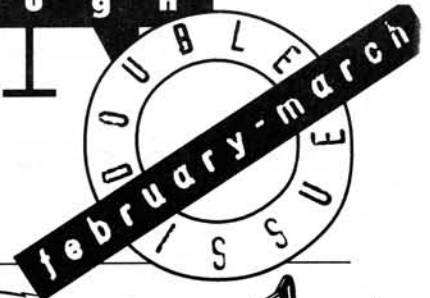


# 19 4

# blitzin

Roosevelt Borough



**Planning Board News**  
By Bob Clark

Page 3



**Letter From CSA**  
By William N. Presutti

Page 4



**Viewpoints**  
By Michael Ticktin

Page 7



**Crumbs From My Table**  
By Rebecca Reuter

Page 10



**Weather Almanac**  
*It Was a Dark and Stormy Night*

Page 12



**Neighborhood Notes**  
By Mary Alfare

Page 18

## Council Reorganizes Action on PCD II Ordinance Postponed

The "Blizzard of '96" caused postponement of the Roosevelt Borough Council's January 7 Reorganization Meeting and its January 8 Regular Meeting, but the Council had a rousing Annual Reorganization and Special Meeting on January 15. One by one, Mayor Lee Allen and Council member, David Donnelly, continuing in their positions, and recently elected Council member Jeff Hunt took their oaths of office. Enthusiastic applause was given by the audience which consisted, at that time, of Mr. Donnelly's parents, five Roosevelt residents (Gayle Donnelly, Melissa Hecht, Herbert Johnson, Nona Sherak and Michael Ticktin) as well as the Borough Attorney John Ross and reporters for The Examiner and the Messenger Press. Only one resident stayed with the Council for cookies and coffee that followed the meeting. ⚙️ Aside from the fact that the meeting for which the hear-

ing on the PCD II ordinance had been advertised had been cancelled due to the weather, it turned out, according to the Mayor, that the ordinance could not be "considered for final passage"

in January because of a technicality which restricts one year's Borough Council from introducing an ordinance for a newly organized Council to consider approving. Councilman Donnelly asked that the hearing, when it is held, be well advertised locally, a point this reporter also made in December. ⚙️ The ordinance to rezone a 6 acre part of the property on Roosevelt's border, facing Windsor Road, west of Ely's Corner, from R-AG to R-100 (allowing 2 building lots of at least 2.3 acres each) was introduced, with Jeff Hunt voting "no" and the others voting "yes". This ordinance also would allow dwellings built there or in any other part of the Borough to be exempt from connecting to the

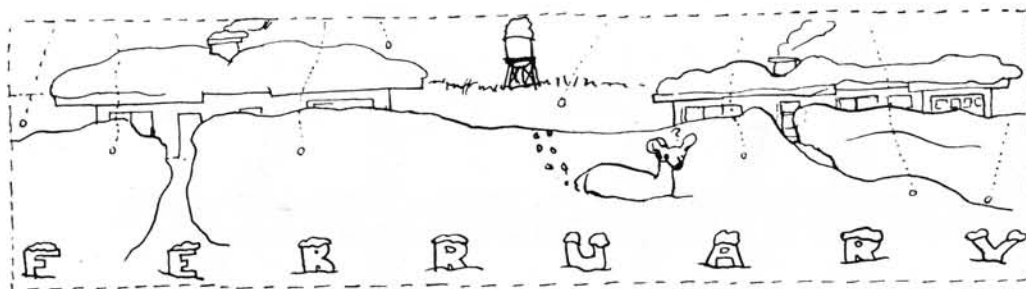
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**Borough Council Report**

