

Bulletin

Volume ²³ ~~24~~ Number ⁸⁴ ~~84~~

February 2000

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Inauguration speech by Mayor Michael Hamilton on January 3, 2000.

On behalf of the Borough Council and myself, I would like to thank everyone for being here to wish us well in the year ahead. We also wish you good health and happiness in the new year.

I am glad to be here and honored to represent such a special community. As the new kid on the block, I have a great deal to learn about borough government and I can promise you one thing, I will make many mistakes. Someone once said that:

"The nice thing about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else will."

Nowhere is that more true than here in Roosevelt, but I trust that in the true Roosevelt tradition of a fully participatory democracy, someone will let me know the right way to do things when I make mistakes.

Active participation in government is a Roosevelt tradition. More than that, I believe that it is a necessary condition for the proper functioning of the democratic process. Even though we may actively disagree, even though we may at times become overwrought with emotion and yell at each other during meetings, we should also continue the long standing Roosevelt tradition of waving to each other as we pass by or saying hello to each other at the post office.

Our connections are stronger than our disagreements. We are a family, and as expressed in an Irish saying:

"We live in the shelter of each other"

No matter what our problems, no matter how divergent our opinions, we need to find ways to face the future of our community together. Our challenge is not just to act, but to find the right action: the right ways to lower our costs so that we can continue to live in the community that we value. ■

Roosevelt is worth the effort.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Mayors Chair	5
Planning Board News	7
School News	9 - 11
Community News	12 - 16
Breaking Bread	17
Weather Almanac	18 - 19
Letters	20 - 21
RAP	22 - 23
Neighborhood Notes	24 - 25
Supporters and Contributors	26
Business Sponsors	27
Calendar	29

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's Time to License

Dog owners must license/relicense their dogs during the month of January. A current rabies vaccine certificate and, if applicable, an altering certificate are required. The fees through January are \$8.20 for altered dogs and \$11.20 for unaltered. Unless you have a new dog or one less than 7 months old, a penalty will be charged after January 31.

Those residents picking up after their dogs, thank you very much for your neighborly consideration. Not doing so can cause such unpleasantness.

Leashing your dog/dogs is the law. Leashes are to be no longer than 8 feet. Thank you to those adhering to our local ordinance and considering others as you enjoy your companionable walks. ■

Trash Pickup

It has been brought to the attention of Borough officials that many residents are including items other than household waste into their containers. Bulk or large waste such as old appliances, worn out parts, etc., are only to be put out at special times during the year. Please be more vigilant in discarding them. According to our contract, the next big pick-up for these items is Monday, May 8. Your containers are for weekly pick-up of household waste only. Your cooperation is very much appreciated. ■

Mark your Calendar for Recycle Dates of curb side items:

Feb.	2nd & 16th	March	1st, 15th & 29th
April	12th & 26th	May	10th & 24th
June	7th & 21st	July	5th & 19th
Aug.	2nd, 16th & 30th	Sept.	6th & 20th
Oct.	4th & 18th	Nov.	1st, 15th & 29th
Dec.	13th & 27th		

Curb-side: Glass, tin and plastics (1 & 2) can be placed in one container.
Mixed paper in one container.
Cardboard - bundled and tied, 2' x 3' sections
Newspaper - bundled and tied.

The Borough of Roosevelt recycles batteries at the Post Office lobby and the Borough Hall.
Clothing can be recycled at the Amvets container in the rear of the Borough Hall.

Handicap Parking Alert

It has come to our attention that many of our senior citizens park at the "Handicap Parking" at the post office. A permit is needed to do so. If you do not have one, a summons may be issued, the fine for which is \$132. ■

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

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Mayor and Re-elected Council Members Sworn In

by Herb Johnson

At the January 3, 2000 Reorganization Meeting of Roosevelt's Mayor and Council, Michael Hamilton took the oath of office for his four-year term as Mayor; Michael Stiles and George Vasseur took the oath of office for their three year terms as members of the Council; and, John Towle was elected Council President. About 60 residents of Roosevelt were present.

At the first regular meeting of the Mayor and Council, on Monday, January 10, the Council gave unanimous approval of: the introduction of an Amendment to the Salary Ordinance, two resolutions and six motions for authorizations or reassignment. Eight appointments to the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission were made by the Mayor.

The salary ordinance as introduced would increase wages for a snow plow driver from \$10 to \$12.50 per hour, and for Crossing Guards from \$10 to \$15 per hour, in consideration of the job requiring one half-hour-twice a day. This proposed ordinance would amend Salary Ordinance #46-43, approved after public hearing on December 13. That ordinance gave a two and one-half percent increase in pay for nearly all paid positions. For at least four years, while nearly all other employees got pay increases, crossing guards got none, despite citizen appeals that they be paid more. The public hearing for this ordinance, before final approval can be considered, is to be at the next regular meeting of the Council on Monday, February 14 in the Borough Hall.

Four motions were approved to authorize use of the Borough Hall by the Roosevelt Nursery School on January 23, by Diana Monroe for a farewell party on January 30, by Kelly Mitchell for a shower on February 6, and by Anne Alloway from the U.S. Census Bureau to assist residents in completing the Census 2000 questionnaire. The Mayor was authorized to sign an agreement with the County for SCAT services, busing senior citizens to a grocery store on Wednesdays. When Council member Rose Murphy announced at the Reorganization Meeting which members would be the chairs of the Council's six committees, and which other two would be members on each, she had John

Towle on four committees, one too many. Approval of her motion at the January 10 Regular Meeting, replaced Mr. Towle on the Administration Committee with Mrs. Murphy, who had been on only two committees.

The two resolutions approved at the "New Business" part of this meeting were to pay the bills and to appoint John Ross as Interim Municipal Attorney from January 1 until a candidate for the position is confirmed. Mayor Hamilton would not allow a resolution to appoint Mr. Ross for the year to be considered, citing the Mayor's legal authority to make the nomination within 30 days. He had prepared a resolution, copies of which were before each Council member, calling for appointing Mr. Ross for 60 days and for the Mayor and Council to interview candidates for appointment to the full year term. The Mayor expressed the hope that Council members would not miss the opportunity at the start of the year to see if another candidate might be more suitable. An attorney has submitted a resume that the Mayor complimented, but the Mayor said he did not want to offer any nomination until Council members and he had a chance to interview candidates and agree on one. To resolve the issue as to who had the right to make the appointment, the Mayor or the Council, the Mayor asked that the attorneys present in the room, Maureen Parrott and Michael Ticktin, check the statutes. They returned with the statute books from the Clerk's office and Mr. Ticktin read two parts of the statutes which confirmed that the Mayor had 30 days to make an appointment which the Council would then have 30 days to confirm, after which the Council could make the appointment. Then Councilman Paul Hoogsteden moved to amend Resolution #2/2000 to describe Mr. Ross' position as "Interim" Municipal Attorney, and to add: "until such time that a candidate for a one-year appointment is confirmed." The motion was seconded and approved by the Council.

The Mayor then announced that the public was invited to be present at, but not participate in, a workshop for the Mayor and Council members to work out goals for the year, to be held at 8 p.m. on Monday, January 31 in the

Continued on Page 4

Millennial Correction. Despite our having included in our last issue a New Year's greeting card that made reference to a new century and a new millennium, we wish to make it clear that the Bulletin is well aware that, common opinion to the contrary notwithstanding, the new century and millennium do not begin until January 1, 2001.

Continued from Page 3

Borough Hall. Earlier, during committee reports, Mr. Hoogsteden had announced that the Mayor and Council would have a workshop to prepare a budget for the year at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 17, in the Borough Hall.

During the "Old Business" part of the meeting, approval was given to appoint Gerard Stankiewicz of Samuel Klein & Company, Freehold, as Municipal Accountant ("Auditor") and to appoint James DeMuro of DeMuro Associates, Somerville, as Municipal Engineer. Councilman Harry Parker moved that Resolution #2/2000, to appoint Mr. Ross as Municipal Attorney, be approved but the Mayor refused to put the motion on the floor, as previously described.

Appointments to the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission were made by the Mayor as "Old Business" at the January 10 meeting. Planning Board appointees are named in the Planning Board report: Michael Hamilton, 4 years as Mayor; Harry Parker, 1 year as Council Representative; Kate John-Alder, 3 years as Environmental Commission member; Ralph Seligman, 2 years as First Alternate; Jane Rothfuss, 1 year as Second Alternate. For the Environmental Commission, the Mayor appointed Bert Ellentuck, Kate John-Alder and, as Council Representative, John Towle, all for three year terms. Mayor Hamilton asked for people willing to serve on this commission to tell him. He is seeking two people to be alternate members.

During the first "Public Portion," at least four residents spoke about danger from vehicles. Michael Stiles had reported for the Environmental - Health & Safety Committee that

Monmouth County, reacting to appeals from Councilman Towle, had made a traffic study of County Road 571 in Roosevelt. In one of the letters which had been described at the start of the meeting and posted on the bulletin board at the rear of the meeting room, Traffic Engineer Carol Melnick wrote: "No modifications, particularly the installation of a hazard identification beacon, were found to be warranted."

