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# ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUME XIII NO. 2

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

SEPTEMBER 1990

XIV

## Council Rejects All Bids; Will Try for FmHA Engineer Asked to Meet with Insituform and Council Members

by Adeline Weiner

Not until midnight at the end of two long nights of discussion on September 11 and 12 did the regular Borough Council meeting vote to reject all bids on sewer treatment plant (STP) construction and on sewer line repair (I/I reduction). The Council had decided to pursue a loan application to Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA) begun several months ago that now necessitated a change in the contracts that are sent out for bid.

### The High Cost of Saving Money

The FmHA, a federal agency, makes much stricter demands than the Monmouth County Improvement Authority, the agency from whom we now borrow funds. This entails re-writing of sections of the contract documents as well as including more stringent conditions of inspection, record-keeping, retaining of final payment, etc., that contractors must take into account in their bidding.

The tab for the re-write is \$10,000, which is expected to be offset by the gain that a fixed FmHA interest rate (7 1/8%) will bring, in contrast to the variable rate charged by the county agency. For another \$1,000, we can also include a shot at the DEP's Waste Water Trust Fund, where the interest rate is only 4-1/2%. Council Member Rothfuss said he thought it was unlikely, but

just possible with some help from Senator Bennett, to put us in the running.

### Final Outcome

The vote to reject the current bids was unanimous. A subsequent motion passed three to two with one abstention, authorizing T&M Engineers to meet with Insituform in order to "see if a viable way can be considered for Insituform to bid on the I/I project." The vote was as follows: Rothfuss, Prezant and Counterman - yes; Magness and Alt - no; Craig abstention.

### Marathon Debate

The issue of whether to use the Insituform lining technique or to go with

the standard replacement method recommended by the borough engineers overshadowed an eight-hour-long discussion during the special and regular council meetings on September 11 and 12. In a question and answer marathon in which Borough Engineer Kevin Toolan and an assistant patiently went over the ground of the debate, many of the forty or so people in the audience participated fully, but it seemed as though council members took up an even larger portion of the time.

### A Quarter Is Not Enough

According to Mr. Toolan, the case for the method of standard replacement of sewer pipelines revolves around the fact that for Roosevelt, with its old and decaying system, a three-fold strategy is needed: replacement of certain main lines, fixing at least some 10-foot sections of laterals, and repair of malfunctioning manholes. All three ways are necessary to reduce I/I by the 50% agreed upon in the consent order. Mr. Toolan believes that though this will not achieve the DEP figure of 250,000 gallons average flow, the rest can wait until the repairs make available clearer data as to what remains to be done. He reminded us that there is no scientific certainty attached to any of these figures and the

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**Remember the Rabies Clinic, October 6**  
12 noon to 1:00 PM at the Borough Hall  
**Both Dogs and Cats Should be Vaccinated**

**The Borough Bulletin is mailed free of charge to Roosevelt residents. Out-of-town subscriptions are \$5.00 per year.**

## From the Editor

### A Consensus Builder Moves On.....Sort Of

As most of you probably know already from reading the Trenton newspapers, our Planning Board chairman, Alan Mallach, has been designated as the new Director of Housing and Development of the City of Trenton. Alan's selection for this position is just one more milestone in a distinguished career in which he had attained national recognition as a knowledgeable and dedicated advocate for decent affordable housing while, at the same time, doing such diverse things as being a writer, teacher, composer, concert pianist, president of a Jewish day school and synagogue trustee.

It has been our immense good fortune to have had the benefit of his expertise in our ongoing efforts to develop land use rules that will preserve the distinctive characteristics of Roosevelt's design while allowing growth that will be both appropriate in its scale and economically beneficial. The Planned Community Development zone, when it is built up, as it eventually will be, will be a monument to Alan's ability to lead reasoned discussion and thus create a consensus among people who thought themselves divided into irreconcilable factions.

Because of Trenton's residency requirement, Alan and Robin will be establishing their legal residence there before the end of the year. However, they will be keeping their "country home" in Roosevelt as well, and they intend to be here on weekends. This is a source of good cheer to those of us who rely on Alan as a regular in the synagogue *minyán*, and it is also a sign that his commitment to Roosevelt and to our community planning process will continue, despite his having to give up his official role. For Alan Mallach to live here, even part time, and not be constructively involved would be impossible.

I am sure that I speak for everyone who has had the pleasure of working with him when I say that we wish Alan every success and hope that, within a few years, having succeeded in revitalizing Trenton's neighborhoods and bringing about the production of an abundant supply of quality affordable housing, he will return to take a role in the leadership of this community once again.

—Michael Ticktin

## Roosevelt 55th Anniversary Celebration

Reserve the Memorial Day Weekend (May 24th and 25th) 1991 for a gala celebration of the founding of our town.

Former residents will also be joining us for this celebration.

Special Events are planned.

Look for further information about this coming event in the *Borough Bulletin*

This will be an opportunity to take a few steps back in history.

—Dolores Chasan

**Support  
the  
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## ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

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Please send all articles and letters in **clean typescript** (typewriter or daisy-wheel printer), or as files on IBM-compatible 5¼" or 3½" diskettes. We can accept ASCII files and output from most word processors.

## Planning Board Report

# Rutgers Community Design Class to Study Farm Lands

by Susan Oxford

The Roosevelt Planning Board met on September 5, 1990 to consider an application for a conditional use permit and to hear a Rutgers professor introduce a student landscape architecture project involving undeveloped Roosevelt land. In addition, the Board's long-standing chairman, Alan Mallach, submitted his resignation effective October 3, 1990, necessitated by his appointment as the Director of Housing and Development for the City of Trenton.

The main event of the meeting was the presentation of Professor Steven Strom of Rutgers University. His fall Community Design class will be focusing on the 500 acres of undeveloped land in the northern part of Roosevelt. Board Chairman Alan Mallach noted that this land constitutes nearly half of the Borough's 1200 acres, and is the largest single area of undeveloped land in Roosevelt (the only other significant area being the Notterman tract in the eastern part of town, behind Solar Village, which includes approximately 100 acres). Most of the land is currently zoned for 10 acre residential development/agricultural use. The thirty senior landscape architecture students in Professor Strom's class will divide into teams of five students each to come up with six different proposals for the use of this land.

This project was first discussed with the Planning Board at its June 6, 1990, meeting. At that time, Professor Strom indicated that students would draft architectural guidelines and construction considerations for a development proposal, addressing the question of how Roosevelt can expand and still preserve its agricultural and historical character. On September 5, Professor Strom explained that the student assignments will encompass four elements. First, the student teams will inventory the community and the site, looking at the soils, vegetation, topography, as well as the history of the community. Next, the students will ex-

amine the existing zoning and consider how it might be applied creatively in this location (for instance, use of cluster housing that does not increase overall density). Third, each of the six teams will consider various development and non-development alternatives to come up with a specific proposal. Finally, the alternative proposals will be codified in a diagram and text indicating the type of development/non-development proposed and the zoning changes that might be necessary to achieve the proposal. According to Professor Strom, the students will be asked to take into account the economic impact on Roosevelt of various development schemes, although their information on this subject will be relatively limited. A public presentation is planned in late November so that Roosevelt residents can review the students' work.

The thirty students, including Roosevelt resident Kate John-Alder who is a member of the class, were present to hear Professor Strom's presentation to the Planning Board. The students asked a number of questions about Roosevelt, demonstrating an interest in the characteristics of the community and its unique history. Several Board members and some of the residents attending the meeting offered the students suggestions on where to obtain this information.

Professor Strom explained that Rutgers students have undertaken similar projects in other places, including formulating an "open space" plan for the City of Trenton in 1988, and looking at the downtowns or main streets of Newark, Freehold and Dunellen. According to Professor Strom, although no student work was directly utilized in these cities, the 1982 student study of Freehold eventually evolved into plans that were used for Freehold's recent downtown renovations. Professor Strom emphasized, however, that this class project is strictly an academic assignment, and is not tied to any

specific or concrete plans for the development of this site.

