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# ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



# BULLETIN

Published by Roosevelt P.T.A.

Vol. IV, No. 9

Roosevelt, New Jersey

June 1981

## Council awards treatment plant contract

By Carol Watchler

At the May 13 meeting, the Roosevelt Borough Council awarded a contract for major work on the borough's water treatment system, moved on several items pertinent as summer approaches, and dealt with proposals concerning library money and a water/sewer trainee.

A contract for carrying out phase I modifications to the water treatment plant was awarded to water specialists, Herder's Inc. of Bedminster, New Jersey, with a unanimous vote of the council. This contract for the sum of \$142,050 is subject to the approval of the Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA) from whom the borough has received a loan to accomplish this work. Additional funds that are available from FmHA may be held for 18 months or longer pending decision of the council regarding the necessity of phase II work.

Councilwoman Jan Terry of the recreation committee reported on work of a Fourth of July committee and invited all interested persons to attend a meeting on June 27 to plan the community celebration. Location of the meeting can be obtained by calling her at 448-6741. Motions passed

allocating \$800 from the recreation budget and permitting beer and a fireworks display at the event.

A resolution supporting use of returnable beverage bottles was unanimously passed. Council members expressed concern for public safety that could be endangered by littered and broken bottles. At their agenda meeting they reaffirmed their strong support of the borough ordinance prohibiting the consumption of alcoholic beverages on public property and urged that this ordinance be again brought to the attention of the public.

The current ordinance regarding leashing of dogs was amended to state that a dog owner would be held responsible for preventing a dog from running loose rather than merely when the owner permitted the dog to run loose.

Mayor Leon Barth announced plans to meet with the fourth district Congressman Christopher Smith on Saturday, May 16, as part of Smith's program to become familiar with municipalities in his district.

On a motion proposed by Les Weiner, Chairman of the Library Committee, the council voted to use state money to purchase \$350 worth of phonographic

(Cont'd. on next page)

## Council

(Cont'd. from previous page)

equipment, at the recommendation of the senior citizens group, and to fund the oral history project in the amount of \$200. The oral history committee, chaired by Evelyn Datz, will interview original Roosevelt settlers and transcribe these interviews into written documents. In addition, a Roosevelt archives will be set up under the direction of Michael Ticktin. Anyone interested in further information about these projects should contact Evelyn Datz, 448-1811, Marilyn Magnes, 448-6402, or Les Weiner, 448-2358.

Councilman Lou Esakoff of the administration committee recommended a meeting with proposed Water/Sewer Trainee Roy Terry before a special council meeting is held to consider any motion regarding an appointment.

The month of June was proclaimed First Aid Month. Public Safety Committee chairman Bill Counterman announced that the First Aid Squad would hold a fundraising drive on Sunday, June 14.

A question was raised in a letter from Andrea Lakin regarding use of the Borough Hall. The council pointed to its policy of use by recognized groups on a first come, first serve basis. Forms requesting use are available from the Borough Clerk.

### STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Editorial Board:

David Brahinsky  
Jim Dulicai  
Hortense Socholitzky

Pat Antosky...circulation  
Ann Baker...Council news  
Peter Berlinrut...Issues & Debate  
Bob Clark...Planning Board, features  
Dave Cooper...art, ad layout  
Lynn Friedman...business/ad manager  
Barbara Halpern...food column  
Freda Hepner...culture news, features  
David Herrstrom...features  
Norma Kushner...treasurer, ad sales  
Andrea Lakin...layout, headlines, art  
Terry Lepore...headlines  
Arlene Markow...Board of Education news  
Arthur Shapiro...features, Minutes Ago  
Elly Shapiro...social/calendar news, P.T.A., features  
Carol Watchler...borough news  
Helga Wisowaty...senior news  
Adeenah Yeger...fire company reporter, typing, features

### APCLOGY

We apologize for any errors and/or omissions in the previous issue of the Bulletin. A number of people were on vacation and we had to improvise quite a bit. We regret any inconvenience we might have caused and are sure that those affected will appreciate our situation.

## Roosevelt to vote in new legislative district

By Ann Baker

Rooseveltians will be voting in a new state legislative district in the June 2 primary. The bipartisan Reapportionment Commission met during the first three months of 1981 to wrestle with the census figures and the requirement of equally apportioned districts for representatives. Each district must have an equal number of citizens to be represented. For the state's 40 legislative districts, the figure is about 184,000 persons per district.

Roosevelt has been part of the 8th legislative district (LD) since the 1970 census. Our current members of the State Legislature are Senator Barry Parker and Assemblymen James Saxton and Clifford Snedeker, all Republicans.

The incumbents in the new 12 LD are Senator Thomas Gagliano, Assemblywoman Marie Muhler and Assemblyman John Bennett. They are all Republicans, presently representing the 11 LD. However, the present 11LD and the new 12 LD are virtually the same. A few Monmouth County communities have been shifted to other districts in the county. The additions to the district are Roosevelt, Millstone Township, Upper Freehold Township, Allentown and Red Bank.

Roosevelt now finds itself in a district which includes only Monmouth County communities. The present eight LD has included communities from Burlington, Ocean, Mercer and Monmouth counties. For purposes of interest and involvement in county-wide elections, this is a more sensible arrangement. However, whether in the eight LD or in the 12 LD, Roosevelt is a community with a very strong Democratic vote in a district which is predominately Republican.

The state legislative candidates in the 12 LD are the incumbents, Gagliano, Muhler and Bennett. Bennett is also the recently appointed attorney for the borough planning board. The Democratic candidates are Roger Kane of Freehold for the Senate seat and Stephen Hornik of Englishtown and Joseph Meehan of West Long Branch for the Assembly positions. These two slates will face each other in the general election in November.

One significant consequence of the results of the November elections is that the new State Legislature will then face the challenge of reapportioning the state's 14 Congressional Districts, down one from the present 15. Quite naturally, both parties want to assure themselves of a strong majority in the State Legislature in order to guarantee their party maximum advantage in negotiating the new congressional districts.

