

**BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS****School Lane and
Maple Court Bids Reviewed;
"Special Counsel" Hired;
Water Restrictions Re-instituted**

by Herb Johnson

At its May 14 meeting, the Borough Council received and reviewed, but did not act upon, a written report from James DeMuro, the municipal engineer, on his estimates and three bids received for road and utility improvements to School Lane and Maple Court. The subject is potentially explosive, not only because the lowest bid was over \$200,000 (most of which would be paid with State funds), but also because eleven School Lane residents last year submitted a petition objecting to the proposed changes to the street. At the May 7 agenda meeting, Freda and Al Hepner, who live on the portion of School Lane north of Pine Drive, and who claim that they would lose much of their driveway to the proposed road widening, asked that School Lane residents be given an opportunity to meet and discuss the matter with the engineer and the

Council before any decision to go ahead with the work is made. Councilman Stuart Kaufman stated that such a meeting would be held on May 20 and that all School Lane and Maple Court residents would be invited to attend.

The Council also gave preliminary approval to the 1996 salary ordinance. The first version of the ordinance, which was presented by Council President Rose D. Murphy, would have given a 5% increase to Public Works Superintendent Gayle Donnelly, a 3% increase for nine other positions, and no increase for the eight summer camp jobs and eight other positions. (There are more positions than there are people holding them. Chief Financial Officer Ed DeBevec, for example, holds four of these positions. He would get a 3% raise both as chief financial officer and as treasurer, but would

(cont. on pg. 6)

**THREE CANDIDATES
CONTEST TWO SEATS IN
DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY**

by Michael Ticktin

Three candidates—incumbent Councilman Stuart Kaufman and first-time candidates Margaret Schlinski and Michael Stiles are running for two Council nominations in the June 4th Primary.

No candidates have filed for the Republican nomination and no independent candidates have filed to be on the November ballot.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROOSEVELT SUMMER CAMP is coming! First Day will be Monday, July 8th. The Camp has Drama, Arts, and Crafts, Sports, Swimming and most of all fun. Call Margaret Schlinski at 443-3580 for more information.

THE 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE needs your help to make this the best celebration ever! Volunteer! Call Ellen Silverman at 490-0557 for more information.

THE ROOSEVELT FIRST AID SQUAD AND ROOSEVELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT needs Volunteers, call Elizabeth Battel, 448-7701 to volunteer for the First Aid Squad and contact Borough Hall, 448-0539 for the Fire Department.

VOTE! In the Primary Election on June 4th at the Borough Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

THE ROOSEVELT/MILLSTONE COMMUNITY NUSERY SCHOOL is now accepting students for the Fall. Please call 426-9523 or 448-1854 for more information.

SCOUTING is fun! To sign up; For Cub Scouts call Lauralynne and Wayne Cokely at 443-6287 or Ellen Silverman 490-0557, for Brownies call Judi Cordo at 443-9164; For Daisy's call Linda Silverstein at 443-5786 and for Girl Scouts call Carol Miller at 426-0057

The Works of former resident and artist for many years, **Herbert A. Steinberg**, now deceased, are being offered for sale by his son, Stephen. He can be reached at (908) 919-1405.

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■ PLANNING BOARD NEWS



by Bob Clark

The Planning Board spent much of its May 8 meeting considering ways to convince the Council that the Board-proposed planned community development (PCD II) ordinance for 500 acres in Roosevelt's northern farmlands is in the Borough's best interests. No change in Roosevelt's zoning may occur without Council approval after a public hearing. The area is currently zoned to allow one house for every 10 acres. The Board has proposed an ordinance that would permit 114 units for the entire area. Construction would be concentrated in a couple of wetlands-free areas. Participating landowners whose property would be dedicated to open space would receive value for their land equivalent to that enjoyed by the owners on whose land the actual building would take place.

Board Chairwoman Gail Hunton expressed "a sense of urgency in moving along." Developer Calton Homes, which has options to purchase four tracts in the northern farmlands, has informally proposed to the Council that it be allowed to build 158 homes on just 180 acres in the area. This would greatly exceed the recommendation of the Planning Board, which has been concerned that too much residential development would require a doubling of the size of the school in order to accommodate two classrooms

for each grade. Calton has maintained that no developer could earn a profit under the density proposed by the Board. Meanwhile, the Board has countered that a more creative developer could make money with fewer units, particularly if landowners adopted a more realistic assessment of the value of their land.

Ms. Hunton expressed optimism that the non-profit Trust for Public Land (TPL) may renew its interest in participating in the preservation of open space in Roosevelt. TPL acquires development rights and recoups its investment by selling to developers only those portions of the lands it acquires that are deemed appropriate for building. Ms. Hunton said she had spoken to TPL's new director, who had expressed an interest, and sent him a copy of the latest draft of the PCD II ordinance. About five years ago, TPL had considered a project in Roosevelt; however, a slow real estate market and other TPL priorities intervened.

Ms. Hunton added that she is reviewing independent consultants for possible employment by the Board or Council "to either validate or invalidate what the Planning Board has proposed." She said she hoped to have something to present to the Council in June.

This would greatly exceed the recommendation of the Planning Board, which has been concerned that too much residential development would require a doubling of the size of the school in order to accommodate two classrooms for each grade.

BE A GOOD CITIZEN!

ATTEND BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETINGS THE SECOND MONDAY
OF EACH MONTH

■ LETTER FROM THE CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

by Bill Presutti

On behalf of the students, staff and Board of Education, I would like to express my appreciation for your support of the 1996 - 97 School Budget. Your dedication to the youth of Roosevelt is most commendable. Through your support, you continue to have a positive effect on their young lives. Thank you!

As you know, Roosevelt is celebrating its 60th Anniversary. The articles that have appeared in *The Bulletin* over the last few months have been great and given me a deeper perspective into the unique history of our town. In recognition of Roosevelt's anniversary, the school will be celebrating Roosevelt Day on Friday, June 14, 1996. Each grade will be working on a social studies activity that will highlight some aspect of Roosevelt life...both past and present. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a slide presentation by Arthur Shapiro. Students in Grades K-2 will be working on models of the Post Office, school and Borough Hall. In Grade 3 the students will be video taping a play on the history of Roosevelt. Grade 4 students will be doing a life size map of the town while fifth graders will be producing a news video. Sixth Grade students are investigating the history of chicken farming in Roosevelt. It should be a great day as the students celebrate the town of Roosevelt. Please stop by if you can. Activities will take place all morning and in the early part of the afternoon.

The staff and students are making good progress in the computer lab. We are still working out some of the "glitches" in the network which may take a few more weeks to refine. The Board of Education is also working on establishing the needed policies and procedures that will enable the community to use the lab in an organized fashion.

The Sixth Graders will conduct their service learning project, PROJECT EAT, for the last time this school year during the month of June. If you would like, any canned goods, paper goods, soaps, dried goods (rice, pasta, etc.) can be dropped off at the school and placed in the large barrel in the lobby. The students will deliver the food to the food pantry in Freehold at the end of June. Your support in this endeavor has been wonderful. It has been a very worthwhile experience for our students.

In an effort to generate additional revenue for our school, the Board of Education has decided to invite parents from other communities to send their child(ren) to Roosevelt on a tuition basis. This plan will bring in revenue but will not increase costs to the district. The Board is in the process of making the public at-large aware of this opportunity and hopes to have some tuition students by September, 1996.

The school year is quickly coming to an end. It has been a great year. The students and staff have worked very hard and have produced wonderful results. On their behalf, thank you for your on-going support throughout this school year...

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

■ Roosevelt Community Nursery School News

by Marsha Agress,
Head Teacher

Unbelievably, another school year is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful and exciting year for all.

Our end of the year picnic will be held again this year at Etra Park in East Windsor. This has always been a very nice family day.

We are hoping for a warm, sunny day again this year.

Our graduation/promotion program will be the morning of June 14th. Caps and diplomas will be distributed to our nursery school graduates. Our returning students will receive certificates.

The seeds of many friendships have been sown this past year. Hopefully, these friendships will continue to grow, even though for some their nursery school years are over. RCNS is a very special school. The staff, the children and families of our children have become a family.