by Herb Johnson

~~~~~

(cont. on pg. 8)



## An Apology to Our Readers

Due to circumstances beyond our control, it was not possible to issue the February edition of the Bulletin at the beginning of the month. This issue is therefore combining both the February and March editions back to back and we sincerely trust it will not have inconvenienced anyone. We're sorry that some of the news is outdated.

(March issue begins on pg. 23.)

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: LEARN VALUABLE SKILLS WHILE HELPING THE BULLETIN**

**The high quality of The Bulletin is a reflection of articles, reports and art contributed by numerous residents. When it comes to production, however, the workload falls on a single person. The bulletin is currently seeking an individual(s) who is interested in learning how to lay out the paper. Access to Macintosh hardware and software will be arranged and instruction and oversight will be provided. This opportunity is ideal for a student considering a graphic design career or anyone interested in gaining familiarity with MAC hardware/software and acquiring newsletter production skills. Please call Fletcher Grayson at 443-6462.**

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At its January 10 regular meeting, the Roosevelt Planning Board reorganized and received reports on the progress of the Planned Community Development (PCD) ordinance it recently proposed for 500 acres of northern farmlands.

The Board unanimously elected Gail Hunton to be Chairwoman and Joseph Zahora as Vice Chairman. Mayor Lee Allen, also a member of the Board, had just named Mr. Zahora to finish the unexpired term of Jeffrey Hunt, who was elected to the Borough Council in November. The Council had not yet selected a Council representative to sit on the Planning Board in place of Stuart Kaufman. Mayor Allen reappointed Michael Ticktin, who is the Borough's Tax Assessor, to fill the municipal official slot on the Board and reappointed Bert Ellentuck to a four-year term. Mr. Ellentuck also has been serving as the Acting Zoning Officer. Other members of the Board are David Leff, Harry Parker, Paul Henry and alternate member Mark Roberts. Mr. Parker is the Planning Board's liaison to the Board of Education. Ann Kassahun, who is not a member of the Planning Board, was unanimously elected to be Board Secretary. Mayor Allen had not yet filled the alternate position vacated by Mr. Zahora.

Board members agreed to continue to meet the second Wednesday of every month at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall. They unanimously appointed Michelle Donato as Board Attorney and designated the



Asbury Park Press and Messenger-Press as publications for legal notices.

Mayor Allen reported that the PCD ordinance, which had been introduced by the Council on December 11 and officially recommended by the Planning Board on December 13, would have to be reintroduced by the Council because of a technical legal requirement that final approval of an ordinance be given by the same Council that introduces it. Mr. Allen said the ordinance should be reintroduced in February and scheduled for a March public hearing. Ms. Hunton said this would allow the Board's consultant, Alan Mallach, and her to submit some technical legal changes that had been suggested by Ms. Donato.

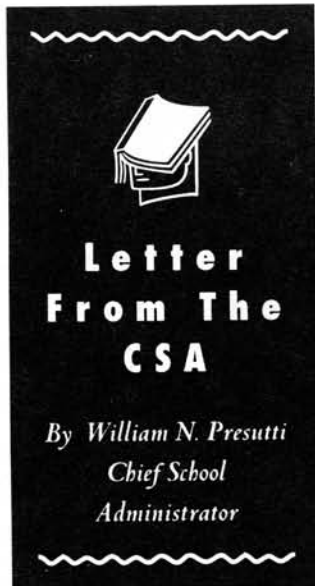
Ms. Hunton added that a representative of Calton Homes, Inc. had written to her to indicate that the firm was willing to wait until the PCD ordinance was in place before proceeding with its development proposal for the area. The company, which holds options on at least three properties in the northern farmlands, had earlier submitted two informal proposals for con-

struction of up to 172 houses on about 160 acres. The proposed PCD ordinance would allow just 114 units for about 500 acres. Ms. Hunton also said she would be happy to discuss the mechanics of the proposed ordinance with a farmer who had reportedly retained a lawyer.

After adding units allowed by the existing PCD ordinance for the Notterman tract and building lots scattered around town, all of Roosevelt would grow by no more than about 185 additional houses. Planning Board members have repeatedly maintained that such a limit would serve Roosevelt well by retaining its bucolic character while at the same time filling the underutilized school building to capacity and spreading the fixed costs of running the municipality, school district and water and sewer systems among a larger group of residents.

At its December 13 meeting, the Board considered an informal proposal by Mr. Parker to rezone his lot, which wraps around the Borough's industrial area and fronts on Oscar Drive and North Valley Road, to allow subdivision of a small residential lot on North Valley. Participating as a resident rather than a Planning Board member, Mr. Parker said he would be willing to donate land in the middle of his property to the Borough in return for zoning to allow a home to be built near the Swiss screw factory. He noted that his neighbor had objected to selling him sufficient land to allow a larger lot. Board members, without Mr. Parker participat-

(cont. on pg. 17)



**H**appy New Year!!!  
 December was a busy month for the school. The Writers in Residence Program (WITS) was a huge success. Tony Taddei, our writer in residence was excellent and really got the students to write from "the inside." A big thank you to the PTA and the New Jersey Council for the Arts for funding this great activity for our students.

The annual winter concert was wonderful. The RPS Chorus sang "Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow", and it hasn't stopped since. Maybe they should sing "The sun will come out tomorrow" to reverse the trend.

At this time, I would like to provide the community a brief update on the efforts of the Board regarding regionalization and educational alternatives. The East Windsor Board of Education came to visit our school on Tuesday, December 12, 1995. At their meeting of January 4, 1996 the East Windsor Board of Education discussed pursuing regionalization with Roosevelt and decided to put regionalization on hold since they were not sure what benefits they would derive from the merger. Based on preliminary figures, regionalization with Roosevelt would necessitate a rise in taxes for East Windsor.

At the same time, the Monmouth County Superintendent's Office has asked that the Board of Education consider becoming a pilot district for the newly formed State Regionalization Teams. The goal of this pilot program is to work with selected districts to develop mechanisms that may facilitate voluntary regionalization across the state. I have met with representatives from the State and provided them with information about Roosevelt and what

**Letter  
 From The  
 CSA**

*By William N. Presutti  
 Chief School  
 Administrator*

has taken place. The next step will be a meeting with State Representatives and a committee of the Board sometime in mid to late February.

Lastly, the preliminary regionalization study with Millstone, Plumstead, Upper Freehold and Roosevelt was presented at a Board meeting in November. In short, as in the case with East Windsor,

the inclusion of Roosevelt in the region would increase taxes for all other constituent districts. The group has agreed to put any further inquiry on hold until the State comes out with the new funding figures based on the Comprehensive Plan for Educational Improvement and Financing.

At the Board of Education level, the Ad Hoc Committee for Educational Alternatives has been working very hard at gathering information regarding many educational options for our school. The committee will be presenting a preliminary report within the next month and a half and will then ask for the community at large to join the committee to discuss and expand on these options.

In closing, the Board of Education continues to keep an open mind regarding the future of the Roosevelt Public School and looks forward to community input into these very important decisions.

Together...we can make great things happen!!



**Nursery  
 School  
 News**



*By Marsha Agress  
 Head Teacher, RCNS*

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it is also one of the busiest for us at RCNS. This year is a leap year, so we will have an extra day to get all of our work accomplished.

Some of the special days we will learn about and make projects for include Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Lincoln's birthday and Washington's birthday. February is also dental health month.

February 2nd is Groundhog Day, and we will discover if the groundhog sees his shadow or not, and how this is supposed to affect the weather forecast. Will spring be early this year? Hopefully, the weather will warm up soon, as I'm sure we have all had enough winter.

For Valentine's Day, the children will make a heart person,



mailbags and ornaments. We will conduct a card exchange in school, allowing each child the opportunity to play "mail person."

We are hoping to have Dr. Falk visit with us this month to explain why it is important to keep our teeth and gums healthy, and how to brush properly. We will make projects dealing with teeth.

Presidents' Day is in February and we will learn about George

Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The children will learn that Washington was our first president, and that his face is on the quarter. Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president, is remembered because he believed that all people should be treated the same way. The children will learn that his face is on the penny.

Purple colored bags will be made this month, as well as freckled frogs for the letter F,