Pearl Seligman asked if Roosevelt could do as Hightstown had done during the fall and put up rows of two-foot wide signs along the roadways advising cars to slow down and keep below the speed limit, 25 mph in some places, 35 mph in others. Ms. Melnick wrote that the traffic study found, in the 35 mph zone which goes south from Oscar Drive, "the 85th percentile speeds for northbound and southbound on 571 were 50 mph and 44 mph respectively." That means that if the survey clocked the speeds of 20 vehicles going in each direction, the 17th highest speed recorded was the amount shown. Sixteen vehicles in each direction could have been traveling below or very near the speed limit, but six went faster than 43 mph. Ms. Melnick advised the Borough to "enhance speed enforcement activities..." Council members Hoogsteden, Murphy and Stiles expressed disappointment in the County's response and discussed Mrs. Seligman's suggestion. In response to a question from the audience, Michael Ticktin pointed out that the county owns the right-of-way on Route 571, including the areas where sidewalks and signs could go if they were not to be on private property.

Maureen Parrott appealed for speed

limits to be enforced on all streets in Roosevelt, particularly to protect children and people walking dogs. She has seen many vehicles going what she believes is 45 mph on Pine Drive and Tamara Drive where the speed limit is 25 mph. She also called for other traffic-calming measures to be taken.

Nona Sherak asked the Council to request the County to install a "Use Directional Signals" sign on southbound Route 571 before it intersects with Monmouth County Route 1 at "Ely's Corner," one mile north of the Borough Hall.

During the "Good & Welfare" part at the end of the meeting, Neil Marko indicated that he was "outraged" at the Council's not showing support for the Mayor's desire to have candidates for Municipal Attorney interviewed. Jeff Hunt was discussing Councilman Hoogsteden's answer to Mr. Hunt's question: "On what do you base your position that John Ross is the best possible Borough Attorney for Roosevelt?" and Mr. Hoogsteden interjected a comment. Mr. Hunt said he would like to finish his comments if Mr. Hoogsteden would not call the State Police to maintain order. This was a reference to an earlier incident in which Mr. Hoogsteden had called for police protection as a result of statements that he said were made by Mr. Hunt. As Mr. Hunt continued his remarks, the Councilman twice said he felt threatened by Mr. Hunt's statements. No peace officers were called, however and the meeting adjourned peacefully.

At the December 13 regular meeting of the Council and Mayor, besides the final adoption of the 2000 Salary Ordinance referred to earlier,

Continued on Page 6

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

I was deeply moved by the warm greeting I received from the public at my swearing in as our town's new Mayor.

My first few weeks in office have been busy ones. One of my first duties was to make appointments to the Planning Board and Environmental Commission. I prepared a questionnaire to assess the viewpoints of possible appointees, and I spent the week between Christmas and New Year's Day interviewing eight candidates for appointments to these important advisory bodies. Our discussions were a useful and structured exchange of ideas and viewpoints.

I was fortunate to have eight highly qualified volunteers interested in serving on the Planning Board. Unfortunately, I had only four appointments to make this year. Serving on the Planning Board is a very time consuming and difficult task, as the members of last year's Board can attest. All of those who served our community in these volunteer positions deserve our appreciation and gratitude.

Another responsibility of the Mayor according to New Jersey Statutes is to "nominate and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint all subordinate officers of the borough" (NJSA 40A:60-5(g)). The Borough Attorney

is the most important advisor to the Mayor and Council. The attorney's legal and strategic advice has a direct impact on our lives in Roosevelt. For this reason, I suggested that we engage in a careful process of interviewing and selecting the most qualified professional for our needs.

During the January 10 Action Meeting, I presented a resolution to advertise, interview and compare the qualifications for all candidates for the position of Borough Attorney. I believe that we should hire the most qualified person for the position in a businesslike fashion. Sadly, not one Borough Council member saw fit to make a motion to allow this matter to be discussed.

As a positive first step to address the strong differences of opinion between the Mayor and the Borough Council, I suggested and the Council agreed to a workshop in the Borough Hall at 8:00 P.M. on January 31. The public is invited to attend.

On January 15, I had the pleasure of performing a marriage ceremony for Mark Kleinman and Lynda Perez Ortiz. I think that I was more nervous than the bride and groom. I wish the new couple joy and good health in their married life together. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 4

the Council approved ten resolutions and two motions. The Council presented a beautiful walnut framed plaque to Mayor Lee Allen to thank him for his service to Roosevelt as Mayor for eight years following one year on the Council, and for other volunteer service. The audience applauded enthusiastically. Some residents added personal comments of praise.

At the December 27 special meeting, the Council made the necessary transfer of unspent funds from some accounts to others so that they could be available for the 2000 Budget.

At the Reorganization Meeting on January 3, besides events described earlier, confirmation of employees to fill the following positions was given: Deputy Clerk, Nancy Warnick; Registrar of Vital Statistics, Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik; Deputy Registrar, Nancy Warnick; Purchasing Agent, Nancy Warnick; Treasurer, Ana Debevec; Public Works Superintendent, Diana Moore; Clean Community Coordinator, Diana Moore; Assistant Tax Collector Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik; Water/Sewer Fee Collector, Geraldine Millar; Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer, John Reuter; School Crossing Guards, Kelly Mitchell, Mary Tulloss and Lauralynne Cokeley. (The Clerk, Tax Collector, Tax Assessor and Chief Financial Officer were also listed but they are all tenured and did not require reappointment.)

Council Committee Chairs are to be: Harry Parker for Administration, John Towle for Finance, Rose Murphy for Utilities, George Vasseur for Public Works, Michael Stiles for

Environmental-Health & Safety, and Paul Hoogsteden for Community Development.

The Mayor appointed Ed Miller as Chair (Coordinator) and Jack Rindt as Deputy Chair of the Emergency Management Council, and also as members of that council: Fire Chief Kim Dexheimer, First Aid Captain Herbert Johnson, Borough Clerk Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik, Public Works Superintendent Dianna Moore, Communications Specialists Mel Friedman and John Ord. Representatives of the School Board and of the Borough Council are yet to be named.

Appointed to the Citizens' Participation Group for CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) are: Veronica Vignuolo, Mary Jane Kiersnowski, Mary Alfare, Cynthia Cybert, Judy Nahmias, Lynn Friedman and Leonard Sacharoff.

The Council Rep. to the Senior Citizens Organization is to be Rose Murphy. The Town Historian is to be Arthur Shapiro. The "Census 2000 Complete Count Committee" is to consist of Mayor Hamilton, Councilman Towle and a representative of the Board of Education.

After adopting "Roberts Rules Of Order" as the Borough's parliamentary procedures, the Council passed 21 resolutions for appointments or designations including: GPM Associates for Water/Sewer Engineer; McLaughlin, Bennett, Gelson & Cramer for Bond Counsel; Millstone Township Municipal Court for Municipal Court; Diane Canzanella for Municipal Court Administrator and Melody Kitson for Deputy

Administrator; Helen Dwyer for Alternate Administrator; Dianna Moore for Recycling Coordinator, Fund Commissioner and Safety Coordinator per the Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund, and Clean Community Coordinator; fixing the rate of interest on tax delinquencies, etc. at 8 percent until \$50,000 is owed; authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel property tax refunds and delinquencies of less than \$5; Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik for Municipal Assessment Search Officer; Salvatore Cannizzaro for Municipal Tax Search Officer; PNC Bank as depository for ten of the Borough's accounts; PNC Bank for depository for the Roosevelt Municipal Court; Ms. Bieracka-Olejnik for Public Agency Compliance Officer; Rose Murphy for CDBG Representative; Veronica Vignuolo and Marilyn Magnes for alternates; Current fund Temporary Budget to be one-fourth of the 1999 budget; Water/Sewer Fund Temporary Budget to be one-fourth of its 1999 budget; agenda meetings to be first Mondays and Council's regular meetings to be second Mondays (holiday delays it one day); Council committee meetings to be third and fourth Mondays; official newspapers for the Borough to be the Asbury Park Press, The Times and the Messenger Press.

Some residents of Roosevelt who were present pointed out that the Mayor and some members of the Council speak so softly, much of what they say is not heard. One of the subjects of the Mayor's remarks at the start of the next meeting was that he is looking into obtaining microphones for use at public meetings. ■

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

Hamilton Begins To Remake Planning Board

by Bob Clark

Roosevelt's new mayor, Michael Hamilton, wants people on the Borough Planning Board who share his view that future development should match the uniqueness of the existing community. He can count on himself. By law, the mayor serves on the Planning Board during his four-year term. He also appointed Kate John-Alder to a three-year term in the position previously occupied by Bert Ellentuck, whom Mayor Hamilton interviewed but declined to reappoint. In addition, he named Ralph Seligman and Jane Rothfuss as alternate members for one-year terms. Mr. Seligman replaced Bill Wisowaty, and Ms. Rothfuss filled a position that had remained vacant for over a year.

Ms. John-Alder, Mr. Seligman and Ms. Rothfuss had joined Mr. Hamilton, co-founder of the Committee for Responsible Development, in fervent opposition to the failed application by Matzel and Mumford (M&M) to obtain 65 residential lots on the Notterman tract between the Solar Village and the Cemetery. The previous Planning Board denied the application in October 1999. Mayor Hamilton's failure to reappoint Mr. Ellentuck surprised some observers because Mr. Ellentuck had led the Board's efforts to hold M&M's feet to the fire during contentious hearings on its application.

At the Borough Council reorganization meeting on January 3, Mayor Hamilton had announced that he would appoint Mr. Seligman to a three-year position and David Ticktin to an alternate position as the School

Board's representative on the Planning Board. However, Council members pointed out that there were not enough vacant positions to accommodate all of the announced appointments. At the next Council meeting on January 10, Mayor Hamilton shifted Mr. Seligman to the alternate position and dropped David Ticktin from the appointment list. Thus, Mr. Hamilton did not fulfill his expressed desire to place a School Board representative on the Planning Board.