All of us at RCNS would like to wish our graduating preschoolers success in kindergarten and in all their future endeavors. We look forward to another year of fun with our returning and prospective new students commencing in september.

We wish everyone a happy, healthy summer!

■ My American Hero

by Cassie Hatzfeld



Cassie Hatzfeld is an 8th Grade student at Kreps Middle School. The following is her essay for which she received first prize at two levels in the Youth Essay Contest sponsored by the Mercer 18th District.

What is a hero? In my eyes a hero is someone who has done something in his life that is admirable and courageous. My American hero isn't Superman, Batman or any of the Power Rangers. She is someone who risked her life, hundreds of times, to help others. My American hero is Harriet Tubman.

Harriet Tubman was born a slave in 1820. She worked as a field hand and a servant in Dorchester, Maryland. From an early age Harriet was determined to fight against slavery. When she was thirteen she was protecting another slave from punishment, and in the process received a blow to the head resulting in a skull fracture. She recovered, but had recurrent blackouts for the rest of her life.

In about 1849 Harriet escaped to the north, and before 1861 she made nineteen journeys back to help other slaves. She used the *underground railroad* to bring about three hundred slaves, including her parents, to the free states or Canada. In her lifetime she never got caught or lost a slave. She carried a gun and threatened to kill anyone who threatened to turn her in. At one time rewards for her capture totaled about \$40,000! Black people called her Moses, after the biblical leader who lead the Jews from Egypt.

During one of her journeys,

Harriet sensed that she was being followed so she nonchalantly boarded a southbound train to avoid suspicion. On another mission, Harriet had just bought some chickens when she saw her former master coming toward her. She quickly let the chickens go and pretended to chase after them before he could recognize her. These two incidents are examples of Harriet's intelligence, quick-wit and bravery.

During the Civil War Harriet Tubman served the Union army as a cook, nurse, scout and spy. After the war Harriet went to Auburn, New York. Here she helped raise money for black schools. In 1908

Harriet Tubman maintained a home for needy and elderly blacks. She died in Auburn in 1913.

Harriet Tubman is my American hero because she had many qualities that I admire. She was courageous. She risked her life to help others. She was persistent. She made nineteen journeys to the south. She was caring. She loved her people like they were family. She was intelligent. She outwitted the people that were against her time and time again. In my eyes, these are all qualities that make up a hero. They are qualities that everyone should try to achieve in their lifetime.

■ Board of Education News

by Joan San Nicola

President Mike Hamilton called the Board of Education Agenda meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. on May 9th. Two members were absent.

New action committees were established and the chairpersons were reminded that written goals and objectives must be submitted within thirty days.

Community use of school computers was under discussion, then tabled pending the establishment of usage guidelines.

Mr. Persutti reported that the hot lunch survey yielded forty-seven yeses and five noes. The survey indicated that most families would use the program two to three times a week. The program is still in the investigative stage.

The CAP (Children Assault Prevention) program, funded by a state grant, has been very well received and hopefully very successful.

Starting on May 28th, new lights will be installed in the classrooms and the gym. The work will be done from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to insure the children's safety and the continuity of instruction.

The Board went into closed session at 9:15 p.m.

Since the new meeting dates of the full meetings conflict with Bulletin deadlines, it will only be possible to give a complete report on each agenda meeting. However, any important events or decisions from the full meetings will be reported the following month.

get no raise in his capacities as water/sewer utility chief financial officer and treasurer.) The public works laborer would get an increase of 8% in his hourly rate, while the salary for the risk management officer would increase from \$100/year to \$500/year.

Mrs. Murphy's proposal was defeated by a vote of 3 to 2 after Councilman George Vasseur objected, claiming that the Council had agreed in committee that only 3% raises would be given. Mrs. Murphy claimed that the higher increment was justified by Mrs. Donnelly's performance in the job. Councilman Jeff Hunt and Mr. Kaufman voted with Mr. Vasseur, while Councilman Paul Hoogsteden voted with Mrs. Murphy. Councilman David Donnelly abstained from the vote and did not participate in the discussion, as is his practice whenever any matter involves his wife. Mr. Kaufman then introduced a substitute version of the ordinance giving Mrs. Donnelly a 4% raise. This passed by a vote of 3 to 2, with Mr. Kaufman now voting in the affirmative and all other votes unchanged. Copies of the proposed ordinance are available at the municipal building.

The Council also amended the personnel policy to allow full time employees up to 12 paid sick days a year. The vote was 4 to 1, with Mr. Vasseur opposed and Mr. Donnelly abstaining. As it has in past years, the Council adopted a resolution re-

stricting usage of water from the municipal system from June 3 to October 1. The restrictions prohibit car washing, lawn watering and pool filling between the hours of noon and 6:00 a.m., with even-numbered houses allowed to use water for these

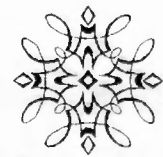
As it has in past years, the Council adopted a resolution restricting usage of water from the municipal system from June 3 to October 1. The restrictions prohibit car washing, lawn watering and pool filling between the hours of noon and 6:00 a.m., with even-numbered houses allowed to use water for these purposes only on mornings of even days and odd-numbered houses only on mornings of odd days.

purposes only on mornings of even days and odd-numbered houses only on mornings of odd days. The reason for the restrictions is that, while the water supply is adequate, the storage capacity of the water tower is not, so non-essential water use must be restricted to hours when demand is low, and after the water tower has refilled.

In other business, the Council passed by a vote of 4 to 3, with Mayor Allen voting to break a tie, to endorse passage of legislation allowing property taxes of up to \$10,000 to be deducted from income

subject to the State income tax. Michael Ticktin commented from the audience that it seemed irresponsible to support legislation that identified no alternative funding source or budget cuts that should be made to compensate for the revenue that should be lost. Herb Johnson objected to the bill on the grounds that low and moderate income people who pay little or no income tax would save only \$80, while those with taxable incomes over \$75,000 who pay real estate taxes of \$10,000 or more could save \$648. Mayor Allen justified his support of the bill on the grounds that "the people of Roosevelt deserve reductions in their property taxes." He incorrectly called the bill a "Property Tax Reduction Act," when its title is "Property Tax Deduction Act."

In other business, the Council increased summer camp rates for nursery-age (3 and 4 year old) children from \$30/week to \$40/week. (Nona Sherak once again protested use of any tax money to support the summer camp and demanded that there be a referendum of the issue. The Mayor and Council replied that they were not about to hold a referendum based on one person's objections.) Pine Valley Swim Club advised the Council that it would allow use of its pool by the summer camp, but asked that the Borough assist with lawn mowing in exchange. The Council agreed to have the public works employees do five hours of work mowing the lawn



or trimming bushes, as directed by the officers of the swim club.

Senior Citizens club spokeswoman Jeanette Koffler criticized the Council for not releasing funds for senior citizen dinners and entertainment. The funds had been held back because Borough Attorney John Ross had advised the Council that the Monmouth County Prosecutor had issued a warning that Council members who approved gifts of public funds to private organizations or individuals were acting in violation of the law and could be held criminally liable. To be eligible for funding, the senior citizens would have to demonstrate that they were providing services of equal value for the Borough. According to Mr. Ross, the various community service activities for which the seniors were claiming credit were, for the most part, for non-public entities like the *Borough Bulletin* or the First Aid Squad and could not be counted.

After all regular business had been concluded, and all but one member of the public (this reporter) had left, the Council went into closed session. The next day, a notice was posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building announcing that, by a vote of 5 to 1, the Council had appointed Maureen A. Holahan-Saling, Esq. as "special counsel," to serve until the end of 1996 for a fee of \$1,250. This reporter asked one member of the Council why this ap-

pointment was made, but he replied that he could not reveal the purpose of the "special counsel."

Earlier in the meeting, Councilman Vasseur reported that he had inspected and tested a 1974 fire truck for which Bordentown is asking \$35,000. He said that was the best used truck he had yet seen. The Roosevelt Fire Department is asking to replace the truck now in use which can only go 35 miles per hour.

