

Bulletin

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April 2001

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Trachtenberg Resigns and is Replaced by Magnes; PCD II Repeal Debated

By Michael Ticktin

The March 12 meeting of the Roosevelt Borough Council opened with the reading of a letter from Councilwoman Judith Trachtenberg indicating that she was compelled to resign for health reasons and a letter from Democratic Committee members Ann Baker and Kirk Rothfuss nominating Marilyn Magnes, Pat Moser and Ralph Seligman as the persons from among whom the Council would be required to choose Ms. Trachtenberg's successor. Mayor Hamilton expressed his deep regret that Ms. Trachtenberg had found it necessary to resign and praised the good work that she had done in her brief term. The Council then voted to appoint Marilyn Magnes to fill the vacancy. Ms. Magnes thereupon took her place at the Council table and the meeting proceeded.

After approving a bond ordinance to pay the cost of repairing the Borough's reserve well, which has been out of service for many months; the Mayor and Council opened the public hearing on the proposed ordinance to rescind the PCD II ordinances. Those are the ordinances that established the Planned Community Development zone in the northern part of the Borough and subsequent-

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Census Finds 933 Residents

By Michael Ticktin

This past month, the Census Bureau released final 2000 census figures for New Jersey municipalities. Roosevelt's population was found to be 933, a net gain of 49, or 5.54%, over the 884 reported in 1990. By coincidence, the increase from 1980 to 1990 was also 49.

This latest reported increase, however, differs from the last in that it took place over a decade in which only five dwellings were added to Roosevelt's housing stock. In contrast, between 1980 and 1990, 27 houses and 22 apartments were built, while one unit was eliminated by the combining of two houses into one (which have since been uncombined), for a net gain of 48.

It is interesting to note the extent to which the population and the number of housing units have varied independently of each other over the period covered by our seven censuses. Between 1940 and 1950, hardly any units were added, but the population grew because young families moved in when the homes were sold in the late 1940's. Population growth was nearly as great as the increase in the housing stock during the 1950's and the 1960's. Both were mainly due to the construction of the Roosevelt Estates development on Lake Drive and Clarksburg Road,

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PLEA FOR HELP!

From the editors

As we publish our sixth edition of this year's *Bulletin*, we find ourselves once again facing a financial shortage.

While we are sorry to have to conduct another Fund Drive in the middle of this publishing year, it occurs to us that even PBS, the Public Broadcasting System conducts one every three months or so. To make it more palatable, they broadcast "block buster" programs that they hope will attract more contributions. Following suit, we too have a "block buster" to offer - the wonderful stories of Bob Clark's illustrious ancestors. Our "Two Square Miles Of Stories" feature is bringing into focus the amazing backgrounds we all bring with us to some degree into our present lives. We're sure you'll enjoy reading about three people who literally changed the world by starting the long, uphill struggle against intolerance in America. In addition, of course, there are our usual present day news of what's happening here and now.

News Flash!

Michele and Lenny Hillis have just offered us an additional significant grant in honor of their newly adopted son, Roman Alexander Hillis. Many thanks and good wishes to all three of them!

But we need more to continue to be able to bring this paper to our community; we must look to you, our readers, for financial support. As you know, this non-profit, volunteer-produced publication except for printing and postage, is funded solely by your generous contributions. Right now, the eighty-eight names on our Contributions Page, which also includes a number of out-of-towners, represents a very small percentage of the 337 families that make up our wonderful town.

If you have taken for granted that at the beginning of each month, the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin will appear in your postage box, it can only happen if we can pay the printer and the postage.

We are grateful to those who have already contributed, but look forward to hearing from those of you who have not done so as yet.

If you enjoy reading our monthly publication with its present day news of what's happening here and now, please help us.



Remember These April Dates:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| April 5 | Board of Education meeting - 7:30 p.m. |
| April 17 | School Elections - Borough Hall, 2:30 - 9:00 p.m. |
| April 19 | Earth Day |
| April 23, 24 | Kindergarten registration |
| April 26 | Board of Education meeting - 7:30 p.m. |

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Planning Board Supports Repeal of PCD II

By Bob Clark

Armed with an 11-page report from its planning consultant, the Roosevelt Planning Board overwhelmingly supported repeal of the planned community development ordinance (PCD II) governing the Borough's northern 500 acres. The Board modified the report, prepared by Michael Sullivan of the planning firm of Clark Caton Hintz, following a lengthy discussion during its March 7 meeting. Eight members and one alternate member voted for the repeal. Member Michael Ticktin declined to vote because he owns property within 200 feet of the land affected by the proposed change in zoning. The Borough Council, which sought the Board's position in accordance with State law, introduced the ordinance and will make the final decision. The Council postponed action on the ordinance until its April meeting.

If the zoning change occurs, developers would no longer be able to build a high-density retirement community of up to 350 units east of Route 571 and north of Oscar Drive. Also repealed would be the option permitting clustering of up to 114 single-family homes or office-research uses on both sides of Route 571. Recent open space preservation in the area west of 571, under the auspices of the Fund for Roosevelt, has already cut by about one half the number of houses that could be constructed under that option.

The repeal proposal would leave the underlying residential-agricultural zoning in place. That would permit construction of dwellings on 10-acre lots. A small light industrial zone also would remain near the northeast corner of the intersection of Route 571 and Oscar Drive.

Mr. Sullivan's report declared the proposed elimination of PCD II consistent with the 1978 Master Plan, the first adopted for the Borough since its founding. That plan emphasized the need for sensitivity to historic planning concepts, balanced growth, environmental concerns, social factors, and fiscal aspects. The report also notes that rescission of PCD II appears consistent with the 1987 Reexamination Report, which recommended long-term agricultural preservation efforts and made no recommendations for zoning changes in the northern area.

In 1991, the Board amended the Master Plan in response to a Council resolution calling for limited development within the northern area. Mr. Sullivan noted the Board

could conclude that the elimination of PCD II would be consistent with the 1991 amendment because the amendment calls for maintaining the "visual, historic environmental, economic and social character of the community." He added that the Board might conclude the 10-acre zoning would ensure the preservation of farmland and agricultural uses better than clusters of many more houses, a retirement community, or office-research facilities. Finally, Mr. Sullivan pointed out that the 1999 Master Plan Reexamination warned, "Development as permitted within the zoning ordinance has the potential to radically change the character of Roosevelt" in negative ways. On the other hand, the 1999 report relates, "At the same time, there is credible evidence to suggest" that a retirement community "would have a potentially significant positive effect on the fiscal burdens currently impacting the community." According to Mr. Sullivan, the 1999 report "posed the question" whether Roosevelt should retain options for a retirement community or clustered housing, as well as the original 10-acre residential zoning.

Mr. Sullivan noted changes that have bolstered the arguments in favor of eliminating PCD II. A proposal for development of the Notterman tract, located between the Cemetery and the Solar Village, showed how certain development could become "patently inconsistent with established patterns of Roosevelt." Meanwhile, new sources of funding have enabled the Fund for Roosevelt to make significant progress in preserving agricultural lands. Also, Board members expressed little confidence in the Borough's ability to make developers pay their fair share of the cost of utility upgrades necessary to accommodate significant development. Potentially troubling costs of first aid, fire and the like also could arise from dramatic increases in population. Concerns about polarization of the community and senior voting patterns affecting school budgets also have arisen. Meanwhile, many residents also fear that an age-restricted community might disrupt the well being of residents by consolidating community power within a private homeowners association and orienting community activities toward an exclusive community center, rather than the Roosevelt Public School.

In other action, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Sullivan's firm to continue as Planning Consultant for the rest of 2001. Board Chairwoman Gail Hunton asked Mr.

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Census Finds 933 Residents

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which accounted for 14 of the 18 houses built in each decade. Roosevelt Estates attracted young families with children, so the population increased even while older households were losing members.

