sliced spinach or chard

1 cup water

Cook about 10 minutes, till tender. Drain and squeeze out most water from the leaves. Set aside.

Dry the pan and saute in a little olive oil:

3 Tablespoons pine nuts

3 Tablespoons raisins

1 clove garlic, crushed

Stir together for a minute or two and mix the greens back into the pan. Add a grinding of black pepper and serve.

Pesto, of Course

Place in a blender container:

2 cups loosely packed fresh basil

several sprigs fresh parsley

2 cloves garlic

1/4 cup pignoli or walnuts

1/2 cup olive oil

Blend till thoroughly mixed, stopping to scrape down the sides of the container as necessary. Remove and stir in:

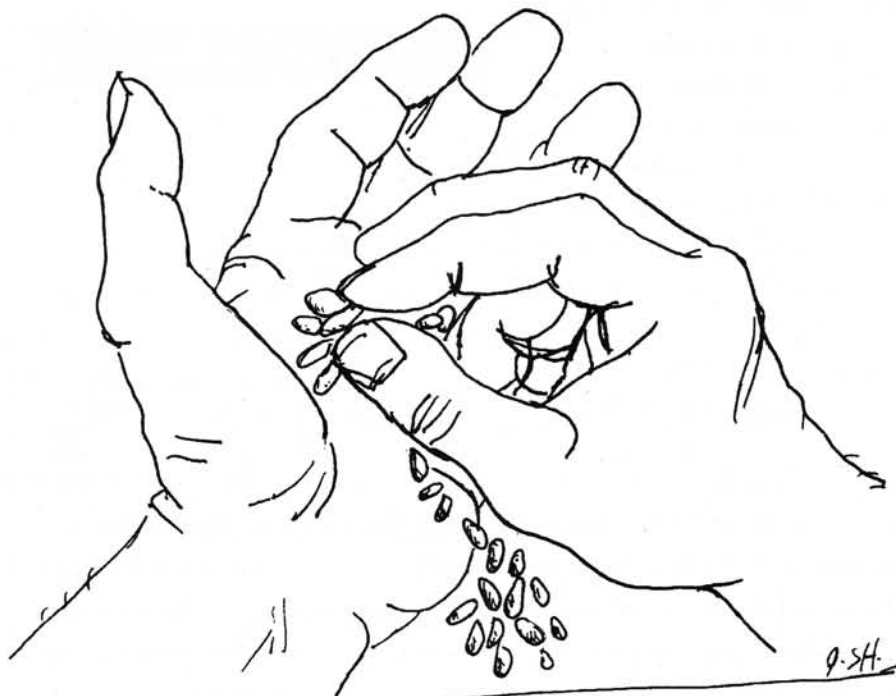
1/2 cup grated Romano or Parmesan cheese

salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Toss the sauce with warm cooked pasta, dribble it over vegetables, add it by the tablespoon to tomato sauces, or use it to flavor roasted chicken or fish. Store in a glass jar in the refrigerator. ☼



PINUS PINEA

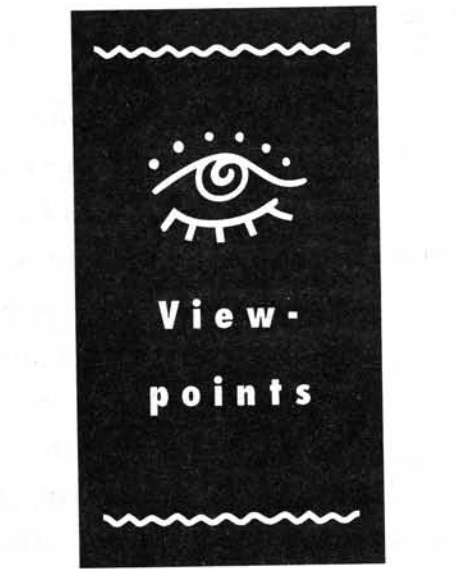


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Writing in the December issue of The Bulletin, Brad Garton has once again, in his usual articulate and dramatic fashion, expressed what is obviously his deeply felt opposition to any further residential development and to any changes that might in any way facilitate such development. As a Planning Board member, who feels just as strongly that development should be encouraged if we can be satisfied that it will result in a lessening of our financial burden without imposing unacceptable social or environmental costs, I find it necessary to address the issues that he has raised.

First of all, let us consider the guardrails that Mr. Garton sees as "the icing on the proverbial cake..., a cake baked using ingredients arising from the wholesale extermination of one small but beautiful corner of our town." I don't find the guardrails particularly attractive either. The fact remains, however, that their installation was necessary because Monmouth County, which owns the culvert, would not approve the reconstruction of the roadway over the culvert otherwise. Without County approval, the State would not have released the funding. Thus, installation of the guardrails was necessary, not in order to avoid a penalty, as Mr. Garton asserts, but in order for us to do the reconstruction work at State expense.

According to Mr. Garton, the reconstruction of our roads - almost all of the funding for which came from State grants - was something "that Rooseveltians neither want nor can afford." (How does he know this? Did he take a survey? Were any candidates elected to the Borough Council on a platform of stopping such projects?) The alternative, of course, would have been to continue to deal with deterioration by



The

Debate

Continues

By Michael Ticktin

repeated patching and filling, at continuing and ever increasing expense to municipal taxpayers, only to have to do the reconstruction work eventually anyway, and most likely at a time when State funds would no longer be available. (The third alternative would have been to simply let the road deteriorate to the point where it could no longer be considered paved. Admittedly,

ruins can be Romantic, but the aesthetic charm is generally lost upon those who have to live with them.)

This reasoning has been heard before. In the early 1980's, grant funds were available that could have been used to renovate our sewage treatment system. However, the prevailing view then was that bringing the system up to current standards would only serve to facilitate development by making it less costly, and no application for the grant funds was therefore made. By the time the Department of Environmental Protection stopped relying on incentives and finally ordered us to do the work, grants were no longer available. The end result, as we all know, was that the work had to be done anyway, with the cost paid by each household on the system to the tune of \$130 per month.