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## Council candidates respond to questions

Norman Nahmias

1. What do you consider to be the most pressing problem facing Roosevelt?
2. What development, if any, do you think ought to come to Roosevelt and over what period of time?

Obviously, our current financial condition is the most pressing problem. We must continue to make every effort possible to keep our expenses down and at the same time provide services. This is not an easy task. The Council must constantly search for any outside funds that may be available to Roosevelt.

I'd hate to see a dormant growth pattern for Roosevelt. We should consider some kind of new housing for the future. There has been much discussion concerning an "Adult" Development in Roosevelt. Many pros and cons can be argued. On the surface, the tax advantage is exciting with absolutely no burden to our school budget. However, one must consider the disadvantages in providing services; First Aid, Fire, Sewer, Water, etc; Again, a complete and detailed study must continue before any decisions are made.

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Howard Chasan

The most pressing problem facing Roosevelt is the ever-growing cost of supporting local government and services and our ability to meet the tax burden.

I am in favor of controlled community growth. I would prefer to see a maximum of 100 units constructed over a five-year period.

I am opposed to growth by the proposed 500 units of adult housing to be build as rapidly as a developer can make a profit and leave.

I do not want an isolated satellite housing area; the greater the distance between residential areas, the greater the obstacle to the assimilation of the population. Furthermore, 500 adult units would represent approximately 1,000 votes. If those votes were used as a bloc expressing self-interest, the future of our town would be in the hands of the satellite development, affecting all our institutions, the school and its very existence.

Bill Counterman

I see the most pressing problem facing the Rocsevelt Borough Council over the next few years is to try to keep the local taxes, including the water and sewer expenses, as low as possible while at the same time initiating programs that will upgrade our deteriorating water, sewer and roads conditions.

I would not like to see us lose the small town characteristics of our Roosevelt community. However, as a relative newcomer (20 year resident of Roosevelt), I have seen substantial change in my time. It is obvious to me that development will continue in Roosevelt. We must try to guide this development to be of maximum economic benefit to the community. I am open minded to development, but recognize the potential detrimental impact that it can have on education, public works, safety, and the ecology.

(Cont'd. on next page)

Martin Schwartz, D.D.S., P.A.  
Lydia Kernitsky, D.M.D.

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## CANDIDATES RESPONSES (Cont'd. from previous page)

Norman Nahmias

3. What should be done to improve Roosevelt's water and sewage facilities?

I am aware of our need to repair and upgrade our water and sewage facilities. Obviously, a large undertaking for Roosevelt. Unfortunately, this must be done and should be given a high priority. The Council should seek any funding that may be available to assist in this project. However, I believe this should not wait, the work should begin as soon as possible, even with the possibility of a financial burden to each taxpayer.

4. What should be done to improve Roosevelt's roads?

Due to our need to repair and upgrade our water and sewer facilities, I do not believe Roosevelt is in a position to undertake another massive project. The repair to our roads must continue to be a "patch" job at this time. Once again, I believe some kind of outside funding is available, but in view of priorities we must take our chances with this temporary measure.

5. Address an additional question of your choice.

Howard Chasan

I attended meetings with Council representatives and the Borough's engineers on planned repairs to our water system, contributing my professional skills, with the result that the project cost was reduced by approximately 50%.

As a member of the Citizens Advisory Panel I am contributing my technical knowledge to the planning and modification of the Borough's sewage treatment facilities.

My background in public works, which includes supervision of maintenance of roads and grounds, will be a benefit to the Borough when I am a Councilman.

What is your experience and background for the position of Borough Councilman?

For many years I have worked in the administration of public works, responsible for the operation and maintenance of an industrial complex which included buildings, roads and water treatment facilities. I have served the community in many capacities: nine years on the Board of Education; 20 years on the Planning

Bill Counterman

We must upgrade our water and sewer systems. If we do not, we will continue to pump money into patching unacceptable systems. Eventually one or both systems will cease to function. I cannot imagine Roosevelt without water or sewer, nor do I want to. We have been on the brink of federal censure, court fines, and possible condemnation for several years because of the present conditions of these systems. We must find ways and means to correct this situation.

Roosevelt roads have been deteriorating for several years. The way to correct this situation is to undertake a major repaving program financed through medium to long term bonding. However we should wait to do this until we complete our water and sewer line work. Otherwise we will be tearing up and repatching our nice new road surfaces and end up with second class roads again. Meanwhile, we must patch and maintain our roads to an acceptable level - being as economical as possible.

(Cont'd. on next page)

## Roosevelt's land use plan: an overview

By Bob Clark






The recent lull in Planning Board activity leaves time to reflect upon the borough's land use plan, drafted by professional planner and board member Ralph Seligman and adopted by the Planning Board in November 1978. Under the State Municipal Land Use Law, a zoning ordinance which governs the use of land in a town, must be "substantially consistent with" or "designed to effectuate" the land use plan element of the town's master plan. No zoning may exist which does not conform to the land use plan unless the Council states good reasons for the nonconformity.

On the other hand, the land use plan is not supposed to be unnecessarily rigid. The Land Use Law required general review and updating at least every six years, as well as a continuous planning process.

The law lists several laudable purposes which it seeks to achieve. Most could have been inspired by Roosevelt. Open space abounds here, and the original designers cherished the environment and the well-being of people and neighborhoods. Federal funding has helped the borough achieve another of the law's stated goals: to encourage

senior citizen community housing construction. However, not since the birth of Jersey Homesteads (now Roosevelt) has the town produced a well-designed planned unit development, which the law also "encourages."

The map on the facing page shows the zoning of Roosevelt called for in the current land use plan. Zones are illustrated as follows:

$\frac{1}{2}$ Acre Residential	
$2\frac{1}{2}$ Acre Residential (added in Dec. 1980)	
Retail Commercial	
Industrial	
Agricultural	

The November 1978 land use plan would have allowed 22 houses to be built on  $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre lots over a 10-year period. Since then six houses have been constructed. Six vacant lots remain near the unfinished portion of Lake Drive, and ten are clustered east of Valley Road near Farm Lane. The plan would also have allowed rezoning and residential development of the area known to early planners as "Future Residential 3" during a 30-year period from 1988 to 2018.

