

# Bulletin

Roosevelt Borough



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## 1995 BUDGET INTRODUCED: LOCAL PURPOSE TAX RATE TO RISE

The Roosevelt Borough Council introduced its 1995 municipal budget at its February 13th Regular Meeting. A public hearing on this budget and tax resolution is declared to be held at the Borough Hall on Monday, April 10, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. Objections to it may be placed then by "tax-payers and other interested persons." The budget is to be published in the March 2, 1995 *Messenger Press*. The Council discussed a preliminary budget with the public at a Budget Workshop which followed the Agenda Meeting on February 6, but it could not discuss the "introduced" budget. An advance copy prepared for the *Messenger Press* indicates these highlights: 1. The tax rate for local municipal purposes is about \$.79 per \$100 assessed valuation, almost a 10% increase over 1994's rate of \$.72.

- 2. This rate is to raise \$271,187 (9.6% more than in 1994).
- 3. Property assessed at \$100,000 would be taxed \$70 more than

in 1994 for municipal purposes for a total of \$790. 4. Roosevelt's total Net Valuation Taxable in 1995 is \$34,689,677 which is only \$200,000 more than in 1994. 5. Total 1995 Appropriations

with "CAPS" (5% increase was permitted) are increased 2.9% to \$396,000. Total appropriations EXCLUDED FROM "CAPS" are \$228,000 compared with only \$99,000 in 1994. The third factor in determining TOTAL GENERAL APPROPRIATION of \$753,120 (compared to \$593,588 in 1994) is "Reserve for uncollected taxes," arrived at by "utilizing a statutory formula to insure adequate funds are on hand to meet the County and School Tax Levy requirements."

It is \$129,123 (12% more than in 1994). Receipts from Delinquent Taxes in 1995 are anticipated to be \$95,000, just over \$20,000 more than realized in 1994. Other revenues expected to cover the 27% larger Total Appropriations are: \$160,875 sur-

(cont. on pg. 6)

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**Borough  
Council  
Report**

*by Herb Johnson*

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## Attention Please!

By The Editors

**W**ith this month's issue of *The Bulletin*, we are almost at the half way mark in our yearly production of nine issues. (We leave out January, August and September).

Thus far only sixty-three individuals or families have generously answered our appeal for the contributions we rely on to keep our non-profit publication alive. Clearly, this represents such a small percentage of the 415 copies we distribute to ALL our residents, month after month, free of charge, that were it not for the very generous grant we received from the Herman Goldman Foundation a few years ago and a few above average sums from some residents, we should not be able to publish.

As you may or may not know, *The Bulletin* is produced wholly by volunteers; our only expenses being for printing and postage to our out-of-town subscribers who pay for their subscriptions. In reviewing our financial standing at this moment, we find that our monthly expenses are beginning to drain our reserves. We therefore make this urgent appeal to all of those who have not already done so to please make a contribution to help to keep us financially sound.

We are proud of *The Bulletin* and judging by the positive comments we receive, our readers approve of the job we are doing and we want to continue. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE HELP.**

## Documentation Grant

By Peter Warren

Rutgers University has unofficially announced receipt of a Federal \$75,000 grant to catalog and preserve the archives of Jersey Homesteads and three other New Jersey communities: Farmingdale; the Modern School at Stelton; and, Free Acres at Berkeley Heights. The project is scheduled to start in July.

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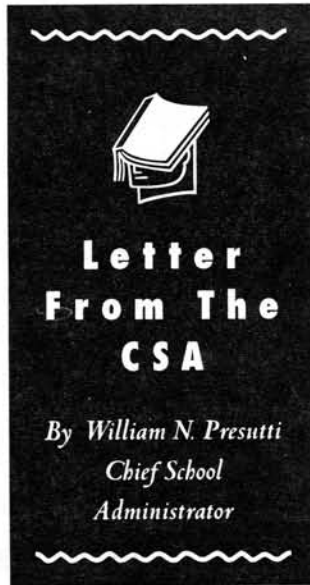
*Crumbs from My Table and Calendar*  
Artwork by Jonathan Shahn.

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It is with great pleasure that I begin my tenure as Chief School Administrator in the Roosevelt Public School. It is so good to be here. Before coming to Roosevelt, I was the Director of Special Services and Curriculum in the Little Falls Township School.

My first week in the school was very enjoyable. I have begun to learn the names of the students and have met many of the parents during conferences that were held on Monday, February 6, 1995. The highlight of my first week was the dedication of the new addition on Friday evening, February 10, 1995. It was a great evening. I enjoyed meeting so many members of the community who came out to "welcome" the new addition. I look forward to working with the community at-large in the goal of providing a well rounded, quality education to the students of Roosevelt. We are always looking for community members to share their special talents with our students and I welcome any volunteers.

During this first week, I have met with the staff and have been impressed by their level of professionalism. The students are being provided with a well integrated curriculum. I look forward to working with the staff as we continue to build on



this firm foundation.

As an educator, I continually strive to put the needs of the students first. They are the reason we exist and therefore, must always be kept uppermost in our minds. The students are most fortunate in Roosevelt as they are supported by a

wonderful community, rich in history. It has been very exciting to learn about the roots of Roosevelt. To this end, the staff is currently in the process of revising the social studies curriculum that will infuse the history of Roosevelt throughout the grades. It is so important that our students know the history of their community. To help in this regard, the Roosevelt First Aid Squad has generously donated twenty copies of Roosevelt, New Jersey, The First Fifty Years - 1936 -1986. On behalf of the students and staff, thank you.

In closing, please know that my door is always open. I look forward to hearing from you as I begin my service to the community on behalf of the young people of Roosevelt.

TOGETHER...WE CAN MAKE GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!!



## ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

By Nancy Hamilton

It was an evening of reflection and celebration for those attending the Roosevelt Public School Open House on February 10th. The evening began as Harry Parker, School Board Vice President introduced and acknowledged those responsible for the origination and completion of the building project. Former Chief School Administrators Harry Groveman and Fran Lobman were on hand, as was our recent Chief School Administrator, Bob Zolkiewicz. Bill Bowers, project architect and Steve Kothe, clerk of the works were also introduced and recognized. Members of the Roosevelt community greeted with enthusiasm the new Chief School Administrator, Bill Presutti. School board members helped cut the ribbon to the new kindergarten wing. Tours of the facilities were then provided by Roosevelt School student Council members.

This special evening brought together classroom teachers, parents, students and other Rooseveltians whose connection to R.P.S. will become more direct as the school fulfills its promise to serve the whole community.



A carload of February "thank you"s and a meeting to plan major upcoming events highlight the PTA's March report.

A quick recap of February happenings demonstrates just how active and effective our RPS parents can be. Relay teams of volunteers came

to the school library each day for over a week to tackle the daunting task of reorganizing the books so that the library can finally be used again. Plans are also afoot to link up with the Monmouth County Library HQ and allow our library to become an active branch of the county library system again, serving Rooseveltians of all ages.

PTA parents were on hand next to provide refreshments for the School Open House on February 10, when everyone in town was invited to tour RPS's new wing and meet the new principal, Mr. William Presutti. The group also provided refreshments for the school's FDR birthday celebration, then sponsored a school-wide Jump-Rope-A-Thon on February 13. Our children solicited money pledges and then jump-roped their hearts out to raise funds for June's Field Day activities and for the Physical Education Department. A big



"thank you" at this point goes to all you generous Rooseveltians who signed the youngsters' pledge sheets! The PTA's Valentine's Day Flower Sale concluded on the following day, when our volunteers distributed those lovely posies to the purchasers.

