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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



BULLETIN

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VOLUME ~~XX~~ NO 18

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

OCTOBER 1987

COUNCIL REPORT

Borough Hires Three

By Aaron Datz

The Borough filled three important vacancies at the Council meeting of October 14th.

David Landry was appointed operator of the water and sewer plants, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Tom Karpick. Mr. Landry already possesses the necessary licenses required for the water plant and is preparing himself for the sewer plant license exam. His salary is \$28,500.

The positions of Treasurer and Tax-collector, made vacant by the resignation of Howard and Louise Prezant, have been filled by Karen Stockman (Treasurer) and Dolores Bell Clark (Tax-collector). Both are experienced and fill these concurrently in East Windsor Township. Their salaries will be the same as those paid the previous incumbents.


In other business, a proposed ordinance governing the possession of farm animals was tabled pending further study; permission was granted to Saliba Sarsar to erect a monument to the late John Grauel; payment of \$1,500 to the Roosevelt Arts Project from the fund established by the Herman Goldman Foundation for them was approved. Also bids are now being solicited for trash removal, snow plowing, and a new truck.

The Board of Education, in reply to a request by the Borough Council, listed the items which made up the \$8,000 budget reduction finally agreed upon between the two bodies. The items are as follows: Account 820 - \$4000 -- Due to a change in insurance companies and insurance plans. Account 310 - \$1,850 -- Attendance Clerk position eliminated. Account 216 - \$2050 -- Replacement of Social Worker by one of a lesser rank. Account 620 - \$140.

During public discussion, comments were made to the effect that the School Board was able to make these cuts from a re-examination of the budget and had made no real effort to comply with the Council's request to make more substantial reductions.

Lastly, the Mayor and Council congratulated our Borough Clerk, Krystyna Bieracha upon becoming a citizen of the United States. May we add congratulations from the Bulletin!

Note from Cemetery Committee Persons attending funerals at the Roosevelt Cemetery should please follow the signs at the cemetery; Do not park on the road to the cemetery; Do not park on the grass. Try to car pool. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

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urgent **urgent**

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Editor David Brahinsky

Contributing Writers

Peter Berlinrut, Bob Clark, Aaron Datz, Peter Warren, Herb Johnson, Gloria Hazell, Florie Johnson, Becky Russell, Helga Wisowaty, Arthur Shapiro, Joe Solomon, Adeline Weiner.

Production- Lynn Friedman, Gloria Hazell
Hortense Sochowitzky

Business- Lynn Friedman, Adeline Weiner,
Lillian Warren

We Need Your Support

As many of you know, for many years we were able to publish the Bulletin without having to pay for printing, thanks to local residents connected with Princeton Research Press. During the past few years this has no longer been the case, and each year the Press has raised the fee. We were recently informed that the fee would be raised to a level we determined to be beyond our means, even though by shopping around we discovered that this price is still lower than that of any other local printer (except one, see below). We were thus contemplating the possibility of our imminent demise. Saul Ernststein has come to the rescue, offering the services of Roosevelt Printing at a price that, with our reader's support, we believe we can afford. We remain on very thin ice, however, for we still must pay the remainder of last year's bill to Princeton Research Press as well as pay for typing, postage and this year's printing bill.

Please support the Bulletin. Send your tax deductible contributions to:
Lillian Warren, Treasurer
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congratulations Krystyna

Homestead Lane Man Honored

In recognition of his professional and personal achievements, Dr. Saliba Sarsar has been voted into the National Honor Society Outstanding Young Men of America. He turned 32 in September.

Saliba came to Roosevelt from Jerusalem eight years ago, and completed graduate studies at Rutgers. He served in the Roosevelt First Aid 1931-86 and still helps with fund raising and the art show.

He is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Monmouth College, where he is also advisor to foreign students. He directs the annual Model United Nations for New Jersey High School students and is advisor to the student honors society Lambda Sigma Tau, and to the Political Science Club. Dr. Sarsar directs two grant-funded programs, one on contemporary global issues, the other on technology and society.

Master Plan Updated

By Bob Clark

After several months of effort, the planning board adopted a state-mandated master plan reexamination report at its October 7 regular monthly meeting. Board members expressed their appreciation for the unpaid efforts of board chairman Alan Mallach, a professional planner who produced several drafts for discussion and consideration.