It was only in the 1970's and, to a lesser extent, in the 1980's that the rate of creation of new dwelling units more than doubled over the previous two decades, but the rate of population growth declined sharply. The accompanying chart shows that there was a decline in average household size of nearly 21% from 1970 to 1990.

During the last decade, however, that trend was reversed. Despite the fact that only five housing units were added, the population increase was the same as when 48 units

were built. As a result, for the first time since 1950, the average population per household increased. As in the 1940's, this probably reflects the influx of young families.

It should be no surprise to anyone that Roosevelt's modest population gain stands in sharp contrast to the much larger gains of our immediate neighbors. Millstone's population, which had increased by 29.3% in the previous decade, went from 5,069 to 8,970, an increase of 77.0%, while Upper Freehold, which grew by 19.3% in the 1980's, went from 3,277 to 4,282, for a gain of 30.7%. Allentown, on the other hand, went from 1,828 to 1,882, an increase of just 3.0%, after losing population between 1980 and 1990. ■

Census	<u>1940</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Population	629	720	764	814	835	884	933
Increase	....	3.15%	6.11%	6.54%	2.58%	5.89%	5.54%
Housing Units	202*	206	224	242	284	332	337
Increase	....	.20%	8.74%	8.04%	17.36%	16.90%	1.51%
Population per unit	3.46	3.50	3.41	3.36	2.94	2.66	2.77

*In 1940, there were 206 buildings designed as dwellings in Jersey Homesteads. Of these, 200 were the Jersey Homesteads houses and the other six were the pre-existing farmhouses. Four of these buildings were used for non-residential purposes. These were the government administration building (5 Homestead), the borough hall/post office (4 Homestead), the factory outlet store (Britton house) and the "tea house" (1 Homestead). ■

PLANNING BOARD

Continued from Page 3

Sullivan to prepare a schedule for completion of a proposed new Master Plan.

The Board thanked Henry John-Alder for preparing a comprehensive study of the effects of road width and curb type on parking problems within the Borough. The information will help the Board to decide whether to recommend an ordinance that would reduce parking on lawns, a condition that diminishes the attractiveness of the town

and reduces property values. The Board also will have to consider special hardships found in some areas, including the courts. In addition, it will have to assess the level of tolerance in town for visual effrontery and the willingness to enforce, or seek State Police enforcement of, parking regulations. Varying driveway lengths, numbers of cars in some areas, and the impact of new restrictions on attached housing also will have to be considered. ■

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

New Jersey Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5), states that "the mayor shall be the head of the municipal government" and "shall recommend to the Council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the borough."

A few years ago one of my children saw me watching the stock ticker on the financial channel on TV. She asked me, "Isn't that boring dad?" It was then that I realized that few things are more fascinating than watching your money. With this in mind, I decided to include a "YOUR TAX DOLLARS" segment in my monthly column.

The Borough acts as the collection agent for school, county and borough taxes. School taxes account for approximately 3/4 of your local property tax dollar and are subject to voter approval. County taxes and municipal taxes comprise the rest. In order to understand how your tax dollars are spent, it is necessary to have a working understanding of the municipal budget. As always, the devil is in the details.

- **In 2000:** The owners of an average Roosevelt home valued at \$100,000 saw property taxes decrease by about \$400.
- **In 2001:** After the proposed budget is approved, the average Roosevelt homeowner should see property taxes decrease by an additional \$400.
- Over the 2-year period, property taxes for the average Roosevelt home will have declined by approximately \$800.

The Public Hearing on the Proposed Municipal Budget will be held on Monday April 9, 2001 at 7:30 PM in the Borough Hall. Complete budgets (not just the summary) are available from the Borough Clerk.

The 2001 Proposed Municipal Budget

- We ended the year 2000 with a \$651,680 surplus in the Borough's bank accounts. This is \$94,664 more surplus than the year before.
- **Why did the surplus grow?** In 2000, by shifting from no-interest and low-interest bank accounts to

accounts earning competitive rates of interest, we received \$42,000 in additional interest on our bank accounts over the prior year. This accounts for some of our surplus growth. The reserve for uncollected taxes accounts for the rest of the surplus.

- **What is the reserve for uncollected taxes?** The reserve is a State-mandated "nonspending" reserve fund collected by the Borough to make up for those homeowners who default on their property taxes. It is a percentage of the entire budget including municipal, school, and county taxes that the Council estimates will be needed to make up for uncollected taxes. Any excess dollars become surplus and can be used in the next year's budget.

- **How does the reserve for uncollected taxes affect your property taxes?** In last year's budget, the Council estimated that we needed to collect an additional 8.52% of our total budget, (\$170,043 or almost \$500 per homeowner) as a reserve for uncollected taxes.

- **What happens if the Council overestimates the amount needed for uncollected taxes?** Last year we overcollected \$92,406. This amounts to approximately \$300 for the average Roosevelt homeowner.

- **Impact of the reserve for uncollected taxes:** Obviously, this State-mandated reserve fund has a great impact on your property tax bill, which is why I thought that you should know about it. This year I urged the Council to bring the reserve rate for uncollected taxes closer to our actual property tax-collection rate in order to reduce the amount of taxes that we collect. The reserve rate in this year's budget is around 2% less than last year. This will amount to approximately \$150 in savings for the average Roosevelt homeowner.

- **Is having a large surplus a good or a bad thing?** A healthy municipal bank account is a good thing when

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BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 1

ly made provision for retirement community development at a much higher density.

Tim Fisher, Land Development Manager of US Home, the prospective developer of the area east of Rochdale Avenue, opened the discussion by stating that the ordinance proposed for repeal rightly recognizes the "inherent benefits" of a planned retirement community. There is a growing population of people at or near retirement age who would like to live in such housing. The design that US Home is proposing would, according to Mr. Fisher, be consistent with Roosevelt's historic cluster design, with ample open space and buffering. He projected a tax reduction of 40% and stated that his company would fund upgrades to the water and sewer systems.

Tim Hartley responded by saying that he has lived here for 28 years and has stayed because of the town's character, which he thinks would be ruined by any large development. He also said that he doubts that the tax benefit would be as large as Mr. Fisher had stated.

Bill Martin, whose wife's family owns woodlands on the south side of the undeveloped portion of Oscar Drive that borders his property in Millstone, expressed concern about the high taxes and the need to upgrade utilities and other services. In his view, a retirement community would provide the resources needed to address these problems. He also said that the ordinances proposed for repeal showed good planning and took account of what might happen 50 or 60 years from now.

Bob Frances stated that he wanted to know what the long-range consequences of any senior development would be. What other specific impacts would be experienced by the community down the road?

Kevin Laurita cited the chronic need of the utility systems for repair and asked how the Borough would be able to do this costly work without the help that a developer might provide.

Ann Baker expressed her view that "there are some things that you cannot buy, including character and peacefulness." She compared developers to "predators" trying to ensnare communities with their promises.

Lois Hunt said that she has read many articles about "dismay" felt by residents of towns in which development has occurred and the lack of tax relief in those towns is "almost unanimous." She went on to say that she was "appalled by the thought of this happening in our little town."

Paul Brottman, the owner of one of the properties proposed for inclusion in the US Home development, complained that those who make decisions in Roosevelt never give any consideration to the property owners involved and never solicit their views. Mayor Hamilton replied that he would gladly talk with Mr. Brottman any time.

Virginia Edwards questioned the need for so many units. She characterized the sort of retirement community that would be allowed under the current ordinance as "out of proportion to the town."

Lorraine Hartley expressed her preference for a few large houses on ten-acre lots, rather than a lot of small ones. She stated that she loves the town the way it is, it is a beautiful place to live, and the thought of leaving horrifies her.

Pearl Seligman asked for a timeline for the promised 40% tax reduction. Mr. Fisher said it would be in place after the three or four years it would take to build all of the houses. She then asked how much the municipality would have to pay in the interim and expressed her objection to the existence of a homeowners association, which she views as a separate community whose members would have a say in our affairs, but in whose affairs we would have no say.

