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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



BULLETIN

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Roosevelt, New Jersey

March 1981

Loftus gets wide support, but not from Council

By Carol Watchler

After receiving comments from the public and hearing a proposal from some of the members, the Roosevelt Borough Council at its Feb. 11 meeting failed to come to a compromise on the appointment of Wilbur Loftus.

In addition there was discussion and action on the issues of payments in lieu of taxes for the house purchased by the state and the question of spraying by the county for mosquitos.

The public learned about the formation of an advisory committee, bidding for the new well, the library's efforts to buy new books, and Freehold

Hospital's fund raising drive. One zoning ordinance was passed while another was presented for first reading.

A petition made available to the public after the January council meeting came before the council with signatures of 152 persons to seek the reinstatement of Wilbur Loftus as special police officer for the borough. Additional support was expressed for Loftus in the public portion of the meeting including the presence of fellow law enforcement personnel Larry Archer and Joseph Mechnisky, police chiefs of Hightstown and East Windsor respectively. The petition and

(Cont'd. on P.21)

Yona Weisman remembered, from cakes to Zion

By Elly Shapiro

The news of Yona Weisman's passing brought a great sense of personal loss. Yona's contagious smile and ready word of praise befriended me as a newcomer to Roosevelt. She came by bicycle, the way she traveled in those days, balancing one of her delicious cakes on the basket.

Diminutive Yona, so devoted to her family and to the State of Israel, died while vacationing in Florida. Few people

realized she was plagued with ill health. This was the essence of Yona...to be unassuming.

At her recent memorial service at the Borough Hall, Roosevelt synagogue Rabbi Menachem Berman, Rabbi Abraham Senders, of Perrineville Synagogue, Frieda Anish and John Grauel recalled Yona and her love of Zion. Gordon Silverman, Director of the Labor Department for the Jewish National Fund, spoke about Yona's ardent dedication to the fund and the

(Cont'd. on P.24)

Elections for the Roosevelt Food Co-op Board will be held on March 17 at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall, immediately before distribution. All members are urged to attend.

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The February issue of the Bulletin, in reporting the Borough Council's discussion of cable television, incorrectly stated that the borough would receive a franchising tax from the cable company of 20% of its revenue. Actually, the borough would collect a 2% tax, with another 2% for the state.

The same issue's story on Dian Visintini suggested in the headline that her snakes are kept in the basement. That's wrong; they're in a room above ground. The basement is where she raises rats and mice to feed the reptiles.

Letter to the Bulletin

Lakin clarifies issues of school budget, taxes

The Bulletin reporter is to be congratulated for the coverage of the rather complicated Board/Council meeting of Jan. 14, 1981. However, there still remains serious confusion over the ramifications of the proposed 1981-82 school budget and the settlement of Board/Council litigation on the local tax levy. I will attempt to clarify this issue with the aid of the adjacent bar graph.

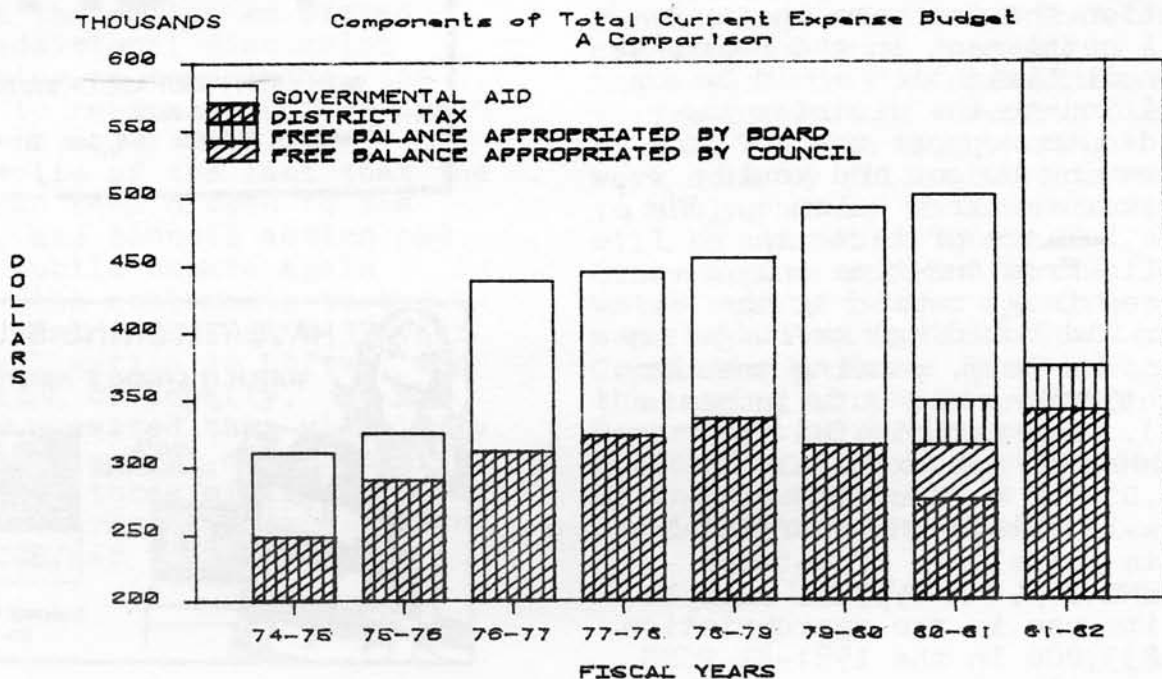
Unfortunately the explanation hinges upon several unknowns. This year the budget of the Roosevelt Public School (R.P.S.) had to be submitted to the Commissioner of Education for approval because it exceeded the maximum increase allowed by the state. This "cap waiver" was necessary because last year's operating budget was funded out of free balance instead of local tax levy. And the local tax levy is the base upon which the cap is computed. As a result, the budget represented in the 1981-82 bar graph is subject to any

