

Bulletin

Volume 28 Number 3

December 2003

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

ELECTION 2004

Property Management Code & Redevelopment Plan Adopted; Water Meter Installation Proceeding

By Michael Ticktin

At its meeting on November 10, the Borough Council gave final approval to two ordinances regarding the maintenance of properties in the Borough. By adopting the International Property Maintenance Code as the Property Maintenance Code of the Borough of Roosevelt, the Council established a comprehensive set of standards to be used by the Housing Inspector (currently Ed Goetzmann) in determining what must be done in order to qualify a building for issuance of a certificate of occupancy when there is a change of ownership or tenancy, as well as for taking action in response to complaints concerning building maintenance or illegal occupancy.

The Council also gave final approval to an ordinance adopting the Redevelopment Plan that was prepared by the

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Marko, Hamilton, Hunt and Hoffman Elected

By Michael Ticktin

This year's Roosevelt election results were even less of a surprise than usual, since the candidates for Mayor and Council were all running without opposition. Of course, that is not to be taken for granted in Roosevelt where, in 1987, the successful mayoral candidate was not even on the ballot and, despite urging people not to vote for him, defeated a candidate who was running unopposed. Neil Marko received 165 votes for Mayor, while Michael Hamilton, Jeff Hunt and Daniel Hoffman won Council seats with 177, 160 and 171 votes respectively. Mr. Hoffman will be completing an unexpired term. The three environmental questions passed overwhelmingly in Roosevelt, with votes of 164-26, 157-32 and 139-47, respectively. They also carried statewide. As usual, Democratic candidates for the Legislature and for the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders won in Roosevelt but lost the election. ■

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

As usual, the next *Bulletin* will not be published until February 2004 to give our hardworking volunteers the time and attention to their own holiday activities. So—slightly premature Happy Holidays to All!

REMEMBER:

Don't forget the Senior Dinner — See page 12 for details.

Are you using our library at the school? It is open every Wednesday evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Remember the Holiday Gift Fair at the school. On December 3rd, it is for the kids from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. but on December 4th, adults can buy gifts from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tobey Levin's Lime Jello Mold would make a good dessert for holiday parties. (See page 16 for details)

Don't forget the Poetry Reading event by out-of-town "Cool Women" on Saturday, December 6th 8 p.m. at the Borough Hall.

We are grateful for the contributions we keep receiving from our residents – 33 this last month!

PLEASE REMEMBER: Thoughtful neighbors pick up after their dogs. Are you a thoughtful neighbor?

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Calendar Art & Breaking Bread
by Shan Ellentuck

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Board Approves Subdivision of Gas Station Lot

At its November 11 meeting, the Planning Board unanimously approved subdivision by the Borough of the former gas station property into two lots, one of which will include the existing building and the other the land to the north of the house at 42 North Rochdale Avenue. Prior to this subdivision, the gas station lot surrounded the house lot on three sides. This subdivision was done in order to implement the Redevelopment Plan that received final passage from the Borough Council the previous night. The

Redevelopment Plan, which was prepared by the Planning Board, designates the land to the north of the house as a new Affordable Housing zoning district, where a group home for developmentally disabled adults or rental housing units are to be built in accordance with a plan that will be submitted for approval by the Council on Affordable Housing in satisfaction of the Borough's affordable housing obligation.

It was the Borough's failure to have such a plan filed that made it possible for US Home Corporation to bring a

suit to require the Borough to allow a large development with a small number of affordable units under the "builder's remedy" doctrine. That lawsuit was later withdrawn by US Home when they found that a necessary part of the land on which they intended to build was no longer available to them. ■

RESIDENTS!

This is your newspaper. We would be happy to hear from you either in the form of letters or articles which we would be pleased to include in our publication each month.

That's what this paper is for — to help us to get to know one another as well as to let you know what is happening in the town.

Let us know what you think, what you do.

How about it?

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

New Jersey Law (N.J.S. A. 40A:60-5), states that “the mayor shall be the head of the municipal government” and “shall recommend to the Council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the borough.”

November 4th was Election Day, in Roosevelt. Democrat Neil Marko won a four-year term as mayor, Jeff Hunt and I, also Democrats, won three-year Council terms, and Democrat Daniel Hoffman was elected to serve the remaining two years of a three-year Council term previously held by Marilyn Magnes.

My term as Mayor expires at the end of December. These four years have been personally gratifying and I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve our town in this capacity. Our accomplishments are the direct result of working collaboratively and the shared leadership provided by many in the committees and volunteer organizations in town. The following is a list of the projects undertaken during the administration of this Mayor and Council:

Your Tax Dollars...

- We added \$30,000 per year of non-tax revenue to our budget through the ATT cell antenna agreement.
- We worked with the Fund for Roosevelt to help preserve the majority of our remaining farmland with little or no impact on property taxes.
- We successfully defended the Borough in “Mount Laurel” litigation instituted by one of the largest developers in the US seeking to build hundreds of houses in our northern farmland. We held the line on taxes during this period while preserving our National and State Historic Register status.
- We added over \$75,000 to our budget by putting taxpayer dollars in interest bearing accounts.
- We created the position of Business Administrator through internal reorganization of the municipal office structure without raising expenses.
- We obtained a \$30,000 “extraordinary aid grant” resulting in no property tax increase in 2003.
- We obtained a \$60,000 grant by

working with Millstone, Upper freehold and Allentown officials to fund a school regionalization study without a local cost share.

