

**BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS**

# Utilities Fee Increase Proposal Tabled

by Herb Johnson

Four ordinances were on the agenda at the Roosevelt Borough Council's June 8th meeting, presented under "Old Business" to have their second reading and be considered for final adoption. Only two were approved. The Council tabled the ordinance which would have increased the "minimum monthly rates" that "each family dwelling and houses of worship" is charged for use of the Borough of Roosevelt's water and sewer facilities. The ordinance called for the fee for water to be increased \$5 per month to \$32 and the fee for sewer facilities to be increased \$5 to \$103 per month. A public hearing on the issue was not held despite the advertised "Public Notice" that it would occur on June 8, 1998. Borough Attorney John Ross told the Council that it did not have to discuss the ordinance if it is being tabled but the motion should include that it would have a public hearing at the next regular meeting, which is scheduled for Monday July 13.

Ordinance #188 was presented for its public hearing. It was to prohibit 14 kinds of acts which would be deemed disorderly conduct. The first act described was called, "Soliciting." When the Council was asked by this reporter if the ordinance included definitions to clarify what was meant by "unlawful sexual intercourse or any other unlawful, indecent, lewd or lascivious act" which was not to be invited by any sign, word or act, Councilman Jeff Hunt moved to table the motion to reconsider the need for this ordinance. Councilwoman Rose Murphy voted against tabling while the other Council members present, Paul Hoogsteden, Jeff Hunt and Michael Stiles, voted for the motion. Some of the other categories of acts to be deemed disorderly by this ordinance if it is approved are: erecting signs, fighting and other brawling, misrepresenting age when purchasing alcoholic beverages, carrying weapons (pistol, hanger, cutlass, bludgeon, picklock, crow, jack, bit or other implement to brake and enter), acts of graffiti and four categories of damaging property. The Borough's attorney explained that most of the acts violate State laws but the Municipal Court

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## WOULD-BE BUILDER INTRODUCED

by Bob Clark

Officials learned at a joint meeting of the Borough Council and Planning Board on June 22 that US Home Corp. aspires to construct the adult community proposed for a portion of Roosevelt's northern farmland lying east of Route 571 and north of Oscar Drive. Developer Sydney Israel introduced Gregory Snyder, president of US Home's New Jersey Division, to 13 officials representing the two public bodies. The joint meeting had been called to give

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **ONCE AGAIN WE COME TO THE END OF OUR PUBLISHING YEAR.**

THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE UNTIL OCTOBER WHEN WE HOPE TO HAVE REGAINED ENOUGH ENERGY AND FER-VOR TO GO ON CREATING A MONTHLY PAPER THAT WILL MEET WITH YOUR APPROVAL.

THE RETURN OF THE ENCLOSED ANNUAL APPEAL WILL LET US KNOW HOW WELL WE HAVE SUCCEEDED AS WELL AS GIVING US THE MANDATE AND THE WHERE-WITHAL TO CONTINUE.

### **BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG.**

### **THE RED DUMPSTER**

AT THE MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT IS FOR ASPHALT AND CONCRETE ONLY. THE BOROUGH WILL LOSE THIS SERVICE IF RESIDENTS CONTINUE TO DUMP OTHER MATERIALS IN IT. THE COST TO HAVE CURBSIDE PICK UP ON LARGE PICK UP DAYS IS OVER \$88.10 PER TON; WHEREAS, PICK UP OF ASPHALT AND CONCRETE AT THE BOROUGH HALL COST ONLY \$4.10 PER TON.

*The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly except July, August and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555*

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**PLANNING BOARD NEWS**  
**BOARD**  
**CONSIDERS**  
**ROOSEVELT'S**  
**FUTURE**

*by Bob Clark*

The Roosevelt Planning Board on June 10 discussed draft changes to the planned community development (PCD I) zoning governing the Notterman tract, which lies east of North Valley Road and south of Eleanor Lane. The Board expected to complete at its July 8 meeting the revisions it will recommend to the Borough Council. If the Council goes along with the changes, the Matzel & Mumford Organization (M&M) of Hazlet could apply to implement its informal proposal to build 65 single-family houses on the 109-acre property. The current ordinance limits development in the area to 54 such units.

Board members reached a consensus in favor of several changes prepared by a Board committee consisting of Michael Ticktin, Harry Parker, Mark Roberts and David Leff. Another committee will redraft a controversial section on architectural design and siting of residential structures before the full Board sends its final recommendations to the Council. Jeffrey Hunt, Bert Ellentuck and Gail Hunton comprise the second committee.

The proposed changes would alter the cap on the number of dwelling units per gross acre from 0.5 to 0.6. This would permit 11 more single-family units than the present ordinance. So long as a buffer of 100 feet would separate the new houses from existing homes on Eleanor Lane and North Valley Road, the Planning Board could permit a developer to cluster units in a method at variance with the ordinance map governing the existing zoning. That map shows a single road, bordered on both sides by half-acre lots, extending from Farm Lane to Eleanor Lane. The change would permit M&M to build all of the homes in the northwest portion of the tract as it has proposed informally. Instead of a single thoroughfare, the road configuration would resemble the side view of a baby carriage with green space

separating the wheels. Ms. Hunton said the M&M plan is superior to the single-street concept of the current PCD I "because you can't race down" any M&M proposed street. She noted that the drafters of the PCD I did not intend "to prevent people from coming in with

better ideas."

The draft changes would alter the minimum lot size from 14,000 square feet to 10,800 square feet. Lot widths would be reduced from 100 feet to 90 feet and lot depths from 140 feet to 120 feet. Mayor Lee Allen calculated that 65 of such smaller lots would cover seven percent less total space than the 54 half-acre, single-family lots permitted by the current PCD I ordinance. The proposed changes also would reduce building setbacks from the new streets from 30 to 25 feet (15 feet for lots that do not back up to green space). Side yard clearances would be reduced from 20 to 15 feet, and rear yard requirements from 40 to 20 feet.

The consensus changes also added a condition of building approval that the applicant provide a Shade Tree Commission-approved plan for trees "sufficient to assure a pattern of tree distribution consistent with existing residential areas within a reasonable period of time." At Mr. Roberts' suggestion, the trees would be "grade A stock" and at least two inches in diameter measured one foot above ground level. A requirement in the existing ordinance preventing roofs from having a pitch greater than "1 in 4" would be removed. The Board also agreed to insert a provision limiting the proportion of the 109 acres devoted to building lots to 16 percent.

Board members concluded that some developers might interpret the present ordinance, which provides

*(Continued on page 9)*



*(Would-be Builder, continued from page 1)*

Council members the opportunity to question the Board about its recommendation that the Council should adopt amendments to the planned community development (PCD II) zoning ordinance. The proposed amendments would permit up to 350 units in a planned adult community development within the PCD II zone.

Jeffrey Hunt, who as the Council's representative to the Planning Board had opposed recommending the measure to the Council, expressed his continuing disfavor. He declared that the Board's consideration of the zoning amendments had been "driven by an outside source" — Mr. Israel. Board members acknowledged that the 350-unit maximum had been influenced by Mr. Israel's contention that to achieve economic viability, the proposed development would need at least 350 houses. They noted, however, that the Board had required Mr. Israel to give up his October 1997 proposal to seek 400 to 500 adult community homes.

Board member Bert Ellentuck explained that the Board had "wrestled with" issues involving the proposed project's fiscal, aesthetic and social impacts. He said that there was "general agreement that" an adult community would be "a plus" for Roosevelt on the question of property taxes and utility fees. As to aesthetics, he maintained that the Board had worked hard to assure that the effects of a dense cluster of homes would be counterbalanced by substantial contiguous stretches of open space, as well as astute design guidelines. Regarding the social impact, Mr. Ellentuck noted that "indications from surrounding towns are that adult communities are in concert with the older communities" if attempts are made to integrate the new residents so as to avoid a "them versus us situation." Council member Rose Murphy observed that her mother resides in a retire-

ment community. She said, "They vote for school budgets and do a lot of volunteering; I look at it as a plus." Ms. Murphy added that street lighting, garbage collection, and snow removal are the biggest costs with which the Borough would have to deal. She agreed with Board member Michael Ticktin's assessment that substantial additional tax rateables from the proposed project would pay for such items.

Board Chairman Joseph Zahora said the Board had insisted that the amendments preclude isolation of any adult community from the rest of the town by prohibiting gates, fences, berms and the like. He noted that the proposal would go "a long way toward preserving open space." He said the Board was "getting a handle on the visual impact." He concluded, "We have to balance the desire to preserve the status quo against the rights of landowners and property taxpayers' need for fiscal relief."

***"We have to balance the desire to preserve the status quo against the rights of landowners and property taxpayers' need for fiscal relief."***

In answer to Council member Paul Hoogsteden's question, Board member Gail Hunton said that zoning for an adult community east of Route 571 would not permit those who own land west of 571 to force similar rezoning there. She said the PCD II zone would accommodate about 50 houses on the western side — an amount that would not require an expansion of the school. Such houses would be clustered on the Borough's western boundary near Nurko Road, and the rest of the area would remain as open space. Some Board members

maintained that the positive fiscal impact of an adult community on the eastern side of 571 would permit the Borough to entertain the idea of purchasing development rights so as to preclude any construction west of 571.