This brings us to the general issue of State mandates. Mr. Garton recommends that we "just say no," on the grounds that it is cheaper to pay fines than to pay the cost of the mandates. Unfortunately, we do not have that choice. Rather, the choice is between (1) complying with the mandate and (2) refusing to comply with the mandate, paying a fine, and then complying with the mandate. It should be clear that the first alternative is bound to be cheaper. (This is not to say that we should not attempt to negotiate terms of compliance to the extent that it is possible to do so.)

What Mr. Garton finds most disturbing is the "blinded belief that further residential development will bring more ratables" that has driven the decisions resulting in our incredible tax rate and our mind boggling water/sewer bill." I am not sure just what decisions he is referring to, since the increase in taxes in recent years has been

(cont. on pg. 12)

I have uncovered a plot in our town that is so heinous, so profoundly foul that it strains the bounds of human credibility. Indeed, my mind becomes boggled simply in the contemplation of this terrible plan. But it is all too true! Consider the following:

- One of the founding fathers of Roosevelt was named Benjamin BROWN. You can see this right on the gravestone in the cemetery.

- The mascot/symbol for our local school is a dragon. The dragon mythology in our culture was most likely based upon the earlier presence of large lizards and dinosaurs on the planet. Recent scientific research suggests that these reptiles may have been colored ... BROWN.

- Among the heavily travelled roads in town to get a major shiny-curb-and-all facelift is (you guessed it!) BROWN street.

- And now, for the past two months, our water is BROWN! My shirts are BROWN! The towels are BROWN! My underwear is all BROWN! BROWN! BROWN!

All of this evidence points to one hideous conclusion. The Mayor and his cohorts on the Council are space aliens from the planet Brownzola trying to convert us to their drab vision of the future. I have seen TOP SECRET information detailing that they are the advance guard of a giant residential invasion force intended to destroy "quality of life" and saddle us with an even higher municipal financial burden. Brown Street will probably function as their landing strip. I also have it on good authority that the noxious chemicals they have distributed to help brighten our laundry are, in reality, alien drugs with powerful psychopharmacological properties. When I hear people state - all reliable published evidence to the contrary - that "some resi-

Space

Aliens

In

Roosevelt

By Brad Garton

dential development will certainly help our town" then I know that their evil mind control substances are working.

For those unfamiliar with the planet Brownzola, it is located near Sirius in the Canis Major constellation. The planet itself is so horribly overdeveloped that the small brained inhabitants have been forced to search elsewhere for the coveted and rare "open space" - a commodity they had hoped to preserve on their own world with hackneyed concepts like "cluster housing" and a wrong headed belief that residential development would actually decrease property taxes in their cities and towns. In fact, the planet is now so densely "clustered" that astronomers have speculated that it is responsible for a large portion of the missing dark matter in the universe.

How can I be certain that our Borough leaders are really Brownzolans? Well, they surely cannot be human, because normal

humans would have done something to fix our brown water situation in a reasonable amount of time. As I write this article, it has been over two months and I still can't tell if the toilets in our house have been flushed or not. It is also known that basic physical laws (such as gravity and time) work backwards on planet Brownzola. If you have any doubts that our town is under Brownzolan control, take a hard look at the retrograde direction taken by our property values and taxes since the creatures began their stewardship of the Borough. Definitely the work of inhuman entities with topsy-turvy perception.

The clincher, however, has to do with the cleverly disguised four fingered hands (just like cartoons!) of the Brownzolan invaders. If you take the natural log of the current population of Roosevelt, multiply it by 30-35 children in each room of the school (closets included), run the result through one of Mayor Allen's famous zero-error regression analysis and convert the entire output to base four (those alien hands!), you will miraculously wind up with ... 300 new residential units added to our town - precisely the number bandied about by the pro-development humanoids running our town! I guess the good news is that, given the preference for the color brown exhibited by these aliens, the new units will at least blend in with the dirt of our outlying fields. After all, it is truly only the appearance of "open space" that is important ... right?

Obviously, these hellish space aliens aren't from any planet we would want to recognize as home. Unfortunately, they exist among us right here in Roosevelt, and the real tragedy is that we're all paying the price for their twisted "vision." Beam me up, Scotty! NOW!



(DEBATE cont. from pg. 10)

almost entirely attributable to State mandated school renovation and expansion (to accommodate the current school population in accordance with current standards) and to other non-discretionary school costs - action taken, in any event by the Board of Education, and not by the Mayor and Council - while the increase in utility charges was the consequence of the need to pay the cost of the State mandated sewage system renovations. While the (State funded) reconstruction of Farm Lane not only benefits present residents who prefer to have a road that is in good condition, but will surely be of similar benefit to residents of any future housing built to the east of North Valley Road, and might therefore serve as "evidence" for those who are convinced of the existence of conspiratorial dealings between municipal officials and potential developers, it is hard to imagine how the reconstruction of Tamara Drive, which provides access to no developable land, could be part of any such conspiracy.

Mr. Garton decries the "silly neo-positivist numerical arguments so beloved by the pro-development camp." "Positivism" is defined as "a philosophical system concerned with positive facts and phenomena and excluding speculation upon ultimate causes and origins." "Neo-positivism" is presumably an updated appli-

cation of the same principles.