- I chaired a School Regionalization Taskforce to study the feasibility of regionalizing with other districts.
- We saved thousands of dollars annually by creating the position of Water/Sewer Operator eliminating the need to contract out for operations
- We eliminated the need for expensive alarm company services by automating many utility functions. Initiated on-line computer monitoring of water and sewer systems. Our “call back” systems call our water and sewer operator when there is a potential problem and provide data related to the systems.
- We received a \$30,000 special state legislative grant by working with our 30th district state legislators to establish the RCERC (Roosevelt Community Education and Recreation Coalition). The Recreation Coalition organizes and sponsors concerts in town, trips to museums and school programs such as the “Mad Science

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News and Comments

Well, Bess Tremper can be quite persuasive in her own gentle way. It seems that she appreciates the work of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission (REC) and would like me to report about it again. Maybe it's her way of establishing another regular column for the *Bulletin*?

Anyway, we had another spirited meeting on Thursday October 16. It's actually very interesting to hear about all different aspects of the town management and what we the people do here. Like the Fall Wood Clean-up that the REC arranged for November 23-25. Postcards were sent to all residents to offer an experimental curbside wood chipping clean-up service. We hope this reduces the dumping of wood debris into the

Green Acre and Town Common areas and helps keep our town looking good.

Another active area of concern is the management of the former Notterman Tract with the new owners - the State of New Jersey and the NJ Division of Fish Game and Wildlife. Prairie grass buffer zones, planted around the field edges under the direction of the REC, were spectacular this year! Walking through the tall Big Blue Stems one could easily imagine a herd of Bison just over the next ridge. These erosion control measures were another REC success.

I'll save more hard REC news for another issue, but still environmental-ly speaking - how about that lunar eclipse! My daughter, Abbie, and I were attending the movie at the school

that Saturday night. The showing of "Finding Nemo" was delayed so everyone could see and discuss the moon disappearing just before the feature presentation. It was fun sharing this natural phenomenon with fellow town folks. By the way, these Saturday Night Movies are for all town residents and their friends. I heartily endorse and support the efforts of our Roosevelt Recreation Committee.

Please contact me at PO Box 203 or telephone 609-443-6204 or e-mail davestaxi@aol.com (put re: Roosevelt or your message may be deleted quickly as spam) for any questions or comments for the REC.

Thank you for reading The Roosevelt Bulletin and Happy Holidays To All! ■

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going. Contributions are tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the BULLETIN.

We will be pleased to continue sending them the BULLETIN when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

Congratulations to our newly elected Mayor and Council members. I look forward to continuing our collaborative relationship. The school and the Council serve the same constituents and it makes good sense to work together to provide shared services and ideas, and to dialogue for the welfare of all. In school elections, our students elected the Student Council for the 2003-04 school year. Serving as president and vice president respectively, Blaze Nolan and Jacob Marko will have a worthwhile leadership opportunity.

Governor McGreevey announced the results of the National Assessment of Education Progress (NEAP). New Jersey students scored higher on average than students across the nation in fourth and eighth grade math and reading tests. Average scale scores for N.J. students:

- Fourth grade reading: NJ 225, US 216

- Fourth grade math: NJ 239, US 234
- Eighth grade reading: NJ 268, US 261
- Eighth grade math: NJ 281, US 276

Parents of students in grades 7 and 8: please be reminded that Roosevelt students are eligible to attend high schools in the Monmouth County Vocational system. These are fine schools and entrance is competitive through an application process. Please contact me if you need further information.

For the second consecutive year, we received a federal rural education grant. Funds from that grant will be used in part, to upgrade our school library. We will also use those funds to maintain and upgrade our technology.

Before long the holiday season will be upon us. I wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, New Year. ■

RCNS December Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

In November, our class learned how to stay safe. The children learned how to dial 911 for emergencies. We also went for a visit to the Clarksburg Firehouse. The children had so much fun seeing and learning about the fire equipment and the special clothes the firemen wear. They even got fire hats to take home!

December is a very exciting month at RCNS. Keeping healthy as the weather gets cold is very important. The children learned that covering their sneezes and washing their hands helps to prevent the spread of germs. They will also learn that dressing warmly for winter is important.

We had lots of fun reading the story "The Gingerbread Man" and making our own gingerbread men projects. The class will also learn how animals get ready for winter or how some migrate to a warmer place until spring.

As we look around outside, the children saw that many trees lost their leaves. They learned about conifers and evergreens and made winter trees as well.

We are looking forward to our annual Winter Wonderland party, which will be held on the last day before winter vacation. There will be games, fun holiday projects and plenty of food for all. It's a wonderful way to end 2003! ■

December School Dates

December 3 & 4	PTA Holiday Gift Shop
December 5	Pizza Day
December 18	Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
December 23	Winter Concert, Early Dismissal
December 24 - Jan.4	Closed – Winter Recess
January 5	School Resumes
January 12	PTA Meeting
January 19	School Closed to honor Martin Luther King, Jr.