At the Planning Board's reorganization meeting on January 12, Mayor Hamilton appointed Michael Ticktin, Roosevelt's Tax Assessor and David Ticktin's cousin, to a one-year term in the position reserved for a non-elected Borough official. Michael Ticktin replaced Diana Moore, who declined to serve another term. During the public portion of the meeting, Mr. Ellentuck noted that Mr. Ticktin had declined reappointment to the public official position in January 1999. At that time Mr. Ticktin cited the fact that his ownership of property within 200 feet of the Notterman tract, as well as land proposed for an adult community, would prevent his participation in most key decisions anticipated during 1999. Mr. Ellentuck asked how the situation had changed in the intervening year. Mr. Ticktin responded that Mayor Hamilton had found that other Borough public officials were unwilling to serve and persuaded Mr. Ticktin to resume service on the Board. He said if it were necessary under the law, he would not participate in certain decisions.

The Borough Council re-elected Harry Parker as the Council's representative to the Planning Board. The

Board, which in Roosevelt also functions as a Zoning Board, now has a full complement of nine members and two alternates. Also serving on the Board are Louis Esakoff, Paul Henry, Gail Hunton, Mark Roberts and Joseph Zahora. The Board authorized a resolution thanking the departing members and Planning Consultant Alan Mallach for their volunteer service during a very active period.

The reconstituted Board replaced Mr. Zahora as Chair with Ms. Hunton, who served last year as Vice-Chairwoman. The Board elected Mr. Zahora to serve as Vice-Chairman. The Board re-elected Michele Donato as Board Attorney. Ann Kassahun again was named Secretary. James DeMuro was elected Interim Engineer. The firm of Clarke Caton Hintz, represented by Michael Sullivan, was retained as Planning Consultant. Public notices again will appear in the Asbury Park Press and the Messenger-Press. The Board will meet the second Wednesday of every month.

The Board distributed the final revision of the Borough's long-awaited Master Plan Reexamination Report, adopted by the Board at its December 8 meeting. Mr. Mallach prepared the Reexamination Report, and the Board revised it prior to adoption. Instead of making fundamental recommendations regarding key planning issues facing Roosevelt, the Report concludes that the development of a new Master Plan should serve as "the vehicle through which key issues are addressed." The Report merely identifies those issues without attempting to resolve them. Then Mayor-elect

Continued on Page 8

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

Continued from Page 7

Hamilton commented that it was obvious that Mr. Mallach "took feedback from the community into account" while drafting the Report. Mr. Hamilton added that it was "very much appreciated."

Mr. Mallach resigned as Planning Consultant effective the end of 1999. He had provided many hours of free professional planning advice to the Board during the review of the recent large-scale development proposals and the preparation of the Reexamination Report. Mr. Mallach said he still hoped "to serve either on the Board or as a member of the public motivating the Board."

The Reexamination Report lists two objectives for future planning that "appear to be paramount." The first is "to evaluate the extent and character to which additional development can be accommodated while maintaining key elements of the essential physical and social character of the community." The second is "to evaluate the fiscal circumstances and infrastructure conditions of the community, in order to arrive at future development strategies that will help mitigate fiscal and infrastructure problems." The Report raises a number of major issues involving: the 110-acre Notterman tract, the northern 500 acres located on both sides of Route 571, the abandoned service station, the Borough's affordable housing obligation, preservation and stewardship of open space, and the condition of water and sewer utilities. It also notes issues regarding historic preservation, views along roadways, recreation facilities, and school and municipal facilities.

The Reexamination Report concludes that many of the issues it raises, such as whether an adult community

option should be reconsidered, are "complex" and "contentious." It recommends that the Board engage the entire community in the new Master Plan's preparation. This is especially important since in December 1998 the Borough Council increased the permitted density of housing on the Notterman tract and established an adult community option of up to 350 units in the northern 500 acres over the Board's recommendation for delay and further study. The Council must implement any Master Plan with ordinances. Although Mayor Hamilton may influence the Planning Board with his own presence and mayoral appointments, he votes on the Council only in the event of a tie. Although the voters replaced Lee Allen with Mr. Hamilton during the November 1999 election, they did not change the Council membership.

At the January 12 meeting, Mr. Seligman, Mr. Ticktin, Mr. Parker and Ms. John-Alder volunteered to serve on a Master Plan Committee to meet with Mr. Sullivan, the Planning Consultant. The Committee's meetings will be open to the public.

Near the end of the January 12 meeting, the Board went into closed session, on the advice of Ms. Donato, to discuss potential litigation. The Board had received a letter from M&M refusing to replenish the escrow account that had been set up to pay fees from the Board's experts for their evaluation of M&M's application. The letter also contested the amount of the fees billed by Ms. Donato and Clark Caton Hintz. Ms. Donato said a developer would have to bring its appeal of such fees before the County Construction Board of Appeals if the matter could not be resolved with the municipality.

At its December 8 meeting, the Board

approved an application by John Lenart of Elm Court for a second-story addition abutting the attached neighboring house. By a 5-3 vote, the Board approved an interpretation of the zoning ordinance that would permit measuring the allowed nine feet of additional height from the ridge of an existing roof. Thus, no height variance was required. The vote was Mr. Zahora, then-Mayor Allen, Ms. Moore, Mr. Wisowaty and Mr. Roberts in favor, and Mr. Ellentuck, Ms. Hunton and Mr. Esakoff against. Mr. Henry and Mr. Parker were absent. The Board also interpreted the ordinance to require no variance for windows located within 25 feet of an adjoining property so long as they do not face the property line. The vote was the same as the vote on the other interpretation. Finally, the application was approved subject to the condition that the ridgeline be parallel to the existing ridgeline and not pitch toward the adjoining property. The votes again were the same, except Mr. Ellentuck abstained instead of voting "no." ■

Be Aware of what's
going on:
Start the Year
right— attend the
monthly
Council and Planning
Board meetings.

Be Involved !
It's Your Town !

SCHOOL NEWS

School Board News

By Nancy Hamilton

The Roosevelt Board of Education met on December 16, 1999 and January 13, 2000. Highlights of these meetings have included significant revisions to the policy manual, some changes in personnel, enhancements to the curriculum and changes in student assessment. This reporter was unable to attend these meetings and sincerely thanks Karen Minutolo, school board secretary, for the following information, based on the minutes of the January meeting.

Dr. Weinbach, chief school administrator summarized school activities. The winter concert, held on January 12th was well attended. It marked the last music event led by Heather Philhower, who has resigned her position. The music program continues under the leadership of John Dingle, who has been hired as the substitute music teacher. The world language program is being coordinated by kindergarten teacher, Jamie Cvevich. There are preparations for a Roosevelt School web site, which will be up and running soon. A "random acts of kindness" program is operating school-wide, in coordination with Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

In addition to the resignation of Ms. Philhower, the board also accepted the resignation of George Vasseur, school custodian. Abe Schlinski has been hired as a substitute custodian. The board agreed to pay for an additional one day per week for Joseph Morris, technology facilitator, effective April 1st. This day was originally paid for out of technology grant money,

There is a vacancy on the school board, created by the departure of Michael Hamilton. The position has been advertised for; letters of application will be reviewed at the January 27th meeting, and interviews will take place in February. There will be three board of education seats open for election. Applications are available in Karen Minutolo's office at the school. The board will have a retreat at the Monmouth County library on Saturday, January 22nd. The focus of the retreat will be on long-range planning and goal setting.

Thank you to Jill Lipoti who volunteered to be the school board representative to the Borough's Emergency Management Committee.

Dr. Weinbach gave a presentation on the Terra Nova standardized test for grades 2, 3 and 5. This is the recommended school-wide standardized assessment instrument. The Board also reviewed samples from the Great Books series, a supplemental literature-based reading program which will be implemented in the spring. The Education/Personnel committee is reviewing changes in the Kreps' World language program, so that our program adequately prepares our graduating students.

The finance committee is beginning budget preparations for the 2000-01 school year. The committee will meet on February 3rd. The buildings and grounds committee will meet on January 31st to work on a facilities maintenance plan for budgeting purposes.

The Policy Committee, chaired by Ellen Silverman, has undertaken the ambitious job of reviewing and updating the policy manual. Policies on instruction are currently under review and ready to be adopted by the board; policies on students will be reviewed next.

The Legislation/ Public Relations committee awaits information from the Planning Board regarding housing options for the school bus used to transport secondary school students. There continues to be communications between Dr. Weinbach, officials from the State Department and Assemblyman Malone regarding the amount of our state aid, which directly affects the amount we have to pay in taxes. State aid figures are usually released a few days after the Governor's budget message (end of January).

Congratulations to Ilene Levine who was published in *Science and Children Magazine*. Her article summarized an inquiry project conducted by her class in 1998.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on January 27th. ■

Roosevelt Community Nursery School Newsletter

by Ginny Weber

In January, we learned about the Arctic. We learned where the Arctic is and about the freezing temperatures that are usual there. We discovered how polar bears, penguins and other creatures survive the harsh Arctic weather.

January 17 was Benjamin Franklin's birthday, so we learned about his many contributions and achievements. We conducted an experiment about electricity and made mail boxes. Our field trip to the Roosevelt Post Office will be re-scheduled due to the weather.