I suppose that positivism is something to which I, and the other members of the Planning Board who have been involved in trying to determine the extent to which planning for more houses can make the community more cost efficient, and thereby lessen costs for everybody, must plead guilty. We are indeed guilty of trying to use data and logical analysis as a substitute for preconceived notions and conclusory statements such as that "most sane people look at residential development as a negative drag on the local economy," and instead of relying on the alleged conventional wisdom of "regional planners with no vested interest here in Roosevelt," all of whom will supposedly tell us that "residential development is at best a break even proposition." In our attempt to develop a plan for the future development of the northern part of the municipality, we have worked with Professor David Listokin of Rutgers, a nationally recognized authority on development impact who most assuredly has no vested interest in Roosevelt. When Professor Listokin first spoke with us, he also expressed the general view that residential development could not be expected to provide any financial relief. Upon examination of our specific circumstances, however, he reconsidered this assertion and acknowledged that

a community with under-utilized facilities (such as a school and a sewage treatment system) could indeed expand to the point that the facilities were fully utilized, but not beyond that point, and benefit financially by achieving economies of scale. The question then becomes, until what point will increasing the population be cost effective.

We can infer that Mr. Garton's answer is that it will never be cost effective. In response, I think it useful to review the history of residential development in Roosevelt to date to determine if there is any point in the past at which, had development then been stopped, residents here would be better off financially today.

There is one such point: 1933: Had Jersey Homesteads never been built the residents of the six houses in what is now the Borough of Roosevelt that were standing in 1933 would not have to pay taxes to support an under-utilized public school, since that school would never have been built and their children would attend existing schools elsewhere in Millstone Township. They would not have to be concerned about the cost of maintaining local roads, since the only roads they would need would be Route 571, for which Monmouth County is responsible, and Nurko and Witches Hollow Roads, both of which would be maintained along with all other Millstone

Township roads. The owners of the two pre-1933 houses that are now on the municipal utility systems would not have to pay \$130 water and sewer bills, since there would be no municipal utility systems. In fact, the most costly decision of all, the 1937 decision to separate from Millstone Township, would never have been made and property taxes for each of those houses, based on current effective tax rates for Millstone and Roosevelt, would be about half what they are now!

Since the completion of the Jersey Homesteads development in 1937, however, the situation has been fundamentally different (aside from tax savings that could be realized if Millstone would take us back). There are now 204 homes in Roosevelt that were standing in 1937 and 108 homes (one of which is still under construction) and 21 senior citizen apartments that were built since that date. I would suggest that anyone who is convinced that residential development is invariably costly to current residents consider what Roosevelt would be like today if there had been no post-Jersey Homesteads development.

Consider first the municipal utilities. Of the 308 residential customers paying \$130 per month, only 200 live in houses that were here in 1937. The renovations that utility customers are now paying for at such great cost would have had

to have been made even if there were still only 200 residential users. However, with only two-thirds as many payers, bills would now be about \$200! What does that suggest about the consequences of development?

Consider also the school. According to a class list that I obtained from the Roosevelt Public School, there are now 87 children enrolled. Of these, I have been able to determine that 53 (61%) live in houses that were standing in 1937 and 34 (39%) live in houses built after that date. The costly renovations that have had to be made to the school were certainly not due to overcrowding. The same work would have been done with an enrollment of 53 as was done with 87. Similarly, the same teacher is needed when there is an average class size of eight as when there is an average class size of 12 or 13. Without the taxes paid for the houses built after 1937, and without the per pupil school aid paid by the State because of the additional pupils, would it have been cheaper or more expensive to run the school? Is it not reasonable for us to assume that, so long as adding pupils without having to add classrooms or hire more teachers is physically possible and not educationally detrimental - perhaps until a ratio approximating that usually found in good quality suburban elementary schools in New Jersey is achieved - the school taxes

paid by each household would be reduced if the number of homes were increased? If this reasoning is incorrect, I invite Mr. Garton, or anyone else for that matter, to please explain why.

But what about high school and middle school students? Each of these students creates a tuition obligation, and this is where much of our school budget goes. As far as these students are concerned, Mr. Garton's statement about residential development being a break even proposition at best is certainly accurate. But even here, despite commonly held assumptions, it has not been a losing proposition.

There are currently 53 students from Roosevelt attending middle school and high school in the East Windsor Regional district. Of these 31 (58%) live in Jersey Homesteads or pre-Jersey Homesteads houses and 22 (42%) live in houses that were built later. Had building stopped after 1937, there would now be 42% less tuition to pay to East Windsor. However, of our total 1994 residential retables (excluding Solar Village) of \$31,033,600, \$18,419,200 (59%) represents the assessed value of residential properties that existed in 1937 and \$12,614,400 (41%) represents the assessed value of residential properties developed later. The correlation is remarkable; it indicates that, at least for our current school

population, both the housing that existed in 1937 and the "new" housing are paying their fair shares of middle and high school costs.

There are other municipal services. Some, like garbage collection, increase in cost in direct proportion to the number of households served. Others, like insurance, fire protection, the salaries of municipal officials and the maintenance of public buildings and lands, would be no different even if there were only 204 houses - and would not necessarily be any different if the total number of homes were to be increased to somewhere around 500. Just as the State Police have continued to provide adequate protection despite the addition of 108 houses and 21 senior citizen apartments, there is no good reason for believing that they would not be able to continue to do so if, over time, we were to add another 200 or so homes. We would still be well below the population threshold (4,000) at which the State Police begin to charge for their services.

One recommendation that Mr. Garton makes is that we encourage non-residential development. I agree that non-residential development that services a community need, whether for services or for employment, and does not impose any disproportionate costs or generate any nuisance factors should be encouraged. Perhaps

an industrial development commission that would seek to attract suitable industries to Roosevelt should be formed. Perhaps Mr. Garton, or others who share his views, would be willing to serve on it. It is quite likely that any rezoning of the northern part of the municipality will allow industrial and office uses that can be shown to be beneficial to the community as a conditional use.