changes imposed by the Commissioner. Following this process, the budget will be reviewed by the public before being submitted for voter approval.

The second major unknown is the status of the Board/Council litigation. The meeting reported in last month's Bulletin was the first of several meetings in which both parties have been working to reach a settlement before the 1981-82 budget goes before the voters. However, the dollar amount of the settlement or whether settlement can be reached at all is unknown at the time this letter was written. With these two points in mind, let me proceed with a discussion as to how these factors will affect the 1981-82 local tax levy.

The graph illustrates several interesting trends. The total current expense budget (TCEB) has increased more rapidly than

(Cont'd. on next page)



Lakin

(Cont'd. from previous page)

the district tax. This increase in TCEB has been offset by increases in governmental aid. Unfortunately the aid is only a fractional portion of the total expenses, which means that the burden on R.P.S. for the remainder has increased as well.

The district tax levy has increased at a very flat rate of 4.6% which is well below the nation's inflation rate for the same period. The proposed budget would result in a district tax which is an increase of 2.0% over the 1978-79 tax levy. However, taxes will increase significantly over last year due to the artificial depression of last year's district tax. The appropriation of \$72,699 out of free balance reduced the amount which had to be raised in last year's district tax. This appropriation of \$40,000 by the council and \$32,699 by the board is shown in the 1980-81 bar. Unfortunately the remaining free balance is not sufficient to support a similar appropriation and thereby cushion the increase in taxes.

A settlement in the Board/Council litigation would be in addition to the district tax needed to support the R.P.S. operating budget and would bolster the free balance. The free balance protects the public from one-time only expenses (e.g. repair to the 44 year old building) or budgetary unknowns (e.g. pending teacher negotiations and cuts in state aid). The anticipated free balance of approximately \$26,000 or 4.5% of the TCEB is well within the unofficial state guidelines of between 3% and 10%. A typical example of its use is the appropriation of \$33,000 in the 1981-82 TCEB for repairs to prevent further

deterioration in the interior/exterior of the building. This item is reflected in the 1981-82 bar below.

Finally, if you've gotten this far into this letter, I'd like to invite everyone to participate in the two budget presentations planned for the second and third weeks in March. It is no cliché to say that a single individual can make a difference in this process. These meetings provide an opportunity to express your input and to become informed.

Bruce Lakin
School Board member

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Prezant urges School Board: heal Council rift

By Arlene Markow

At the regular meeting of the Board of Education on March 10, Howard Prezant, Borough Treasurer and custodian of school funds, appealed to the board urging it to continue meeting with the council to speed a resolution of the current litigation. The court battle came as a result of the council's revisions of the 1980-81 school budget (see letter to editor, adjacent page). In addition to ending the current litigation, Prezant felt that the sharing of information prior to the submission of future budgets would help to avoid such problems.

Prezant's appeal received strong verbal support from the board. Bruce Lakin, in a conversation following the meeting, summarized the board's position by saying, "The board is committed to reach a settlement before the budget goes to the voters for approval."

At a workshop meeting of the board on Feb. 3 President George Katz described two areas that he thought were crucial to a board-council agreement. Board members present agreed that the issue of money and the free balance as well as the ironing out of a joint statement between the board and the council were critical. David Herrstrom, responding to Prezant at Wednesday night's public meeting, raised the issue of a joint statement. "This can't be whitewashed" he said, stressing that the facts will have to be presented to the public even if they are "unflattering."

Other business handled by the board included the acceptance of David Cooper's resignation and the swearing in of George Loyer to replace him. The board also voted to utilize approximately \$500 of vocational education grant money to subsidize a sixth, seventh and eighth grade field trip to the New Jersey Education Computer Network and to a New York City play and backstage tour.

It was also agreed that the kiln purchased by the school would be housed in the cafeteria, and that the necessary electrical work would be done.

Monies were allocated to secure the services of a part time maintenance person.

Principal Beverly Hetrick asked that anyone on the school board in 1966 contact her to clarify the existence of a bond that would help defray the cost of roof repairs in the kindergarten addition.