Our Class also celebrated A.A. Milnes' birthday by making one of his favorite characters, Tigger.

Chinese New Year was celebrated in our class the first week of February. The children loved finding out what animal represents their birth year and what their "personalities" are. We made dragons and lanterns to make our room look very festive for the year of the dragon! We found out about Chinese culture and where China is located as well.

We will learn all about keeping our hearts healthy this month. We will listen to our hearts during quiet time as well as after exercise.

The children will enjoy making their special valentine mail boxes this month. We are having a Valentine's Day party in class and will exchange our valentines.

Our class is having Presidents' week this month. We will find out interesting facts about Washington and Lincoln and discuss fables about the two presidents. We will also learn how many presidents our country has had and who our president is today.

Dental Health Month is also in February so we will learn how to take care of our teeth. We are also planning a trip to Dr. Falk's dental office.

Our Nursery School Board is planning a wonderful Valentine's Day dinner dance on February 12. If anyone is interested in attending, please call the nursery school at 426-9523. We are looking forward to a spectacular evening and hope to see you there! ■

From The PTA

by Kelly Mitchell

Hello Hello
and
Happy Happy New Year
Hope it was full of good
Cheers

It's getting real cold
Winter has arrived
That must mean it's
Winter Concert time
January 12th

The music brought warmth
to the soul
The hot chocolate warmed
everyone's toes

Saturday March 4th
A big day to remember
WINTER CARNIVAL
prizes, food and games
CHINESE AUCTION *
Many items to claim

Come one come all
of any age
from 10:00 am till 1:00 pm
Come out and enjoy
all the fun

* New expanded CHINESE AUCTION Preview:

Items including -

\$50.00 Gift Certificate - Learning Express
\$25.00 Gift Certificates - McCaffrey's Market - 2 Total
\$25.00 Gift Certificate - Chianti's Italian Restaurant
Facial Certificate - Christiano's Salon

* If anyone would like to donate to the auction, please contact either:

Beverly Tanenhaus, 609-426-0962
or
Susan Dermody, 609-448-6188. ■

From The Desk of Dale Weinbach, CSA

It seems most appropriate that at the start of the new millennium students at RPS will be honoring the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his movement to encourage acts of kindness and justice. Students will be learning about the meaning of tolerance, kindness and standing up for what is just. They will be discussing the meaning of respect, generosity and moral courage. The goal for these lessons is to inspire young people to believe in their power to create positive change and recognize how their individual acts of kindness can make a difference in their homes, schools and communities.

Before leaving for winter recess, students and families collected holiday gifts for children and families living in a Monmouth County shelter. The response from our students was overwhelming; three trips were made to the shelter due to the generosity of students and families.

The winter concert on January 12 was the final concert to be performed under the supervision of Heather Philhower. Heather has taken a full-time position at Millstone Township Middle school. We wish Heather the best of luck, and welcome Mr. John Dingle, who will be teaching music for the remainder of the year. Our

Spanish program will continue under the direction of Ms. Jamie Cvecich.

In December the Board of Education said farewell to Mike Hamilton as he left his position to take on the responsibility of Mayor of Roosevelt. I look forward to a positive alliance between the Board and the Borough Council.

The RPS web site is up and running - check us out at www.RPS1.org. Remember that the web site has been created and is maintained by our very own sixth grade class. Our kindergarten class has email pals in Florida, and our first grade class has email pals in Indiana. Preparation is underway for a video conference between the first grade class at RPS and their pals in Indiana.

We have had several unpleasant incidents because of neglect of neighbors to adhere to the pooper-scooper requests. I ask everyone to please be courteous and clean up after pets on school property.

Hope to catch many students and community members committing random acts of kindness! ■

News From Junior Girl Scout Troop 1904

On December 4th, the junior girl scouts went roller blading at the Jackson roller rink. In December we made Angel ornaments for people without ornaments on their tree. We used foam, roses, lace and wire. On Sunday, January 2nd the girl scouts helped clean up yard waste dumped along the trail near the walking path on South Valley Road. We had a dumpster that we put the wood in. When we got tired we had juice and cookies.

NOTE: Many thanks to the Cokeley family, Rothfuss family, Mike Hamilton and Rod Tulloss for their hard work on cleaning up the trail. The dumpster was supplied by the Borough's Environmental Commission. Also thanks to all the people who assisted the girls with a service project by depositing their old holiday cards in boxes at the deli and the school. ■

RECYCLING DATES

Feb. 2, 16
Mar. 1, 15, 29
April 12, 26
May 10, 24
June 7, 21

COMMUNITY NEWS

Senior Citizens' Club News

by Herbert Johnson

After a birthday song was sung for two of the members born in January, and a report about get-well cards being sent to three members, the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Club discussed plans for the future. At this regular business meeting on January 5 in the Borough Hall, the club decided to go on a bus trip to Delicious Orchards in Colts Neck and then have lunch at Maxwell's, formerly known as Colts Neck Inn. Sixteen of the 18 members present gave a show of hands to indicate their intent to go.

On the fourth Friday, January 28, the club had a box lunch at the Solar Village in the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Meeting Room.

The next regular business meeting, on the first Tuesday of February, is to start an hour earlier than usual, 1 p.m.

instead of 2 p.m. An attempt will be made to have the Visiting Nurse come to take blood pressures at 12:30 p.m.

Dues will be payable in February to Membership Chair Clare Sacharoff. The club members are to consider if they would like to see a VCR movie at the Borough Hall following the meetings there.

Box lunch orders were revised and three were added.

Following adjournment, club members enjoyed wonderful cakes, crackers and cheese, and refreshments prepared by Honey and Sidney Socholitzsky, to whom thanks were expressed enthusiastically. ■

New Books At The Library

by Frances Duckett

The Roosevelt Library has been undergoing some basic changes. On Monday nights, it's not unusual to see four or five people clustered around the computers, listening to music, looking at art, pricing items on E-bay!

The Roosevelt Library is in the school, at the opposite end from the office, and is open Mondays from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. A Monmouth County Library Card can be applied for. Books from Monmouth County Library can be requested at Roosevelt. You all come!

The collection of books at RPS is undergoing change, too, in that many fine donations have been received from local residents. I'll list a few.

The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje:

Colorful prose dealing with a love story set during World War II. Made into an award-winning film.

The Fallen Man by Tony Hillerman

A fine detective novel set in the American Southwest.

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

A children's classic which is particularly relevant during the holiday season.

Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer

Autobiographical writings about one of the most remote cultures in the world.

Truman Capote by George Plimpton

A biography of one of our most famous southern writers.

Many Thanks to all the donors! ■

A Career Inspired By Roosevelt

by Gladys Nadler

His professional career and his fifty years as a Roosevelt resident are intertwined.

I went into planning because of Roosevelt," said Ralph Seligman, who was recently honored by his colleagues and students after twenty-one years as Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College in New York City. Living in Roosevelt, a still-viable planned community, is what first sparked his interest in becoming a city planner because "it works," he said.

As a Roosevelt Planning Board member from 1959 to 1988, who became chairman in 1968, Ralph wrote our first Master Plan in keeping with the state law for planning. "I based it on the first plans for Roosevelt (then Jersey Homesteads) because they were so good," he said.

Now, after 40 years as a professional planner, he will again be able to use his professional expertise on behalf of our community. At the January 10 Borough Council meeting, he was appointed as an Alternate Planning Board member.

Mr. Seligman returns to the Roosevelt Planning Board with a wealth of experience in urban planning. He was the city planner of Hoboken from 1962 to 1994, during that town's transformation from deterioration to a highly desirable community in which to live. As a planning consultant, he also wrote master plans and got federal grant money for six townships in New York, including New Paltz and Bethel, where the Woodstock Festival took place. He also did the planning for Plattekill in Ulster County for twenty years.

He has a master's degree in Urban Planning from Hunter College and two baccalaureates, one from Berkeley in Economics, and the other in engineering from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point. He is a licensed New Jersey Professional Planner.

He was professor of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter college from 1978 to September 1999. Before that, he taught at Cook College, Rutgers, in the Department of Environmental Resources, where he developed and introduced the department's basic course in environmental planning.

Asked about his philosophy of planning, Mr. Seligman said that he believes in "growth management" that can match a town's "capacity to absorb people" based on the number of people in the existing community. Development "has to respect the character of the place it finds itself in," he said. This means that here in Roosevelt, development needs to take place "incrementally, in small bits...so if you need additional facilities you can make changes...People can be absorbed naturally... in a small space." About the original concept and construction of this town, he said: "We are a living testimonial to a time when the Federal government was daring, set very high standards...they were environmentally sensitive."

On the subject of encroaching urban sprawl: "There's no legislative mandate that says we have to turn our farmland into housing...we need fewer services for farmland." ■

Trash Alert

It has been brought to the attention of Borough officials that many residents are including items other than household waste into their containers. Bulk or large waste such as old appliances, worn out parts, etc., are only to be put out at special times during the year. Please be more vigilant in discarding them. According to

our contract, the next big pick-up for these items is Monday, May 8. Your containers are for weekly pick-up of household waste only. Your cooperation is very much appreciated. ■

This article is repeated from the Announcements section on Page 2.

The Contract

by Bess Tremper

Years ago, when I was visiting former residents, Evelyn and Aaron Datz, I admired a large serigraph, "The Phoenix" on their wall, executed by Ben Shahn. When I told Evelyn how much I liked it, she said, "I earned it."

