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■ BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Council Addresses Housing Code Violations:

by Herb Johnson

The Roosevelt Borough Council took actions at the Regular Meeting on October 14 to serve people who reside in rented houses in Roosevelt. It introduced Ordinance 89-1 to amend two ordinances related to (1) the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy (C.O.) and (2) the housing code used by the Borough. It also passed a motion to issue a violations notice and a summons for property owner Glenda Unger to appear in Municipal Court to answer charges that she violated the housing code by renting her house at 6 Farm Lane without a certificate of occupancy.

Councilman George Vasseur agreed to sign the complaint and contact the homeowner who, he said, resides in Lakewood, New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Armond Sylvester attended the meeting to explain that they are the new residents at 6 Farm Lane. They told the Council that the furnace is not operable and that a new one has been placed outside the front door but was not installed as promised.

A matter related to this that led to the Council's action was that the owner had apparently not applied for a C.O. inspection before renting. A \$30 fee is required for a C.O. Mr. Sylvester's wife, Marcia, had a related complaint. She had gone to the Borough Hall the week before to appeal to Robert Jordan the Housing Inspector, to give the house a C.O. inspection, because she was without any furnace to heat the house. She said she was shocked at Mr. Jordan's belittling her and laughing at her after which the State Construction official, Mano Lal, told her, "No one here is responsible for granting your request." Mayor Lee Allen said he would follow up on that and another

(cont. on pg. 10)

Important Decisions To Be Made: ELECTION DAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1996

Be sure to mark your calendar that November 5th is the day when you must be sure to go to the polls and vote. Among the important decisions you will be making are:

- Who will be the next President?
- Who will be the next Senator from New Jersey?
- Who will be the two new Council members?
- Which do you think is the right kind of development for Roosevelt?

BE A GOOD CITIZEN -
EXERCISE THE RIGHT AND
PRIVILEGE OF EVERY UNITED
STATES CITIZEN!

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■ Announcements

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

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW CLASSES OFFERED
CONGREGATION ANSHEI ROOSEVELT will be sponsoring weekly classes for adults in conversational Hebrew. There is no charge other than the cost of books. The first class will be on November 12 at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to participate. For more information call Shlomo Weiss at 426-4238.

FIRST AID SQUAD HITS JACKPOT WITH BLACK GOLD.
Does your garden need that extra boost? Try compost! Quality composted horse manure is a rich, natural, odor-free soil amendment which:

- *Improves soil quality and texture
- *Helps soil retain moisture, reducing erosion
- *Makes nutrients more readily available to plants
- *Contains minerals important to plant growth
- *Speeds up leaf composting

For a \$25 donation to the First Aid Squad we will deliver a dump truck load of manure. Call today to schedule delivery, 448-5745, Gayle Donnelly.

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by Bob Clark

Referendum Information Package Approved

At its October 9 meeting, aware that during a non-binding referendum on November 5th Roosevelt's voters will advise the Council of their desires regarding the development of 500 acres of farmland in the northern part of the Borough, the Planning Board approved the distribution of an information package to each household. Expressing a yes/no preference on each of five development options, referendum voters may persuade the Council to adopt zoning requirements that could determine the essential character of Roosevelt for the rest of its existence.

After laboring for five years on a proposed planned community development ordinance (PCD II) to govern development in the northern 500 acres, the Planning Board saw its suggestion bog down in the Council for the last year. Some Council members continue to question whether anyone would be willing to develop the land in keeping with the proposed ordinance's requirements. Rooseveltians would welcome reductions in the extremely high property tax rate and water/sewer utility fee; however, many would not want financial relief at the expense of Roosevelt's bucolic surroundings and familiar community character. They also are not sure whether, or to what extent, each development alternative would improve or worsen Borough finances.

The Planning Board unanimously approved (with David Leff absent) a cover letter, a PCD II background sheet, and a flyer comparing the impacts of each referendum option. The Board revised documents drafted by Consultant Alan Mallach in consultation with Chairwoman Gail Hunton. The referendum development options are: (1) PCD II, (2) conventional small lot, (3) retirement community, (4) current zoning (mostly 10-acre residential), and (5) conventional large lot. The

flyer will provide the Board's general predictions of the expected impacts of each option on: (1) local services and taxes, (2) community character and environment, (3) utility service and sewer/water fee, and (4) schools.

Mr. Mallach said the draft was written to be objective. Ms. Hunton noted that the Board discarded some of the referendum's options years ago. The Council's representative on the Planning Board, Jeffrey Hunt, said PCD II is the Board's preference, but Mayor Lee Allen, also a member of the Board, retorted, "I have a serious problem with that."

Ms. Hunton noted that PCD-style developments have "happened up and down the East Coast." Mr. Hunt said, "Viability for developers is not my main concern. My main concern has to do with planning our community."

Noting that the PCD II option "stands out as the shining star," Board member Joseph Zahora wondered whether it would "ever get built." Mr. Zahora said, "Expand[ing] Roosevelt as we know it is my preference," but he also expressed concern that the impact flyer would not address the economic viability of the options. Mayor Allen said, "There is a perception in the town that we are legislating things that will never happen." Ms. Hunton replied, "You sometimes have to go out and make things happen."

Mr. Mallach said the Borough could try to find developers willing to try the PCD-type of development. He added that town officials could become involved in the process of assembling parcels of land to make the PCD II option succeed. He noted that the Trust for Public Land might decide to assist the process. Board member and Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin said, "We think [PCD II] development has a possibility of coming to pass. ... Let others say why they think [that] is preposterous or why other things might be more likely to happen." Ms. Hunton noted that PCD-style developments have "happened up and down the East Coast."

(Continued on page 22)

■ LETTER FROM THE CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

by William Presutti

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to welcome our newest member to the Board of Education - Ellen Silverman. Ellen will fill the seat vacated by Jim Hatzfeld. **WELCOME ELLEN!!**

As I sit to write this letter, the new playground at the school has been installed. The children are so excited and can't wait to use it. It is a great addition to the community and will provide many hours of "healthy activity" to the children of Roosevelt. An "official dedication" will be scheduled shortly.

The school's annual Thanksgiving Assembly will be held Wednesday, November 27, 1996 at 10:30 a.m. in the school gym. Please plan to attend. Prior to the assembly, the

third grade will be making a presentation in the computer lab. A detailed schedule will be posted on the bulletin board as the event draws nearer. I look forward to seeing you.

Ilene Levine, our third grade teacher, will be making a presentation at the New Jersey School Boards Convention on Thursday, October 24, 1996, on the Lenape curriculum she has developed for our third grade.

At the October 10, 1996 Board of Education meeting, the Board passed an updated facilities use policy which included guidelines for the community to use the computer lab in the school. The procedures that are now in place will ensure that the computer lab is used in a safe manner.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS:

1. The computer lab may only be used under the direct supervision of a "qualified operator" who must be present in the lab at all times.

2. All users must register with the school by completing a facilities use form.

At this time, I am looking for volunteers to be "qualified operators" so we can open the lab to the community. Volunteers should have a working knowledge of computers (MACs if possible) and be able to do basic troubleshooting and help those who use the lab. If anyone is interested, please call me at the school (448-2798).

Enjoy this great autumn weather.

■ Nursery School News

by Marsha Agress, Head Teacher

All of the students have adjusted nicely to school. Old friendships have been renewed, and new friendships made. We currently have openings for our class, so please give us a call at 609-426-9523, and come visit us if you have a child between the ages of 2 1/2 and 5. We guarantee a very special nursery school experience.