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Howard Prezant's lesson, and tasks, bear fruit

By Bob Clark

Borough Treasurer Howard Prezant fondly recalls a pointed lesson he learned from his wife Louise's grandmother. One day Grandma Klatskin called Howard over to her house in Roosevelt and told him to dig a hole in the back yard. She produced a cherry seedling and told Howard to plant it in the hole. Later, Grandma Klatskin instructed Howard to saw down a nearby ancient and diseased cherry tree. As he worked, she remarked, "For years this old tree gave me many sweet cherries." She turned to the seedling and added, "I will not be here to enjoy the cherries that will come from this tree when it is big enough, but we are planting it to give something to those who come after."

Taking his cue from Grandma Klatskin, Howard has worked at the thankless task of fiscal watchdog for the Council and School Board for nearly 20 years. In that time the town has enjoyed a constant advocate for fiscal responsibility, encouraging officials to leave a sound economic foundation for those who come after.

Howard Prezant exemplifies a small group of salaried borough employees who provide quality administrative services to Roosevelt at bargain salaries. He attends regular meetings, agenda meetings, committee meetings and special meetings without end. He handles routine inquiries from state officials, the municipal auditor, Borough Council and School Board members and curious citizens. He provides data to guide decisions concerning the complicated water and sewer upgrading.

At budget time the meetings are as frequent as California brush fires. Howard and Louise, who is the borough tax collector, have given over a room in their

house to serve as an office for borough financial records. Howard spends many hours pouring over bills, projecting revenues and expenses, planning budget recommendations and balancing books. His fingers glide as skillfully across calculator keys as Louise's fingers command the keyboard of the grand piano in their living room.

In terms of hours devoted to borough business, the \$2200 borough treasurer salary and \$1000 custodian of school funds salary make Howard a volunteer by any realistic definition. Why does he not devote all this energy to his successful accounting firm in Princeton Junction, or to the travel agency which he and Louise own and manage, or to more frequent relaxation on his sailboat at the shore? Why has he lived in the same unpretentious house in town since 1953? Why did he remain a dedicated and underpaid borough employee for so long after a term as council president and twice running unsuccessfully for mayor nearly two decades ago? Why did he serve as president of the Synagogue for ten years and work to make it a gathering place for the entire community?

Grandma Klatskin would know. Howard tapped the origins of the town when, in 1951, he married Louise Bunkin, a resident of Jersey Homesteads (Roosevelt) since 1937. More important, he tuned in to the spirit sought by the original Jersey Homestead planners. Each resident would wrench comfort and security for his own family from a callous and tumultuous world. Meanwhile, each resident would devote a major effort to helping his neighbors achieve

(Cont'd. on P.19)

Laurie Altman: Joy is this musician's desire

By David Herrstrom

The precisely molded notes of the piano and the saxophone's throaty break above the insistently ticking cymbals from Laurie Altman's quintet whirl together as if they were the body of joy itself. The return to the hymn tune after a river of riffs and lifts is a regrouping that promises a new thrust, one that will orbit the audience over East Village. An abrupt change of pace, the plucked bass is suddenly bowed. The piano and guitar approach the brink of schmaltz in a moment of self-mockery, then the hymn chord asserts itself again, as whole clusters of notes rise like flocks of birds.

The piece is Laurie Altman's musical self-portrait, "Color Me," one of several of his compositions performed in a February concert at Manhattan's Tompkins Square Library. The impact of the music is strangely religious, like a rite of some sort, as if we were overhearing the insistent plain-song of monks, except that the composer-pianist has given his body over to the music in the way that the music in turn demands our bodies.

Laurie does not merely respond to the music as he plays; he becomes its conduit, as if it were not produced by the instruments, but in the foot, up through the legs, and finally by the mouth. He is the jazz orator. The audience takes up the cue; they're not asked to react passively but to respond with something akin to religious fervor. Laurie's body, as the dynamo at the center of the quintet striking off sparks of notes, is finally the physical

equivalent of the shape and texture of the music itself-- a body of joy.

This joy at the center of his music is no accident. It is an expression of Laurie's musical influences, his quarrel with much contemporary music, and his thinking about composition. The physicality of music is lodged in his earliest musical memories, such as the sound of chanting in the Synagogue at Passover, which was for him an "overriding musical image," where the words were meaningless and hence didn't matter. Certainly, the sounds possessed a liturgical resonance, but they shed their religious baggage, becoming pure sounds seeking their form in the body. He found himself in love simply with the "sound and shape of mumbling."

Studying the piano at the age of six in an uptown church, he had the same kind of experience with Bach. He became convinced that if he "didn't do Bach well, he wouldn't be able to **escape** the church, for the wrath of God" would be upon him. It's no wonder he found himself not merely listening to music as a child, but conducting it. His body always found itself a participant in **the** music, and when he heard his first boogie-woogie at eleven, he knew that composing music was his vocation.