### Residents Express Concern

Nevertheless, several residents attending the meeting expressed their fears that merely examining the question of development and formulating alternative proposals will tend to encourage the actual development of this area as a reality, or will reopen the vigorous and sometimes hostile debates over development that have aired in the community in recent years. These fears were echoed in some of the questions and comments of Board Member and Borough Council President Marilyn Magnes. Others, including Board Member Deborah Metzger, suggested that it may be helpful for the community to have an opportunity to look at the question without the pressure of a specific developer application and that, as a community, we should be able to engage in this type of dialogue without animosity or divisiveness.

### Mallach Resigns as Chairman

Alan Mallach's announcement that he will be resigning as Board chairman and leaving the Board in October was met with mixed reactions of congratulations for his new position with the City of Trenton and sorrow at the Board's loss of his services. Mr. Mallach indicated that the Trenton position requires him to take up residency in Trenton, although he will keep his house in Roosevelt and continue to be here on weekends. Mr. Mallach served on the Roosevelt Planning Board since 1984, and served as the board's chairman for the last five of those years. Under Mr. Mallach's leadership, the Board revised and updated the current Master Plan, formulated Roosevelt's first housing element of the Master Plan, and drafted creative zoning measures which the Borough Council adopted for the Notterman tract, the Planned Community

*continued on page 11*



## School Board Report

# Hamilton Appointed to Fill Board Vacancy

by Bob Clark

The new school year will start with some important changes among School Board members and staff. At its September 11 meeting, the Board appointed Michael Hamilton to fill the Board vacancy created when Susan Raufer resigned in August to move from town. Mr. Hamilton has two children who attend Roosevelt Public School (RPS).

Meanwhile, Board member Catherine Petrilla announced her resignation, effective September 30, also necessitated by a move from Roosevelt. Board members expressed thanks to Mrs. Petrilla for all of her effort and commitment. Anyone interested in applying for the position may submit a letter to the Board at P.O. Box 160. Applicants must be 18 years or older, have resided in Roosevelt at least one year, be citizens of the United States and know how to read and write.

The Board also accepted with regret the resignation, effective October 15, of Board Secretary-School Business Administrator (SBA) Roseann Lozinski. Mrs. Lozinski will become Assistant Board Secretary-SBA with the Manalapan-Englishtown Regional School District. Board members and Chief School Administrator (CSA) Harry Groveman have often publicly praised Mrs. Lozinski's efforts to organize the business office and save the district money.

In addition, the Board accepted with regret the resignation of Health and Physical Education Instructor Arthur Franklin, effective October 5. CSA Groveman said Mr. Franklin is fulfilling a long-held desire to become a classroom teacher by accepting a full-time position at the East Orange School District Middle School. His position at RPS was four days per week. Mr. Groveman said he would work out some process to acclimate the students to Mr. Franklin's withdrawal from contact with them.

The Board authorized Mr. Groveman and the Personnel Committee to hire replacements for Mrs. Lozinski and Mr. Franklin, subject to full Board approval at a subsequent

meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, October 9 at 7:30 P.M.

In other personnel actions, the Board accepted CSA Groveman's recommendation to appoint Ronnie Levine as Speech Therapist at 30% time. Although the Board had previously approved 40% time for the position, Mr. Groveman wished to try 30% until the need for more time would be demonstrated by experience with the present student body. Ms. Levine will work with students for just under three hours during each of four mornings per week. Ms. Levine replaced Joanne Brown, who resigned to take a full-time position in another district.

The Board also accepted Mr. Groveman's recommendation to appoint Ann Menchin to the position of Secretary-Receiving Clerk. Mrs. Menchin will replace Shirley Golden, who assumed a full time position in the Princeton District in the health services field.

### Enrollment is Up

Mr. Groveman reported that 86 K-sixth grade students began classes at RPS on opening day September 6. He noted that the figure was 85 students for the K-eighth grade program in place when Mr. Groveman first arrived in the District a couple of years ago.

Mr. Groveman stated that the recently-enacted state funding legislation changes the method of calculating aid which districts receive for so-called "at risk students." He said in the current school year Roosevelt will receive about \$8,500, based on test scores under the present system. The money is used to pay for remedial instruction. No funds will be provided next year, however, under the current method of calculation. Under the new aid program such funding will be based on student eligibility for free milk or school lunches. Mr. Groveman stressed that it is, therefore, very important that parents fill out and return the child nutrition survey. The RPS District will receive up to \$1,300 per

qualified student, which it can use to replace the lost funding.

Mr. Groveman announced that drafts of the new Language Arts and Health and Family Life curricula were ready for discussion with the public and subsequent approval by the Board. He invited the public to attend the Board's next agenda meeting, Wednesday, October 3 at 7:30 P.M., where he will review for the Board the philosophy and goals of the Health and Family Life Curriculum. Mr. Groveman said he drafted this curriculum with input from the teachers at the outline level and the assistance of parents Robert Axel, Pamela Mitchell and Shelley Hatzfeld. He added that possible controversy may arise concerning new material dealing with AIDS education. Human sexuality and drug abuse components may also prove controversial, but these topics were already covered in an earlier curriculum, according to Mr. Groveman. The statement of philosophy and goals and other materials will be available at the RPS office so that interested persons may review them prior to the meeting.

### County Superintendent Commends District

The Board received encouraging acknowledgement from County Superintendent of Schools Milton Hughes that the Roosevelt School District had exceeded the standards for improvement planned for all three of its education objectives for the 1989-90 school year. The objectives involved establishment of a grades K-6 computer application program, implementation of an after-school enrichment program for elementary-aged students and improvement of math performance through implementation of a newly-revised curriculum. Dr. Hughes commended the District for more than doubling its after-school enrichment program offerings from three to seven.

Mr. Groveman announced that he is reviewing the combined class concept in light of the fact that the third-fourth grades combined class has 25 students this year. Taking a cautious approach

in the event that problems arise with the present educational structure, Mr. Groveman indicated his intent to review alternatives and their costs as a matter of long range planning.

### Discussion with East Windsor

On September 13 four Board members met with some of the members of the East Windsor Regional School District Board in order to get acquainted and to informally discuss sending-receiving issues of mutual concern. Mr. Groveman noted that East Windsor has in the past raised tuition for Roosevelt's high and middle school students by amounts equivalent to the rise in the East Windsor budget. This has amounted to less than the tuition increases which East Windsor could have charged by law, according to Mr. Groveman. He said the Roosevelt Board might want to encourage a formal commitment by East Windsor to continue this practice. Mr. Groveman added that other matters which could be discussed were better communication concerning middle and high school issues, combined benefit packages for teachers and other staff, the possibility of sending sixth graders to East Windsor and regionalization.

The close relationship with the East Windsor school system aids RPS's inservice staff training. East Windsor invited RPS staff to attend not only their district-wide staff development days, held twice a year, but also any of their regularly scheduled events and offerings.

### Policies Approved

The Board gave final approval to policies concerning disciplinary action, questioning and apprehension of students by law enforcement personnel, exploitation of students for commercial enterprises and search and seizure. Some changes suggested by Board member Edward Goetzmann, intended to enhance the protection of student rights, were made to previous drafts of a couple of the policies. Changed policies dealing with the handicapped and emergencies and dis-

aster preparedness were also introduced, pending final approval at the October 9 meeting.

The Board rescinded its August decision to increase the price of milk from 20 cents to 25 cents. The price will remain at 20 cents because the district would otherwise have lost 11 cents of state reimbursement for each container as a result of its increase in price.

### Volunteers Needed

Mr. Groveman announced that he is looking for community volunteers to work during the school day with Katherine Hawthorne, the Kindergarten teacher and part-time Librarian, on library tasks. This would include stacking and sorting books and perhaps reading to children. The assistance would free Miss Hawthorne for more instructional efforts. Mr. Groveman reported that "we have made a concerted effort to enhance and make better use of our library this year." He added, "We have tried to create a more appropriate and comfortable environment, have purchased instructional materials to enhance research and library skills and are encouraging more integration between classroom teachers and [Miss Hawthorne]."

