

Bulletin

B O R O U G H C O U N C I L N E W S

Moser and Shapiro Join Council; Recreation Director Appointed

By Michael Ticktin

The Borough Council began the new year by welcoming its two newly elected members, Patricia Moser and Elly Shapiro. Together with Councilwoman Marilyn Magnes, who was elected to complete the remaining year of the term to which Michael Stiles was elected and in which he was succeeded by the late Judith Trachtenberg, and Councilmen Jeff Hunt and Neil Marko, they ran as supporters of Mayor Michael Hamilton. Councilman George Vasseur is now the only member whose tenure on the Council antedates that of Mr. Hamilton.

Also at the January 1 reorganization meeting, the Mayor and Council appointed Eric Shubiger to the newly established position of recreation director. Mr. Shubiger holds a similar position in East Windsor and Mayor Hamilton indicated that he expects that, in addition to offering local recreation programs for people of all ages, Roosevelt will now be able to offer participation in programs that East Windsor offers as well.

Jeff Hunt was elected president of the Council and Neil Marko and Michael Ticktin were reappointed as the Council member and public official members of the Planning Board, respectively, for one-year terms. Beth Battel and Robert Petrilla were appointed to fill the four-year seats previously

held by Gail Hunton and Joseph Zahora. Ed Moser was appointed to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of Kate John-Alder for the two years remaining. Shoshanna Grunwald was appointed to a one-year term as an alternate member.

Mr. Moser was also appointed to fill Ms. John-Alder's seat on the Environmental Commission, it being a requirement that there be one person holding concurrent membership on both bodies. Also appointed to the Environmental Commission were Susan Dermody and David Schwendeman to three-year terms and Elly Shapiro to a one-year term as Council representative.

The Council is now in the process of preparing the annual budget. It is necessary that all requests for funding be presented to the Council as soon as possible in order to allow consideration to be given to them.

In addition to reappointing Douglas Kovats as municipal attorney, the Mayor and Council appointed Jeffrey Surenian as special counsel for the U.S. Home litigation and Edward Eastman as special counsel for tax lien foreclosure on the former gas station property. Mr. Eastman's office is in the process of reviewing records concerning the property prior to getting formal Council approval for the filing of an action for foreclosure.



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IMPORTANT!

February Blood Drive

When: February 21, 2002

Time: 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Where: Roosevelt Borough Hall

Sign-up Will Begin February 9th at the Post Office

Attention Pedestrians and Bicyclists



Pedestrians: always walk on the side of the road that faces the traffic so that you can see approaching cars and move to the edge of the road out of their path.

AT NIGHT: be sure to have some form of light catching fabric attached to your garment so that the lights of approaching cars can pick up your presence OR carry a lit flashlight so that the light can be seen by approaching cars.



Bicyclists: always ride on the side of the road along with car traffic.

Bicycles should be equipped with a mirror so that the rider is aware of cars behind him and can move to the side of the road out of the car's path.

Always ride single file.

AT NIGHT: as above be sure to have some form of light catching fabric attached to your garment OR some form of light on the bicycle itself so that cars are aware of your presence.

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Optional Elements Proposed For New Master Plan

Mayor Michael Hamilton, who also serves on the Planning Board, appointed four new members to the Board in January. Praising the previous Board's long effort to create a new Master Plan in time for December's meeting, incoming Chairman Ralph Seligman proposed adding several elements optional under state law. Mr. Seligman replaced outgoing Chairwoman Gail Hunton, who resigned from the Board at the end of her latest term. Ms. Hunton had served on the Board for 15 years, much of that time as Chair. Mr. Seligman also has served many years on the Board, including several as Chair.

The new members are: Ed Moser, replacing Kate John-Alder, who resigned with two years remaining on her term as the representative of the Environmental Commission; Beth Battel and Robert Petrilla for full four-year terms; and, Shoshanna Grunwald for the remaining year of an alternate member term. Mayor Hamilton also re-appointed Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin to another year as the public official member. Neil Marko will continue in 2002 as the Borough Council's representative on the Board. Also serving on the Board are Jane Rothfuss and David Ticktin. In addition to electing Mr. Seligman Chairman, the Board elected David Ticktin Vice-Chairman and Ann Kassahun Secretary. Former Vice-Chairman Joseph Zahora and Mark Roberts also completed their service on the Board in 2001. One alternate position remains vacant. When it is filled, the Board will have nine members and two alternates.