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar by phone 443-4179, 18 Pine Drive, or e-mail at ronkostar@cs.com.

Hunter Ellentuck was named Student of the Month for October at the Kreps Middle School. Hunter is in eighth grade.

Ellen Francis of Lake Drive announced the birth of a granddaughter, Amanda Topple, to her daughter Jennifer and Greg Topple of Boynton Beach, Florida. Amanda was born on July 19.

Steve Antosky, son of Patricia and Donald Wilson of Homestead Lane, has become engaged to be married to Heather Scoleri of Glassboro. Steve is a recently tenured Art teacher at New Brunswick High School and also a Personal Fitness Instructor.

Diana, Chris, Dana and Jake Monroe, who lived on Homestead Lane for twelve years before moving to San Antonio, TX, report recent visits from the Velasquez (Pine) and Garton-Lipoti (Pine) families, during which they “walked and boated the riverwalk area, visited the Alamo, ate lunch 700 feet above the city in a rotating restaurant, had drinks at the

Buckhorn Saloon, hiked the Natural Bridge Caverns, rode horses and 4-wheelers, rooted for the Red Sox against the Yankees, shopped in Gruene, saw the oldest dance house in Texas, had dinner overlooking the Guadalupe River and generally made many fond memories here in Texas.” They reported, not regretfully, that as of mid-October they were “still wearing shorts and riding on hay-covered flatbed trailers pulled by pickup trucks. Different places and people,” they write, “but we have fond memories of both.”

Please send your news, short, short stories or other interesting observations or insights to ronkostar@cs.com. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 1

Planning Board. With this ordinance in place, the Council will be able to use the power of condemnation to force the sale to the Borough of any of the four privately-owned properties that are in designated redevelopment areas if the owners do not redevelop them or make them available to others who will do so. Thus far, the Borough has acquired title to the gas station lot through tax lien foreclosure and has subdivided it into a commercial lot containing the existing building that is to be re-sold once environmental tests now being done are completed and a new lot that is to be used exclusively for affordable housing, in satisfaction of the Borough’s affordable housing obligation. Of the other four lots, the one on Nurko Road has been purchased by new owners who have already demolished the derelict house, the one on Tamara Drive has been acquired by a new owner who has taken out a building permit and will be asked to provide a schedule for completion of repairs, the one at 19 South Rochdale Avenue may be foreclosed upon by the Borough for delinquent taxes, and the one at 20 South Rochdale Avenue is in the process of being foreclosed upon by the holder of a lien on the property, which will save the Borough the time and expense that would otherwise be needed to acquire it by condemnation.

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Between the National Teachers' Convention and Thanksgiving it seems we were home a lot of the month threatening to send our children to "that school that goes 7 days a week", but the PTA still managed a productive month.

We wrapped up the Book Sale, Art Card Sale, Wrapping Paper sale and BoxTops collection with a profit of over \$1500. That supplies our "fun money". BoxTops alone accounted for almost \$80. We are still collecting for the next deposit in the end of March. If you are unsure of what products carry the BoxTops label, check the boy's bathroom in the school entryway (we got the low spot on the Kiosk raffle!) The collection box is in the lobby.

School pictures were received this month and they turned out great despite the usual blinking eyes and Alfalfa heads. Paul Gerling only had one Pizza Day this month so the kids are missing their lunchtime vegetable

of tomato sauce. In addition to his Pizza delivery talents, Paul is working on compiling the corrected phone book lists, for real, it's moving forward! Jill Joyce organized the PTA Thanksgiving festivities supplying the students with juice and paper goods while room parents organized the breads and muffins for the celebrations after a wonderful student assembly.

Lee Griffith is in on the cusp of our "Holiday Gift Fair" on December 3rd and 4th, 9 am to 12 PM and December 4th 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is a shop where the kids can buy gifts for family and friends on their own. Anyone is welcome, come by to pick up some trinkets if you like.

We are starting to collect items for our Chinese Auction in March. If anyone is interested in donating items or pounding the pavements for donations please contact either Chinese Auction Coordinator Amy Block or myself for the letter, which includes

the tax-exempt number for vendors.

And, in the meantime we are brainstorming ideas for spending the money we raised. We are planning a "Schoolhouse Hooky" day in January, which is a day of different fun-filled events during school hours. And, we are looking into a very gaseous yet uplifting assembly for the end of March. Plus, we are going to help out with the brand new student council's spirit week.

We take December off for meetings, but we'll be active with the Holiday Gift Fair, 2 pizza days and a Partridge in a Pear Tree! Next meeting, Monday, January 12th! ■

Are you taking advantage of the Roosevelt Library in our school?

To keep it alive, it needs to be used.

As CSA Weinbach has said:

"A town library would be a terrible thing to lose!"