Although the final vote on the completed document was unanimous, a minority dissented from one proposal calling for the rezoning of a wooded tract bordering 500 feet of Windsor-Perrineville Road from agricultural to 2 1/2 acre residential. Mayor Freda Hepner and board members Ralph Seligman and Aaron Datz voted unsuccessfully to delete the proposal from the final plan. Members Melvin Friedman, Harold Haught and Deborah Metzger and chairman Mallach voted to retain the recommendation for the change to 2 1/2 acre residential.

During the debate on the proposal Seligman indicated that a rezoning of the tract would "send the wrong message" regarding growth on the fringes of the town and a considerable distance from existing water and sewer lines. Mallach said that the rezoning could be considered appropriate because the land could not be farmed without removing the trees, it is surrounded by existing 3-acre zoning in Millstone Township and it has different soil characteristics and grade than adjacent farmlands in Roosevelt.

Mallach pointed out that the master plan can change whenever the planning board wants to alter it. He also noted that the planning board could only recommend changes in zoning. The borough council must adopt the recommendations before they become law. Mallach pointed out that the council had already passed a stream corridor ordinance and rezoned a tract on the south side of Oscar Drive from indus-

trial to 2 1/2 acre residential. These ideas had existed in earlier drafts of the master plan revisions. The council also recently adopted an ordinance requiring new residential development to be connected to the borough's water and sewer systems instead of having individual septic systems and wells. Although that ordinance had not originated at the planning board, the board had not expressed disapproval when asked by the council to review it.

The planning board will now begin a technical review of the zoning ordinance to determine whether parking, driveways and other matters are handled properly. The public was encouraged to provide input. The board will also solicit free assistance from outside experts to develop a plan for future residential growth on the Notterman tract located east of North Valley Road and south of Eleanor Lane. Board alternate member Anita Cervantes will serve as coordinator the the effort. The experts would help the board to prepare a plan incorporating open space and traffic flow requirements that would emulate Roosevelt's historic site plan. Thus, the town would avoid being put in the position of merely having to react to a future developer's proposal.

Responding to a request by the Nurko family that their agricultural land along the town's northern approaches be rezoned to residential, the board reached a consensus that it was not prepared to make a recommendation to the council without additional information concerning the environmental and financial impact on the community. The board unanimously passed a motion to request an estimated \$10,000 to fund the necessary studies to determine whether growth should take place and, if so, how it should be managed (to preserve visual and other characteristics of the community).



Herb Steinberg - 1928-1987

Painter of Portraits

Tribute To Herb Steinberg

My friend Herb Steinberg died last night. He was in New Hampshire, where he had gone to meet the subject of a portrait he had been commissioned to paint.

When Herb was in a room with you, the room was filled with the presence and mind of one who sees. Every person, every object was a subject for his painter's mind. He was, in the way necessary to a true painter, obsessed by seeing; and next, by interpreting what he saw. As composers use notes, so I watched Herb use color.

I believe that in the last few years Herb had become a master painter. He worked slowly, and his body of work is not large. His most recent paintings show an unusual amount of painterly sensitivity and understanding. I asked him only a month or so ago how come he had advanced so much in his painting in such a short time. He said "I guess it takes a long time to learn to paint." Herb contained both the knowledge that he was good, and an apt modesty.

His worldly success was just upon him. Only now had he more commissions for portraits and for murals that he could take. When I saw him three days ago he was happy.

I shall miss my friend Herb. And as much, I shall miss watching the progress on his next painting and then the one after that. It was something I could always anticipate with pleasure. I shall miss the works which I knew would be painted, and which now I shall never see.

Natalie Malter



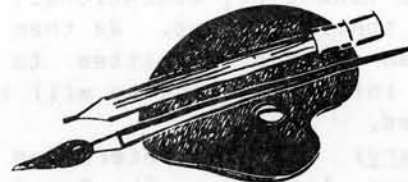
Art and Craft Fair

This year as in years past the annual Roosevelt Art and Craft Fair will take place the Sunday before Thanksgiving. On Nov. 22nd from 11:00am to 5:00pm artists and artisans will display their talents in the school gym. Several local artists will also have their studios open and will share a percentage of their sales with the First Aid Squad.

A tempting variety of food will once again be available so plan to have lunch and snack while at the Fair.

A donation of \$1.00 per person will be collected at the door (senior citizens - 50 cents). Children are admitted free of charge and must be accompanied by an adult. Supervised activities will be provided for the children and should hold their interest while parents browse.

Community response to the annual Roosevelt Art and Craft Fair sponsored by the First Aid Squad is tremendous. We appreciate the donations of baked goods and help given by so many townspeople. Please call any First Aid Squad member if you would like to assist us again this year.