Howard Kaufman expressed his concern about how we would fund future costs of infrastructure replacement and repair, while Stuart Kaufman asked that the Council allow more time for "honest, open dialogue" before making any decision in this matter.

After all who wished to speak had done so, Mayor Hamilton announced that he would ask that the public hearing be continued at the April 9 meeting. A motion to this effect was made, seconded and adopted.

In the remainder of the meeting, the proposed municipal budget was introduced and scheduled for a hearing on April 9, as was an ordinance providing for improvements to North Valley Road between Eleanor Lane and Oscar Drive. The Council also passed a motion authorizing the Monmouth County Mosquito Extermination Commission to apply pesticides from aircraft to control mosquitoes over portions of the Borough. Mayor Hamilton advised that the pesticide that is going to be used had been found to be safe by the Environmental Commission. ■

SCHOOL NEWS

From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

School budget time is upon us. The budget hearing in the school was scheduled for March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Before that time, residents received a budget summary in the mail. The tax decrease proposed for the budget is a result of continuing vigilance by the Board of Education to control finances without sacrificing programming, and the joint efforts of school and community to pursue equitable state funding. School elections will take place on April 17. I look forward to the community's continued support of the budget. We hoped people would come to the hearing to voice any questions. Part of sound decision making is being well informed.

One of the few areas of federal funding to schools is in special education. In the 26 years of IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), Congress has never provided more than 15%; while the initial promise was that the federal government would provide 40% of excess spe-

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

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you have an aging water and sewer system that may require emergency repairs. Nevertheless, a growing surplus may be a sign that the government is overcollecting your tax dollars.

Changes on the Council

During the March 12 meeting the Council reluctantly accepted the resignation of Councilwoman Judy Trachtenberg. Judy was chosen to fill an unexpired Council term until the November 2000 general election. She then was elected to serve out the remainder of that term which expires December 31, 2002. Judy was a dedicated Council member whose contributions were greatly appreciated. During the March 12 meeting, the Council chose Marilyn Magnes to fill Judy's seat until the 2001 November election.

In a future column, I will review our water/sewer assessments. I will continue to rely upon your suggestions and support.

Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor
Phone: 443-5227 or
E-mail: mham82@home.com ■

cial education costs. The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate is currently considering IDEA. Two bills, H.R.737 and S.466, would make IDEA funds mandatory. The two bills gradually increase IDEA funding over the next few years until the program is fully funded. Calls to our congressional offices to reach our congressman are in order at this time. The capitol switchboard number is 202-225-3121. Every call helps!

Through their art class, students participated in the Monmouth County Earth Day contest. Each grade level used a different media to create a designated theme for Earth Day. We have a first grade and third grade finalist. The first grader's task was to create an illustration for a poem about animals, and the theme for third grade was water conservation. We had some wonderful entries from all grades, and we wish our finalists the best. Winners will be announced before Earth Day.

An informational session regarding full day kindergarten was held at the school on March 14. The Board of Education will discuss full day kindergarten during its meeting of April 5. At this time, any community member who would like to have his/her voice heard is welcome to address the Board. The meeting begins at 7:30. The audience can address the Board during the audience participation portion of the meeting, which is scheduled near the beginning of the meeting. Please call if you have any questions.

Our students have been busy planning and rehearsing for their talent show. Everyone was invited for Saturday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. to see a wonderful show.

Please visit our beautiful new web site at www.RPS1.org.

School will be closed for spring break April 9 - April 16. It will resume on Tuesday, April 17 (School Election Day!) Daylight savings time begins on April 1. Happy spring! ■

**Are you taking advantage of the
Roosevelt Library in our school?
To keep it alive, it needs to be used.
As CSA Weinbach has said:
"A town library would be a
terrible thing to lose!"**

SCHOOL NEWS

RCNS News

By Ginny Weber

Spring is in full swing at Roosevelt Community Nursery School. This month our class is learning about April Showers and the water cycle. We will also find out how important rain is to our environment and us. To celebrate Earth Day, our class will learn how everyone can help to keep our neighborhood clean. One of our projects, a litter bag, can be used every day to ensure that the children learn that littering is bad for our environment and that everyone could help to keep it nice and clean. What fun we have making "recycled masterpieces" from our trash!

April is a wonderful time to learn that some animals are born and some are hatched from eggs. Our class will make some projects about baby animals to find out how they are different and how they are the same.

It's hard to believe that RCNS is already planning for the new school year. There will be an Open House at our school on Sunday, April 29th, from 1-3 p.m. for anyone who is interested in visiting our school. I hope you will join us and meet some families who are already a part of our nursery school family. The children may do a project, play in any of our centers, and play outside in our playground. Parents may discuss their expectations and learn about our varied curriculum. ■

Roosevelt Volunteer First Aid Squad Hosts CPR Course

By Jack Rindt

On Sunday 25, February 2001, at 10:00 a.m., the Roosevelt Volunteer First Aid Squad hosted an American Red Cross CPR class for the Professional Rescuers at the Borough Hall.

There were eight people that attended the course, two registered nurses, two students, two teachers from Roosevelt Public School, one dental assistant and one Girl Scout leader.

This was a refresher course, so it lasted 4 hours.

All passed the course with 82% and higher.

Anyone wishing to join the First Aid Squad or the Fire Department please see any member for details.

P.O. Box 41
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609-448-9475 ■

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Senior Citizens News

By Herb Johnson

The Roosevelt Senior Citizens Club held its regular business meeting on Thursday, March 8 at the Borough Hall. It had been postponed from Tuesday due to snow.

The following activities were planned for the month: the third Tuesday, March 20, members would ride the SCAT bus to breakfast at the Prestige diner, followed by the movies at Town Center Regal Theaters; box lunches at the Solar Village meeting room on the last Friday, March 30 at 12:30 p.m. The next regular business meeting is to be on Tuesday, April 3 at 1:00 p.m., at the Borough Hall.

President Gerry Millar reported that she spoke with Mr. Holz, director of a state speakers bureau. It was agreed by the club to have a speaker on "Insurance, banking and Identity Theft" at the business meeting on June 5.

Treasurer Dolores Chasan suggested the members be part of a telephone chain, as a follow-up on Councilman Jeff Hunt's offer to help senior citizens get delivery of medicines in case a snow storm caused a shortage. A chain was formed.

Membership Coordinator Thelma Thompson turned over to the Treasurer \$6 more for 3 members' dues, bringing the total to 23. Dolores was host for refreshments after the meeting. ■

From Girl Scout Troop 1904

Thank You

The members of Roosevelt Junior Girl Scout Troop 1904 would like to thank all the community members who made donations to the food drive that the troop conducted in February. A lot of food was collected for families in town. Members of the troop are: Karina Banegas, Lindsay Bernardin, Samantha Cedar, Danielle Cokeley, Julia Grayson, Ashley Lawson, Rachel Lopez, Megan Plaska, Sarah Tulloss and Gabrielle Velasquez. ■

Two Square Miles of Stories

Banished And Slain, They changed The World

By Bob Clark

Our willingness to accept differences among our neighbors is often passed down from generation to generation. Most of us know whether our parents and grandparents harbored prejudices or bravely stood up to intolerance by others. Some, benefiting from the work of family historians and genealogists, know the traits of more distant ancestors. When those people are historic figures, however, as are three of my direct ancestors, their character is exposed through the ages. All three - Roger Williams, Anne Hutchinson and Mary Dyer - were, in turn, esteemed citizens and pariahs in their own time, the 17th Century. All were banished from Massachusetts Bay Colony for questioning religious hegemony and the established order. Two were murdered, one with seven of her children. In the end, they all made significant positive contributions to the long struggle against intolerance in America.