Mondays 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. and Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Dear Editor,

The years I spent in Roosevelt (1982-1990) are the longest time I have ever lived in one house. If my new career had not required me to move away, I would still be there. As a gesture to indicate my enjoyment of living in Roosevelt, I used to write a column on language for *The Bulletin*. I've been quiet, these last thirteen years, but a common misuse of language causes me to emerge from my silence. I stipulate, to begin with, that languages evolve *because of* "mistakes" in usage. For example, it is no longer considered a capital offense to sometimes split an infinitive. I agree with some of the changes – after all, a language that doesn't change is a dead language – like Latin. Nonetheless, here is a misuse - *e pluribus unum*, one might say – that really annoys me. So here is my diatribe. Who knows? Others may follow.

Often, recently, I have heard someone on radio or TV describe a perhaps-paradoxical situation, and then say that "it begs the question ...," which he then poses. No it doesn't. It begs *for* the question which follows, which might clear up the confusion it describes. To "beg the question" is a logical error, meaning to assume as proven a statement that has in fact not yet been proven, and then use that assumption to prove the statement itself. The most-common occurrence of this fallacy, probably, is in plane geometry, when a student quotes a

theorem as 'proof' of that very same theorem. Ask any geometry teacher – it happens all the time.

Here's another example. Two people are talking, and one of them is praising his clergyman. (If you retell this joke, you are free to choose your own denomination. It's what I call a 'portable' joke, because it can be changed to suit the audience.) He remarks that his clergyman is so holy, he talks with G-d every day. The other man asks him, reasonably enough, "How do you know?" the first man answers, "He told me so himself." The second man says, "How do you know he's not lying?" The first man says, indignantly, "Would a man who is so holy that he talks with G-d every day tell a lie?"

I hope it's apparent that he is assuming that the unproven assertion is true, in order to use it to prove that the very same assertion is true. The referee blows his whistle at that.

On the other hand, there are many situations that beg *for* a question – even outside of politics. For example, there's the story of the man who got on a subway, and noticed that a man sitting near him had a pigeon sitting on his shoulder. That situation begs *for* the question, which he asked; "What's that pigeon doing on your shoulder?" The other man glanced at his shoulder, and said, "I don't know. He got on at 23rd Street."

By Rabbi J.G. Solomon ■

By Clare Sacharoff

At our meeting on November 3rd, the Senior Club thanked Louise Prezant and Pat Moser for preparing a sumptuous lunch on October 31st.

From the 50-50 fund, the group voted to contribute \$25.00 towards Woman Space.

On November 21st at 3:00 p.m., there was a chicken luncheon provided by the McBrides at the Borough Hall. It was enjoyed by all.

For the November monthly trip, the group decided to attend a movie preceded by brunch at Johnny B's. The bus picked up each person at his/her house!

We discussed the possibility of having a winter dinner together with the Mayor and Council, and chose December 13th as the date. This is a Saturday and will be held at 3:00 p.m. It is open to any senior citizen residing in the community. Each person is expected to bring a covered dish or contribute \$5.00 (\$8.00 per couple). Please call Pat Moser at 609-448-4865 to confirm your reservation and tell her what dish you will be bringing or rather, paying. A committee was formed to coordinate our efforts consisting of Dolores, Pat, Florie and Clare. The hostess for November was Louise Prezant. For December, the hostess will be Florie Johnson. ■

The Foundlings

It was winter, early 1993 and my cat Aristotle and I were at a crossroads. The spring term of my second senior year of college was rapidly reaching its halfway mark and nowhere could I muster the needed attention span to outlast the scholarly storm. My Jeep's overworked engine had just given up the ghost and to complete the terrible trifecta we found ourselves without a place to lay our heads; courtesy of my landlord, who kicked my housemates and me out onto the streets after citing our "excessive collegiate lifestyle" (and evidence of pets on the premises). Aristotle and I faced the cold, unforgiving night together, without any answers and hardly any hope for a better morning.

Just when things looked their bleakest, my girlfriend came to our rescue, saving us from the prospect of fending off blustery February weather while living out of a stationary, soft-top Jeep parked miles from campus, with exams bearing down and an overripe litter box jammed in the back seat. In the process of saving us she also opened a whole new world waiting to be explored. Of course, back then I didn't know any of that. Instead, the conversation probably went something like this:



Scott Carpenter & Aristotle

"Hey, I know, I'll see if my parents will let you come live with us until graduation," she said, rather nonchalantly, as if ordering a sub down at Rossi's.

"Sure, that would be awesome," I replied. Then muttering to myself, "you must be absolutely insane. Or drunk. Maybe I should have whatever

you're having..."

Imagine my shock when, somehow, she managed to convince her parents that the best thing for all of us was to have me stay with them in her hometown of Roosevelt while I put the finishing touches on that academic career I keep going on about. In one of the greatest miracles of my life they listened to her (my) tale of woe and took pity on the boy and his cat.

So it came to pass that on a cold February night Aristotle and I came to 15 Farm Lane to live with Dave, Connie and Tristen Herrstrom. I had only been to Roosevelt a handful of times prior to that night and I definitely wasn't sure how living in my girlfriend's parents' house was going to work but it did seem as though we lucked out and I remember thinking how unique a situation this must have been. How little I

knew. We were merely the latest in a long line of strays and foundlings to have benefited from the Herrstrom hospitality over the years.