and penguins because it is still the winter season.

We are looking forward to March and spring's arrival. It will be nice to have the days seem longer and the temperatures warmer.

Just a reminder: April 20th is the night to mark on your calendars for our spring art auction in conjunction with the PTA of the Roosevelt Public School. Hope to see you there!



## Board of Education News

by Joann San Nicola

**The monthly meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education was called to order at 7:36 by President Mike Hamilton. Two members were absent.**

**Superintendent Presutti reported on Student Council activities. The Council has adopted the slogan: "Working Together For Excellence." They will also be sponsoring a Hoagie Day in February, and also have plans to sell tee shirts. The sixth grade has been collecting food for the County food pantry - Project EAT. March has been named Youth Art Month and work will be displayed in the school lobby. The D.A.R.E. (the drug program) is being conducted in January and February.**

**There are four positions upcoming on the School Board. Applications can be obtained at the school before February 26th.**

**Mrs. Schlinski has asked for gym time on Saturdays for floor hockey for children in grades 6, 7 and 8; and, Mr. Bogart has asked for gym time on Sundays for teen basketball.**

**Mr. Hatzfeld, chairperson for the Building and Grounds Committee, reported more leaks in the gym. The committee is looking into roof replacement over all classrooms and the gym. Also, under consideration is new lighting for classrooms, which would make the school eligible for an energy discount from the utility company. It is estimated that the capital outlay would be recovered in four years with the energy savings.**

**The Ad-Hoc Regionalization Committee, chaired by Mrs. Cokeley, has been burning the midnight oil condensing and collating all the information gathered in this matter. All aspects will be detailed: educational value, implementation of programs and financial benefits. Once the entire Board has studied these reports, the findings will be presented to the public.**

**The Board went into closed session at 8:25.**



**School's  
Open!  
Don't  
Speed  
in  
Town!**

**Or  
anywhere  
else!**



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



# Library News

by Deidre Sheehan

A display of computer generated illustrations by David Teich is now on display at the Roosevelt School Library. These intriguing images were programmed using 3D software on a Macintosh computer. No tradition materials, such as, paint or photography were used in the process.

On display through the middle of March this show coincides with the recent acquisition of 14 new Power Macintosh computers which should be fully operational in two or three weeks. Tax accounting software and On-Line services will be available to anyone interested. Other ideas on future software that the school might invest in would be appreciated.

The library is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 7-9 pm and on Sundays from 1-4 pm.

The PTA wants to send a warm thank you to Linda Silverstein and her crew for the successful Holiday Gift Fair, to Kathi Vasseur for organizing the refreshments for the Winter Concert and to me for the Photo Button fund raiser. These December events rounded off a good year, 1995, but as the PTA sends thanks and remembers it fondly, they are also looking forward to the new year.

These are some of the good things in store for 1996: On February 7th, at 8:00 p.m., the next PTA Meeting is scheduled. The two major events in

February are February 1st when there will be a school assembly "Geographic Gymnastics" and on February 24th, the Winter Carnival will be held at the school. Speaking of the Winter Carnival, this incredibly fun event happens every year but it is still a little known fact that those who volunteer in this event have the most fun, with the exception of kids, of course. So, do you want to have fun while creating it, for the kids of Roosevelt? Be a volunteer at the Winter Carnival it sure beats being snowed in.

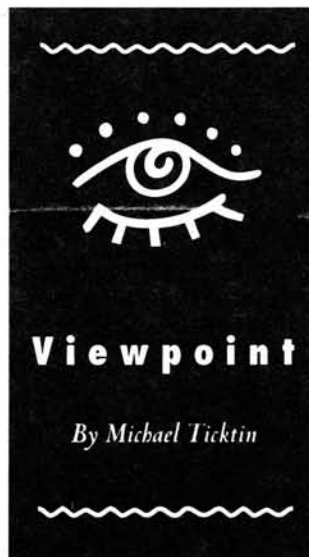


## Educational Funding System - 2; Roosevelt - 0

According to a report published in the Messenger Press and the Windsor-Hights Herald the East Windsor Regional Board of Education has decided not to pursue inclusion of Roosevelt as part of their regional district at this time. The East Windsor Regional board concluded that, even though regionalization would cut Roosevelt school taxes by a third, the fact that it would increase school taxes in East Windsor and Hightstown by less than one percent made it unacceptable. The superintendent of the regional district indicated that the board might reconsider its position if additional money could be found to create a "win-win" situation.

Unfortunately, the East Windsor Regional board may well be creating a "lose-lose" situation. The State Education Department has established an arbitrary ratio of instructional to non-instructional costs and any district that falls below this ratio - even if, as is the case in Roosevelt, the reason is that minimal administrative costs are mandated, and there are not enough pupils in the system to justify additional instructional costs - is subject to a financial penalty. For Roosevelt, with the third highest effective school tax rate in the State in 1994, this means that we must pay even higher taxes as punishment for something that we cannot correct by ourselves!

When the Education Department first imposed its penalties last year, the Trenton



Times offered the observation that the State cannot be expected to subsidize inefficient small schools and small districts have to agree to regionalize. Well, Roosevelt has now cooperated in looking into regionalization twice. The first time, our neighbors in western Monmouth County - Upper Freehold Regional and Millstone - decided that expanding that regional district was a good idea, only without us. Now, East Windsor Regional, with whom we have had a sending relationship for years, is telling us that bottom-line considerations, no matter how slight, must keep us out.

What East Windsor has failed to consider however, is that in order to avoid the penalties, and to otherwise cut costs, Roosevelt may now find it necessary to return to running a K - 8 school. Whether this is a good idea educationally is an open question - but East Windsor may be leaving us no choice. If we no longer pay 7th and 8th grade tuition, though, East Windsor

would lose more money than they would lose by including us in the regional district. Thus does the fragmented New Jersey educational system, with its excessive reliance on property taxes, discourage cooperation and lead to decisions being made that ultimately hurt everyone.

Our small population, though we are not a poor community, our below average tax base and our desire to provide a decent education make us a virtual worst-case scenario of the effects of existing State school funding policy. The proposed decrees of the Commissioner of Education would penalize us further for our small school population, without any recognition of our attempts to do something about it, or of the fact that regionalizing unilaterally is impossible. At this point, the only avenues of redress that we have open are (1) to persuade our legislators to stop the penalties and help get the law changed to allow regionalization to be ordered in cases such as ours (or else to provide sufficient financial assistance to allow us to have a more normal tax rate) or (2) to ask relief from the courts. Something must be done, since this cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely, or until the day that the planned community developments we are zoning for actually get built and give us enough pupils for more normal class sizes.



# School's Open! Don't Speed in Town!

Or  
anywhere  
else!

(COUNCIL from pg. 1)

municipal water and sewer system if the nearest connection point exceeds 200 feet for one house, 400 feet for two units, 1,000 feet for five to fifteen units, and other distances for other numbers of units. (The numbers are taken from the "Model Subdivision and Site Plan Ordinance" prepared by Professor David Listokin, who has provided assistance to the Planning Board).

The PCD II ordinance will not be in effect. It is scheduled for introduction at the meeting on February 12 at 7:30 p.m. All residents are welcome to attend and speak at the Public Portions and at the Public Hearing on the ordinance concerning the rezoning on Windsor-Perrineville Road. Copies of that ordinance and the PCD II ordinance will be made available at the Roosevelt Public Library in the public school, as well as at the Borough Hall.

At the Reorganization Meeting, the Council postponed some appointments but approved of appointments for 27 paid positions, 28 volunteer positions, and 26 assignments for Council members. The Council would not second Mr. Donnelly's motion to appoint Mrs. Rose Murphy, and then Mrs. Murphy's motion to nominate David Donnelly, as Council President. Council member Paul Hoogsteden was the only member absent at the time, arriving at 7:51 p.m., and the Council quietly went along with Mr. Donnelly's suggestion to wait

until next month when another council member would be present. It was puzzling that none of the other three council members would second Mrs. Murphy's motion to nominate, and yet none would nominate anyone else. (Perhaps they wanted Mr. Hoogsteden to be the President but hadn't asked him yet if he would accept the position.)

These persons were appointed to 27 paid positions (Tenured positions need not be reappointed.):

**Deputy Borough Clerk**

Nancy L. Warnick