Board members lauded those who concluded their service in 2001.

Mayor Hamilton praised the way in which Mr. Zahora presided, as the then-Chairman, over the hearing on the application for a 65-unit development on the Notterman tract. Mr. Hamilton also praised Attorney Michele Donato's successful defense in court of the Board's decision to deny the application. Eventually, the state Green Acres program purchased the land for open space and connected it to the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area with the purchase of an adjacent tract in Millstone Township.

By a seven-to-one vote — David Ticktin voting no — the Board retained Ms. Donato for 2002. Mr. Seligman said Planning Consultant Michael Sullivan did a good job drafting the Master Plan but found Mr. Sullivan's firm, Clarke Caton Hintz, to be "expensive." He proposed Tom Thomas for 2002, and the Board postponed a vote on the position until next month. The Board decided to continue to hold its monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month during 2002.

With Ms. Hunton presiding at the December 11 meeting, the Board approved a Master Plan more in line with a recent zoning decision repealing the planned community development ordinance governing the northern farmlands. After the zoning change, U.S. Home sued the Borough, alleging failure to provide for Roosevelt's fair share of affordable housing. The lawsuit is pending. The new Master Plan also calls for eliminating the industrial zone on the northern side of Oscar Drive.

Mr. Seligman proposed several objectives for the Board in the com-

ing months. He urged the Board to recommend zoning amendments to the Council that would make the Borough's zoning ordinance conform even more to the new Master Plan. He said an historic preservation plan and a capital improvements program — both optional elements for the Master Plan — should be prepared. Mr. Seligman reminded the Board that Millstone Township and Roosevelt are pursuing jointly a Smart Growth Planning Grant from the state Department of Community Affairs. He said Roosevelt's portion emphasizes the study of capital improvement needs. Mayor Hamilton noted that such studies also would help the Council's long range planning.

George Pall, co-owner of Diamond Machine Company, informally presented his proposal for additions to his machine shop on North Valley Road, including a second building and added parking. Bert Ellentuck and Sam Adlerman, nearby residential neighbors, praised Mr. Pall's operation of the light industrial property and suggested topics that should be addressed in a formal application. Mr. Seligman said he would prepare a memorandum regarding issues that would have to be resolved to deal with deficiencies.

Zoning Officer Ed Goetzmann reported progress in his effort to curtail the parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas. Regarding unsightly parking practices, Mr. Goetzmann indicated that improved parking ordinances would assist his enforcement work. He distributed copies of various ordinances relating to parking in the Borough. ■

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.”

The new governor inherits a deficit... On January 15, James McGreevey was sworn in as New Jersey's 51st elected governor. Governor McGreevey's inaugural address stressed predictions of a \$4 billion to \$6 billion state budget deficit. The Governor also stated that he would not raise taxes and not borrow the state into even more debt; he used the terms “belt-tightening”, “frugality” and “living within our means” often.

How does the state budget affect Roosevelt property taxes? An increase in state aid to the municipality and the school board could mean lower property taxes because the state is picking up more of the homeowners' tab. A decrease in state aid could mean that property taxes increase. In

the December Bulletin, I outlined how property tax dollars and water/sewer utility fees are collected and dispersed. Education costs, which include running our own kindergarten through sixth grade elementary school, tuition paid to the East Windsor School Board for our 7th through 12th graders, transportation and special education account for 74.7% of your tax dollar. The municipal budget comprises only 13.8% of your tax dollar. That is why the amount of state aid for education can determine whether property taxes go up or down in any one year.

One of my primary goals since taking office two years ago has been to reduce property taxes. That is why as Mayor I worked with State Assemblyman Joe Malone, school board members, school administrators, and a citizens' group to get our fair share of state aid for education in Roosevelt. Before we began our efforts, the state picked up around 24% of the actual cost of educating our students. As a result of our hard work, state aid increased to 34% of the actual educational budget and that is the primary reason why property taxes have declined in Roosevelt. Many Roosevelt citizens do not realize that state mandates control a major portion of educational and municipal budgets. It seems only fair that the state should pay for what it requires local governments to do.