While the Lake Drive and Valley Road lots remained vacant, the Planning Board added other ideas to the land use plan. It approved a 40-acre area north of Cemetery Road for  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -acre residential lots. One owner in the area is currently seeking subdivision approval for seven lots. The board also approved the concept for a 20-unit senior citizen apartment complex shown at location "A" on the map.

The board has also listened

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### CANDIDATES RESPONSE

(Cont'd. from previous page)

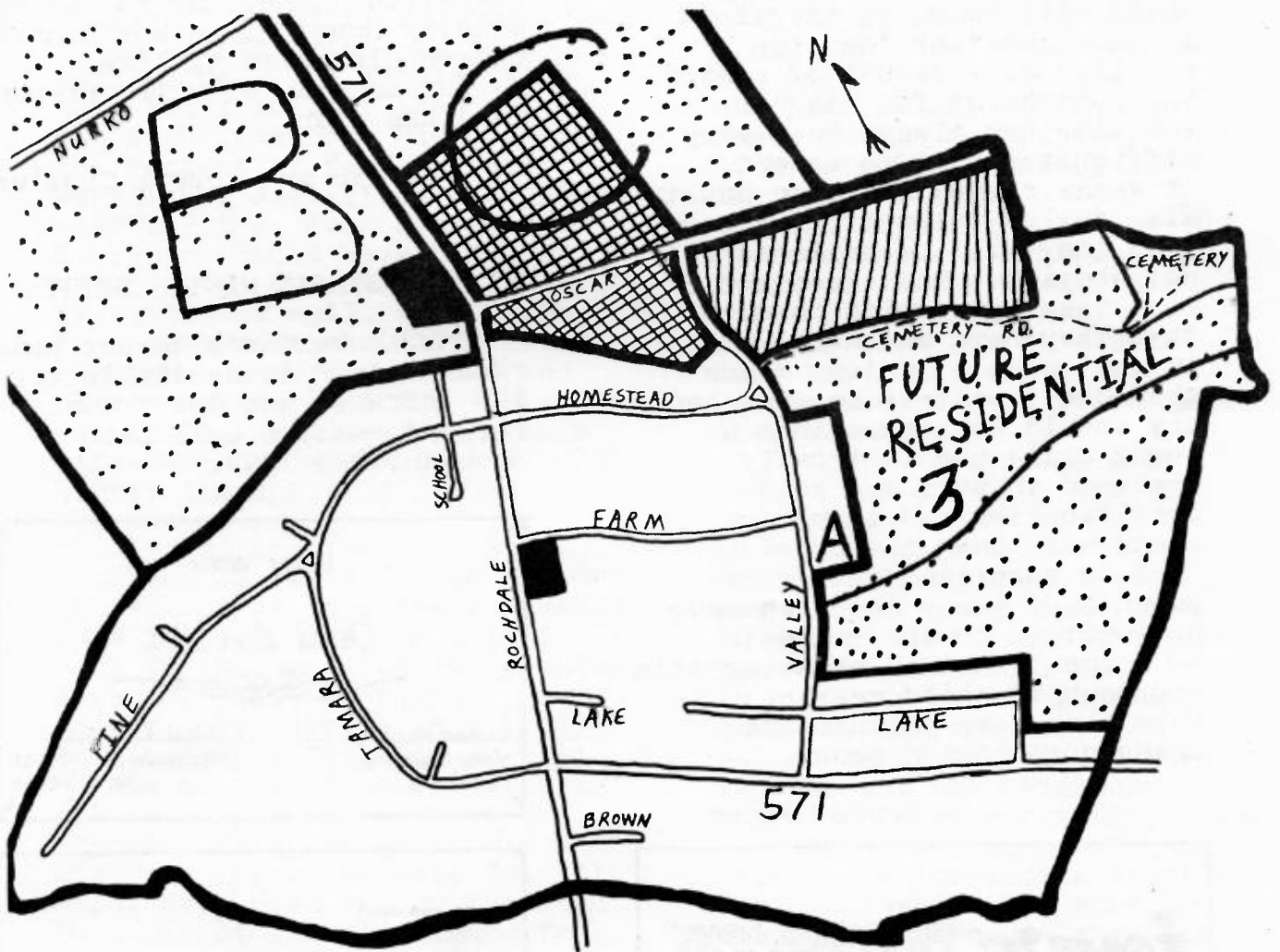
Board; one year on the Zoning Board of Adjustment; ten years on the Fire Department; eight years as police officer. Now that I have retired, I look forward to serving Roosevelt as a Councilman.



to informal proposals to build large scale retirement communities -- roughly located at areas "B" and "C" on the map. No formal applications have been submitted for the zoning changes that would be necessary, however.

So far Roosevelt has managed to retain the original green-belt concept for a variety of

reasons: fortuitous locations of existing commons land, terrain constraints, green acres acquisitions with state funds and 2½-acre residential zoning of a sizeable tract. As development pressures mount, the Planning Board will be challenged to discover new ways to retain this favorable proportion of open space to developed area.



Letters to the Bulletin

**On conscience formation**

Dear Editor:

It was, in an odd way, interesting to read your recent article entitled "Development of Conscience in Early Childhood." It was interesting to me as a parent of adult children to find that ideas on child rearing that were presented to me 20 years ago are still operative. The notion that a child will learn to "develop a conscience" or "develop morally" as a result of reward and punishment for his/her behavior has always been very difficult for me to accept. It seems clear that even adults will follow rules if they know that they will be punished for not obeying. That does not mean they agree with them, or that they have any moral posture in that area. It just means they don't want to be punished. Why should we assume that a young child who is totally immersed in self and self-gratification should understand more than that.

I am surprised that other parents of young children have not written to the Bulletin to comment on this behavioristic approach to child rearing. I hope that some parents are using more common sense.

--Freda Hepner

**On land use plan**

To the Bulletin:

This is to express our thanks to George Levinson and Mel Adlerman for their letters to you in the April issue.