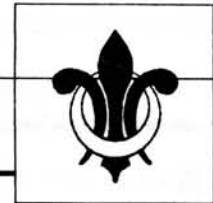
Many "fun" projects are planned for November. A big focus this

month will be to learn about Thanksgiving past and present. The children will cut, paste, color and paint turkeys, cornucopias, scarecrows, placemats, Indian canoes, Indian headdresses and Pilgrim hats. For Election Day, the children will "vote" for snack. This way, they will participate in the voting process first hand. We will read stories about Thanksgiving, as well as learn some songs about Pilgrims and In-

dians. We will talk about all the things we have to be thankful for.

All of us at RCNS wish everyone a healthy, happy Thanksgiving.





by Ellen Silverman

Well, last month I talked about where all that money that the PTA collects went during the last school year. This month I will clue you in on where it all came from. Last year's Fall Fundraiser brought in \$899.47. Wow, that is a lot of wrapping paper! The Annual Book Fair's profit was \$367.98, the Spaghetti Dinner \$399.85, School Pictures \$51.25 and the Holiday Gift Shop \$217.29. The Winter Carnival brought in \$1,039.00, Tupperware \$135.68 and the Art Auction \$1,702.00. Flower sale for Valentines \$94.25, Avon \$223.68, Bio-Mat and Bulb Sale \$617.45, Photo Buttons \$155.00 and the Town Wide Yard Sale \$338.00. As you can see, the PTA did a lot and all because of their loyal volunteers.

October 1st was Back to School Night and the PTA was there. Thanks to all who baked for the occasion. Thanks also goes to Joanne Parker and her crew for the Book Fair. The Spaghetti Dinner was a success, thanks to Diana Moore and her crew.

Clear the decks, it is November and the PTA is still going strong! You will be seeing a flier to update the Roosevelt Phone Book. Please take the time to fill out this form and

return it to the PTA. For those of you who are considering buying an advertisement in the phone book, it is not only a donation to the PTA but a good business buy. The phone book has been in circulation for two years and many Rooseveltians really do want to give their neighbors their business when possible. If you have a business, this is a great place to let your neighbors know you are in business. If you know of someone who does business in Roosevelt, they also can benefit from an ad in the Roosevelt Phone Book. Please ask them to help the PTA and help get the word out about their business by taking an advertisement in the Phone Book. If you need extra forms for Phone Book Advertisements, please call Ellen Silverman, 490-0557.

National Education Week is November 12th. to the 18th.

Holiday Gift Fair will be December 2nd and 3rd and also in December there will be a Cookie Exchange just in time for that busy holiday season. If you are interested in the Cookie Exchange call Ellen Silverman at 490-0557.

From The R.P.S. Art Room

by Rita Williams, R.P.S. Art Teacher

It is with great pleasure that I begin writing for the *Bulletin* to share with you each month the many exciting things that are happening in our wonderful R.P.S. art room. This month I will spotlight our activities in the upper elementary grades of five and six.

I am reminded of a scene in Alice in Wonderland that relates to our fifth and sixth graders. The Caterpillar asks Alice "...and who are you?" Alice answers, "I hardly know, Sir, just at present - at least I know who I was when I got up this morning, but I think I must have changed several times since then."

I enjoy the changing that fifth and sixth graders do as they express opinions, think, experiment and develop artistic styles. They are in motion constantly - pleading for help one moment and wanting to be left alone to be independent the next. They are very capable of high level technical skills as well as very, very creative ideas. However, it is not always "cool" to create personally expressive works of art at this age. I take advantage of our ever changing fifth and sixth graders' moods by providing them with a wide variety of projects that keep them challenged, interested, busy and creative.

Our ideal small class size and personal class atmosphere in the art

(cont. on next page)

BE A GOOD CITIZEN!

ATTEND BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETINGS THE SECOND
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.



(Art... cont. from page 5)

room make it possible for me to know each student well and motivate them with a personal touch. The art room has a small, movable bulletin board where I leave students confidential messages about their work to read, and students may write me confidential messages. This allows us to communicate quietly and is a good tool for motivating students.

During October fifth grade students are creating an ancient Egyptian sarcophagus using cardboard and papier mache' techniques. We looked at pictures of King Tut's tomb as well as hieroglyphs. Students will use gold tempera paint to decorate their projects. We talked about the use of ancient Egyptian themes in fictional writings and in the movies during this Halloween season and we enjoyed imagining our own mummy stories. Students could use the art history corner of the room to research using many books and magazines for ideas. Students seemed to enjoy creating something Egyptian.

Fifth graders also enjoyed working on linoleum printing blocks with a Halloween theme. They had learned the basic technique in the fourth grade and now were given a

larger lino block and were expected to show more of an understanding of negative and positive space. The students not only created some excellent designs, but the resulting prints were of a very high quality.

Sixth grade artists began to experiment with various styles of calligraphy using calligraphic markers. They learned about Medieval illuminations and created some very beautiful and detailed letters embellished with gold. Signs proclaiming "Happy Halloween" were made and decorated with personal holiday favorites. A study of Victorian architecture and drawings of haunted houses encouraged some students to show imagination and architectural drawing skills. Students will delve into nature drawings using crowquill pens and India ink and lots and lots of detail as we learn to observe even the tiniest details on leaves, shells, insect pine cones, etc.

Fifth and sixth graders are scheduled for art once per week for about 45 minutes. Many of these students work on art projects during their lunch and recess on the Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays that I am at school. Their enthusiasm is wonderful!

There are always many displays of student art work up in our halls at

Roosevelt Public School. I am looking forward to the day that we can purchase movable bulletin boards to turn our lobby into the Roosevelt Art Gallery. Everyone is welcome to come and see what is going on. Our exhibits are constantly changing.

We always welcome visitors and volunteers in the art room. Ben Howse, a RPS graduate and now a student at Hightstown High School taught sixth graders how to make cartoons one afternoon in the after school Studio. Mrs. Ellen Silverman is a ready volunteer in the art room and even demonstrated her talents for students at Millstone Elementary School recently! If you would like to show our artists your work or would like to demonstrate your talents, please call the school and I will schedule a time with you.

So, yes, I thought I knew who I was when I came to teach art at Roosevelt Public School last year, but I must have changed many times since then. My life has been changed daily by the wonderful students that I teach and who teach me in this very special art room in this very special school that is Roosevelt.



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.



■ Board of Education News

by Joann San Nicola

The agenda meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:40, October 10th by President Mike Hamilton. One member was absent.

A congratulatory letter from the Governor to Ilene Levine was read. Mrs. Levine is a finalist for the Science and Math award for teacher of the year.

Mr. Presutti told the Board that the new playground equipment will be installed on Monday, the 11th. (it was installed on the 16th.). Fifteen hundred dollars of mulch will be laid as required by the insurance company. The Fourth of July Committee has generously donated \$450.00 to defray some of the cost.

Construction on School Lane starts on Wednesday.

Interviews with school board candidates David Ticktin and Ellen

Silverman were conducted, and Mrs. Silverman was elected to fill the position left vacant by Mr. Hatzfeld.

Gail Hunton of the Planning Board spoke briefly on the subject of the upcoming referendum, explaining each option.

Michael Ticktin also attended to inform the Board of legislation pending which would impact on regionalization:

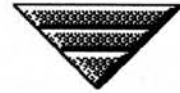
The Board also took action on the first reading of the following policies:

1. Smoking, Drinking and use of Drugs on School Premises
2. Vandalism/Violence
3. Substance Abuse

This reporter left the meeting at 9:30.

■ Remember!

The school is in need of a small refrigerator for the nurse's office—the type you would find in a dorm room (small cube). If anyone has one they no longer need and would like to donate it, please call Bill Presutti at the school, 448-2798. Thank you!



The Roosevelt Bulletin is distributed free of charge to Roosevelt residents. Out of town subscriptions are available for a yearly fee of \$6.50 for third class mailings, \$13.50 for first class.