She told me that Bernarda and Ben had been at the Datz's for dinner one night. When she served a homemade cake for dessert, Ben complimented her and told her that if she would make them a cake occasionally, he would give them one of his works.

Taking him at his word, she actually created and sent him a "contract" and the bargain was sealed and delivered. Speaking to the Datz's son a short time after Evelyn's death, he told me that the "contract" had been a piece of family lore for many years. But the actual document, if it had ever existed, had disappeared. However, when they were involved in the very sad and painful process of going through his parents' possessions, the following contract turned up in a pile of papers.

AGREEMENT entered into on this _____ day of June, 1954 between Benjamin Shahn, hereinafter known as the party of the first part, and Evelyn Datz, hereinafter known as the party of the second part.

The party of the first part, being possessed of a sweet tooth, and being covetous of the creative products (not necessarily including children) of the party of the second part; and

The party of the second part, being possessed of the lust of the eyes, and being covetous of the creative products (not necessarily including animals) of the party of the first part;

Therefore have they today entered into an exchange covenant whereby

For the sum of _____ cakes or pies baked by the party of the second part, the party of the first part will deliver one original drawing, painting or mural.

Delivery of the cakes or pies shall be made at the request of the party of the first part at no less than two days' notice.

Delivery of the drawing, painting or mural shall be made no later than when three-fourths of the above number of cakes or pies have been delivered to the party of the first part.

Benjamin Shahn, Party of the First Part _____

Evelyn Datz, Party of the Second Part _____

Evelyn had told me once that occasionally when her young daughter came home from school and saw a newly baked cake cooling on the kitchen table, she would ask: "Is this for US or for THEM?" ■

Better Late Than...

by Virginia North Edwards Stout

Your neighbor and my late husband, Ferris M. Stout, died more than a year ago. An obit is overdue. After twelve months of firsts, each painful first attached to a bittersweet last, I'm ready to talk. The poor guy never got a real obituary. The basic announcement in the NYT was concise as a tombstone inscription. The conventional life-summery faxed to local newspapers the day after he died never made it into print, or possibly out of the fax machine, since, unwisely, I had been assigned the task of transmission.

If Ferris hadn't been so happy at 9 School Lane and liked living in Roosevelt so much, I'd let the obit go and be content for him to cavort through my memories and the musings of others who enjoyed him. But his pride and pleasure in our town were too strong to be ignored. I want you to know a little about the man who was one of us for fifteen years.

Ferris Meigs Stout was born in Bronxville, N.Y. in 1922 into privileged circumstances that embarrassed him once he was old enough to recognize them and mature enough to acknowledge them. From early manhood, he unconsciously created or followed trails guaranteed to lead him away from success in its material aspects. This course frustrated his nuclear and extended families. I don't think he regretted his choices.

One of his young relatives, ordered to write the inevitable theme on "The Most Unforgettable Character I've Known", chose Ferris as her subject. She was awarded an A+, along with the reminder that the character was supposed to be "a real person." Real he was. The big, bald, exuberant guy who sounded as if he gargled with gravel was simply "full of it"---all the its, in fact, and most of the time.

He flew Liberator bombers during World War II and his missions included the storied raids over the Ploesti oil fields. When I met him he was flying around the country in a tiny single-engine Mooney as part of his business routine. Scotch tape was basic to the plane's structure. I always got a kick out of climbing onto the craft's wing, squeezing into the cabin and dutifully chewing on the large spitball that would keep the retracted landing gear from shrieking madly for the duration of the trip.

When deteriorating hearing forced him to give up flying, he replaced the Mooney with a comparably deteriorating motor boat that was mysteriously magnetized out of inlets and onto the nearest ocean. The Driveway Queen was replaced with Manderley, a very small, very tired \$700 trailer which provided so much adventure that we traded it in for a larger second-hand trailer in better condition, and I got to see something beside the butt-seam of the mechanic's pants.

Fifty-eight years of living and a cast of thousands had not prepared me for Ferris. Fifteen years as his wife and almost two as his widow leave me incredulous. He was an adventure of a man.

Ferris loved science, Shakespeare, history, astronomy, mushroom hunting and speculation. Introspection? God forbid. He loved making things — furniture, gardens, cartoons, curtains, beer, babies. When he had to buy something he did so reluctantly and made a holder for it.

The great fixer's zest for mess was matched by a ferocious, gender-free urge to clean up and give us a change of chaos. His passion for computers was so strong that his name appeared suddenly on the screen of my virgin laptop although all previously used software had been discarded along with his older model p.c. (I can produce a witness.)

A generous man with no jealousy in him, Ferris welcomed my late first husband Mort as a partner in workshop projects. "I was going to eyeball it, but I clearly heard Mort saying 'better measure it.'"

He was physically brave in every situation, including his three-year war with cancer. He never lied and refused to fib. All women know the social crises associated with such purity. Ferris was one of the greatest storytellers I ever heard. His humor was never mean-spirited; he made himself the target of his funniest tales. He did, however, possess and glory in a tornadic temper. Since self-analysis would probably have necessitated giving up the fireworks, his navel remained resolutely un contemplated.

Essentially a romantic, FMS could spark the exasperation people in that category so often inspire. His goodhearted

Continued on Page 16

To Bob Eisner, In Appreciation

by Michael Ticktin

Bob Eisner, who died on December 1 at the age of 88, was one of those rare people who never lose their zeal for service to the community.

When I first met Bob, soon after I moved to Roosevelt in the early 1970s and began to become involved in the municipal government, he was serving as municipal auditor, a position he had held since 1948, in addition to performing the same service for the Roosevelt Board of Education. By then, he was in his 60s and was, along with his friend Izzy Sackowitz, one of the small group of people who had been responsible for the orderly administration of the Borough for many years.

Bob's association with Roosevelt took an entirely different turn in 1985 when, having become widowed, he married Lottie Sackowitz, the widow of his late friend, and settled here for the first time, leaving behind his home in Highland Park and his beloved Highland Park Conservative Temple, of which he had been treasurer for many years. Having moved into our community, he immediately became an active participant in Congregation Anshei Roosevelt, regu-

larly attending weekly services and serving as treasurer until the year of his death, with the same care and enthusiasm that he always devoted to any work that he did. His kind and gentle manner and his good judgment were invariably a great help both in meetings and in informal dis-

Dear Friends

My family and I wish to thank the community for their many expressions of sympathy at the loss of my husband, Bob.

I am grateful and I appreciate it immensely.

Thanks again,
Lottie S. Eisner

cussions. Several years ago, when the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation had had its authority more or less usurped by a management company that was not operating in the best interests of the project and its residents, Bob was one of the group that stepped in to reestablish a functioning board of trustees for this important community organization.

Again, his services as treasurer and as a calm, intelligent presence at meetings proved to be most valuable.

I was able to develop a particularly close friendship with Bob during the last couple of years in which he and I wound up being the last remaining members of the group that regularly attended Sabbath morning services at Congregation Anshei Roosevelt. Seeing our numbers so greatly reduced, we transferred the venue of our weekly services to join with the Perrineville congregation, where we went together every week. After he died, I found that several of the people who had become friendly with us there had assumed that he was my father. Having lost my own father many years ago, I was certainly pleased at the thought of Bob having filled in, even in this limited capacity. I know that I speak for the Board of Trustees and members of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt, and I am sure for many others in the community as well, when I extend my heartfelt condolences to Lottie and to Bob's sons, Averill and Sherman, and their families. Bob's life was indeed a blessing to this community, as it was to all of them. May his memory likewise be a blessing to us. ■

Better Late Than... *Continued from Page 15*

lovingness made it all worth while. He loved his four children, their mates and his six grandchildren with enthusiasm and drew my children, their mates and three offspring into his capacious embrace from the first.

After his graduation from Brown, Ferris worked as a corporate chemical engineer, discovered he hated corporate shenanigans and quit to be a dairy farmer. When drought burned him out, he made university patents his specialty and flew around in his Mooney trying to bring inventors and sponsors together. A physician friend won a trip in

the Mooney in a charity raffle, liked the pilot and turned him over to me.

When Ferris died we had the boozy party he had requested. On a mizzly Sunday, his kids and grandkids, accompanied by some of the family dogs, trudged up a hill in the Assunpink overlooking a fine view and took turns scattering his ashes off-trail, also as requested. Not one grandchild did the ycccch bit. We made a circle and said goodbye. As I was boosting Ferris's last puppy into the car for the ride home, I noticed that Clancy's muzzle was thickly plastered with a grayish substance. Ferris would have loved that. ■

BREAKING BREAD

A Recipe From a Dear, Departed Friend

by Thelma Thompson

Several years ago when Mrs. Chasan, "Gus" as we all called her, was still hosting the Seniors' Meetings, she brought this delicious treat on one occasion. I liked it so much and upon telling her she gave me the recipe. In turn, I have given it to many others, even to a woman who caters parties and has used it often. You can serve it with crackers or party rye bread. Try it, you will like it.