In response to inquiries by Council members and  
*(Continued on page 21)*



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## Letter from the Chief School Administrator

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*by William Presutti*

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**O**n behalf of the Board of Education and staff of RPS, I would like to thank you for your continued support of our very special school. Your dedication to the education of the young people of our community is most commendable. You have helped to make our school year wonderful. On behalf of the students, thank you.

June has been a great month for RPS!!! On June 10, I had the privilege to accompany Ilene Levine as she received a Best Practice Award in science for her unit *Sands From Around the World*. More than 800 applications were submitted for this award with only 50 winners. The Best Practice Award is sponsored by the State Department of Education. A \$500.00 stipend accompanied the award and will be used to enhance Ilene's unit of instruction. Ilene was also the recipient of a \$5,000.00 grant from the HIPF Foundation. Ilene, along with Mike Hamilton, developed an after school astronomy program that will begin in the Fall.

The month of June also brought a very successful Field Day, DARE graduation, and a very exciting Teacher/Sixth Grade Game. This year, the staff and sixth graders played Kinball - a game that originated in Canada. It was a great game - the students won!!! The year ended with a fabulous lunch for the students by the PTA and a very uplifting awards ceremony. It has been a wonderful year!!!

Since I last wrote to you, Mrs. Rita Williams, our art teacher, has resigned. She has done a wonderful job as the art teacher for the past three years and has truly made art come alive in our school. Mrs. Williams has accepted more hours in Plumstead Township where she also teaches art. Plumstead is a growing district that will afford Mrs. Williams many opportunities for the future. Best of luck, Rita.

As I finish this letter, I find it hard to believe school is over. The year has gone by much too quickly. Thank you to all who have made this year possible. **You are the best!!!**

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### ◆ NEED A ROOSEVELT PHONE BOOK? ◆

**IT IS NOW EVEN EASIER TO GET ONE,  
YOU CAN PICK UP A FORM AT ROSSI'S DELI,  
THE BOROUGH HALL OR SCHOOL'S OFFICE.  
FILL OUT THE FORM, ENCLOSE \$5.00 AND IT WILL BE  
DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME.**



## KIDS' OPINIONS

by Ina Clark (5th Grade, RPS)



### FAVORITE PLACES TO GO IN THE TRISTATE AREA.

NICK GATES AND REUBEN ALT SAID THAT THEIR FAVORITE PLACE TO GO IS JOHNSTOWN, PA. THEY SAID THIS IS BECAUSE THEIR GRANDMOTHERS BOTH LIVE THERE. JENNIFER IACONO SAID SHE LIKES GOING TO CENTRAL PARK, NY. ELIZABETH STINSON SAID THAT HER FAVORITE PLACE TO GO WOULD BE THE PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH AREA. MY PERSONAL FAVORITE PLACE WOULD BE SANDY HOOK OR ANY BEACH.

## Senior Citizen Club News

by Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

President Jeanette Koffler presided at our meeting on June 9th.

We made plans to go on many trips to see shows and enjoy luncheons at various places. Most of the time was devoted to celebrating with the members who have birthdays in June.

Jeanette was our hostess and we feasted on pizza and ice-cream, plus coffee, tea and soft drinks.

This was our last meeting until September.

We wish everyone a happy summer. Will catch up on the news at that time.

*'til the Fall...*

## PTA NEWS

by Ellen Silverman

For June the PTA went into the catering business, providing a school picnic that included grilled hot dogs and all the trimmings. They also provided a luncheon for the teachers on the last day of school. Thanks go to all the chefs.

Ms. Elliot and the PTA helped end the school year on a positive note with Roosevelt's 1998 Field Day. This year the theme was multinational games. The sixth graders picked out countries and researched games to play from each place. Thanks to all those who were involved in this fun event.

Then there was graduation. Thanks goes to all those who helped decorate and provide refreshments for this event that means so much for the whole Borough. And then...the PTA members rested. Some by the pool with a novel to read, some sat on their porch or at the beach, but every once in a while this summer one will turn to another and say "next year let's do..."and they will.



## SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

by Frances Duckett

The June 11 meeting of the Roosevelt School Board was called to order at 7:45. Present were members Ellentuck, Grayson, Cokeley, Hamilton, Silverman, Kostar and John-Alder. Also present were CSA Presutti and Ms. Minutolo. Later Mr. Newrath arrived.

Displayed prominently on RPS's library wall was the Best Practice Award banner which Ilene Levine had won for her third grade science project, Sands Around the World. In this project, the children investigated the components of sand from various areas, using microscopes. Fifty of these awards were made for 1997-98; only three were in science. The award came from the New Jersey State Department of Education, Division of Academic and Career Standards, and carried with it a \$500 purse to expand the program for which the award was received.

Ms. Levine and Mr. Presutti attended a science education conference at Bristol-Myers-Squibb on June 12.

Mr. Hamilton happily announced that he has received funding in the amount of \$3,000 to purchase telescopes and binoculars and to fund planetarium visits for a group of 12 to 14 interested students in grades 4-6.

The sixth grade class trip, in progress as the School Board met, was reported to be a success, winding up with a shopping spree at FAO Schwartz. RPS's class of 1998, twelve strong, had their awards ceremony Wednesday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m. and will graduate on June 20th at 4:30 p.m. As usual, the whole community was invited.

D.A.R.E. already graduated twenty-seven 5th and 6th graders, and Trooper Osborne, who according to Mr. Presutti appears to like Roosevelt, plans to come every year to work with our fifth graders in the future.

During closed session at the May 14 meeting, contracts were approved for Chief Business Administrator Ms. Minutolo, cafeteria aides and other support personnel.

Ms. Minutolo continues to investigate banks and telephone companies to see which will offer Roosevelt the best deal.

Approved without controversy were the minutes of the May 28 meeting, the treasurer's and secretary's reports, the transfer of small unexpended sums designated for home instruction and sub grade 6 to sub grade 1-5 accounts and the Special Education expenses detailed below, expenses made necessary by the entry of three classified students to our district. The listed expenses are all mandated by the State, and we received a substantial discount on the transportation owing to the cooperation of East Windsor and the efforts of Ms. Minutolo.

**Transportation:** 1 student to Capello School  
5/19-6/30/98, \$423.75

1 student to High Road Lower school  
9/1/97-6/30/98, \$10,250

**Tuition:** Millstone 5/4/98-6/30/98,  
\$1,050.5/6/98-6/30/98, \$933 (4  
days a week)

High Road School E. Brunswick  
5/29/98-8/7/98, \$4,200.

Ms. Cokeley suggested that the new committees meet and set goals. The Legislation and PR Committees will be composed of Ron Kostar, Mike Hamilton and Charlene Ellentuck, who will chair. David Ticktin was designated as delegate to the NJ School Boards, whose next meeting, an all day affair, will be held in November at Forrestal in Princeton. Mr. John-Alder will be the alternate.

Mr. Kostar suggested that in the future, RPS switch languages from French to Spanish, citing the opportunity for involvement with area Hispanics and the upcoming State mandates. It is anticipated that by 1999, the State will mandate a foreign language in grades 1-6. His committee suggested surveying RPS parents to find out which language they prefer for inception in the year 1999-00.

The Board was told by Mr. Presutti that a five year plan for school maintenance including painting, window replacement, swing repair and plantings of ground cover under school windows is in place and is going forward well.



## NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

*by Francis Duckett*

The June 25 meeting of the Roosevelt School Board was called to order at 7:45. Present were members Ellentuck, Grayson, Cokeley, Kostar and John-Alder plus CSA William Presutti and Chief Business Administrator Karen Minutolo.

The School Board voted to join the Association of Middle Income Districts, at a cost of \$500. This had been a controversial decision, twice postponed, partially because a lawsuit was contemplated and the Board wanted to be assured that our financial obligations would not escalate once the suit got in gear. Mr. Presutti favored membership, pointing out that the high income and special needs districts have their advocacy groups, and we should too in order to avoid injustice. Ms. Cokeley expressed hopes that our District Factor Grouping (DFG) could be re-evaluated. We are now rated I or J. This reflects a larger than average number of well educated people. Apparently we are being penalized for the number of residents with college degrees. Mr. Kostar wanted assurance that the organization would give us reports. Ms. Ellentuck felt that the wording of the resolution did not over commit us. In the end, all voted for the measure.

After voting to approve bills totalling \$90,787.21, payroll totalling \$63,065.62 and manual bills at \$541.50, the Board voted to transfer monies from an unused legal account to other expenses. They cancelled some un-

cleared checks over four years old and grappled with the necessity of allocating \$3,465 to get out of Roosevelt's current copier maintenance contract.

Roosevelt's two copiers are on their last legs and one may be traded in for a new Xerox model that will cost \$35 per month more to maintain than the current copiers, but which over time will cost less than a Panasonic model which was also priced. No action was taken on this.

A new five year contract for Mr. Presutti was approved. He reported having received 35 applications for the art teacher position and around four for the computer teaching position. He reported that the 6th grade field trip and graduation went well. May attendance figures were 96% for students and 99% for staff.