**Registrar of Vital Statistics**

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik

**Deputy Registrar of V.S.**

Nancy L. Warnick

**Purchasing Agent**

Nancy L. Warnick

**Superintendent of P.W.**

Gayle Donnelly

**Public Works Employee**

Abraham Schlinski

**Housing Inspector**

Robert Jordan

**Assistant Tax Collector**

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik

**Treasurer/Chief Finance Officer**

Edward J. Debevec

**Water/Sewer Collector**

Geraldine Millar

**Clean Community Coordinator**

Gayle Donnelly

**Animal Control Officer**

Mary Klink

**Zoning Officer**

no appointment

**School Crossing Guards**

Lucretia McGuff-Silverman  
Jo Anne Parker  
Shelly Hatzfeld  
Lori Ann Daume

**Accountants/Auditors**

Robert Bachstadt & Joseph  
Facone of Samuel Klein & Co.

**Wastewater/Water Engineer**

Schoor DePalma & Canger,  
Inc.

**Municipal Attorney**

John J. Ross, Esq.

**Bond Counsel**

Denise E. Totaro, Esq. of  
McLaughlin, Bennett, Cleson  
& Cramer

**Municipal Judge**

Hon. Leslie Tinkler

**Municipal Court**

**Administrator**

Diane Canzanella

**Municipal Court Dep. Admin.**

Melody Kitson

**Municipal Assess. Search Officer**

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik

**Municipal Tax Search Officer**

Salvatore P. Cannizzaro

**Public Agency Compliance Officer**

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik

The Council appointed these persons to 28 volunteer positions (omitting reappointment of Nona Sherak and others to the Cable Television Commission, and others to the Recreation Commission and some other positions):



**Community Development Block Grant: Alternate Community Development Block Grant Representatives (C.D.B.G.)**

Mary Alfare  
Rebecca Reuter

**Council CDBG Representative**

Rose D. Murphy

**Members**

Cynthia Cybert  
Judy Nahmias  
Scott Hartman  
Lynn Friedman  
Leonard Sacharoff

**Planning Board: Planning Board Council Representative**

Jeff Hunt

**Public Official Member**

Michael Ticktin

**Class 4**

Bert Ellentuck

**Alternate**

postponed

**Unexpired Term (1997)**

Joseph Zahora

**Welfare Board:**

**4 year terms**

Frieda Anish

Diana Moore

**Council Representative**

Rose D. Murphy

(Peggy Malkin is Chair)

**Environmental Commission (E.C.):**

**3 year term**

Gayle Donnelly

**Alternate 2 year term**

Wayne Cokely

**1 year unexpired term**

postponed

**Council Representative**

Stuart Kaufman

(Chair James Carnevale's resignation and achievements were described in the December '95 Borough Bulletin.)

**Emergency Management Council:**

Ed Miller, Emergency Management Coordinator

Jack Rindt, Deputy

Emergency Management Coordinator

John Ord, Representative At Large

Kim Dexheimer, Fire Chief

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik, Borough Clerk

Beth Battel, First Aid Squad

Peggy Malkin, Welfare Director

Gayle A. Donnelly, Public Works

Mel Friedman,

Communications

Representative of the Board of

Education, to be named

Rose D. Murphy, Council

Representative

David Donnelly, Public

Utilities

**Jersey Homestead Historic District Advisory Council:**

**Town Historian**

Arthur Shapiro

**3 year terms**

Louise Prezant

Jeanette Koffler

(Helen Barth, Dolores Chasan

(cont. on pg. 19)

# A call to Roosevelt Artists Youth Art Month

by Rita Williams and William N. Presutti



**Great things are happening in art at Roosevelt Public School. Children receive a once a week art class where they are learning about art history and creating art. Our after-school Art Studio is very popular. Students use their lunch periods to work on art.**

**We would like you to be part of our art program. Artists in Roosevelt are a very valuable resource that we feel very proud of.**

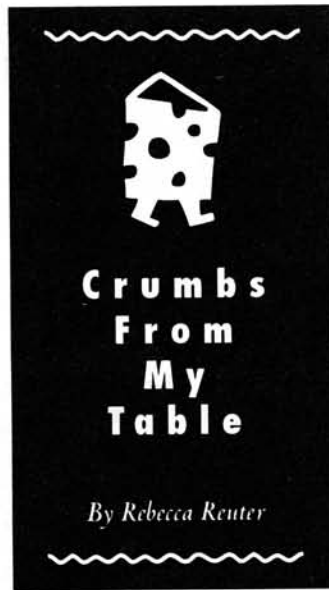
**We have designated the month of March as Youth Art Month. During this month, we will have special art exhibits, activities and an Art Night on March 21. We would like Roosevelt artists to spend some time during the school day working on artwork in progress in our lobby. Perhaps a few artists could each give an hour of their time to set up and work on a project in school. A few artists in residence during March would further enhance our art experiences.**

**We would also enjoy some tours of local studios. Students would welcome a "field trip" to an artist's studio for inspiration.**

**If you can help us with any of these endeavors, please contact Rita Williams at the school at 448-2798.**

It was 50 degrees, sunny, and the snow was beginning to sink. I dug out a garden bed to see if there was any life left beneath the row cover. The light gauzy material, which I had laid over the bed in fall, was now squashed under two feet of snow. I shoveled the snow away a few inches at a time, and yes, almost impossible to believe, but first to be rescued was a congregation of tiny mache plants still keeping the faith of spring under it all. Beneath the thin blanket, not flattened under the weight, as I had imagined, but sheltered and dry, the plants looked fine. Only wishing, perhaps, for a little more light.

So even now, in January, there is something to visit and something to eat out in the garden. Tatsoi, pak choi, claytonia, radicchio, mache. All these greens with names like foreign cities, exotic, inviting, and obscure; under covers, in deep winter, I'm growing them all. Admittedly, I will not harvest armloads of fresh greens from this one small bed, but we will nibble from it through the late winter and early spring. With luck and mild weather in February, many of the greens will survive as live roots and growing tips beneath cold-killed outer leaves, and when the sun breaks out in



March, they will again grow small bright leaves, turgid, green, and shiny. Beside the bed of fall-sown ground-hugging greens, there are still a few large kales and collards that have been standing since early last spring. These greens are sturdy winter food. First to be seeded out in the spring, last standing under the winter snow, they grow all summer too, but I ignore them through all the seasons of peas and onions, tomatoes and peppers and eggplants. There they stand in the garden, ever prepared to give a leaf, yet I never do go for them. But when frost has rotted the cherry tomato, when the vines drip black and slimy from the trellis, when the peppers collapse into wet heaps, and the basil blackens and drops, when the beans rattle in their pods and the zucchini oozes onto the dirt, then the greens come into their glory. The giant mute leaves of the kale and collards show up like high school sweethearts at the gymnasium door. It's a long party, but these greens patiently wait out fickle gardeners enamored with summer's colorful wares, and look all the better for it in the fall. Then they stand tall, stick out their chests, throw on a coat of strong new leaves, and wait for me to come humbly back. I always do.

**SIMPLE KALE AND POTATO SOUP**

- I large onion, diced
- I clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- (1/4 lb. very thinly sliced chorizo sausage or pepperoni, optional)
- 3 baking potatoes, peeled or not, cubed
- 6 cups vegetable or chicken broth
- A bunch of kale or collards, hard stems removed and leaves coarsely chopped (about 5 cups)
- salt and pepper

In a pot large enough to hold everything, saute the onion in the oil until it begins to soften. Add the garlic and cook a minute or two. Add the potatoes and stir it all up. Add the sausage, if you are using it. Lay the chopped greens on top of the potatoes and add the broth. Cover and simmer for 30 - 45 minutes, till everything is tender. With good bread and beer or wine, this is supper for four people.



# Winter Weather's Fall Arrival



Winter weather got off to an early start this year with the first significant snowfall recorded on November 29. Three and a half inches of snow covered the ground. We also had our first white Christmas in many years after a snowstorm on December 18 and 19 left 6.75 inches on the ground.

Adding snowfall recorded on December 9 (1.00"), December 14 (.60"), and December 16 (1.00") gives 13.10 inches total snow accumulation for the autumn of 1995.

## THE BLIZZARD OF '96

The Blizzard of '96 buried parts of New Jersey in up to 35 inches of snow. That amount was recorded in White House, in Hunterdon County. It's the highest measure of snowfall ever in New Jersey from one storm. The previous record was recorded in 1899 in Cape May. That year a February blizzard dropped 34 inches there.

Snow measurements are made with simple instruments and a bit of patience and math. If you have a ruler or yardstick

you have a basic snow measurement instrument.

Push the ruler or yardstick down into the snow vertically until it touches the ground and take a reading. Snow can accumulate to different depths in different areas. Take several measurements in different areas and then average all the readings to calculate snow depth.

There is more art to this science when we have a blizzard. The readings then are more difficult to make and interpret. After the Blizzard of '96, I found the most uniform areas of snow depth in our yard to be 18 to 19 inches. There were drifts of 24 inches and a bit more as well.

Calculating the average reveals a snow depth of 22 inches. Impressive as this depth is, it leaves those of us who take pride in surviving the worst weather wanting.

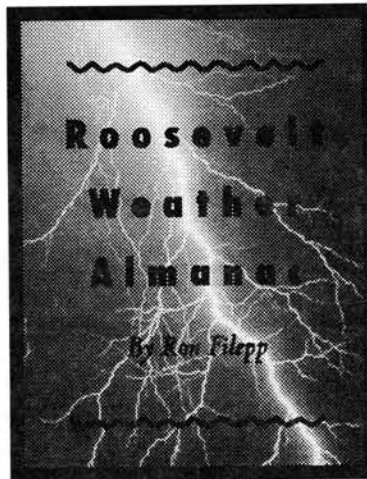
Fear not intrepid weather sufferers! Snow depth and snowfall are two different mea-

surements. Snow depth is often less than snowfall. When snow collects more than four to six inches, it starts to compress under its own weight.

The proper way to measure snowfall is to measure it when the snow has collected four to six inches. Then clear the surface and repeat the process un-