The Candidates Respond

In an effort to help voters make a more informed choice from among the five declared candidates for two open Council seats, the Bulletin invited each candidate to submit written answers to four questions. The Following are the responses submitted by Stuart Kaufman, Michael Stiles, George Vasseur and Peter Warren. (Margaret Schlinski indicated that she would express her views in a letter to the Bulletin). (See page 20)

FROM STUART KAUFMAN:

1. What knowledge or experience do you have that would help you to be effective as a Council member?

I served this town for six years on the Council. I have been the Chair of Public Works for most of my six years. When I took over Public Works, there was no Public Works, we now have a dependable, responsive department. We may be small but there is none better. I also serve on the Utilities and Finance Committees. Public Works controls a large part of the municipal budget. I have made sure that we have stayed well within our present budget and have planned for future increases over the next five years without having to increase our budget. I have worked with the Chair of Finance and the CFO to finance street projects without going into debt. My best attribute is being able to communicate and get along with all the members of the Council.

2. What local problems or issues concern you the most?

My greatest concerns are for the lack of a clear and unified plan for the future of Roosevelt. Decrease in volunteers for fire and first aid might lead to looking outside of Roosevelt and possibly higher costs. The biggest headache is our onerous property taxes.

3. What would you like to accomplish as a member of the Council?

I would like to see the replacement of our crumbling infrastructure without spending a dime of taxpayers money, and reduction of property taxes without sacrificing our quality of life.

4. Which of the alternatives being presented in the referendum on the planning of the northern agricultural area would you recommend that people vote for? Why?

Tough question, there is no safe answer. I voted against having a referendum because I believed it was the Council's responsibility to either accept, reject or modify the Planning Board PCD proposed ordinance (Planned Community Development) and only after all the variables, costs and impact studies had been examined.

My biggest concern is school capacity. RPS is a small school, the number of children that the building can accommodate is very limited. Any large scale development will positively cost millions. Ideally, residential development on a limited scale, like the one proposed by the Planning Board, should cost nothing or a minimum amount. There are no guarantees, the Planning Board has been honest and has stated that it is a best guess estimate. I'm not a gambler, I like to keep the odds in my favor. The Planning Board, in my opinion, is counting on a best case scenario, I want to see what the numbers are like in a worst case scenario before I make a decision. The referendum is non-binding so the Council is not bound by the results.

To answer the question, I would recommend the PCD Ordinance. It is the only realistic plan of the five plans. Having no plan is the worst plan. The PCD is a good foundation, it will give us something to work with. I have my reservations as far as school capacity, but with a thorough impact study the PCD could prove to be the right plan.

Stuart Kaufman is a write-in candidate.

FROM MICHAEL T. STILES:

1. What knowledge or experience do you have that would help you to be effective as a Council member?

I've worked the past eight years as a project manager and job superintendent in the construction industry. I would bring to the table good listening skills and

(cont. on next page)

(Response cont. from page 8)

a history of job completion within budget through coordination and decision making to meet the needs of the client - who in this case is the public.

2. What local problems or issues concern you the most?

1. Concern for safety.
2. Direction toward or away from future growth.
3. High taxes with little services.
4. Recreational opportunities for our residents.

3. What would you like to accomplish as a member of the Council?

I would like a working governing body that acts as a team when a decision is reached. Discussion and debate are a must in a process, but this takes place before the vote and not after.

4. Which of the alternatives being presented in the referendum on the planning of the northern agricultural area would you recommend that people vote for? Why?

I am more comfortable with the PCD II alternative but feel the density numbers would have to be compromised to enhance its attractiveness. Plans for the future are to be approached cautiously but we cannot deny the needs of the present.

FROM GEORGE VASSEUR:

1. What knowledge or experience do you have that would help you to be effective as a Council member?

I am experienced in all aspects of the workings and repairs of the Borough equipment, trucks, pumps, generators etc. I ran my own business for over 10 years. I have 3 years on the Council.

2. What local problems or issues concern you the most?

The high tax problems with the Fire Department and First Aid Squad concern me. So does the prospect of the State Police pulling out of Roosevelt. Water quality, water clarity and the northern tract development referendum are also of great concern to me.

3. What would you like to accomplish as a member of the Council?

I would like to help cut unnecessary spending of tax payers money as I am also a taxpayer. Help get the Fire Department back on line. Encourage volunteers to join both the fire and first aid emergency services. Continue implementing cost saving changes - I pushed for snow plows for the trucks and a lawn mower for our public works laborer to save contracting charges.

4. Which of the alternatives being presented in the referendum on the planning of the northern agricultural area would you recommend that people vote for? Why?

Personally, I am voting for referendum #5 because that is what I believe would benefit the town the most at this time. I cannot recommend it for everyone, I think people should vote for what they believe is right for them and their community.

FROM PETER WARREN:

1. What knowledge or experience do you have that would help you to be effective as a Council member?

I am a graduate of Princeton in Public and International Affairs; economic advisor to corporations and governments; and, have served 4 years on the Borough Council, 1991 - 1994.

2. What local problems or issues concern you the most?

My greatest concern is that we have the highest property tax and water/sewer rates in the County. I am also most concerned with the poor quality of the Council, the Planning Board, lack of community participation. I believe there is a need to attract competent people to local government and I am concerned with the illusion that the Borough is unique.

3. What would you like to accomplish as a member of the Council?

I would like to help reorganize borough government to become effective, lower municipal taxes, attract competent people to the Borough's government, sell the water/sewer plants, create conditions for limited residential growth and plan for the sale of the gas station property.

(cont. on page 14)

recent complaint about Mr. Jordan.

This "protection for renters" issue led three other members of the public to speak out during the first Public Portion of the meeting. Bert Ellentuck began by asking how the ordinance on the agenda to amend the C.O. issuance ordinance differed from the one still in effect. The answers: "Housing must conform to the N.J. State Housing Code, prepared by the NJ Dept. of Community Affairs for adoption by municipalities; the homeowner is responsible for paying the fees and securing a C.O. before renting out a house; the maximum fine will now be \$1,000. Borough Attorney John Ross advised the Council that it does not have to pass any other measures about having houses registered, inspected or certified because the State law requiring registration of rental properties with the municipality is adequate. Mr. Ellentuck reported that he had heard one family in town had no furnace for heat. He asked if all owners who are renting out houses will be notified of requirements for inspections and correction. Mayor Allen said they would. Councilman Stu Kaufman asked how many days should a homeowner be given to make corrections. Mr. Ross suggested that 30 days is usually plenty, but some situations, such as no heat between October and April, are much more urgent. Nona Sherak asked, "Who should be contacted for help to correct heating or other violations in rented housing?" The Monmouth County Board of Health should be contacted first, Mr. Ross replied.

Mr. Ellentuck, who is a Planning Board member who helped develop the Planned Community Development II proposal, confronted Mayor Allen on his statement, quoted in *The Examiner*. Mayor Allen said the paper was accurate in quoting him as saying that the PCD II should allow higher density housing. Mr. Ellentuck said he heard the Mayor take the position, when he voted to have the referendum (with five questions about development options for Roosevelt's northern 500 acres) be put on the ballot, that it was right to find out what all the voters thought were good options. Mr. Ellentuck implied that the Mayor's criticizing the PCD II in the newspaper was an attempt to influence the outcome of the referendum. He asked the Mayor if he wanted to clarify his position or to express how he felt about the other four options. Mayor Allen replied, "I prefer not to say anything about them at this time."