Mr. Presutti also showed the Board some new reading books he wants to use in the first grade. He claims that these books are more demanding and also more interesting in that they employ stories not created to be reading texts. For the first three months of the year, first graders would read about 20 little paperbacks. In January they would move to two hard covered texts.

The school will make a donation to the Robert Wood Johnson Hospice in memory of former employee Jane Freedman. Ms. Ellentuck reported parent complaints about the proposed kindergarten 10:30 starting time.

### ROOSEVELT SUMMER CAMP ART PROGRAM IN NEED OF SUPPLIES

**DONATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WOULD BE APPRECIATED:**

- HAND TOOLS such as screwdrivers, saws, hammers, pliers
- WOOD WORKING MATERIALS such as nails, screws, bolts, scrap wood, tiles and paint
- SMALL APPLIANCES
- VOLUNTEERS TO MODEL

*CALL ELLEN SILVERMAN at 490-0557  
if you can donate*





*(Planning Board, continued from page 3)*

that "the design and siting of all residential structures shall be compatible with the architectural character of the historic district," to require flat-roofed, cinder block homes similar to Jersey Homesteads' original houses. Mr. Ellentuck said that such physical compatibility should not be required, but he added that the new homes' design quality should be in keeping with the "spirit" of the older structures. He added, "There are multitudes of things out there consistent with the spirit of Jersey Homesteads, but not what [M&M] has been showing us."

The second drafting committee will seek guidance from professional sources on design language. The pending change language also will attempt to incorporate and clarify provisions requiring variety in setbacks and "rhythm of buildings and open space" found in the current ordinance.

The Board postponed for another month reexamination of the Borough's master plan. Mayor Allen reported that a majority of the Council is interested in incorporating into the master plan a statement on the desirability of preserving as open space the northern farmland west of Route 571. Mr. Hunt, the Council's representative on the Planning Board, said he did not believe the Council had achieved a consensus on the issue. At previous meetings, Mayor Allen has said that a potential benefit from a proposed 350-unit adult community on the east side of Route 571 would be an improved tax base generating funds for open space preservation on the western side.

Mr. Hunt said the Council would be unwilling to change the PCD II zoning for the northern farmland "until it sees something more specific" from Sydney Israel, who has proposed the adult community. He said there should be "a fiscal impact study at the very least." Mr. Hunt said there were "other considerations besides the school," which would incur no additional expense from such development. He cited the possible need for "round-the-clock" police service and paid emergency services. He pointed out that the concept of a larger senior community had been voted down in an advisory

referendum about two years ago.

Board Chairman Joseph Zahora replied that the referendum dealt with a hypothetical adult community that was "roughly quadruple" the number of units in Mr. Israel's proposal. Mr. Ticktin, who also serves as Roosevelt's Tax Assessor, said the significant fiscal information is already available. He noted that such an adult community would add about \$50 million in rateables to the \$35 million already on the town's tax rolls. Since 70 percent of property taxes paid by Rooseveltians are for the school district and an adult community would not add to school costs, there would be a relatively small municipal impact to offset the significant increase in revenues. Mr. Ticktin added that the State Police would continue to provide protection. He acknowledged that first aid service would be a "legitimate concern" but said the Borough could afford additional employees trained in first aid. He expressed concern that "something that may be feasible might not have a chance to be considered" because a fiscal impact study might be delayed to the point that a likely developer would lose interest.

Eleanor Lane resident Vincent Vignuolo belittled the crime concern saying Roosevelt's crime issues merely involve vandalism and littering. He said the State Police would continue to cover a community until its population reached 10,000. Herb Johnson said that perhaps a larger adult community should be constructed on both sides of Route 571 if its fiscal benefits were so good. Mr. Ticktin replied that a 350-unit adult community and a 65-unit Notterman tract development would almost double the current population of Roosevelt. He said residents had indicated they would not want a greater increase in population and that fiscal relief is not the only issue they deem important. He added that to reduce the level of taxation "to a normal or average level would be an achievement."

Mr. Hunt said Mr. Israel had given the Council his work history and a list of planned adult communities that he had served as a principal, developer or manager

*(Continued on page 15)*



## BREAKING BREAD

# A Chesapeake Bay Treat

by Don Wilson

THE TEMPERATURE IS NEAR 90 DEGREES AND THE MUSIC, VOICES AND SPLASHES CAN BE HEARD FROM THE POOL. SUMMERTIME IS HERE AND WITH IT COMES THE SUMMERTIME ACTIVITIES AND DELIGHTS: FAMILY OUTINGS, PICNICS, BARBECUES, BEACH TRIPS AND BASEBALL. FUN FOR ALL AGES, TODDLERS TO GRANDPARENTS.

IT WAS DURING THE HOT SUMMER MONTHS A FEW YEARS AGO THAT I ENJOYED A VERY SPECIAL DAY WITH MY FAM-

ILY. THE SETTING WAS ORIOLE PARK AT CAMDEN YARDS. THE SCHEDULED PITCHERS THAT DAY WERE MIKE MUSSINA FOR THE ORIOLES AND NOLAN RYAN FOR THE RANGERS. RYAN WAS IN HIS LAST YEAR OF ORGANIZED BASEBALL AND WAS TWICE THE AGE OF THE UPCOMING SUPERSTAR, MIKE MUSSINA. RYAN PUT ON A CLINIC AND WON THE GAME.

AFTER THE GAME, WE VISITED THE INNER HARBOR AND EXPERIENCED ONE OF



(Breaking Bread, continued on next page)



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*(Breaking Bread continued)*

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BALTIMORE'S FAVORITE TREATS: A CHESAPEAKE BAY CRAB CAKE, NOT JUST ANY CRAB CAKE, BUT SENATOR BARB'S SPICY CRAB MEAT RECIPE. WHAT A DELIGHT FOR ANYONE!

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN TO THE INNER HARBOR AT BALTIMORE OR WHO HAVE NEVER EXPERIENCED A REAL CHESAPEAKE BAY CRAB CAKE, NEED NOT WORRY. I BROUGHT BACK THE FOLLOWING RECIPE AND I'M PLEASSED TO SHARE IT WITH YOU.

ENJOY!

## **SENATOR BARB'S SPICY CRAB MEAT CAKE**

BEGIN BY MEASURING 1 TABLESPOON EACH OF MAYONNAISE AND D'JON MUSTARD TOGETHER INTO A BOWL.

ADD 1 TEASPOON OF OLD BAY SEASONING AND MIX.

CUT 2 SLICES OF STALE BREAD INTO LITTLE PIECES.

BEAT ONE EGG IN A BOWL AND ADD BREAD AND THE MAYO-MUSTARD MIXTURE.

ADD ONE POUND OF LUMP OR BACK FIN CRAB MEAT.

NOW, FOR THE IMPORTANT INGREDIENT:

YOU MUST SING TO THE CRAB MEAT WHILE YOU ARE MAKING THE MIXTURE. IF YOU ARE FIXING THESE CRAB CAKES FOR A ROMANTIC DINNER, YOU SING A LOVE SONG. IF YOU ARE FIXING THESE CRAB CAKES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY, YOU SING A SONG OF TOGETHERNESS. EACH CIRCUMSTANCE REQUIRES A DIFFERENT SONG. AFTER MIXING IN THE CRAB MEAT, ADD A LITTLE FRESH MINCED PARSLEY AND GENTLY MOLD YOUR CRAB CAKES.

COVER YOUR CRAB CAKES WITH WAX PAPER AND ALLOW THEM TO SIT IN THE REFRIGERATOR FOR AT LEAST ONE HOUR. AFTER REFRIGERATION, PREPARE A VERY HOT FRYING PAN WITH JUST A SMALL AMOUNT OF OIL. BROWN THE CRAB CAKES ON BOTH SIDES AND ENJOY A CHESAPEAKE BAY TREAT EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE NOT ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY.



## ROOSEVELT WEATHER ALMANAC

by Ron Filepp

For many years, Robin and I have put our bird feeder out during the colder months. We start feeding the birds in late October after most of the berries on the Dogwood tree have been plucked from their stems. The feeder is put away in late April. The warm weather of last winter left us with a surplus of birdseed in May, so we continue to fill the feeder.

The presence of the bird feeder, and a new cat feeder installed to help a stray, made for a very active spring in our backyard. The list of creatures visiting includes: two cats, squirrels, chipmunks and a large variety of birds.

Among the birds that spent the spring in our yard were sparrows, mockingbirds, cedar waxwings, nuthatches, cardinals, woodpeckers, finches, grackles, robins, bluejays, catbirds, mockingbirds, chickadees, titmice and wrens. The wrens came to build a nest and raise their young in an opening in the roof soffit. The robins ate berries from our Juneberry tree, and worms. The bird feeder attracted most of the birds. The bluejays are less discriminating. They eat from the bird feeder and they also swoop down from the trees onto the porch where they pick up bits of the dry food from the cat feeder. The catbird likes berries and, appropriately, also visits the porch to eat some of its namesake's food. Nuthatches bring their brood to the bird feeder. At times, all six are running up and down, right side up and upside down, all over the dogwood tree. They make a low chattering sound while searching out bugs to supplement the seeds they eat.