The volunteering high point of the school year, however, came on February 25, when

dozens of parents and RPS alumni worked together to help the annual Winter Carnival achieve its usual success. Games and booths had to be run, tickets counted, prizes distributed, art projects supervised, and refreshments prepared and served, but our folks were right there on the job!

The PTA's sincere thanks go to all those wonderful volunteers - to the dedicated library crew, the tireless Carnival committee chairs and their workers, the hardworking Flower Sale team of Shelly Hatzfeld, Vinnie Jackson and Dianna More, and to all our terrific cooks and bakers. You're what the PTA is all about!

Next up is our March 8 meeting, where we'll start hashing out plans for such future biggies as Field Day, the town-wide Garage Sale, the June Art Fair, the Comedy Club Trip and more. Hope we'll see you there!



## BROWNIE TROOP NEWS

By Judi Cordo & Kim Rindt

On Tuesday, February 14th, Brownie Troop #327 had their first Badge Ceremony, which was held at the Borough Hall. The girls in the troop are: Sara Allen, Ina Clark, Heather Cordo, Laurel Hamilton, Meredith Lawson, Mollie Marko, Samantha Mateyka, Zabrina Ortiz, Kelsey Reimbold, Jennifer Rindt and Elizabeth Stinson. We are also fortunate enough to have a junior leader, Dawn Miller. With the help of Dawn, and the cooperation of all the girls in the troop, we were able to accomplish a lot so far this year. The badges the girls were awarded were: Dancercize, Food Fun, Girl Scout Ways, Good Food, Manners and Music. They also sold 42 cases of Girl Scout cookies and made a total of \$211.68 for the troop.

We are very proud of all the girls.

### From The RCNS Board

**We would like to extend our thanks to all of the RCNS and After School Program parents who participated in our recent candy fundraiser. The money raised helped to obtain needed after school equipment. To those of you who refused to take part in this fundraiser, there is always next time. All of our children benefit in spite of lack of participation. Again many thanks go out to those of you who helped raise the needed funds.**

Nursery  
School  
News



By Marsha Agress  
Head Teacher, RCNS

"March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." Hopefully spring's arrival on March 20th will put an end to cold, windy days. We are all anxiously awaiting warmer weather.

The children will be learning about the number 7, and will make purple colored bags this month. A major concentration will be on activities dealing with the 5 senses (touch, smell, sight, taste and hearing). We will make a book to remember what the 5 senses are, and how they help us to learn about the world we live in.

We will also continue to make projects that begin with the initial sounds of letters. This month we will make a gumball machine for the letter G and we will read "Green Eggs and Ham" as well as prepare "green

eggs" as one of our foods to taste. For the letter H, we will make hats for spring, and conduct a "hat day" in the school. Everyone will be encouraged to wear their favorite or silliest hat to school. We will also make

hot air balloons because March is known to be a windy month. For the letters I we will make ice cream cones; for J we will make a jack-in-the box; kites for K; lions, lambs and lemon lollipops for L; and, for the let-

ter M we will learn about magnets and how things attract and repel. Mr. Tulloss, Sarah's dad, will also visit us and teach us all about mushrooms.



Roosevelt Board Of Education News

By Joann San Nicola

**The February 16th meeting of the Board of Education provided some very lively discussion! It seems that "in its infinite wisdom", the State Department of Education has levied what it calls an Excessive Administrative Penalty against our school district. Simply put, it means that the State is giving us \$26,600 less in state aid. To arrive at this figure, they used a pupil population of 96 (our in-house population), excluding the other 55 students we bus out. Along with their other flawed logic, the State includes the school nurse (State Mandated), the child study team (State Mandated), and the \$2,000 the Board had earmarked for library books! This latest outrageous move by the D.O.E. demands action on our part. Mr. Presutti is filing an appeal on the grounds of extenuating circumstances. Mayor Allen addressed the Board urging them, in concert with the Borough Council, to fight this levy through the courts and the Legislative Body. A resolution was passed by the Board to have its lawyers investigate this problem, the initial cost of said investigation not to exceed \$500.**

**Once again, our townsmen (and women!) must rally to fight yet another outrage. We are doing our best to keep our head above water and provide our children with a quality (yet no-frills) education. Please take pen in hand and write to the Commissioner protesting this latest outrage. The Honorable Lee F. Kalogholz, Commissioner of Education, CN-500, Trenton, NJ 08625.**

**Other business addressed by the Board was the appointment of Mr. Henry John-Alder to fill the vacancy on the Board. Mr. John-Alder spoke briefly about what he hopes to contribute, voicing his (and everyone's) concern about our high tax problem.**

**Mr. Landgraf continues to enrich our school by continuing to obtain more computers, this latest effort in an appeal to Ft. Monmouth re: excess computers.**

**Kudos were given to the organizers of the Open House, held on Friday, Feb. 10th. Along with a packed house, every staff member enthusiastically attended. Special thanks to Mrs. Skye and the P.T.A.**

**Three Board members are up for reelection: Mrs. Cokeley, Mrs. Clark and Mr. Newrath.**

**Mr. Hamilton announced that new crosswalk lines on Pine Drive and Rochdale Ave. will be painted by the county, and new signs will be provided by the town.**

**The remainder of the meeting was given over to routine matters.**

**In closing, let me again urge you to write your strong protests to the Commissioner!**



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



(*COUNCIL from pg. 1*) plus (\$6,000 more than in 1994); \$226,000 in State Aid (\$90,000 more than in 1994); and, the \$271,000 to be raised by local taxes.

At the Budget Workshop on February 6, three Farm Lane residents raised questions and objected to the budget proposed. David Ticktin said it was "unconscionable" for the Council to budget any increase in these times. Clifford Fischer opposed the Council's action to permit a 5% increase of "capped" expenses. He called for a 5% decrease. Robert Eisner noticed no amount was listed on the summary page for 1995 Reserve for Uncollected Taxes. One questioned why a three percent raise for employees was planned. Mayor Allen said fairness required it, particularly in light of zero percent increase in 1994.

The Water/Sewer Utility Budget was discussed at the workshop meeting. Debt Service remains at \$206,000; Operating Expenses decrease \$24,000 to \$346,000; Capital Outlay increases \$70,000 to \$150,000; Total Appropriation for water/sewer increases \$44,000 to \$703,077. A \$5 per month reduction for each fee payer may be possible soon and total rent revenue anticipated is \$477,780 (\$30,000 less than received in 1994), but surplus to cover ex-

penses was increased \$55,000 from the 1994 amount of \$170,000. Edward Debevec, Roosevelt Borough's Chief Financial Officer, advised the Council, "Be cautious with the surplus; Well #3 repairs may cost a lot." He said earlier that the water/sewer surplus had decreased about \$30,000 in 1994. Robert Bachstadt, Roosevelt's co-accountant, later said the surplus had gone down from \$315,000 only about \$6,000.