The Mayor was called to task on another issue by Herb Johnson, in connection with a ten month effort to get a Zoning Officer for the Borough. (Mr. Johnson has pressed the Council all year to enforce the zoning regulations which require all property corners at street intersections to have "sight triangles" at the intersection clear of obstruction to vision. Shrubs or fences are allowed to be 30 inches high at the most so that drivers of all cars can see when it is safe to pull out on the crossroad.) The Council advertised for applicants for the position of Zoning Officer. Last January, it did not hire the first applicant members said because

he lived too far away (25 miles). It favored finding a Roosevelt resident. Ralph Warnick applied in July, but the Council has put off an interview because of the need to have one member each of the Planning Board and of the Council interview the applicant. In September, Mayor Allen said he would write a job description and give a copy to the Planning Board to facilitate the interview and hiring. Mr. Johnson had asked the Mayor at the Agenda Meeting on October 7 if he had done that yet. The Mayor said he would have it ready for the Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, October 9. When asked at the October 14 meeting if that had been taken care of, the Mayor replied, "No, but Bert Ellentuck agreed to meet with me to help work it out."

Nona Sherak raised three other issues at the meeting. She regretted that Councilman David Donnelly was absent from the meeting, but she could not postpone her criticism of him, nor her request that the Mayor and Council replace Mr. Donnelly as Chair of the Utilities Committee. In Mr. Donnelly's attempt to have Ms. Sherak and the Prezants approve of the Borough installing a yard hydrant at the end of the Maple Court water line, which lies underground along the property line between the Sherak and Prezant properties, Ms. Sherak has felt demeaned, threatened and lied to by Mr. Donnelly, who, she said, seemed to have a personal vendetta against her for now being opposed to permitting the installation of the yard hydrant. She pointed out that she had been com-

(cont. on page 15)

■ BREAKING BREAD

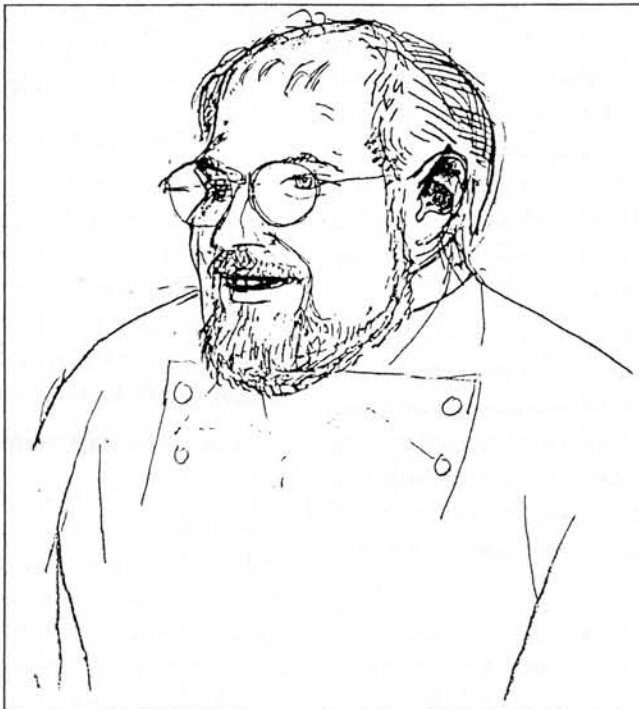
My Dinner with Andrea

Notes from a conversation between Andrea Branco and Rebecca Reuter.

Andrea Branco, a native of Rome, has been living in town for 1 1/2 years with his wife, Melissa, a returned Rooseveltian. Mr. Branco, an experienced chef trained at the Institute of Restaurant and Hotel Management in Rome, currently cooks at Prospect House, a private dining club on the Princeton University campus. Here he shares a few thoughts about his gustatory life.

I think the American food is very generic European food. I see how a very particular recipe from Europe becomes all American. This is a poly-ethnic culture, and many ethnic groups live in the same area. But most of the time they can't find the original ingredients for their recipes, so the dishes become Americanized by using American ingredients. In other words, for pasta carbonara we use Parmesan cheese, but here they may use a white American cheese. There we use pancetta, a particular kind of Italian bacon, here they use just bacon or ham. The Italian bacon is different; it's rolled up with the seasoning inside before it's cured. We have various kinds of bacon, from different parts of the pig, and they're used differently. Like the guanciale (jowl bacon), which is very good with spring peas and onion. *Saute half an onion with a cup of chopped guanciale (or bacon). Let it sweat till the onion is a little gold and the bacon has released its fat. Dump in about 4 cups of frozen peas. Season it with salt and pepper, stir it, and cover for ten minutes: it's done. This is enough for three or four people as a side dish for meat or for whatever you want.*

American foods that I love: cupcakes — we don't have cupcakes in Italy, we have ciambelloni. I like some junk food — pudding, potato chips. But I'm a vegetarian,



and the American cuisine is mostly all meat. I really like the Jewish food. I never had a matzoh ball in Italy, I never had tasted the matzoh. And tzimmes. I love it.

I'm a vegetarian because the meat has really changed in the last ten years. I have this feeling from cooking meat all day. I can see all this stuff that is from the hormones that make the animal grow quickly, but the meat has no texture. If it's rare, it's too soft. If it's well cooked, it's very tough. There is no feeling for your teeth. I sometimes start to cook an 8 oz steak and it shrinks to nothing. Plus, I think the meat

carries the karma of the animal. Whatever the animal was in the present life, you will carry a bit of that in you. Like the pig, it's a very dirty animal, a long way from a high consciousness. I don't want to carry that in me.

One thing I tasted that I thought was disgusting, but now I love, is pancakes. When we used to get the syrup from the supermarket or at the diner, it was horrible. I felt deceived, from what people had told me in Italy. "Oh, you're going to love pancakes," they said, but when I got here I was very disappointed. It wasn't what I expected at all. It was very Twinky-tasting. Then I tasted them with real maple syrup. Delicious. Now I'm making pancakes from scratch, and I have all different recipes. We don't

have maple syrup in Italy. When we say "maple" there we are only talking about the wood.

My mother is a very good cook. She's always cooked for the whole family. She got married at around twenty-two and has been cooking ever since, so she's had a long experience with satisfying us all. And for sure, we're more picky with our own mother than with what we get in a restaurant.

Of course my mother is very jealous of my cooking. She always says, when I change something in a recipe, that it was very good the way it was before. My grandma taught me a very healthy and plain way of cooking, but my mother made it a little more complicated. *I remember she liked to cook a fish in crazy water, which is just water flavored with garlic, bay leaf, black peppercorns, and red pepper flakes. Also she add just one squashed tomato, then she put the fish in and boiled it in there. After it was cooked she sauced the fish with the same liquid, reduced.*

My family here, they love my cooking. They're always waiting for my dinner. Now that I'm working, they all miss the little dinner parties. Before, everybody knew they could stop by when they smelled a great smell coming from my kitchen. My wife, she doesn't like it as much. She appreciates it, but to her it can never compare with a stuffed turkey, or a roast beef with mashed potatoes, or eggs over light with bacon.

Here's what I miss from Italy: the vegetables in the winter. I'm very sad about the New Jersey tomato, which I had heard was so good. And the cucumber; here you eat the whole thing and it has hardly any taste. The quality of the vegetables, when they're not available from the farm market, is very awful. Of course I miss the good olive oil, which is very expensive here. And the fruits. Tangerines, oranges, all kinds of fruits. And figs especially. I miss my figs so much, with the honey dripping from them. Here, I find a place to buy them but they cost so much.