Between 1982 and when I left in 1994 no less than eleven people, three cats and a dog joined the Herrstroms in calling 15 Farm Lane home. They came from the California apple

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TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 10

orchards of Sebastopol, from Oklahoma while awaiting housing assignments in the Air Force, and from the other end of Farm Lane. They came to find refuge from broken marriages and to build on a blossoming romance. In lieu of rent they renovated rooms in Dave and Connie's house, shoveled their driveway and cooked amazing dinners for them. And this does not include building a second story on the house in time for the arrival of Connie's parents; only to have them move their stuff in, let it sit there for nearly two years and then through one of those accidents of timing, find their own place and never actually stay in Roosevelt. So instead, Tristen's friend Jill became the first foundling in early 1982.

Right away, Jill hit on one of the most popular themes for anyone looking for room and board at Hotel de Herrstrom. The Herrstroms have always been eager to help anyone in a bad spot who is trying to get their education. Jill's parents relocated from Roosevelt to South Jersey midway through eighth grade. Just months away from graduation, and not wanting to start over in a new school, Jill was able to make the long journey from Lake Drive over to Farm Lane and complete her year at the Roosevelt School uninterrupted. Voilà the foundling tradition was born.

Soon the Herrstrom name and address started appearing on underground lists, spoken in hushed tones by those in the wayward soul trade. Word spread: in between apartments,

trying to finish a degree, or maybe fleeing a terrible family life? Then here's the place for you.

In rapid succession the three hosted an extended family reunion, complete with Dave and Connie practically sleeping out in the yard to accommodate the four extra people living in their house, then transitioned into what is known as the "Unhappy Guys Era" when several of their friends endured painful divorces and needed a place to crash. Still going strong, Tristen got back into the business of matchmaking friends with places to stay. At least one of her friends pulled that old education trump card and stayed with the Herrstroms while finishing up high school.

Things went quiet on the foundling front as the 80's ended. Connie decided that the next person in her house to get more schooling was her, completing her Master's, Dave changed jobs and Tristen found that battling Hodgkin's Disease took a slight precedence in her life. It wasn't until midway through 1991 that the gang of three felt up to taking on a new face. It was Andy's turn, leaving his family behind in Colorado to come East and study for his doctorate. By now the foundlings were staying longer and longer. Andy continued the trend and was there for over a year, leaving only months before I showed up with a cat in tow.

Upon my arrival I immediately began selling all of my worldly possessions in a desperate attempt to raise cash for my rent. Wait. What's this? No rent? Are you serious? By this

point I definitely knew these Herrstrom people had to be a couple of crayons short of a box. Before I could find out what institution they had escaped from I learned that while they would not expect rent in the form of cash, in light of my financial situation, they instead put together a list of things I could do to work off what I owed. This arrangement worked splendidly, with far-reaching benefits.

I would do things such as help fell trees with Dave after a particularly bad ice storm, or help Connie bake some of her phenomenal pies. I painted walls and helped tar the roof. It was better than paying money for rent. Yeah, some of the chores were merely a means to an end (hello, splitting wood) but I learned how to do many new things and grew very close to these kind and generous people. I listened to Dave's poems, even when I found out that listening wasn't on the work to do list and did the household food shopping with Tris, which was. Tristen and I would take long walks (relatively speaking for a two square mile town) and I would learn about this little community called Roosevelt. She showed me the Assunpink, how to get mail when mail isn't delivered to your house, and Ben Shahn's mural inside the school. I met even more kind and generous people throughout the town and from almost the first day I felt like I belonged.

I stayed much longer than originally anticipated, well beyond college graduation until it became clear that I was never going to really leave. Tristen, the

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Books for Roosevelt Residents

Hello, my name is Bob Atwood and as both a Roosevelt resident and an employee at Micawber Books in Princeton, I would like to offer the following service. I will deliver, for free, any books that you order from my store. Micawber Books is an independent bookstore on Nassau Street in Princeton and offers both new and used books. Books can be requested through our website at www.micawber.com or you can call the store at 609-921-0282. If a title is in stock, I can most likely deliver it the same day. Other titles may need to be special ordered and will be delivered the day they arrive in the store. Most special order books take only a few days to arrive and we offer a 10% discount on most hardcovers. If a book is out of print, we can search for 2nd hand copies.

I have already started this service with a few people in town and I hope I can make Micawber Books the bookstore of choice for all fellow Rooseveltians.

Ordering information:
 Micawber Books – Bob Atwood
 110 Nassau Street
 Princeton, NJ 08542
 Tel: 609-821-0282
 Fax: 609-921-3264
 Email: micawbooks@aol.com
 Website: www.micawber.com

Annual Senior Dinner

GOOD FOOD, GOOD COMPANY,
 GOOD ENTERTAINMENT!

You are invited to attend a senior dinner sponsored by the Roosevelt Senior Club, the Mayor and Council on Saturday, December 13th, at 3:00 p.m.

Any senior (individual or couple) residing in Roosevelt is invited to attend our dinner and is required to either bring a covered dish or contribute \$5 (\$8 per couple).