Most people feed birds in the winter because they know the scarcity of food and the harsh weather of that season can test the stamina of feathered creatures. Bad weather can also take a toll on bird populations in the warmer months. Hailstorms kill thousands of birds. One reported hailstorm in Canada in July 1953 killed over 150,000 birds including waterfowl, crows, owls, hawks and songbirds. Hurricanes are also responsible for the displacement and death of birds. The great Hurricane of 1938 carried birds from Bermuda to Vermont. Regional and local droughts and floods have caused significant declines in bird populations. Even lightning has caused some bird deaths. Other threats to the well being of birds are over building and pollution. Perhaps we'll keep the bird feeder active all four seasons to help the birds and entertain us.

If small birds seem to duck and wash in the sand, it is a sign of coming rain. If the fowls huddle together outside the hen house instead of going to roost, there will be wet weather. If the wild geese gang out to sea, good weather there will surely be. Turkeys perched in trees and refusing to descend indicate snow.

Roosevelt birds that forecast wet weather for May and June were right on the mark. Both months brought total rainfalls well above normal. May's total rainfall was 7.15 inches - nearly twice the normal. The first half of June brought over four inches of rain. Temperatures for May were about four degrees above normal average. Early June temperatures ran cool. From June 1 through 15, only one day had a high temperature of 80 or greater.



MAY 15-JUNE 15, 1998

DAY	HIGH	LOW	AVG	PREC
15	82.0	46.0	64.0	0.00
16	87.0	56.0	71.5	0.00
17	76.0	57.0	66.5	0.09
18	83.0	51.0	67.0	0.02
19	89.5	57.0	73.3	0.00
20	87.0	57.0	72.0	0.00
21	86.0	60.0	73.0	0.37
22	69.5	52.5	61.0	0.00
23	73.5	43.0	58.3	0.00
24	78.5	44.5	61.5	0.00
25	75.0	60.0	67.5	0.00
26	79.0	62.5	70.8	0.25
27	80.0	57.5	68.8	0.00
28	86.0	58.0	72.0	0.00
29	87.0	61.5	74.3	0.00
30	87.0	64.0	75.5	0.09
31	90.0	66.5	78.3	0.00
1	78.0	66.0	72.0	1.12
2	80.5	49.0	64.8	0.00
3	73.0	63.0	68.0	0.00
4	72.0	46.5	59.3	0.00
5	73.0	47.0	60.0	0.00
6	72.0	50.0	61.0	0.00
7	73.0	50.0	61.5	0.00
8	69.0	51.0	60.0	0.02
9	77.0	48.0	62.5	0.00
10	78.0	56.0	67.0	0.00
11	76.0	59.0	67.5	0.07
12	70.0	64.0	67.0	0.25
13	76.0	64.0	70.0	0.75
14	78.0	65.0	71.5	1.80
15	77.0	61.0	69.0	0.18

TOTAL PRECIPITATION 5.01



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WEATHER EVENT

IT'S NOT THE HUMIDITY, IT'S THE HEAT. ON 43 CONSECUTIVE DAYS, FROM JULY 6 TO AUGUST 17, 1917, DAILY HIGH TEMPERATURES IN DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA SOARED ABOVE 120 DEGREES.



## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES *by Mary Alfare*

### WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS:

Penny & David Lopez to Homestead Lane with their children Penny Marie (age 13), David Anthony (11), Rachel Lea (8) and Samuel Paul (5). Teresa & Per Heden to Farm Lane with their daughters Sarah (16) and Erika (10).

### BEST WISHES TO THE NEWLYWEDS:

Paul Brotzman of North Rochdale and Ana Finkelstein of Lakewood were married on May 14. The couple will live in Lakewood, NJ.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Taylor Ashley Hoogsteden born June 10 to Irza and Paul Hoogsteden of Lake Drive. The proud grandparents are Alicia Sabogal of Twin Rivers, and Constance and Henry Hoogsteden of Clark, NJ.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Molly Bulkin on her retirement after 42 years with the Marriot on the NJ Turnpike, at the age of 77. (Says she's available to have fun!)

Council member Rose D. Murphy, elected President of the Monmouth County Municipal Association effective June 18. Jamison Parker who made the 3rd level qualifying for the Winter Olympic Luge.

Dustin Ellis Horowitz who completed requirements for his AA Degree in Business Administration Management at Berkely College, West Paterson.

### FOND FAREWELL TO:

Bertram Trachtenberg, father of Judith Trachtenburg of N. Rochdale Ave., died May 8 at the age of 79.

Paul Eichler, early North Valley Road and Pine Drive resident, died May 20 at the age of 85.

Jane Gough Freedman, 20 year North Rochdale resident, died June 20 at the age of 54. Jane's family wishes to thank the residents of Roosevelt and all other friends who have shown great love and support for Jane during her illness.

Condolences to their families and friends.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Roosevelt Public Library needs volunteers to staff the library from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesday evenings on a rotating basis. Call Helen Barth at 448-2798 if you can give some time.

The First Aid Squad desperately needs members. The squad pays for training. For information call 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:

June 20 Graduates: Avery Zane Axel, Josh Corey Butler, Erik Alexander Cokeley, Brian Richard Davis, Lian Rae Garton, Christopher Iacono, Deidre Roxanne Lloyd, Jesse E. Parsons, Lindsay McKnight Possiel, Joseph A. Rocchia, Brandon V. Tyers and Tina Stephanie Vasseur.

Graduation Awards: *Nathan Bard Social Studies Award* - Jesse Parsons; *Graham Nisnevitz Mathematics Award* - Avery Axel; *Oscar Nisnevitz Citizenship Award* - Eric Cokeley; *Dominic J. Rossi Award* - Lindsay Possiel; *Roosevelt Historic Commission Award* - Tina Vasseur; *Edith Lachman Ernstein Science Award* - Lian Garton.

May Students of the Month in Health: Victoria Adams, Brian Davis, Chris Iacono, Brian Moore, Emily Silverstein, Lexi

Cheshire, Daniel Fischer, Matthew Lawson, Tommy Septak and Leah Skye.

### May Students of the Month in Physical Education:

Johathan Adlerman, Ashely Lawson, Zev Reuter, Tina Vasseur, Robert Lancaster, Samantha Mateyka, Tommy Septak and Lauralee Ward.

### FROM KREPS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

June 17 Graduates: Jason Cokeley, Shaun Conover, William Edelstein, Alissa Gates, Brandon Lugannani, Matthew Marko, Alicia Moore, Josue Ortiz, Molly Petrilla, Haley Reimbold, Christine Rocchia and Sarah Skillman.

Graduation Awards: *Presidential Awards for Educational Excellence*: Molly Petrilla, Haley Reimbold and Sarah Skillman; *Band Parent Instrumental Music Award*: Molly Petrilla; *Foreign Language Award (French)*: Sarah Skillman; *Kreps School Math Award*: Brandon Lugannani; *Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society Award (Social Studies)*: Sarah Skillman; and *Hightstown Elks Award for Citizenship*: Molly Petrilla.

### FROM HIGHTSTOWN HIGH:

June 18 Graduates: Avery Cayne, John Cummings, Sarah Henry, James Lawson, Teiman Nachtman, Daniele Przychocki and Rachel Ticktin (Member: National Honor Society).

1998 Award Recipients: Jack Cummings - *Hightstown High School Parents Association Award*; Daniele Przychocki - *Joseph Mongiello Memorial Award*; Rachel Ticktin - *Marie Parker Black Scholarship Award* and the *Presidential Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement*.

May 28 Scholastic Awards: *Honor Roll Recognition Awards* - Rachel Ticktin received a plaque for 4 years on the honor roll; Katie Alfare and Jessica Hamilton received trophies for 3 years; Kate Freedman, Joanna Giordano, Sean Parker and Liz Carroll received varsity letters for 2 years, Hanah Stinson, Ronit Yeger, Naomi Cayne, Joe Cheshier and Shoshi Grunwald received certificates for 1 year. Shoshi Grunwald received the *Departmental Award for English*, and Katie Alfare received the *Departmental Award for World Languages (Spanish)*.

3rd Marking Period Honor Roll: *High Honors*: Rachel Ticktin (grade 12), Katie Alfare (11), Joanna Giordano (10), Hanah Stinson & Victoria Taylor (9). *Honor Roll*: Shoshi Grunwald & Jessica Hamilton (11), Elizabeth Carroll, Kate Freedman & Ronit Yeger (10), Naomi Cayne & Joseph Cheshier (9).

June 6 Athletic Awards: Sean Parker received the *Coach's Award for Wrestling*, and certificates for 2nd Year Varsity Track and 2nd Year Varsity Wrestling. Sean also received the *Player of the Week Award* April 9 for his performance in wrestling, the *Best Attitude award* in April and is included in *Who's Who in American Highschool Students*.

Liz Carroll has been elected Secretary of the Youth Council of the Mercer County chapter of the American Red Cross.