Salmon or Tuna Loaf

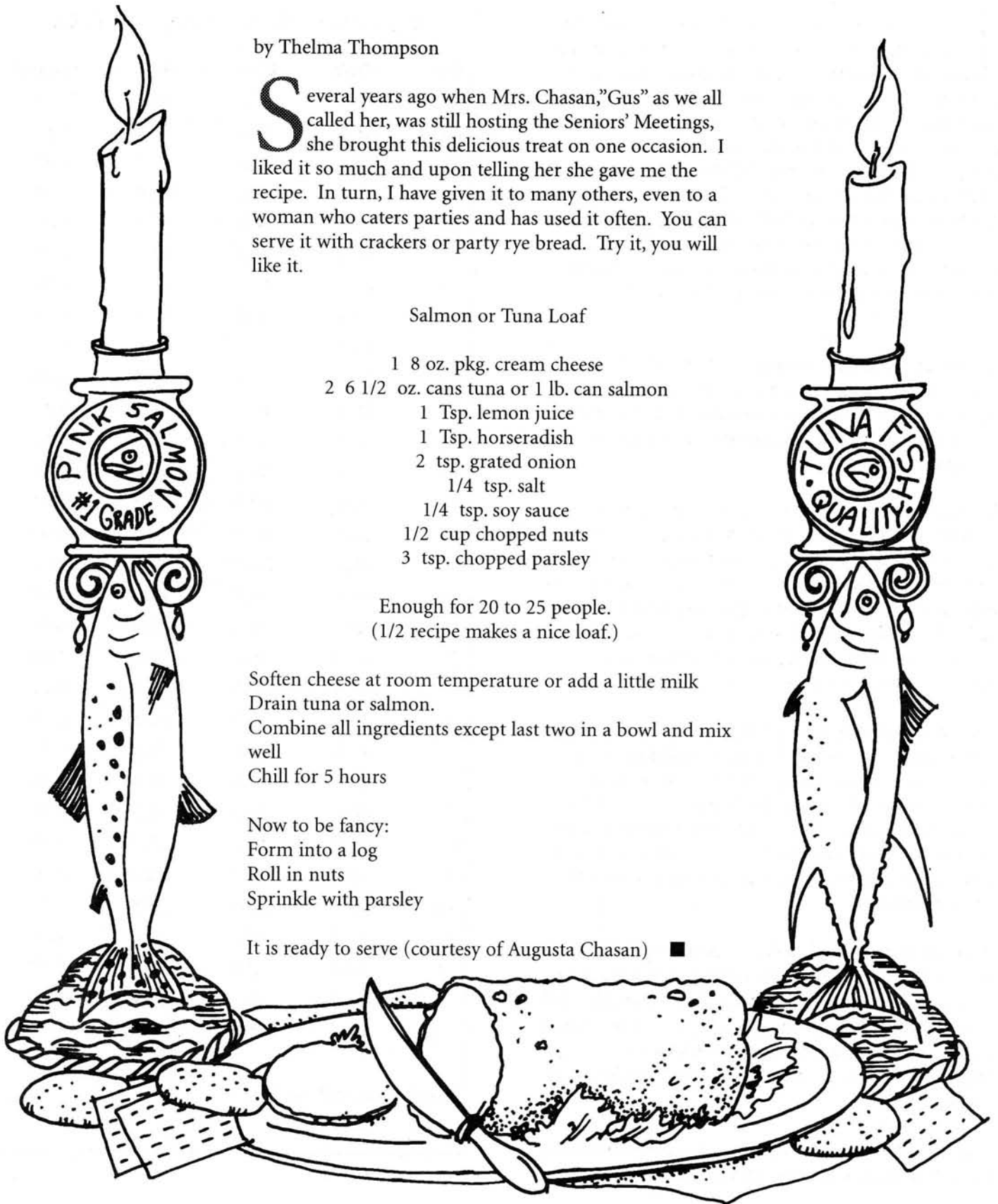
- 1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 2 6 1/2 oz. cans tuna or 1 lb. can salmon
- 1 Tsp. lemon juice
- 1 Tsp. horseradish
- 2 tsp. grated onion
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. soy sauce
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 3 tsp. chopped parsley

Enough for 20 to 25 people.
(1/2 recipe makes a nice loaf.)

Soften cheese at room temperature or add a little milk
Drain tuna or salmon.
Combine all ingredients except last two in a bowl and mix well
Chill for 5 hours

Now to be fancy:
Form into a log
Roll in nuts
Sprinkle with parsley

It is ready to serve (courtesy of Augusta Chasan) ■



ROOSEVELT WEATHER ALMANAC

by Ron Filepp

Last year was a wet year in Roosevelt, a fact that may run counter to popular notions. Although it was a wet year, it can't be denied that there was a drought in New Jersey in summer 1999. Near year's end, Public Works Superintendent Diana Moore gave me pause to think that by one measure the drought was not yet finished. While digging to access a faulty water shut-off valve at our Pine Drive residence last November, she remarked that anyone who thought the drought was over ought to try to dig the hard dry ground. Observing the sweat on her brow, I couldn't help but to be won over to her position for the moment.

Yet, the year-end precipitation total of 49.75 inches in Roosevelt is a fact. It is also a fact that that measure is more than five inches above normal. Perhaps 1999's problems with precipitation resulted from distribution, not quantity.

January '99 brought plenty of precipitation in the forms of rain, sleet and snow. March, May, August, September and October also had above normal precipitation. Unfortunately, the heavy water use months of June and July were very dry. June was especially arid. Only one inch of rain fell. Combined with hotter than normal temperatures last summer, the lack of rain resulted in failed crops and water-use restrictions.

Rain returned in August, when it was too late to save many summer crops. September brought more than three times normal rainfall. Most of the September rain fell in the two-day period of the 14th and 15th when tropical storm Floyd passed through New Jersey. Most of the water dropped by Floyd in that short period probably ran off the surface to streams with little ground saturation.

1999 was warm as well as wet. The average temperature for the year was almost three degrees above normal in Roosevelt. Despite short cold spells in December 1999 and in the first half of January 2000, we appear to be in another warmer than normal season this winter. Moreover, we may be in for more warm weather in the future.

A look at global weather statistics indicates a warming trend over the last century. In the last 100 years, the

December 15 - January 14, 2000

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	51.0	46.5	48.8	0.90
16	50.0	37.0	43.5	0.00
17	43.0	32.0	37.5	0.00
18	44.0	32.0	38.0	0.00
19	42.5	34.0	38.3	0.00
20	60.0	34.0	47.0	0.00
21	47.0	40.0	43.5	0.90
22	40.0	30.0	35.0	0.05
23	40.0	25.0	32.5	0.00
24	30.0	20.0	25.0	0.00
25	29.0	16.0	22.5	0.00
26	38.0	21.0	29.5	0.00
27	38.0	28.0	33.0	0.00
28	34.0	20.0	27.0	0.00
29	38.0	27.0	32.5	0.00
30	49.0	32.0	40.5	0.00
31	44.0	36.0	40.0	0.00
1	50.0	30.0	40.0	0.00
2	62.0	35.0	48.5	0.00
3	66.0	50.5	58.3	0.00
4	70.0	55.0	62.5	0.00
5	42.0	30.0	36.0	0.95
6	43.0	23.0	33.0	0.00
7	48.0	29.0	38.5	0.00
8	40.0	26.0	33.0	0.00
9	50.0	34.5	42.3	0.00
10	59.5	46.0	52.8	0.00
11	47.5	40.0	43.8	0.49
12	45.0	32.0	38.5	0.00
13	41.0	26.5	33.8	0.00
14		18.0	18.00.10	

Total Precipitation 3.39

average global surface temperature has risen by one degree. Another report reveals that the increase in the surface temperature is not echoed by rising temperatures in higher layers of the atmosphere. Some meteorologists believe that weather is determined more by conditions in these higher layers than by surface temperatures.

Do our recent warm years here on the surface of the earth where most of us live indicate a continuing trend or an anomaly? There are plenty of facts to support either position. Yet, it still seems too early to tell. Significant weather anomalies occur. Recall the dustbowl years of the 1930's and the drought in New Jersey that started in 1961 and lasted until 1966.

A note about the adjoining weather table. There are incomplete readings for January 14 and 15. The readings for those days were not taken because of a short vacation. During the days between the 14th and 17th, the highest temperature in Roosevelt was a balmy 49 and the lowest was 11 degrees. Quite a span of temperatures in just a few days!

Our long weekend trip took Robin and me to Washington D. C. to see Vermeer's "The Art of Painting" at the National Gallery and to visit the recently opened (1997) Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. When we walked the few blocks from our hotel to the National Gallery on Saturday, we were bundled up against a blast of frigid winter air. The next day my visit to the Roosevelt Memorial was marked not only by the moving tribute to our town's namesake, but also by the pleasant walk in shirtsleeves around the Tidal Basin to the Memorial. ■

Weather Word

A hygrometer is an instrument for measuring the humidity level of air. Hair is used in some hygrometers as the primary working element. Hair contracts in dry weather and expands in damp weather. Whether you like your hair to be flat (dry weather) or curly (damp weather), you can predict your own personal bad hair days by listening to tomorrow's weather forecast. ■

**SCHOOL is
OPEN!**



**Watch your
Speed!**

**The speed limit on most streets
in Roosevelt is 25 mph,
on School Lane it is 15 mph.**



LETTERS

Marilyn Magnes has requested that this letter, which she sent to the Mayor and Council, be published in The Bulletin.

Dear Mayor and Council:

As a follow-up to the re-organizational meeting of the Roosevelt Borough Council on Monday, January 3, 2000, I'm writing to express my concern about the appointment of the Borough attorney for the year 2000. Since that position remains open, I am asking you to consider taking some time to conduct a search for an attorney that has the qualifications and temperament to serve the Borough. During the next few years we will be confronting decisions that will affect the future shape of our community. We will need the expertise of many to help us make informed decisions, including legal guidance and interpretation.