Our agreement with their points of view is exact. We live in Roosevelt because we like the small town life we enjoy here. If we wanted the so-called "benefits" (?) of high density housing, we would have chosen elsewhere to live.

Let us stay with the present land use plan.


--Vivian and Robert Crozier

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Letter to the Bulletin**On big development**

To the Editor:

I take issue with Peter Berlinrut on the benefits of "big development plans." He quotes arguments, often out of context, against the proposed major development and then demolishes them with arguments that are less than adequate.

Never once does he even mention that a proposed development is for 531 units. As evidence for his position he states that the Lake Drive development did not change the character of the town. Of course not! Roosevelt grew from 200 to approximately 275 houses in a period of 45 years. Peter was on the planning board that approved the Master Plan which called for slow growth so that we could absorb a new population without undue trauma both financially and sociologically as we did on Lake Drive. I believe that is a reasonable approach to growth.

Now Peter implies that he was wrong in voting for the Master Plan. He would like to see this population explosion come in a few stages, but he is willing to take the risk of the town's population doubling or quadrupling all at once. I, for my part, would not want to take that risk, either all at once or in two or three stages.

Peter does not state what benefits would result. He has heard that senior communities such as Clearbrook, Rossmoor, and Meadow Lakes have voted favorably on

education and other community-wide projects. He cites no evidence, and he admits that he is not an authority.

There is a 20-unit senior citizens' project already in the works for Roosevelt. That seems a reasonable undertaking.

I have lived in Roosevelt for more than 30 years. During this time many people have visited my home and my studio, and most have remarked on how lucky I was to live in so quiet and agreeable a community (and so close to New York and Philadelphia).

I would like Roosevelt to remain quiet and agreeable, and to grow, if it must, slowly and thoughtfully.

--Gregorio Prestopino



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Letter to the Bulletin**On retirement community**

To the Bulletin:

Mr. Berlinrut's articles on retirement communities anger me. His claim that educating a high school child is a "losing proposition," and that the obligation to provide education is a "gamble" for a small town like ours offends the spirit of public education.

I am one of those people who says that a retirement community would change the characteristics of our town drastically. It would destroy the heterogeneous distribution of young to old people. The size of the proposed retirement communities would dwarf all other age groups. Furthermore, the development would not be physically integrated and would lead to a deterioration of Roosevelt's sense of community.

Perhaps he is painting too glowing a picture of the fiscal relief to the town as well. We will still have to provide services to the new part of town (such as road maintenance, fire and first aid, water and sewerage and cemetery services). Unless the buildings are fairly high-priced structures, the tax revenues would not cover these services.

Why would an adult community support a town that would give it as few services as economically feasible and that is both spiritually and physically remote?

--Andrea Lakin

**Senior citizen housing tentatively approved**

By Adeenah Yeger

The Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation was recently informed of the approval of its pre-application by the Farmers Home Administration (FHA). This means that a formal application can now be submitted.

The pre-application is an explanation of why the project is important to Roosevelt and why it should be funded. FHA examined it and determined it suitable for funding.

Work is now being done on the formal application. This will include drawings of final plans by the architects, Kelbaugh and Lee. It is expected to take up to three months to have the plans ready for submission along with the application. Kelbaugh and Lee first must meet with an architect from FHA to decide on specifications (what FHA will fund, such as one-bedroom or two-bedroom units).

One of the major factors in determining the approval of the project by FHA was the solar approach to senior citizen housing that will be used. Doug Kelbaugh is well-known for his solar designs.

Mayor Leon Barth said that he hopes to be able to break ground by October and complete the project in less than a year. It is hoped that the units will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1982.

ISSUES & DEBATE**Retirement community considered, part three**

By Peter Berlinrut

In this third and concluding article on the issue of an expanded Roosevelt I want to express indebtedness to Michael Ticktin and Howard Prezant for their help; to Michael for sharing his knowledge of Land Use Law and to Howard for his grasp of the fiscal realities that face our town. I was helped in developing my ideas (for which I alone bear responsibility) by what each had to say in his field of competence.

Preliminary Opinions, Good or Bad?

One of the questions that has arisen in the deliberations of the Planning Board (of which I am a member) is the advisability of proffering a preliminary opinion about a builder's or developer's proposal when he asks it. Several members believe this to be undesirable. In their views, such preliminary opinions serve no good purpose. They believe a proposal should be specific, fully detailed and elaborated. An opinion cannot be intelligent if given about a proposal that is vague and infinite. It wastes time and leads only to misunderstandings.

I see a kind of logic in this view but in the last analysis I cannot share it. It is extremely expensive and inefficient for a developer to come to a Planning Board with a proposal fully documented and detailed. It entails surveyor's fees, engineering fees, architects' fees, legal fees, etc., all adding up to a formidable sum. It is neither fair nor necessary to ask a developer to incur this large expenditure (thousands of

dollars) in the gamble with the verdict of a Planning Board.

A preliminary or informal opinion can help avoid this. For example, I don't think our Planning Board would need heavy detail and technical specifications to decide that it didn't want an amusement park or a race track or a nuclear plant in borough limits. If a developer with great faith in his project believed that complete details might change the board's mind, he would be risking the large expenditure with eyes fully open. The point is that there is no harm whatever in a preliminary and informal opinion if it is understood that it is not binding either on the developer or the Planning Board. A project that looks good in a preliminary way might not look so good when set forth in detail or vice versa. This would work as much for the developer as for the Planning Board and it would save much time and money.

Therefore I thought that preliminary opinions made sense and I was sorry that our Planning Board wouldn't agree. Imagine my pleasure at having my attention called to the following item in the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, Section 40:55D-10. I quote verbatim:

40:55D-10.1

Informal review of concept plan for development. At the request of the developer, the planning board shall grant an informal review of a concept plan for a development for which the developer intends

(Cont'd. on next page)

## Retirement Community

(Cont'd. from previous page)

to prepare and submit an application for development. The developer shall not be required to submit any fees for such an informal review. The developer shall not be bound by any concept plan for which a review is requested and the planning board shall not be bound by any such review.