I miss my mother's kitchen. There I never have to worry about the taste I will find. I know exactly what it's going to taste like as soon as she tells me what's in the oven. Plus she knows all my favorite di-lunch-dinner." We go to her house early, and we pick at foods, and then we set up and eat a little meal, and then we pack up some food to take

home for dinner. Even my wife, Melissa, with her American tastes for junk food and colas, she really loves the cuisine of my mother. My mother's cuisine is very traditional; she carries the recipes from her mother and grandmother. She follows all the procedures, without shortcuts. She still makes pasta for thirty or forty people by hand. I bought her a pasta-making machine but she hated it because the pasta became very vicious. No, viscous. When it was cooked, it didn't absorb the sauce because it already had too much moisture. So she just put the machine away and now sometimes makes horrible things with it, but never pasta. The last time I saw her she was trying to grind boiled chick peas with it.

Andrea on olive oil:

To find a good olive oil, I will just notice if it's extra-virgin, and it has to be a cold-pressed oil. That will be the first oil that comes out from the olives. After that come the other grades. The *sanza* will be the last, it will be green, so it looks like a good olive oil, but actually it's just made with crushed pits. Plus, the acidity of the oil is very important. It should be below 1% acidity.

On packaged tomatoes:

In this country, for the tomatoes, is just the *Pomi*, which I think is the best tomato you can find. *Pomi*, from Parma. It is imported from Italy, and it is quite thick. That's the best tomato you can buy. It's very quick to cook, and not particularly expensive, for you use only half the quantity you would use of the canned. The only way to make the canned kind taste a little better is to add a bit of sugar to make up for all the acidity.

On garlic:

The basic always is the oil, but also the garlic is very important. Like this giant garlic, which I never saw in Italy. This doesn't taste so good, but it will keep a long time, so the market is quite full of it. For the garlic I suggest the typical winter garlic, the red-skinned garlic. You see the skin around the bulb, and around the clove, should be a little bit red. And in the garlic sauce, I suggest you use some parsley for decoration, and for its particular taste. The flat Italian parsley is better than the curly parsley. It has more taste and it's more fragrant.

(Andrea Cont. on page 16)

by Ron Filepp

Denuding The Dogwood

This year it happened on October 12. A first look out the kitchen window on that cold Saturday morning showed that the impatiens furthest from the house were wilted from the cold. Those close to the house had yet to meet a similar fate. The night before, the mercury flirted with freezing for the first time this Autumn.

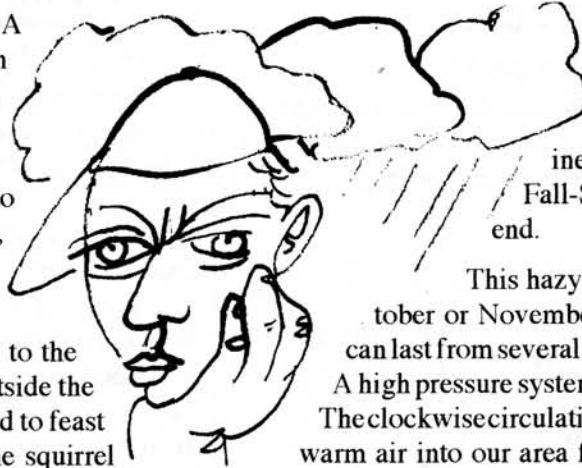
I brewed some tea and retreated to the living room with a steaming cup. Outside the window a squirrel ran up the dogwood to feast on the tree's red-orange berries. The squirrel was only the first character in the cast to arrive. Near freezing temperatures sent the signal to fur and feather to descend upon our dogwood.

I sat and watched the show while the furnace poured heat on my head. A robin drank at the bird bath. Soon, he was joined by another. Before long, several robins and the squirrel were working the tree. A few minutes later a couple of starlings showed up. Then four or five cedar waxwings arrived. There were also occasional visits from our friend the red bellied woodpecker. The dogwood was quickly stripped of its fruit. Where once there were berries, only the buds of next year's flowers and the bare ends of the once fruited stems were visible.

The bare stems were reminders that it was time to stock up on seed for the birdfeeder. It would be only a few weeks before the leafy, pageantry of Autumn colors would be on the ground and then raked. The brilliant colors would be gone — the green backdrop of Summer only a distant memory. To keep the show going, a well-stocked birdfeeder would invite color and activity into the backyard.

SAINTS AND NATIVE AMERICANS

In Indian Summer there is a brief respite from the onslaught of the cold weather. It's also an opportunity to step outside and listen to the sounds of the season: leaves tap dance across streets, a corn field gently rattles



on a breezy day and crickets sing their song. Indian Summer seems to offer hope against the inevitable—a fantasy of a Fall-Summer that will never end.

This hazy warm spell occurs in October or November after the first frost and can last from several days up to a week or more. A high pressure system stalls south off the coast. The clockwise circulation around its center pumps warm air into our area from the Gulf of Mexico. Indian Summer, or All Saints Rest as it is known to some, usually ends abruptly when an outbreak of polar air rushes into the area.

OCCLUDED ECLIPSE

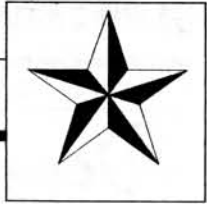
This year the night of the full Harvest Moon fell on September 26. A total lunar eclipse occurred that night. It promised to be a night to remember. Instead, it was a lunar letdown. In Roosevelt the eclipse was only visible on television screens. A layer of high clouds arrived just in time to obscure the celestial event.

SOGGY SEPTEMBER

September is one of the wetter months in Roosevelt. On average, only July and August bring more rain. The rainfall this September measured 5.16 inches more than 33 percent above normal. Normal rainfall for September is 3.99 inches.

CYBER NOTE

Last month's Bulletin incorrectly printed the internet web page address where you can find Roosevelt weather information. The correct address is: <http://users.aol.com/paulIf/You'll> find the current Weather Almanac and past columns, Roosevelt weather data, links to other weather addresses, a link to the Roosevelt Arts Project web page and other links.



NOVEMBER
WEATHER EVENT

On November 20, 1869 a windstorm in New York blew a railroad train from the tracks.

WEATHER WORD

A Solitary Wave is up and down air motion that moves across the Earth as a wave. This wave can move forward at speeds up to 50 miles per hour.

Sep 15 - Oct 15, 1996

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	74.0	52.0	63.0	0.00
16	75.0	54.0	64.5	0.00
17	66.0	62.0	64.0	1.80
18	68.0	58.0	63.0	0.35
19	72.5	52.0	62.3	0.00
20	73.0	48.0	60.5	0.00
21	75.0	50.5	62.8	0.00
22	72.0	60.0	66.0	0.23
23	68.0	52.5	60.3	0.37
24	67.5	44.0	55.8	0.00
25	68.0	50.0	59.0	0.15
26	68.0	45.0	56.5	0.00
27	72.0	55.0	63.5	0.00
28	79.0	62.0	70.5	0.00
29	69.5	59.5	64.5	0.80
30	70.0	50.0	60.0	0.00
1	73.5	50.0	61.8	0.00
2	72.0	52.0	62.0	0.00
3	60.0	44.0	52.0	0.10
4	54.0	36.0	45.0	0.00
5	56.0	34.5	45.3	0.00
6	61.0	39.0	50.0	0.00
7	66.0	39.0	52.5	0.00
8	58.0	53.0	55.5	0.00
9	68.0	50.5	59.3	1.70
10	63.5	46.0	54.8	0.35
11	64.0	36.0	50.0	0.00
12	56.5	32.5	44.5	0.00
13	66.0	42.0	54.0	0.00
14	74.0 5	0.0	62.0	0.00
15	56.0	40.0	48.0	0.00
Total Precip	5.852			

SeniorNews

by Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Jeanette Koffler, our president, presided at our last meeting and reviewed the schedule of coming trips after the first of which was to Rova Farms on October 15th.