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school board update

Compiled by members of the Roosevelt School Board

During recent meetings, the Board of Education for the Roosevelt Public School has expressed a need to update the community on current issues and topics affecting our school. On a monthly basis, we will write an article for the Bulletin highlighting our efforts to address major areas of interest and concern. This first report deals with a variety of items that have been a major part of our focus during the past several months.

Personnel: We had four vacancies to fill for the 1987-88 school year. The following personnel were hired; Mrs. Randi Schall will serve as our Social Worker/Child Study Team Coordinator, Mrs. Eileen Orberter will serve as our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teacher, Mrs. Barbara Williams will serve as our music teacher, and Mrs. Andrea Sweeney will be serving as our art teacher.

Regionalization: The Board established a subcommittee to investigate the possibility and desirability of regionalization. The committee delineated the districts that are within a reasonable geographic range and has been compiling a data base from which to evaluate financial, educational, and logistical considerations. We then established an Ad Hoc committee to go over this information and we will keep you informed.

Library: We are interested in improving our library. The Board established an Ad Hoc committee to investigate ways to accomplish this goal. The committee developed contacts with state and county library officials and has proposals for the 1987-88 school year and beyond. They include; replacing old, worn books with identical copies provided by Monmouth County Library, expansion of our collection (also largely done through Monmouth County Library -- no charge), the removal of unused, unwanted, and out-of-date volumes, and hiring a part-time librarian.

School Lunch Program: Another Ad Hoc committee was formed to investigate ways to improve the quality of our school lunch program. The committee is concerned with the nutritional value and taste of the lunches currently being provided. Due to physical and logistical restraints, we have decided to continue with our present supplier for the first half of the school year. However, it looks like we will be able to implement an alternate program for the second half.

Mandates: This heading includes state requirements that affect our school. The State Department of Education assisted us in evaluating our building for more efficient space utilization in early August. During their visit, they found numerous items not meeting state building codes. Subsequently, an inspection team came to the school on August 28th and the result of that visit was a long list of violations. The Building and Grounds Committee is currently hard at work prioritizing that list as well as gathering cost information and formulating a time-line. It will probably take a number of years to get our building in good shape, but the result will be a major benefit to all concerned.

Members of the community are encouraged to attend School Board meetings on the second and third Thursdays of each month beginning at 7:30 pm.

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SENIOR NEWS

By Helga Wesowaty

The main part of our meeting was concerned with plans for our holiday dinner on December 5. It will be held at the Huntington Valley Theater. "Dream Girls" will be presented.

On October 29 twenty of our members will attend a dinner at the Hightstown Elks. This will start at 6:00PM.

There will be a distribution of "commodities" (cheese, flour, etc.) on November 17 at the Solar Village. Forms must be completed and turned into Jeanette.

Ms Patricia Bennett (the Surrogate of Monmouth County) spoke to us about the importance of having a will. A Surrogate handles wills, children's trusts and helps people who are incompetent and with adoptions. A Surrogate's major function is the probating of wills. In most states, two witnesses are required to sign the will. (In some states it is three). If witnesses are not available, a lawyer can notarize it -- this is called a "self Proving" will. A 'Holographic' will must be in the deceased's handwriting. It's a good idea to have two witnesses. If it is notarized it becomes a "valid" will.

In New Jersey - all assets go to the surviving spouse. If the deceased leaves under \$600,000 there is no Federal or inheritance tax. Children have a \$250,000 exemption. Don't waive any rights without checking what that includes. We enjoyed Ms Bennett's visit. Anyone needing to contact her can reach her at 201-431-7330 (Hall of Records, Freehold).

We welcomed Lennie Sacharoff and hope that more of the "younger" crowd will join.

Sara and Marian were our hostesses.