Councilman Hunt reported that the First Aid Squad will lose one more member when Kathy Hartman moves away at the end of May. He thanked her for her valuable service and emphasized the need for more volunteers, particularly for daytime service. Borough employees Krystyna Bieracka-Olejniak, Nancy Warnick and Gayle Donnelly have offered to take the courses as soon as they are offered. Councilman Vasseur will take the course required for him to be a first aid squad driver.

Councilman Donnelly reported that the recent brown water problem had been corrected. The immediate problem was that the pH level was too high. However, there is also an iron sediment problem that must still be addressed. There is the further problem of a broken grit collector at the sewer plant. The one informal quote received thus far to replace it was \$23,000. More informal quotes will be obtained.

Cub Scouts

by Ellen Silverman

It is time to sign up for the new Roosevelt Cub Scout Pack. Cub Scouts offer a unique opportunity to boys from six to ten years of age that should not be missed by your son.

Many of us would like to see the new Pack started before summer in order to take advantage of some of the summer Cub Scout activities available in this area. These activities include day camp, residential camp and family camping. Fun activities are also being planned for in town. So come and join the fun. Contact Ellen Silverman at 490-0557 or Lauralyne and Wayne Cokely at 443-6287 for more information and an application.

**Remember,
contributions to the
Bulletin are appreci-
ated and are
tax deductible**

■ BREAKING BREAD

DE GUSTIBUS...EST DISPUTANDUM

by Pablo Medina

Pablo, a Cuban born writer and recent resident, shares his cuisine with us.

"I am human, I eat meat."

—*Nan do Artal*, primitivist author and sex therapist

"A bland palate is often the sign of a bland spirit."

—*Carlitos Bodeler*, writer, chef, *bandoneon* player

I arrived at my parents' house on the first October weekend of my sophomore year of college a dejected young man. Despite my Jesuit teachers' protestations to the contrary, I thought I knew everything. I had just moved off campus with four fellow students, ne'er-do-wells all, and, in our haste, neglected to consider food and its preparation. We had a house, a hi-fi, musical instruments and all the beer we could afford. We were hungry for girls, not for food. After several weeks of bologna and Velveeta sandwiches, Stouffer TV dinners, Mrs. Paul's Fish Sticks and other delights of modern American cuisine, I set my mind to preparing a worthy meal for myself and my fellows. Cooking was easy. I was a biology major, a-cing General Chemistry at the time. I knew everything. I thought I would make spaghetti and meat sauce. At home I had several times walked into the kitchen and seen my mother do it; a cinch, as easy as preparing di-nitro-toluene in the lab.

The meal, needless to say, was a disaster. The spaghetti turned out mealy and chewy, with the consistency of shoestring; the sauce tasted metallic and disturbingly organic at the same time. My roommates looked at me and said nothing but went into the kitchen and came out with the bologna, the Velveeta, a jar of mayonnaise and a loaf of Wonderbread. Yumm!

As I said, I came home with defeat perched heavily on my shoulders. I opened the front door and was met with the smell of cooking so rich my mouth turned into an orgy of expectation. It was late afternoon, cool outside, the leaves of Westchester County at their peak, but something very Cuban and warm was wafting from the kitchen. No one was home but my grandmother Mina, who was at her usual spot by the stove, cooking for me, for she knew that I was, good prodigal, arriving that day. She greeted me with an *abrazo* and one of her full kisses on the cheek, never letting go of her wooden spoon - a serious cook, that woman. I explained my problem and failure. Stand there and learn from me, Mina said. In Spanish, in so many words and gestures, this is what she taught me:

Picadillo a la cubana

(for four people)

Note 1: The adjectives Cuban and measured are irreconcilable opposites. The quantities given here are minimums (If you want bland, try tuna fish casserole, preferably a Midwestern recipe). The maximums lie in the eye and tongue of the beholder. Balance in all the ingredients, however, is imperative.

Note 2: Let me not catch anyone substituting ground turkey, that goofy bird, for ground beef. You will only spoil this dish and have to drive out at night when no one is looking and discard it by the side of the road, hoping one of the Roosevelt buzzards confuses it for road kill.

Note 3: There are as many versions of *picadillo* as there are Cuban families. This is only one.



INGREDIENTS:

1 lb. ground beef (the good kind-
life is too short for
ground chuck)

1 medium onion (2 1/2 inches in diameter)

1 medium green pepper

1 8 oz. can tomato sauce

1/3 cup good, virgin olive oil (life is too short, etc.)

3 cloves garlic

1 tsp. oregano

1/2 tsp. cumin

2 bay leaves

1/2 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. pepper

1/4 cup wine (With this one ingredient I suggest moderation.
Drink what you don't use in the cooking.)

The juice of 1/2 lime

One half cup of raisins

One half cup of pimento-stuffed olives, cut in half

Optional: 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro, the freshest of which
is available at the Korean grocer in Hightstown.

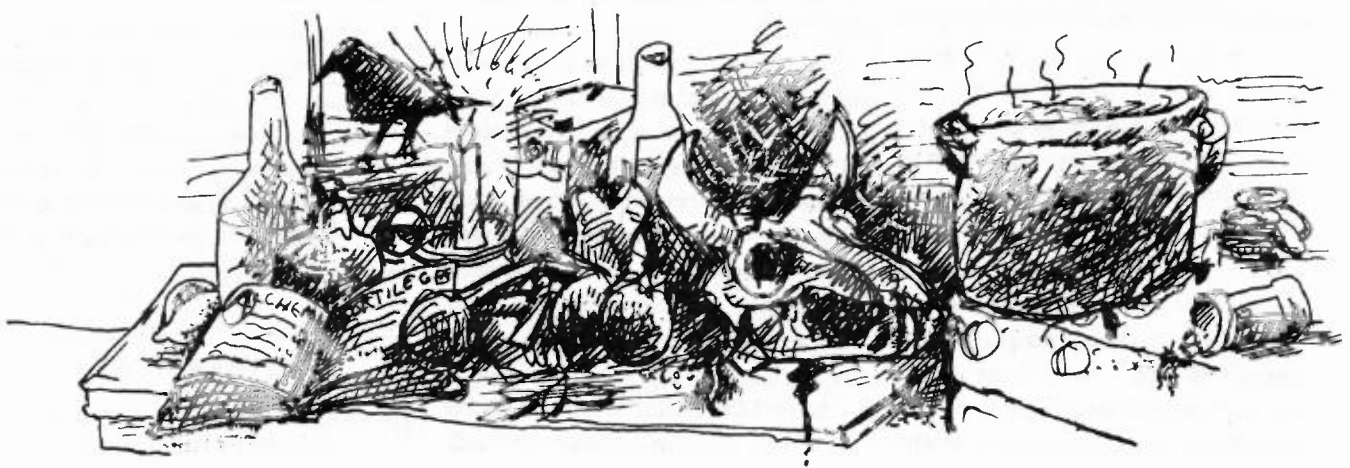
Preparation: Put away the food processor. This is one recipe where the hand is paramount. By hand, chop the onion and the green pepper, which you will need to core first. We don't want any of the little seeds getting into the pot. Get rid of the white membrane, too. Mince the garlic. In a large enough sauce pan, on medium heat, heat the olive oil (don't let it smoke) and cook the garlic, the onion and the green pepper until the onion becomes transparent, stirring with a wooden spoon the whole time (to keep the garlic from burning). Add the tomato sauce, the oregano, the cumin, the salt and pepper, the bay leaves, the wine and the lime juice. For your information, you have just made *sofrito*, which is the base of most Cuban cuisine. Wait five minutes and add the ground beef (if you got the good kind, you won't have to sear it to get rid of excess fat). Blend it in, cover the pan and cook for fifteen - twenty minutes at low heat. At this point add the raisins and the olives. Cook for ten minutes and add the cilantro, if you have been imaginative and decided to use it. After five - ten minutes, the *picadillo* should be ready.

To serve: Cook two cups of white, long grain rice. Don't use the abomination called Minute Rice. In some countries they feed that stuff to criminals as punishment. You can get rice at any store and the bag has directions. It takes a little longer but tastes infinitely better. Sure you just got home from work and the kids have Little League, but Little League is only a game, and you can't eat a baseball. If you must be Super-Yuppie, boil a weenie or two for dinner. See if I care.