Our bus picked us up at 9:30 so that we had ample time to roam around the Flea Market before having lunch at noon. Our next trip will be on November 23rd at Hunterdon for lunch and the show.

The annual flu shots were available at the Borough Hall on October 31st, free to seniors who had to present their Social Security cards and for a \$5.00 fee to all others.

Carolyn Malinowski, the social worker from the Roosevelt Public School has arranged a wonderful new program involving the 5th grade children and we seniors at our monthly meetings. The 3 children will be released from school at 2 p.m. in order to play games such as Bingo, Scrabble, dominoes and even chess with us. It promises to be fun and we appreciate Carolyn's effort to get this going as well as the great youngsters who will participate. I'm sure we can all learn from each other.

I enjoyed the "Happy Birthday" song which was only for me as I am the only one who has an October birthday.

Molly Bulkin was our hostess this time and we all enjoyed pizza from Rossi's and "little" doughnuts from Dunkin Donuts. Thanks, Molly, it was tasty. 'til next month.

(Peter Warren Questionnaire cont. from pg. 9)

4. Which of the alternatives being presented in the referendum on the planning of the northern agricultural area would you recommend that people vote for? Why?

None of the alternatives are recommended by me. I advocate that voters boycott the referendum. I believe that the land use study based on Mr. Mallach's 1988 planning study outline should be carried out and the Planning Board be reorganized.



◆ (Council cont. from page 10)

plaining almost every month for the last two years about the large amounts of rust sediment that the four houses on Maple Court have in their water, and she had accepted the Council's proposal to put in a yard hydrant, for which a purchase order was approved in 1994. But, the Borough put off installing it through 1995. Then in 1996, the Council determined that the Maple Court roadway had sagged severely about half-way up the street, which was determined to be a place where rust sediment would collect, a problem that could be corrected by installing a new water line of larger diameter, without a sag, for the full length of the street. It put out bids for the work, in connection with bids for the School Lane Improvements. Then the Council decided that the total costs were too great for this year and cancelled the Maple Court improvements. Now, Ms. Sherak continued, it wants to install the yard hydrant on her property, even though it learned it is not an adequate solution, even though it means the Public Works Supervisor or Employee will have to open the blow-off valve at least once a week all year long, and even though it means that the released rusty water will turn to slippery ice on the road during the winter. When she declared she would not agree with the Council's plan, Ms. Sherak heard, "through the grape-vine," that Mr. Donnelly said at an agenda meeting that part of Ms. Sherak's property could be condemned to permit the work.

Councilman Hoogsteden defended Mr. Donnelly, saying, "He would not lie about any matter. He is

a man of high character. He has been doing a good job as Chair of the Utilities Committee, which is a job no one else on the Council wants to do."

At the final public portion under "Good and Welfare," Ms. Sherak apologized for saying Mr. Donnelly lied about remarks she and Mr. Prezant made. She had based her conclusion that he misled Council members on what she heard was said at the Agenda Meeting.

The two other issues Ms. Sherak raised were about pictures in the Borough Hall still not being insured, even after the loss of one and requests a year ago to get them insured, and about a bill in the New Jersey Legislature to impose charges for State Police services in municipalities like Millstone and Roosevelt. Mayor Allen said the League of Municipalities is opposing it.

During New Business, the Council discussed and voted on nine resolutions and three motions.

Fire Department Chief Kim Dexheimer had a chance, during the discussion of one resolution as well as during the Public Portion, to raise questions about whether or not persons other than Borough employees would be eligible to receive "comp time" to make up for time spent getting certification to be a First Aid Squad or Fire Department member, and if all volunteers serving in the Fire and First Aid Squads are covered by Workmen's Compensation while on duty with their squads.

When Resolution #83 "to amend

the Personnel Code to give paid time off for attending required fire or EMT training courses" was being discussed, George Vasseur opposed giving the Borough's employees "comp time" if it couldn't be offered to other people who volunteer for emergency service. He said he felt like he should not be in the Fire Department if he doesn't get compensated for time he spent in training courses this year if the Public Works supervisor gets compensated for her time in training. Fire Chief Dexheimer expressed concern that the Mayor and Council could not assure him that all volunteers on duty are covered by workmen's compensation. He wanted assurance right away or he could not get on the fire truck.

The Mayor and Councilman Jeff Hunt spoke in favor of the resolution: (1) Surrounding towns pay for some fire fighters and some First Aid Squad EMT people to be on duty during daytime hours when the volunteer members are away from town on their paying jobs; (2) We appealed to our three full time employees to consider becoming volunteer EMT and/or Fire Department members. They agreed to take the training and asked for time off equaling the time required for traveling to and from, and being at classes. It is the wave of the future and will cost less to provide residents of Roosevelt with vital emergency services. Three of the four Council members present voted for the resolution, with Mr. Vasseur opposing it. Then Mr. Hoogsteden asked for it to be recon-

(cont. on next page)

(Council from page 15)

sidered so that he might offer an amendment to strike out travel time. Councilman Hunt and Kaufman opposed that motion requiring Mayor Allen to break the tie vote. He sided with Mr. Hoogsteden's position, but urged the Council to approve paying employees the per mile rate for using personal vehicles to travel to and from the required classes.

The Council approved acceptance of a \$108,966 grant from the NJ Economic Development Authority for Hazardous Discharge Remediation on the Rochdale Avenue gasoline station site, and a contract to perform the remedial investigation (for up to the amount of the grant) to Schoor, DePalma & Canger Environmental Services, Inc.

Without Mr. Donnelly present to advise on the bidding by three contractors for eight water and sewer projects, the Council tabled the resolution to award and contracts or reject all bids. It approved of refund-

ing over \$4,200 for overpaid property taxes on the 7 Farm Lane property. Since it appeared there had been double payment of a year's taxes, the Council requested the Tax Collector to re-confirm that the amount was for "third quarter tax overpayment," as the Tax Collector's statement read.

Motions, as distinguished from resolution and ordinances do not require roll call votes to be passed. The motion to send a Notice of Housing Code violation to the owner of a house being rented to the Sylvesters was reported on earlier. The other two motions which passed, beside the motion to adjourn at about 10 o'clock, were for agreements with the Monmouth County Board of Chosen freeholders, first for improved transportation services for seniors and disabled people in Roosevelt through December 1997, and second, for a Municipal Shopping Contract for 1997.

At the Agenda Meeting the previous week, Mr. Vasseur requested that the need for more volunteer Fire Department and First Aid Squad members be publicized. Rose Murphy reported that Public Works Supervisor Gayle Donnelly called from North Dakota requesting two more weeks leave to be with her mother who needed surgery.

Jeff Hunt reported that a sixth referendum question will be on the November ballot. All members of the Council at the Regular Meeting approved of the resolution to support the "Monmouth County open space, farmland, park improvement and maintenance fund referendum of 1996." The Charleston Springs Golf Course in Millstone was cited as one of the products of a similar referendum in 1987 which led the county to acquire 1,465 additional acres to bring total Monmouth Park County park acreage to over 9,200 acres.

(My Dinner with Andrea cont. from page 12)

On pasta:

The best pastas you can find in the supermarket are two: one is DeCecco, and one is Barilla. They're made with a particular kind of wheat, a very hard wheat, and the water they use to mix the pasta is very important. It's true in dry pasta there is no water, but when you make the dough there is water. The water is important because if you use a hard water, it leaves a lot of residual minerals in the pasta, and when you cook the pasta, it makes it cook very quickly and be too soft, not *al dente*. Actually the Americans like the pasta a little too soft, but you can even overcook the Barilla pasta and you still have a pasta which is not *squishy*. So these are the best pastas around, and there is a lot of variety

available in the supermarket, from simple spaghetti to rotini, whatever kind of pasta you want to make.