Those who, like me, are pessimistic about the frequent distance between common sense and law or about any justice and law, should take heart. The above says it clearly, and well--not only is it right for a Planning Board to tender a preliminary opinion, it is commanded to do so by law. I hope our Planning Board will no longer shy away from what is a legal obligation as much as a moral one.

### Rumors and Exaggerations, Anyone?

It is a sad fact that as we go about the pains of making up our minds about the desirability of a retirement community within borough limits, rumors, exaggerations, scares and bombast will pose as reason, logic, probability. I would deplore these samples of what I mean, pro and con.

Con: "We will be flooded out by any sizeable retirement community, we will be a little dog wagged by his enormous tail."

I don't believe that. I would not initially vote for any retirement community larger than 250 to 300 homes. If any developer wanted more houses, I would write in with the most binding terms available to law, our right to reject additional homes if we

had good reason to question their desirability for our town.

Pro: "The income from a retirement community would cut our taxes two thirds."

I don't know any such thing. While I am, in general, in favor of the idea, this is optimistic exaggeration. It will help our fiscal situation but there is no way of foretelling by how much.

Con: "A retirement community would opt for cheap education and do harm to our children's schooling."

This is unfounded pessimism, as stated in a previous installment. The record of the impact of retirement communities on education doesn't bear it out. Older people aren't so blinded by self-interest that they are indifferent to the human future. It happens often that grandparents are just as concerned as parents.

Pro: "A retirement community would be a blessing for education because it would yield more income for all our expenses."

Maybe. We can't count on it. We can only hope so but we can't use this as a leading argument for favoring it.

Con: "We don't want our spacious green ambience cluttered by high density development."

A fair point. But no builder is going to build an additional house or two on our existing plots. Also as stated previously, we will be almost as two separated towns. Perhaps more important, the

(Cont'd. on P. 17)

Roosevelt Community and School CalendarJune 1981

June is First Aid Month

- |    |                      |   |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 1  | Monday, 8:00 p.m.    | Deborah meeting - Borough Hall                                  |
| 2  | Tuesday              | Election  |
| 4  | Thursday, 8:00 p.m.  | Fire Company meeting - Borough Hall                             |
|    |                      | Pioneer Women meeting   |
| 7  | Sunday, 2:00 p.m.    | Deborah meeting - Borough Hall                                  |
| 8  | Monday, 8:00 p.m.    | Council Agenda meeting - Borough Hall                           |
| 9  | Tuesday              | Regular Board of Education meeting - R.P.S.                     |
| 10 | Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. | Council meeting - Borough Hall                                  |
|    | 7:10-8:30 p.m.       | Bookmobile - store parking lot                                  |
| 14 | Sunday               | Food Co-op membership dinner and general meeting - Borough Hall |
|    |                      | First Aid Fund Drive  |
| 15 | Monday, 8:00 p.m.    | Annual meeting - Congregation Anshei Roosevelt                  |
|    | - Friday, 19         | Early closing - R.P.S.  |
| 16 | Tuesday, 1-10 p.m.   | Food Co-op - Borough Hall                                       |
| 20 | Saturday             | Graduation - R.P.S.   |
| 21 | Sunday               | Fathers Day   |
| 23 | Tuesday              | Special Board of Education meeting - R.P.S.                     |
| 24 | Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. | Citizens Advisory Committee meeting re: water/sewer             |
|    | 7:10-8:30 p.m.       | Bookmobile - store parking lot                                  |
| 29 | Monday, 8:00 p.m.    | Planning Board meeting - Borough Hall                           |
| 30 | Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.   | First Aid meeting - Borough Hall                                |

Culinary Delights**Barbeque bonanza: Ribs, Teriyaki, Sauce**

By Barbara Halpern

For your next barbecue take a break from the common hamburger and hot dog routine by trying one of these easy to prepare but delicious meat dishes.

Barbecue Sauce

This sauce is good with chicken or pork.

1 - 8 oz. can tomato sauce	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup light oil
2 cloves garlic, mashed	1 Tbs. grated onion
2 Tbs. vinegar	1 tsp. dry mustard
salt and pepper to taste	1 cup water

Combine all ingredients in a medium saucepan and bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer, uncovered, for 30 minutes. Yield: 2 cups of basting sauce. Grill desired meat 4-6 inches from hot coals brushing often with sauce.

Teriyaki Beef Kabobs

4-6 servings

1 Tbs. grated fresh ginger root	2 lbs. boneless beef (cut into $\frac{1}{2}$ inch cubes)
2 Tbs. brown sugar	cherry tomatoes
2 Tbs. light oil	small white onions
2 cloves garlic, mashed	2 green peppers, cut in squares
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup Tamari Sauce or Soy Sauce	1 lb. mushrooms
pinch of pepper	

Combine first six ingredients in a large glass bowl. Add beef cubes and stir to coat. Marinate 48 hours in refrigerator. (The longer you marinate the more tender the beef.) Thread meat alternating with tomatoes, onions, peppers and mushrooms on skewers. Grill 4 inches from coals, turning and basting frequently with marinade for about 15 minutes.

Barbecued Spareribs

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup orange juice	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup Tamari Sauce or Soy Sauce
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup honey	2 Tbs. fresh lemon juice
1 Tbs. grated orange rind	4 lbs. pork spareribs, parboiled (recipe below)

Combine all ingredients except spareribs. Arrange spareribs in shallow pan, Pour marinade over and refrigerate overnight. Grill spareribs 6 inches from coals, basting with marinade and turning frequently for 30 minutes or until done.

Parboiled Spareribs

To minimize cooking time and to insure tender ribs, parboil ribs before marinating.

4 lbs. spareribs	1 medium onion, quartered
1 small bay leaf	1 celery top
pinch of ground pepper	

Place all ingredients in large pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer covered for 30 minutes. Drain and cool.



## Retirement Community

(Cont'd. from P.14 )

issue regarding space is not the amount but how it is used. Residents in nearby Meadowlakes have the roar of the N.J. Turnpike a few feet away but they barely know it is there, separated as they are by a bulldozed mound of earth. The Planning Board can have a decisive say in the use of space, employing expert counsel if necessary.