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

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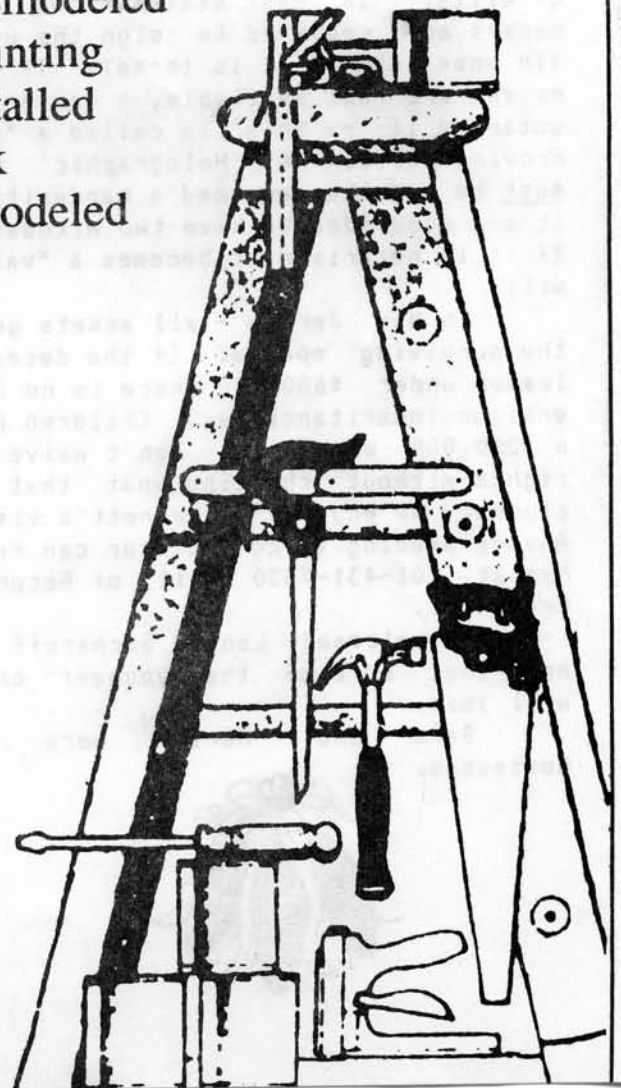
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LETTER TO EDITOR

Asking For Your Vote

To The Editor:

It almost seems as though there isn't an election this year, given the lack of much publicity. But in fact there is an important race on for control of the State Legislature. In the two years in which the Republicans have controlled the Assembly, little of importance has been achieved. One negative accomplishment has been the virtual end of State aid to municipalities. That, and not excessive spending by the Borough Council, is why a growing proportion of our taxes goes to run the municipality.

While electing Democrats is not a sure cure for all our problems, recap-

turing the legislature will help. And voting Democratic means voting Democratic all the way.

Marilyn Magnes and Jim Alt, who are running for Borough Council, need your votes and your support. I also need your votes and support in the mayoral election, just as surely as we will need your support and your advice and criticism in the years to come.

Voting is an old tradition in Roosevelt. It's a good one. Let's see if we can keep it up.

Ed Moser
Democratic Candidate for Mayor

Public Notice

Free Exercise Program for all.

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning- promptly between 10am and 11am, at the Borough Hall.

A good total body work-out from head to toes and designed for all ages.

With Nancy Warnick as your instructor, you will feel and look your best; from warm-up to cool down. Wear loose, comfortable clothing and bring a mat or a large towel.

Consider this. We're going into our 7th year!! It has to be good to last this long.

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open letter to peter warren

Dear Peter:

Where to begin? Perhaps with a heartfelt "enough already!" with the ubiquitous letters to the Borough Bulletin! Aside from, I believe, a jumble of misinformation, sarcasm and unwarranted and dire innuendoes rather than cogent arguments based on hard facts, most of your correspondence is not only misleading but falls into that most reprehensible of categories known as "yellow journalism."

Further, rather than coming to Council meetings, listening, criticizing if you will, and offering solutions to difficult and far-reaching problems, you choose the far easier "cop-out" route of not being present at meetings but nonetheless blasting all and sundry who are, in fact, hard at work attempting to find said solutions. Remember that well-known sixties saying - "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."? Or, perhaps more appropos, Milton's "Tis better to create than created to destroy."

As those few stalwart regulars at Council meetings will doubtless attest, there are often lively discussions, vociferous criticisms, sometimes even some praise and hardy agreement with ideas expressed and decisions taken. I have great respect for those who come to voice whatever ideas they may have concerning any aspect of Borough busi-

ness; it's a tough game and their support and/or creative criticism is not only desirable but I believe respected by all members of the Council. Not so someone who takes the easy way and ferrets out his information at second and/or third hand and does not join in the fray appropriately.

As for your June letter, wherein you stated that the process of public administration in Roosevelt was "...distorted by personal politics into a savage Capulet-Montague rivalry, White Hats against Black Hats: only We are good - You are bad." Rubbish!! I believe - strike that - I know that there are a good solid number of dedicated and committed people in Roosevelt who, in numerous ways, give of their time and their energy - both in copious amounts - to keep Roosevelt a wonderful, unique and very special community in which to live. I am proud of them and proud of Roosevelt. It seems to me that you are living in a radically different Roosevelt than I am. Quite frankly, I don't believe that yours exists - for which I am profoundly grateful. I am, thank you, quite happy with mine!