There are two little secrets that are very important in cooking pasta. One: when you cook flat pasta, like fettuccine, I suggest you put a little olive oil, it doesn't have to be too much — a tablespoon — in the water. That prevents the pasta from sticking. Also put in oil for the round pasta if you don't want to stir it too much. Plus, salt your water. I notice most Americans don't salt the water. I put 2 tablespoons of salt in 2 gallons of water. With 2 gallons of water you can cook 1 or 2 pounds of pasta. Always you have to stir once or twice.

■ Our Town



by Bess Tremper

In the July Bulletin we listed some of the people who had grown up in Roosevelt, left and then returned to make their lives in this small town where they had spent their childhoods (some never even left). Our aim had been to emphasize the thought that this phenomenon is the best endorsement a town can have.

Obviously, the list was incomplete. We have received many more names to add to this illustrious assemblage and surprisingly, it includes not only second generation people, but also some third generation people as well.

SECOND GENERATION

Helen Barth	Brad Johnson
Bruce Block	Jonathan Margolis
Marvin Block	Evan Meyers
Michael Block	Jody Parsons
Dolores Chasan	Clare Sacharoff
Howard Chasan	Pearl Seligman
Lottie Eisner	Marty Sokoloff
Mel Friedman	Renee Sokoloff

THIRD GENERATION

Sam Adlerman
Jonathan Block
Joey Block
Mar ^l Friedman
Debbie Lenart
Louise Prezant
Molly Petrilla

Again, we ask, if we have still not included everyone, please let us know so that we can make the list really complete. (We are not repeating those mentioned in the earlier issue.)

**IF YOU SMELL GAS,
CALL 1-800-880-PSEG
(1-800-880-7734)**

Indoors: If the odor is faint, check the pilot light on your range. If it's out, relight it. If that's not the problem, open up the windows and doors to let the air in. Call PSE&G immediately at the number above.

If the Odor is Strong: Get out of the house immediately and call PSE&G from a nearby phone. Do not use the telephone in your building or any electrical equipment, including electric switches and thermostats: they can create sparks. Do not use matches or light a gas appliance.

Outdoors: Call PSE&G immediately even if you are not a gas customer of PSE&G.

Bobby Drapala Exhibition

by Bernarda Shahn

Bobby Drapala is a native Rooseveltian. He grew up here, saw the "artists" all around him, at the age of three was the outstanding perpetrator of mischief-fun mischief, inventive mischief in the neighborhood. On his tricycle he used to buzz up and down the street looking for something to ride over or into, followed often by Wawa (Laura) or some other little kid looking for something to do.

He grew up, joined army and there learned aerial photography. Armed with cameras of the highest quality and a still unquenchable sense of invention, he branched out - began to take photographs that appealed to him. The more of these highly personal pictures he produced through his camera, the finer became his vision, the more exacting his tastes.

He began to photograph in earnest. He showed his pictures. He showed them to photographers and to artists.

He traveled. He began to travel widely, finding just those sections of nature, those places, assembled buildings, juxtapositions of shape that catch and hold the eye, stir the emotions and remain fixed in one's imagination. He showed the new pictures here and there. He was offered a show; he was asked to let one of his photographs be used on a wine bottle. Bobby, being Bobby, said "yes." He was happy when people exclaimed over the beauty of his photographic images. He still is.

Meanwhile, without fanfare, without public relations, without any sort of excessive self-promotion, he is now emerging as an outstanding photographic artist. We should be and many of us are proud of him - and his work.

We can see it at the Christina Geis Gallery of the Georgian Court College in Lakewood. The reception, 5-7 on November 4th.

Sandwich (or Arrogant Poet)

My generation is full of idiotic geniuses, more intelligent than I am, who can do any calculus problem in the world but can't write a Poem.

I present a question to the educators:

Can you write a Poem?

Have you ever tried:

Why not?

I present a question to my peers:

Can you write a Poem?

Have you ever tried?

Why not?

The Poem is the expression of the heart, soul, and mind, all wrapped up in the bread of words. Anyone can write the best, most meaningful, wonderful Poem ever written.

But only if they try.

They teach us about mathematics, and the sciences, about books written and the past.

We are only to absorb, we are only to regurgitate.

Never original, never from the present.

They should give a test saying simply: Write a Poem.

The 'smart' kids would fail.

I'd laugh, but it wouldn't be funny.

It would be sad; I feel so sorry for you knowledge-mongers.

Will you be a better person for all of it? will you have a better soul?

Does your eternal soul care one bit about Van der Waal's equation? Do you?

Does it matter if he cares because either way we will both learn it and forget it.

My father once said to me "I forgot more than you ever knew," and his father said it to him.

I hope I will never say that.

by *James David Edelstein,*

Hightstown High School student

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 1996 - 1997 SEASON

The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 1996 - 1997 calendar of events, featuring art exhibits, the third annual fall folk music festival, two special evenings of poetry and the return of your favorite performers.

At all events we ask only for a suggested contribution of \$6.00, only \$4.00 for students and seniors. Mark your calendars and watch for our brochure and *The Bulletin* for additional details.

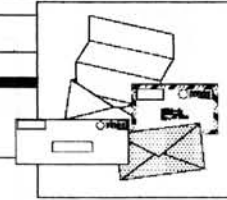
Saturday	November 2, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. THIRD ANNUAL FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL— Back to the Roots of Contemporary Folk Music Borough Hall
Saturday	December 7, 1996 at 8:00 p.m. POETRY BY PABLO MEDINA AND DAVID KELLER Borough Hall
Saturday	January 25, 1997 at 8:00 p.m. LAURIE ALTMAN —JAZZ Peddie School
Saturday	February 8, 1997 at 8:00 p.m. PIANO RECITAL—ALAN MALLACH Borough Hall
Saturday	March 8, 1997 at 8:00 p.m. POEMS by a potpourri of Roosevelt poets Borough Hall
Friday and Saturday	April 4 and 5, 1997 at 8:00 p.m. ROOSEVELT STRING BAND: Crossing Borders Borough Hall (two nights)
Sunday	June 1, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. ART AT THE FACTORY

Also during the year, RAP will be sponsoring THE ROOSEVELT ARTS EXCHANGE, a series of workshops for adults and children presented by members of the community. The Arts Exchange recognized that not all artists are performing artists, and it will provide a venue for townspeople to share their talents and share in the talents of others. Workshops may be offered in the theater arts, culinary arts, or the art of motorcycle maintenance, as well as the art of collage, garden or haiku. The Arts Exchange will offer you new opportunities to meet with your neighbors, exchanging talents in a participatory setting. Watch for details.

We hope to see all of you at these exciting new performances and exhibits.

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

■ Letters to the Editor



Dear Neighbors,

I am urging you to support Stuart Kaufman in his bid for re-election to the Council. Stuart will be at somewhat of a disadvantage in that he will be a write-in candidate, so this will require a little more attention on your part in the voting booth. Stu brings a great deal of experience and dedication to the Council and is a proponent of limited, reasonable growth for Roosevelt. He is an effective councilman whose love for the community, its history and aesthetics are clear. And, his heart is in the right place.

Moreover, in light of the expressed views of some of the candidates and the questions regarding the others, Stuart is the strongest and best choice for Roosevelt.

On Election Day, I hope you will vote with me on this issue and the PCD Option of the Referendum.

TO WRITE IN A CANDIDATE, A VOTER NEEDS TO:

1. Move the lever on the write-in selection;
2. Manually expose the paper by sliding a slide that covers it; and,
3. Physically write in the candidate's name.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hunt, council Member

To the Editor,

In my first open letter as Borough Council candidate, I outlined the various offices I have held, community activities I have initiated and volunteer work I have done. Some of my accomplishments in the Borough are not things that can be pointed to. Ask your children about youth group, school theater or summer camp. As for my more tangible contributions, you can find my involvement in the installation of park benches or the return of the public library to Roosevelt.