Beginning with a stint at Mannes College of Music, he spent 12 years in classical training, composing and playing almost exclusively classical music. But the cerebral trend of contemporary classical composition ultimately alienated him, until he felt imprisoned

(Cont'd. on next page)

Laurie Altman:

(Cont'd. from previous page)

in a self-parodying system created for a coterie audience. At this point in his life, the sheer "civility, humanity, and plain sociability" of jazz restored to him a means of expressing his personal vision. Jazz was a "transfusion" of life blood into his classical compositions, and since then his music has been "more joyous."

Yet his principal musical influence remains the "exalted power" of Bach. Really no mystery, because the driving thrust of Bach's music is primarily physical, just as is the "groove" or swing of jazz. The greatest music "inevitably involves you on a physical level," as Laurie puts it. After playing one of his jazz compositions 50 or 100 times, "you become one with it," just as you do with Bach's organ chorales or his motets. Laurie's singing of one motet, "Jesu Komm," years ago, remains to this day a visceral experience.

Laurie's composition practice is itself a **physical** experience. He believes that there must always be an "interplay between body and imagination." His work is something made, and in the making there is a physical intimacy, a "stepping inside what you've written" in a oneness with the composition. This refusal to abstract the craft of his music from its substance, to separate the musical image from the thing said is the "human element" in music, which must be preserved above all else.

His principal method of preserving the human is a commitment to "lyricism." Most of his compositions begin with a melodic phrase that has sufficient substance to bear development until it takes on "a life of its own." For years, however, he was "lured by questions of

formal design," obsessed with technique to the point of losing the physical substance of music, and when this is lost, the lyric and the human are also lost. It was jazz that saved him from this siren of the abstract or purely mathematical. As a result, Laurie's composing returned to the simple primal elements--rhythm and melody.

"Simplicity of structure" is also the essentially human for Laurie, because it achieves a direct emotional link, the connection that he so admires in American **hymn** music and in the "**starkness**" of Hebrew and Gregorian chant. To insure this directness, he insists that "music must work on an ear level," a purely physical and emotional level, or fail. No amount of verbal justification can save it, if it does not work in the body. Consequently, it is "not necessary to understand a piece of music," only to experience it.

And if Laurie could name this experience, it would be "joy." By and large, his music is not a reaction to the world he lives in, though a chance comment by a friend or the death of an admired composer will often result in a composition, but an expression of the vision of a world he wants to build, one that springs from the "joy of living." More specifically, it is the "intense joy" that derives from "loving to write music." It is a joy that does not ignore political upheavals, but rather deals with such facts of life personally and indirectly by a "controlled lyricism." When in "Color Me," the guitar holds a ghostly trill, as the sax wails into the stratosphere, we don't for a minute wonder what it means, we know the shape of joy in our muscles and arteries.

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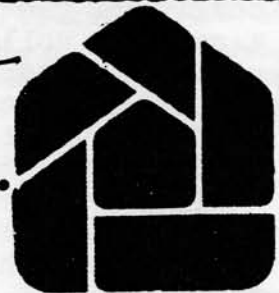
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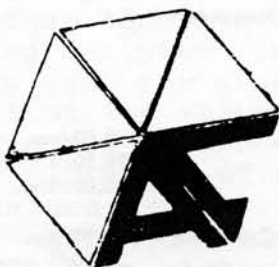
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Emergency number set, Volleyball challenge due

Both the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and Fire Company are now being dispatched by the Monmouth County Fire Police. The new number to call for these emergency services is 446-2040.

During the first week in February members of the Fire Company and First Aid Squad went door-to-door to distribute stickers printed with the new number - 446-2040. These stickers are to be attached to the phones. If you are in need of more for extension phones, they are available at the Borough Hall.

On March 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Roosevelt Public School gym, the First Aid Squad will challenge the R.P.S. staff to a game of volleyball. The public (grandparents, parents, and friends as well as grammar schoolers) are invited to cheer on the teams.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad thanks the community for its overwhelming response to their sale of Stefan Martin's print, Tree of Life. As of the writing of this article, only 14 prints are left for sale. Orders, however, are being accepted for Martin's second print in the series of three of 100 numbered prints in each series. Inquiries can be made to Irene Block, 448-9123.

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Taxi

A new form of public transportation began quietly and has been operating for three months in parts of Roosevelt and Millstone Township.

Shared-Ride Taxi, an alternative to the usual taxi service, is being run by Hill's Taxi Service of Englishtown. Open to residents of Millstone Township and Roosevelt, the service is now operating from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The service offers one-way fares for less than \$1, made possible by grouping patrons traveling to the same destinations. Standard fares are 50 cents one-way for any destination in Millstone Township, Roosevelt or Freehold Township. The fare is 75 cents charged for destinations in Freehold Borough. Persons 60 and over and handicapped individuals are charged half fare. Trips after 3:00 p.m. are charged at the regular taxi rate.

Hill's Taxi uses a combination of standard taxi vehicles, station wagons and a van equipped with a wheelchair lift for persons who can't walk.