Con: "Even if the new traffic doesn't invade Roosevelt proper, it will still clog Rt. 571 to excess."

This is a genuine difficulty. It can't be talked away. We would have to live with it as the price of the greater gains.

Con: "An expanded Roosevelt couldn't go on with its few employees and volunteer civic officials. It would be forced to move into a complicated business of government, with all the fiscal and partisan hassle that goes with it."

Most better-run retirement communities these days are self-administering to a large extent. Any attention our town would have to give to the expanded community would be fully paid for by the added income. And still leave us funds for improving our town utilities and lowering taxes.

I have given a few samples of the kind of arguments, pro and con that will be passed around. I can only hope we will

resist those formed mainly in bias and subjective caprice. Getting personal for a moment, I still chafe as I recall the pseudo-reasons raised by those who opposed a campaign I led 25 years ago to build a municipal swimming pool or pond. The idea was a sound one and had everything in its favor except the minds of those clinging to cherished (but irrational) biases, fears and hates. It was defeated in a referendum and an excellent idea went down the drain.

### In Conclusion

Summing it up, I see taxes going higher and higher as we go about the necessary renewal of our utilities and meeting other pressing needs. It is going to take money to keep our community up to snuff. And it will be money that can come from only one place: the pockets of homeowners. I see no other source. We haven't been able to bring business or other ratables into town and I see no bright prospects of our being able to do so. A retirement community is one possibility in which the income from taxes would exceed the expenses of servicing it.

Not that I myself am so keen for such a recourse. I could well run out my days without a retirement community but if that is the only card we can play, let us do so. And let us make as sure as we can that it is the right kind of a retirement community. That will be up to the Planning Board and to every resident, to anyone who has ideas on the subject. While we have no specific proposal from developers at the moment, they will come in all likelihood. We should make ourselves ready.

## Manzi speaks to club

By Helga Wisowaty

Roosevelt's Fire Chief Jim Manzi spoke at the Senior Citizens' club meeting May 6 about protection against fire and theft. He advised all residents to plan an escape route in case of fire. His demonstration of items that can help prevent fires and injury was valuable.

Members of the club expressed pleasure at last month's Bulletin article on Seniors and hoped that those 55 and over were encouraged to become members of the group. All new members are welcome.

There are many activities planned for May and June. First is the convention to be held May 28 at Mercer County Community College, which many members will attend. Second is a trip to the Garden State Arts Center.

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ROOSEVELT MEETS CONGRESSMAN SMITH

Members of the Eleanor Roosevelt chapter of N.O.W. and others met with Congressman Christopher H. Smith May 16 at the Borough Hall.

Smith, a strong supporter of anti-choice legislation, considers human life to begin with the fertilized cell, and therefore believes abortion to be murder of a human life. He did not clarify his position on the issue of contraception, although the Human Life Bill, which he supports, is worded so that some commonly used birth control methods could be ruled illegal. He maintained that it is within the jurisdiction of Congress to define when life begins even though the scientific community is divided on this issue, and the Supreme Court itself has declined to undertake such a judgment.

Smith expressed doubts about the MX missile, the neutron bomb chemical warfare and the amount of money spent on defense. He indicated his support of hand gun control and the phasing out of nuclear plants. He also was critical of President Reagan's proposal to cut Social Security benefits.

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Notes & Passages**The sixties revisited**

By Freda Hepner

There has been a great deal written about the media shaping our society. Whatever we might think about the impact of electronic communication; we know that our knowledge of daily events is much more complete now than before radio and TV moved into our homes. Of course, knowing "what's happening" can be a mixed blessing. Knowing may make us think more; it may make us question more and it may also make us want to act more.

Reporter Milton Viorst has written a book about a time in recent history when people felt compelled to act for change. He calls it Fire In The Streets - (America in the 1960's.). Viorst interviewed, a decade later, individuals who sparked the demonstrations, the freedom rides, the trials; all of the street action that created new attitudes and new legislation in the '60's. Each of his interviews paints a word picture of an important political and social movement. I think every adult in our town remembers at least one public demonstration seen on a news broadcast or personally experienced that challenged our notions. They challenged our children and sometimes led to the real challenge of the '60's - what we called the generation gap - i.e. the challenge within families.

Viorst reminds us of the first civil rights demonstration in Washington when people, including a bus load from Roosevelt, went and heard the Rev. King speak of his dream. He tells of the growth and change within the black movement through his interviews with E.D. Nixon (the first organizer in Alabama), James Farmer, Bayard Rustin and Stokeley Carmichael. He also shows how that movement was intertwined with movements in the literary world (Alan Ginsberg, Gregory Corso and Jack Keruac) and student resistance to the Vietnam War. His interviews with such diverse dissenters as Allard Lowenstein, Tom Hayden, Jerry Rubin and Clark Kerr bring the whole period into sharp focus. We have a sense of an unwieldy inefficient, often intolerant group of citizens at a town meeting. It may be a loud meeting but it is effective. These people and the millions of others who actively participated in the radical movements have left an indelible mark on our world.

In the epilogue to his book, Viorst notes that the turbulence of the 1960's ended almost abruptly with the decade and the four dead students at Kent State College in 1970. Nevertheless, as he points out, next time people lose confidence in the ability of the political institutions to make positive change, they may take their case to the streets again. It worked and it was in the tradition of participatory democracy.

## Ed Rosskam and his book: ten years later

By David Herrstrom

Edwin Rosskam believes in "the feel of things and in the stories people have to tell rather than the facts that are only bones." He probably got this from Ben Shahn who said, "Most facts are lies; all stories are true," who no doubt got it from William Blake, the eighteenth-century poet and painter. And I'm sure Blake got it from someone else. It doesn't matter, for the idea is as old as mythology and still true. The problem with mere facts is that they drive out significance. Facts out of the context of feelings are worthless; statistics and dates unsatisfying, even betrayals. Everyone should have his/her story told, but few are lucky to have it told well, with affection free from sentimentality, with sometimes annoying candor and always with an eye for the often surprising details that make a difference in lives -- a moonlit night, the smell of freshcut oak staves.