March Student of the Month in Physical Education: Ronit Yeger.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Maureen Clark, Alison Petrilla, Michael Ticktin and Katie Alfare for their assistance in getting the information on graduates and their awards.

**Please Remember:** Continue sending in items for this column during the summer. They will appear in the first fall issue.

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



## General Election To Be Contested After All

by Michael Ticktin

Despite the fact that Harry Parker and Stuart Kaufman were the only two candidates on the primary ballot for the two open Council seats, there will still be a contested local election in November.

Though no local candidates appeared on the Republican primary ballot, two candidates, John Towle and Peter Warren, were nominated by write-in votes, with Mr. Towle receiving ten and Mr. Warren, one.

The single vote cast for Mr. Warren was sufficient to give him the nomination because State law sets a threshold of 5% of the votes cast in the party's last primary at which Assembly candidates were nominated. If the number of votes cast in that primary did not exceed 20, as has generally been the case in Republican primaries in Roosevelt, one vote is all that is needed.

ROOSEVELT FOURTH OF JULY PARADE WAS HELD SATURDAY JULY 4TH, AT 2:00 P.M. THE PARADE BEGAN AT THE CORNER OF TAMARA DRIVE AND NORTH ROCHDALE AVE. AND ENDED AT THE MEMORIAL PARK WHERE REFRESHMENTS WERE SERVED AND RESIDENTS CONGREGATED. MUSIC WAS PROVIDED BY THE GHOST TOWN D.J.'S.

THERE WAS ALSO A CHILDREN'S PET SHOW ON JULY 4TH, AT 10:00 A.M. IT TOOK PLACE OUTSIDE THE ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY.

*(Planning Board, continued from page 9)*

over the last 30 years. Mr. Hunt distributed copies to Board members. He said Mr. Israel had refused to tell the Council the name of the developer for his proposed adult community. According to Mr. Hunt, when pressed, Mr. Israel said he would reveal the name to the Council if it agreed to keep it secret — a condition that the Council indicated it could not accept.

The Board sent to the Council a final version of its recommended amendments to the PCD II to ensure that any planned retirement community option meets the Borough's State-imposed affordable housing obligation. A developer could fulfill his share of Roosevelt's set-aside for affordable housing by reserving five percent of the total number of units for low and moderate-income housing or by making cash contributions to a trust fund. The fund would facilitate construction or renovation of such units in the Borough or elsewhere in the region.

In his Council report, Mr. Hunt said the Council had, over his objection, advertised for bids to improve North Valley Road before the Board had an opportunity to study and make recommendations concerning revised plans. Mayor Allen said the Council had wanted to ensure that the project would conclude by the time school starts in the fall. He noted that the Council could reject bids if the Board found fault with the plans. After reviewing the plans, the Board indicated that they met the concerns that it had previously expressed about elevation, drainage, ground cover and curbing.

## RECYCLING DATES

July 8th & 22nd

August 5th & 19th

September 2nd & 16th



*(Council continued from page 1)*

Judge requested this kind of ordinance to make it possible, when it seemed more appropriate, to charge a violator with an ordinance violation rather than with violating State laws.

Two proposed ordinances that had their second reading and were approved for final adoption with all in favor were Ordinance #187 - "The Subdivision and Site Plan Ordinance of the Borough of Roosevelt," which was described in the last issue of the *Bulletin*, and Ordinance #189 to establish the position of Municipal Court Public Defender and to provide for payment or waiver of application fees. The fee is \$200, but the court may waive all or part of it if the court determines the fee would be an unreasonable burden for the person seeking representation. This ordinance took effect upon passage but the Borough Council did not announce if it had appointed an attorney-at-law to be the municipal court public defender, as the ordinance directs the Council to do.

Under "New Business," seven resolutions were passed unanimously while one was defeated. Councilwoman Murphy moved to petition State Legislative representatives to support legislation concerning the review of school district budgets which are not approved by the voters at the annual school board elections. The intent of that legislation, Mrs. Murphy explained, is to by-pass the Borough Council's review of a defeated budget and have the State Board of Education decide what changes may be required. Messrs. Hoogsteden and Hunt voted against it and Mr. Stiles abstained.

The 1997 municipal audit report was approved, five months earlier in the year than the 1996 audit was approved. In the last public portion of the meeting, the Borough Council members were asked by this reporter if the audit this year included a reconciliation of the Current Fund, the absence of which in the 1996 audit caused much controversy for several months. No member of the Council indicated that he or she had noticed if a reconciliation of the 1997 Current Fund balance was included.

Approval of other resolutions established fees for the Roosevelt Summer Camp, accepted a 1998 matching funds grant of \$2,000 from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and authorized the Borough Auditor to recalculate the water and sewer connection fees in accordance with the State Law, for a fee not to exceed \$1,700. Also approved were the 1998-1999 liquor license for Rossi's Deli, final payment to Michael T. Gavan for the ADA improvements to the municipal building's rest room facilities and ending participation in the NJ State Health Benefits Program for Prescription Drug Coverage.

Just before approving payment of the month's bills, the Council acted on two other matters not listed in the agenda for the meeting. It approved Mr. Stiles' motion to spend up to \$400 to complete improvements to the Borough Hall's bathroom, and it approved of a summer work-study program for four Roosevelt youths to work four hours per weekday for six weeks, through mid-August, at a cost of \$2,941, for which a grant was received.

Councilman Paul Hoogsteden presided at the meeting as Mayor Lee Allen was not able to be present. He announced that two letters had been received. The Pine Valley Swim Club offered its facilities for the Roosevelt Summer Camp three mornings each week, and Peter Warren offered to help the Borough Council and the Planning Board to evaluate development proposals.

The reports that followed included Borough Clerk Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik's report that she had passed the State's course and was now a Certified Registrar for Vital Statistics.

Nobody applied for the announced job of assistant to the public works employee, from June 15 to November 15. Mrs. Murphy recommended putting an ad for the job opening in the Examiner and that the work period end at Labor Day. For a Finance report, Ms. Murphy said the replacement to repair the trickling filter arm at the sewer plant cost \$17,398.

*(Continued on next page)*





*Council, continued from page 16)*

For Public Works, Mr. Stiles reported that the bids for the North Valley Road improvements from Farm Lane to Homestead Lane would be opened on June 18. The Council has scheduled June 22 for a Special Council Meeting to award the contract to the most acceptable bidder. Mr. Stiles mentioned that he is still expecting advice from the Planning Board about this project.

Council members George Vasseur and David Donnelly were not present. No report was given for the Public Utilities Committee that Mr. Donnelly chairs. Mrs. Murphy reported for the Environmental, Health and Safety Committee that Mr. Vasseur chairs. She said requests have been advertised for bids to paint lines to maintain clear space in front of the rear garages. The Fire Department and First Aid Squad vehicles are to be housed there.

In the first public portion, Nona Sherak and Vincent Vignuolo made comments. Ms. Sherak first asked the Council to check the improvements that were made to the Borough Hall's main bathroom. She doubted that they met the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Next Ms. Sherak asked for apologies from the Mayor and Councilwoman Murphy for what she described as deception in answering her complaint at the last Council meeting about being stuck with sediment in her water lines because she was not notified of the time the water lines on Maple Court would be flushed. Mrs. Murphy apologized for saying letters had been mailed to all Maple Court residents. She also promised to direct Sean, the water plant operator, to complete the digging, filling in and cleaning up at the front of Ms. Sherak's residence.

Mr. Vignuolo asked first about why the rear garages were not ready yet for the ambulance and fire trucks. Mr. Stiles said he thought a contract for painting lines in front of the garages would be awarded in two or three weeks, after which the vehicles could be stored there. Next, Mr. Vignuolo asked if the Council had followed up on the suggestion that the Borough could get a State \$5,000 death benefit for each of the volunteer fire fighters which should help in the recruitment of Fire Department members. He indicated that he al-

ready has it as a retired exempt fire fighter. The Borough Clerk said she had called the State office, left a message about the matter but received no reply. Council members said they would follow up on securing any benefits possible for volunteers because their service is very important for the community. Mr. Hoogsteden, President of the Roosevelt Borough Council and presiding at this meeting in the absence of the Mayor, thanked members of the public for attending, raising questions and making suggestions.

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## LOOSE LEAVES

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by Ron Kostar

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### *Traveling with Leaves*

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Traveling is like watching television in that it's more fun to do with somebody else. I found this out recently, when flying to San Antonio I had the good fortune of being accompanied by my old college buddy, Loose Leaves.

Leaves, I should tell you, is an anachronism of sorts. A kind of throwback -- though a throwback to just what, is not quite clear. It's also not clear whether Leaves has kept up with the times these past 25 years, or with the fashions. But more on that later.

One thing Leaves does like to do, though, which makes him a great travel companion, is to talk. Given the slightest provocation, the slimest opening, and Leaves'll emit more words than a room full of gramophones.

He's what Freudians call a "good patient", or what we, back in Leaves' salad days, used to call a "rapper", though it meant something slightly different then.

Leaves is also a product of his times.

Which is to say, like an infant coming out of an eighteen month swim, he's receptive to the slightest outside stimuli. He has a miserable short term memory and very little, if any, sense of history.