Ridership has nearly doubled each month since operations began in November. The group taxi approach was developed by the Monmouth County Planning Board as a cost-effective means of providing public transportation to rural areas not served by local bus service. Shared-Ride Taxi has proved particularly popular with housewives and children and, as expected, with senior citizens. Persons interested in using Shared-Ride Taxi should contact Hill's Taxi of Englishtown at 446-6872.

Customers needing transportation can reserve a taxi 24 hours

in advance, by giving the dispatcher their home location, desired destination and preferred time of arrival. The dispatcher then assigns vehicles to transport individuals in groups based on the requests received for the particular day.

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 2 c. plain yogurt
 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped or mashed
 1 tsp. cayenne pepper
 1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
 1/2 tsp. ground cloves
 1 tsp. ginger root
 1 tsp. ground coriander
 1/2 tsp. paprika
 2 Tbs. fresh lemon juice
 1/2 tsp. salt
 1/2 stick butter, melted

Place chicken in a large non-metal bowl. Combine all remaining ingredients in a 4-cup measure; pour over chicken. Cover and marinate overnight in refrigerator. Grill chicken 6" above hot coals for 20 minutes on each side or until chicken is done, basting often with yogurt mixture. Arrange chicken on lettuce leaves and garnish with lime wedges.

Barbara Halpern

Do you know that some of the most inviting recipes the cooks of our town have to offer appear in the Borough Bulletin cookbook? Over 200 copies have already been sold. Now is your last chance to order your copy. Call Lynn Friedman at 448-5186. The price is \$3.50.

To whet your appetite, we reprint a few sample recipes:

MYSTERY TART

16 Ritz crackers, crushed
 1 c. sugar
 2/3 c. finely chopped walnuts
 1 tsp. vanilla
 3 egg whites
 1/2 tsp. baking powder

Beat egg whites stiff with sugar and baking powder. Fold in nuts and crackers. Add vanilla. Pour into well greased 8" pie plate. Bake 30 minutes at 350°. Cool and spread with whipped cream. Refrigerate.

Maria Howlin

CHOCOLATE CHANTILLY

6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate
 1/2 c. water
 1/4 c. sugar
 1/8 tsp. salt
 2 tsp. vanilla
 2 c. heavy cream

In heavy saucepan, melt chocolate in water over very low heat. Stir in vanilla and salt. Cool to room temperature. In large bowl, whip cream until soft peaks form, then add sugar, chocolate and whip until stiff. Put into individual dishes. Can be kept in refrigerator about 2 hours if necessary. Serves 6-8.

Pat Antosky

Roosevelt Community & School Calendar

March 1981

- 12 Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Borough Bulletin meeting:
Hortense Sochowitzky's home
- 17 Tuesday, 1:00-10:00 p.m. Food Co-op pickup **and meeting**
Borough Hall
- 18 Wednesday, 7:10-8:30 p.m. Bookmobile - store parking lot
- 24 Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Blood Pressure Screening -
Borough Hall
- 25 Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Eleanor Roosevelt chapter of
NOW - Weiner house, 17
Homestead Lane
- 30 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Planning Board meeting - Borough
Hall
- 31 Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. First Aid meeting - Borough Hall

April 1981

- 1 Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. Sr. Citizens meeting - Borough
Hall
- 7:10-8:30 p.m. Bookmobile - store parking lot
- 2 Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Pioneer Women meeting - call
448-2365 for information
- 6 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Agenda meeting - Council
- 8:00 p.m. Deborah meeting - Borough Hall
- 8 Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Council meeting - Borough Hall
- 9 Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Borough Bulletin meeting
- 14 Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Fire Company meeting - Borough
Hall
- 8:00 p.m. School Board meeting - R.P.S.
- 15 Wednesday, 7:10-8:30 p.m. Bookmobile - store parking lot

PRINCIPAL'S LETTER**School budget, more than just a money matter**

Are terms like "W-2," "1040A" and "itemize" slipping into your vocabulary these days? Are you receiving unsolicited mail from the relentless IRS? Already you want to stop reading? This is hardly the best time of the year to bring up the topic of taxes unnecessarily. But it's a bit of a sticky wicket - not talking about money matters will not make decisions any easier.

While not all the problems besetting schools these days are cured with more money, schools do have to address money matters in an active way. Soon our '81-'82 school year budget will be returning from the state offices. The Board will resume its public meetings. (I say "resume" because all previous budget meetings have been open to the public.)

After many long hours of meetings the board will hold its budget hearing. This is the time that most people (who now assume the role of "tax-payers") become aware of the new school budget (which now assumes the title of "tax assessment"). At this meeting the budget is reviewed again line item by line item. The air is filled with sounds of percent of decrease and increase, cap limits and NCEB. Sometimes these meetings are long and much time is spent trying to clarify how the budget process works.

The problem I find with meetings like this is that it is hard to establish a common context in which the budget items can be measured. There is always such a diversity of perceptions, values and priorities about education and about money.

At the risk of sounding like a self-quiz from a popular magazine, maybe you would like to take a few moments to reflect on these next few items to see where you stand. Try to clarify some values and priorities you hold about education and money.