Please call Pat Moser at 609-448-4865 by December 7th to make a reservation and let us know if you are planning to bring a dish or will make a contribution so that we can plan a well-balanced and delicious meal.

There will be entertainment with Mayor Michael Hamilton as Master of Ceremonies.

Some Questions Before We Go

By David Herrstrom

Why do the things of the world love us so?
 Why do things nest within us when we walk the beach,
 gulls swooping and greeting and joining us?
 The heat of a determined sun completely here.
 And a cold wind stiff as driftwood.
 A wind all the way from the ocean that wants us?
 Why do the giant rocks of the coast
 stand as we pass?

At our feet the surf leaves
 a pebble-bank of jades and jaspers, an ocean-polished wash
 of radiance like a parting gift.
 Why does this sparkling island on the sand
 seduce us
 to sprawl and accept
 the stored warmth of pebbles?

Stretched out,
 or cross-legged, hunched, we welcome their colors
 with our fingers before we leave.
 While the great rocks cover us with shadows
 does the ocean keep on washing our feet because we must go?

David told us he had written this poem about eight years ago. When he read it at one of the "Roosevelt Poets" evenings, David Brahinsky heard it and liking its rhythm, turned it into a song which he sang at the Landau Exhibition in October of this year.

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

Continued from Page 4

Program” and provides oversight of the Summer Camp Program. We sponsored and ran “Free Movie Night” in the school with equipment obtained through this grant.

- We negotiated and signed the first inter-local services agreement ever between the municipal government and the School Board to provide meaningful activities for citizens of all ages.
- We received approximately \$350,000 in DOT grants and completed roadwork projects with little local tax burden to our homeowners.

Planning...

- We developed and adopted a comprehensive Master Plan for the Borough.
- We formulated a well thought out Affordable Housing Plan and submitted it to the State for approval.
- We appointed a highly qualified Planning Board and Environmental Commission and other advisory committees.
- We utilized Geological Information Services (GIS) mapping of the Borough for land-use planning.

Preservation...

- We rescinded the PCD-II ordinance, which allowed large-scale

development on 85 buildable acres in our original farmland.

- We helped create the climate necessary to result in the preservation of the 109-acre tract of land (near the Roosevelt cemetery) through the State Green Acres program.
- We worked with the Fund for Roosevelt to preserve farmland in our northern-500 acres.

Public Relations...

- We worked to raise public awareness of Roosevelt’s unique status as a planned community on the State and Federal Registers to help in defense of the Borough in the U.S. Home litigation.
- We created positive P.R. opportunities such as newspaper and magazine articles about Roosevelt.
- We encouraged Governor Christine Whitman and Governor James McGreevey to come to Roosevelt to help raise our level of visibility statewide and nationally.
- I reported to the citizens through a monthly Mayor’s Column in the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin.

Environmental Health and Safety...

- We worked with citizens to revitalize the First Aid Squad.
- We cleaned up and foreclosed on the abandoned gas station.
- We created a Redevelopment

Zone to remediate blighted properties.

Community Activities...

- We worked to revive community-wide activities such as the 4th of July celebration.
- We honored our senior citizens with a festive dinner- (sure to become an annual event).

Although this is my last monthly column as Mayor, I look forward to continuing public service as a member of the Borough Council.

As always, I depend upon your advice and support,

Sincerely,

Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor

Borough Hall: 609-448-0539

E-mail: mham82@comcast.net ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 7

Councilman Jeff Hunt, chairman of the Utilities Committee, reported that hydrants had been flushed between October 27 and 29, that the meter installation program was proceeding and that radio-read meters would be placed in buildings that do not have existing meter pits, or in which meter pits were unusable. He also reported that the Borough is renting leak detection equipment so that the source of the flow of treated water found at his property by Lou Esakoff can be found and the problem resolved.

Mayor Michael Hamilton announced that he would be appointing a citizens' task force to deal with the issue of abandoned cats. Abandonment of cats or dogs is against the law and will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. Mayor Hamilton urged all residents who have cats to get them neutered. He also advised residents that it is against the law to dump any materials in wetlands and that violators will be reported to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Councilwoman Pat Moser, reporting in her capacity as liaison to the Senior Citizens Organization, announced that a pot-luck holiday dinner would be held on December 13 at 3:00 at the Borough Hall. Admission is \$5.00 for one person and \$8.00 for a couple. All seniors are invited.

In other business, the Council approved a resolution endorsing legislation calling for the proper burial of the remains of victims of the World Trade Center attack and a motion to approve a proposal from Hendrickson Equipment to provide road-sanding services on an "on-call" basis this winter. ■

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 11

girl who had welcomed me into her house when I needed a place to get myself together, was indeed the one. In 1994 we became engaged and married in 1996. After a time spent in Boston (where Tris reversed the whole education thing and actually left Roosevelt to pursue her Master's) we are back in New Jersey with Aristotle and another cat, Gatsby, and never too far from Roosevelt in spirit or body. We remain close to most of the other foundlings ? Jill, the tradition maker, is one of our closest friends and I currently work for Dave, one of the stars of the "Unhappy Guys Era". I gained everything the day Tristen, Dave and Connie opened their door to me and for that I will always be blessed. ■

About Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project - find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Marilyn Magnes 448-6402

Pearl Seligman 448-2340

Welcome to bleak December, the first month of winter. It is the cloudiest month of the year in our area and the darkest. The sun drops south to its lowest point in the sky by December 21 resulting in short days and long cold nights. On every day of December, the sun doesn't rise until after 7am and sets well before 5pm.