In fact he has trouble remembering where he ate and slept last night.

Nor does he care much.

And he prefers to travel light, with only carry-ons, and no suitcases.

And that's, I suspect, because he's a child of TV.

Set him down in front of a book or a television and he'll give you a running commentary. But - and he's strange this way - relieve his hands of its book or pull the plug from his TV, and he's apt to sit in a darkened corner of the room and fidget, blankly stare into space, or brood. There's seldom an in-between with Leaves.

He's either silent, or overbearingly loquacious.

He was weaned on images.

Show him one and he'll spew out at least a thousand

words. Show him a moving image and, well, you get my point ...

Anyway, resting our heads aboard Continental flight 1647 out of Newark headed toward southern Texas, streaming well above the wispy white cloudline, with only abysmal reading material available and no image yet coming over our TV, Leaves was starting to fidget. Then, as is often the case when he's fidgety, he started doing weird things - little anti-social things, like tying and retying his shoes and coughing for no apparent reason; drawing pictures of Ukranian eggs up and down the margins of his sad notebook.

And then - and this is the worst - he started making veiled allusions to tragic airplane crashes from movies he remembered just, I suspect, to get my goat, or, as he likes to say with a snide smile, "to keep you on your toes."

So I was relieved when an image suddenly came over our TV monitor.

It wasn't a movie, or a TV show. It wasn't a logo, or an ad. Nor static.

What came across the screen was a map of the section of the United States we were soaring over; and superimposed over our red and green TV map was a determined little image of our plane, wending its way towards the Gulf of Mexico.

And for the next three hours Leaves charted our course with a running commentary. We were flying too high to see the ground, so he felt obligated and, with his eyes closed and turning inward, he was very happy describing what he saw below:

"Now we're passing over the Georgia lowlands of thick grass and thicker semi-tropical foliage. There are barrier reefs down there, where armadillos race across the roads, and the whole place is moist with the sweet smell of wisteria and magnolia; and across the mud

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*(Continued on page 22)*



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Whom it May Concern,

Over the years since our father, David Bulkin, passed away, many people have stepped up to help my mother, Molly Bulkin, with some of the difficulties and challenges that naturally follow such a loss.

Diana Klein, in particular though, has been an incredible force and form of support and I am hoping The Bulletin has a place within their columns to make mention of such unwavering friendship.

When my mother has refused certain help, Diana would just say something to the effect of: "Molly just get in the car and be quiet, I am taking you to such and such place", or "Molly, be quiet, I am picking such and such up for you."

Diana has stopped and taken the time to care, and I want to salute her and say hats off to you, Diana, for being such a wonderful and caring friend!!!

Very Respectfully submitted,

*Bruce I. Bulkin*

Dear Roosevelt Friends,

After all the columns on language that I wrote for The Bulletin, the unintended ambiguity of that salutation amuses me: Does it mean "friends *in* Roosevelt"? or does it mean "friends *of* Roosevelt" (which itself is ambiguous)?

Anyway, other than mental deterioration, whatever happened to good old Joe Solomon? The bad news is that once having been ordained, I had to move away from Roosevelt, my home for nine years. It was nothing personal. Well, in a way, it certainly was: I wanted to continue eating. Alas, Congregation Anshei Roosevelt couldn't afford me - or I couldn't afford them.

So, I moved to the northern edge of New Jersey and served one year as the rabbi of the congregation in Oakland, in Bergen County. Meanwhile, having rediscovered in rabbinical school the joys of classroom learning, I decided to continue. After all, why stop going to school just because I had been ordained? So, I have been a graduate student at the seminary ever since. That first year it was an easy trip - 45 minutes.

I then moved to Salisbury, MD, and was the rabbi there for four years. It was a five hour drive to JTS, but I used to drive it every week. The first 100 miles were through Delaware, on a four lane divided highway that went through a half dozen towns. It was not a pleasant drive. About the only good thing was that being south of Roosevelt, I occasionally had the chance to stop in at the post office and maybe see a friend or two.

When I enrolled in the Master's program at JTS, in 1990, the Dean of the Graduate School said to me, "I hope you're not doing this so you can get a better job." I replied, "I don't think anyone will even notice." And so it was. I got a (second) Master's degree in 1994 and nobody in Salisbury even noticed. In September of 1995, I moved to Saratoga Springs, NY, where I am the rabbi of the Conservative congregation. For the first time in forty years, I am once again a resident of New York State. The trip to JTS takes "only" three hours and it's all on I-87, so it's a much easier trip. However, being now north of Manhattan, I no longer go past Roosevelt on trips between home and JTS where I am a doctoral student in Liturgy. Getting to Roosevelt takes a special trip which happens only once or twice a year. Inasmuch as I still have a post office box in Roosevelt, the (mostly junk) mail really piles up. However, when I do collect my half ton of mail, I always read the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, so that I will know what's happening in that friendly town. The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin (R.I.P.) used to have as its slogan, "In Philadelphia, nearly everybody reads the Bulletin." In Roosevelt, some people don't read the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. I have never understood why not. How will they find out what's happening? It won't be on TV.

Child 5 still lives in New Brunswick, so I do occasionally get to central New Jersey. When that happens, I try to get to Roosevelt. On the subject of children: Child 1 and family, who briefly lived in Roosevelt, recently moved from Alexandria, VA, to Fairmont, WV. Dan is working on the Hubble Space

*(Continued on next page)*



*(Letters, Continued)*

Telescope and is enjoying not working on anything relating to war. Child 4, who occasionally visited me in Roosevelt, was the manager of the restaurant in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Jerusalem. He wearied of food service, went to school for two years and is now a licensed tour guide. I am hoping to make a congregational tour of Israel an annual event - with Dovid as tour guide.

When I retired from RCA (R.I.P.), I was still in rabbinical school. I had hoped to get some consulting work from RCA, to *earn some money*. (At one time, Roosevelt, small as it is, had three resident APL consultants.) Companies don't like to hire retirees (except high executives), because they are then paying them twice. To persuade a RCA/GE, I made up a great slogan. Unfortunately, I couldn't find out whom to tell it to but it was certainly a winner: "Without me, you guys haven't got a prayer!"

My years in Roosevelt were happy times for me. I regret they had to end. Maybe, when I retire again, I'll move back. In the meantime, you now know how to reach me: 41 Preakness Way, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

*Josef G. Solomon*

Dear Sir:

I will be running for a seat on the Roosevelt Borough Council in November. So are Stu Kaufman, Harry Parker and John Towle. I have excellent qualifications but it will not be the end of civilization as we know it if you vote for them instead of me.

Five years from now, new developments may double the population of Roosevelt and our borough will be far different than it is today, just as it is today far different than it was five years ago. It is the job of the Borough Council to ensure that a better community emerges. My professional experience, previous work on the Council and abundance of leisure time are my qualifications for helping this happen. Even if the developments don't take place, or especially, if they don't take place, I can make a sound contribution to the Borough.

I propose to my fellow candidates that we get

together periodically - perhaps at Sunday brunch - over the summer to get acquainted and discuss our ideas. I also intend to call on and get acquainted with families who have recently moved in whom I don't know and who don't know me. I invite my fellow candidates to join me on these visits.

Sincerely,

*Peter B. Warren*

To the Editor

I couldn't sleep after attending the important joint meeting between the Planning Board and the Borough Council on June 23rd. I was grateful to have received a phone call from a Council member telling me about this "special meeting" otherwise I would not have known about it. I don't always read the fine print of the public notices in the post office, and judging by the attendance, neither do many residents.

There was a lot of discussion among the members of both governing bodies, people who seemed to be very bright and articulate. With all of this "informed discussion" I should have felt better about what seems to be the pending development of Roosevelt. I didn't. I suspect that many of our officials have the same doubts that I have. But just as carpenters never seem to ask "why build?" but rather "which tools?", our government had quietly already proceeded to the question of "How many units?", "is 350 enough or too many?"

One of the reasons I couldn't sleep has to do with the permanent nature of development. Once houses are built, they're here to stay. There's no going back to open fields again. Irrevocable decisions by nature are quite frightening. As I lay awake I wondered how many towns have embarked on development because of a proposal that they thought was well thought out, only to regret their decision years later because of a host of ramifications and effects they could not foresee. How many towns have actually wanted development? I wondered, if we developed like everyone around us, how

*(Letters, continued on page 25)*



*(Would-be Builder, continued from page 4)*

members of the public, Board members indicated that another road would enter Route 571 near Nurko Road so that Oscar Drive would not have to bear all of an adult community's traffic. Witch's Hollow would not have to be opened. Any clustered development would connect to the water and sewer systems and have fire hydrants. The developer would have to pay his proportionate share of any required water and sewer improvements. Whatever services are provided for the rest of Roosevelt would have to be provided by the municipality for an adult community. Except for rare and exceptional hardships, no school-aged children would be permitted to live in the adult community on a permanent basis. The Borough could consider expanding the cemetery into existing, adjacent open space in order to accommodate the additional population.