Regarding work to clear up Roosevelt's water, Stuart Kaufman, the mayor's newly appointed chairman of Public Works Committee, reported that the filter media had not arrived yet, but the contractor would replace the media at the rate of one filter per week for four weeks starting February 20th. Bob Eisner asked, "Are the managers of U.S. Water Company responsible for neglect in not improving the filters a year ago?" Mayor Allen replied, "Yes." This point was pursued at the February 13 meeting by two other Farm Lane residents who have been complaining for four months. Charlene and Preston Miller brought in a 2 liter bottle filled with water and two inches of rust-colored sediment which they had drained from their hot water heater according to an interview after the meeting. They

charged the Council with negligence and the U.S. Water Company with incompetence, and said they expect the Borough to reimburse them for damage to their new hot water heater, washing machine, bath tub and tiles, iron and pipes, and for a filter they purchased and installed on their kitchen sink faucet.

Many other exciting exchanges and actions took place at the Council's agenda and regular meetings this month. Letters to the Council from Diana Coe, Diana Klein, Ralph Warnick and others were posted on the bulletin board and announced formally. Mayor Allen, and some Farm Lane residents, welcomed and urged all Roosevelt Citizens to attend and participate or at least observe the proceedings in the Borough Hall on the second Monday of every month, at 7:30 p.m., and on other days when special meetings are announced by a notice posted in the glass covered bulletin board in the Post Office.

In another important development, the Council approved a motion to invite the Executive Director of the State Low-Level Radioactive Waste Depository Facility Siting Commission to come to a meeting to discuss possible siting of a facility here. (see accompanying article by Michael Ticktin on page 9.)



# Archeology - Then and Now

By Hortense Sochowitzky

In the fall of 1953, the 5th grade children of RPS and their parents hosted a weekend visit to Roosevelt of the 5th grade children of the Downtown Community School, a private school in New York City.

It was a class trip for the New York kids to learn a little about living in a semirural area. They observed the harvesting of cranberries in Ocean County; they visited the Hechalutz Farm in Etra, then a training ground for agricultural workers in Israel; they participated in a square dance we arranged in the Roosevelt School gym. They and their chaperons were housed in the homes of our 5th graders and others. They borrowed bikes from our kids and enjoyed the freedom of riding all over our town as they could not do in the big city. But the big event for them and for the Roosevelt kids as well,

was participating in an archeological dig in Hightstown, organized and guided by Roosevelt parent Franklin Folsom. They dug in an open area off York Road near Windsor-Perrineville Rd., where artifacts of the Lenape Indians had previously been found. They, too, found pointed bits of stone, some metal - many of which were later authenticated as Lenape arrow heads at the State Museum in Trenton. It was an exciting experience for all of us - children and parents too. I know that many of those

children - now adult - including my own son and Mary Ann Monk, now Mary Ann Henderson of Roosevelt, and some of the city children, still remember it as a highlight of those years. Mr. Folsom also told us a great deal about the life of the Lenape Indians who had lived in our area only a few hundred years before us.

This trip, including the dig, was planned by Roosevelt parents and the Downtown



Community School director and their 5th grade teacher, independent of the Roosevelt School itself.

When I learned recently that the Roosevelt School was officially involved in studying Lenape Indians, I was eager to see what they were doing. I found a most extensive, exciting study. The children of the 3rd and 4th grades, under the guidance of Ilene Levine, 3rd grade teacher, assisted by Winnie Repette, 4th grade teacher, delved into the history and studied the lifestyle of these

Indian people.

They visited Waterloo Village to study a life sized model of a Lenape village. They constructed a 2/3 life sized long house at the Holmdel Activity Center, and they visited the State Museum in Trenton.

They read several books, stories and articles about the Lenapes, and prepared written reports of what they had read. They learned about the Lenapes' daily lives, how

they made use of whatever resources were available; the foods they ate and how they procured them; the games the children played, the clothing they wore, the jewelry they made, the houses they lived in and how they were built.

Then they proceeded to reproduce a model size Lenape village in their own classroom. They used twigs, bark, stones, willow branches

and spruce cones, sawdust, wheat paste, plaster of Paris, brown paint for the earth, railroad model grass, papier mache'. In addition to the buildings, trees and bushes, the model includes people, turtles, beavers, fish and deer, as well as representations of food - vegetables grown and meats drying. They made canoes out of pieces of bark.

As a crowning act, when their model village was completed, they held a festival celebrating Lenape life. They ate Lenape

*(cont. on pg. 21)*

In the last *Borough Bulletin*, Michael Ticktin takes me to task for accusing the pro-residential development camp of being “neo-positivist”, correctly identifying that I meant the label in a negative sense. He goes on, however, to defend this “neo-positivist” stance, defining it as “a philosophical position concerned with positive facts and phenomena and excluding speculation upon ultimate causes and origins.” It was a strange coincidence, but ABC aired that awful ‘documentary’ television program purporting to explore the TRUE biological (and therefore social) differences between men and women the same day that Michael’s article appeared in *The Bulletin*. Both reflected a truly neo-positivist view of an uncomplicated and uninterpreted world. I don’t think reality is like that.

Michael Ticktin wields a mighty sharp dictionary, but unfortunately his lexicon does not include the fact that logical positivism died as a valid philosophical system shortly after the turn of this century. Positivism cannot work, in large part precisely because it ignores “ultimate causes and origins”. It does not acknowledge all of the interpretive cognitive apparatus that we carry with us as sentient beings. It is this interpretative filter of fundamental beliefs and assumptions that makes a position of objectivity extremely problematic. Take a hard look at Peter Warren’s pathetic attempts to disavow any personal responsibility for the borough’s current financial mess, or reconcile Lee Allen’s recent statement about our shiny new sewage treatment plant: “Flow limits are not so



**Consider**

**Alternatives**



*By Brad Garton*

strictly enforced so long as you are meeting your biological requirements” with any of his previous rhetoric justifying the additional — EXPENSIVE — sewer line work (gosh, Lee, whatever happened to Insituform?) and you gain first-hand experience of just how slippery “objective truth” can be.

Indeed, Michael’s article itself is a perfect demonstration of the fallacy of positivism. Those of us who have read Michael’s writings in the past certainly realize that he, like all of us, has his own interpretive filter firmly in place (and if you can’t recognize his obvious bias, I have several New York City bridges for sale!). His latest article attempts to justify the basic tenets of his particular political belief-system with a bizarre pseudo-scientific historical analysis. Using a relatively linear interpolation of a complex set of factors from 1933 to the present is quite strange, — to say the least — and the underlying premise that residential development is necessarily the best option for our town is simply wrong. Michael starts from a flawed but deeply held basic assumption, which might be roughly stated as: Development is Good. His universe is built entirely upon this foundation, culminating in a argument which (of course!) shows how condos and townhouses will surely save Roosevelt from oblivion.

As an example of how this pseudo-scientific positivism can work, consider this Completely Objective Alternative to further residential development. The goal/premise (here lies the confusion) is to get lots more of those gosh-darned ratable people here in Roosevelt. We can do this by maximizing usage of our current housing base (boy, that last sentence sure sounds like snazzy gov-speak! I’ll bet it’s “cost-efficient”, too ... and whatever hard-working solution we find will be a milestone looking forward to the future). How can we achieve this maximum home usage?

*(cont. on pg. 13)*



As noted in this month's "Borough Council Report" column, the Council has decided to invite John Weingart, Executive Director of the New Jersey Low Level Radioactive Waste Depository Facility Siting Commission, to come to Roosevelt to discuss the possibility of having such a facility located here.