### Safety Concerns Raised

Board member Robert Petrilla said that he and several parents are concerned about the safety of children biking and walking to school. He noted the increasing hazards from elevated traffic on Route 571 and parents driving their children to and from school. He expressed particular concern about the volume of traffic at the intersection of School Lane and Pine Drive at the

beginning and end of the school day. Mr. Petrilla acknowledged that creation of a student safety patrol "would put us in a precarious position with our insurers." He suggested, however, that the Board write to the Borough Council's Public Safety Committee requesting a joint meeting to determine what can be done to enhance safety. The Board adopted this recommendation.

Also on the subject of safety, Board member Margaret Schlinski suggested a reassessment of the present location of the bicycle rack. The Board referred the matter to its Finance and Operations Committee.

Mr. Groveman shared with the Board the fact that the Millstone School District had this summer paid \$41,000 to complete asbestos removal from a boiler and heating system similar to the one at RPS. An asbestos removal project in Roosevelt would probably also involve replacement of the antiquated boiler in the RPS building.

The Board approved an agreement with the Monmouth County Chapter of the American Red Cross allowing the RPS building to be used as a mass care shelter for disaster victims in the event of a local or national emergency.

Mr. Groveman will host a training session on sending-receiving relationships at the New Jersey School Boards Association convention to be held in Atlantic City on October 31 and November 1 and 2. A few Roosevelt Board members and staff will attend the convention to visit informative workshops and to determine how Roosevelt may take advantage of grant programs and save money in day-to-day operation of the District.

## Scholastic Book Fair

Mark Your Calendars

October 24th, 1 to 4

October 25th, 1 to 4 and 6:30 to 8 p.m.

in the R.P.S. Gym

Sponsored by the Roosevelt PTA.

Proceeds will help fund assembly programs for the R.P.S. students.

## PTA News

The PTA Executive Board has been busy over the summer making plans for the new year. The PTA kicked off the school year with a "Welcome Back Breakfast" for the teachers and staff.

The PTA is looking forward to providing the students at RPS with a variety of assembly programs, including Ozzie Tollefson's Whale Show, the Charles Moore Dance Theater and Mr. Wizard. In order to provide these programs we will be starting off the year with a Stickees fundraiser from September 25 through October 9. Along with the Stickees we will be selling stuff-a-pumpkin leaf bags.

The annual PTA Membership Tea was held on September 27. This was our first PTA meeting for the 1990-91 school year and we were pleased to begin a video series on parenting. We would like to thank Lorraine Reimbold for all her work on setting this program up for the PTA.

ShopRite's "Apples for the Students" program begins again on September 30. By collecting dated cash register receipts we are able to get computer hardware, software and even computers for the students. Our participation last year enabled us to get 12 new software programs. This year our goal is a new computer! We're confident we will be able to meet this goal. There will be a collection box in the school lobby and one at Rossi's Deli.

Our upcoming PTA events include: Back to School Night on October 10; the Scholastic Book Fair on October 24 and 25; and our annual Halloween Party on October 31.

Once again we are so pleased to have Teresa Lepore as our head room mother. The help she gives the PTA in organizing our phone chain and the art work and signs she creates for the PTA are amazing. Thanks Terry.

—Robin Carroll

## Nursery School News

As the deadline for this issue of the Borough Bulletin approached, students and staff at RCNS were settling into their routines and getting to know one another.

In addition to our new head teacher/curriculum coordinator Donna Ventola, who was welcomed in the last issue, we also welcome new teaching assistant Shelley Hatzfeld, an active member of the Roosevelt community, the RPS PTA and RCNS. Her son, Keith, has been a student at RCNS since last year.

Donna and Shelley are joined by veteran teaching assistants Anita Allen and Kathi Vasseur, who round out our teaching staff, and by returning cook Florence Johnson, an invaluable member of the team.

Once again, even though our morning nursery school classes are full to capacity, we still have openings in the afternoon extended hours/enrichment program which runs daily from noon to 3 p.m. Students do not have to be enrolled in the morning program to attend this afternoon program, which is also open to Kindergarten students. For information call 426-9523.

And, our fundraising activity is getting underway. This year, our goal is to put a small copy machine into our classroom. Our first fundraiser of the year is a Tupperware Party scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 25 at the nursery school, located at the Roosevelt Jewish Center, Homestead Lane.

We welcome all interested persons to attend the party or to request a catalogue and shop at home. RCNS parent and Tupperware dealer Faye Nulman has details. She can be reached at 426-1192. Thanks in advance for your support.

And, thanks, too, to our longtime supporters, Congregation Anshei Roosevelt, MIRA and Roosevelt Printing.

—Alison Edwards Petrilla

## Synagogue News

### Sukkot Celebrations Scheduled

The festival of Sukkot, also known as **Chag Ha'asifa** or the Harvest Festival, is the biblical precursor of the American feast of Thanksgiving. For seven days, we celebrate by living, or at least having our meals, in temporary structures called **sukkot** (booths or tabernacles) that represent the shelters used by our ancestors during the forty years in the desert and also symbolize the transitory and contingent nature of human life. As part of the festival services, we bless four species of plants, the palm, willow, myrtle and citron, which symbolize, according to tradition, the virtues of uprightness, compassion, sincerity and pleasantness.

On the eighth day of the holiday, Shemini Atzeret, we say the traditional prayer for rain, thereby reminding ourselves of the Near Eastern agricultural cycle and of the role that this remembrance played for a people that was denied contact with the land for so many centuries. We also recite the Yizkor memorial prayer. On the ninth day, both in the evening and in the morning, we celebrate Simchat Torah, the day on which we both end and begin again the annual cycle of Torah reading.

Morning services for Sukkot will be held on October 4th and 5th at 9:00. There will be a kiddush in the Congregation's sukkah each day. Shemini Atzeret services, which will include Yizkor, will be held on October 11th at (9:00 a.m. Simchat Torah services will be held at 7:30 p.m. on October 11th (party to follow) and at 9:00 a.m. on October 12th. Please come.

—Michael Ticktin, President

The Roosevelt Public School will start to collect register tapes from Shop-Rite to get FREE Apple Computers, Printers and software through Shop-Rite's "Apples for the Students" Partnership for Education program.

Apple Computers are the most-widely used educational computers, and RPS thinks it would be ideal if every student could eventually have extensive hands-on access to a classroom computer.

RPS hopes that parents and the community will help support this program by sending their Shop-Rite register tapes to school with their children or by dropping them off at the office.

For more information contact: Vinnie Jackson, 426-0311



## Danish Exchange Students Come to Roosevelt

by Susan Oxford and Gayle Donnelly

This summer several students from different countries visited our community, including two boys from Denmark, Dennis Petersen of Maribo and Anders Rask of Klokkeholm. Both students were participating in an exchange program in Princeton run by INTRAX, a California-based organization that sponsors a variety of international student exchanges. On the day of their departure, after a month in the United States, we asked Dennis and Anders what their impressions were of the United States and of Roosevelt.

They said that in many respects the United States was just what they expected—warm weather, the tall buildings in New York and Philadelphia, and major highways filled with traffic. But some things surprised them. They found Roosevelt to be much smaller and quieter than they expected of a town in the United States (Anders is from a farming village of 2,000 and Dennis is from a somewhat larger and more urban area). They were especially impressed, they said, by the friendliness of the people in Roosevelt. They were surprised that people who didn't know each other would say hello or stop to talk as they passed each other on the street. When we took them to someone's house whom we were just getting to

know in town, they were impressed that someone would invite people they didn't know very well into their homes in order to get to know them better. In Denmark, they reported, people do not generally say hello to one another on the street unless they are acquainted, and do not invite someone into their home until they know them very well.

Their impressions of people varied, however, depending on where they were. They found people in New York City basically unfriendly. On the other hand, while on a hike in the Delaware Water Gap, Dennis was amazed at how all the hikers greeted one another, despite the fact they were strangers.

Anders and Dennis also observed that everything in the United States is both bigger and much less expensive than in Denmark. They enjoyed the fact that there was a greater variety of programs on TV, but disapproved of the large number of advertisements interrupting sports events and movies. Although the same movies can be seen in Denmark as are shown in the United States, they noted that movies are shown sooner here. Anders especially enjoyed seeing "Die Harder," which had just been released earlier this summer, before any of his friends back in Denmark.