For each person eating fry one egg. Sunny-side up or over easy is good. (I'll sing the song of choleste-roll!)

Serve a good portion of rice on each plate and on top of that spoon a complementary amount of the *picadillo*. Top with a fried egg.

I suggest a good loaf of bread. Pete Rossi makes the best in the state, I kid you not. If you really want to get down and Cuban, fried ripe plantain is a perfect accompaniment, as well as a good Rioja red. *Buen provecho*. Am I invited?



by Ron Filepp



Twisting The Night Away

By now, many have seen the summer movie "Twister." Not since Dorothy took a ride to Oz have tornadoes played such a notable role in a Hollywood picture. In the intervening years technology has advanced and a twisting nylon stocking just won't do when it comes to rendering a fictional tornado. Now computers generate the imaginary twisters.

Real tornadoes are not created on the landscape of micro chips. Oklahoma and Kansas offer the world's best conditions for the formation of the real thing. These states have more tornadoes per square mile than any other. The presence of strong vertical winds, a layer of warm humid surface air and an overlying layer of cooler dryer air create the unstable conditions that spawn severe thunderstorms that can create tornadoes. The United States sees about 100,000 thunderstorms each year. These storms produce about 1,000 tornadoes.

Severe thunderstorms are not uncommon to our area in the spring and summer. Sometimes these storms form the rapidly rotating winds blowing around a small area of intense low pressure known as tornadoes. In New Jersey, tornado watches have been issued a few times each year in the last few years.

On May 11 a tornado watch was in effect for our area from six until ten p.m. A line of thunderstorms passed through the area. I was in Long Branch and saw two funnel clouds starting to form at the base of the clouds. Fortu-

nately, these did not descend to the ground.

Most tornadoes in New Jersey do not last long, are not very wide and don't travel far. There are exceptions. The New Brunswick Tornado of June 19, 1835 left a path of death and destruction 17.5 miles long. The twister plowed through the center of town. It left five people dead and 500 buildings damaged. A tornado in 1941 left a seventy-five-mile path from Woodbury in Gloucester County to Woodbridge in Middlesex County.

A monster tornado's winds can stretch 60,000 feet from the ground into the sky, travel more than 200 miles with wind speeds up to 300 miles-per-hour. These huge twisters can measure a half mile wide. During a twenty-three-year period between 1953 and 1976 thirty-nine tornadoes were reported in New Jersey. During the same period there were nearly 3000 twisters in Texas, 1300 in Oklahoma and 1100 in Kansas. Exposure to many twisters in your home state can breed contempt.

A former colleague from Oklahoma once told me tornadoes were common where he grew up. Occasionally, he and his friends saw a twister coming their way while playing outside. They would jump in a ditch until it passed and then go back to their play. If possible, I would be getting down deeper than a ditch at the sight of a twister heading my way. A tornado in India on May 15 that killed 600 people reinforces that conservative approach.

In the United States the number of people killed by tornadoes annually has dropped since the 1950's when 142 people per year perished. Now the average yearly death toll in the US is 44 people. Better forecasting and warning systems are most certainly responsible for the decrease in deaths.

SPRINGING FROM WINTER TO SUMMER

It seems another year has brought another chilly spring to Roosevelt. March was cold with an average temperature about two degrees below normal. But, April was 2.5 degrees warmer than normal. Perhaps the perception of another chilly spring is the result of a cold March and the damp cloudy weather that has been with us through May 15.

This year we've had 11.55 inches of rain from March 1 through May 15. Typically we would have had only 9.41 inches of precipitation in that period. We had only 8.27 inches of rain in the entire three months of March, April and May last year. That's nearly 3 inches below normal.

This spring's chilly start and wet conditions brings to mind a proverb that may offer solace to gardeners: "Better late spring and bear (fruit) than early blossom and blast." Roosevelt ranchers may find less comfort in another proverb: "A late Spring is good for corn but not cattle."

WEATHER WORDS

"Xerophytes" are drought resistant plants.



APRIL 15 - MAY 15 1996

Day	High	Low	Average	Precip
15	58.0	32.0	45.0	0
16	62.0	50.5	56.3	1.40
17	54.0	38.0	46.0	.01
18	65.0	33.0	49.0	0
19	79.0	44.0	61.5	0
20	80.5	46.0	63.3	0
21	80.5	58.0	69.3	0
22	84.0	52.0	68.0	0
23	85.0	52.0	68.5	0
24	60.5	46.0	53.3	.35
25	76.0	46.5	61.3	0
26	79.5	56.0	67.8	0
27	60.0	52.0	56.0	.20
28	69.5	38.0	53.8	0
29	75.5	54.0	64.8	.09
30	78.0	58.0	68.0	.02
1	68.0	42.0	55.0	.45
2	64.0	46.0	55.0	0
3	63.5	50.0	56.8	.25
4	67.0	44.0	55.5	.15
5	73.0	54.0	63.5	0
6	59.0	40.0	49.5	.32
7	67.5	34.0	50.8	.07
8	63.5	48.0	55.8	.40
9	60.0	50.5	55.3	.20
10	74.5	51.0	62.8	.02
11	84.0	60.0	72.0	0
12	60.0	47.0	53.5	.75
13	64.0	40.0	52.0	0
14	64.5	32.0	48.3	0
15	71.5	43.0	57.3	0
	85.0 Highest	32.0 Lowest	57.9 Average	4.68 Total



**BE A GOOD
CITIZEN!
ATTEND
BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETINGS
THE SECOND
MONDAY
OF EACH MONTH.**

**THE BOROUGH OF
ROOSEVELT IS SEEKING TO
FILL THE POSITION OF
DOG CENSUS TAKER
FOR 1996.**

A door-to-door analysis of the Borough's dog population must be taken. The census shall include information concerning all dogs not licensed within the boundaries of the Borough of Roosevelt.

\$300.00 will be paid for this position after completion of the census which shall be submitted to the State of New Jersey by September 1, 1996.

Should you have any questions, please call the municipal office at 609-448-0539. The Borough of Roosevelt is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



The Garden of the Three Sisters of Life

Senior Citizen News

by Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

President Jeanette Koffler distributed the *Senior NewsLine* from the Monmouth Office on Aging at our meeting on May 8th. Sister Mary Simon is the Executive Director. This paper keeps us up to date about many events coming up and informs us about many programs and things important to seniors about Social Security, emergencies (storms, floods and power outages) as well as insurance (HMOs - managed care) etc. The paper is interesting and informative.

Jeanette told us she had attended a meeting at the Office on Aging where she heard the Director of Community and Government Relations speak of the PAA (Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled) benefits received from the casinos in Atlantic City.

Our last trip was to Rova Farm on May 21. After shopping for bargains at the flea market, we met for lunch at the restaurant there.

Until next month.

**TAKE IT
EASY!**

**The speed
limit
is still 25mph**

by Ann Goldman

Now that the students of the Roosevelt Public School have finished planting the Butterfly Garden, they will begin a new project thanks to the efforts of Rebecca Reuter and Gayle Donnelly to create a new garden called "The Three Sisters of Life." Based on a style of Native American agriculture, this project follows Ms. Ilene Levine's third grade study of plant growth and their unit on the Leni Lenape, and Algonquian tribes.

Corn, beans and squash were staple crops of Native Americans for thousands of years and were known as "The Three Sisters of Life." They were grown together in a specific way to ensure a successful harvest. The Wampanoags, also an Algonquian clan, believe that the Crow taught them to grow their food. He arrived bringing them a corn seed in his mouth, a bean seed in one ear and a squash seed in the other. Many rituals and ceremonies involve these crops including the new year which starts with the planting of the corn.

When the dogwood flowers turn from beige to white and the oak leaves are the size of mouse ears, the soil temperature is right for planting corn. A "hill" of soil was mounded over a single fish and six corn seeds were planted. Two to three weeks later three bean seeds were planted next to the finger high corn, followed by squash seeds. These hills were placed about three feet apart. The beans provided nitrogen for the corn, the corn provided poles for the climbing beans and the spiny vines of the squash provided protection from raccoons and deer. This symbiotic triangle was seen as "manitou" or magic.