The prospects for non-residential development in Roosevelt, however, cannot reasonably be regarded as overly encouraging. For nearly 50 years, we have had land north of Oscar Drive zoned for industrial use. In the nearly 23 years that I have been here, the only proposal we have had for any industrial use there was one made about 15 years ago for the establishment of a facility to convert leaves into synthetic fuel. The idea of finally getting new industry sounded attractive - until the idea was examined more closely and we learned that we would be getting a cheap, unattractive building that would add little to our tax base (and they wanted a tax abatement to boot!), that there would be large quantities of raw materials that would pose a constant fire hazard that we were ill-equipped to deal with, that there would be a significant volume of truck traffic, and that there would be a low-income workforce at the facility that would give us an affordable housing obligation that we would

(cont. on pg. 20)

Roosevelt
Weather
Almanac



By Ron Filepp

THE WEATHER INSIDE IS DELIGHTFUL

In the cold months even a weather watcher spends more time in the indoor weather than in the outdoor weather. After reading about the microclimates of Yellowstone National Park I got to thinking about the microclimates of our house.

There is the subtropical bathroom after a shower or bath. The thick fog hangs in the air

until a blast of air from the south blows it away. South is where the house's desert (the utility room) is and the furnace blows hot, dry air from there.

There is a source of a little humidity in that desert. Steam rises into the room when the clothes washer lid is left open while hot water pours in and clothes are being loaded. Warm as this utility desert can become, some cool air from outside comes in through a stack in the roof that provides fresh air for the furnace.

To the east lies the most comfortable climate during the winter. This temperate zone is better known as the kitchen. It is warm (by comparison) to the other rooms. There is heat and some humidity provided by cooking and washing dishes. The desert wind from the west keeps the kitchen from becoming as humid as the bathroom can get.

The living room is the place to catch some rays. It is washed with sunlight that floods through the south facing windows. The cat loves to sunbathe on the floor. Humans have been known to join her there.

Robin likes cold weather and north light. Her chilly, north-side studio provides both. I like warm weather so my study is the closest room to the utility room.

The bedroom's cool weather encourages closeness. To get

the full blast of winter a visit to the unheated foyer or the garage usually suffices.

The wind blows. The hu-

Weather Table

December 15 - January 15

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	43.5	34.0	38.8	0
16	40.0	27.5	33.8	0
17	49.0	40.0	44.5	0
18	47.5	36.0	41.8	0.25
19	46.0	30.0	38.0	0
20	43.0	25.0	34.0	0
21	47.5	26.5	37.0	0
22	52.0	28.0	40.0	0
23	53.0	32.0	42.5	0
24	50.0	44.0	47.0	0.30
25	55.5	44.0	49.8	0
26	46.0	30.5	38.3	0.07
27	46.0	25.5	35.8	0
28	50.5	30.0	40.3	0
29	42.0	38.0	40.0	0
30	34.0	20.0	27.0	0
31	44.0	16.5	30.3	0
1	52.0	37.0	44.5	0.33
2	40.0	26.0	33.0	0.18
3	34.0	22.0	28.0	0
4	34.0	27.0	30.5	0
5	25.5	14.0	19.8	0
6	40.0	17.0	28.5	0
7	52.0	36.0	44.0	1.35
8	36.0	29.5	32.8	0.05
9	38.0	24.0	31.0	0
10	35.0	20.0	27.5	0
11	36.0	30.5	33.3	0
12	49.0	34.0	41.5	0.14
13	63.5	38.0	50.8	0.05
14	68.5	53.0	60.8	0
15	69.5	56.0	62.8	0.06
Total Precip				2.78

midity rises and falls. The temperature is constant only in the fact that the floor is always much colder than the ceiling. The light waxes and wanes. There are clouds after bathing and clear skies most of the rest of the time. This house is an original Roosevelt house and it has the weather to prove it.

NOTES FROM LATE NOVEMBER, DECEMBER AND EARLY JANUARY

Cold weather didn't set in for long in the period from November 15 through January 15, 1994/95. The average temperature was 41.1 degrees. One year ago the same period had an average temperature of 36.5 degrees. Precipitation was higher a year ago with 8.88 inches for the 55-day period.

The days of mid January, when temperatures are typically at their lowest for the year, were particularly mild. January 14 brought temperatures in the upper 60's. Folks in shirt sleeves went outside to play and do chores. The warm weather continued on the 15th.

While enjoying those balmy days, a proverb of caution came to mind: "Who doffs his coat on a winter's day, will gladly put it on in May." So, I doffed my coat for a walk in the Assunpink and promptly forgot all about May.

The first snow of the season fell on December 15. It was very light and didn't accumu-

late. There was just a dusting of snow on January 11.

FEBRUARY

If you stocked up on ice-melt, snow shovels, snow-blowers, etc. they may still come in handy this winter. February is the snowiest month. The February full moon is appropriately named the Snow Moon by some Native Americans.

The Midpoint of winter is traditionally considered February second. A proverb instructs: "Half the wood and half the hay, you should have on Candelmas Day" (February 2). Considering the warmer than normal days of December and January there should be plenty of wood left for burning.

NEW JERSEY WEATHER
EVENT

On February 9, 1934 the coldest temperatures in official records for the state were recorded: -31 degrees in Sussex County, -25 in Burlington. Source: The New Jersey Weather Book by David M. Ludlum

WEATHER WORD

The word "weather" comes from two Indo-European words - "we" (wind) and "vydra" (storm). Source: The Weather Wizard's Five Year Weather Diary by Robert Alden Rubin



A n n o u n c e m e n t s

By Ellen Silverman

TOWNWIDE YARD SALE COMING SOON

The PTA and Clean Communities know a good thing when they see it. They will be sponsoring the Townwide Yard Sale again this spring. Start collecting items for that big weekend. Stay tuned to the next issue of The Bulletin for more details.

ART FAIR

The PTA is planning to bring back a Roosevelt tradition, the Art Fair. The Art Fair will be one of the Saturdays in June at the School. As in the past, there will be a selling space charge, this year it will be \$10.00 for Roosevelt Artists, \$15.00 for out of town artists, and the PTA will ask for 20 percent of the sales as a donation. For more information, please contact Diana Moore at 448-7742 or Ellen Silverman at 490-0557.