The students both agreed that people in the United States tend to look and dress the same as in Denmark. When asked which country had the prettier girls, they declined to say, observing instead that "The prettiest girls are in Sweden!"

The program in Princeton in which they participated during the week with the other Danish exchange students kept them busy with a variety of activities, including trips to museums and historical sites, and a soccer game with students from the Princeton area. When asked what they enjoyed the most, Dennis and Anders said they had the most fun going to the beach (they went to several, but seemed to prefer Manasquan). They also enjoyed seeing their first baseball game (the Yankees beat the Milwaukee Brewers 8 to 3) and visiting the Hard Rock Cafe in New York.

While staying in Roosevelt Anders and Dennis met a number of Roosevelt teenagers who were very friendly and welcoming. As Anders' and Dennis' two host families, we want to extend our appreciation to everyone in Roosevelt who helped make their visit this summer such a warm and pleasant experience.

## Omnia Mutantur...

**New Kids on the Block...** Alexander Quinn, 14 months.

**Married...** Susan and Bob Demody.

**Naturalized...** Paul Henry, from British Guiana via Canada.

**Died...** Gertrude Conneally, age 88, mother of Joan San Nicola; Pearl Rosensweig, mother of Morton Rotgard; Nathan Friedman, husband of Ethel and father of Mel.

**Rising...** RPS enrollment (K-6), revised from August, to 86 from 74 in September 1989; DEP fine (in abeyance unless construction not complete by February 1992) from \$512,000 in September 1989 to \$4,413,000 on September 30, 1990

**Moving Out...** Cathy Petrilla; Scott and Cheryl Johnson.

**Moving In...** Jon Block and Dawn Korzenok to the Johnson house on Lake Drive; Sanford Silverman and

Lucretia McGuff-Silverman to the Jensen house on North Valley Road; Amos Bowker (father of Jack Bowker), Helen Mantz, Veronica Murren, Catherine Yuhas (mother of Dianna Moore) to Solar Village.

**Didn't Move in After All...** Jeremy Solomon.

**On the Market...** As of September 11, 15 houses or so; about two houses for rent.

**Taxed...** The median Roosevelt resident with a family income of about \$35,000 a year and a house assessed at about \$62,000: a total of about \$6,996 in taxes and fees, including local school tax \$2,194; federal income tax \$1,900, local water/sewer fee \$1,680; county taxes \$505; municipal (council) tax \$417; state tax \$300.

**Flowing...** Water from the water treatment plant for domestic usage,

103,000 gallons per day in June, 147,000 gpd in July, 142,000 gpd in August; sewerage 278,000 gpd in June; 248,000 gpd in July, August not yet tabulated.

**Visiting...** Diane al-Habieli and her two small daughters, Princess Dahlia and Princess Allia, resident in the Persian Gulf emirate of Abu Dhabi, fled when Saddam Hussein threatened, returned to Abu Dhabi when US and UN allies defended... Sherri and Gordon Clark from Mobile: Gordon was mayor of East Windsor from 1971-74.

**Barking...** The 112 registered dogs in Roosevelt.

**Absent from Felicity...** Alan Malloch, resigning as chairman of the Roosevelt planning board, moving to Trenton where Mayor Douglas Palmer has appointed him Director of Housing and Development.

—Peter B. Warren

# — Arts in Roosevelt —

by Bob Mueller

## Robert in Russia

A quick update on my trip to the USSR. It was a month's-worth of very exciting adventures. For those of you who do not know, I was one of six artists chosen by the Trenton Artists' Workshop Association (TAWA) to travel to the USSR as an exchange artist—the Soviet Union previously sent artists to Trenton who were feted in the US and given a show at the Trenton City Museum and at Glassborough State College at the Wilson Art Gallery (the show is up until October 22).

We had an intense visit, every day on the go (Museums, artists' studios, sightseeing), every night a dinner/party, complete with songs, dancing, vodka (yes, I consumed vodka, me, a near teetotaler!). We lived in apartments, in hotels, and with artists and their families. During our month stay we were able to get an excellent, intimate glimpse of the people of the Soviet Union and their artists: their problems and frustrations (they don't seem to make anything in that country!), and hopes for the future (everyone we met is very upset about what has become of their rich, beautiful country, but looking forward to significant changes). Saw and photographed tons of artists and art, both traditional (heroic, realistic, landscapes, portraits, surreal), and modern (up to and including the contemporary NY look). (I will give a detailed account of the art and artists of the USSR at the Roosevelt Arts Project presentation, now scheduled for the first Saturday in January, 1991.)

We were in Moscow, Leningrad (visiting, naturally, the Hermitage), Minsk (Byelorussia, whence Marc Chagall hails, whose work reflects the Byelorussian folk tradition—an insight into his art), and spent a day in Vilnius in Lithuania (comment by a Russian: "Oh, you went abroad!"). Our constant

helpmeet was Igor Kalnin, a brilliant translator provided by the Union of Soviet Artists—he was our mouth, instant, complete—including every word of every Russian folk, modern, or Cossack song, every nuance, every phrase; he also got us, magically, through customs, both coming in and going out, avoiding, nobody knows how, horrendous crowds at the desks.

### Freedom to Wander

We learned the subway system of Moscow because we were on our own many times—there is absolutely no "thought" control, KGB activity, or any other signs of the Communist-system pressures, in modern Moscow. Of course, there were lines, mostly for tobacco and household items (but there was plenty of food, it being the end of a bumper crop of produce. I heard on TV—Igor translated—that they had the best wheat crop of many years, although a great percentage would rot due to lack of distribution and storage facilities, and they would still have to buy wheat from the US). The Russian Orthodox Church is in ascendancy again, many of the beautifully-preserved churches being turned back to them and operating in full swing now. We visited some of the Golden Circle churches, notably in Zagorsk. Many times, when we got lost or strayed from the group where Igor reigned, we got directions and/or help from young people, many of whom spoke rather good English; they were always glad to meet Americans, and went out of their way to give us assistance—and they refused to a person any gratuities whatsoever! We were supposed to go to Baku on the Caspian Sea, but the trip fell through—Vilnius in Lithuania was our consolation prize, and a beautiful, European city it was, with no lines, plenty of food, and no pot holes or crumbling buildings

(unlike practically everywhere else we visited in the Soviet Union).

### A Visit to Minsk

Minsk, a city leveled by the Germans during WW II, was a little more modern; it is soon to open a brand new airport that will accept international commercial planes. We flew from Moscow to Minsk; took trains the rest of the time (lovely compartments, tea served, friendly people everywhere, lots of vodka to keep us sane through long, overnight junkets). The Byelorussians (of whose republic Minsk is the capital) feel that a modern airport will open them internationally. It was particularly interesting to visit Minsk, a city that like Philadelphia trying to keep up with New York City culturally, fighting to come up to Moscow's level. Indeed, Byelorussia has a considerably different culture than Russia, and is proud of its heritage (largely folk, fantasy, which in its art becomes near surreal—the Italian Renaissance crept into the USSR first through Byelorussia, and its effects are apparent even in very early icons).

We discussed with many people many issues: Gorbachev (they like him and thank him for what he did, but complain that he is not moving fast enough—maybe Yeltsin will do better); the Communists and the KGB (they hate them rather uniformly); their food problems (the markets were full, but the private entrepreneurs charge too much); the state of art, western and local (they have gone along so many years in a realistic vein that modernisms are hard for them to understand—don't forget, we were guests of the official Union of Soviet Artists, a rather vested interest—although we saw some New York School clones here and there—they have yet to develop anything uniquely Soviet—which may be asking too much, but is



## Three One-Act Plays by Leslie Weiner to Open RAP Season

not inconceivable, considering their magnificent technical skills as artists—if they can add to it some imagination, they may achieve something unique).