The students will get a chance to help plant a "Three Sisters Garden" (using liquid fish emulsion instead of whole fish) this spring with some seeds kindly donated by Shepherd's Garden Seeds of Torrington, Connecticut. They will be planting "Baby Blue", and "Bo Peep" popcorn, winter squash including "Ponca Butternut" and birdhouse gourds, pole beans and sunflowers. In the center will stand a scarlet runner bean and hyacinth bean "tee pee" erected by the sixth grade class. All can view the garden through the summer and harvest will be in the fall. If "manitou" and the deer allow, join us for popcorn in September!

If you would like to invite the "Three Sisters" to your garden, contact Rebecca Reuter (426-1304) for some of the extra seeds or contact:

Shepherd's Garden Seeds
30 Irene Street
Torrington, CT 06790
Tel. #860-482-3638

OUR TOWN AT 60 DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

This column will be published throughout this anniversary year and we hope that many of you will make the sharing of our experiences and memories of living in Roosevelt worth retelling—Please send your entries to the Bulletin, P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Deadlines are the 15th of each month.

■ ROOSEVELT BEFORE JERSEY HOMESTEADS

by *Bernarda Shahn*

When Ben (Shahn) learned that the ephemeral idea of a fresco mural in the Jersey Homesteads Resettlement project, then under construction, was indeed an actuality or could at least be one, he was elated. It mattered little to him that he must agree to execute the work on his Resettlement salary, and that I, as his assistant, must also work on my Resettlement salary. The outstanding objective was the prospect of the mural itself, his long awaited opportunity to express his ideas as well as his art convictions in an actual fresco on an actual wall. The Government would pay for all materials, all other necessary labor - such as that of a fresco plasterer, a carpenter to build scaffolding and the structural lath-work that would be part of the mural, whatever accessory was necessary.

Ben decided to create the work around the lives, and the realities of the people themselves, those who would occupy this strange village, even at this time under construction.

While he was himself intimately familiar with the lives and the circumstances of this garment working population, he felt it a necessity to hear from them their own story and the almost incredible circumstance of their being able to occupy a town designed around their profession and - even more wonderfully - their

dreams and their way of life.

How could such a town take place, such a community? Who invented it? He must find out. We asked lots of questions.

There are, these days, many stories afloat concerning the origins of Jersey Homesteads - now Roosevelt. Some people attribute it all to Rexford Guy Tugwell who was indeed the originator of the Resettlement Administration in Washington and who was, in part, an originator - but, there are other views.

Some stories hold that Mr. Benjamin Brown, another great human being, and the one who found and, I think, arranged for the purchase of land for our town, was the actual founder of Roosevelt - but wait!

Alfred Kastner, the architect who designed the town, seldom gets credit even for the very inventive arrangements of the seven Bauhaus styles of structure that still, in part constitute Roosevelt, because through a natural process of attrition, the name of Louis Kahn, now a celebrated architect, but once Kastner's assistant, has absorbed credit for an enterprise in which he played, I think, a useful but fairly minor part. Still, his name is increasingly attached to the design of the town.

I've even heard that Dubinsky, then head of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, had a hand in the inception of our community. In truth, both he and Hillman, head of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union were actively opposed to the creation of this town despite all its intended security for workers engaged in the garment industry.

(I'll interrupt myself momentarily to tell a little story: in this regard:)

Dr. Einstein, (that is, Dr. Albert Einstein) who lived in nearby Princeton, became intensely interested in the nascent town of Jersey Homesteads. He believed in this undertaking and came here from time to time to the great delight of the citizens.

He heard, to his dismay that David Dubinsky, head of the powerful International Ladies Garment Workers Union, was adamantly opposed to the town, to its purposes, to its very existence. Dubinsky wanted no part of this.

Dr. Einstein, concerned, made an appointment, went to New York and had an interview with him hoping to persuade him of the high purpose of the town and its basic idea.

Dr. Einstein himself told of the



■ (cont. from pg. 13)

outcome of his interview: "We oppose anything that looks like a 'runaway shop'", Dubinsky said, "You may know all about physics, Dr. Einstein, but you don't know nothin' about the Garment Industry!"

There is another story concerning the beginnings of our town. Perhaps I'm wrong, I don't know, but it is the one that I like best, and I'm fairly sure that it is the right one. Here is how it goes:

There was a group of garment workers living in New York and employed in the several great manufacturing houses there. Among them there were all levels of expertise in that trade - there were pressers and cutters (I won't try to name the skills since I don't know them). But, among them were those truly distinguished workmen who knew every procedure, the experts who, I am told, were admiringly called by their fellows, "Mechanics."

They worked with skill and elegance, but they were almost without security - excepting only the strength and support of their union. They lived, to a great extent, on the lower East Side or in the less commodious sections of the City. For all their high degrees of skill, they hardly enjoyed the amenities that fairly well employed people have the right to expect. During the "off-season", they were without work and their living conditions were depressing.

They often discussed their plight, such as it was, and they began to talk about just how they would like to work, in what kind of factory - a co-operative? Where? Maybe in some rural place where they could garden in the off-season and enjoy life. This was all a dream, but it became more and more serious. Why not?

How many workers, how many families there were sharing this dream, I don't know. But, I do know

'We oppose anything that looks like a 'runaway shop' ", Dubinsky said, "You may know all about physics, Dr. Einstein, but you don't know nothin' about the Garment Industry!"

that each family saved five hundred dollars toward the realization of so unlikely a project.

Someone among the group either knew or had heard of Mr. Benjamin Brown (mentioned above), knew that Mr. Brown was or had been a creator of co-operative enterprises, knew that he lived somewhere in New Jersey.

They made contact with Mr. Brown who, having heard about the

many public-interest, public welfare projects that were being initiated by the Roosevelt Administration in Washington, assembled a small group of the garment workers and escorted them to Washington. There they met with Mr. Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior. They described their notion - something about a rural factory - individual houses, gardens, a school - a co-operative.

Mr. Ickes was delighted with all that he heard from that group of citizens. He reacted enthusiastically to the idea.

Mr. Ickes held onto the project for I don't know how long.

At about this time, a Columbia professor in, I guess, sociology, Dr. Rexford Guy Tugwell had been called to Washington to help the Government solve the problem of unemployment and poverty all over rural America. He became part of the noted - some say notorious - Brain Trust.

Dr. Tugwell, studying this desperate situation, believed that a partial solution to the problem of rural poverty would be the resettlement of farmers from the barren areas in which so many of them lived and sought to farm, onto farmlands in which the soil would be productive. He instituted the Resettlement Administration and set about creating rural villages - little towns centered within rich farmland, and there re-

settling the destitute farmers.

Thirty-five of such villages were planned, I don't know how many were actually built - I know of four or five: Arthurdale, West Virginia; Green Hills, Wisconsin; Westmoreland Farms, Pennsylvania; Prenderlea, South Carolina; and, Jersey Homesteads - rural, but not a farming community.

Secretary Ickes transferred the Jersey Homesteads project from his own Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture - to the Resettlement Administration - and so Jersey Homesteads began to become a reality - almost.

Before the architect Kastner was brought into the project that we now know as Roosevelt, New Jersey, that enterprise had undergone a few problems of its own:

I cannot be quite sure of the succession of bad turns that befell Jersey Homesteads at that time, but as to their nature, I think that I can give a pretty fair account.

The First: an architect named Tom Hibben was employed to realize this project, to bring it into physical being. He was a forward looking individual in his profession and was innovative.

He was interested in the architectural phenomenon known as the "tamped earth" type of construction; he planned to realize this method in the town that he had been hired to build.

I don't know who quashed that project, or whether or how much Tom Hibben was ever paid. In any case the plan was dropped.

That was followed by a project, suggested by someone, to build pre-

fabricated houses and a quite huge factory was constructed along the Clarksburg Road just at the edge of town. That monstrous structure stood there for a number of years, but at last was quietly and to everybody's relief, demolished. No prefab houses had been built.

It was said - it was whispered about - that the contractor engaged to execute this latter project had made off with something like 4,000,000.00 worth of supplies.

Dr. Tugwell called Alfred Kastner into his office. "Here is the project", he said - or something like that. "This is what's happened: There's so much money left. Do you think you can do something with that? Do you, Kastner, want to undertake it?"