Sincerely,
Lee Selden



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one man's opinion ~ Elections For What?

By Peter Warren

After four years of what I perceive to be Council mismanagement, the November 3 elections offer, I fear, no hope of improvement for there are no contested elections. Thus it looks as though the same cotery will remain in power.

Look at the dismal record since 1983. From 1976 to 1983, I believe, Roosevelt received \$459,000 in infrastructure grants; since 1984, \$35,000 -- and that carried on the Auditor's books as "grants receivable" because, I assume, the Council forgot to ask reimbursement from the Department of Transportation!

In 1984, I believe the Council neglected to apply for the Federal sewer construction project grant No. c340761-01, scheduled for priority implementation in 3rd Quarter FY 1984, which, I take it, had been carefully prepared during the previous four years. As a result of this -- what I believe must be called negligence -- Roosevelt was dropped to number 113 on the New Jersey municipal priority list!

After years of holding the Council's municipal (as distinct from school) budget below \$60,000, the Council more than doubled the operating budget after 1983, and the budget is now, I fear, completely out of control. It could, I imagine, easily double again in the next four years.

The capital budget is also out of control, I believe. If my figures are correct, the cost of upgrading the sewer system was estimated at \$193,000 in 1984, at \$300,000 in 1986 while the Council held NJDEP at bay with letters of intent and so forth and is now over a million dollars, with, I fear, no grants in sight.

The Council proposed (first reading at an October 8 special meeting) \$775,000 water and sewer bond issue (the maximum which the Council can borrow, equal to 3.5 percent of the Borough's equalized valuation) may or may not be enough, even with the several hundred thousand dollars already spent by short-term borrowing and running down reserves. The Council doesn't seem to know what the total cost will

be.

In my opinion, the Council picked an inopportune time not to use the expertise of the Treasurer who has 30 years experience in handling Roosevelt's finances. In last month's Bulletin, the Mayor was quoted as having been surprised that the Treasurer resigned. At the very least, this statement that the Treasurer's resignation was "not expected" demonstrates, I think, an extra-ordinary insensitivity and lack of communication!

After two months, at time of writing, the Operator has still not been replaced. Does this affect the quality of our water? How would we know? The Council named a new combined Treasurer/Tax Collector a month ago, but, oddly enough, I think, hasn't yet agreed on a salary! How much will we have to pay?

I understand that the Council has run up, just between January and May 1987, a \$2,747.50 bill with the legal firm of Kinney & Kinney to defend the Building Inspector against charges leveled against him by the Department of Community Affairs. What is this all about? The public has a right to know what our money is being spent for and whether the Council is legally empowered to make such an expenditure.

I believe the public also has the right to receive enough information to understand what is involved in the DEP consent orders handed the Council in May and July, since this mortgages our municipal future for the next 40 years. During the last four years, in my opinion, the Council has given citizens neither information nor leadership.

During the past four years, the Council has lost opportunity after opportunity: codification of Borough ordinances, historic restoration of the factory, establishment of a crime watch, improvement of the Green Belt forests, installation of efficient procedures in the municipal office -- and most unfortunate of all, the Council has been incapable of leading the community and of arousing an interest in civic participation in town affairs.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Another Point of View

Dear Sir:

I have lived quietly (and passively) in this town for eleven years. I have watched, and listened, and read (unfortunately in this very publication) the many outspoken comments of a very vocal few. Mr. Mack's slanderous attack on our School Administrator has made me realize that I can no longer sit back passively and watch. To do so would feign agreement, and I have too much pride for that.

Mr. Mack's "essay" doesn't even deserve comment, so instead I will focus on the incident which provoked the attack.

A former Roosevelt School Principal happened to be in the area and decided to show his colleague around his old school. He came unannounced and didn't ask permission from the present Administrator. Even though his intentions were good and perfectly innocent, he should have phoned ahead, or first gone to the Office to introduce himself as a former Principal. I'm sure that he would have been graciously received.

Dr. Sussman's first and foremost concern is the safety and welfare of our children. He did not know who these men were, and if he was ungracious out of caution, then so be it. I would much rather have that than to have two strange men be allowed to wander around the school at will.

Roosevelt residents who do not have children in the school at present, may not be aware of the fact that all adults visiting the school (even parents) must first sign in at the Office and state their intentions. Most schools now have this rule. This may be inconvenient, but it is for the protection of the children. I would not want it any other way.