A recent article in the *New York Times* described the difficulties that Mr. Weingart's agency has been encountering in its attempts to find an appropriate site with municipal consent, the nature of the proposed facility and the incentives that could be made available to any municipality that wished to cooperate. After reviewing this article, the Council decided that further investigation was warranted. Mr. Weingart is scheduled to speak to a joint meeting of the Council, the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission on March 27.

"Low level radioactive waste" is material that is not itself radioactive but that has been in contact with radioactivity. An example is hospital gloves used in radiation therapy. It should not be confused with either used nuclear fuel or toxic waste. Federal law requires each state to establish a depository for these "low level" materials. In order to avoid a repetition of the fiasco of several years ago involving the proposed Millstone toxic waste facility, the Siting Commission decided that it would locate the facility only in a municipality that wanted it. Thus far, however, there have been no applicants.

Why, then, if no one else has volunteered,

## **Will A State**

## **Low-Level**

## **Radioactive**

## **Waste Facility**

## **Help Us**

*By Michael Ticktin*

should we even consider having such a facility here? The reason is quite simple: According to the *Times* article, the municipality that accepts the facility should receive payments, from the State and from users of the facility, in the amount of approximately two million dollars a year. To a large municipality, that might not be enough of an incentive. For Roosevelt, however, that amount of money is more than our combined municipal and school tax levies. Any chance that we might go from being one of the most highly taxed municipalities in the State to one of the least taxed must certainly be investigated. It would be irresponsible of our elected and appointed officials not to do so.

Obviously, even total freedom from prop-

erty taxes would not be adequate compensation if an unsafe facility were to be built. Before any decision is made, there are many questions that will have to be asked, and to which full and satisfactory answers will have to be given. We have residents here who have expertise and experience in dealing with the types of issues that any project of this sort would involve. It is important that they come forward and participate in the discussion and give us all the benefit of their knowledge.

Whether or not to accept this facility may well be the single most important decision that the citizens and officials of Roosevelt will ever be called upon to make. If the facility would be safe but we reject it anyway, we may thereby needlessly prolong our financial distress. If we accept it but do not get adequate safeguards, we may be inviting environmental disaster that will harm both our health and the value of our properties. But, if we are satisfied beyond any reasonable doubt that the proposed project would be safe, and we therefore decide to accept it, we may find that the fiscal burden under which we have labored for so long, and that has been so oppressive for so many people, has finally been eliminated as a problem. (A fourth, rather anticlimactic, possibility is that we would agree to having the facility located here only to find that no prospective site would be suitable.)

As is so often the case, exploring all aspects of this issue will require the expenditure of a considerable amount of time and energy. As always, it would be preferable to

*(cont. on pg. 22)*

# The Fire Within

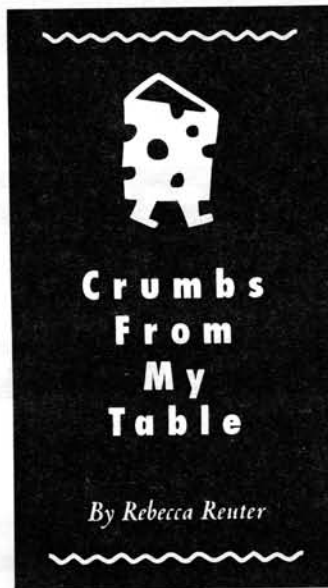
While waiting for spring and the snow to melt, the ground to thaw, and the sun to give out warmth again, you may wish, like I do, to summon it sooner. You might shut your eyes while sitting in a sunny window seat and see the red glow through your closed lids, feel the heat on your skin and try not to notice that the warmth is formed only in windowpane squares on your body. You might park yourself by a bright homey fire, roasting one haunch, then another, rotating your hemispheres toward the light. But these ploys just give illusions of a better season, and only touch the surface of a chilly soul. I want more. I want warmth through and through.

For this I have help. Above our fireplace, hanging upside down from a nail in the mantle, is a Thai pepper plant. In life, last summer, it was a small rounded bush bristling with I" hot peppers. It still holds all its leaves though they're twisted and dry now, and its three hundred peppers are wrinkled and darker red and point to the floor instead of the sky. When I brush it in passing, the tiny seeds shake inside their three hundred crispy skins and the plant produces the same dry warning sound as a rattlesnake's.

This plant can bring summer to your mind in an instant. It can flame your innards and sunburn your tongue. It is a burning bush with the power to light you up from the inside. It is one of the Capsicums, the chili family, and if you dare to stick your hand - or tongue - in this fire it will teach you to speak as you never have before. Lisp or no lisp. It's hotter than hot.

And how hot is hot? You thought it was a matter of opinion? But no, there really is a "Richter scale" of pepper intensity. Pepper fire is measured in Scoville heat units. A sweet bell pepper sits calmly at 0 on the Scoville heat units, while a mild pepper like an anaheim can rate from 250 to 1,400 units. Thai and habanero (a.k.a. Scotch bonnet) defines the upper limit at 300,000 units.

To bring the warmth of summer to your soggy spring kitchen, try out some new pepper varieties. You can find assorted fresh



chiles at supermarkets, and really inexpensive dried peppers at ethnic groceries, along with various hot pepper preparations like powdered spice mixtures, chili-garlic paste, and spicy chutney. Oriental groceries carry cellophane packets of 50-plus cayenne peppers for less than a dollar, while the new South American market on Main Street in Hightstown sells mild dried anchos for about a dollar and a half per bag.

Pepper heat, in the form of the alkaloid capsaicin, is concentrated in the white ribs inside and the membrane that holds the seeds. The seeds themselves are not hot compared to the flesh of the pepper, but that unimportant looking

white stuff they rest in can be twenty times hotter. And the capsaicins don't reserve their exquisite fire for your innards only. The oils that burn and tingle can find their way into your skin when you handle chiles. You become aware, suddenly and painfully, of how often you touch your face or rub your eyes.

Wear rubber gloves if you plan to handle anything hot. This is serious. The burn takes a few minutes or more to really hit you, and you may have done something terrible before you realize how bad it is, like touching your eye or your child or a pet. Think of poison ivy and how it "travels" on clothes, tools and your body. The chili is just as potent whether it is fresh, canned or dried.

If you do someday bite off more than you can swallow or if your hands begin to burn and tingle, don't run to quench the fire with water. Capsaicin is an oil, and oil and water don't mix. If you try to wash it away with water or beer, you will just send the poison fuel further down your gullet. The only cure is something that will absorb the oil. So, if you've just met your first habanero pepper and your tongue threatens to go into thermal breakdown, smother it with rice, bread, or potatoes - whichever is nearer to hand. To soothe your skin, soak them in vegetable oil or wash them with a very mild solution of bleach and water.

Obviously there's more to the Genus Capsicum than an octane

rating. Every type of chili has a distinct flavor along with its fire. Some are very sweet under the heat, some are fruity, some floral, some herbal and some smokey (the chipotle is actually smoked before drying). Recipes from cuisines that depend on lots of chiles often specify several different types of chili for a single dish, because each adds a flavor as noticeable as any pinch of spice in an apple pie. Taste your pepper carefully for flavor by scraping a sliver from an area that's well away from any ribs. If it's very hot, scrape off all of the ribs and membrane before you cook with it.