School Board member Michael Hamilton warned that residents of an adult community might disrupt the school district by frequently voting down school budgets. He also expressed concern about insufficient parking for community events at the school and wondered whether additional tax revenues would be returned to the taxpayers. Mr. Ticktin replied that if Roosevelt could lower its tax rates, all of its residents would be more inclined to support school expenditures and that any return of tax revenues to the community would be largely up to the School Board. Mayor Lee Allen said any such development would be phased in over three to seven years, permitting time to deal with parking problems and to integrate new residents into a supportive community.

Former Planning Board Chairman Ralph Seligman said he would like to see the figures upon which the Board relied in concluding that an adult community

would have a positive fiscal impact on the Borough. After the meeting, Mayor Allen provided calculations projecting decreases in utility fees and the tax rate from a 350-unit retirement community and more decreases from a proposal to construct 65 single-family houses on the Notterman tract east of North Valley Road and south of Eleanor Lane. Complaining that doubling the population "would have a profound impact on the social structure of the town," School Board member Henry John-Alder urged officials to "get into the books" of the would-be developers to determine whether 350 units were necessary. Resident Nona Sherak said the tax savings would not be worth the change in the community.

Mr. Snyder, the US Home division president, said his company built 7,500 homes last year. It has developed several properties under the Greenbriar brand name. He said the firm has experience in smaller communities, although he acknowledged, "We haven't built 350 homes in a community as small as this." He said the company would be amenable to a project "with no gates and an open look." He had "no land plan to show" but offered to arrange to show "ongoing or completed" US Home communities to interested officials.

In response to a question from Mr. Ticktin, Mr. Snyder added that his company would "be happy to work with" town officials on house designs. He said, "We want to blend into the town." When Mr. Ticktin asked if the adult community would make recreational facilities governed by its homeowners association available to other older residents in the Borough who were willing to pay their share of the costs, Mr. Israel responded, "So far as I know, it has never been done."

**Mr. Hunt said,  
"That is the  
vagueness that  
I have objected  
to all along."  
He declared,  
"This is closing  
the barn door  
after the  
ordinance  
[amendments  
are] passed."**

*(Continued on page 22)*



*(Would-be Builder, continued from page 21)*

Several residents and officials, all acclimated to living in a community accustomed to firsts, exchanged knowing glances and comments.

When Mr. Ellentuck noted that US Home had constructed a 280-unit project in Cleveland, Mr. Snyder replied that there were differences but agreed that "perhaps" a reduction in the number of units could be discussed. Mr. Israel interjected that Mr. Snyder had not been involved in the fiscal feasibility calculations and contended that, based on land cost, the need to contribute to water system expansion and the like, his "best understanding" is that 350 units would be necessary "at this time." Mr. Hunt said, "That is the vagueness that I have objected to all along." He declared, "This is closing the barn door after the ordinance [amendments are] passed." Mr. Israel replied, "I don't think I was vague in anything I said." He maintained that at two units per gross acre, the proposed project would have less than half the number of units typical for such a development.

Ms. Murphy said the meeting had assisted her understanding of the proposed amendments. She indicated it was evident that much thought and general consensus lay behind the board's recommendations.

*(Loose Leaves, continued from page 18)*

and rising steam, crawl catfish of the two-legged variety, like the kind you've seen in *National Geographics*," Loose mused. "Close your eyes, friend, and I'll fill you up," he promised.

And he delivered.

For the next fifteen hundred miles, while we soared over South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and finally Texas, Leaves talked and talked and talked, visualized and beamed, while I sat back, closed my eyes and listened to him turn the page.

His descriptions were better than watching the Discovery channel, or a movie. They were, in some sense, more realistic than actually riding over land.

They were - and at first I was reluctant to admit this - well, as good as reading. No, make that better than most reading, since listening to him was like reading while also flying across the sky at 40,000 feet!

Because of him I was able to enjoy the best of both possible worlds.

And Leaves was very factual, because when we finally circled above San Antonio he warned me to put on my sunglasses and the leather boots I didn't have, since we would be entering a place that had "tough grass and noisy long-tailed birds" and, as he put it, a very un-New Jersey sun. It's a nice, Spanish-influenced town, don't get me wrong, but the kind of place where it's a challenge just to open your eyes.

## **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**

**JULY 8TH & 22ND**

**AUGUST 5TH & 19TH**

**SEPTEMBER 2ND & 16TH**



# The Lincolns

by Herb Johnson

Last year I grew an Abraham Lincoln beard, used some "Just For Men" blackener every two weeks to keep it dark, and went to the Roosevelt Public School on Lincoln's birthday. Mr. Presutti had arranged a schedule with the teachers so that I could visit each room in the morning for 15 minutes. Mrs. Williams, the art teacher, had helped me make a 14 inch tall stove-pipe hat the day before and it was the pips, yes sir. The students were really impressed with it, and with my father's old round spectacles that I wore to read with. I had borrowed a long tailed jacket from the Hightstown Historical Society so I looked a lot like Lincoln, the Liberator, or at least like Lincoln the lean, lanky old lawyer!

Do you wonder what I told each group? First of all, unlike most Lincoln presenters, I did not speak as if I were pretending to be the sixteenth US president reincarnated. I told the students that I had read a book in August, by Garry Wills, entitled LINCOLN AT GETTYSBURG - The Words that Remade America. Adeline and Leslie Weiner had given it to me way back in February 1993. Maybe I should not confess that it took me three years before I started to read it! Anyhow, it had such a powerful impact on me that I decided I would study more about Lincoln and arrange with schools to let me tell students about him and the Gettysburg Address. In many of the

beautiful letters that three classes of students wrote me, they commented that they were very impressed about how I had decided to do research and much preparation just because I read a book that impressed me deeply. Some complimented me also on having notes so I would not forget anything I planned to tell them. I wrote personal replies to them all.

There were three aspects of President Lincoln's character that I wanted them to think about: 1. He had deep respect and love for his parents, his sister, his wife and children; 2. He had deep respect for the inherent dignity and rights of all people; 3. He had deep respect for the principles pronounced in the Declaration of Independence.

His family consisted of: his father Thomas Lincoln (he lived to age 73, which was 9 years before his son became President); his mother Nancy Hanks (she died when Abraham was 9 years old); his step-mother Sarah Bush Johnston (a widow whom his father married 14 months later, she brought two young children of hers and was a very kind mother for Thomas' children); his sister Sarah (who was two years older than he, her death from pneumonia at age 21 caused Abraham severe depression); his wife Mary Todd (who was 24 while he was 33 at their marriage) and four children: Robert called "Bob," Edward called "Ned," William called "Willie" and Thomas called "Tad," who were all

loved deeply. Many people wrote about Abraham Lincoln's devotion to Mary and their children in Springfield, Illinois and in Washington, D.C. He loved to play rough house with his sons and he was well respected by their friends. He was always ready to have discussions with his children, and the adults and children of the neighborhood, often being very late for supper.

I read them this letter that he wrote to a 12 year old boy, Willie Smith, on Feb. 23, 1864, near the end of Mr. Lincoln's third year as president: "Your friend, Leroy Driggs, tells me you are an earnest friend of mine, for which please allow me to thank you. You and those of your age are to take charge of this country when we older ones shall have gone; and, I am glad to learn that you already take so lively an interest in what just now so deeply concerns us."

After showing the students a photocopy of the letter 11 year old Grace Bedell of Westfield, New York, wrote to Mr. Lincoln one month before he was elected President of the United States, I read it and Mr. Lincoln's response. I gave every student a full scale photocopy of the letter he wrote on October 19, 1860: "My dear little Miss, Your very agreeable letter of the 15th is received. I regret the necessity of saying I have no daughters. I have three sons - one seventeen, one nine and one seven years of age. They

*(Continued on next page)*



*(The Lincolns, continued)*

with their mother constitute my whole family. As to the whiskers, having never worn any, do you not think people would call it a silly affection if I were to begin it now? Your very sincere well-wisher, A. Lincoln." (He changed his mind after the election.) I asked every student to take the letter home and tell their family about it.

Abraham and Mary Lincoln's second child died at age four. Of the remaining three, Willie died at age 10 in the second year the family lived in the White House in Washington. Tad died at age 18, six years after his father's death. Mary Lincoln suffered deeply. Robert Lincoln did as well. He became Secretary of War for two Presidents, as well as a successful lawyer, living to age 83. Two of Robert's children had children but there are no living descendants of Mary or Abraham Lincoln.

At the Roosevelt school, the sixth grade teacher gave me five minutes extra with the students. I read them a letter Mr. Lincoln wrote from Washington when he was a Congressman, 12 years before he became President. It encouraged young men to take initiative and train themselves to be public speakers. "Let everyone play the parts he can play best - some speak, some sing and all holler!" Then I explained that when I was an eighth grader, I was selected to deliver the Gettysburg Address from memory after the Tarrytown-North Tarrytown parade, in the Sleepy

Hollow Cemetery for Memorial Day. It had a strong influence on my life - long concern that every person's rights and dignity be respected. I urged the students to think about the meaning of Lincoln's 272 words, the words in his speech at the dedication of the cemetery for those who lost their lives in the Battle of Gettysburg, the words historian Garry Wills said remade America. In conclusion, the sixth graders listened to my delivery of the Gettysburg Address.