Kastner, eager to create a town according to his own beliefs, his own devising, did want to undertake it. He was, as Ben and I were, an employee of the Resettlement Administration. He went to work; designed first the layout of the town, that is, a central road as we know it, circled by an O-shaped road. All this surrounding 40 acres of trees, triangles, tangent roads - every thoroughfare surrounding and surrounded by trees, every house oriented toward the sun during some part of the day. Ben and I, interested in this project, often visited Kastner's office, saw the houses taking shape, discussed it all with Kastner and with Kahn. Kastner said to Ben, as I've noted before, "Ben, you want to do a fresco. Why don't you do it in my town?"

This is how, in my faulty recollections, Roosevelt, New Jersey came to be. As to the mural,more to come.

WATCH YOURSELF

The speed limit on most streets in Roosevelt is 25 MPH, on School Lane it is 15 MPH. Please be aware of your vehicle's speed. Our neighbors are very important to us.



RECYCLING DATES

**June 12,
& 26th**

■ The Fox - A Memory

by Peter Warren

In the spring of 1943, I learned my first lesson about the war.

I was an ambulance driver on leave, riding back to my post in the back of a British Army truck crossing the Syrian Desert between Deir e-Zor on the Euphrates River and the little airport at Palmyra where I was stationed, hundreds of miles from any battle. The ground was covered with spring flowers after the rains.

We made a rest stop. One of the men searched the horizon with his binoculars. There was nothing much to see. Except a fox, almost out of sight, perhaps 400 yards away. The soldier raised his rifle and fired. He killed the fox.

This, I said to myself, is the war. You are alive one moment-then you are dead and don't even know it happened.

That night in our mess we celebrated the collapse of the Mareth Line in far-away Tunisia where soldiers were being killed. We, ourselves, were in a backwater of the war with the French camel corps guarding a pumping station on the oil pipe line running from Iraq to the Mediterranean coast. We had never seen anyone killed, let alone a battle.

At midnight, we were called to carry a patient to Damascus. An accidental gunshot wound. It was my turn to drive because I had been on leave. The patient was a Syrian *Spahi*. A French medical orderly was with him. Wally Moore went as my spare driver. Damascus was one hundred and forty miles away. The road was no more than tire tracks

across the desert until it came to the North South road between Damascus and Aleppo. We would get to the hospital by dawn.

Wally offered to drive first. He said he knew a better route, heading North-West toward Hama rather than along the usual track. He would drive first. We headed into the night.

I gradually realized that he had drunk too much at the celebration. He babbled. The car swerved from side to side. Finally I turned off the ignition key. Wally opened his ambulance door and stalked off into the night, muttering to himself, I imagined the worst; the patient dying because we were lost, Wally vanishing in the darkness. The orderly and I raced after him. He muttered that he didn't want to ride in the ambulance. He wanted to stay there. He swung drunkenly at me. I swung back and knocked him out cold.

"Bravo pour le uppercut!" exclaimed the orderly admiringly. Reaching over Wally's prone body, he shook my hand in congratulation. Together, we dragged Wally to the ambulance and put him on a stretcher next to the *Spahi*.

I knew the orderly. He was usually drunk by noon. We were talking one day when he suddenly pulled out a knife and said "You look like *Boche* to me!" I probably did. I was blond, wore a crew-cut and spoke French with an accent. I jumped nimbly onto a table and reasoned with him.

That wasn't a fox day for me.

This might have been a fox night now.

It was starry. The stars told me how far off course we were, but we would have become even more lost by turning back. I drove westward. The road turned into a seemingly endless series of steps. Then we came to a village where all the houses looked like giant beehives. And when I had given up hope of ever getting out of the nightmare, dawn broke, we came to the paved road and turned south on it. Wally slept peacefully.

The patient arrived safely at the hospital in Damascus.

When Wally woke up, he remembered nothing about the night.

As the months passed, we went from Syria to Libya and then to Italy where one ambulance driver was wounded or killed every week. After a year, I fell sick with hepatitis and went home to recover. As soon as the ship left Naples, I felt well. We landed in Hoboken. On the train from New York to Princeton a girl sat next to me. She remarked how sorry she was for the boys overseas. "Oh, it wasn't so bad" I said. I mean the German boys," she said, and invited me to join a discussion group in New Brunswick.

At the Garden theater in Princeton, a newsreel with sound track turned up showed the Adriatic front in Italy. The newsreel didn't show an ambulance on a mountain path, driving at night with its lights



out. I saw a friend at the Belle Meade army depot. His responsibility was to chaperone Italian prisoners who had weekend passes to visit their pretty cousins in Brooklyn. The local paper wrote about my courage at the Battle of Belfort - fine, except that I was home when it was fought.

I went back to the war as soon as I could get a ship. There was a young man who had just become an ambulance driver. He told me about a sweetheart with the strange name of Eve Elo. He was sure he would be killed.

"Then why did you join, when you didn't have to?"

We were all a little drunk on Christmas Eve. Someone started telling fortunes by reading palms. He was right about mine, although it took me fifteen years to find out that he was right.

He looked at the young man's palm. "You won't be going home..." and then stopped, realizing too late what he had said. The young man was killed by a truck a few weeks later.

After the war, I was in the city where Eve Elo lived. I called her to tell her about him.

"I never knew anyone by that name," she said.

THE 4TH OF JULY IS COMING!

by Ellen Silverman

Plans are really cooking for the July 4th/60th Anniversary Celebration. In the parade, the Brownies will have a float and the Cub Scouts will be marching.

A plaque with the names of the first settlers of Jersey Homesteads, now Roosevelt, New Jersey will be dedicated in the school lobby. Also, in the lobby of the school there will be reruns of that famous show, Roosevelt TV.

But, is this enough? Of course not. Come on Roosevelt! We need your help to plan the really best celebration ever. Come to the next planning meeting for the July 4th/60th Anniversary Celebration, the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall.



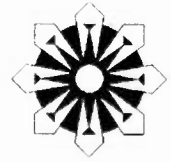
ATTENTION CONCERNED ROOSEVELT RESIDENTS:

The Roosevelt Nursery School and After-School programs have run out of funds, and are in danger of closing. Both programs need financial help and people to volunteer in order to survive. All contributions are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to...RCNS, P.O. Box 153, Roosevelt.

Also, the nursery school, which has been in operation for twelve years, will be forced to close its doors next year if they do not have an enrollment of twenty students. Please spread the word and encourage anyone with a pre-school age child to enroll. Call 426-9523 for more information.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

by Mary Alfare



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FAMILIES OF:

* * Christopher Louis Rossi, born March 19 to Colleen and Peter Rossi, Jr., and big brothers Peter (age 10), Daniel (7) and Nicholas (5). The proud grandparents are Peter and Carol Rossi of Tuckerton and Audrey and Louis Conover of Hamilton.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Cassie Hatzfeld, 8th grader at Kreps Middle School, who won first prize at two levels in the Youth Essay Contest sponsored by the Mercer County VFW 18th District. Cassie's essay *My American Hero* on Harriet Tubman took first place at Kreps and in the 18th District and is printed in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

John Rindt III, age 10, of South Rochdale, who placed First in the State in his division; 4th Gup (advanced age group 9, 10, & 11) in Sparring, and 5th in State Forms at the AAU Karate Tournament in Pequannock, NJ, on April 21. John also won the second Place Trophy for his division, 4th GUP (advanced age group 10 & 11) in Sparring on May 5 in the BKG Invitational Karate Classic (Beikoku Karate Do-Goyukai), held at Brookdale Community College.

Karen Lynne Johnson, daughter of Carl & Beth Johnson of Pine Drive, graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. in Psychology from Rowan College on May 17. In addition to being on the Dean's List at Rowan, she is a member of Alpha Mu Gamma, The National Honor Society in Foreign Language, and of Psi Chi, The National Honor Society in Psychology. Ms Johnson plans to attend graduate school.

Jacob Landau who received an Honorary Doctor of Arts from Monmouth University in West Long Branch on May 10.