Roger Williams, my 10th great-grandfather, was born in London about 1603. Disappointing his mentor, Chief Justice Edward Coke, he opted for the clergy instead of the law. Ordained in the Church of England, he eventually embraced Puritanism and immigrated to Massachusetts a decade after the Mayflower first arrived. Victims of religious persecution in England, the Puritans ironically created their own intolerant theocracy in the Bay Colony. Roger challenged this orthodoxy. He also studied the language and character of neighboring Indians. Roger denounced the authorities for forcing religious uniformity upon the colonists. He further infuriated them by publicly proclaiming their charter invalid, since the king had no right to give away



NARRAGANSETT INDIANS GRANT RHODE ISLAND TO ROGER WILLIAMS

lands belonging to the Indians. Warned by friends of impending deportation, Roger hastily bade his wife and two young daughters goodbye and, after a 14-week trek in winter wilderness, found sanctuary in 1636 with his Indian friends in the Narragansett Country.

Joined by followers, he purchased land from the sachems and founded Providence (the heart of the colony of Providence Plantations, later Rhode Island) where the government tolerated complete religious freedom. The

colony became a haven for Quakers, Jews and others fleeing from persecution. Although Roger founded the first Baptist church in America, he withdrew from this group within a few months and became a "Seeker." He gave away his vast holdings to his followers.

When Indians sacked and burned Providence in 1676 during King Philip's War, Roger, then in his seventies, headed the list of those who "stay'd and went not away" when the

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Quaker Mary Basset Dyer hanged

COMMUNITY NEWS

Two Square Miles of Stories

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aged, the infirm, and the women and children were sent to Newport for safety. He went out alone and unarmed to meet the invaders. They told him that, although the city would be burned, as an honest man he would not be harmed. He lived to see Providence rebuilt and continue to put into practice his principles of freedom of thought and worship, separation of Church and State, and equality, regardless of race or creed.

Anne Marbury Hutchinson, my 10th great-grandmother, was born in England in 1591, more than a decade before Roger Williams. Her mother, Bridget Dryden, was the ^{great}granddaughter of the Poet Laureate John Dryden.

Daughter of a clergyman who had been imprisoned twice for preaching against the incompetence of English ministers, Anne and her large family came to Boston in 1634, nearly 31/2 years after Roger and his wife arrived. Noting that the male members of Boston's church met regularly after sermons to discuss the Bible, Anne held similar meetings for women in her own home, attracting many by virtue of her reputation as a skilled midwife and healer. Several men, including some of learning and influence, soon joined her discussion group. Anne contradicted the Boston ministers. She insisted that salvation came to the faithful from God's grace, perceived by personal revelation, rather than by acts obedient to the ministers' interpretation of biblical law. She further contended that intelligence would finally take precedence over gender in the new land. Banished after a show trial for heresy in March 1638, Anne with her husband, 12 surviving children (three had died young) and 60 followers settled, with Roger Williams' assistance, on Aquidneck Island, purchased from the Narragansetts in what is now Rhode Island.

About: Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project - find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Robin Gould	448-4616
Marilyn Magnes	448-6402
Pearl Seligman	448-2340

When they could, the Bay Colony authorities continued to harass Anne's family and followers. Consequently, when her husband, an enthusiastic supporter, died in 1642, she set out - with seven of her children, two sons-in-law and several Rhode Island families - for the Dutch settlement in what is now the Bronx. Her house was located on Pelham Bay between a river (eventually called the Hutchinson River) and an Indian trail. Unfortunately, the Dutch treated the Indians in the area harshly, leading to uprisings in 1643. Anne, whose Boston adherents had refused to supply men or money to fight in the Pequot War of 1637, and whose settlement at Aquidneck had refused to bear arms, was massacred, together with virtually all her family at Pelham Bay. Only ten-year-old Susanna survived to be carried away by the raiding party. The Indians repatriated Susanna four years later, though she expressed reluctance to return to white civilization. As for Anne, her ideas and ideals prevailed over time. In his 1971 biography, *Eleanor and Franklin*, Joseph P. Lash reported that Eleanor Roosevelt began her list of America's greatest women with Anne Hutchinson.

When a pregnant Anne Hutchinson was publicly excommunicated and expelled from Boston, Mary Barrett Dyer, whose life Anne had saved during a difficult stillbirth, rose from the bench on which she was seated and, in plain view, took Anne's hand and accompanied her outside. My 9th great-grandmother, Mary and her husband, William, had come to the Bay Colony in 1635 and numbered among the dozens of followers of Anne whom the Bay Colony authorities had disenfranchised and disarmed. The Dyers were excommunicated and expelled in their turn and ultimately settled in Newport, Rhode Island, where William eventually served as Attorney General. In 1651, the Dyers accompanied Roger Williams to England to confirm the colony's charter. During her five years in England, Mary became a convert to early Quakerism, which appealed to many of Anne Hutchinson's followers.

Meanwhile, the Massachusetts General Court passed several laws against Quakers. Unaware of the new laws, Mary was arrested in Boston upon her return to New England. Held incommunicado in a darkened cell, her books and papers burned, Mary finally was able to slip a letter for her husband through a crack to someone outside the jail. Arriving from Newport two and a half months after Mary's imprisonment, William barged into the governor's house demanding that Mary be freed immediately. Back in Rhode Island, she proselytized her new faith. Among other beliefs, she contended that women and men stood on equal ground in church worship and organization.

In 1658, the Massachusetts General Court, during a stormy session, passed by a single vote a law ordering Quakers banished on pain of hanging. Visiting imprisoned Friends in 1659, Mary was herself jailed and banished. Returning to Boston to plead for the release of the future husband of Anne Hutchinson's niece, Mary was again arrested. She

Continued on Page 11

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

On April 9, 2001, the Roosevelt Borough Council will decide whether to repeal portions of the Borough Ordinance which promote the creation of a Planned Retirement Community (PRC) north of Oscar Drive. The Ordinance promotes a PRC because of the many benefits it would provide for the Borough as whole.

US Home respectfully requests that the Council consider our application for a 250-homesite active adult community before voting to repeal PRC zoning. The benefits of a PRC, as outlined in the Borough Ordinance and substantiated by US Home's proposed, are the following:

"Whereas a Planned retirement community development will, in coming years, be a type of housing with appeal to an increasingly large segment of the population, as the "baby boom" generation approaches retirement age, and..."

Monmouth's senior population is increasing at twice the rate of the overall population, and Middlesex's senior population is increasing at nearly three times the rate.

"Whereas a properly designed planned retirement community development would be very much in keeping with the historic Clustered design of the Borough of Roosevelt, and..."

US Home's proposed community would fit into the overall layout of Roosevelt. Homesites and roadways are well buffered by open space and are laid out with a simplicity of form and an economy of plan, as promoted by the Ordinance and the original design philosophy of Roosevelt.

"Whereas a planned retirement community development has unique potential as a means of expanding the ratable base of the Borough of Roosevelt so as to lower the tax rate and thereby increase the affordability of housing for all residents of the Borough of Roosevelt, and..."

The tax revenues generated by a 250-homesite active adult community would reduce tax bills for each Roosevelt homeowner by about 40%. A home with a market value of \$180,000 would see a \$3,000.00 decrease in their annual tax bill.

"Whereas a planned retirement community development would provide a way of enabling many new residents with experience and available time to join in the work of keeping the community and its organizations viable and productive, and..."

As integration with Roosevelt is our goal, no gating or edge berms are proposed. Recreational and community amenities would be located adjacent to the existing public facilities of Roosevelt, not tucked away in an isolated corner.

"Whereas a limited planned retirement community development would further the social, economic and environmental goals of the Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance..."

US Home proposes to upgrade Roosevelt's aging public water storage and sanitary sewer treatment facilities to handle the contemporary needs of the Borough. Abundant open space and extensive buffers from environmentally sensitive areas are an integral part of our plan.

Continued on Page 12

Two Square Miles of Stories

Continued from Page 10

was marched to the gallows with two men. With her arms and legs bound and a noose around her neck, she watched while the men were hanged. At the last minute, on the petition of her son, she received a prearranged reprieve. Banished again, she busied herself on Long Island's Shelter Island where a group of Indians had asked her to convene Quaker meetings. Then, in 1660, without telling her husband, she returned once more to Boston, testing passive non-resistance to its limits. This time, more than three decades before the Salem Witch Trials, they hanged her on Boston Common.