til the snow stops.

Blizzard conditions make that sort of measurement difficult at best. The severe wind gets to any exposed surface and blows the snow.



Consequently, my snowfall estimate of 26 inches is based on several measurements, a look at reported measurements from surrounding areas and interpretation of those numbers.

As of this writing, this winter weather season has brought 41.20 inches of snowfall to Roosevelt. February is on average the snowiest month of the year in New Jersey. Be prepared for more of the white stuff.

## GLOBAL WARMING, YES!

One of the funnier comments I heard about the blizzard was from a motorist interviewed on TV. When asked what he thought about the storm his reply was "I prefer global warming."

After a couple of more questions the interviewer broke away from the motorist to wrap up his report. The motorist could be seen in the background giving a "thumbs up" and heard shouting "global warming."

It has been theorized that global warming may result in more extremes in weather such as blizzards - so much for global warming coming to the rescue.

## HIGH ANXIETY

There are probably not too many residential neighborhoods where you can see people shoveling snow off their roofs. While looking out my window on the Saturday after the blizzard, I saw men on three rooftops removing snow. One was using a snow blower!



**WEATHER QUESTION**

Judith McNally e-mailed a weather question. She wanted to know the origin of the phrase "under the weather." A look in the Morris Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins by William and Mary Morris reveals that "under the weather" was originally a nautical phrase: "When you're at sea and the weather becomes a bit rough and the ship starts to roll and your stomach feels a bit queasy, it's time for you to go below to your cabin - under the weather."

If you have a weather question you can send it to me at PO Box 351, call me at 426-4583 or e-mail paulIf@aol.com. I'll do my best to find an answer.

**HEEDING THE HOG**

If Candlemas (Groundhog Day February 2) is fair and bright,

Winter will have another flight;  
But if Candlemas brings clouds and rain,

Winter is gone and won't come again.

*John Keats, Letter of February 22, 1818*

"The Thrushes and Blackbirds have been singing me into an idea that it was Spring, and almost that leaves were on the

trees. So that black clouds and boisterous winds seem to have mustered and collected in full Divan, for the purpose of convincing me to the contrary."

**WEATHER HISTORY**

The U.S. Meteorological Service was authorized by President Grant on February 9, 1870.

**ON-LINE GOODIES**

If you have access to the internet you can find the Roosevelt Weather Almanac (past and present columns), weather forecasts for our area, Roosevelt weather data tables and a couple of Roosevelt weather charts that illustrate 1995 Roosevelt weather data. These items are accessible from my home page. The address is: <http://users.aol.com/paulIf/>


**WEATHER WORD**

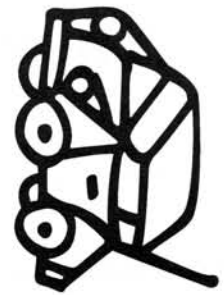
*A "blizzard" is snow with winds in excess of 35 mph and visibilities of 1/4 mile or less, for an extended period of time. Source: National Weather Service & American Meteorological Society*



**Weather Table**

**Dec. 15, 1995 - Jan. 15, 1996**

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>Prec.</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>0.15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>0.60</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>0.55</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>0.55</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>0.05</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>20.5</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>0.52</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>0.35</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>0.56</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>5.33</b>



**Take  
it  
Easy!**

**The Speed Limit is still**

**25mph**

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Bulletin**



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Bulletin  
Box 221  
Roosevelt, NJ 08555-0221

# Our Town At 60 - Roosevelt, NJ 08555

## Do You Remember When?

*This year, the minds of many of our long time residents and of many of their children as well, will return to memories of events that occurred during these 60 years. This column will be published throughout this anniversary year and we hope that many of you will make the sharing of our lives in Roosevelt experiences worth retelling. Also, let's hear from those who have moved here in recent years. What made you want to settle here? Are you storing up memories? What is there about our town that makes it a wonderful experience?*

*Please send your entries to the Bulletin, P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Deadlines are the 15th of each month.*

*The following article appeared in Trenton Magazine, published by the Greater Trenton Chamber of Commerce in August, 1968 and was brought to our attention by Jeanette Koffler who found it among her "souvenirs." Notice how much has remained the same and how much has changed!*

### **Roosevelt**

*by William O Donnell*

Roosevelt is a unique Monmouth County town conceived in tribulation, born in adversity and living in prosperity.

During its brief span of 34 years it limped along occasionally with heartbreak and faith.

Roosevelt is a community of paradoxes.

It became most successful after its industry failed. It has almost no manufacturing, but has more potential for industry than most any other town its size in New Jersey.

Structurally its school building is average, but it has a superb educational program.

It has no medical officer, but has a high level of health control.

It is predominantly Jewish but all races and religions are welcomed as residents.

There have been times when

empty houses for rent and sale were plentiful. Now there are almost never any vacancies for sale or rent. Mel Adlerman, a local boy right from the project's inception, says his firm Alderman Click & Company, handles maybe one or two homes a year, for which there is generally a waiting list.

The most significant thing about Roosevelt, the thing which gives it character, is its people. They are people of achievement, of tolerance, of ambition, of vision, of personal industry, of friendliness, and of kindness.

As a town Roosevelt is only 22 years old. As a community it can point to 34 years of established organization. If this appears to be contradictory it is only because Roosevelt was born as the Jersey Homesteads. After World War II the residents voted to change the name to Roosevelt. In the 1946 ses-

sion of the Legislature the change was officially made.

Of course there could hardly be a more appropriate name than Roosevelt for this town of approximately 800 persons. It was built during the administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt as a New Deal experiment in social and economic cooperation. The economic phase of the experiment fell by the wayside, but the social facet exceeded the most optimistic dreams.

Jersey Homesteads was a community carved out of 1200 wooded acres of Monmouth County by the Resettlement Administration during the middle of the depression. It was a dream of Benjamin Brown, an idealist, who convinced the government of the soundness of the plan, but died too soon to appreciate the fruits of his labors.

The government spent an es-

timated \$4 million—including experimental and subsequently discarded phases—to build 200 modern, one and two-story homes, a school, a factory, a cooperative store, sewage and water system, curbs and blacktop streets, two artesian wells, and help in developing a 414 acre farm as part of the project. Needle workers from New York and Philadelphia, financially enfeebled to varying degrees by the depression, were invited to live in the community.

Each family contributed \$500 to the general fund to finance operation of the farm and the factory equipped to make women's clothing. Profits were to be divided among the cooperating families. Depending on whether they were buying a four or five room house, families contracted to pay \$18 to \$24 monthly for 30 years.

The homes—as finally completed—were built of cinder block and concrete, no basements, and a generous use of glass. The landscaped plots covered approximately 1/2 acre of ground for lawn and gardening.

The factory got into trouble early. Although the new residents had many superior craftsmen, they lacked executives with skills in the rough-and-tumble garment business. Outlets were difficult to contract, and when season schedules and production got out of step, crisis developed.

Meanwhile the farm showed a \$16,000 profit in its first year. Then the price of potatoes dropped and the books were spattered with red ink.

The Federal Government, which had been so benevolent in the beginning got tough. Bankruptcy overtook the garment factory, and the government decided to foreclose. On the last day of October 1939 the garment factory which had held such bright dreams was sold at auction, with the government buying back most of the equipment. Nine months later—on the afternoon of the Fourth of July—the farm with its 7,000 chickens, herd of Guernsey cows and 381 acres of growing crops went under the hammer. By that time only 90 of the original 200 families remained in the Jersey

Homesteads, leaving a lot of empty houses.

These were days of heart-break. Residents lived on faith when all else seemed gone. But they stayed. The garment factory reopened as a women's hat factory. This gave employment to some. Others turned to New York, Philadelphia, Trenton and Freehold for jobs.