### Roosevelt Artists on Display

We attended the opening of a show of about 100 American artists which was part of the TAWA plans. The show included woodcut of mine, plus a lovely draped figure by Bernarda Bryson and a beautiful oil painting by Sol Libsohn. Over 200 people came to the opening, and we got write ups in the Soviet art newspapers, and will be featured in an art magazine next year. I tried to contact CNN and the other TV stations for the opening—a grand affair with many speeches; they all have offices in Moscow, but nobody turned up. The show was a grand success, however, and well worth all of the effort TAWA and friends put into it—which included a monumental crating effort (14 large boxes), shipping, raising money to defray expenses, etc, etc.

I can now say quite a few words in Russian (and even compose a few sentences ad lib). I have developed a unique love for this grand and wonderful country. If you can go as a tourist, by all means do—you will encounter few problems. A lot of the things I have read about in our newspapers, I feel, are highly exaggerated or isolated incidents. Oh, we were guests and given special privileges; but we frequently went off on our own, met too many people, had too many wonderful experiences, were there for too long a time for our impressions to be false. I am certain that this trip will be one of the high points of my life as an artist. TAWA will no doubt have other events in Trenton describing our experiences (Judy Brodsky, one of our American artists, took detailed videos of many of the happenings and festivities), which interested parties may attend—I will keep Rooseveltians informed.

Roosevelt Arts Project opens its fifth season, Saturday night October 6, 1990, at the Boro Hall. Broadway and New Brunswick actors will read the roles of three one-act plays by Leslie Weiner. Each play has two characters locked in personal conflicts. The opening play, *Milo's Venus*, depicts a young man and woman who live together in New Jersey. The man, a garage owner, is happy that his business is really beginning to take off; however, he gets an unexpected jolt when Lee, the young woman, announces that she is leaving him. *Laughing String*, a phrase from a Yeats poem, takes place during a visit of an older man to his aged father. The two men unconsciously recapitulate their life together, inflicting many painful moments before they reach a rueful acceptance of each other. These two plays comprise the first half of the evening. The third play, *From The Heartland*, deals with the reunion in Manhattan of a daughter, a lawyer who has spent six years in Cincinnati, with her salesman father.

This program is the third evening of plays presented by Mr. Weiner for RAP. The previous ones, *An Evening With The Poet Senator*, and *Upsidedown On The Handelbars*, proved to be exciting professional evenings in the theater. These three one-acts feature such well-known players as Michael Tolan and Salem Ludwig, whose work on Broadway and in films have been acclaimed by many critics. The plays will begin at 8 o'clock. Refreshments will be served at intermission, and the public is invited to meet the playwright and actors at plays' end.

## ART NOTES

### Roosevelt Artists to Show at MCCC

Oils by Bernarda Bryson Shahn, drawings by Jacob Landau, and photographs by Sol Libsohn will be included in an important show entitled New Jersey Masters to be held at the Mercer County Community College from October 11th to November 21st.

In addition, the show will feature such well-known New Jersey artists as Clarence Carter, Reginald Neal, Leon Bibel, Jane Teller, Hughie Lee-Smith and Adolf Konrad. The show will be at the art gallery in the Visual Arts building of the college. Gallery hours are from 2 to 5 Monday through Friday, and 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday evenings. An opening reception to which everyone is invited will be held on October 14th from 2 to 5 p.m.

### RAP Art Sale

The Roosevelt Art Project will hold an art sale December 2nd. This will give the public an opportunity to obtain original works of arts by our local artists at bargain prices. Local artists who wish to participate, please contact Jacob Landau. More details will appear in the next *Bulletin*.

## ART NOTES

## Council *(continued from page 1)*

result might well hit the 60% mark. With more accurate information, a "second phase" to complete the job would be easier to plan. He declared that if main pipe lines only are repaired, regardless of which method is used, only 25% reduction of I/I could be expected. When he talked to DEP about this, their response was that expecting even a 25% reduction would be optimistic.

### Same Cost-Better Product?

Mr. Toolan's argument finally rested on the fact that if the Insituform process were used and the laterals and manholes that it does not address were to be repaired in the usual manner, the cost of both methods would be comparable. In that case, he says, Roosevelt would be a lot better off with a set of brand new, more durable pipes. He stated that his company has worked with Insituform on several occasions and with excellent success. In this particular case, however, he regards lining, instead of replacing, Roosevelt's pipes as an inappropriate way to deal with what is lying underground: crumbling pipes and misalignments.

Discussion included comments such as resident David York's observation that it doesn't make sense to hire experts you trust and then refuse to take their expert advice. Council Member Rothfuss expressed the opinion that the engineer's position was so clear that opposition to it must be motivated by a desire to stall the whole works for some undisclosed reason.

### But Maybe Faster and Cheaper?

The main case made for use of Insituform was that, since the company was not included in the regular bidding process, most of the figures used for comparison have come from estimates not derived directly from the company. There were reports of sighting an Insituform truck around town apparently doing some televising work. However, the Borough office had not been contacted by the company and no one at the meeting offered any additional information.

Various speakers expressed the view that Insituform should have the chance to state directly what percentage of I/I reduction they could project.

Some contended that it may be possible to get good reduction without re-doing laterals or manholes, even if it meant doing the whole town. Others were concerned that repairing laterals, beside being unnecessary, might cause other problems such as damage to property, backing-up of ground water etc. Rose Murphy reported that the Borough of Flemington was able to achieve, not just the DEP mandated 62% reduction in I/I, but an 80% level with the Insituform technique. Still others claimed that even if fixing laterals and manholes were added on, the saving gained from not having to tear up streets and roads, as well as the shorter time it would take for the whole job, would still put this method ahead of replacement. The thrust of the case for Insituform was to give this method a chance to bid directly.

### Confident of STP Results

An important bit of information to come from T&M was that the repairs at the treatment plant, when complete, will produce an effluent that will meet DEP quality requirements even if we achieve less than the mandated I/I reduction. Though we still will have to meet the original figure, a shortfall in I/I reduction should not be alarming in view of the "clean" waste water coming from the plant.

Borough Attorney Richard McManus was also present. He reiterated his judgment that DEP threats of fines were in the nature of a disciplining tactic. As for the digging up of streets and roads, T&M assured the town that, although there would be detours and blocking off of traffic for short periods during daytime hours, each work site would be secured for safety at the end of every day.

### Happy Ending?

In opposing the motion to invite Insituform to meet with T&M, Council Member Alt noted that the matter had been discussed and decided twice before and that should be enough. But during the fourth public discussion segment of the night, Jane Rothfuss disagreed with that sentiment and said she felt that a lot of additional effort has been made to understand the issue and this demonstrates that the Council

has given the matter its "best shot". She declared, "It's not just the same old vote at all!"

### New Treasurer-New Appropriations

Before the Council meeting ended several actions of importance were taken: Edward Debevik, chosen from among eleven applicants, was appointed Chief Financial Officer to serve out the year. Several appropriations were authorized including \$300 to grade the road around the cemetery; \$150 to aid the 55th Roosevelt Anniversary celebration; and \$200 to pay for a computer training course for the office staff. Other payments were \$600 made for a third test for lead content of sand-blast material from the water tower and \$3,000 to Proctor-Baker Co. to complete the water-tower project. The auction of borough property brought in a total of \$1300.

### Offended By Letters

A letter from Borough Engineer Toolan read aloud at his request, stated that he was upset by letters to the Council containing implications, and even direct allegations, of conspiracy and a hidden agenda behind his recommendation for sewer replacement instead of the Insituform process. He stated that in his honest engineering opinion, since dollar estimates are very close, it would be beneficial to install brand new pipes rather than insert Insituform in the old line. He cited Sea Bright as a community where he and Insituform worked well together and assured our Mayor and Council that his only interest is what is best for Roosevelt in his professional judgement.

### Rabies Epidemic Closing In

The last item of the evening was a brief rundown by a representative of the County Health Department on the subject of the rabies epidemic that is rapidly approaching this part of New Jersey. He made it abundantly clear that action must be taken to inform all residents of the danger and to urge pet-owners to immunize their animals and report any strange behaviors noted by strays. The great majority of rabies cases found in New Jersey to

## Property Tax Deductions

date involve wild animals, mainly raccoons and skunks. Dogs and cats can be infected through contact with these animals. Cats, because of their nocturnal habits, run a particular risk of getting bitten by skunks or raccoons. It is therefore very important that both dogs and cats be inoculated against rabies. The Borough will have a rabies clinic on Saturday, October 6th, from 12 to 1. If all pets are inoculated and an effort to pick-up strays is carried out with the help of the animal control agent, we can prevent the serious effects of rabies contagion in both the human and the animal population.