Tina Vasseur, age 10, of Pine Drive who danced with a troupe from JoAnns Dance school at Peddie School on May 25th as part of Hightstown's 275th Anniversary Celebration.

Steven Johnson, of Alexandria, Virginia, who completed 26.2 miles in 3 1/2 hours in the 100th Anniversary

Boston Marathon on April 15. Present to cheer on their son, Steven, were Herb & Flo Johnson of North Valley Road with their grandson, William Edelstein of Homestead Lane.

FOND FAREWELL TO:

Norma Kushner, former 31 year resident of Homestead Lane, who died April 19 at the age of 98. Her volunteer work included serving as treasurer for the *Borough Bulletin*, school library volunteer, sang with the Roosevelt Choral Group and founding member of the Committee for Nuclear Disarmament.

Bernard Klein, long time resident of Farm Lane, died May 6 at the age of 79. His wife, Marie, extends her thanks to her friends and neighbors for their expressions of sympathy.

Condolences to their families 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.

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 and other items have been left at the Post Office and can be claimed during regular business hours.

FROM RPS:

Graduating on June 22: Jason Cokeley; Shawn Conover; William Edelstein; Alissa Gates; Brandon Lugannani; Matthew Marko; Alicia Moore; Josue Ortiz; Molly Petrilla; Haley Reibold; Christine Rocchia; Lauren Sabogal; and, Sarah Skillman.

• **All residents are invited to attend the graduation at 5 p.m. at the Roosevelt Memorial, and join in sharing the refreshments in the RPS lobby immediately following.**

Honor Roll - 3rd Marking Period:

Grade 3: Sara Allen; Ina Clark; Anthony Grasso; Laurel

Hamilton; Keith Hatzfeld; Jennifer Iacona; Meredith Lawson; Mollie Marko; Josh Nulman; Danielle Petrics; Zev Reuter; Eric Skye; and, Elizabeth Stinson.

Grade 4: Avery Axel; Lian Garton; Deirdre Lloyd; Lindsay Possiel; Joe Rocchia; Peter Rossi; and, Tina Vasseur.

Grade 5: Derek Bosman; Jimmy Carroll; Jessica Drewitz; Katy Hamilton; Leah Howse; George Jackson; Wesley John-Alder; Nathaniel Kostar; Jeff Possiel; Jamison Parker; John Rindt; Christina Septak; Christopher Wong; and, Shiri Yeger.

Grade 6: William Edelstein; Brandon Lugannani; Alicia Moore; Molly Petrilla; Haley Reimbold; Christine Rocchia; and, Sarah Skillman.

Students of the Month (April) for Health & Physical Education: Health: Julia Grayson; Larry Van Brunt; Daniel Rossi; Rachel Orlen; Heather Cordo; Mollie Marko; Keith Hatzfeld; Peter Rossi; Jimmy Carroll; George Jackson; Jessica Wolfe; Sarah Skillman; and, Alicia Moore.

P.E.: Mathew Stinson; Leah Skye; Lauralee Ward; Ryan Grasso; Reuben Alt; Eric Skye; Sara Allen; Avery Axel; Nathaniel Kostar; Christina Septak; Jason Cokeley; and, Haley Reimbold.

Special Awards: Samantha Mateyka won third place in the Mission Kindness Statewide Children's Fine Arts Competition.

Sarah Skillman received the Dr. Norman J. Field Student Recognition Award sponsored by the Monmouth County School Boards Association.

FROM HIGHTSTOWN HIGH:

SECOND MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL:

High Honors List: Kathleen Alfare; Shoshanna Grunwald; Jessica Hamilton; Rachel Ticktin; and, Meira Yeger.

Honor Roll: Avery Cayne; Jack Cummings; James Edelstein; Jessica Hague; Stefanie Miller; Eric Nachtman; Rebecca Ord; and, Susan Skillman.

** The birth announcement of Christopher Louis Rossi has been reprinted correctly in this issue due to an error last month. (Sorry Daniel)

To have items included in this column call Mary Alfare at 443-4243 or mail to Box 58, 08555. Please include contact name & phone number.

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO ATTEND
THE FIFTY-NINTH
ANNUAL
COMMENCEMENT
EXERCISES
of the Roosevelt Public School,
Roosevelt, NJ on Saturday
Evening, June 22, 1996
at five o'clock**

**Celebrate Roosevelt's
60th Anniversary
at the school
on Friday, June 14 th.
Each grade will be
working on a social
studies activity
that will highlight some
aspect of
Roosevelt life...both
past and present.
Activities will take
place all day.
Everyone is invited!**

■ ANOTHER RAP EVENT:

The Roosevelt Arts Project event on May 4th included poetry readings by several of our town's talented poets as well as music played by Anita Cervantes and Brad Garton. In lieu of a review, we herewith offer some of the poems.

Unfortunately, we cannot reproduce the beautiful music which was an appropriate counterpart to the poetic muse.

CUSTOMS

Tonight above the sea the night
holds a plane, like your hair its streak of gray.

The airplane was an eager bed
holding me in its outspread wings.

They asked if I had anything to declare.
I admitted you
that I carried you with me
like a bird holds to the stars unerringly home.

Their machines saw right through me,
your profile flickering on the screen.

And they did not recognize my passport picture
because the nights away from you
have accumulated like tocsin
still blank bristles break out on my face.

Tonight takes a whole day
to fly to you,
and when your arms hold me
I have alighted before I lift at last.

by David Herrstrom

PRECIPITATE

I'm the only animal
admiring the sunset

the snow is a crust
on the forest floor

I'm riding the edge
of something wild
at this cold hour

earlier I went through
the ice with both feet
managed to get back

to change frozen socks
and shoes

now I'm on another trail
moving deliberately
as if I'd lost my way

expecting to see the cottage
where an old woman lives
her sons are robbers

even though she'll warn me
I'll stay the night
and in the morning
I'll have been changed
into a mouse —

I see a tiny light in the distance

this could be it!

by Wieslaw Czyzewski

WHAT STRAWBERRIES ARE

If anyone could say what strawberries are, Mary Jane could,
but she isn't with us to taste them this year.
She liked to go the morning the pick—your—own opened,
to be in the field when the mist rose from the big, pointy leaves,
and the bright berries seemed to bounce
perfect and huge to their straw bed.
Over six feet, with a bad hip, Mary Jane had a greed
made her able to pick quarts and quarts.
Surrounded by acres of them, we want to know, do they all
taste the same? And can we say what they *are*
without saying what other things are:
say the shape and the flush, the follicular skin,
without bringing in sex of the human variety,
looming in everything since Homo sapiens
first realized she was here in the snare of her body.
The straw mulch is faded, grey as the sand
and a whiff like the ocean of our nameless cravings.
Here we are, aching for what we already have.
Look at Mary Jane, whose seafaring husband began to drown
in Alzheimer's while they were young: life
nonetheless became this feeling of being somewhere.
While we squat among rows planted with chamomile
tangled white and yellow in a foliage of threads,
we are where beauty by accident rules. The red of berries
gleams, and when we push the leaves back
dozens are catching the afternoon sun.
Their skin is sheer depth and a surface all pits.
They bulge from their stems and slope to points,
each ripe one too big to put whole in our mouths.
Cut them and all the way through they are that red.
It has no name but their own. And we, though still subject to our
old hungers, have come where we really are.
Mary Jane gave us jam we won't taste again;
the slices suspend in dark syrup with her name on the jar.
Strawberries are berries found on the straw. We can say
there is nothing else like them.

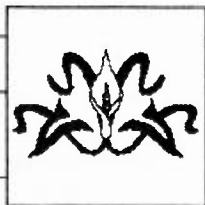
by Dina Coe

PLEASE NOTE:

Our next issue at the beginning of July will be the last of this 1995-96 publication year at which time we will begin our annual Fund Drive to match the generous grant we have received from the Herman Goldman Foundation before resuming at the beginning of October.

Of course, we hope you are interested enough in The Bulletin to make a financial contribution, but you can demonstrate your interest in other ways as well. We welcome letters or articles. Let us know how you feel about what's happening in your town. Why not share some of your thoughts and/or experiences with your fellow townspeople. We will be happy to publish them.