The words of one former President Roosevelt drew an accurate word picture of winter in America's great northern plains. With the beginning of this winter, his words also describe a landscape of the psyche that many live within during the cold season.

"When the days have dwindled to their shortest, and the nights seem never ending, then all the great northern plains are changed into an abode of iron desolation. Sometimes furious gales blow out of the north, driving before them the clouds of blinding snow-dust, wrapping the mantle of death round every unsheltered being that faces their unshackled anger. They roar in a thunderous bass as they sweep across the prairie or whirl through the naked cañons; they shiver the great brittle cottonwoods, and beneath their rough touch the icy limbs of the pines that cluster in the gorges sing like the chords of an Æolian harp." Roosevelt, Theodore. *Ranch Life and the Hunting-Trail*. New York: The Century Co., 1896, c1888; Bartleby.com, 1998. www.bartleby.com/54/. [11/16/2003].

In Roosevelt we heard the roar of fierce fall winds in mid-November. Heavy winds blasted the area from Thursday, November 13 through Saturday the fifteenth. A maximum wind speed of 37 miles per hour and a maximum gust speed of 48 miles per hour were recorded in nearby Trenton on November 13. In our area the howling winds caused trees and branches to fall, power to be lost and drivers to grip their steering wheels with white-knuckled hands. And there was more than air in the wind. Robin and I encountered blowing snow on our drive home from work on the thirteenth.

New Jersey Weather Event

Santa and his reindeer got some help from Mother Nature in 1966. A Christmas Eve storm made easy sledding for the Christmas crew, by covering the state with snow from Cape May (4.5 inches) to High Point (19 inches).

Weather Word

I have my "weather-eye" open. I have my wits about me; I know what I am after. The weather-eye is towards the wind to forecast the weather. E. Cobham Brewer 1810-1897. *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable*. 1898. ■

October 15 - November 15, 2003

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	63.9	54.1	59.0	0.75
16	65.1	43.2	54.2	0.00
17	56.7	50.2	53.5	0.15
18	56.5	41.9	49.2	0.18
19	62.3	41.4	51.9	0.00
20	57.6	35.6	46.6	0.00
21	71.4	49.6	60.5	0.00
22	55.2	44.2	49.7	0.00
23	48.0	34.2	41.1	0.00
24	52.2	31.1	41.7	0.00
25	60.8	32.0	46.4	0.00
26	70.2	50.9	60.6	0.00
27	64.9	53.8	59.4	0.15
28	58.8	40.1	49.5	1.22
29	59.5	47.3	53.4	0.95
30	57.9	38.5	48.2	0.50
31	68.0	42.3	55.2	0.00
1	72.3	48.4	60.4	0.00
2	69.8	51.6	60.7	0.00
3	74.1	54.3	64.2	0.00
4	63.3	55.2	59.3	0.00
5	64.0	55.9	60.0	0.00
6	62.1	53.2	57.7	0.64
7	55.9	45.5	50.7	0.24
8	49.5	26.0	37.8	0.00
9	43.0	24.8	33.9	0.00
10	44.8	23.0	33.9	0.00
11	55.2	29.5	42.4	0.00
12	57.6	48.9	53.3	0.44
13	58.6	41.2	49.9	0.07
14	46.0	36.0	41.0	0.00
15	49.6	36.7	43.2	0.00
Total Precipitation	5.29			

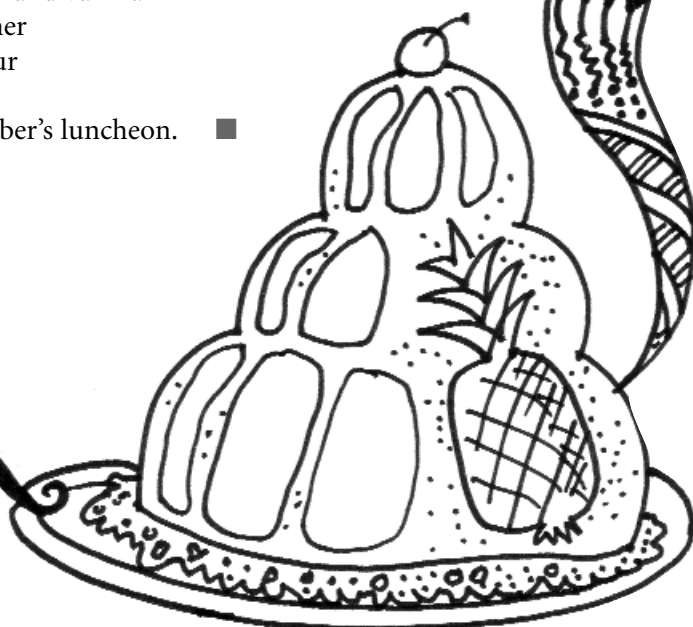
Lime Jello Mold

by Toby Levin

This was a favorite family recipe for many years that I originally received from a relative. I'm glad to share it is with my Roosevelt friends who tasted it when I brought it to Bess' party on September 6th. They too wanted to see the recipe, so here it is.