New Jersey law allows property tax deductions for veterans, spouses of deceased veterans or service personnel and persons who are senior citizens (65 or older), permanently disabled or the spouse of a person who was eligible for a senior citizen or disabled deduction at the time of his or her death (provided that the surviving spouse was at least 55 at the time of the other spouse's death). The deduction for a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran or service person is \$50.00 a year and there is no income limitation. The deduction for a senior citizen, disabled person or surviving spouse of either is \$250.00 a year, but the applicant must have an income (including spouse's income) of not over

\$10,000.00, not including social security or equivalent payments. In all cases, the applicant has to have been an owner of the house as of October 1st of the pretax year.

I will be happy to provide a form to any property owner who wishes to file an application for any of these deductions. Appropriate proofs must be attached to the form when it is filed. For further information or forms, please call me at 448-0363.

Property tax deductions are provided at no cost to the Borough since the State provides full reimbursement from income tax revenue.

—Michael Ticktin, Tax Assessor

## Planning Board *(continued from page 3)*

Development ("PCD") Zone, permitting limited development consistent with the overall character of Roosevelt while preserving a significant amount of open space, and guided the Board through consideration and recommendation of a number of other technical revisions to the Borough's zoning ordinance.

Mr. Mallach's new position involves supervising a housing department of sixty Trenton employees, with overall responsibility for the City's planning, housing, economic development, traffic and parking.

### School Bus Parking Approved

In other business, the Board approved a conditional use application of Dianna Moore to park a school bus that she uses to transport Roosevelt students to Hightstown High School in her driveway. In response to the Board's questions, Mrs. Moore explained that much of her driveway is screened by evergreen trees and a stockade fence, and that the bus is only parked in her yard when in use during the week (not over weekends and school holidays). She also stated that

her double driveway provides ample room for both the bus and the family's own vehicles. The Board heard comments from the public, as well, but the only two comments indicated no objection to the application.

The Board noted that the Roosevelt zoning ordinance originally designated the parking of a vehicle of this size and weight a nonconforming use, requiring a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Earlier this year, however, the Borough Council amended the zoning ordinance, changing this from a nonconforming use to a conditional use. Under the revised ordinance, this use is permitted on the condition that it will not create a safety hazard or visual nuisance. In line with this change in the ordinance, the Board voted to approve Mrs. Moore's application based on the Board's finding that the Moores' double driveway and row of trees and fence provides adequate space and screening so that this use will not constitute a safety hazard nor create a visual nuisance to neighbors or passersby.

### Planning Study Funding Discussed

After the meeting was adjourned, several Board members met informally with Andrew Strauss of the Trust for Public Land to discuss possible methods of raising the \$60,000 needed to conduct a planning study to determine the feasibility of the Trust purchasing certain undeveloped land in Roosevelt to preserve it from development. Mr. Strauss has been attending recent meetings to explore this possibility with the Board. Mr. Strauss indicated that since the Trust does not already own or have an option to purchase the land in question, the Trust's own resources cannot be used for the writing of grants or other preliminary activities aimed at raising the funds for a planning study. Marilyn Magnes suggested that the Board might seek funds from the Council, and Mr. Mallach agreed to make a presentation on this issue at the Borough Council's October 8, 1990, agenda meeting.

The Planning Board's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 1990, instead of Wednesday, out of respect for the Jewish holiday.



## Recycling News

# Curbside Recycling a Success

by Stu Kaufman,  
Recycling Coordinator

Curbside recycling has been going on for the past eight months and I would say we are doing very well. On recycling days, I sometimes drive around town to see what's being recycled. Every month, when I see a few more bottles, a couple of more cans and nice neat bundles of newspapers, it brings a tear of joy to this recycling coordinator's eye. We can all give ourselves a pat on the back but we can't let up. I know we can do better. We seemed to have eased into curbside recycling with few problems. I can say this because I've only received a few phone calls. If you do have a problem, let me know as soon as possible (443-4921 eve. or 443-4049 days). We have a good working relationship with Freehold Cartage's recycling coordinator, Keith Woods, and he takes care of any problems that are brought to his attention. Once again, if you have any problems, please contact me.

The interesting thing about recycling is that once you start, you can't stop. A successful recycling program must keep finding new markets and reduce the amount of solid waste going to landfills. This is the decade of a recycling revolution in America.

The most positive literature I've received recently is the Emergency Solid Waste Assessment Task Force's final report to Governor Florio. Governor Florio signed an Executive Order to establish a task force that would make recommendations on the future of solid waste management. The final report makes many recommendations. These are a few of the major ones;

1. A statewide recycling rate of 60% should be attained within five years.

2. Source reduction must be recognized and implemented as the first priority in the state's solid waste management program. Included in the source reduction program are specific techniques to reduce packaging waste and assure the recyclability of packaging.

3. The need for increased development of markets for recyclable commodities.

4. The regionalization of recycling and waste disposal on a statewide level, as opposed to a county-by-county approach. This last recommendation could have significant benefits for small towns like Roosevelt since it would reduce some of the financial burdens of recycling.

I recently received a letter from the Marcal Paper Co. saying that they are now able to utilize higher percentages of post-consumer waste paper in the manufacturing of their paper products. Marcal has said it is committed to making products from paper, not trees. They would like to work with counties and municipalities in expanding their recycling programs to include magazine recycling. They accept the following materials loose or baled at no charge; magazines, junk mail, sweepstakes forms, coupons, color inserts and note book paper. With minimal start-up costs and a potential for increased tonnage grant money, we can include magazines in our recycling program.

Don't forget that we have already instituted a household battery recovery program at the Borough Hall drop-off center. Please start separating batteries from your garbage and bringing them down to the drop-off center.

Composting of leaves is mandatory in New Jersey. Leaf composting has proven to be an economical and environmentally sound technology, and composted leaves are eligible for tonnage grants. This October, I plan to attend a leaf composting conference and seminar. I will be bringing back information and literature to present to the Council. Hopefully, in the near future Roosevelt will have its own program.

Finally, I would like to see an environmental commission formed that will deal with water conservation, solid waste disposal (including recycling) and the protection of greenbelt

areas. Since all three areas overlap each other and are parts of a total environmental issue, I believe it is in the best interest of Roosevelt to establish a permanent body to advise and implement programs for the future needs of Roosevelt.

## Senior Citizens' Club

Jeanette presided at the meeting on September 11. This meeting was very enjoyable for many reasons.

The first reason is that we helped "Gus" Chasan to celebrate her 88th birthday. She looked lovely (and is a great lady).

The second reason is that Jack Yudin joined us. He's looking good—Florida must agree with him. We received "commodities" on Wednesday September 12.

A notice was sent around with information pertaining to Seniors who have been denied Medicare Benefits. The number to call is 1-800-792-8820, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. September 26.

We have decided to go to "Lily Langtry" for our Annual Holiday Dinner on November 10.

Aglora Buote and Ethel Salmonson were our hostesses. The "club" provided a birthday cake.

—Helga Wisowaty (secretary)

**Support  
the  
Bulletin**

## Roosevelt Water Action

# Water Action Group Continues Work

by Anita Cervantes

The Roosevelt Water Action people have met several times during the summer and now seem to be settling into a regular semi-weekly meeting schedule: every other Sunday at 11:30 AM in the Boro Hall. Upcoming meeting dates are: October 14 and October 28.

Now that Labor Day is past and the fall legislative season is upon us, the Water Action people are starting once again to contemplate actions which will achieve one of our initial goals: to draw press and legislative attention to Roosevelt's sewer infrastructure dilemma and our \$140/month water/sewer bills.