Mr. Mack speaks of a "nostalgic" visit and a "bygone era". I, too, am nostalgic for a bygone era when we did not have to worry about kidnappings by estranged parents, food tampering, drugs, sexual molestations, abductions

by strangers, etc., etc., etc. But this is NOW and these are real problems and they cannot be ignored. Our children deserve a safe environment to learn. Dr. Sussman is doing his best to provide that safety. If some feelings were hurt in this incident, that is indeed a shame, but I am amazed that Mr. Mitchell, as a former Principal, does not realize that he himself contributed to the misunderstanding -- however innocent his intentions.

It is also ironic that if, per chance, something horrible were to happen at the school, the same group of people who are criticizing Dr. Sussman now, would be the first to scream that he was somehow negligent and thereby responsible.

Personally, I feel that Dr. Sussman is doing an admirable job as Administrator. He is well liked and respected by the students and has done some truly wonderful things for our little school. He has brought order and consistency to R.P.S. -- two other elements which are vital to a learning atmosphere. I wonder how many of the newcomers in our town are aware of the fact that before Dr. Sussman became Principal, the school did not have a set curriculum, teachers were not required to give lesson plans, there was no continuity of teaching throughout the grade levels, and records of children's grades were non-existent! It was disorganized and chaotic. Our school has come a long way, and I am proud of it and of the dedicated efforts of those who have brought it this far.

Frankly, sir, I am also appalled at the level of journalism that this publication has degenerated to in recent years. Granted, this is a small country town and no one expects the "New York Times", but what used to be a quaint, newsy little paper is now being used as a vehicle by a few outspoken people to broadcast their slanted opin-

ions to the entire town. (For free, no less). Also, these "opinions" are frequently not labeled as such, but are often featured as articles to be accepted as fact, while the real and worthy news is pushed to the back of the issue! If you must print this self-indulgent trash, why not put it at the end of the issue and label it accordingly, such as: "Complaint Corner", "Gripe Section", etc..

Furthermore, Sir, as a current member of the Roosevelt P.T.A., I find it deplorable the way our School Administrator and our dedicated, hard working School Board are constantly and viciously smeared by these same chronic complainers. The P.T.A. has generously supported the "Borough Bulletin" in the past, however, it is an organization created to promote good relations between parents, teachers, and school administration. In my opinion, I don't see how this organization can continue to support a newspaper which seems to encourage such malicious slander.

I think that it's time that this paper cleaned up it's act and treated its readers with a little more intelligence and respect.

Sincerely,
Theresa Lepore

Editor's Note

The editorial policy of the Bulletin has been and continues to be free and open expression and discussion of ideas and opinions. The article cited was published under "Viewpoint" and was, by definition, an expression on one person's point of view. The P.T.A. has been a generous contributor to the Bulletin's printing fund and we hope shall continue to be since all opinions can be expressed here, including those of any member of the P.T.A., the school board, the R.P.S. staff, and so on.

To The Editor,

I was dismayed to read Margaret Schlinski's letter to Board of Education members which appeared in the September 1987 Bulletin. I have also witnessed this attitude toward "volunteers" which she describes when I have attended Board meetings.

I contrast this situation with my experience attending functions at my son's school. There, individual parent and PTA involvement and ideas for improving the school are solicited and encouraged. I feel welcome to visit the school and classrooms and can speak freely with the administrator and teachers at all times. My concerns are promptly and courteously addressed. That PTA and community is valued and counted upon to help raise needed funds for special school projects. That school cannot fall back on public tax dollars for such projects and reaches out to its "community" for support.

At RPS, School Board members, volunteers themselves, appear to spend much of their valued time at Board meetings answering challenges or complaints regarding situations similar to those described by Mrs. Schlinski or going into "closed sessions" to discuss any letter from a concerned parent which casts the administrator in negative light. This same administrator does not even feel the need to be at the school each morning before the children arrive to assure that all is in order for the day. This was the subject of extended discussion at one Board meeting I attended. I suggest Board members are not duty bound to rally round the administrator, who unfortunately has become or has made himself the issue. Isn't this all about our kids, rather than individual ego or need "power"?

Though, in some respects minor, one example of how matters have deteriorated is the recent ploy used by the administrator to throw his weight around and "squash the opposition". How many of you know that the administrator attended the PTA election night meeting and convinced several of his teachers to come with him and pay their

dues on that night so that they could vote to oust Margaret Schlinski as President? Oh, come now, Mr. Sussman!