THANK YOU!

Community in the School Committee would like to thank Joe Zahora for the information about PSE & G programs for the school and the offer to set up a special program for Roosevelt students. Sandy Silverman has also helped with information about the Community Speaker Board at American Cyanamid. Thank you, David Teich, for the offers of demonstrations and workshops on Computer Graphics for the students, as well as the offer for computer technical assistance.

These offers are good examples of community and the school working together. Is there something you can do to help also? Do you have a special skill to share or would you like to talk about your career with our students? How about a community outreach at your work place, that offers educational programs to elementary schools? If the answer is "yes", then please contact Ellen Silverman at 490-0557.



(BD. ED. NEWS from pg. 5)

advance if a child must go to detention. It was agreed that a reward system should also be instituted.

Mr. Chris Martin questioned the cost of transporting Special Ed. students. This cost is an ongoing burden, but is State mandated.

The findings of the regionalization study will have been handed out Jan 30th. to the Superintendents. The results are eagerly awaited.

Board President Mike Hamilton expressed the town's appreciation to Mr. Zolkiewicz, the temporary Superintendent, for his efforts in this position; and, welcomed Mr. William Presutti, the new Superintendent, who will begin his duties on Feb. 6. We wish them both well!

Please make a note of the following dates:

- 2/2 Application for new school board position.
- 2/2 Working meeting on the new budget 7:30 p.m. Public input is more than welcome.
- 2/8-9 Kindergarten Registration.
- 2/10 Open House to see refurbished school.
- 2/23 Deadline for school board applicant.
- 4/6 Open hearing on new school budget.
- 4/18 School Board election.



ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT IN DECEMBER POETRY AND MUSIC AT THE BOROUGH HALL

By Dave Herrstrom

If on a winter's night, this past December 10 at 8:00 p.m. to be exact, a traveler should have chanced on the Roosevelt Borough Hall, she would have been rewarded. Thanks to Anita Cervantes' crystalline Bach and fiery Turino, winter was renamed essential to the soul; and, thanks to Alan Mallach's delicate and uncannily apt improvisations, the traveler found warmth and sustenance.

The poems went with him into the night, certainly not the same night, perhaps a new destination. These were poems for the journey, whether the wry comedy of Judith McNally or the gently comic evocation of a lost world by Pablo Medina, novelist, essayist, and poet recently moved to Roosevelt. Looking intently into our common lives, Rod Tulloss, Wes Czyzewski, David Herrstrom, and Dina Coe joined these poets in providing the traveler with some necessities to survive the night.

You be the judge. We offer a poem from each of these writers in the next few issues of *The Bulletin*.

DANCING WITH THE TREE

By David Herrstrom

As if eloping, I prop a ladder to the lower story
then pivot to lodge myself in a crotch of the tree
whose branches are distinct as dreams
of our own body. I tune my limbs to its springing.
In the riddle-solving body-thought of climbing
I ask, and the tree answers
with a fresh suggestion of every move. Places to stand
discovered in our slow dance
through the light-mapped world where hands grasp
their own meaning. My grip's fit to a limb reciprocated
by its outward pressure ripening into my hand,
and I am comfortable in this house of movement
with my body the tree.
For the upper story of the world
like lovers giving and resisting. Not reaching
toward the unattainable air
but being body offered, I accept
our graceful, vertical walking to the music of space.

STORY

By Judith McNally

- A. This is what I've been trying to tell you.
- B. You say it differently every time.
- A. It keeps changing.
- B. I'm not unwilling to listen. I've told you that.
- A. Once upon a time...
- B. I remember that part.
- A. There was a man and a woman.
- B. Yes.
- A. And they took a walk in the woods. When they got to the tree -
- B. What tree? This is the part I never understand.
- A. The tree with the flowering branches.
- B. Real flowers?
- A. The most beautiful tree you could imagine.
- B. On a tree.
- A. Yes.
- B. But what are they doing there?

- A. Reflecting light.
- B. But we all do that. Otherwise we'd be invisible.
- A. That's why I told you this story.
- B. What is?
- A. So you'll remember.
- B. Remember what?
- A. That there is such a thing.

BICYCLING AT NIGHT

By Wes Czyzewski

There's something primordial in
moving swiftly through the night

the air cools near water
crossing streams or marshes
it almost feels moist

sixty percent of the planet
is awake under these hard stars

we know about heat loss
the games the moon plays
how the dog's bark is amplified

the bicycle tires hum on the road
like some huge low-flying insect

the urge to collide is irresistible
I pedal faster trying to outrace
my headlight into the dark



Editor's Note:

As you have been informed, Peter Warren has decided not to continue his monthly column, "Omnia Mutantur", which has been a pleasurable and valuable addition to our Bulletin since 1990. We wish to express our gratitude for his devoted service and want him to know that he will be sorely missed.

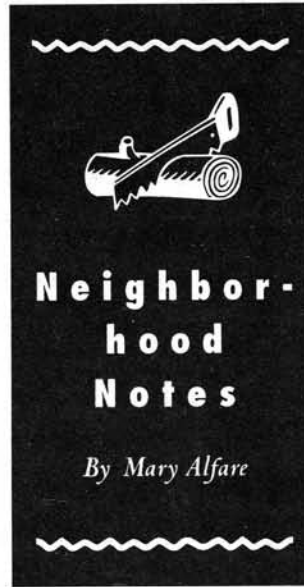
Rather than attempt an imitation, "Neighborhood Notes" replaces Peter's column and welcomes items from or about present and former Roosevelt residents. Items may include, but are not limited to: births, adoptions, new grandchildren, milestones, awards, neighbors moving in or out and other pertinent announcements.

Call or write Mary Alfare at 609-443-4243 or P.O. Box 58, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Handwritten or typed 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.