If state aid is cut due to the state's budget deficit, does that mean that property taxes will go up? Not necessarily. Through careful management and by “belt-tightening”, money can be reserved to be applied in the next budget in order to make up for state aid shortfalls. Historically, municipal reserve funds have been used to help keep property taxes level. For the last two years, because we have severely curtailed unnecessary spending and we have earned interest on our bank accounts, municipal reserve funds have grown and have been used to reduce taxes. Unlike the Borough, the Board of Education is limited by law in the amount of reserve funds that it is allowed to retain.

Water Meters. Last month, the state notified the Borough Council that we must begin to install water meters for rate payers. We have reserved \$20,000 in the water and sewer budget to be applied toward the installation of water meters. The meters will be installed over the next few years. When all of the meters are finally in place and calibrated, the rate payer will pay for the actual amount of water used instead of a flat fee per month. The good news is that the new billing system based upon actual usage, will be more equitable. Homeowners who use very little water will pay less than those who use a great deal of water. I will be writing about this in future columns as more information becomes available.

Continued on Page 13

From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

Happy New Year! The new year promises to have a focus on education on the federal, state and local level. On the federal level President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Law, which will drive all federal and much state education policy for the next five years. The No Child Left behind Law reflects each of the four pillars of the President's reform blueprint: accountability and testing, flexibility and local control, funding for what works, and expanded parental options. It is a comprehensive overhaul of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. It includes testing of all students in reading and math in grades 3 through 8, and emphasizes preschool and early childhood literacy.

Governor McGreevey has selected a new commissioner of education, Dr. William L. Librera, who is a former superintendent of schools for Montclair and Allamuchy. He is currently associated with Jersey City University.

The National School Boards Association, New Jersey School Boards Association and the New Jersey State Board of Education had declared January, 2002, as School Boards Recognition Month. In Roosevelt, we are especially fortunate to have school board members who are worthy of this recognition. Board members strive to diligently carry out their responsibilities as defined in Title 18A of New Jersey statutes.

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RCNS February Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

In January, our class welcomed in 2002 by making our New Year's wishes and birthday cakes. We also celebrated Chinese New Year, the year of the horse. We made Chinese good luck envelopes and Chinese dragons as well. Gung Hey Fat Choy!

The class learned about the Arctic in January and how polar bears, penguins and other animals survive the harsh climate. We also observed the different animals and birds that we see in winter. We made bird feeders to feed our feathered friends. We reviewed how some birds migrate to warmer climates and that some animals hibernate for the winter. We made snowflakes and snowmen as well.

During February we will learn about keeping our hearts healthy. We will listen to our hearts during quiet time as well as after some exercise.

The children eagerly anticipate Valentine's Day this month. We make our special Valentine mailboxes so that the children may exchange Valentines. We stress the meaning of friendship and kindness to others at this time.

Our class is having Presidents' Week this month. We will find out interesting facts and stories about Washington and Lincoln and learn how important the President's job is.

Dental Health Month is this month. The children will learn about their teeth and their special care. We will make big toothbrushes and take a trip to visit the dentist. The children really enjoy their rides in the dental chair!

February School Dates

February 5	Early dismissal
Feb. 14	Kindergarten & 1st grade – 100th day of celebration
Feb. 14 & 28	School Board meeting, 7:30, in the library
Feb. 15 & 18	School closed – President's weekend
Feb. 20 & 21	Early dismissal – Parent conferences afternoon & evenings
Feb. 23	PTA Winter Carnival & Chinese Auction - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Feb. 28	Physical Education Fitness-A-Thon

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar
by phone 448-5191, 18 Pine Drive.

I just returned from a rare opportunity to travel and I've concluded that traveling periodically is absolutely necessary for one's mental and spiritual health and as such should be made mandatory for everybody. What a pleasure it is seeing new people and places and things!

As luck would have it, I was sent "on business" to San Francisco, which is an incredibly beautiful, liveable, outdoor city. The weather was in the 70's and clear while we were there, the California sun soft and bright, and there were people all over the place, mingling in the many parks and streets. You can spend days wandering among the pastel-colored Victorian houses stacked on SF's hills, but there are also places like Golden Gate Park, the Chalet House, the beautiful Palace of Fine Arts, George Segal's Holocaust Memorial, the Presidio, Fisherman's Wharf, the Pacific Ocean, the new Giants baseball stadium, Chinatown, Pacific Heights, the City Lights Bookshop, cable cars, and so forth to see. And, San Franciscans seem happy to be outside, and generally love their city as well they should.