Some of the lucky -- Rooseveltians of the first and second generation -- have their stories told and collected in a 1971 book by the novelist and painter, Edwin Rosskam, Roosevelt, New Jersey: Big Dreams in a Small Town and What Time Did to Them. "I was acutely uncomfortable in the country," Stella says on arriving from the ghetto in what was then Jersey Homesteads. "I might have been put on the moon in terms of its visual and feeling impact. I was used to the security of all those packed bodies around me. And so much

space, all of a sudden, is just as frightening as sleeping in a room by yourself when you never have. The quiet, the lack of light, the sense that there is nobody packed around you." And Ed makes a shrewd judgment on one of the founding fathers, Benjamin Brown; "he was a believer, yes: it takes a believer, a minor messiah (who is so certain of his own rightness he doesn't give a damn about the odds) to make even the smallest alteration in the accepted relations between human beings and property."

Here's Ed's summary of why the Civic League, a local patriotic organization spawned by McCarthyism, went out of business in the early '50's: "Organized hating gets to be a chore when you keep bumping into The Enemy at the post office and need to borrow his lawn mower."

Ed never intended to be objective, claiming heatedly that his book was merely "a personal expression." He believes in accuracy, quoting people only from tapes, but considers the writer's cardinal sin to be Dullness. And it is a lively book. Luckily, however, tar and feathers were out of fashion, because when it came out his neighbors accused him of everything from slander to bringing bad publicity and increasing traffic through town. They were mad not so much because the book was about them but about change. As Ed observes, "people are offended to see

(Cont'd. on next page)

## Rosskam

(Cont'd. from previous page)

in cold print what they've dreaded." But when they realized that the book hadn't affected their social standing and that the fame brought to the town didn't appreciably affect its course of change, they fell silent.

Writing at the end of an era, Ed managed to fix change down. The stories he tells allow him to look at a process from the outside, always unnerving to those on the inside, and to make judgments, sometimes harsh ones. But stories also give faith. At the end of his book he counters a charge by an old-timer who, just after Ben Shahn's funeral, asserts that "Roosevelt is dead but doesn't know it." As Ed says, "towns don't die that easily." But they do change; the central market and liquor store is defunct; "whole classes in school don't have a single Jewish child in them." And he concludes his book optimistically, with a modest prophecy: "the town is alive. It's going somewhere....I can feel the vibrations of the engine. It isn't going to be Benjamin Brown's town or Ben Shahn's town."

Ten years later Ed still agrees with these words, a ten years that is fully a quarter of the town's entire history. He's right. The town isn't Brown's or Shahn's. Ed has no nostalgia for the one time "Jewish community." He didn't come here in 1953 for that, but he didn't come here to "live in a middle-class suburb," either; he came here "for a way of life," which includes woods, quiet, few people, and an intent to keep the acquisitiveness and "blandness of suburbia" out. He is not at all dis-

appointed in what has happened, he is only "fearful of what can happen" -- the catastrophe that "instead of a human environment, we get a human infestation." He scoffs at those who move to Twin Rivers from New York City and, "while looking out on their parking lot, praise the rural life they've come to."

It's a pity Ed's book is out of print. We need more books about time, especially wise ones. Does he regret writing it? "Hell, no!" he shoots back. As Ed predicted, many people in town now probably don't know who Ben Shahn was. Time has a way of obliterating the most recent geography, but the "feel of things" and people's stories still live. Whether we are Jewish or not, descended from immigrant homesteaders or not, doesn't matter. But to read someone's story, to see people from different angles, warts and all, and examine their "Big Dreams...and What Time Did to Them," matters to all of us, because we still dream, still find ourselves in the jaws of change. Ed observes that Roosevelt has a "new kind of vitality," though happily the town is still "encompassable." Benjamin Brown may be forgotten, along with the facts of the town's history, which have yet to be established with certainty (did it begin with a vision or a building? Did it begin in 1934 or 1936?), but the stories of what it felt like, thanks to Ed Rosskam, will not be forgotten, and they are in his book, a monument that may yet defy Devouring Time itself.

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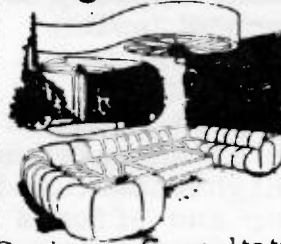
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## Conkin's book clarifies Roosevelt's history

By Michael Ticktin

Recently, while I was in the State Library, it was my good fortune to find a book entitled Tomorrow @ New World: The New Deal Community Program, written by Paul K. Conkin and published in 1959 by the Cornell University Press for the American Historical Association.

The book examines the various programs, including Subsistence Homesteads and the Resettlement Administration, under which the Federal government built 99 new communities, in 32 states.

Several of the more distinctive projects and the people behind them are examined at length and in considerable detail. Not surprising, one of the projects which is given a chapter of its own is Jersey Homesteads.

Conkin's account of Jersey Homesteads starts with its 19th Century antecedents in the Jewish Agricultural Society and of Baron de Hirsch's Jewish Colonization Society -- which decided, in 1892, to found a Jewish farm colony at Woodbine, N.J. rather than at an alternative site near Hightstown, and traces the career and efforts of Benjamin Brown, the man who envisioned this community as, to quote his tombstone, an "agro-industrial Jewish cooperative colony." Quoting extensively from contemporary newspaper and magazine accounts, correspondence in the National Archives and the 1942 study by Russell Lord and Paul H. Johnstone entitled A

Place on Earth: A Critical Appraisal of "Subsistence Homesteads", Conkin traces the history of Jersey Homesteads from its origins to the post-war withdrawal of Federal guardianship and the assumption by the community of its new identity as Roosevelt.