Peppers, both sweet and hot, freeze well without any preparation at all. Just toss them in a plastic bag and the into the freezer, though you will save space by halving them and removing the seeds first. It's really worth while to buy them when they're on sale, and to stock up during the summer when you can buy them by the basket. "Putting by" doesn't get any easier than this. I have small bags of jalapeno and thai peppers from the garden which I keep in the door of the freezer where I can find them.

You can grate a chili into a dish of steamed vegetables, chop a fresh or canned chili into a cheese sauce, or soak and puree dried chiles to create a sauce. To spice a stir-fry dinner or tomato sauce add a dried chili to the hot oil in the pan and turn the chili till it puffs up and blackens. Remove and throw away the chili and go on with the recipe. The chili really does leave it's heat in the oil, so be moderate and use no more chili in the oil than you would have added to the entire dish.

You have to wonder about any food that comes with so many caveats. Why do we pursue it? Is the flavor worth the pain? For one thing, chiles may be good medicine. Chilis, like garlic, have been shown to have antibacterial properties, and a spicy meal gives instant though temporary relief from congestion. There's a sort of chili-induced religious fervor too: I've heard strong men and women call out for salvation after just one bite of an overspiced dish.

Chili makes us feel so strong and weak in the knees at the same

(cont. on pg. 15)



## An Environmental Issue

By Kate Freedman

*Editor's Note: The resident author is a 7th grade student at the Kreps Middle School. The following is her report as part of an assigned science project which she wants to share with us:*

You may think that cats abound in great quantities. Just walking down the street in Roosevelt you may pass several strays. You may hear the screeches of cats fighting off in the woods or right on your front lawn. While all this is happening here, their wild relatives are even in more serious trouble.

Centuries ago, wild cats were common. They occupied almost every part of the world except for Australia and Antarctica. As the population of man grew, the wild cats' habitat was destroyed and the cats were hunted. Soon their range decreased and so did their numbers. In North America, the cougar was hunted because it was thought to be the killer of livestock. Also, in India, the tiger faced the same problem. In many other places, the cats were exterminated and hunted for medicinal value. Many species and sub-species of cats soon became extinct.

In the 1940's, the world finally gave notice to the cats' plight. They created many reserves and parks where the habitat was protected and the cats could not be hunted. Unfortunately, these reserves did not have sufficient funds and could not properly enforce the protection of the cats. The cats were still hunted and their numbers have decreased even more. The five remaining species of tiger have numbers so low, that environmentalists predict that

they will be extinct by the end of this decade.

Even though the cats' future looks grim now, you can do some things to help. For instance, if you see any product made out of any species of cat such as leopard, for example, (fur coats, teeth, paws, tails and other parts), do not buy it. These products are not normally sold anymore but they are sometimes sold on the black market. The connection may seem far fetched, but some fast food restaurants purchase beef from countries whose cattle are raised in the rain forests, a major habitat for wild cats. In order to feed these cattle, the farmers burn large areas of land in order for the cattle to graze. Unfortunately the soil in the rain forest is very thin and the cattle can only graze on a particular piece of land for about 1 year before depleting the grass and destroying the soil forever. The farmers then move on to other pieces of land.

Another threat to the rain forest and therefore to the cats as well, is the destruction of trees, especially some valuable ones such as mahogany. Lumber companies will cut down many other trees in their way to get to one mahogany tree. It would help if we tried to avoid buying anything made from mahogany wood.

These are just a few of the ways that can be employed to help the plight of the wild cats.

For more information, write:  
World Wildlife Fund  
1250 24th St. NW  
Washington, DC 20037

## WANTED:

**SENIORS who are interested in volunteering one to two hours a week to come to school to listen to first and second graders read to them.**

**Guaranteed delight!**

**Contact Helen Barth at  
448-2798 between  
8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

### Support the Bulletin



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Roosevelt Borough Bulletin  
Box 221  
Roosevelt, NJ  
08555-0221**

(*CONSIDER from pg 8*)  
 Start with the Mayor's house: Unless Lee Allen has some secret underground storage area, his house probably encompasses an area of approximately 1,500 square feet. If we assume that humans really only need an area about 6 feet square to exist, then we can conclude that 250 peo-

ple could easily fit inside the Allen house. We could then assess each person for the 6 foot patch — think of the ratables! Even better, we could “cluster” these people into one or two rooms, leaving lots of open space in the rest of the house. It would be almost like no one was living there at all! I suspect that

the original founders of Roosevelt intended for this to happen (and here we thought Judge Robert Bork had been defeated...). After all, people do reproduce.

OK,OK. I know, I'm being silly with this. I'm dead serious, however, when I suggest that we must investigate options other than further residential

development. I wish that all the costly efforts expended by the Mayor and Council toward the end of facilitating additional residential growth had instead been focussed on exploring other, more economically sound options. I wish that the Council would stop thinking of residential development as a goal to be (expensively) pursued, and view it instead as one of the less attractive alternatives for Roosevelt. Who knows? We might actually live some day in a town where we could sell our house if we wanted.

Other opportunities to recover from the serious financial damage inflicted by recent Mayor/Council decisions may be presenting themselves to Roosevelt in the near future. I sincerely hope that current elected officials are not so enamored of fly-by-night residential development schemes (and believe me, any developer stupid enough to walk into our current situation will be navigating entirely by the light of the moon) that they ignore the real benefits offered by non-residential solutions.

Do I believe that this might actually happen? Suuuure ... and I just bought this terrific bridge over the East River!



## **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      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.**

**Roosevelt**



**Weather**



**Almanac**



By Ron Filepp

**WINTER  
ARRIVES  
(AT LAST)**

In the Roosevelt woods the day after the February 4 snow storm, the sweetgum trees have littered the white forest floor with spiky, brown seed pods. A bitter cold wind burns the face and tears large white cumulus clouds across the sky. There is howling through the trees and creaking, cracking wood. Trees and branches sway. Dead ones threaten to fall.

Icy bogs wait to soak and freeze feet. Nearby, Empty Box Brook flows deep, wide and fast. Standing on the white bank looking into the water it can be any and every season.

Out on the street there are driveways still not dug out. Although it is late afternoon, some Sunday papers have yet to be picked up. Their plastic covers wave in the wind for attention. Do readers inside prefer warm books and magazines?

The storm has born uncertainty. Snow forts have been built. An invitation has been delivered. Come into the outside weather. Bundle up in warm clothes and get cold. See the Summer in the water while you stand and slowly freeze. Walk in the silence of the wind that covers all other sounds.

While you're out, you might even bring in that newspaper.

"If there is no snow in January, there will be more in March and April."

January brought only the slightest dusting of snow on the 11th. We'll have to wait to see what March and April bring in the way of snow. February did its bit for the winter season. On the 4th, 11 inches of snow covered the ground in Roosevelt.