The defeat of the school budget last April, increasing concerns expressed by parents at Board meetings and letters to the Editor of the Bulletin are all signs that the community lacks confidence in the administration of the school. RPS cannot exist independent of the community which supports it. Do we need another defeat of the school budget, with the time, money and divisiveness it causes to get the message across? Isn't it time that the Board relieved the school so that it can serve the interests of parents and students and not of an administrator who has marked it as his turf?

Sincerely,
Deborah Metzger



Jewish Sunday School Program Starts Second Season

The Alefbet Hebrew School kicked off the new year with an informal Rosh Hashanah celebration for parents and children, then settled into its regular twice-monthly class schedule. The preschool classes, designed for youngsters two and a half to five years old, meet on alternate Sunday mornings from 10-11:30, while the five to seven year olds attend class on alternate Monday afternoons from 4-5.

The Jewish holidays provide the main focus for these play and learn sessions, and October saw the completion of special projects centering on Simchat Torah and Succoth, including the building of individual sukkahs and a party in Congregation Anshei's main sukkah.

Karyn Grunwald is once again in charge of Alefbet, and this year she is ably assisted by teacher aide Thea Goetzmann. Enrollment is open, and interested parents should contact Karyn at 426-9064.

The calendar for 1987-88 looks like this:

Sunday School

begins

Second Season



The calendar for 1987-88 looks like this:

	<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
OCTOBER	11	12	SUKKOT
	25	26	SIMCHAT TORAH
NOVEMBER	8	9	SHABBOT
	22	23	SHABBOT
DECEMBER	6	7	CHANUKKAH
	20	21	CHANUKKAH
JANUARY	10	11	TORAH
	24	25	TORAH
FEBRUARY	7	8	PURIM
	21	22	PURIM
MARCH 13	14		PASSOVER
	27	28	PASSOVER
APRIL 10	11		ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY
	24	25	ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY
MAY	1	2	LAG B'OMER
	15	16	SHAVUOT
JUNE	5	6	



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NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

By Alison Edwards Petrilla

Making face puppets, painting life-size pictures of themselves, singing to teacher Karyn's autoharp, listening to stories -- since October 5, the nursery-schoolers have been hard at play every Monday through Thursday. The room is organized around a variety of "play centers", including art, family life, blocks and trucks, and puzzles, and science and math areas, and this month's special unit is "All About Me", reports teacher Karyn Grunwald.

Behind the scenes, though, the continuing business of fund-raising and student recruitment goes on. The RCNS still has a few openings in its morning sessions for preschoolers two and a half to five years old, and our open enrollment policy allows parents to start their youngsters at any time, with the consent of the director and teacher.

Donations of toys, games, and school equipment are still most welcome, as are financial contributions of any amount. This month we'd especially like to thank the following people for their generous gifts of time and equip-

ment: Ron Moore, Chris Dooley and Beth Klein, the Blocks (East Windsor Floor Covering), Mari DeSanto, the Eichlers, Elly Bermowitz, Gary Edelstein, Bruce and Lorraine Reimbold, Margaret Schlin-ski and Jane Freedman, Eitan Grunwald, Jo Rothbart, Bob Petrilla, and Roosevelt Printing.

We'd also like to express our appreciation to all the print buyers at the successful Stefan Martin Open House hosted by Richie and Robin Carroll on Sept. 20; to the vendors and volunteers who participated in our October 16 Holiday Gift Fair, and to the buyers who supported us there. And finally a hearty thanks to Universal Process Equipment, Inc, the business whose name was accidentally omitted last issue when we expressed our gratitude to benefactor Ron Gale.

For any information on the RCNS program, please call us at 426-9523.

Any donations will be gratefully accepted at P.O. Box 153, Roosevelt 08555. For contributions of equipment or toys, please call 426-9523.

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LOVE OF WORDS

Some unoriginal Remarks About Plagiarizing

By Josef G. Solomon

Plagiarizing certainly is in the news these days, so let's talk about it. As one commentator pointed out, we have reached the depths: "Your speech-writer is stealing from my speech-writer." The point to be made here is that, while stealing is stealing, we have long since left the days when orators wrote their own speeches. The remarks stolen from a politician's speech were not originated by the politician; they were written by someone else: a speech-writer hired by the politician, and paid for his efforts -- but never acknowledged as the true author of the remarks. Isn't that stealing, too?