After Mary's death, Edward Wanton, the officer of the gallows who had adjusted the noose, removed his sword saying he would never use it again. He told his mother that the unshaken firmness with which Mary met her death convinced him "we have been murdering the Lord's people." He became a Quaker. When Charles II learned of Mary's execution - by then considered martyrdom, even in Massachusetts - he ordered all death penalties for con-

science stopped.

Several weeks after Indians slew Anne Hutchinson, her eldest son and his wife named their newborn daughter Anne. This Anne married Mary Dyer's son Samuel. Their son Edward married Mary Greene, granddaughter of Roger Williams' eldest child Mary. Their son Edward was the great-great grandson of Roger Williams, as well as Anne Hutchinson, and the great-grandson of Mary Dyer. This Edward was my 6th great-grandfather. I do not know much about him, but I trust he favored religious freedom.

No one painted portraits of my three famous ancestors during their lifetimes. A monumental statue of a sculptor's conception of Roger overlooks Providence, Rhode Island. Statues representing Anne and Mary adorn the lawn of the Massachusetts State House facing Boston Common. The words of a letter Mary wrote from her jail cell appear beneath her statue: "My Life not Avaieth Me In Comparison to the Liberty of the Truth." ■

COMMUNITY NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Continued from Page 11

In sum, US Home respectfully requests that the Roosevelt Borough Council and Planning Board hear our application, weigh the merits of our proposal, and work with US Home to develop an active adult community for Roosevelt that would ease the Borough's tax burden, refurbish the Borough's aging infrastructure, and provide beautiful homes and ample open space at no cost to the Borough and its taxpayers, before acting upon any drastic changes to the Ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Fisher,
Land Development Manager
US Home



Thoughts On the US Home Proposal

I have read the US Home proposal left at Rossi's in early February for a "Roosevelt Active Adult Community" and would like to share my thoughts on it with the readers of *The Bulletin*.

During the first twenty-five years I lived in Roosevelt, the number of houses increased by about ninety from 240 to 330 - mostly houses on half acre lots (usually with green acres behind them) and about a dozen on larger lots. I live on one of the half-acre lots and enjoy it. My preference would be for growth, but growth along the same pattern.

The US Homes proposal would add about five hundred people to our present population of nine hundred, which includes about six hundred adults. The proposal does not estimate how long it would take to complete the development. It does not define "adult" but I would presume the residents would be age fifty-five and above. The proposed houses would be built on a tract of land bounded by North Rochdale Avenue, Oscar Drive and Millstone Township. The houses and their plots would appear to cover about a quarter of the area of the tract. Although the proposal does not say so, US Home would presumably install water lines and sewer lines for their houses and pave their streets to the same standard of other recently paved Roosevelt streets.

The proposal states "The tax revenues generated by a 250 homesite active adult community would reduce tax bills for each Roosevelt homeowner by about 40%. A house with a market value of \$180,000 would see a \$3,000.00 decrease in their annual tax bill." This is too vague to be informative. It does not show the calculations underlying this figure and it does not show the savings for houses with a higher or lower market value. It does not show the savings to homeowners in water/sewer fees.

The proposal states "US Home proposes to upgrade Roosevelt's aging public water storage and sanitary treatment facilities to handle the contemporary needs of the Borough." This is an open-ended and expensive commitment. These facilities consist of two wells, a 90,000 gallon water storage tank, a water treatment plant, a sewage treatment plant and the pipes connecting most of the houses - a few houses have their own wells and septic tanks - with the water plant and the sewage plant.

The Borough spent about two million dollars approximately thirteen years ago to modernize the sewerage treatment plant to DEP standards. Nevertheless, the plant's components, each with a different life span, will have to eventually be replaced. The wells have certain life spans and will eventually have to be replaced. A new 250-house development will need a water storage tower of about 90,000 gallon capacity. The water treatment plant, like the sewer plant also needs continual replacement of parts.

US Home states that it would provide "beautiful homes" but does not show pictures of their design. The houses may or may not appear beautiful to the eye of the beholder.

The proposal quotes without attribution an incomplete thought "...a planned retirement community would provide a way of enabling many new residents with experience and available time to join in the work of keeping the community and its organizations viable and productive and..." One might finish the thought as follows "...replace the people who are doing it now." Rightly or wrongly, this would express the concern of fear of some that are doing it now.

I think that the subject of residential growth is important enough to us to be given thorough consideration by everyone in town. This can only be done when the proposal is more thorough and complete than the US Home brochure.

Peter Warren



Dear Mayor Hamilton, members of Council and residents of Roosevelt:

It is with deep regret that I am submitting to you my letter of resignation from the Roosevelt Borough Council. As a result of new health problems, I find that I have neither the energy nor the ability to devote the time and attention that Borough matters demand, if they're to be done well, and I cannot do so without further jeopardizing my health. I greatly appreciate the support from all of you who voted for me in November, the tremendous help and courtesy I've received from the more experienced Council members along with the Mayor and new members of the Council and the patience and help from Krystyna and Dee

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NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Items for this column can be submitted to Mary Tulloss by phone 448-5096,
mail: P.O. Box 57, or email: mtulloss@njcc.com.

by Mary Tulloss

NEW ARRIVALS:

Mindy Shapiro and Matthew Ashby proudly announce the birth of their son, Nathan Michael Shapiro Ashby on 11/11/2000. The family lives in Acton, MA. Nathan's grandparents are Arthur and Elly Shapiro of Pine Drive and Neil Ashby and Marci Geissinger of Boulder, CO.

Erik and Rochelle Shapiro proudly announce the birth of their third child, Yishiah (Isaiah) Daniel Shapiro on December 20, 2000. Danny joins his brother Yitzi, age 4 and sister Shoshana, age 3, in Los Angeles, CA. Proud grandparents are Arthur and Elly Shapiro of Pine Drive and Bernice Pollak of North Hollywood, CA.

FOND FAREWELL TO:

Fannie B. Fried, mother of Ellen Francis of Lake Drive, died in Albany, New York on March 7th.

David Steinberg, who grew up in Roosevelt and was an artist, writer, drummer and actor, died in California on February 18th.

FROM CAMPUS:

Kathleen Alfare, a sophomore at Franklin & Marshall, received academic honors for the Fall 2000 semester. In

order to receive honors the student must attain a grade point average of 3.7 or better. Kathleen is the daughter of Professor Carlo and Mary Alfare of Lake Drive.

Rowan University Freshman, Liz Carroll, has been elected President of the Rowan University Circle K Club. She had held the position of Club Secretary. She is also a member of Circle K International and was the Rowan University representative at their national retreat in Savannah, GA. The Mission of Circle K International is to involve college and university students in campus and community service while developing quality leaders and citizens.

FROM HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL:

Second Marking Period Students on the High Honor Roll were: Grade 9 - Avery Axel, Lian Garton, Lindsay Possiel; Grade 11 - Molly Petrilla; Grade 12 - Adam Axel, Naomi Cayne, Ryan Cybert. Students on the Honor Roll were: Grade 9 - Josh Butler, Erik Cokeley, Tina Vasseur; Grade 10 - Leah Howse, Wesley John-Alder, Jeff Possiel, Christopher Wong; Grade 11 - Shaun Conover, Brandon Lugannani, Sarah Skillman; Grade 12 - Jacob Estenes, Billy Jackson, Elizabeth Lawson, Marissa Mellan, Christina Ortz, Hannah Stinson and Victoria Taylor.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Continued from Page 12

with all the day to day details of Borough business.

In the brief time I have served since joining the Council last August, I have gained tremendous respect for the many volunteers who make Borough government work, especially the tireless thought and efforts of the Mayor, Council and Clerks who take time from family and work to keep the town running smoothly. I will miss the opportunity to work in partnership with the Mayor on the many good ideas he has for our town and hope that the newly constituted Council can continue to work together respectfully, consider each other's opinions and not dismiss "out of hand" any possibilities based solely on who is proposing them. Again, I regret having to step down and thank you all for the chance to serve you for the past few months.