1. What is the value to society of public education? Who are the clients and beneficiaries?
2. What are the priorities for my family concerning education? How do I value it?
3. Who should and who does actually pay for public education? Is this investment worth it?
4. How should Roosevelt Public School set its educational and financial priorities?
5. What is quality education and how much does it cost?
6. Is the Roosevelt School fiscally viable in the current economic environment? How would a loss of this school affect the community's history, identity, and resale value of homes?
7. How much do current state and national trends in the economy affect us here?

And you thought you could whip right through this quiz! The truth is most matters of money boil down to values and priorities. I used to have a naive pride in my diligence to thrift. In my mother's kitchen I learned to scrape the last lick of peanut butter from the jar - now even finding a jar of peanut butter is a feat! Thrift is not enough. We need

a new way to look at money matters.

Someone once told me that a career in school administration would be spent trying "to get more for less, with less." Every day the state is mandating new programs - career education, family life, services for the handicapped. These are not frills, nor are the rising prices for fuel and transportation. The "more for less" warning is challenging for me. The discipline of this attitude is healthy for personal as well as school finances.

Again I come back to a question about values and priorities. Daniel L. Griffiths, a distinguished educator at New York University wrote an article several years ago entitled, "The Collapse of Consensus." In this article he discussed the shift in the American society about the value of education. He describes the sacred American "myth" that a better education is the ticket to a better job, higher pay and more social status. What he sees now is a society in which a truck driver earns much more money than a college professor! Money invested in education doesn't always pay off in a higher salary. He asks what are the other benefits of a well educated society? In his conclusion he asks for a new consensus about the value of education. The new consensus must include a plurality of educational values.

More education does not assure a higher salary. People on fixed incomes have only so much money for any kind of taxes. Some people have to retool careers mid life. Other people want to study computer chips. AAAAAGH! We must settle these issues to include a diversity of values and

priorities. The real issues are not ten dollars more or less on the line items for building repair. We need a vision for everyone.

Please come to the school budget hearing. Look for the announcement. Be ready to listen to the diversity. And as we say to our students, you have to have your own answers prepared ahead so you will be able to listen carefully - to everyone!

P.S. Does anyone have an extra copy of the 1040A instruction manual - my bank and post office are all out!

--Beverly Hetrick


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PEDDIE BASEBALL CLINIC SET

Two Peddie School baseball coaches will sponsor a baseball clinic in conjunction with the Hightstown-East Windsor Baseball Association.

The clinic, to be held March 15 from 2-4 p.m. at The Peddie School Athletic Center, will offer sound instruction in the fundamentals of the game. The clinic is free and open to interested players, coaches, managers, parents and other area residents.

Running the clinic will be Lew Watts and Paul Marcus, both Peddie faculty members. Watts is a former pro-ball player, college and high school coach and the author of two books and numerous articles dealing with baseball. Scholastic Coach named him "America's finest baseball technician." Mr. Marcus was a catcher for Rutgers University and the head coach for St. Thomas More School for several years.

JEFFRY BROTTMAN ON DEAN'S LIST

Jeffry Brottman, son of Marilyn and Paul Brottman, North Rochdale Avenue, was named to the Dean's List at Colgate University, Hamilton, N.Y.

Jeffry is a 1980 graduate of The Peddie School.

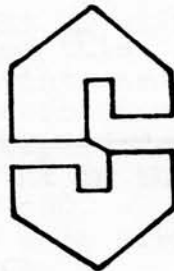
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ISSUES & DEBATE**Roosevelt dogs bark; is anybody listening?**

By David Brahinsky

Have you ever been at home--say--in the middle of the day--working, you are, for you're a poet, perhaps, making a poem, or a writer, writing stories, or that article that will finally get you the recognition you've always deserved...? Or maybe you're just studying, or reading an historical novel, gathering knowledge and understanding into your being so, when you get back into that classroom you'll have something to say? Have you ever done that? I mean--have you ever tried to concentrate on something--a piece of music, perhaps, a painting, or maybe the inner workings of your broken down stereo (or your mind)? And then, as you focus in, as you become One-With-It--as you lose your ego and merge head-long into the object of your focus, of your love, of your attention...What happens? "Bark! Bark! Bark, bark... bark!"

He's (or she or they're) not yours, of course. If he (or...) were, why then you could march outside and ask, entreat, beg, or scream at it to "SHADDUP!!" Right? No, he's not yours. He's someone else's. Your neighbor's, actually. He's tied up outside, by your neighbor's house, and there's another within earshot at his neighbor's, and one or three across the road and next door to them and...Oh yes, everybody's got one, and they keep 'em chained up outside so they can bark that nerve shattering sound signifying hunger, fear, anger, or merely

boredom. The barks don't go too well with the article or the novel or the painting or sleep (or love)...And certainly not with the music.