There was also a little snow on February 15th but it quick-

ly changed to rain. In our area it seems there were only a few icy surfaces. To the north in Somerset and Hunterdon

**Weather Table**

**January 15 - February 15**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	69.5	56.0	62.8	0.06
16	63.0	58.0	60.5	0.08
17	56.0	46.0	51.0	0.25
18	46.0	42.5	44.3	0.10
19	44.0	40.0	42.0	0.04
20	50.0	44.0	47.0	0.75
21	47.0	40.0	43.5	0.27
22	39.0	32.0	35.5	0
23	37.0	27.0	32.0	0
24	40.0	26.0	33.0	0
25	????	36.0	????	0
26	40.0	29.0	34.5	0.06
27	40.0	28.0	34.0	0
28	34.0	23.0	28.5	0
29	34.0	19.5	26.8	0
30	42.0	19.5	30.8	0
31	41.0	22.0	31.5	0
1	50.0	30.0	40.0	0
2	41.0	22.0	31.5	0
3	????	17.0	????	0
4	38.0	16.5	27.3	0
5	22.5	20.0	21.3	0.57
6	22.0	7.0	14.5	0
7	28.0	11.5	19.8	0
8	27.0	8.0	17.5	0
9	32.0	12.5	22.3	0
10	46.0	19.0	32.5	0
11	44.5	28.0	36.3	0
12	30.0	12.0	21.5	0
13	28.0	10.0	19.0	0
14	33.5	14.0	23.8	0
15	38.0	14.0	26.0	0

**Total Precip 2.18**

Counties, many car accidents occurred due to slippery conditions.

"Many can brook the weather that love not the wind", Shakespeare.

The windy month of March is upon us and on the 20th winter will be officially blown away. Here are some proverbs about the wind:

"The devil is busy in a high wind"

"A little wind kindles, too much puts out the fire"

"God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb"

"No weather is ill if the wind be still"

"March winds and April showers bring May flowers"

**WEATHER FACT:**

The highest wind speed ever recorded on the Earth's surface is 231 miles per hour. The reading was taken at Mount Washington, New Hampshire.

**WEATHER WORD:**

"Rasputitsa" is the Russian name for the short period of time in spring when the snow melts and the ground thaws out.



# Coming To Your Neighborhood

July 10th Through August 11th

Roosevelt Community Summer Camp\*

5 Weeks Of Sunny Fun-Filled Fun

Swimming-Dramatics-Games

Artsier Arts-Craftier Crafts-Sportier Sports

Watch Your Local Papers and Cable Access

Channels For Upcoming Information

and Details

\* \* \* \* \* 1/2

Perfect For Children Between The Ages

Of 3 And 10

\* A Roosevelt Borough Recreation Production

(CRUMBS from pg. 9)

time. Eyes spout tears, blood rushes to the head, nose is washed clean, tongue sizzles, innards are traceable from outside the body. We stamp our feet, pound the table, shake our heads, sputter and sweat. This is good, this is knowing you're alive. This is also followed by a release of endorphins — the body's homemade painkillers — in the brain which draws off the burn and leaves behind a warm afterglow. The heat fades off like a summer day slipping toward twilight. Try some?

## Spicy Grilled Beef

In a small glass bowl, combine:

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 tablespoon fresh ginger, minced

1 small (1") dried

hot pepper, crushed

2 tablespoons soy  
sauce

2 tablespoons fresh  
lemon juice

1 tablespoon honey

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

Pour mixture over a 1-pound flank steak in a glass dish or heavy plastic bag. Refrigerate 4 hours or more, turning meat once in marinade. Drain meat and grill over a hot fire or broil 3 - 4 minutes per side. Serve with fresh corn bread and sliced cucumber salad.



## MORE ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT POETRY

### MUSEUM

*By Dina Coe*

A curl of surf, rolling blanched weeds.  
No, a clod lifts a driftbone from the earth.

Snow specks whirl in the opaque grey;  
air is a mouth carved in a cliff.

Screened by the pale wire of branches, one massive trunk  
dropped its limbs on the leafmold, where they vanished.

A familiar strangeness lines the world. Straw  
like straw all winter slept on in the barn mats the ground.

No idols with human faces, but mounds pushed up to the sur-  
face,  
the shine of mica dim as if the dead are dreaming it.

Headless, without arms, the trunk paused in the act of turning.  
It is the effigy of a torso perceived to turn for the last time.

This is a garden of things that have forgotten what they were.  
Keratinous whips, translucent to the dried blood within,

hoop the dead field in barbed arcs. From erect stalks  
emptied pods dangle, two masks to a string.

Still clenching the muscles under the age-silvered, loose hide,  
at lifts the tusks that aren't there and beholds the beholder's surprise.

### 'N ACHTERTUINTJE IN LEIDEN [A LITTLE BACK GARDEN IN LEIDEN]

*By Rod Tulloss*

I.

Once, you told me of an African king  
who tested a famous, honest man,  
sending him to request most urgently  
certain villagers (whom the king told to appear  
to respond) to come at once to the throne.

You told of those who received the message  
and did not come, of the king  
(planning to ask,  
"Did they come?")  
awaiting the unwitting lie,  
and of the honest man  
who returned to tell his king only,  
"I saw them get on their horses."

2.

Teacher, all around your yellow door and  
hanging on walls and at wide windows  
the welcome guest is shown so  
very many green and flowering silences —  
parties to the unspired secrecy of Nature:  
Ten million, million silent paths through blades of grass  
in this little rear garden — so  
many filamentous silences ramifying  
through dark forest mold bearing their viscid elegance — such  
rare and feathered silences that may appear  
only to those bearing the gift in distant mountains —  
such inhuman, awful silences that the tree  
of my memory is suddenly without leaves  
and I dream the Great Bear walks at will  
through tunnels of the termite nest —  
such a silence,  
like a wind through trees in a silent film,  
that I stand dumbly erect and suddenly  
foreign in my old ursine body  
and know our joyful task of naming  
is heavy with grief at its endlessness.  
Brother, can I learn to say, "At least,  
I saw some of them get on their horses"?



## THE SCULPTOR

By Ron Kostar

Not commercing in flash or glitz,  
just going to work —  
bending over pine stumps &  
carving what matters.  
to people, for sustenance:

Very solid painted men —  
round, three dimensional, voluminous  
all-present Earthmen. Trusty  
chisel in fist, digging in-  
to wood & pulling  
out the human.



### Two Olympic Hopefuls:

Sean Parker has made the next cut to become one of 25 athletes to attend the U.S. Olympic Luge Screening Program, February 21 - March 3. He will be competing for one of 10 positions on the Olympic Development Teams.

Joel Ortiz, age 10, will be the youngest "special athlete" to compete in gymnastics at the Ninth Special Olympics World Summer Games in New Haven, Connecticut, July 1 -9. Remarkably, due to his considerable ability, Joel is being considered for mainstreaming in regular gymnastics team training.

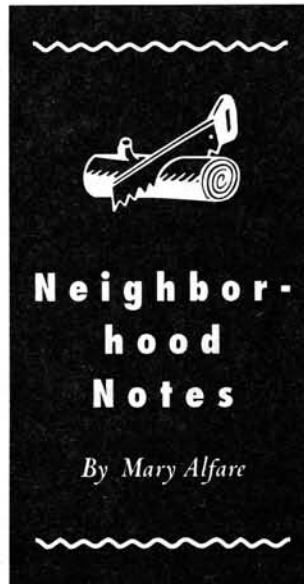
From Mitchel Yudin: Jack Yudin, formerly of School Lane, celebrates his 80th birthday on March 24. Cards or letters can be sent to him at: 104 Cambridge East, Century Village, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33417.

### From RPS:

On January 30, the 113th anniversary of the birth of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, our 32nd president, was celebrated by the students and staff. They were joined by Frieda Anish, Louise Roskam, Bernarda Shahn, and Hortense Socholitsky who shared their memories of our town's name-sake.