Judith Trachtenberg



Contributions In Memory of Sol Libsohn

Sol Libsohn was passionately involved in preserving the community and land of our historic town. Among many other things, Sol Libsohn was a Trustee of the Fund for Roosevelt. His family has generously asked that those wishing to make a contribution in his memory contribute to the non-profit Fund For Roosevelt, Inc., P.O. Box 404, Roosevelt, NJ 08555-0404.

The Fund for Roosevelt gratefully wishes to acknowledge receipt of a number of gifts already made in his honor.

Rodham E. Tulloss, President

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Continued from Page 13

FROM PEDDIE SCHOOL:

Ina Clark, an eighth grade student, completed the winter term with honors. She qualified to take Honors Algebra I during the spring term.

FROM KREPS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Second Marking Period - Students on the Honor Roll were: Grade 7 - Lyssa Cousineau, Ryan Grasso, Erika Heden, Nicholas Impellizzeri, Kelsey Reibold; Grade 8 - Reuben Alt, Laurel Hamilton, Mollie Marko, Danielle Petrics and Jason Vazquez. ■

MONMOUTH COUNTY LIBRARY ROOSEVELT BRANCH

HOURS:

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY: 12:15 - 1:00 P.M.

**350 NEW BOOKS HAVE BEEN
ADDED
TO THE COLLECTION WITH MORE TO
COME.**

COME AND BROWSE!

If you or a neighbor has recently moved to town, please let this reporter know so that a welcome can appear in this column. Also, if your son or daughter in college has some news from campus please let me know. Thank you.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 22

27	Fri.	8:00 p.m.	RAP Program, Roosevelt String Band, Borough Hall, Judith Trachtenberg, 426-8867
28	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	RAP Program, Roosevelt String Band, Borough Hall, Judith Trachtenberg, 426-8867
29	Sun.		ARBOR DAY, PLANT A TREE!

May

2	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 448-5619
4	Wed.	8:00 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Chair Gayle Hunton, 426-4338 ■

“ The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you're doing, someone else does.”

- Erma Bombeck

WEATHER ALMANAC

Weather Word

by Ron Filepp

In the March 18, 2001 New York Times, New Jersey section, column "Jersey" by Neil Genzlinger, the author remarked "o we find we have just about had it with the word meteorologist. It apparently has nothing to do with meteors, which makes it just plain misleading."

(Meteorologists do not fear Mr. Genzlinger. He was more upset with the winter weather than those who forecast it. Although, he did hold some animosity toward the weather messengers.)

In the textbook Meteorology Today, meteorology is defined as "The study of the atmosphere and atmospheric phenomena as well as the atmosphere's interaction with the earth's surface, oceans and life in general." The often reliable Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia 2000 has an answer to the burning question, "How did meteors get into meteorology?"

Ancient Greek scholars were interested in many things. Among those were the atmosphere and its related phenomena. The word "meteor" comes from the Greek term "meteoros" which means high in the sky. It is from meteors that we get the word meteorology.

Around 340 BC, Aristotle wrote Meteorologica a book that is purported to explain everything that was known about things in the sky. (One interesting observation in Aristotle's book is that hurricanes result from the moral conflict of evil winds falling upon good winds.) At that time anything that was in the sky such as clouds, and anything that fell from the sky including rain and snow, was called a meteor. The word hydrometeor is a current scientific term for raindrop.

In Roosevelt, we were lucky regarding a March meteor shower of the meteorological kind. An enormous storm forecast to begin on the fourth fizzled. By Monday, March 5, there didn't seem to be much chance of significant snowfall. Still, the weather was nasty and the potential for slick roads was present. While walking that day, I noticed a light layer of ice developing on my jacket. Temperatures never dipped quite low enough for a similar sheet of ice to form on area roads. At the end of the three-day event total snow accumulation in town was about 3.25 inches. ■

Weather Event

As we enter tornado season here's a fowl thought. On June 8, 1958, a tornado tore off the feathers of a chick in Flint, Michigan. The local newspaper featured a picture of the chick "pecking around a truck twisted like a steel pretzel."

February 15 - March 15, 2001

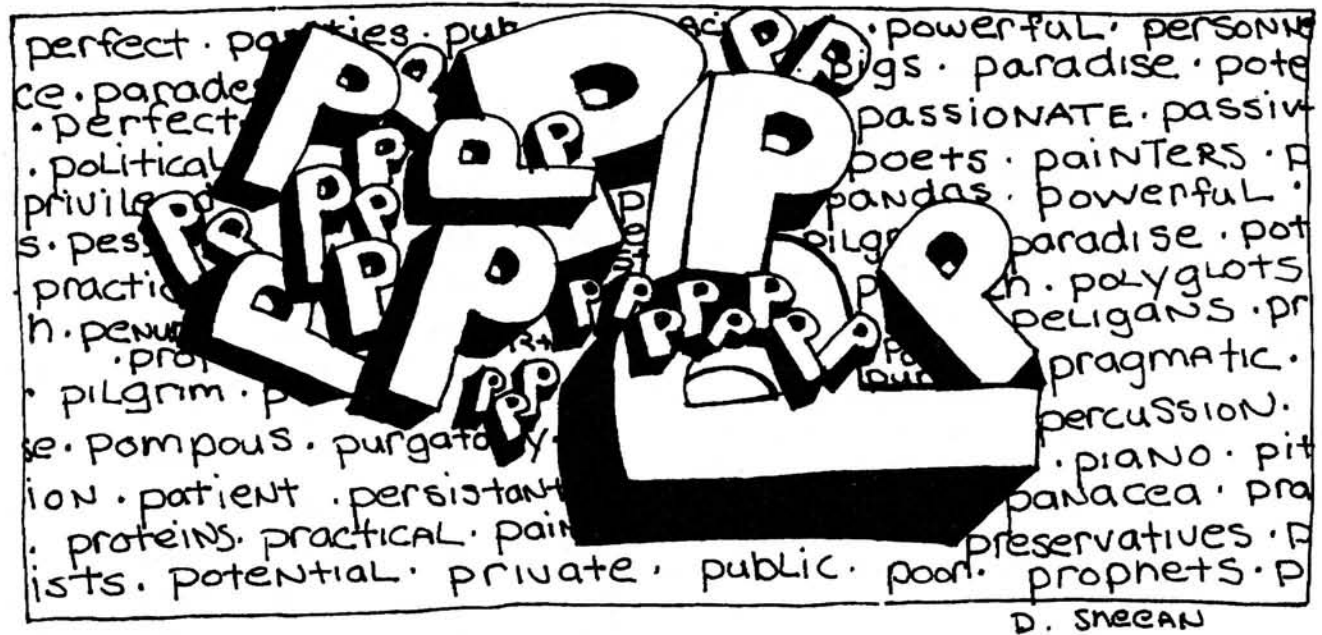
Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
12	51.6	26.4	39.0	0.00
13	55.4	36.0	45.7	1.15
14	52.3	36.5	44.4	0.12
15	56.7	30.7	43.7	0.00
15	48.2	40.3	44.3	0.05
16	44.4	37.4	40.9	0.00
17	41.0	27.5	34.3	0.55
18	32.4	17.6	25.0	0.00
19	42.1	18.0	30.1	0.00
20	56.5	33.3	44.9	0.00
21	49.5	28.6	39.1	0.00
22	28.6	16.3	22.5	0.00
23	41.2	21.2	31.2	0.00
24	39.2	19.0	29.1	0.00
25	55.2	32.5	43.9	0.60
26	55.8	37.4	46.6	0.25
27	52.5	28.4	40.5	0.00
28	45.5	26.2	35.9	0.00
1	40.3	20.3	30.3	0.00
2	48.2	32.0	40.1	0.00
3	53.4	35.4	44.4	0.00
4	41.2	31.8	36.5	0.00
5	34.3	30.2	32.3	0.00
6	38.1	23.9	31.0	0.55
7	46.4	29.1	37.8	0.10
8	47.7	27.5	37.6	0.00
9	47.5	34.2	40.9	0.05
10	46.0	31.1	38.6	0.32
11	57.0	26.8	41.9	0.00
Total Precipitation	3.74			