As a former member of the School Board, I served as the legislative delegate to the New Jersey School Board Association. My experiences of the Board gave me a practical knowledge of committee work. More importantly, I gained valuable experience working with a diverse group of people with different ideas learning different ways to reach common objectives. What I took with me when I left was a deeper understanding of the government, public education and compromise.

I have a great deal of respect for those who currently serve on the Roosevelt School Board and the Borough Council. I know many of them as friends and am excited at the prospect of working with all of them.

Sometimes input from the community can be of the utmost importance. Decisions that impact the lives of all of us here should be made by all of us. It was with this in mind that I suggested that alternative ideas of development be included on the November ballot as a non-binding referendum.

One issue that the Council faces is that of development. Naturally, the problem of Roosevelt's high taxes concerns all of us. I really think we need as much creative input from the community as we can

(cont. on next page)

(Letters cont. from page 20)

get to solve this problem. I question whether increasing the number of houses in Roosevelt will reduce the current tax burden. Furthermore, if current proposals do show a real reduction in taxes, will that reduction be worth the alteration in the quality of life in Roosevelt that it will inevitably cause, such as overcrowding in the classroom.

Personally, I think building new houses, no matter what the size or shape, clustered or scattered, here or there, is not the only solution to our problems. I have heard some great ideas coming from residents and friends. If I get elected to the Council, I plan on using this creative local energy to our advantage.

One idea would be to put together a packet of information about Roosevelt's assets. This package of information would be made available to area real estate agents to distribute to prospective buyers. This packet could include a video about Roosevelt history, the school, the Fourth of July celebrations, the Litter Pick-ups and out takes from the Roosevelt Show. Included could be a copy of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, the lovely pamphlet on local flora and fauna, as well as a current brochure of RAP's (the Roosevelt Arts Project) cultural events. This might help to sell Roosevelt houses that are already standing empty, rather than building new ones. While this is not a solution for the problems Roosevelt faces, I believe it demonstrates my interest in examining creative solutions. Your vote for me in November is a vote for creative problem solving. I believe Michael Stiles and I have much in common when it comes to community service. We have dedicated both our time and energy to making Roosevelt a better place. Together, we represent true community spirit. Please support us with your vote in November.

Thank you.

Margaret Schlinski

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

by Mary Alfare

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS:

Jim Howley and Valerie Skillman-Howley who moved into 14 Tamara Drive last May with their children, Sierra (3 1/2 yrs.) and Sage (8 mths.)

David and Louise Hoffman to the former Raufer-Stakiwicz house on Lake Drive.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Steven Johnson, son of Herb and Florie Johnson of North Valley Road, who traveled to Athens, Greece with his family to run with the 100th Anniversary Marathon on October 20.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The 72 volunteers who picked up more than 70 bags of debris along our streets at the semi-annual litter pick-up on October 6.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Ethel Salmansohn, of North Valley Road (Solar Village) who celebrated her 80th Birthday on September 16.

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.

FROM RPS:

Students of the Month for Physical Education: Josh Butler, Anthony Grasso, Laurel Hamilton, Joel Orlen, Jamison Parker, Nicholas Rossi, Gabrielle Velasquez, Casey Wolfe and Jessica Wolfe.

Students of the Month for Health: Michael Cordo, Brian Moore, Ian Parsons, Michael Silverman, Elizabeth Stinson, Cecelia Ticktin, Tina Vasseur and Chris Wong.

FROM KREPS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

William Edelstein, 7th grader, was honored as Student of the Month.

FROM HIGHTSTOWN HIGH:

Dylana Possiel, 9th grade, was honored as Student of the Month in Earth Science.

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.



◆ **PLANNING BOARD**
continued from page 3

Mr. Hunt said, "Viability for developers is not my main concern. My main concern has to do with planning our community."

Mr. Mallach said a developer implementing the PCD II concept could make a profit but not necessarily maximize profits to himself or maximize the price for the land that could be paid to the property owners. Mr. Ticktin added that "viability is every option's problem." Ms. Hunton said, "Even Colts Neck has found that 10-acre lots are just too big."



**RECYCLING
DATES
November
6th & 20**

■ **SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS/1996-1997**

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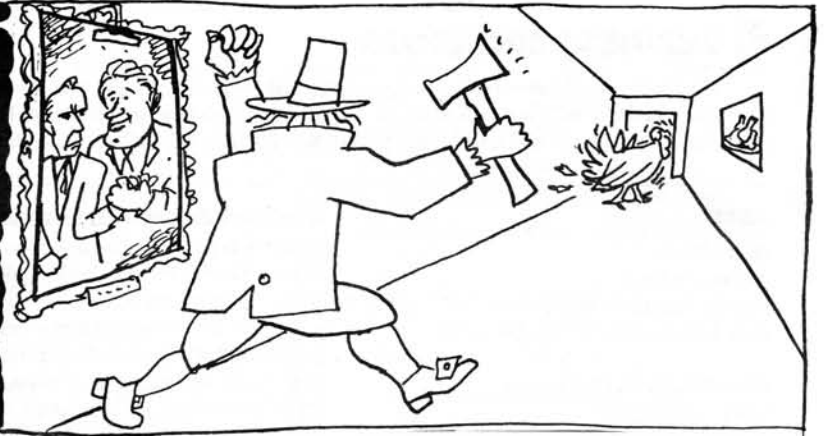
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NOVEMBER



All meetings and events will be held at the Borough Hall unless otherwise noted.
Mayor Lee Allen presides at all Council mtgs. and can be reached at 448-6978.

Please call Jane Rothfuss at 448-3713 to put events on the calendar.

- Sat. 11/2 8 pm RAP Project
Roosevelt Folk Festival
- Mon 11/4 7:30 pm Council Agenda Meeting -
- Tues. 11/5 Election Day - Vote at the Borough Hall.
RPS closed.
7:30 pm First Aid Squad
7:30 pm Roosevelt Community Nursery
School Board - Synagogue - Jane
Rothfuss, President - 448-3713.
8 pm Roosevelt PTA Meeting - RPS -
Diana Moore, Pres. - 448-7742.
- Wed. 11/6 **Recyclables.**
8 pm Environmental Commission -
John Towle, Chair - 490-0692.
- Sun. 11/10 8 am Stream Watch (Volunteer Water
Testing) - Kirk Rothfuss - 448-3717.
- Mon. 11/11 Veteran's Day.
American Education Week.
7:30 pm Council Action Meeting
- Tues. 11/12 1pm Blood Pressure Check
2 pm Roosevelt Senior Citizens - Bor
ough Hall - Jeanette Koffler - 448-2259.
- Wed. 11/13 8 pm Planning Board Mtg
Gail Hunton, Chair - 426-4338.
- Thurs. 11/14 RPS Closed.
- Fri. 11/15 RPS Closed.
- Mon. 11/18 7:30 pm Council Committee Meetings -
8 pm Synagogue Board Mtg. -
Michael Tickin - 448-0363.

- Tues. 11/19 RPS Half Day.
- Wed. 11/20 **Recyclables.**
- Thurs. 11/21 7:30 pm Board Of Education Mtg. - RPS -
Mike Hamilton, President - 443-5227.
- Mon. 11/25 7:30 pm Council Committee Meetings
- Wed. 11/27 RPS Half Day.
- Thurs. 11/28 Thanksgiving.
RPS Closed.
Nursery School Closed.
- Fri. 11/29 RPS Closed.

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