On February 10, Student Council Members gave guided tours of the new addition and renovations at the Open House and Dedication at the school.

On February 5, Mrs. Sandra Phillips,



Music Teacher, gave birth to her son, Austin Alex Phillips.

Honor Roll (2nd Marking Period) - Grade 3: Avery Axel, Erik Cokeley, Lian Garton, Deirdre Lloyd, Lindsay Possiel, Joseph Rocchia, Peter Rossi, Lindsay Stiles and Tina Vasseur. Grade 4: Jessica Drewitz, Katy Hamilton, Nick Malkin, Jeff Possiel,

John Rindt, Christopher Wong and Shiri Yeger. Grade 5: William Edelstein, Brandon Lugannani, Alicia Moore, Molly Petrilla, Haley Reimbold, Lauren Sabogal and Sarah Skillman. Grade 6: Adam Axel, Naomi Cayne, Travis Impellizeri and Hannah Stinson.

### From Kreps Middle School:

Honor Roll (1st Marking Period) - Grade 7: Jeanette Castro, Kate Freedman, Cassie Hatzfeld, Elizabeth Carroll, Dylana Possiel, Joanna Giordano and Ronit Yeger. Grade 8: Kathleen Alfare, Shoshanna Grunwald, Susan Skillman and Jessica Hamilton.

Kathleen Alfare, grade 8, has been nominated as a U.S. National Band Award Winner by her band instructor, Mrs. Patricia Bohrs, for her effort and achievement on the flute.

(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.*

## BASKETBALL

*By Luke Freedman*

When I was dribbling down the court  
I suddenly stopped and passed to Mort.  
Mort fell and scraped his knee  
Then yelled out, "Take the ball from me  
And shoot it so we can win."

## FLOWERS

*By Haley Reibold*

Trees are pretty,  
Bees are witty,  
But a flower is a flower.  
The show will blow,  
And the wind won't be thinned,  
But a flower is a flower.  
I like icicles and also bicycles,  
But a flower is a flower.

## TOSHIA

*By Alicia Moore*

I see Toshia chewing on  
my shoe,  
I hear my brother laughing  
at me cause of my shoe,  
I hear my mom yelling  
at Toshia,  
I feel Toshia's rough  
paws against my legs,  
I feel Toshia's slimy lips  
on my face.

## POGS

*By Lauren Sabogal*

Pogs  
Round, cardboard pogs.  
Pogs  
Turn them upside down.  
Pogs  
Hit them with a round slammer.  
Pogs  
Try to flip them over.  
Pogs  
If you flip all of them over you win.  
Pogs  
That's how you play.

## LISTEN TO HIM HOWL

*By Sarah Skillman*

A little baby fox wandering around in the  
Assunpink Woods,  
after getting lost from his pack,  
due to oversleeping.  
Listen to him howl.  
He searches,  
for rabbits, squirrels, and birds,  
to eat.  
Listen to him howl.  
In the middle of the Assunpink Woods,  
where it is extra dark,  
because there are lots of trees.  
Listen to him howl.

His body is reddish-brown,  
with a cute white face,  
and a bushy white tail.  
Listen to him howl.

## MY GUINEA PIG

*By Christine Rocchia*

I once knew a big fat pig,  
who wore a really bad wig,  
He eats lots of grass, and  
then he goes to Mass where  
He likes to do a jig.

# THE SNAKE LADY

By Louise Roskam



The grandchildren were coming! Everything was ready ... surprises on the beds; cookies ready in the kitchen; frozen pizzas in the fridge ... Here they are!

Hi, Grandma ... a cursory look around ... a quick hug and then, "When can we see the Snake Lady?"

"Well, if you really want to ... maybe she will ..."

"Yes, we really, really talked about it all the way up here."

"But you have snakes down in Virginia."

"Yes, but they're dangerous. She has nice snakes."

Off we go to the end of Brown Street to a perfectly traditional Roosevelt house ... knock on the door and wait (a bit reluctantly on my part), but the door opened and there stood a perfectly nice looking lady, not a bit "snaky."

After a tiny bit of hesitation, two little voices said, "Could we please see the snakes?"

"If you will be very careful ..." In we went to a regular Roosevelt living room, except that where there is usually a

comfortable sofa, there was one long, deep concrete pit, containing a large boa constrictor, all curled up and comfortable looking.

"Oohh, he's BIG."

"He's asleep, but you can touch him if you ..." we all gave him a timid stroke. "He isn't even slippery!"

Now comes the best part ... we expectantly followed our hostess into a room which in all of our Roosevelt houses would be the master bedroom ... and there ... all around the walls were cages ... and more cages through the middle of the room ... all filled with SNAKES. Big ones, little ones, green ones, brown ones, striped ones, mottled ones, some hang-

ing from little branches, some curled up near the glass of their cages, some with little heads up waiting for action. "Do you want to hold one?" Pause ... "Well I'll try ..." "Here's one you can even wrap around your neck, and here's some baby snakes. You can line them up on your finger" ... hesitation ... then courage ... one of the kids came up with a line of tiny snakes clinging to his finger, holding on by tiny snake teeth.

An hour passed ... two hours ... total fascination! Questions: Where do they come from? What do they eat? Do they bite? Can we stay a little longer?

Finally, our welcome might be wearing out .. so I had to say we really had to go and it was a wonderful experience and thanked her for a wonderful time and said we felt "snake friendly" and ready to tell people how wonderful it is that right here in Roosevelt there is a friendly snake lady!

The Snake Lady and her snakes left a long time ago.

## Senior Citizen News

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Jeanette Koffler chaired this very interesting meeting. Diane, the nurse who takes our blood pressures prior to the meeting, distributed literature giving general information about medications. She explained the importance of following the instructions and she answered questions. We learned a lot and appreciate her kindness.

We also enjoyed having Karla Chapman, a representative of the store, Sams, which is located at the Freehold Raceway Mall. Ms. Chapman offered discount cards to members. Many took advantage and will use them on shopping trips to Freehold.

On February 22, some of our members will join Clarksburg on a trip to Atlantic City.

Refreshments, provided by Louise and "Debbie", were enjoyed by all.

'till next month.



TO THE EDITOR

What an improvement we in Roosevelt have enjoyed since the town obtained a grant to get our roads widened, curbed, newly paved! I can remember what it was like, before North Valley Road underwent this improvement. The street was narrow, sandy-edged, and the traffic was more likely to be strollers than heavy machinery. One was rarely conscious of the nervous whooshing sound of speeding cars. As a newcomer, on my walks to the P.O., I was struck by the fact that cars crept by me slowly and the driver always waved.

As soon as North Valley was improved, traffic increased and went faster. Drivers seemed to be attracted to that long slope starting at the triangle. Drivers of unregistered motorcycles certainly were and certain kids with cars — they came out to whine up and down the road by the hour. Suddenly, we on North Valley Road had traffic — as well as what looked like a separate community newly built across the wide divide of the street. What an improvement! We could now feel we

had advanced from a rural village (the kind we pay money to escape).

Alas, the road is no longer the smooth stretch it was,

thanks to sewer work. This means we've lost the motorcycles, but I'm sure we can count on future improvements which will bring them back. Meanwhile, now that Farm Lane is so smooth and wide, I can add my vehicle to the stream that wants to cruise to the county route, instead of bumping along slowly the whole half mile, waving to walkers as I go.