One dispute which Conkin resolves is the one which appeared in these pages last November and December between Leslie Weiner and Bernarda Shahn on the subject of Eleanor Roosevelt's responsibility for the indoor bathrooms in the Jersey Homesteads' houses (If I may offer a change of common usage, I would suggest that all of our houses are "Roosevelt houses;" however, only those built by the Federal government in 1936 and 1937 are Jersey Homesteads houses.). On p. 114 and p. 115 of the book Conkin states that, early in the Subsistence Homesteads Program, there was an ongoing debate as to house design and size. Mrs. Roosevelt and officials of the program, notably Program Director Milburn L. Wilson, wanted indoor bathrooms in four- or five-room houses. Both President Roosevelt and Interior Secretary Harold Ickes, wanted small economical houses with plumbing to be installed later by the residents, while author Ber arr MacFadden, a member of the program's advisory committee, advocated shacks. In the end, however, the views of Mrs. Roosevelt and of Wilson, who saw the



program as a demonstration of a new way of life rather than as a relief project, won out.

Mr. Weiner is therefore correct in saying that Mrs. Roosevelt can be credited with the fact that the Jersey Homesteads were built with indoor bathrooms. However, Mrs. Shahn is also correct in saying that there were never any plans for Jersey Homesteads that did not include indoor bathrooms. The point is that the decision was made for the programs as a whole and not as part of the specific plans for this one community.

In addition to putting correct information in its proper perspective, the book also refutes at least one myth which I have heard repeatedly ever since I have been living here. That is the story that the reason the Jersey Homesteads houses have flat roofs is that the plans got switched with those for a project in the Southwest. The truth is that Rexford Tugwell, who, as head of the Resettlement Administration, had become responsible for the as yet unbuilt Jersey Homesteads in May of 1935, wanted to develop new techniques for mass production of houses using concrete slabs for the sides and the roofs to be placed in position by heavy machinery and he specifically chose Jersey Homesteads for the experiment.

Unfortunately, the slabs collapsed when an attempt was made to use them for walls and they were therefore used only for the roofs. There is no reason to believe that Tugwell wanted the experiment conducted in Arizona or was under the impression that it was being conducted there. Indeed, Jersey

Homesteads was a logical choice because Tugwell wanted to use the technique in the planned greenbelt cities that would be the major achievement of the Resettlement Administration and Jersey Homesteads, as replanned by the Resettlement Administration was, physically at least, a greenbelt city in miniature. Furthermore, the three greenbelt cities that were built are in Wisconsin, Ohio and Maryland and the fourth one, which was planned but never built, was to have been in New Jersey. None of these states is in the Southwest. Hopefully, then, this joke-become-history can be permanently retired.

Professor Conkin's book is an essential source for anyone interested in the history of Roosevelt. Hopefully, our local library will be able to get a copy of it so that it can be widely read and the continuing meaning for all of us of the story which it tells can be properly appreciated.

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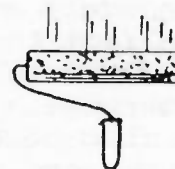
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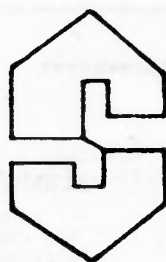
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## Softballers win two

By Sidney Sochowitzky

On Mother's Day, May 10, a softball team, consisting mostly of Roosevelt residents -- the East Windsor Floor Covering team of the national league, grade B, of the East Windsor Softball league -- opened the season by taking a double-header from the Pacers. Under the leadership of its coach, George Katz, the Rooseveltians squeaked through the first game 8 to 7, but trounced the Pacers in the second game 16 to 7. The fielding may have been erratic, revealing lack of practice, but the hitting was stupendous. Bruce Block, Jack Bowker, Jay Katz and Bob Schlessinger hit homers. Michael Block, Bob Schlessinger, Richie Morris, Jim Frank and Norman Nahmias each hit .500 or better. The defensive play of the day was a running-over-the-shoulder-one-handed-catch by outfielder Jim Nichols. The winning pitchers were Richie Morris and Robbie Bookman.


## ADLERMAN STARS

Dan Adlerman starred in The Peddie School Dramatic Society's presentation of Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution," held in Geiger Reeves Hall on May 21, 22, and 23.

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By Children of R.P.S. room 6

One day in March, a nice lady came to our school and told us about the sculpture in the library. In the library, we have a sculpture of a woman sewing at a sewing machine. Our visitor knew a lot about the sculpture because she made it! Her name is Lenore Thomas Straus.

About 1936, the government asked Ms. Straus to make a sculpture for the town of Jersey Homesteads (Roosevelt's original name). The government paid her to do it. It took her a year to make it. She used a chisel and a hammer to sculpt the huge piece of limestone. She drew an illustration of the sculpture and made a model before sculpting it. She made a person working at a sewing machine because when the town was started, there was a garment factory here. Ms. Straus liked working on the sculpture and she likes Jersey Homesteads a lot.

Today, Ms. Straus lives in Blue Hill, Maine. Last month she had been in Washington D.C., and, on her way back, she stopped in Roosevelt. We are glad she did because we learned a lot about the sculpture.

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Mark Katz  
Bryden Loyer  
Deborah Nahmias  
Ernest Sajgo  
Sharon Skillman  
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**WAR WITHOUT WINNERS**

"War Without Winners," a film on nuclear disarmament, was shown in the Borough Hall on April 30. In attendance were approximately 35 Rooseveltians, who later discussed the dangers of the nuclear arms race. Sean Guilford, who represented the Princeton Peace Coalition, led the discussion.

Several members of the audience took petitions which were later distributed in town, and signed by more than 100 people. Some Rooseveltians also joined a peace march in Washington May 10.

An organizational meeting to plan further activity will be held on June 5 at 8:00 p.m. at 14 Homestead Lane. Call Evelyn or Gary at 443-3216 for further information.

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The tuition is \$8.00 per week for the first child in the family, \$7.00 per week for the second child, \$6.00 per week for the third child.

Please make payments for the second and third weeks by July 10 and for the final two weeks by July 24. Do not send money to camp with your child. Make all payments to the PTA Treasurer, Carol Zaleski. Provision can be made for those seeking financial assistance.

Additional forms may be obtained by calling Sheila Jaeger, 443-3185.

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Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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