☞ Michael and Heather join their parents, John and Judith Cordo, of South Rochdale in welcoming their new sister, Rebecca Lyn born December 16, 1994.

☞ From Kreps Middle School: Dylana Possiel was honored as 7th grade Student of the Month. Dylana, along with Cassie Hatzfeld, Jeanette Castro and Kate Freedman received "Certificates of Excellence" from the 7th grade LA/Reading Studio.

☞ From Hightstown High School: 9th grader, Jack Cummings, was awarded a



plaque by the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education in recognition of his "exemplary citizenship and willingness to share outstanding abilities with Kreps "Project Sail" students."

☞ Sean Parker, age 12, is one of 65 youngsters chosen from some 3,000 applicants to attend the Olympic Luge Training

Camp at Lake Placid this January. He awaits news of whether he'll make the next cut to become a member of the U.S. Junior Olympic Luge Team.

☞ From Mercer County Community College: Heather Mateyka and David Zaleski were inducted into the Alpha Theta Gamma Chapter of Phi Theta Dappa, the national honorary scholastic fraternity for associate degree colleges on January 12. Participation is based on scholarship and community service.

☞ From Margaret Schlinski: George Jackson and Margaret will be supervising the Youth Group Floor Hockey at the RPS gym, Saturday evenings, 7 to 8:30 p.m., starting January 28 and running through April. This group is open to all Roosevelt 4,5, and 6 graders. Pick up forms at RPS or call Margaret at 443-5180 for information.

☞ Contact Margaret Schlinski with your ideas for events or topics for "Roosevelt TV." This program airs at 6 p.m., Tuesdays, on cable channel 8.



Our Children's Voices

Editor's Note:

These are the first samples of the students' work as a result of RPS' participation in the Writing Workshop Program partially funded by a grant from the New Jersey State Council On the Arts. All of the following were done by students in the sixth grade. In subsequent months, we will feature the work of students in other grades.

W H I T E

By Chris Dufresne and Jacob Estenes

Winter white, so bright!
I love the sight I see tonight.
I see all the snow on the ground.
I feel good, peaceful all around.
I want to go skiing on this fine, fine day,
But I already did that yesterday.
Well this ends in case you want to know,
So just sit back until it snows.

W I N T E R

By Elizabeth Lawson and Marissa Mellan

The beautiful snow covered ground.
There is nothing in sight to be found.
There's ice covered trees,
And the temperature is below zero de-
grees.
The next day children are at play.
They are happy and gay, playing all day.
Deer running through the snow.
Watch as they go!

W H I T E R A B B I T

By Orlando Ortiz

The little white rabbit is hidden by the
snow.
It is so cold his eyes are aglow.
The lake is frozen into ice.
He fell through snow so his mother
came to save his life.
They went home to bed,
The next morning he was well fed.

S K A T I N G

By Naomi Cayne and Hannah Stinson

Bright colors swirling fast,
As we skate by and passed.
Shiny new skates to use,
But that is if we choose.
The ice is slick and cold,
But it's not nearly old.
New and fresh, crisp and clean.
It even has a lovely sheen.
Lots of people are on the ice.
Their sharp bladed skates are used to
slice.
Figure eights, loop-d-loops, and back-
ward skating
Is what we see while we are waiting.
We go onto the ice, our skates making us
tall.
We glide and, oops! we fall!
We knew we should've gone to the mall.

W I N T E R F R E S H (A S O N G)

By Adam Axel and Travis Impellizzeri

I'm a freezn', and a sneezn',
The wind's a breezn'.
We're a weezn',
But don't worry 'cause we love this sea-
son.

We're a sleddn' on the beddn' on the new
fallen snow.

Oh, ho, ho, ho, ho, ho.
Now we got the lyrics goin',
And the snowmen are a dancin' and deer
are all a prancin'.

I'm a freezn', and a sneezn',
The wind's a breezn'.
We're a weezn',
But don't worry 'cause we love this sea-
son.

W H I T E

By Ryan Cybert and Billy Jackson

The branches hang low,
From the new fallen snow.
We see many deer,
Filled with much fear.
Many mice,
Are slipping on ice.

The snow is very bright,
In the middle of the night.

While sitting in a doctor's waiting room recently, I was idly looking at the titles of articles listed on the cover of a *Readers Digest* when my eye was caught by the



words, "I Hate Kisses". I opened the magazine to the listed page to check if it in any way corresponded to the experience I have with my grandson who at a very early age refused me permission to kiss him. We finally reached a compromise - I am allowed to kiss the top of his head.

Sure enough, the article was by a mother whose 5 year old son has told her he hates kisses because "they are wet and yucky", exactly my grandson's sentiments. She agreed to honor his refusal to be kissed but asked if there was any situation in which he would relent. She said he looked at her earnestly and said, "Only when I'm bleeding."

When my grandson was four, I underwent hip surgery. My daughter brought the children to the hospital and as I was wheeled into the Day Room to visit with them, I noticed

that Greg seemed quite disturbed by the sight of me in a wheelchair. At the end of the visit, as they were about to leave, he came over to me and said, "You can

kiss my cheek."

It's nice to know there are exceptions.

By Bess Tremper

Did you know that the word "Dixie" comes from "Dix", the French word for ten? It appeared on the Louisiana \$10 banknote before the Civil War.

Also, the French crescent shaped pastry we know as a "croissant" comes from the name of the roll made in Vienna in the 17th century to commemorate the Austrian empire's victory over the Turks whose national emblem is the crescent.

- From William Safire's column in the *Sunday New York Times*, "Magazine" section

Can anyone share other word or phrase backgrounds with us? Please send them along.