One of my colleagues called SF the most European American city, and another one, who had lived there for years, described it as the kind of place where "you can be happy even if you wake up feeling depressed." SF is a wonderful walking city, like Paris, a great outdoor city and, yes, there are flowers and green vegetation there even in January. If you search the Internet, you can find round trip tickets now available for under \$200.

In any event, travel is wonderful but life, as the French poet Apollinaire once said, consists of sustaining some

kind of dynamic balance between order and adventure, so here's some of the highlights of our happy, dynamic order of the past couple months:

Schools

Roosevelt Public School

Michael Cordo, a fifth grader, received recognition for his entry in the Youth Art Month, 2002 Poster Competition, held by the Arts Educators of New Jersey. Michael's poster will be on display at the State House in Trenton from March 11-15.

The RPS Winter Carnival will be held on February 23 in the school lobby and gym. As always, it will be an extravaganza and volunteers are needed.

The Peddie School

Ina Clark received high academic honors for the fall semester. Ina is a freshman at Peddie.

Hightstown High School

Haley Reimbold was awarded the *Outstanding Youth Involvement Award* by the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey. Haley is co-president of the HHS Red Cross Club.

Junior Christopher Wong, a consistent honor student, was inducted into the National Honor Society in November. Chris also swims for the school's boys' swimming team.

Sophomore Jesse Parsons is also a member of the boys' Varsity swimming team.

Molly Petrilla was announced a Bloustein Distinguished Scholar for the graduating class of 2002. She also was chosen as "Athlete of the

Week" in November by the Trentonian sports page. Molly is a senior student-tennis standout.

Nathaniel Kostar is a starting guard for the high school boys' basketball team, which is currently leading the CVC Valley division with a 6-1 record. Nathaniel is a junior.

Lian Garton, a sophomore, has had an eventful fall. Lian is a member of the Mock trial Team, which competes against other high school teams. She was also nominated to attend the International Summit of Young Technology Leaders that will take place this summer. The Summit is held in Austin, Texas and invitations are extended to students "of high academic standing, with leadership potential and an interest in pursuing a career in technology."

Honor Roll Students for First Marking Period:

High Honors: Lian Garton (10th grade), Leah Howse (11th), Molly Petrilla (12th).

Regular Honors: Laurel Hamilton (9th), Elizabeth Stinson (9th), Jesse Parson (10th), Lindsay Possiel (10th), Tina Vasseur (10th), Jeff Possiel (11th), Christina Septak (11th), Chris Wong (11th), Shaun Conover (12th), Sarah Skillman (12th).

If anyone was inadvertently left off this list, I apologize and please let me know and I'll include your name in the March column.

Colleges

Kathleen Alfare, who attends Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA, is a member of the school's equestrian club

Continued on Page 17

Suggested by Peter Warren just before he died and finished by George Shally

"People" is a column about individuals who live in Roosevelt. It will appear from time to time.

The LEEFERS

The Leefer family was among the original settlers, coming to Roosevelt in 1936. During his first summer in town, Bernie joined the WPA crew that was building the community and worked with them on the roads and in the forming of the concrete slabs that formed the house roof. That same year, at age 18, he was off to Louisiana State University where he studied chemical and mechanical engineering. It was there that he began sending a postcard every day to his parents in Roosevelt, a tradition that continued for more than thirty-five years, until they died.

After graduation, he came back to Roosevelt to work in Trenton. At that time, Florence (Figgie) Shally was visiting her sister Mars Margolis,

another old time resident and met Bernie. The young couple became part of the social scene in town, which included the young Zionists at the Hechalutz Farm who were training to become kibbutzim in Israel (not to mention clandestine training for the Hagganah).

Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, Figgie joined the WAVES where she served her country until she married Bernie. At that time, he was transferred to Pearl Harbor by the navy working on aircraft carriers and submarines, where they remained until the war was over.

After the war, Bernie was assigned by the government to NASA, in Alabama, working on developing rockets that carried us to the moon. From there

he went to Washington with the AEC, finally ending his career in Cleveland with the Space Agency.

After his retirement, the Leefer family moved back to Roosevelt in 1973 into Bernie's parents' original house, and immediately became active in community affairs, renewing old relationships with friends and family who had also settled in town – the Margolises, Goldbergs and the Shallys, all longtime residents. Bernie successfully ran for the Council where he served for many years.