As part of my research, I wrote the President of the Association of Lincoln Presenters, Professor Daniel Bassuk, at his address in White House, New Jersey. I joined it and attended the A.L.P.'s annual meetings in Gettysburg in 1997 and in Charleston, Illinois in April, 1998. Charleston is where the fourth Lincoln-Douglas debate took place. There I met 42 men who looked like and dressed like Abraham Lincoln, and also six women who dressed like and portrayed Mary Lincoln. My wife and I enjoyed the two days of events, as well as visiting the Lincoln's residence in Springfield. We also visited an uncle and aunt and six cousins of mine in three locations in Indiana, north of the area where Abraham Lincoln lived near the border of Kentucky in southern Indiana from when he was seven until he was 21 years old. His family's move to eastern Illinois then helped free him of the two years of deep depression he suffered after his sister's death. Illinois was the state of his legal residence for the rest of that magnificent man's life.

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MEETINGS  
the second  
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of each month.**





*(Letters, continued from page 20)*

then would Roosevelt be special? What would happen to our identity?

I was confused. I thought that we had already decided together what shape development was to take if we were to develop at all. Our decisions were a compromise that was forged between the anti-development and pro-development forces in our town. It gave us common ground to stand on. We have well thought-out guidelines and the advised consent of our residents from our referendum and incorporated into two planned community development ordinances and a master plan. Critics of PCD1 & 2 will be quick to point out that they were compromises and under these ordinances it would not be profitable for most developers to build in Roosevelt. This was acknowledged during the long period when they were being hammered out. They were passed because they sought moderation and through such moderation they provided a certain degree of safety to this irrevocable option we are considering. What troubled me about this 350 unit adult community was that this is **not** a moderate proposal (it would double our population almost overnight), and it is **not** our plan.

Somewhere along the line someone gave the keys to a guy named Sid Israel, and he is driving. PCD1 & 2 and the master plan are quickly being revised to fit Mr. Israel's plan. Soon we will be operating under "SID 3". It was interesting to see that joint committee members were now asking him if fewer than 350 units would be OK, and if Roosevelt residents could use their pool and clubhouse. The answer was "no" to both questions. The gentleman who accompanied Sid Israel commented later in the meeting that they have never built a project that effectively doubled the size of a town, and that they did not know what the effect would be, (neither do we).

As the Planning Board and the Council look to pave the way for development by updating and revising the PCD 1& 2 and the master plan to fit Sid's specs, we need to decide if this is really what we want. Is it a worthwhile trade-off just for the savings of perhaps \$100 or less a month? What about what some of our

representatives consider "intangibles"? Won't we have less open space, less wildlife, twice the number of people, and more traffic? Would school budgets be shot down? What about parking at the school, borough hall and the post office, wouldn't that be a hidden cost? And, to echo one of our resident's questions, "would there be room in the cemetery?" With its own exclusive facilities wouldn't this "gateless adult community" develop its own character, feeling of place and politics separate from the rest of Roosevelt? Wouldn't it really be a "gated gateless community"? These are the kind of questions that swirl around in your head after such a meeting. These are only some of the factors to consider. I do not consider them to be intangibles.

I am reluctant to become involved in still another issue, and hesitant to be seen as someone who is in opposition to any option for tax relief. I was against a nuclear waste dump in Roosevelt. I do not think that regionalization of our school district would be beneficial, and I am opposed to a doubling of our town through development. What then am I for?

I am for continuing to live in what I and many other residents feel is our own version of Eden. We have what most other towns wish they had, and for some reason we want to give it away. Granted, Roosevelt is a high-rent Eden, but I really do love it nonetheless. I might not be opposed to very limited phased-in development, or to cost-sharing with other municipalities and school districts (partial-regionalization). I will continue to do what I can to see that the costs don't go up too high, and I won't complain on the first of the month when I pay my bills. I have seen the menu for change offered by our municipal representatives, and at this point in time I don't see anything I like on it. The one thing I love is living and raising my family in this small town of Roosevelt.

*Mike Hamilton*



**THE BULLETIN is pleased to accept articles having to do in any way with the Borough of Roosevelt, including literary works by local residents and others with ties to the community. However, due to the fact that this is a non-profit publication that is dependent upon public contributions, articles designed to promote the sale of products or services for profit cannot be accepted.**

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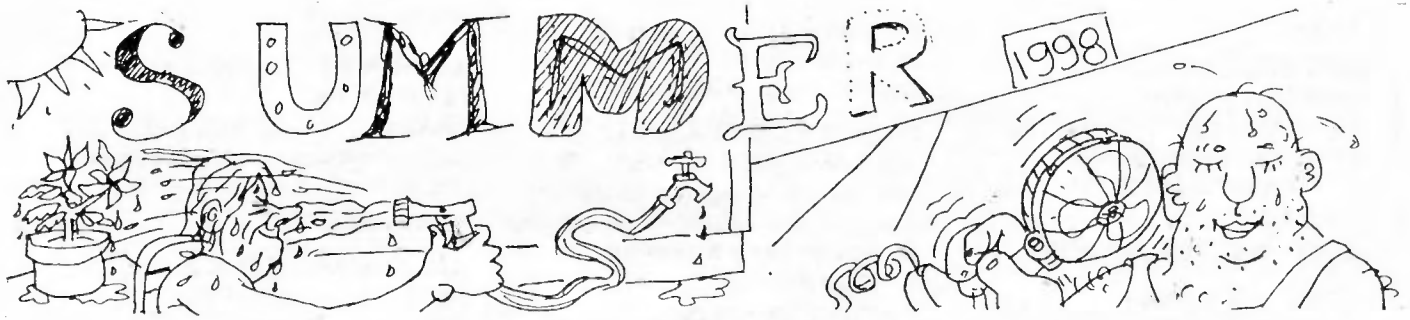
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SAT.	7/4	JULY 4th	CELEBRATION, ELLEN SILVERMAN, 490-0557.	THURS.8/27	7:30 P.M.	SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, RPS, LAURALYNNE COKELEY, PRESIDENT, 443-6287.
SUN.	7/5	8:00 A.M.	STREAM WATCH (VOLUNTEER WATER TESTING), KIRK ROTHFUSS, 448-3713.	MON.	8/31	7:30 P.M. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, BOROUGH HALL, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, 448-7358.
MON.	7/6	9:00 A.M.	ROOSEVELT SUMMER CAMP BEGINS, ELLEN SILVERMAN, 490-0557.7:30 P.M.	<b>SEPTEMBER EVENTS</b>		
			COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.	WED.	9/2	<b>RECYCLING</b>
WED.	7/8	<b>RECYCLING</b> 8:00 P.M.	PLANNING BOARD MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, CHAIRMAN JOE ZAHORA, 426-4187.	TUES.	9/8	SCHOOL OPENS FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS. COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.
MON.	7/13	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL ACTION MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.	WED.	9/10	8:00 P.M. PLANNING BOARD MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, CHAIRMAN JOE ZAHORA, 426-4187.
		8:00 P.M.	SYNAGOGUE BOARD MEETING, MICHAEL TICKTIN, 448-0363.	MON.	9/14	7:30 P.M. COUNCIL ACTION MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.
WED.	7/15	8:00 P.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, BOROUGH HALL, CHAIRMAN WAYNE COKELEY, 443-6287.	WED.	9/16	<b>RECYCLING</b> 8:00 P.M.
MON.	7/20	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, BOROUGH HALL, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, PRESIDENT, 448-7358.	MON.	9/21	7:30 P.M. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING, CHAIRMAN WAYNE COKELEY, 443-6287. ROSH HASHANAH RPS CLOSED COUNCIL COMMISSION MEETINGS, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, 448-7358.
WED.	7/22	<b>RECYCLING</b> THURS.7/23	7:30 P.M. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, RPS, LAURALYNNE COKELEY, PRESIDENT, 443-6287.	TUES.	9/22	ROSH HASHANAH RPS CLOSED
MON.	7/27	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, PRESIDENT, 448-7358.	THURS.9/24	7:30 P.M.	SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, RPS, LAURALYNNE COKELEY, PRESIDENT, 443-6287.
<b>AUGUST EVENTS</b>				MON.	9/28	7:30 P.M. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, BOROUGH HALL, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, PRESIDENT, 448-7358.
MON.	8/3	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.	WED.	9/30	YOM KIPPUR RPS CLOSED
WED.	8/5	<b>RECYCLING</b>		<b>RECYCLING</b>		
MON.	8/10	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL ACTION MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, MAYOR LEE R. ALLEN, 448-6978.			
THURS.	8/12	8:00 P.M.	PLANNING BOARD MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, CHAIRMAN JOE ZAHORA, 426-4187.			
MON.	8/17	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, PRESIDENT, 448-7358.			
WED.	8/19	<b>RECYCLING</b> 8:00 P.M.	ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING, BOROUGH HALL, CHAIRMAN WAYNE COKELEY, 443-6287.			
MON.	8/24	7:30 P.M.	COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PAUL HOOGSTEDEN, 448-7358.			

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