Sarcasm aside, what is behind our eagerness to get rid of the good life in return for standard suburban roads, hideous guardrails, the specter of development itself? I suspect that there is a desire behind this movement, namely the desire for a certain suburban sameness that clothes us all in anonymity and allows us to live separately, without community, doing our own thing no mat-



ter how it destroys our neighbor's peace or air. After all, once we have destroyed the pleasures of our common environment, what is there to share?

*Dina Coe*

TO THE EDITOR

The Mayor's inaugural address fails to mention Roosevelt's most serious problem - our high taxes compared to neighboring towns. Our average property tax/utility fee is about twice that of Allentown, East Windsor or Upper Freehold, and almost twice as high as Millstone. The cause of this disparity is purely and simply present and past mismanagement of Roosevelt's Borough finances. Taxes will continue to be excessively high until our finances are well-managed.

The Mayor also failed to mention the dirty water problem - which is caused purely and simply by the Utilities Chairwoman's negligence. We will continue

to have utilities problems until the Borough Council provides good management. Don't blame the professionals - they just report to the Chairwoman. She makes, or fails to make, the appropriate decisions.

I see, on page 3 of the February *Bulletin*, that a member of the Planning Board asked the Mayor for sewer flow figures which, surprisingly, were not available. These figures have been reported monthly in *The Bulletin* from June 1990 until last December, but were mysteriously erased each month in 1993 and 1994 when they exceeded 250,000 gallons per day.

*Peter Warren*



# Spring Litter Pick-Up

By Gayle Donnelly

**Tired of the litter on the roadside? Make a difference! Join us on Sunday, April 2, at 10 a.m. in front of the Post Office as we meet for our semi-annual litter pick-up. Afterwards, there will be good food at Lenny and Michele Guye-Hillis'. This event is sponsored by the Roosevelt Environmental Commission and funded by the New Jersey Clean Communities Grant. For additional information, call the Borough Hall.**



(*ARCHEOLOGY* from pg. 7) foods cooked according to Lenape recipes and played Lenape children's games, including jack straws, a cup and pin game, a hoop and pole game and a dice game.

When all was done, they wrote about what they had made. Shiri Yeager and Christina Septak wrote a general introduction to the project. Erik Cokeley and Jamison Parker told how the ground for the village was made and why there is so little grass in the village. Chris Iacone described the making of the hill; Nick Malkin wrote about the river; Jimmy Carroll and Jeff Possiel explained the fishing weir and how it was used. Wesley John-Alder told of the making of the bridge; John Rindt and Nathaniel Kostar wrote about the canoes. In a study of tool making, Avery Axel, Joseph Rocchia and Chris Iacone explained how axes, bows and arrows and spears were made. (In this model display, the 3rd and 4th graders made the tools of plasticene).

Of the buildings, Katy Hamilton, Deirdre Lloyd, Erik Cokeley, Chris Wong and Leah Howse described the wigwam, the Sweat Lodge and the Birthing Lodge. The Burial Ground was described by John Rindt. As for Lenape activities, Christina Septak described the hunting practices; Jeff Possiel, Nathaniel Kostar, Peter Rossi and Joseph Rocchia explained the racks for drying

deer and other meats. George Jackson described the hanging of the deer. Deirdre Lloyd explained how animal hides were scraped and prepared for drying and how some were used to make clothing. Nick Malkin and Christina Feigenbaum discussed the animals around the village and how the model animals were made. Leah Howse wrote of the berries the Lenapes ate, and described the making of the berry bushes. Lian Garton and Jessica Drewitz explained the gardening techniques, the foods planted and how the gardens were maintained. Tina Vasseur, Lian Garton and Lindsay Stiles wrote of the food storage pits and the pots used for cooking. Children's games were described by Avery Axel and Peter Rossi; people by Jamison Parker and Lindsay Possiel.

The model village will be on display in Room 4 of RPS for several weeks. I urge everyone who possibly can, to visit and see the culmination of this activity which involved the children not only in reading and observation, but also in descriptive and expository writing, the study of history, sociology, anthropology and archeology, as well as extensive drawing and varied crafts. I found it a remarkably thorough and fascinating work. I congratulate the 3rd and 4th graders and their teachers.



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



(*RADIOACTIVE* from pg. 9) have this energy take the form of light rather than heat. Let us avoid loose talk, rumor, innuendo and uninformed speculation and let us, instead, bring all questions and comments to public forums where they can be responded to reasonably and intelligently. Above all, let us remember that we are all in this together and that, by making this decision, whatever it may ultimately be, in a calm and rational manner, we will show the strength of the sort of community that we are supposed to be.



**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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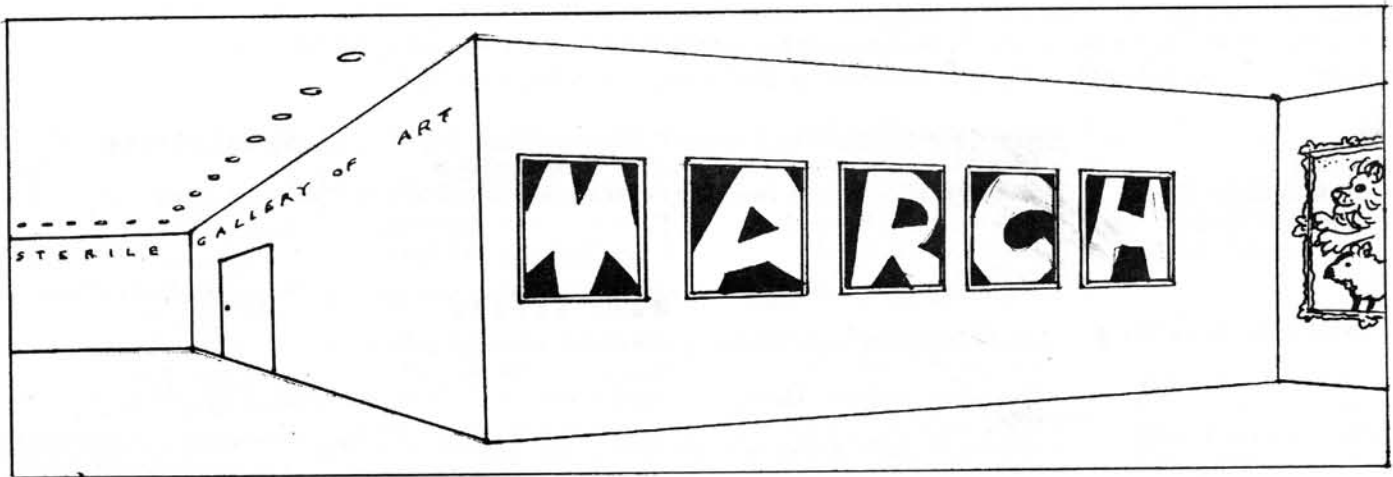
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443-4243**



**wed 1** 7 PM Yoga Class\*-  
Synagogue-Deborah Metzger,  
443-3759  
8 PM Roosevelt PTA Mtng.-  
RPS- Vinnie Jackson 426-0311  
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-  
Car, A Play By Neil Selden

**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** 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

**mon 27** 7:30 PM Council  
Comm. Mtgs.

**tue 28** 6 PM Roosevelt  
Comm. TV Cable Ch 8  
7:30 PM-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 pre-  
sides at all Council  
mtgs. and can be  
reached at 448-6978.**

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