Active support for legislation will have to wait until initiatives are already underway in the Statehouse. In the meantime, however, actions now in the planning stage include:

- Contacting the Roosevelt family, who have a significant connection to our community, to see if they might have some interest in giving a grant to Roosevelt; or at least might help us with some clout through contacts they may have. Our reasoning is that since they recently gave a \$21-million grant to Princeton University, they might be willing to give their namesake town a small percentage of that.
- Getting our giant letter to Governor Florio. The giant letter, created by Robin Middleman and Judith McNally, now has almost 300 signatures on it. Our plan is to arrange to deliver it to Governor Florio, either at his residence or at the Statehouse, with as large a contingent of Rooseveltians as we can muster, and the appropriate fanfare to draw significant press coverage.

- Trying to arrange a meeting with Governor Florio to investigate, in a non-adversarial fashion, how he may be able to get some help for Roosevelt.
- An action at DEP to dramatize how we have been strangled by red tape in the process of trying to accomplish our sewer repairs.
- Actions to dramatize the unfairness of DEP's lack of enforcement in the Lavallette Borough-Ciba Geigy situation versus their stringent enforcement with regard to Roosevelt and other small towns.

The group also hopes to schedule one more outdoor concert in the Roosevelt Amphitheater while the good weather still lasts.

Finally, there is the ongoing letter-writing campaign. For more information regarding letter-writing sessions, sample letter copy, or addresses to which to send letters on your own, contact Judith McNally at 448-4580 or Jane Rothfuss at 448-3713.

If you feel you'd like to get involved in Water Action activities, or if you have ideas you'd like to share on other ways to dramatize Roosevelt's plight, call Brad Garton at 448-9214 or Anita Cervantes at 448-4068.

## Home Repair Forum

Acting on a suggestion by resident David York, the *Bulletin* is starting a new feature: a Home Repair Forum.

Write us with your home repair problems (or solutions). We will publish them and invite responses.

## — Letters —

Dear Editor:

Some thirty residents attended the council meetings on September 12 & 13 and joined with the Mayor and Council in voicing concerns in addition to asking questions of the Borough Engineer regarding the proposed sewer repair project. I was impressed not only with the attention and interest demonstrated by the comments and questions, but also by the patience and respect for differing opinions demonstrated by those in attendance.

I commend the Council's unanimous decision to reject all bids to allow provisions for financing by Farmers Home. One of the many complexities of the process for resolving the sewer crisis is the importance of funding to the ultimate affordability of the sewer solution to this community. Farmers Home is important because it could provide stability to the user fees with a fixed interest rate and provides the possibility of a lower annual cost by extending the term of the commitment.

Further I believe that members of the Water/Sewer Committee, Kirk Rothfuss, Howard Prezant, & William Counterman, are to be complimented for using this hiatus to bring Insituform and the Borough Engineer together, hopefully gaining even more insight into those opportunities still available to us.

I am especially encouraged by Kirk's actions in light of his support of the replacement plan as expressed in last month's *Bulletin*. His willingness not only to listen to an opposing point of view, but to act in the interest of better understanding for all deserves special mention.

Sincerely,  
Lee R. Allen  
(448-6978)

*Letters continue on following pages*

## — Letters —

To the Editor:

Hello, Roosevelt. My name is Henry John-Alder, and I live in Stefan Martin's home. I am one of a growing number of recent Roosevelt residents, and I am a write-in candidate for a 3-year seat on the Borough Council. I am encouraged by the widespread support many of you have already pledged, and I am optimistic about my chance to win a seat. However, we face an uphill battle. I ask all of you to give me your write-in vote as your choice for a 3-year seat on Council. Remember, you must literally write my name on the ballot. You will be glad you did.

My message is simple. My message is of trust and of fairness and of moving forward. I am concerned about our water/sewer predicament, and I am equally concerned about the personal and polarizing nature of recent discourse among us. We have a crisis at hand, and we must work together to achieve an acceptable resolution. We must trust and respect each other. We must ask and be asked probing questions, and we must remain friends. We must strive to be informed and impassionate. We must base our decisions on all of the best information available to us, and we must share that information with our friends. We must recognize that many of our decisions will ultimately depend on good judgment, that there can be differences of judgment in good faith, and that we all will have based our judgments on our perceptions of community interests. We must accept our differences and then move on. We must not allow lingering feuds to paralyze our capacities for self-governance.

We have fallen short in meeting some of these challenges, and we have seen little indication that Lee Allen and Peter Warren are inclined to present accurate and comprehensive appraisals of our alternatives. In fact, we have seen little indication that Lee Allen and Peter Warren are inclined to present us with anything. We are witnessing a strangely silent campaign in a strongly interactive community. Ironically, this strange silence emanates from candidates who celebrated contested elections just one short year ago. Thus, I felt compelled

to enter our current discourse, and I feel compelled to serve on Council.

Four questions were asked of the candidates for Council prior to the primary election. These questions and the candidates' responses were published in the May, 1990 issue of the *Roosevelt Borough Bulletin*. While I have answered some of these questions directly or by allusion in my opening paragraphs, I will deal with them explicitly in the following sections.

### 1. Why are you running for Borough Council?

We need Council members willing to take a thorough and methodical approach to solving the issues before us. We have seen little evidence of thoroughness in the approach taken by Lee Allen. To wit, Lee's wildly optimistic evaluation of potential cost savings through Instituform failed to cite factual evidence and failed to address potential risks. I am running for a 3-year seat on Council because my professional life in scientific research centers on methodical and comprehensive analyses of information. I will bring my problem-solving approach with me to Council.

We need a representative Council whose members bring different points of view for open discussion. Little more than a year ago, Peter Warren was rejoicing the occasion of our first contested elections "after a hiatus of 10 long years" (Warren's third open letter to the candidates, 28 October 1989). More recently, Mr. Howard Prezant exclaimed, "Thank God we have difference of opinion!" (Borough Council Meeting, 12 September 1990). If Lee Allen and Peter Warren were to sit on the next Council, it would be as if three voices spoke from one mind. Such a scenario would hardly represent difference of opinion.

I differ from Lee Allen in having a more thorough and even-handed method of solving problems, a difference that has been corroborated repeatedly in recent public discourse concerning our sewer project. Furthermore, I differ from Lee in my initial positions on some of the critical issues that we face. In particular, I reject Lee's

assertion that development is inevitable. To hold the inevitability of development as one's initial premise is fatalistic and ultimately self-fulfilling. To be sure, *change* is inevitable, because property ownerships will undoubtedly change. As pragmatists, we must plan for the likely reappearance of development pressure. However, we must ask who would benefit from development, and who might be hurt. Surely, the land owners themselves would benefit in that a developer would be most likely to pay top dollar for their land. Thus, under any event, we must be prepared to compensate the land owners to the extent that they would benefit on the open market. However, the possibilities of community benefit are not so simple. An infusion of homes brings requirements for services, and housing developments are typically not cost-effective in terms of improving a community's balance sheet. We must ask if Roosevelt would be exceptional in this regard, if housing development would improve our bottom line. Join me in openly asking penetrating questions as we move ahead.

In planning, we must hold in high esteem those intangible features of Roosevelt that we call quality of life. We must ask and investigate if development will help us and not blindly embrace development as our salvation. We must creatively explore opportunities to maintain truly agricultural open-space. We must recognize and utilize the value of our heritage as we project into the future. We must recognize and utilize the value of specialized agriculture in New Jersey's future. We must place a high premium on preserving the quality of Roosevelt life.

Clearly, we need a massive infusion of funds. I simply ask that we openly investigate potential costs and benefits in a balanced manner as we move forward. I am running for a 3-year seat on Council so that these points of view I share with many other Borough residents will be offered for public discussion.



## — Letters —

### 2. What qualifications do you feel you have for the office?

My chief qualification for Council is my approach to solving problems. I believe in truth and in seeking the best solutions. I get greater satisfaction from finding the best answers than from finding the most expedient answers. I have been trained as a scientist to investigate issues without preconceptions, to evaluate information thoroughly on its own merits, and to divide complicated issues into manageable dimensions. I have learned as an active research scientist that complicated issues require complicated solutions, and that the attainment of complicated solutions requires persistence, patience, and humility.