(*COUNCIL from pg. 1*) it was doing to assure adequate fire protection. Mayor Allen and Councilman Vasseur said five people have volunteered to join Roosevelt's Fire Department, five more are being sought, and nearby fire companies have been contacted for possible coverage. Rick Hutchins said that he had possibly \$100,000 worth of fire damage to his house two weeks earlier; Fire Chief Kim Dexheimer arrived quickly, but without the fire truck; they were able to put the fire out with a water hose. Nona Sherak explained how she buys 10 gallons of clean water each week and washes her clothes early in the morning to minimize the effect of discolored water. She also requested the Council to get a new cable TV company for Roosevelt, and questioned why the Planning Board had discussed the effect of maximum class size in the Roosevelt School. Michael Ticktin explained that the Board needed to know how much development would put excessive strain on Roosevelt.

At the January 9 meeting, the Council approved of Gayle Donnelly's application for active membership in the Roosevelt Fire Department. It introduced an Ordinance to cover indem-

nification of all Borough employees, and Ordinance #174 to allow the Borough to appropriate, in 1995, five percent more than in 1994. Such an ordinance is required under the New Jersey CAP law when the anticipated increase exceeds the inflation rate. (The Council had resolved that \$91,000 in unexpended balances in the 1994 budget be cancelled and credited to Surplus, at the December 26 Special Meeting.)

The Council appointed four people to be school crossing guards (Margaret Schlinski's letter of resignation was posted on the bulletin board) and also filled twelve other positions.

Before this "record" short meeting ended, members of the public asked who the Zoning Officer reports to (the Mayor and Council); the name of the Zoning Officer (John W. Sullivan); the position's salary (\$3,000 annually); why the public works employee was not assigned to this position (conflict of responsibilities); if the Zoning Officer should be required to attend Council and Planning Board meetings (no); and, if the pump for well #3 would be repaired (it will be checked in February).

Several matters that were dis-
(cont. on pg. 21)

(DEBATE from pg. 13)

not otherwise have. There was nothing in our zoning that would have prevented this facility from coming in. I wonder if Mr. Garton, distressed as he is by the presence of the guardrail, would have even considered moving into Roosevelt if the gateway to the main part of the town were dominated by an industrial use of that nature.

Perhaps, with sufficient effort, an industrial development commission can do better. Mayor Rafferty of Hamilton has stated that zoning for offices along Route 130 is unrealistic because there is such a glut of office space that it is likely to be ten years before any more office buildings are built, but perhaps some corporation can still be persuaded that Roosevelt is a better location for a corporate office than a site near a major highway. Perhaps someone in Millstone (or, unbeknownst to the rest of us, even in Roosevelt) is a CEO who would like a short commute. There will always be possibilities, but, if our concern is to provide financial relief within the lifetimes of most of us who are now here, encouragement of residential development, within limits that assure that costs will not be incurred by current residents, and subject to constraints that will result in the permanent preservation of most of our open space, would seem to be the most reasonable policy to pursue.

TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Ticktin's projection of Roosevelt's growth capacity, based on a nearly three-fold increase in Roosevelt Public School enrollment, was reported under "Planning Board News" in the December/January issue of *The Bulletin*. Mayor Allen processed those numbers to project a potential 20% decrease in taxes and 50% reduction in water/sewer bills. Realistic constraints, such as the budget busting effects of special needs students were ignored. The point of the exercise was purportedly to explore the best case fiscal scenario for development. To me, however, the numbers had the opposite effect.

Ironic as it may be, I suggest that Messrs. Ticktin and Allen have inadvertently made an extremely strong case to support the futility of pursuing residential growth for fiscal gain. Even if my taxes were 20% lower, I would still have to pay a staggering \$520 per month on my \$100,000 home. Even if I paid \$65 per month for W/S, I would still be paying three to four fold more than the norm. Even if I use the wildly opti-



mistic projections from last month's *Bulletin*, my fiscal situation in Roosevelt would not be competitive with neighboring tax districts. And, the reality is that any fiscal benefit would be far, far less than the reckless projections cited here. What kind of person would choose to buy a home in Roosevelt based on fiscal considerations?

The fact of the matter is that residential development does not represent a pot of gold. There may be good reasons to support residential growth (e.g. social diversity), but money is not among them. We would be smart to channel our energies toward an income-based state tax structure to support schools and a federal system willing to view regional issues in a national context. Even then,

we cannot hope for anything better than an equitable distribution of costs.

Henry John-Alder

TO THE EDITOR

To all of you who worked with me at one time or another over the past dozen years to make a better Roosevelt, a big hug on the occasion of my leaving the Council. From the beginning, I was inspired by the dream that by working together, we could do it.

As steps toward bringing people together and creating a sense of belonging to a community, I revived the Roosevelt phone book and litter pickup in 1987, and about that time started registering newcomers to vote. In mid-1990, I started my little column in *The Bulletin* about Roosevelt people. My four years on the Council gave me additional opportunities to work with you to help the town. I have enjoyed it all.

So long for now, and thanks again.

Peter B. Warren



(COUNCIL from pg. 19)
 cussed at the December 5 Agenda Meeting also deserve attention: (1) two members of the Roosevelt Board of Education attended and shared ideas for cutting costs by cooperating with the Borough Council. These ideas included purchasing office supplies in larger quantities at possible lower cost; sharing equipment and personnel for snow removal, grounds maintenance and custodial service; joint insurance purchase; and, joint equipment leasing and service contracts. The School Board members, Mike Hamilton and Lauralynn Cokeley, urged the Council members to attend the Board's school budget planning meetings, the first of which will be in January, as announced by a notice at the Post Office. School Business Administrator, Walter Landgraf wrote a follow-up letter to the Council a week later referring to most of those ideas and some others for cost cutting possibilities; (2) Jack Rindt, one of Roosevelt's volunteer Fire Department members, discussed the problems of getting an adequate fire truck and more volunteers. He belongs to the Millstone Fire Department also and declared that it was inadequate to serve

Roosevelt since "...only myself and three others came out for a 3:30 a.m. fire." Mayor Allen and Stu Kaufman said they would organize a house to house canvas to find volunteers. Fire Chief Dexheimer later complained about the Council's failure to provide urgently needed help, as illustrated by Councilman Kaufman's report at the December 12 meeting: "There was a trash can fire in Roosevelt, put out by the Millstone Fire Department because our fire truck malfunctioned. Next year, the Council must make a decision about our Fire Department not only in regard to volunteers, but also equipment." (3) George Vasseur, Public Works Committee Chair, reported that Gayle Donnelly was doing well on attending to her job as Public Works Employee and all items on the list he gave her. Her December report was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board.