**Remember,
contributions to
the Bulletin are appreciated
and are tax deductible.**



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**The Speed Limit
is still 25mph**



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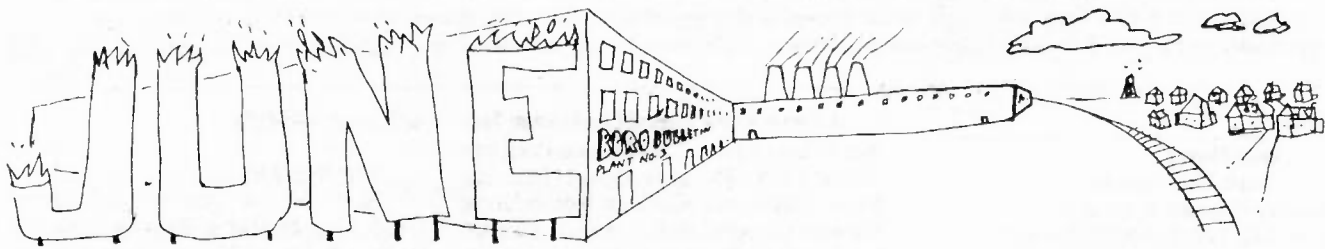
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Mayor Lee Allen presides at all Council mtgs. and can be reached at 448-6978.**

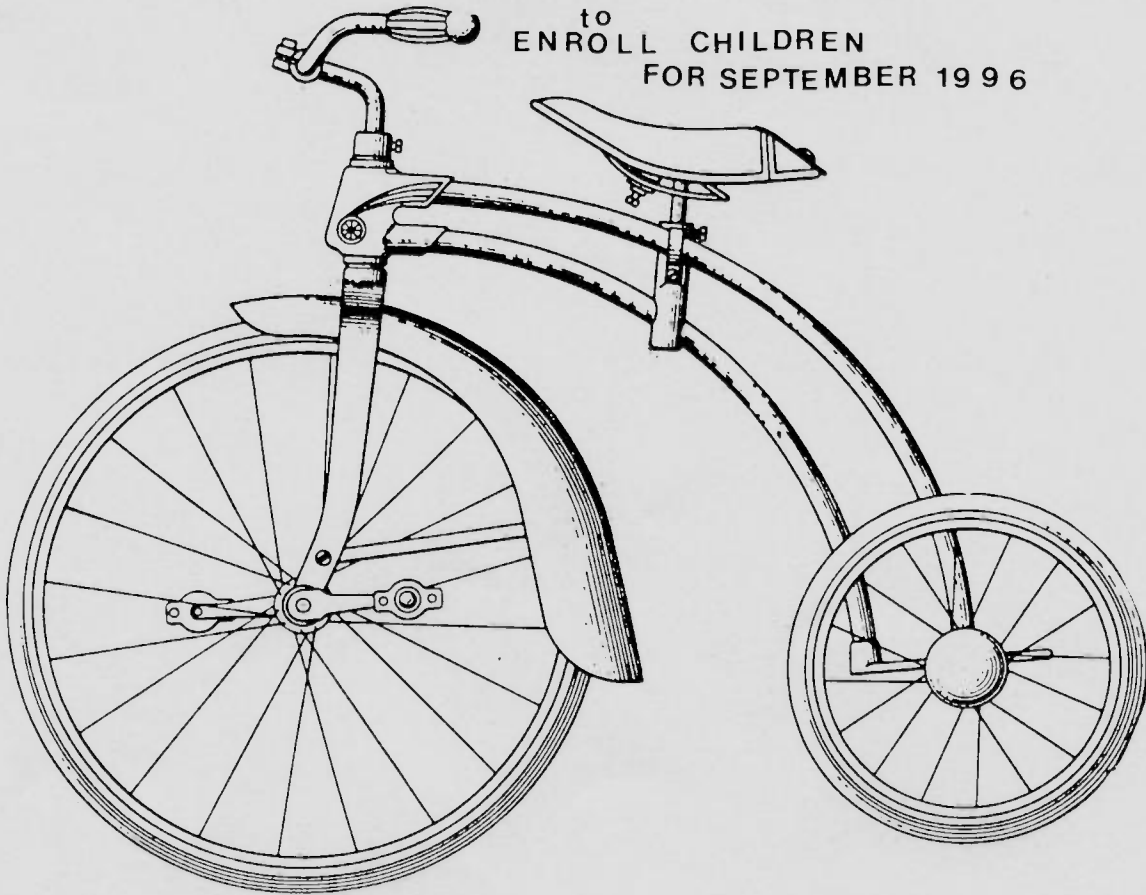
Mon. 6/3	7:30 p.m. Council Agenda meeting - Borough Hall - Lee Allen, Mayor - 448-6978	Tues. 6/18	6:00 p.m. Roosevelt Community TV - Cable CH 8
Tues. 6/4	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Primary Elections - Borough Hall - 448-0539	Wed. 6/19	Early Dismissal for RPS Field Day - RPS - 448-2798
	6:00 p.m. Roosevelt Community TV - Cable CH 8	Thurs. 6/20	Early Dismissal for RPS Field Day Rain Date - RPS - 448-2798
	7:30 p.m. First Aid Squad - Borough Hall	Fri. 6/21	Early Dismissal for RPS 9:30 a.m. RPS Awards Program - 448-2798
Wed. 6/5	8:00 p.m. Environmental Commission - Bor- ough Hall - John Towle, Chair - 490-0692	Sat. 6/22	5:00 p.m. RPS Graduation - 448-2798
Sun. 6/9	8:00 a.m. Stream Watch (volunteer water testing) - Kirk Rothfuss - 448-3713	Mon. 6/24	7:30 p.m. - Council Committee Meet- ings - Borough Hall - Lee Allen, Mayor - 448-6978
Mon. 6/10	7:30 p.m. Council Action Meeting - Borough Hall - Lee Allen, Mayor - 448-6978	Tues. 6/25	6:00 p.m. Roosevelt Community TV - Cable Ch 8
Tues. 6/11	1:00 p.m. Blood Pressure Check - Borough Hall	Wed. 6/26	Recycling
	2:00 p.m. Roosevelt Senior Citizens - Borough Hall - Jeanette Koffler, President - 448-2259	Thurs. 6/27	7:30 p.m. Board of Education Action Meetingin -RPS-Mike Hamilton, President - 443-5227
	6:00 p.m. Roosevelt Community TV - Cable CH 8		
Wed. 6/12	Recycling 8:00 p.m. Planning Board Meeting - Bor- ough Hall - Gail Hunton, Chair - 426-4338		
Thurs. 6/13	7:30 p.m. Board of Education Agenda Meeting - RPS - Mike Hamilton, President - 443-5227		
Fri. 6/14	Flag Day		
Sun. 6/16	Father's Day		
Mon. 6/17	7:30 p.m. Council Committee Meetings - Borough Hall - Lee Allen, Mayor -448-6978		
	8:00 p.m. Synagogue Board Meeting - Michael Tickin - 448-0363		

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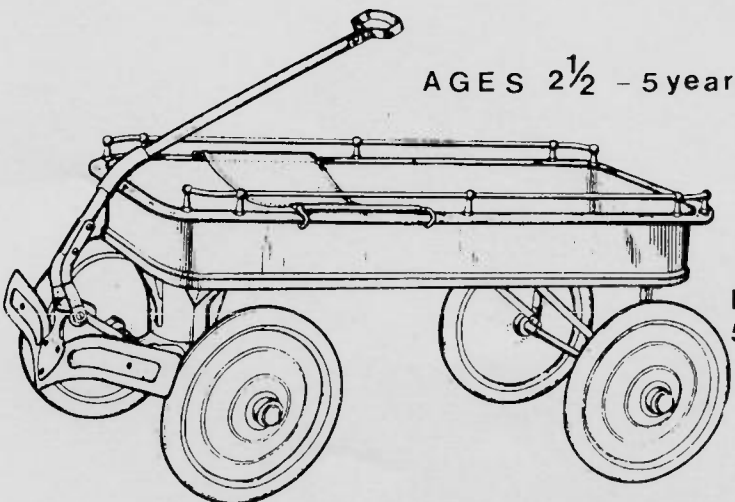
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