### 3. Why should people vote for you?

I, like Stu Kaufman, am unpretentious. I am what you see. I have neither the skill nor the desire to snooker anybody. I am aware of but not party to some of the long-standing differences among residents of Roosevelt. I have no axes to grind, no hatchets to bury. As Stu has done so well as our Recycling Coordinator, I will take an unbiased and even-handed approach to our problems.

### 4. If you had your way, how would the Roosevelt of five years from now be different from the Roosevelt of today?

I wish to see changes of spirit, not of substance. I wish to see a Roosevelt with predictable finances and a well-planned future. I wish to see a Roosevelt that has taken its future by the horns in response to legal and pragmatic concerns, not a Roosevelt that may fall prey to some unknown and ill-defined external force. I wish to see an environmentally conscious Roosevelt aware of its ecological role in the Assunpink watershed. I wish to see pretty much the same Roosevelt that I now see when I pass Nurko Road after a long drive home.

In reading the other candidates responses to these questions, I note that Lee Allen cited his "financial experience with world class banks" as one of his qualifications. Did you really

mean that, Lee? Given the trouble we are all in because of the operations of some world class banks, I am not sure that experience with these banks is the kind of qualification we are looking for here. More seriously, Roosevelt's current financial management is not one of today's central issues. None of the alleged mis-managers of past years will sit on the next Council, and we have just appointed a new Chief Financial Officer. Thus, Lee's qualifications in finances become moot.

I further note that Lee Allen failed to address the fourth question, that of the future of Roosevelt. However, Lee cited "10 years of construction experience" as one of his qualifications. Can we expect to be breaking ground for new homes soon after election day? I challenge Lee to publish his 5-year vision of Roosevelt prior to Election Day. May I suggest that an open Candidates' Night might be an appropriate forum?

### Some Biography

I am 37 years old, married 12 years to my wife Kate, and father 5 years of my son Wes. (Wes has recently joined 14 other young Rooseveltians in the RPS Kindergarten.) I was raised in Lancaster, PA, I graduated from Franklin and Marshall College, I got my M.S. at Penn State, and I received my Ph.D. in Biology from the University of California. I held a 1-year research position in Adelaide, Australia, then a second 1-year research position at the SUNY Health Science Center in Syracuse, and finally my current position as professor of biology at Rutgers University.

We bought a home in Kendall Park (South Brunswick Township) when we first moved to this area. Kendall Park is a rather uninspiring bedroom community, but it was affordable and convenient. We survived three years of the highs and lows of home-ownership there. We made some improvements, we made some friends, but we became resigned to the prospect of never owning our "dream home" while we remained in New Jersey. We began to investigate our options.

Kate learned about Roosevelt in a course on the history of landscape ar-

chitecture at Rutgers, so we came out here for a look one day. One thing led to the next, and we moved into Stefan Martin's home a short while later.

Our experiences here have been remarkable. I think we had not been in town 15 minutes before Peter Warren registered us to vote, brought us our Roosevelt directory, and began to sketch some of the pressing local issues. Within a week, Merle and Irv Rose hosted 30 or more neighbors at our welcoming party. A bit later, Wes recognized one of his "day-care kids" at the RPS playground, and we got to know her parents, Mike and Nancy Hamilton. Then Brad and Jill, Susan and Jim, Aaron and Evelyn, ...; the list goes on and on. In a very short time, we became friendly with lots and lots of folks. What a contrast to Kendall Park! Roosevelt's cohesive sense of "community" is pervasive. It persists despite a history of strong differences of opinion, and we must allow its continued persistence.

—Henry John-Alder

### To the Editor:

I went to a special meeting concerning the sewer problem (Wednesday evening).

My knowledge of the "underground" pipes, laterals, etc. is limited. However, I left with great respect for the Council-the Mayor and all those who have "input" about this situation. The many hours spent in trying to resolve this problem is something that we, of the Borough, could never repay. Hopefully-with a "meeting of the minds" -they will agree on the best solution to this problem. My hat is off to all of you. Good Luck.

—Helga Wisowaty

**The Bulletin tries to  
print all signed  
letters it receives.**

**Write:  
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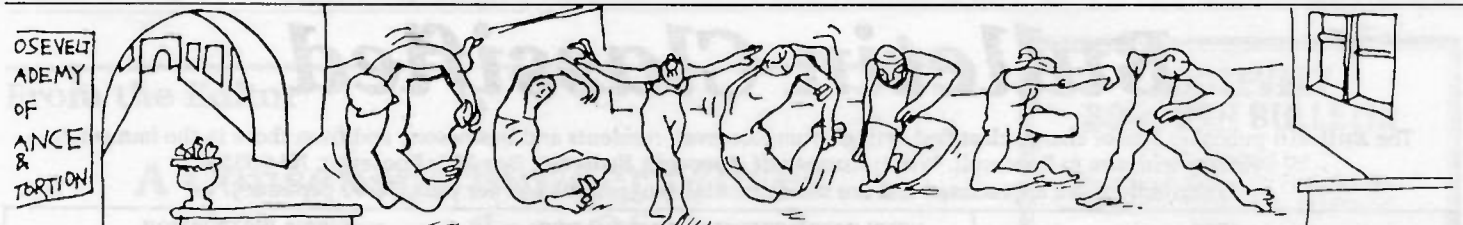
# Bulletin Classified

The **Bulletin** publishes free of charge classified listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: **Roosevelt Borough Bulletin**, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555.

Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$40 per year, \$5.00 per issue).

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<p><b>HELP WANTED</b></p>	<p><b>Attention Roosevelt Students</b> Would you like some extra help in math, algebra, geometry, etc.?  Free Tutoring is Available Call Mary King 448-5096</p>	<p><b>RESTAURANTS/TAKE-OUT</b></p>
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<p><b>Tutors Wanted</b> to help with free tutoring program for Roosevelt students. A rewarding way to help the children of our community Call Mary King at 448-5096</p>		<p>Open Mon. 6:30 AM - 7:00 PM (pizza closed on Mondays)</p> <p>Tues.-Thurs., Sun.: 6:30 AM - 10 PM Fri. &amp; Sat.: 6:30 AM - 11:00 PM 443-5111 • 443-5522</p>





"Monday"		"Tuesday"		"Wed'y"		"Thurs'y"		"Friday"		"Sat'y"			
1		2 <b>Senior Citizens</b> Boro Hall, 2PM Jeanette Koffler, Pres. (448-2259)  <b>Planning Board</b> Borough Hall 8:00 PM Alan Mallach, Ch. (448-4616)		3 <b>Board of Ed.</b> Agenda Meeting RPS, 7:30 PM Debra Allen, Pres. (448-6978)		4		5		6			
<i>Sunday</i>													
7		8 <b>Borough Council</b> Agenda Meeting Boro Hall, 8:00 PM Leon Barth, Mayor (448-1870) Marilyn Magnes, Council President (448-6402)		9 <b>Board of Ed.</b> Action Meeting RPS, 7:30 PM Debra Allen, Pres. (448-6978)		10 <b>Borough Council</b> Borough Hall 8:00 PM Leon Barth, Mayor (448-1870) Marilyn Magnes, Council President (448-6402)		11 <i>Recyclables Collected</i>		12		13	
14 <b>Roosevelt Water Action</b> Borough Hall 11:30 AM		15 <b>Congregation Anshei Roosevelt</b> Synagogue, 8 PM Michael Tickin, Pres. (448-0363)		16		17		18		19		20	
21		22		23 <b>First Aid Squad</b> Borough Hall 7:30 PM Judy Nahmias, Pres. (443-5290)		24		25 <i>Recyclables Collected</i>  <b>Solar Village Trustees</b> Community Room 7:30 PM  <b>PTA</b> RPS, 8 PM Adeenah Yeger, Pres. (443-5848)		26		27	
28 <b>Roosevelt Water Action</b> Borough Hall 11:30 AM		29		30		31							

There are free exercise classes for residents at the Borough Hall each Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM  
 The RPS Library is open each Tuesday evening, 7:00-9:00 PM (Margaret Schliniski, Librarian)

Is your organization having a meeting or event? Write the **Bulletin** (Box 221, Local) or call Helga Wisowaty (448-0049)