Senior Citizen News

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

These have been busy and enjoyable times. We all celebrated the holidays and now it is back to business. But first, we wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

On December 6, Jean Ryan distributed material about MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and also gave us red ribbons for our cars.

On the 13th, we went to the Americana Restaurant for lunch where both the food and the company were good. Toby Levin's brother entertained on the organ. Delightful!

Jeanette Koffler presided at our January meeting and made us aware that the Office of Transportation has a new manager, Mr. Henry Nicholson.

The nurse that takes our blood pressure every month informed us that MCOSS will now be known as VNA, Visiting Nurses' Association. She also told us that a member of VNA will speak to us in February about hypothermia.

All the members present signed a card in answer to the one that our former member, Larry Barkeley sent to the club.

Jeanette informed us that she has told the First Aid Squad that we are ready to volunteer our services just as we work with The Bulletin every month helping to collate the paper when it comes from the printer. Our slogan is "We volunteer - ask!"

We have plans for luncheons on the 13th and 24th.

Our hostesses in December were Millie and Molly. In January, they were Lily and Thelma.

Our condolences to Mrs. Josephine Maley and family in the loss of James Maley.

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**

February 8 & 22

March 8 & 22

**Roosevelt
Community**

Television

Tuesday, 6-6:30 PM,

on

Storer Cable

Channel

8



**Volunteers for
Volunteers**

By Jean Ryan

Roosevelt Senior Citizens Club is offering a volunteer service to other Roosevelt volunteer organizations. On Thursday afternoons, at the Solar Village Community Room, a group of Senior Citizen Club members will stuff envelopes, address envelopes, staple, collate, prepare mailings or other routine paperwork for any VOLUNTEER organization in the borough.

The Rescue Squad was the first to accept our offer, followed by the Fire Department.

All materials must be delivered to and picked up from the Community Room at Solar Village. Supplies must be provided, i.e. staplers, pens, etc.

Projects should be discussed and will be accepted by appointment only. Call Jean Ryan at 443-9363.

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



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

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

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

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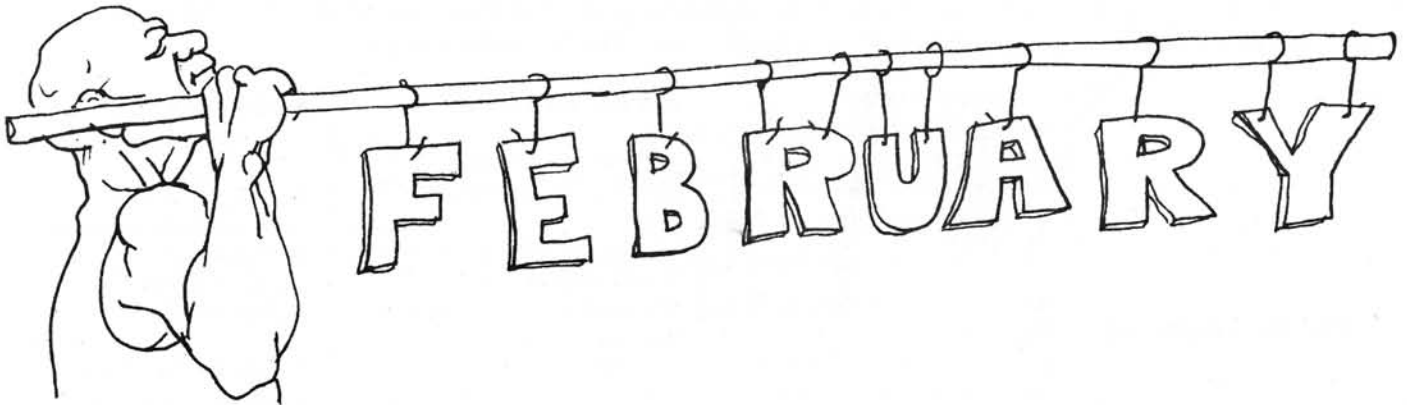
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443-4243**



wed 1 PTA Valentine's Flower Sale (until Feb. 10)- call Vinnie Jackson 426-0311
7 PM Yoga Class*-Synagogue-Deborah Metzger, 443-3759
8 PM Environmental Comm.-Jim Carnevale, Pres. 426-1728

thur 2 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Agenda Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 6 7:30 PM Council Agenda Mtg.

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

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

thur 9 1 PM RPS-Environmental Assembly-"Peppermint Puppeteers"

sat 11 8 PM RAP Program-Piano Fest V - Boro Hall

mon 13 7:30 PM Council Action Mtg.

tue 14 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8

wed 15 7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue*

thur 16 7:30 PM Board of Ed. Action Mtg.-RPS- Mike Hamilton, Pres. 443-5227

mon 20 President's Day
7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.
8 PM Synagogue Board Mtg., Michael Ticktin, 448-03636-

tue 21 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV

wed 22  Recycle
7 PM Yoga Class-Synagogue

sat 25 10:30AM-1:30PM-PTA Winter Carnival-RPS

mon 27 7:30 PM Council Comm. Mtgs.

tue 28 6 PM Roosevelt Comm. TV Cable Ch 8
7:30PM-NJ Homestead Historical Advisory Comm-Art Shapiro-443-3575

**In event of snow, call for cancellations.*

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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