War brought more opportunities for employment, but it also brought sorrow. Three of the 64 young people who served their country never returned. The bronze plaque in front of the school has stars by the names of Oscar Nisnewitz, Irving Shub and Tamara Drasin Swann. The last was lost when a plane carrying a USO troupe plunged into the sea of Portugal.

After the war the town dreamed new dreams. The hat factory gave way to a button factory. Subsequently the plant reopened as Hubert Industries for the manufacture of custom-made cabinets for schools and institutions. Frank Herman operates a small studio of fine arts fabric designs supplying some of New York's exclusive decorators.

The community's only other "business" is Sol Berg's Roosevelt grocery store; a streamlined market and delicatessen with a village store atmosphere.

When the government built, it built well. The result is that today Roosevelt is an attractive town. There are no houses tumbling down. The water and sewer systems are excellent, and the streets are clean and surfaced. There is land available for industry without changing the original concept of homes surrounded by plenty of green country. Roosevelt's original green-acres program pre-dates the state's by several decades; actually the homes were set in an established green belt pattern, which gives all the back yards an air of cool, wooded privacy, the envy of visiting urbanites.

Emphasis is upon family living, but there is high pride of achievement in work.

When the grammar school was built, Ben Shahn, one of the great artists of this nation, came to the Homesteads to paint his famous mural depicting the escape of the Jewish people from old world oppression and their toil to better the working conditions in the new world. He remained to become a resident. Then he was more impressed by the atmosphere of the town than he was with the surrounding beauty of the community. From this beginning the pattern which was to dominate a large segment of life in Roosevelt began. Shahn convinced associates that the com-

munity offered unmatched opportunities for artists, writers and musicians.

The chain reaction touched off by Shahn has continued. Foot for foot there is as much artistic talent in Roosevelt as in any town in this country. To catalogue it would be a major work.

Of course Shahn is the best known. His reputation is international. It was Shahn who originated the plans for Roosevelt Memorial Park, adjacent to the school. The sculptured head of President Roosevelt, which looks out across the park, is the work of Shahn's son, Jonathan. Father and son have no corner on art in the family, however; Mrs. Bernarda Bryson Shahn has found time to become a nationally known magazine and book illustrator and author in her own right, while raising three children.

Shahn is respected as an artist and admired as a counselor by his associates. He has made Roosevelt an art center without the influx of "Bohemians" who so often debase cultural programs.

The Shahns are not the only nationally known team of artists living in Roosevelt. Gregorio Prestopino and his wife Elizabeth Dauber, are widely renowned for their skill in oils and water colors. Prestopino is also noted as a teacher. In the writing field Franklin Folson and his wife

(cont. on pg. 16)

(OUR TOWN from pg. 15)

Mary Elting have more than 100 published books to their credit. Their son Michael Folson is the author of several children's books, in addition to "The Mysterious Grain: Science in Search of the Origin of Corn" which he and his mother collaborated in writing. Shan Ellentuck is gaining attention as an illustrator while her mate, Bert, progresses as a planner and architect.

Roosevelt's Ben Appel is another outstanding writer. His "Fortress in the Rice" may be recognized as Van Hefflin's screen version "Cry Battle." His "With Many Voices" has won acclaim as a penetrating study of our image in seven European countries.

But Appel is now singing the praises of Edwin Rosskam, who published his first novel "The Alien" a social history of Puerto Rico, at the age of 61. Rosskam and his wife Louise, are another team; currently they are collaborating on a photographic coverage of state migrant schools for the Migrant Division of the New Jersey Department of Education.

Leslie Weiner, whose first play—"In the Counting House" had the misfortune to open during the newspaper strike four years ago, and as a result, faded into oblivion, now has a second

play scheduled for production this coming fall-winter season. A drama, its title is "Are You Now Or Have You Ever Been Blue?" Weiner's daily career is the insurance business.

Stefan Martin—son of another fine artist, David Stone Martin, an ex-Roosevelt citizen—has rare skill as a wood engraver and painter.

One of the great talents is Jacob Landau, head of the graphic arts department of Pratt Institute. Another is Robert Mueller who has been called the "Renaissance Man" because he can do so many things well. "The Saturday Review" recently featured one of Mueller's modernistic paintings as a color cover, in conjunction with an article of Mueller's on art communication: the subject of his latest book "The Science of Art" with illustrations by the author.

An M.I.T. graduate and former R.C.A. engineer, Mueller is a painter, sculpter, illustrator, author, composer, puppeteer, flute collector and player, and member of the Princeton Community Orchestra. He is represented in the Museum of Modern Art's permanent collection and their exhibit "Modern American Printmakers"—which toured Europe, South America and the Scandinavian countries, and American art centers. Mueller

has also written and illustrated the books "Inventivity," "The Inventor's Notebook" and "Eyes in Space."

Nor can one ignore Sol Libsohn, a veteran photographer, who has snapped the lowly and the mighty, the best of his photographs being rated as fine art. Ed Schlinski, an ex-automobile mechanic and current social worker, has had several exhibits of his paintings and serigraphs, including last year's one-man show at the University of Pennsylvania. The list goes on and on: two others being Herbert O. Steinberg, a scenic designer for TV and the theatre, and Ron Curtis, avant garde designer of fine wood furniture.

Then there is Joshua Hecht, a basso opera star, who has appeared at the Metropolitan. Hecht, who grew up in the community says: "I like this town because when my kids wander away in the morning, I know they're going to wander back at night—fed."

All Roosevelt community activities are carried out with intensity. There is nothing casual about the Boy Scouts, the sewing clubs, the 4-H, the fire company and first aid squad, the dancing classes and the Senior Citizens' Club. When Mayor Theodore Marton raps the gavel to open a Borough Council session, he is generally con-

fronted with a group of critical but not hostile taxpayers.

Generally speaking Roosevelt has no problems unless you want to include the second-highest tax rate in Monmouth County. The \$6.37 rate at 100 percent valuation could be cut if the residents were willing to take lesser standards of education. But the citizens like the small grammar school classes.

Isidore Sackowitz, the borough clerk the past twenty-some years a hometown boy—probably knows more about the community than anyone else, because he "grew up" with it. To Sackowitz the borough's principal asset is the band of citizens who work to preserve harmony in living.

This statement gets unqualified endorsement from Albert Clayton, head of one of several Negro families living in Roosevelt. He built his own home, after renting in the community for 18 months. A quality control investigator for the R.C.A. Space Center in Hightstown, Clayton says:

"These are the friendliest people. My family and I find it a fine place to live."





# Folsom Year End Report, 1995

As many of you know, Dank and I began our last adventure together in March when we flew from Miami to Tierra del Fuego for a six-week Elderhostel trip by sea up the Pacific coast of South America. Along the way, archaeologists gave talks about the history and culture of the Native Americans past whose lands we sailed. Several times we stopped and went ashore for day trips to archaeological sites and museums, our main interest in the expedition.

After heading east through the Panama Canal, our trip ended in the Bahamas. There Dank's heart failed just as he stepped onto the pier. Fortunately our daughter Rachel was able to fly down to help me through the next few days in Nassau. Back in Boulder, she and Dank's brother Fred gave generous and loving support during the following weeks. In May our extended family and many friends - some of whom Dank had walked with on the great Peace March - met for a memorial service in Old Main on the University of Colorado campus. Together

we celebrated his 87 years with song, tears and laughter, stories and verse, and praise. It was an hour that lifted my sorrow as it caught Dank's spirit and his gift for moving people in ways that he had not even suspected.

As I write this, Rachel and I are about to go through Dank's books and papers to prepare them for new homes in various libraries and collections. Later I plan to do some editing on the rough draft of his memoirs which he finished the day before we left for South America. Next will come a job he had intended to do himself - selecting from two full file drawers poems for publication.

This brings my warm thanks to all of you whose kindness and support have continued to sustain me. May we all, in the New Year, take heart, remembering Dank's life of steadfast engagement in efforts to make this a just and peaceful world.

Mary Folsom  
4299A Monroe Drive  
Boulder, CO 80303



(PLAN BD. from pg. 3)