Ghost Writers in the Sky

Unfortunately, the names of the people involved in most of my anecdotes have departed from my memory, but one marvelous example of this was in the newspapers recently. A politician returned from Washington to his home town for a visit. He made a prepared speech. At the end of it, he folded up the copy from which he had been reading, put away his glasses, looked out over the crowd, and said, "And now, I'd like to make a few remarks of my own." Apparently, neither he nor the crowd realized the irony of that sentence.

Early in the century, when song-writers were usually starving, it was the custom to sell all rights to a song -- including the right of claiming to be the composer. For that reason, there is still controversy over whether "Honeysuckle Rose" was actually written by Fats Waller, instead of by the man whose name has always appeared on the sheet-music. Waller did certainly make the definitive recording -- but that's not evidence. The song is also in the Waller style, and that might be evidence. Someone else will have to prove that one.

Comma Tally Vous

Another problem, in addition to getting the name right, is getting the quotation right. One famous misquotation is Juliet's first remark in the balcony scene. When quoted by amateurs, it is almost always read as, "Wherefore art thou, Romeo?", as if it meant, "Where are you, Romeo?" However, "wherefore" doesn't mean "where" -- it means "why". The correct quotation is without the comma: "Wherefore art thou Romeo?", meaning, "Why is your name Romeo?" That is, the star-crossed lovers wouldn't have had all those problems, if only he had come from some family other than the one with whom her own family was conducting a blood-feud.

I mentioned some famous misquotation, in an earlier column -- but won't mention any more here.

Of course, it is asking a lot: Get the quotation right, and tell us from whom you borrowed it.

That reminds me: Many of Shakespeare's plays were based on earlier work by other people -- plays, stories, legends, etc. Was Shakespeare plagiarizing, or is it legitimate to borrow as he did? Which is only to say that, as usual, there is no will-defined line such that everything on one side is ok, everything on the other side is not ok. Obviously, there are circumstances where there is no doubt. I'd just like to point out that there are also circumstances where there is plenty of doubt. It's not that I'm a hard-core relativist; it's just that circumstances do alter cases. Let me make my position clear (perfectly clear?): It's not who's involved; it's what's involved. For instance, copying on a test is not ok. It is not even plagiarism -- it's cheating.

Non-Euclidean Geometry??

For my money, Tom Lehrer wrote the definitive song about plagiarism: "Lobachevsky". Lobachevsky was a Russian mathematician who studied non-Euclidean geometries. I have no idea whether he was ever even accused of plagiarism. Or whether Tom Lehrer was -- he was a mathematician, before he became a performer; he is once again a mathematics professor. Anyway, the lyrics to the song include the advice:

Plagiarize!

*Let no one else's work evade your eyes.
Remember why the Good Lord made your eyes.*

So don't shade your eyes.

Plagiarize! Plagiarize! Plagiarize!

*Only be sure to call it first
'Research'!"*

Research does present a problem. In general, people who do research are basing their work on the work of others. That, after all, is how science makes progress. But you're supposed to cite your sources. Most researchers faithfully do cite everyone whose work is relevant to their own, so those who are interested can do further reading. Of course, the results you present are supposed to be real. Even in these decadent days, it is still considered bad form to "create" experimental results. As we are finding out, it happens more than we had thought.

With this and other offenses, it is important to maintain a sense of outrage. "Everybody's doing it" is not a sufficient defense. It is also necessary to retain a sense of proportion: Sure, it's wrong, but is it a transgression great enough to disqualify the perpetrator? Again, that depends on what's involved. Circumstances do alter cases.

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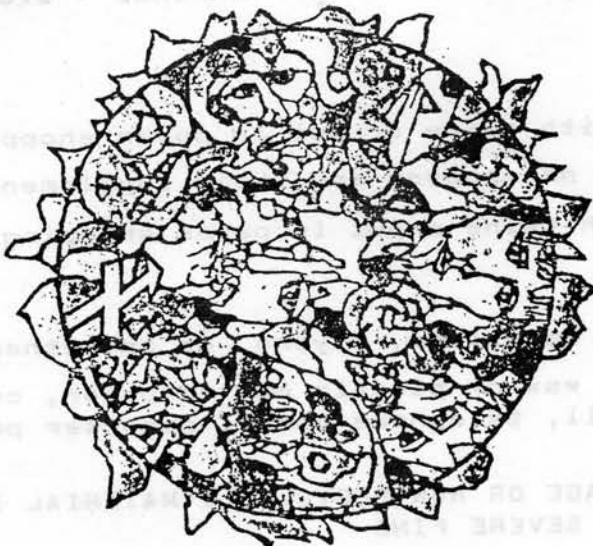
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