Weather Word

Warning - a product issued by the local National Weather Service office when a particular weather hazard is either imminent or has been reported. A warning indicates the need to take action to protect life and property. The type of hazard is reflected in the type of warning (e.g., tornado warning, blizzard warning). Source: Oklahoma Climatological Survey

BREAKING BREAD

Recipe for Pork and Prunes from my Polish Past



by Wiska Radkiewtz

Perfect for
private parties and public parades
peace and prosperity
the poor and the powerful
for pagans and pantheists,
painters and pacifists
for all postal personnel: the pragmatics or the poets,

for potential presidents who
preach like pompous prophets,
for many precious palates
from Portugal to Paris, from Pittsburgh to Patagonia
for pilgrims to
paradise or to purgatory,
for all political prisoners, plebeians and
the privileged,
for prospective parents and pseudo polyglots
and patient patients after painful procedures

for the pitiful and the pitiless
for pessimists and positivists
for the passionate and the passive
for practical purposes
for piano and percussion

for pelicans and pandas and pigs
a panacea for penury,

persistent pain and perspiration
with proteins but no preservatives nor pits

Prepare it sipping some port with peanuts:

1 loin of pork	lots of garlic
20 pitted prunes	3 onions
Hot water	

Cover the prunes with hot water and soak for 1 hour. Drain, reserving the liquid. Season the meat with the salt and pepper, then brown it on all sides in a large Creuset pot. Brown the onions separately, then add them to the meat along with sliced garlic and prunes. Cover and cook over low heat until tender, about one and a half-hours, basting occasionally with the prune juice. Serve the meat with strained gravy.

Perhaps you can put in a pinch of parsley,
some parsnips or peaches
and try with

potatoes
pancakes
polenta or
pierogis

Present it at a picnic on a patio under a parasol ■

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 2000-2001 SEASON

The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 2000-2001 calendar of events, featuring a wonderfully varied array of readings and performances, concerts and exhibit of the works of Roosevelt artists.

All events, with the exception of the art exhibit, take place at the Borough Hall and will begin at 8:00 p.m. At most events we ask only for a suggested contribution of \$6.00, just \$4.00 for students and seniors. This year, we will ask \$10/\$5.00 for admission to the Roosevelt String Band concert. Mark your calendars and watch for our brochure and the Bulletin for additional details.

Exhibitions Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission sponsored joint exhibitions of Roosevelt artists at two locations and a lecture by Dr. Arthur Shapiro.:

Friday & Saturday April 27 & 28

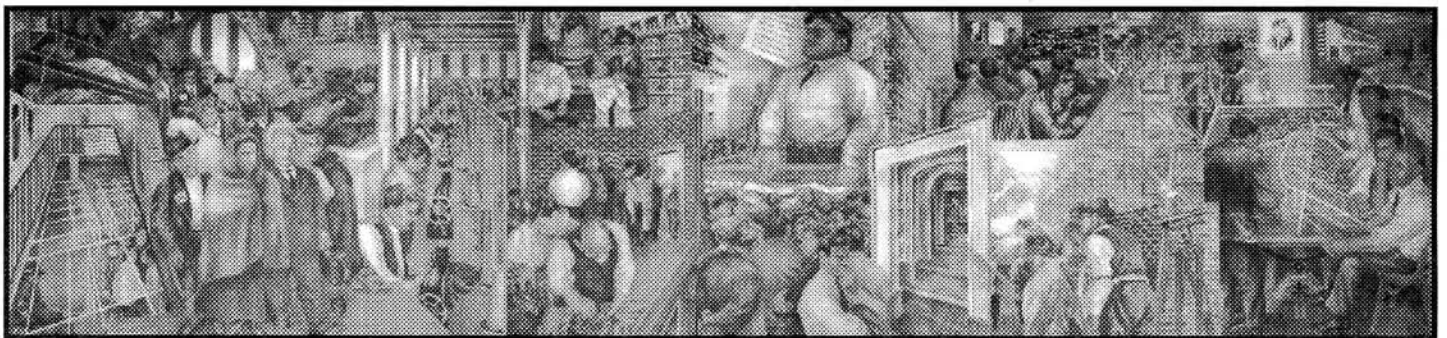
Roosevelt string Band - in concert. Back for its fourteenth annual concert, the Roosevelt string Band, featuring Paul Prestopino, David Brahinsky, Ed Cedar, Judy Trachtenberg and Howie Jacobson, will perform a wide variety of folk music to make you laugh, cry, think, reminisce, learn new songs and sing along with your favorites.

Saturday May 19

Computer Chamber Music - Join Roosevelt resident Brad Garton and his colleagues from the Columbia University Computer Music Center for an evening of relaxed "chamber music" created with new digital signal processing techniques and experimental music -performance interface technologies. Of particular interest will be a set of pieces using the ambient acoustic environment of Roosevelt Borough as a foundation for musical expression.

We hope to see all of you at these exciting new performances, exhibits and events. The work of the Roosevelt Arts Project is made possible entirely by your support. Donations given to the Roosevelt Arts Project, other than for admission to an event, are tax-deductible. We appreciate your continuing support of our efforts to bring the highest quality art and performances to Roosevelt. ■

MURAL POSTCARDS AVAILABLE THROUGH ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT



The Roosevelt Arts Project proudly offers for sale our beautiful three-panel reproduction of the Ben Shahn mural from our school. The postcards are available for \$2.00 each and a small number of flat, unfolded copies, suitable for framing, are available for \$10.00 each. All proceeds go to the Roosevelt Arts Project to cover the cost of these cards, enable us to produce future postcards in our Roosevelt arts series and to support RAP exhibits and events. Cards are available at the Borough Hall or by calling Robin Middleman at 426-4583, Deborah Metzger at 443-3759 or Judith Trachtenberg at 426-8867. The Roosevelt Arts Project is a tax exempt cultural organization funded exclusively by admissions and donations. RAP appreciates your support. ■

REVIEW

Mud Time Revelations - March 4: A RAP Review

by Linda Silverstein

The forecast was set. The predictions were bold. People hurried and scurried to prepare, anxiously awaiting this monumental event. But, the "storm of the century" anticipated the week-end of March 3-4 was a wash-out, nothing more than the typical innocuous blend of NJ slush that "disappears" often before the light of the new day. Fortunately, for those who challenged the weather that Sunday evening en route to the Borough Hall, there were no further disappointments. On the contrary, the RAP sponsored poetry reading entitled "Mud Time Revelations" turned out to be a literary treat.

The atmosphere created for the event was obviously well conceived. The seating arrangement was cozy (limited chairs enabled all to be close to the poets/readers) and the lighting was dim, with a mere lamp providing the only illumination for the room. David Brahinsky's sitar was casually placed amongst some colorful cloths just to the side of the reader. The aura of a coffeehouse had been created in our very own Borough Hall.

If truth be told (and I think it must), I am neither a big fan nor follower of poetry. However, I am curious and I'd like to believe that I welcome new (and sometimes even formidable) experiences, like this one - reviewing an evening of poetry. When David Herrstrom introduced the evening as one which would include the personal works of local poets as well as a sampling from the 20th century's "100 Greatest," I knew there would be balance, and for myself, at least, some education. Rod Tulloss, the first reader, presented pieces by James Wright and Robert Bly (from *Silence in the Snowy Field*) which for me evoked a picture of midwestern life beholden to nature and simple pleasures. These were words I could hold onto. He concluded with a partial reading of Yeats' "Peace."