ing, reached a consensus that the proposal would be acceptable.

The Board gave a cooler reception to a proposal to rezone about six acres in the wooded area north of the power lines along Perrineville Road. If rezoned from residential/agricultural to 2 1/2-acre residential, the land, which has a great deal of wetlands, could accommodate one or two houses. The current master plan would allow such a rezoning. The landowner had not applied for the rezoning, however, and Board members were reluctant to separate any property from coverage by the proposed PCD ordinance. There was also concern that the school district would have to fund a special bus route for children located so far from the Roosevelt Public School. Since the Council had not forwarded a proposed ordinance for the Board's consideration and recommendation, the Board took no action.



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



**Welcome New Neighbor:**

☞ Nanci and Tom Husko to the former Lepore home on Lake Drive.  
John and Donna Bishop to the former Norris home on Lake Drive.

**Welcome Home:**

☞ For a 10 day January visit from Catalina Island, California: Rickey and Michelle Jaeger and their 22 month old daughter, Sarah Kate to the North Rochdale home of Phil and Sheila Jaeger. Joining the family "reunion" were Andrew, Lorrie and 4 month old Sean.

**Engaged:**

☞ Jeff Barth, son of Helen and Leon Barth of Rochdale Avenue, to Jackie Pazanie of Bridgewater on November 24. No wedding date has been set.

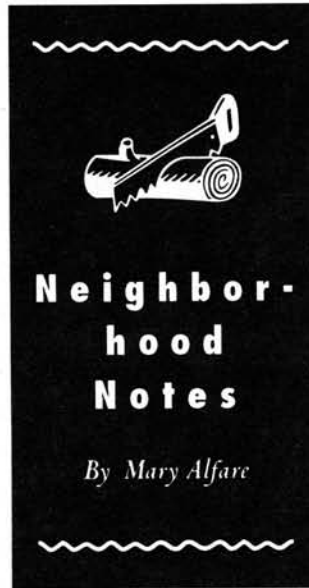
**Best Wishes to the Newlyweds:**

☞ Benjamin List and Fabiana Valdivino DeFreitas, of South Rochdale, married January 12, at the South Rochdale home of Ben's mother, Margaret Schlinski.

☞ Robert E. Warnick, formerly of Roosevelt, and Kellie Camacho were married on December 30, 1995 in Savannah, Georgia. Robert is the son of Ralph and Nancy Warnick. He is the grandson of Maline and Robert Monk of Tamara Drive.

☞ 14th Annual Metro Show at the City Without Walls Gallery, 1 Gateway Center (street level), in Newark. For information call 201-622-1188.

☞ "A Family of Artists - 3 Generations" features the works of Bernarda Bryson Shahn, Abbe Shahn and Amanda Slamm. The exhibition is at the Anne Reid Art Gallery, Princeton Day School, The Great Road,



Princeton, from November 11 to December 11. Hours: Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays 1-4 p.m. For information call 609-924-6700.

**Congratulations To:**

☞ Ronit Yeger became a Bat Mitzvah on December 24 at the Princeton Jewish Center.

☞ Jim Carnevale of Farm Lane named "Volunteer of the Year" by the Mayor and Council. Jim was honored for his five years of service as head of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission.

☞ Mark Friedman, son of Lynn and Mel Friedman of Pine Drive, graduated on December 22, 1995 with the 50th class from the Monmouth County Police Academy in Freehold. Mark began work with the East Windsor Police Force on January 2, 1996.

**Special Thanks to:**

☞ From a number of residents to: Gayle Donnelly, George Vasseur, David Donnelly, Lee Allen, Abe Schlinski, Jack Rindt, John

Ord and Andrea Branco for their extraordinary work and efforts in "plowing around the clock" and in meeting other needs of this community during and after the "Blizzard of 96". Thanks also to all those un-named individuals who lent a hand to their neighbors.

**Exhibitions:**

☞ Ellen McGuff Silverman is participating in a group show at Reggio Gallery called "Empathy, Vision, Memory", located at 26 W. 17th St., 6th Fl, NYC from January 10 to February 21, tel: 212-366-9681, by appointment only.

☞ Amy Medford's sculptures can be seen at the Peddie School, Hightstown, from January 12 through February 23, Monday through Friday (except Wednesday) 9:00 am - Noon and 1:15 pm - 3:00 pm.

**Fond Farewell:**

☞ James P. McKnight, Solar Village resident, died December 31. His daughter, Elizabeth Possiel and her family wish to thank everyone for their expressions of sympathy and support.

☞ Gus Alef, former long time Farm Lane resident and one of the original Jersey Homestead settlers died in early January in Eugene, Oregon.

☞ Ann Gay, former Tamara Drive resident, sister of Augusta Chasan, died in Detroit Michigan, in early January, at the age of 96.

☞ Lily Wiesenfeld, resident of School Lane, died on December 6 at the age of 74.

Condolences to their family and friends.

**Volunteers Needed:**

☞ First Aid Squad needs members, especially to cover weekday and evening hours. The squad pays for training. For information, call Captain Beth Battel at 448-7701 or Mike Stiles at 426-4185.

☞ For information on joining the Roosevelt Fire Department, contact Chief Kim Dexheimer or leave a message at the Borough Hall, 448-0539.

**Lost and Found:**

☞ Several sets of keys have been left at the Post Office and can be claimed during regular business hours.

**Borough News:**

☞ Sworn in as members of the Borough Council: David Donnelly (2nd. term) and Jeff Hunt (1st. term) at the Reorganization Meeting on January 15.

**News From RPS:**

☞ Honor Role - 1st. Marking period:

☞ Grade 3 - Sara Allen, Ina Clark, Anthony Grasso, Laurel Hamilton, Keith Hatzfeld, Jennifer Iacono, Meredith Lawson, Mollie Marko, Brian Moore, Joshua Nulman, Dannielle Petrics, Zev Reuter, Eric Skye and Elizabeth Stinson.

☞ Grade 4 - Avery Axel, Lian Garton, Deidre Lloyd, Lindsay Possiel, Joseph Rocchia and Tina Vasseur.

☞ Grade 5 - Derek Boman, Jimmy Carroll, Jessica Drewitz, Katy Hamilton, Leah Howse,

George Jackson, Wesley John-Alder, Nathaniel Kostar, Jamison Parker, Jeff Possiel, Christopher Wong and Shiri Yeger.

☞ Grade 6 - Shaun Conover, William Edelstein, Brandon Lugannani, Alicia Moore, Haley Reimbold, Christine Rocchia, Lauren Sabogal and Sarah Skillman.

**Student of the Month Awards for December:**

☞ Health: Thomas Septak, Christina Iacona, Casey Wolfe, Laurel Hamilton, Avery Axel, Jeff Possiel and Matthew Marko.

☞ Hunter Ellentuck, Joel Orden, Heather Cordo, Zabrina Ortiz, Peter Rossi, Christina Septak and Christine Rocchia.

**News From Hightstown High:**

☞ Meira Yeger, a Junior, was inducted into the Hightstown High School Chapter of the National Honor Society on November 21. Acceptance is based on four criteria: service, scholarship, character and leadership.

*To have items included in this column, call Mary Alfare to 443-4243 or mail to P.O. Box 58, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Please include contact name and phone number.*



(COUNCIL from pg. 9)

and two others are on the Advisory Council also.)

**Council Representative to the Board of Education:**

Stuart Kaufman

**Safety Coordinator (Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund):**

Gayle A. Donnelly

**Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer**

Stuart Kaufman

**Council members have been named already in 8 volunteer positions on Boards, Councils, Groups and a Commission. Here are the 18 positions on Council Committees (first is Chair):**

**Administration:**

Murphy, Donnelly, Hoogsteden

**Utilities:**

Donnelly, Murphy, Hoogsteden

**Finance:**

Hoogsteden, Murphy, Donnelly

**Public Works:**

Kaufman, Vasseur, Hunt

**Environmental - Health & Safety:**

Vasseur, Kaufman, Hunt

**Community Development:**

Hunt, Kaufman, Vasseur

The first "Volunteer of the Year" award was presented to James Carnevale. The last is-

sue of the Borough Bulletin reported on Mr. Carnevale's resignation after five years as chairman of the Environmental Commission, during which time the commission developed nature trails and stream-monitoring, produced the award-winning *Roosevelt Field Guide*, and protected the migration paths of turtles as an endangered species. Mr. Carnevale accepted the handsome award and praised the eight Roosevelt volunteers on the commission for their commitment to preserving the good environment of Roosevelt.

Correspondence included compliments from residents for keeping the streets plowed during the blizzard, the Environmental Commission's Year-end Report, an application for a grant for a Transportation Enhancement Project (pedestrian trail through Roosevelt's historic green belt, discussed in the last Borough Bulletin) and two letters from the Roosevelt First Aid Squad: one about the ambulance batteries, the other about traffic in town. Councilman Hunt asked Mayor Allen what success he had with getting more State Police help in speed enforcement in the borough. The Mayor repeated the report he gave at the December meeting: the State Police use radar in patrol of Route 571 and will increase their patrol of all streets in the borough. Mr. Allen said the speeders on local streets are "our neighbors". When any

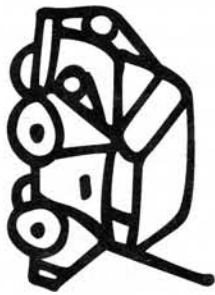
(cont. on pg. 21)



# Recycling Dates

March 6 & 20

April 3 & 17



# Take it Easy!

The Speed Limit is still

# 25mph

r o o s e v e l t a r t s p r o j e c t

**1 9 9 5 . 9 6 s e a s o n**

The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 1995-1996 calendar of events, featuring **art exhibits**, the second annual fall **folk music festival**, a special evening of **poetry and music**, a community **sing** 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 you calendars and watch for our brochure and the Bulletin for additional details.



We hope to see all of you at these exciting new performances and exhibits. For additional information, call Judith Trachtenberg at 426-8867 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.

- february 10, 1996,  
8:00 p.m.  
**Community Sing-Along!**  
Borough Hall
  
- march 8, 1996  
and march 9, 1996,  
8:00 p.m.  
**Roosevelt String Band**  
In Concert  
Borough Hall
  
- april 13, 1996,  
8:00 p.m.  
**Alan Mallach, Piano Recital**  
**Little Known Masterworks**  
of the Romantic Era  