During the past year I have attended a number of Council meetings. Mr. Ross did not seem to have as much of an understanding of municipal law as the Counsel to the Borough should have, nor did he seem to have the experience or ready facility with the law to give us answers when we needed them. It was with some concern that I heard the attorney for the developer state that Mr. Ross did not know if an ordinance had been properly filed. This was not contested. Although it is not his role to actually accomplish the filing, it was certainly his responsibility to follow through on the completion of the task.

More importantly is retaining a Borough attorney who understands Roosevelt and who believes as strongly as you do in the democratic processes of discussion and inclusion. In a community such as ours where controversial issues are bound to produce a vociferous public, we need a Borough attorney who will welcome challenges and questions, permit discourse and dialogue, and respect members of the public who may raise difficult issues. We need a counselor who will not make us, the public, feel threatened and intimidated but rather someone who will empower both the Mayor and Council to conduct meetings that are truly open to meaningful input from the residents.

Please consider this appointment carefully. The Borough attorney is a part of the tone set by the Council in its relations with the public. Improvement is needed.

Thank you for your consideration of my views and my best to all of you in the coming year.

Marilyn Magnes

Dear Friends,

The Monroe family moves to San Antonio, Texas in early February and takes 11+ years of fond Roosevelt memories with us. Chris and Diana moved into Roosevelt in August, 1988 when there were no trees along the corner of Homestead and Rochdale on our corner lot!!! We and our children Dana (9) and Jake (6), hope you enjoy the Leyland Cypresses for years to come. Perhaps you'd like to plant some of your own! The only place we have seen them in NJ is at Village Nurseries along Route 539. We wish our friends, neighbors and acquaintances all the best and hope to be back for occasional visits.

Diana Monroe

LETTERS

This letter arrived too late for publication in the December, 1999 edition.

To the Editor:

I haven't seen Pearl Hecht Seligman in a long time, so I was pleased and surprised to see her picture on the front page, The Metro Section, *NY Times*, November 15. "Pleased" because she looked so well. "Surprised" because I couldn't begin to fathom what her picture was doing in the newspaper. As for Ben Shahn's mural, I'm proud to say that as the town newsboy, I knew several of the people shown.

The only other time I've written to the *Bulletin* was in March 1996. I had wanted to correct the impression that the Nottermans (specifically, my son and daughter) were holding up development. They were not then, and they are not now. As the *Times* article makes clear, the towns-people are currently divided as to growth; that's what is holding up the works. What the article does not even mention, is that the proposed development by Matzel & Mumford follows as much as is now feasible the plans for future expansion of Jersey Homesteads, as originally foreseen by the Resettlement Administration, US Government. Indeed, the then Board Chairwoman, Gail Hunton, is quoted in the February 1996 *Bulletin* as saying: "...the Notterman tract fit the terrain and the historical plan to make that tract the future residential growth area for Jersey Homesteads" (Planning Board News by Bob Clark).

To put it plainly, the original settlers (my family was the seventh to arrive, August 1936), assumed that the town would expand, and in the direction now called "the Notterman tract." (I prefer Eastern tract.)

Finally, the *Times* article neglects to indicate that Matzel & Mumford appeared at nine hearings before the Planning Board; specifically between June 9 and October 28, 1999. These meetings were in connection with their formal application. In addition, Matzel & Mumford attended a number of meetings with Roosevelt officials during April, May and June 1998, to discuss conceptual plans for the proposed development, which in fact led to the formal application.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph M. Notterman

MONMOUTH COUNTY LIBRARY ROOSEVELT BRANCH

HOURS:

MONDAY: 7:00 P.M.—8:30 P.M.

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

COME AND BROWSE!

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

1999 - 2000 Season

The Roosevelt Arts Project is pleased to announce our 1999-2000 calendar of events, featuring a wonderfully varied array of readings and performances, a concert of computer music, an exhibit of the works of emerging artists and the return of your favorite performers and poets.

All events take place at the Borough Hall and will begin at 8:00 p.m., except for the Storytelling, which begins at 7:30 p.m.. At most events we ask only for a suggested contribution of \$6.00, only \$4.00 for students and seniors. This year, we will ask \$10.00/ \$5.00 for admission to the Roosevelt String Band concert. Mark your calendars and watch for our brochure and the *Bulletin* for additional details.

Saturday February 5
Piano Concert

Following his Beethoven Sonata recital last year, Alan Mallach will return with a new program drawn from the masterworks of the classic piano repertory, along with his usual illuminating commentary.

Saturday March 4
An Evening of Creative Technology

Roosevelt resident, Brad Garton, is Director of the Columbia University Computer Music Center. Join us for a concert of "New music and Performance" works by Garton and students/faculty/researchers working at the CMC - new interactive performance technologies and state-of-the-art music interfaces will be the norm!

Friday & Saturday April 28 & 29
Roosevelt String Band

Returning for the thirteenth year, the band, featuring Paul Prestopino, David Brahinsky, Ed Cedar, Judy Trachtenberg and Howie Jacobson, will play and sing old favorites and introduce you to its new musical discoveries.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday May 19, 20 & 21
Light as a Feather

Works by six Roosevelt artists will be on exhibit, each inspired by a single feather from birds as diverse as the Peking Duck and a Raven living at the Tower of London. Opening reception on Friday evening, 6-8:00 p.m. with gallery hours Saturday and Sunday.

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. ■

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

Poetry At Borough Hall

by Alan Mallach

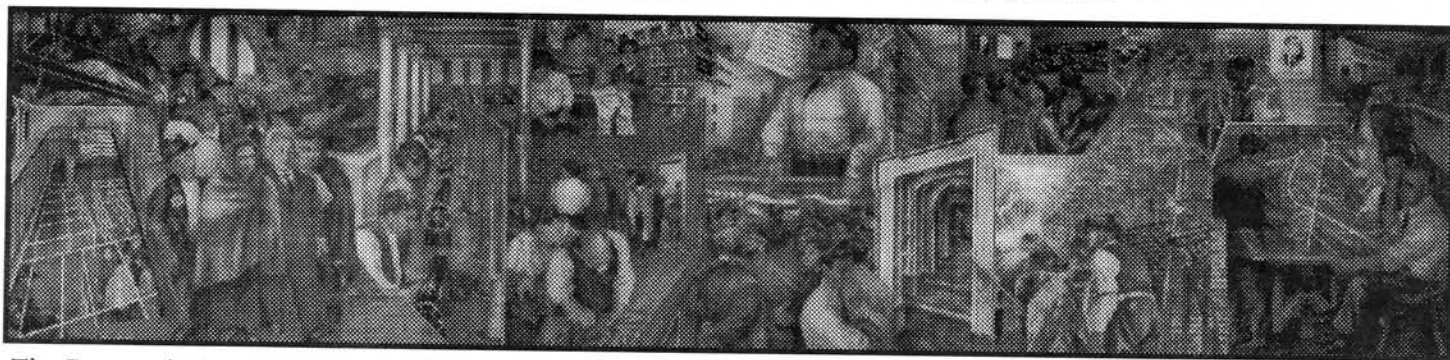
Poetry can be a form of magic, and Saturday night, January 8, a group of some 40 people experienced that magic at the Borough Hall. Interspersed with Brad Garton's computer-generated sounds, seven poets shared their works with us during the course of the evening, touching notes from droll comedy to intense personal feeling. Rod Tulloss began by reading a group of poems by Kenneth Rexroth, whose efforts to find cosmic meaning in the natural world somehow called to mind the photographs of Ansel Adams. Dinah Coe read sections from a long poem inspired by her stay in a Costa Rican cloud forest, while Wes Czyzewski shared a series of delightful, unexpected, haiku prompted by a family climb of Mount Washington.

The second half of the evening opened with Judith McNally's amusing yet rueful account of her travails as a beginning flute player, a tale which was punctuated by short flute solos played by the teller of the tale. She was followed by Robert Axel, a newcomer to Roosevelt poetry readings, who read a group of his poems, including an

exuberant wedding ode, also known as an epithalamium, in honor of his sister's forthcoming wedding. David Herrstrom then introduced Scot Carpenter, a talented young poet who is also David's son-in-law, who read his work, including most notably a deeply moving and beautiful poem about his father and their relationship. The evening ended with David Herrstrom reading excerpts from his new work, a brilliant kaleidoscopic series of images from Singapore. David's reading was a duet with Brad Garton's computer, which finally came into its own after lurking in the background for most of the evening; sometimes amplifying or distorting David's voice, and sometimes adding new sounds in counterpoint to the poetry. Brad's music, if that is what it was, gave an added dimension to the poem's phantasmagoric imagery.

All in all, a wonderful, magical evening. Poetry readings may never fill the arenas and stadiums of America, but in Roosevelt's Borough Hall, they still have the power to move and delight. ■

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. ■

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

by Mary Tulloss

Welcome to Mary Tulloss who has joined our team and a large thank you to Mary Alfare who has bowed out after many years of dedicated service.

FOND FAREWELL TO:

Bob Eisner of Farm Lane died in December at the age of 88. Bob was a former municipal accountant for the Borough of Roosevelt, accountant for the Roosevelt Public School, treasurer of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt and treasurer of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation. We offer our condolences to his wife Lottie and all his family and friends.