The funny thing is, the barking of the dogs is not the worst part of what creeps into your soul and rattles it around. It's the fact that no-one comes out to quiet it. The dogs bark and you wonder: Is anybody listening? Does anybody hear (care) but you? And when no one comes out to silence them with a pat on the head, some love, some attention, a threat, some food...And the barking continues and continues and continues... (sometimes into the night--even that) I suppose it's natural, if it's hard to feel pleasant towards your neighbors. They obviously don't care about you or your sanity. (But there have been studies! Studies on sanity and sound!) No, they don't. That's pretty obvious, isn't it? Isn't it?

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Senior Citizens News

By Helga Wisowaty

Senior Citizens, at their February meeting, were briefed by Mayor Leon Barth on 20 proposed units of rental housing for senior citizens. He said funding for the project looks promising.

Esther Pogrebin reported that anyone who hasn't received telephone-number stickers for fire and first-aid services should contact Borough Hall. She also read an article about people who don't attend meetings, but just belong.

Members were advised that the new head of the Office of Aging in Freehold is Sister Simon, succeeding Gloria Fillepone, who retired.

BAKE SALE

The annual school board election bake sale will be run jointly by the First Aid Squad and the Sisterhood of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt in the school during voting hours April 7. If you are interested in helping contact Mollie Bulkin at 448-2455.

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Prezant (Cont'd. from P. 6)

similar success. Newcomers were not to be feared but rather were to be welcomed for their ability to increase the resources of the town shared by all.

Howard Prezant and many others readily adapted to this spirit. Publicly-owned farms, factories and stores no longer exist; However, first aid, fire, PTA, Synagogue, newspaper, food co-operative, senior citizen and other organizations exist. They are small in scale but large in quality far beyond that to be expected from such a tiny town. New arrivals, who may possess seeds of this spirit, which are cultured, embedded in the town's historical matrix and nurtured as the newcomers gain acceptance.

Howard contends that the community spirit of Roosevelt resides in the "doers" rather than in the "nay-sayers." He believes that the salaried employees should help keep elected officials on top of the complex, legalistic responsibilities of their offices. He will sit and explain finances for hours at a time and, when necessary, will chide and exhort elected officials to make decisions, take action, do their homework and make compromises in the interest of going forward.

The man behind the figures is optimistic about Roosevelt's future. "At least we have the ability to control our own destiny here," he says. But Howard also has steady advice for the politicians and taxpayers: "Stabilize the tax rates. Let the School Board and the council work together in the best interests of the town. Don't act as though you will never have to repair or replace things just because the basic facilities were given to us by the federal government. This is not a place to live in and

throw away. We are not at the end of anything here. We are at the beginning of rebuilding, exploring new concepts and gaining experience. Show that we "still have vision and foresight."

This has been constant advice for almost 30 years. It has frequently not been heeded, but Grandma Klatskin would be pleased nonetheless that Howard still nurtures the vision she planted.




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LEFF'S FIND 'WIDE OPEN SPACES'

Last July, David and Joanna Leff moved to their new home at 6 S. Rochdale Avenue from Atlantic Highlands, N.J. Prior to that they had lived on rapidly expanding Staten Island. Both quickly became disenchanted with its growth and cite the wide open spaces of Roosevelt as the prime reason for moving here. David is a salesperson for Spring Air Bedding Company, while Joanna commutes daily to her job in New York City.

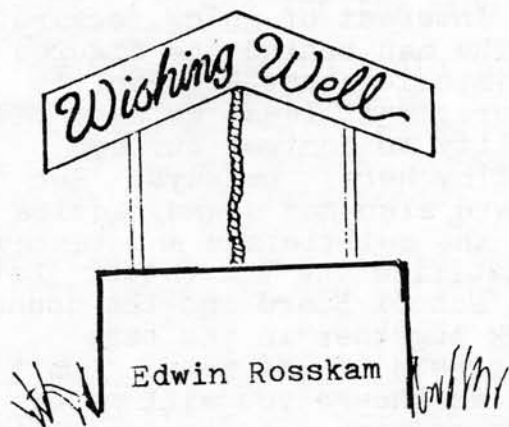
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Council (Cont'd. from P. 1)

public comments stated distress at the suddenness of Loftus' termination as a labor practice: contrary to the spirit of the town founders, stating "we should not allow one council meeting to end a career" of 39 years of dedicated service.

The council's previous actions had occurred at the Jan. 5 re-organization meeting when the motion to reappoint Loftus failed to receive a second and at the Jan. 15 regular meeting when a motion to reappoint failed in a 3-2 vote. Upon a statement of reappointment by Mayor Leon Barth at the Feb. 11 meeting, a motion to support this action was again made by Councilman Bill Counterman and seconded by Councilwoman Jan Terry. This was followed by a statement from Councilman Leslie Weiner seeking a modification in the number of hours of duty, in order to concentrate on weekends, giving a challenge to the public safety committee to enter into a discussion of compromise and reassuring that he would vote against the motion as stated. After additional discussion indicating no compromise, the motion to reappoint Loftus again failed in a 3-2 vote.