Borough Hall
  
- may 4, 1996,  
8:00 p.m.  
**Poetry & Music**  
Borough Hall
  
- may 20, 1996,  
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
**Art at the Factory III**  
Roosevelt Factory



# Senior Citizens News

by Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Senior Citizens Meeting - January 2, 1996

by Helga Wisowaty

First - our wishes that everyone will have the best of the New Year - 1996!

Jeanette Koffler presided at this meeting. There were not too many attending due to the weather.

Millie DiGiorgio brought us up to date about our treasury. As always, it was up to date about everything. She is a very efficient treasurer.

Many members enjoyed another trip to Hunterdon for lunch and to see a play. This was on November 15.

We planned another luncheon at the Americana Restaurant on January 23.

The nurse who takes blood pressures before the meetings had a birthday on January 11, so we sang "Happy Birthday" to her.

Jeanette told us that a chiropractor from Millstone will speak to us soon.

Our Gus Chasan was honored at the luncheon in New Brunswick for "Fire Ladies" in NJ. It was given in her honor as the first Fire Lady in New Jersey. She was surprised and thrilled.

Good luck to our hard working Council and other committees.

Molly Bulkin was our hostess and everything was delicious.

'til next month.

(COUNCIL from pg. 19)

one sees a local person speeding, the Mayor advised he or she should ask the person to be more considerate of the community.

Councilman Hunt also requested newspapers to alert readers about the First Aid Squad's urgent need for more volunteers. It has only six certified Emergency Medical Technicians, and two in training.

A 1996 Budget Workshop was to be held on Monday at the Borough Hall. Residents can also make suggestions about the municipal budget at the finance committee meeting on January 22. Councilman Paul Hoogsteden, chairman of the finance committee, requested a notice about it be posted in the post office window. It was seen there the next day.

Councilwoman Rose Murphy repeated an announcement she made in December: the public hearing on bids by companies for operation and management of Roosevelt's water and sewer utilities will be Monday, January 29. She said the water line leak on Lake Drive was repaired for \$1,100.

Public works committee chairman Stu Kaufman praised Public Works Superintendent Gayle Donnelly for her services in snow removal, and then thanked Council members George Vasseur and David Donnelly for their many volunteer hours operating snow removal equipment. Mr. Vasseur balanced his complaints about the Mayor's

"way of doing business" by commenting, "Lee Allen put in many hours also."

John Ord was praised highly for his unstinting volunteer aid to families with anyone on life-support systems, oxygen, or other critical medical conditions. Health and safety committee chairman George Vasseur reported that during and after the blizzard, Mr. Ord made many calls to find out who in town required emergency care, asked

neighbors to reassure and assist anyone in need, and personally shoveled clear many pathways from front doors to the street. He was filling in for Ed Miller and Jack Rindt, the coordinator and deputy coordinator of Roosevelt's Emergency Management Council, who were required to serve in their emergency jobs out of town.

Earlier in the meeting, when the motion was made to appoint eleven persons (including two  
*(cont. on pg. 22)*

## Correction of Errors in "Borough Council Report"

by Herb Johnson

**N**estor Sabogal did not say at the November 13 Borough Council meeting, as I reported, "...some of the work that was expected to be done in regular hours has not been done due to the Borough Clerk having 40 days absence, including the 12 sick days and 4 personal days offered in the contract." Mr. Sabogal did say, "We have a very liberal attendance policy, 12 sick days, personal days, a floating holiday, it is over 40 days."

**He had said earlier some employees have 15 vacation days, 3 personal days plus 1 floating holiday, 9 regular holidays and 12 sick days. That adds up to 40 days, but not "40 days absence". My interpretation of what Mr. Sabogal said during a 17 minute part of the meeting has created an incorrect impression that the Borough Clerk has often been absent from her job, and has not fulfilled some of her responsibilities.**

**Neither did Mr. Sabogal say at the meeting that any employee of the Borough has abused the attendance policy. The Borough Clerk told me the following statement I wrote was not true: "The employee was advised of abuse of the attendance policy, allegedly, verbally and in writing, but has continued to request time off." Carefully I listened to the tape recording of the meeting and heard Mr. Sabogal refer to abuse of the attendance policy at least five times, always avoiding a statement that any employee abused the policy. He said near the beginning of the discussion, "We sent a letter to the Borough Clerk for an evaluation meeting. She requested that the meeting be an open meet**



(COUNCIL from pg. 21)

council members and nine representatives of public service groups) to the Emergency Management Council, this reporter asked why John Ord was not included. Mayor Allen quickly nominated Mr. Ord to be representative-at-large.

In the Public Portion of the meeting, Nona Sherak convinced council members of a better way to remove snow from her street. Unaware that no one was appointed to a Cable Television Commission for 1996, she asked for more help on the commission. She also convinced the Council to get the kitchen in the Borough Hall thoroughly cleaned, including drawers. Melissa Hecht was assured that volunteers are covered by the borough's insurance policy.

Council members at the December Regular Meeting in-

**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**

dicated they were not sure there were violations of the Zoning Ordinance provision requiring property owners to maintain clear views at corners to reduce the danger of accidents. They postponed discussion of the matter until they had copies of the relevant section of the ordinance in their hands. When asked about it at the January Meeting, they acknowledged they had not reviewed the ordinance.

To define "state of emergency during snowfalls, when no vehicle is permitted to be parked on the street," Mayor Allen cited Ordinance 27, Section 4, to clarify that it exists for 72 hours after a snowfall ceases, once it has been a 4 inch snowfall.

Schoor DePalma Engineers' testing of the former Roosevelt gasoline station site was completed. Hazardous pollution was found going beyond the borders of the property. Mayor Allen said the preliminary assessment and site investigation report was "lengthy" (over 30 pages long), and it recommended off-site testing (to be funded by an additional state grant) to determine how far the pollution has gone and how extensive the clean-up project would be. Mrs. Murphy asked for Schoor DePalma representatives to attend the February 12 council meeting to explain the report to the public. Council approved of sending the report to NJDEP.



(CORRECTIONS from pg. 21)

**ing during the Council meeting. The Borough Clerk is a vital employee, particularly because we are such a small town and have so few employees. Employees may ask for more than the allowed days off from work. If they need more, they will have to take more, but we should not approve it. We must enforce the attendance policy. If someone abuses it, we have to talk with the employee about abusing the attendance policy."**

**The Borough Clerk was present, of course, during the whole discussion, but no one told her she had abused, or was near to abusing, the attendance policy. Mayor Allen said that the Borough Clerk notified him recently that she needed a day off, that she would take it without pay, and he approved. Mr. Sabogal said, "If they have 40 days and they use 40 days and we have to authorize another 20 days, then it makes 60 days." Council President Murphy, who also approves of days off, asked: "Are you making a recommendation that a cautionary letter be sent?" Mr. Sabogal said he was not, but earlier he said, "Maybe we should change to three part-time employees. It seems like it is kind of an abusive way they take days off, and it's almost like having part-time employees." I don't think he meant more than one employee was taking days off excessively.**

**Mrs. Murphy asked Mr. Sabogal "Can you come up with guidelines for times that we can approve of absence?" Mr. Sabogal had described the issue this way: "I just need to get a handle on this so we don't go approving, approving. If a person continues taking time off, and we approve it, at what point do we call the employee in and say, "Listen, we need to talk to you about attendance', if everyone is approving it?" He offered no guidelines, but suggested, "You don't have to approve it. If they have to take off, they will. If someone abuses that, then we have to talk with the person about abusing the attendance policy."**

**Twelve minutes after that comment, with much rehashing by Council members, Borough Attorney Ross advised, "You are talking about a 10 year professional employee."**

**To summarize, at the November Regular Council Meeting, Mr. Sabogal referred to the possibility of an employee abusing the attendance policy but he did not say that any employee has done so. Furthermore, at no point during the meeting did he say any employee was advised verbally or in writing about attendance abuse, nor did he say any employee failed to do work which was expected.**

**I regret my statements which gave incorrect information about an employee, and a member of the Council of the Borough of Roosevelt.**