BEST WISHES ON YOUR RETIREMENT:

Geraldine Millar of Lake Drive retired December 3rd as Postmaster of Roosevelt. Geraldine had been at the Post Office for 28 years. Geraldine joins her husband, John, in retirement. John retired on September 30 after 12 years with the Lakehurst Naval Air Station.

HAPPENINGS IN THE ARTS:

Jacob Landau's exhibition, "Meditations & Probes, Works on Paper," is at the Sommerset Art Association Gallery, Bedminster, New Jersey from January 9th through February 8th. An opening reception was held January 9th and a gallery talk was presented by David Sten Herrstrom on January 23rd.

There will be an exhibition of Ben Shahn's photographs called: "Ben Shahn's New York: The Photography of Modern Times" from February 5 to April 30 at the Sackler Museum which is part of Harvard's Fogg Art Museum in Cambridge.

Bernarda Shahn has been invited to participate in a Leventritt Symposium: "Rethinking 'The Shape Of Content': New Scholarship on Ben Shahn In The 1930's" on Saturday, February 5th as an introduction to the show.

HONORS:

On December 14, Ralph Seligman was honored by faculty and students of the Hunter College department of Planning and Urban affairs for his 20 years

of teaching in that department. Ralph was also cited at the Hunter ceremony for his achievements as a city planning consultant during a 40-year professional career. From 1958 to 1988, Ralph was a member of the Roosevelt Planning Board and as chairman during much of that period, he played a major role in preparing the borough's master plan.

THANK YOU:

Molly Bulkin would like to thank all the dear people who helped her through her recent surgery and recovery.

MOVING OUT:

The Monroes (at the corner of Rochdale and Homestead Lane) move to San Antonio, Texas in early February after living in Roosevelt 11+ years. Diana was a key person in keeping the Roosevelt Nursery school operational in recent years and served as President/Treasurer last year. Dana was a member of the Brownie troop and is now a member of the Roosevelt Junior Girl Scout Troop.

FROM HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL:

High Honors First Quarter:

Elizabeth Carroll and Sarah Skillman.

Honors First Quarter:

Adam Axel, Naomi Cayne, Joseph Cheshier, Shaun Conover, Ryan Cybert, Kate Freedman, Joanna Giordana, Ilan Grunwald, Katherine Hamilton, Leah Howse, Wesley John-Alder, Nathaniel Kostar, Marissa Mellan, Josue Ortiz, Sean Parker, Molly Petrilla, Jeff Possiel, Haley Reimbold, Christine Rocchia, Hannah Stinson, Victoria Taylor, Ronit Yeger, Christopher Wong.

Joanna Giordano is one of 13 seniors to receive the Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars Award, which is given to students in the top 10% of their class who obtained a minimum SAT score of 1260.

Sophomore Molly Petrilla, after a successful audition, is

Continued on Page 25

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

playing clarinet in the Central Jersey Region II Band.

Seniors Kate Freedman and Joanna Giordano received National Merit Letters of Commendation. This award is based on scores on the PSAT test.

Haley Reibold and Sarah Skillman achieved Presidential status and Christine Rocchia and Hannah Stinson achieved National status for the President's challenge, which is a physical fitness award.

Nate Kostar made the Junior Varsity basketball team.

FROM KREPS MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Honor Roll First Quarter:

Reuben Alt, Avery Axel, Ina Clark, Lian Garton, Laurel

Hamilton, Jennifer Iacono, Meredith Lawson, Mollie Marko, Danielle Petrics, Lindsay Possiel, Joseph Rocchia, Elizabeth Stinson and Tina Vasseur.

FROM ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL:

Students of the Month in Health were Alex Velasquez, Cody Parker, Niyasia Mendies, Tommy Septak, Samantha Mateyka, Aliya Goldman, Devin Kostar, Matthew Stinson and Tom Gavula.

Students of the Month in Physical Education were Joshua Fischer, Kimberly Grasso, Lindsay Bernardin, Cecelia Tickin, Abigail Cloughly-Schwendeman, Blaze Nolan, Michael Cordo, Gabrielle Velasquez, Kelsey Reibold.

The Winter Concert was held on January 12th. Good-bye and thank you to Mrs. Phillhower, music teacher and spanish instruction coordinator, who is leaving the school in January.

CAMPUS NEWS:

Kate Alfare achieved honors in her first term at Franklin and Marshall.

Jessica Hamilton is on the Dean's List at Rutgers University. ■



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1999 - 2000

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As you can see, contributions have slowed down. We appeal to those who have not yet contributed. We REALLY need everyone who can possibly help. We're counting on you, as you're counting on us!

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.

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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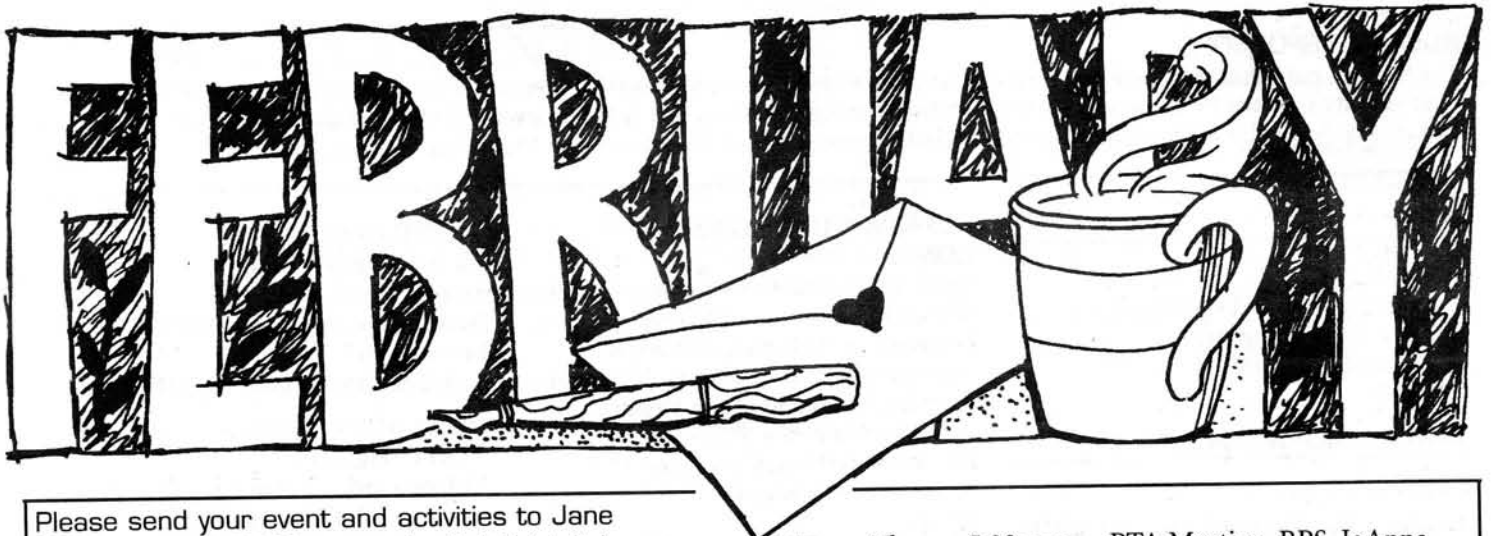
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February 2000

- | | | | |
|----|--------|------------|---|
| 1 | Tues. | 12:30 p.m. | Blood Pressure Check,
Borough Hall. |
| | | 1:00 p.m. | Seniors Meeting. |
| 2 | Wed. | | RECYCLE |
| 5 | Sat. | 8:00 p.m. | RAP Program, Piano Concert,
Borough Hall,
Judith Trachenberg, 426-8867. |
| 7 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Agenda Meeting,
Borough Hall. |
| 9 | Wed. | | RPS Report Cards for Second
Marking Period. |
| | | 8:00 p.m. | Planning Board Meeting,
Borough Hall. |
| 10 | Thurs. | | RPS Four-Hour Session -
Parent Conferences. |
| | | 7:30 p.m. | Board of Education Meeting,
RPS, Lauralynne Cokely, Pres.,
443-6287. |
| 12 | Sat. | 7:00 p.m. | Nursery School Dinner
Dance, Hightstown,
Geryl Hickey, 443-5030. |
| 14 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Action Meeting,
Borough Hall. |
| 16 | Wed. | | RECYCLE |
| | | | RPS Four-Hour Session -
Parent Conferences. |
| | | 8:00 p.m. | Environmental Commission
Meeting, Borough Hall. |

- | | | | |
|----|--------|-----------|--|
| 17 | Thurs. | 7:30 p.m. | PTA Meeting, RPS, JoAnne
Parker, Pres., 448-5619. |
| 21 | Mon. | | President's Day - Post Office
Closed, RPS Closed,
Borough Hall Closed. |
| | | 7:30 p.m. | Synagogue Board Meeting,
Michael Tickin, 448-0363. |
| 24 | Thurs. | 7:30 p.m. | Board of Education Meeting. |
| 28 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Committee Meetings,
Borough Hall. |

March 2000 Preview

- | | | | |
|---|------|------------------|--|
| 4 | Sat. | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | PTA Winter Carnival
JoAnne Parker, Pres.,
448-5619. |
| | | 8:00 p.m. | RAP Program, Creative
Technology, Borough Hall,
Judith Trachenberg,
426-8867. |
| 6 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Agenda Meeting,
Borough Hall. ■ |

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