2 small packages of Lime Jello
1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups boiling water
18 or 20 oz. can of crushed pineapple
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of sour cream
1 tsp. vanilla extract (optional)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup crushed walnuts

Mix Jello and water
Add crushed Pineapple then sour cream and vanilla
Add crushed walnuts and mix all together
Pour into mold to cool for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour
Refrigerate - Enjoy
This is the recipe I used for this September's luncheon. ■



ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

2003-2004 SEASON

Saturday, December 6, 2003

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

COOL WOMEN READ THEIR POETRY FOR OUR ROOSEVELT RESIDENTS

Cool Women are on fire with poetry. They are Eloise Bruce, Carolyn Foote Edelman, Joyce Greenberg Lott, Lois Marie Harrod, Betty Bonham Lies, Judith Michaels, and Penelope Scambly Schott.

Saturday, February 14, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

ROOSEVELT POETS

Join the Roosevelt Poets for an evening of "Valentines with a Slam" and musical accompaniment.

Saturday, March 20, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

THE STORY OF PIETRO MASCAGNI

Pietro Mascagni will be presented in a conversation and recital with mezzo-soprano, Cheri Katz and pianist, Alan Mallach

Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

The Roosevelt String Band, with David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar, Howie Jacobson, and Sarah Houtz, will perform folk songs of contemporary singer-songwriters and from various folk traditions.

The Roosevelt String Band double CD is available Call 443-1898.

Saturday, May 22, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

ARTNOLOGY/COMPUTER MUSIC AND INSTALLATIONS

Brad Garton, Wiska Radkiewicz and Wes John-Alder will explore the intersection of technology and creativity, featuring new works of computer music, interactive performance and sculptural installations. They will be joined by researchers and artists from Princeton and Columbia Universities.

Saturday, June 4 and June 5, 2003

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Factory, located at 34 North Valley Road

ART IN THE FACTORY

Art exhibit and opening reception will feature many accomplished artists from town, some of whom have become internationally known.

Voluntary Contribution:

For most events \$5 per adult. For the String Band \$10 per adult, \$5 for seniors and children.

SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

2003 - 2004

Contributions received after November 16 will appear in the February *Bulletin*.

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***The Bulletin* is pleased to accept articles having to do in any way with the Borough of Roosevelt, including literary works by local residents and others with ties to the community. However, due to the fact that this is a non-profit publication that is dependent upon public contributions, articles designed to promote the sale of products or services for profit cannot be accepted.**

BUSINESS SPONSORS

The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and business, 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: \$40.00/year, \$50.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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DECEMBER & JANUARY

Please send your events and activities to Jane Rothfuss, Box 122, 448-3713 or email: kirkjane@juno.com

Every Wednesday 7 - 8:30 p.m., Library open at RPS (adults need Monmouth County library card)
Call Delores Chasan, 609-448-2062 for information

Every Saturday at RPS 7:30 p.m., Cartoon Movie;
8:30 p.m. Family Movie Call Rec Commission 448-0539
or check Bulletin Board

December

1	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall President Neil Marko 609-443-6818
		8:00 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting Mayor Michael Hamilton 609-443-5227
2	Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351
3	Wed.		RECYCLE RPS PTA Holiday Gift Fair – School hours, President Larisa Bondy 609- 443-7430
4	Thurs.		RPS PTA Holiday Gift Fair – School & evening hours
5	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day
6	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	RAP Program, Cool Women Read Poetry, Borough Hall
8	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting Mayor Michael Hamilton 609-443-5227
9	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Chairman Ralph Seligman 609- 448-2340
15	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall President Neil Marko 609-443-6818
17	Wed.		RECYCLE
18	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting RPS President Jill Lipoti 609-448-9214
		7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting Neil Marko 609-443-6818
		7:30 p.m.	Environmental Commission Meeting Borough Hall Kirk Rothfuss 609- 448-3713
19	Fri.		Pizza Day Hanukkah Begins at Sundown
23	Tues.		RPS Early Dismissal-Winter Recess Begins

25	Thurs.		Christmas Day
26	Fri.		Kwanza Begins
31	Wed.		RECYCLE

January Preview

1	Thurs.		New Year's Day - RPS Closed
5	Mon.		RPS Resumes Classes
6	Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448- 0351
8	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting RPS, President Jill Lipoti 609-448-9214
12	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting RPS President Larisa Bondy 609-443-7430
		7:30 p.m.	Council Meeting Borough Hall Mayor Neil Marko 609-443-6818
13	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Chairman Ralph Seligman 609-448-2340
14	Wed.		RECYCLE
15	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting Neil Marko 609-443-6818
		7:30 p.m.	Environmental Commission Meeting Borough Hall Kirk Rothfuss 609-448-3713
19	Mon.		RPS Closed - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
23	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day
26	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall
28	Wed.		RECYCLE

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