In spite of the fact that the floor had been closed to the public, and council action had begun, public debate again ensued with statements to the effect that there was a 39 year moral obligation to Loftus, and a question of loyalty. It was further asserted that visibility of Loftus' patrol car probably "prevented three million crimes." During remarks by Howard Prezant on the unfair treatment of

borough employees, Weiner and Councilwoman Marilyn Magnes left the council room drawing statements of outrage from Prezant. Weiner and Magnes returned shortly and Prezant withheld his remarks until after the adjournment of the meeting.

Concerning the topic of taxes on the Pine Drive house purchased by the State, Bob Clark (relaying information from Michael Ticktin) reported that the taxes were likely to include only moneys for borough services (not including school taxes) and that if the amount was less than \$1000, the state was not obligated to pay. However, the amount due on this house plus money owed on other state-owned property in the borough (in lieu of taxes) may exceed the minimum \$1000 making it possible to now receive these funds. Another alternative Clark reported would be a deduction of said amount from any payments that are due the State of New Jersey from the borough. Further exploration of the question is being pursued by the administrative committee.

The project of construction of well #4 with engineering work done by Killam Associates is moving ahead to bids which will be opened on March 11. Other action related to the water supply is the appointment of a Public Participation Committee by Mayor Barth at the urging of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. It is recommended by the department that the committee consist of about

(Cont'd. on next page)

Council

(Cont'd. from previous page)

five to seven persons representing a cross section of the community and a diversity of community organizations. Mayoral appointments to the committee included Howard Chasan, Leo Libove, David Herrstrom, Ed Schlinski, Aaron Datz, Roy Terry. The mayor is included. This group is to consider and advise the council on such matters as the well construction, the sanitary sewer for the treatment plant, the water main on Valley Road and other water projects. Appointments to the committee were unanimously approved by the council.

The Monmouth County Mosquito Commission sought the approval of the council to spray the area for mosquito control during the April to September season. Their letter to the council did not detail what substance would be used in the spraying, but according to the commission, they will use Abate, an organic phosphate. The measure to approve was moved by Esakoff and passed by the council with the lone objection of Magnes. The commission has stated that it will give notice each time spraying will occur.

Councilman Weiner reported that the library committee has funds of several hundred dollars to be used for the purchase of books. The public is invited to submit recommended titles of books to Dotty Beinin by mail or phone at 448-1058.

The mayor declared March to be Red Cross Month and the council heard from William J. Williams of Freehold Area

Hospital describing expansion of services. He also appealed to the borough and its citizens to support its two million dollar fundraising effort.

The council unanimously passed an amendment to zoning ordinance 97-1 dealing with heights of structures. Subsequently they voted 3-2 to accept for first reading Ordinance 97-2 which creates 2½-acre lots in an area adjacent to Future Residential III of the Land Use Plan. The measure was supported by Counterman, Esakoff and Terry, and opposed by Magnes and Weiner.

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DR. OLEJNIK AT 31 FARM LANE

Last November, Thomas Olejnik moved to 31 Farm Lane. Frequently this home is shared by his father, Jerome. Jerome spends part of the year visiting Thomas' sister in Camden.

The younger Olejnik was born and raised in Camden, N.J. and began the search for a home of his own 10 years ago, when he became acquainted with Roosevelt. He relocated to New Brunswick, and then to Plainsboro. While living in Plainsboro, he was robbed and this provided the additional impetus for the move to Roosevelt.

Formerly associated with Princeton University, Dr. Olejnik, a physicist, is now employed by Johnson and Johnson in East Windsor.

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Yona (Cont'd. from P. 1)

establishment of a Garden of Peace in one of the border settlements in the Galilee in tribute to her.

In her welcome to the crowd which filled the Borough Hall, Frieda Anish called Yona unique. That speech sums up Yona's qualities:

"Webster defines unique as different or unusual. Yona was different; she was a humble woman who sought in other people their positive characteristics to try to emulate them in herself. She didn't have to do that, her positive characteristics were innate. She was a charitable woman and worked hard to help those who she felt were less fortunate than she."

In Roosevelt, said Frieda, any letter addressed to Jewish National Fund went directly to Yona Weisman, since the names had become synonymous.

Saliba Sarsar, reading a message from John Grauel, who

could not attend due to a speaking engagement, spoke of Yona thus : "Our love for Terra Sancta, Eretz Yisroel--The Land--was and is reflected around us. Dear Yona was the epitome of that love, Yona of U.J.A., Yona of J.N.F., Yona of the Pioneer Women, Yona true daughter of Israel. I have been privileged in the swift passage of the years, to know personally many of the great in Israel and the Diaspora. I think often of those men and women. Golda was one, Shula Alasaroff, the daughter of Chaim, was another. Yona, how brief my acquaintance, will be remembered as one with the same love of Zion as the others. Only circumstances prevented her from achieving the exalted seat enjoyed by the others. We miss her, Yona of the honeycakes."

The Pioneer Women have chosen a tree planting as a living memorial to Yona. If you wish to participate, contact Frieda Anish at 448-2365.