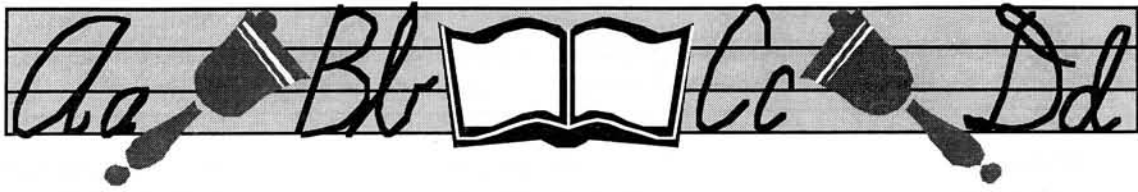
Dina Coe followed. The smooth delivery of her own poems, "Tropical Layovers" and "Return to Barcelona," which are reflective of her world travel experiences, fell on open ears. She concluded her spot with a reading of Elizabeth Barrett's "At the Fishhouses." Fellow Rooseveltian Robert Axel opened with works from two of his favorite poets, William Carlos Williams and Erica Jong. David Brahinsky accompanied him on guitar for the first, with Jong's humorous "Ode to My Shoes" speaking for itself. He then shared two brief pieces ("Listening Skin" and "Sessions") born out of his work as a profes-

sional psychologist. "Mom," written by a patient, was an emotive piece that moved me greatly. There was more to come.

Poet Wes Czyzewski covered a range of topics in his selections. He spoke of a father's death (title was missed - sorry) while David Brahinsky performed a well-suited piece on his sitar. "Sailing on the SS Alzheimer's" especially caught my attention as it relates to the work I do and had the unmistakable quality of drawing one in. In his closing, he read from Ezra Pound and John Berryman (with a very convincing Irish brogue, I might add!) Roberta Heck and Frances Duckett were announced as guest poets. Duckett's "Passed by a Truck on the NJ Turnpike" was more than just whimsy, as the title suggests. Ms. Heck appeared to have personal conviction in the words she spoke. Titles such as "Adam and Eve," "Fatherless Child" and "The Painful Memory of War," among others, evoked concrete problems, yet inspired hope.

David Herrstrom, the announcer for the evening, was the closing poet. His "Sorting Things Out and Putting Them in Place" involved audience readers. David would declare a taxon, or category, and the readers would reply with David's very clever imaginings. An intelligent yet amusing exercise! In a more traditional vein, he read his works "Moon Rise" (based on a visit to Big Sur) and "Fingering the Bone." He chose to share the words of poet Wallace Stevens, a 20th century great in his opinion. A new name for me, as were many of the others highlighted in this very stimulating evening. It looks like I've got my work (or in this case, reading) cut out for me! Mr. Brahinsky's effective rendition of David's "Some Questions Before We Go" showcased both his singing and guitar playing abilities. This completed the evening.

I was grateful to have attended this evening's event. I stand in awe of all of these readers and writers who take this craft so very seriously. And who knows, I just may cast aside a novel or short story sometime soon to partake in the possibilities of poetry.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Roosevelt Public School School Year 2001-2002

Registration for kindergarten will take place in the main office of the school on April 23 and 24, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration materials and a health form will be provided at the time of registration.

Students who turn five on or before October 1, 2001 are eligible for entrance into kindergarten in September 2001.

An official birth certificate with the raised seal is required for registration. A photocopy of the birth certificate will be made when you register your child.

All students must have the appropriate immunizations to begin school in September 2001. This information will be provided when you register your child.

An informal afternoon orientation for parents and students will take place on Wednesday, May 30, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. at the school.

If you have any questions, please call the school at 448-2798.

SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

2000 - 2001

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is made possible by a grant from Michelle And Leonard Guye Hillis and McCaffrey's Market and annual contributions from readers like you.

Alt Family
Frieda Anish
Harriet Atkins
Carol Watchler & Ann Baker
Helen and Leon Barth
Elsbeth Battel
Janet and Richard Bernadin
Miriam Bell
Irene & Bruce Block
Ruth Braun
Mollie Bulkin
Susan & Robert Cayne
Dolores & Howard Chasan
Maureen & Bob Clark
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Estelle Goozner
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THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going. Contributions are tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the *BULLETIN*. We will be pleased to continue sending them the *BULLETIN* when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

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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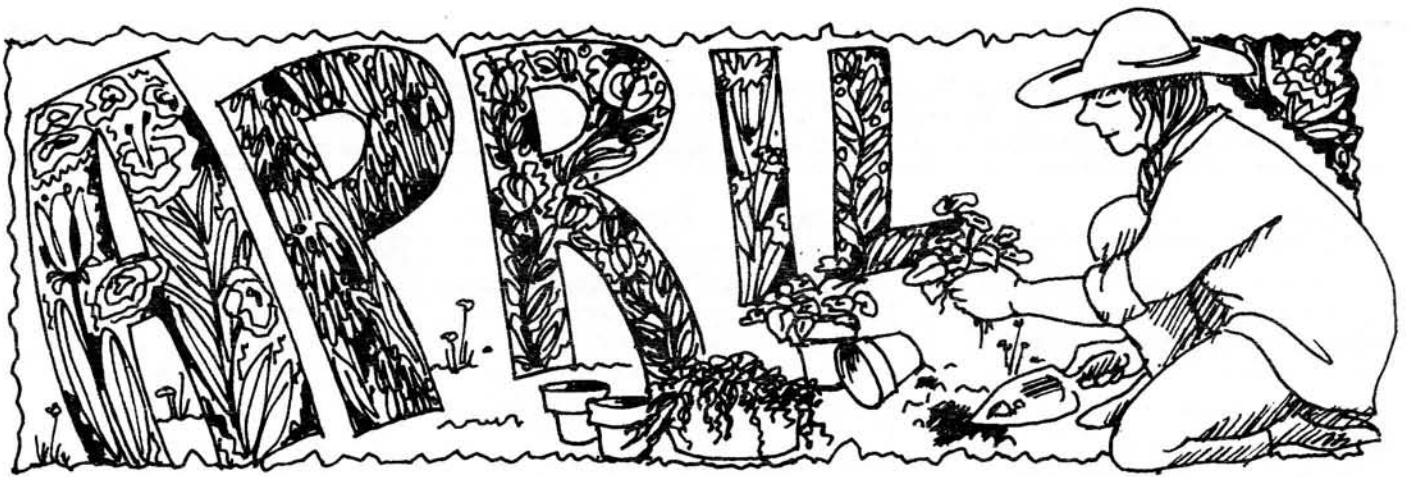
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Roosevelt branch of the Monmouth County Library open at RPS: Wednesdays 7-8:30 p.m. and Thursdays 12:15-1:00 p.m.

RPS Computer Lab Open Wednesday evenings.

April 2001

2	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
3	Tues.	1:00 p.m.	Blood Pressure check
		2:00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting, Herb Johnson, 443-1047
4	Wed.	8:00 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Chair Gayle Hunton, 426-4338
5	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440
8	Sun.		Passover begins
9	Mon.		RPS CLOSED, SPRING VACATION (4/9-4/16)
		7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
11	Wed.		RECYCLE
15	Sun.		Easter
16	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committees Meeting, Borough Hall, President Harry Parker, 448-5619
		7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting, Neil Marko, 443-6818
17	Tues.	2:30-9 p.m.	School Board Elections, Borough Hall, 448-0539
18	Wed.	8:00 p.m.	Environmental Commission Meeting, Borough Hall,

Chair Rod Tulloss, 448-5096

19	Thurs.		RPS Earth Day
20	Fri.	7-9:30 p.m.	PTA School Dance, Grades K-6, RPS, President JoAnne Parker, 448-5619
22	Sun.		EARTH DAY, DO SOMETHING NICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT!
		10 a.m.	Clean Communities Litter Pick-up, Meet at the Post Office, Public Works, 448-0539
23	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committees Meeting, Borough Hall, President Harry Parker, 448-5619
24	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting, RPS, President JoAnne Parker, 448-5619
25	Wed.		RECYCLE
26	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440

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