Today they travel around leisurely visiting their three children and grandchildren in Brooklyn, Virginia and Maryland, but their roots are still in Roosevelt. ■

FROM THE CSA

Continued from Page 5

The Roosevelt Board of Education is presently seeking qualified candidates for membership to the Board. A Board member candidate must be:

- a citizen of the United States
- at least 18 years of age
- able to read and write
- a resident of Roosevelt Borough for at least 1 year preceding the date of appointment
- registered to vote in the district
- not disqualified pursuant to NJSA 19:401

Any qualified Roosevelt resident interested in serving on the Board can pick up an application in the business office of the school. Completed applications must be returned to the school business administrator no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 25, 2002.

We continue to receive wonderful donations to our school. Each classroom has a beautiful new world map donated by Alanna Fenner, on behalf of the Maersk-Sealand Corporation. Lovely new book donations have been added to our student library shelves, thanks to the Lipoti/Garton family, the Adlermans and the Atwoods. We are grateful to our library volunteers who enable us to keep the library open each Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:30.

The Panhandle Alliance (Millstone, Upper Freehold and Roosevelt school districts) continues in its school regionalization study. Two portions of this study have been completed: the demographics and financial sections. The third section consists of a community survey. This survey will be conducted by telephone to randomly

selected Roosevelt residents. The phone survey is scheduled to begin soon, and should you be selected to participate, please take your time and answer each question thoughtfully. When the study is completed, results will be made public.

Our winter concert was scheduled for the evening of January 29.

Congratulations to fifth grade student Michael Cordo, who received recognition for participating in the Monmouth County Youth Art competition.

A crossing guard is still needed for mornings and afternoons on the corner of Pine and school Lane. This position can be filled by more than one person. Please call the Borough Hall for more information. ■

**Peter Warren
1922-2001**

A village is the people who make it up, and one of the hardest things about living in a small village is the way people close to you, people who make up your village, inevitably disappear, leaving behind a void that can never be completely filled. To me, Peter Warren's death early in November, was such a loss, and my village will never be quite the same.

Peter was a controversial figure around Roosevelt, with more than his share of people who wondered what on earth drove him in his quixotic crusades and candidacies. To me, though, Peter Warren was a good friend, almost from the time that Robin and I moved here in 1983. If we differed on local issues, we agreed to disagree, and left it at that. Our friendship was rooted in our shared love for music, for writing, for Italy, and for the life of the mind. Peter had an extraordinary life, from his years driving ambulances at the front in World War II to his many travels, adventures and struggles in Africa on behalf of the UN, USAID and a host of other international organizations. He would recount all of it in a witty, thoughtful and sensitive fashion,

bringing alive a world I knew only from books and newspapers. I could listen to him for hours. I know how much effort he put into trying to write about his experiences, and I hope he left enough behind that someday it will be published for others to share.

We loved to talk about Italy and practice our rough and ready Italian on one another. He knew and loved Italy and its culture, as only a man to whom art, history and culture were second nature could. When I began my own efforts to write a biography of the Italian composer Pietro Mascagn in the late 1980's – having never done anything remotely like it before – Peter was a constant source of help and encouragement. He urged me onward, suggested directions for my research and read my drafts. He was always generous with his time, and with his thoughtful, insightful comments. I am sorry that, now that the book is about to come out, Peter will not be here to see the work to which he contributed so much, more that he realized.

Vale, Peter Warren. I will miss your presence and your friendship.

Alan Mallach

By Clare Sacharoff

At the Senior Citizens' meeting on Tuesday, January 8, Dolores Chasan reminded the members that in his December column, Michael Hamilton wrote about the fact that the school and the borough are discussing the possibility of sharing a passenger van. As both the municipality and the school would share the costs, there would be availability to transport senior residents to medical appointments. Dolores suggested that our seniors should let the Council know how appreciative they are that their needs are being considered. As everyone knows, seniors who can no longer drive have great problems in our non-public transportation town. Let the Council know!!

Herb Johnson, Gerry Millar and Dolores Chasan will present a proposed budget to the Council. As a good will gesture, in order to lower the total expenditures of the once-a-month box lunches given to the Seniors, the group agreed to cancel the March Lunch.

George Vasseur will remain the Council representative to the Seniors' Group.

The January event included a trip to the Quaker Bridge Mall followed by lunch at Perkins Restaurant on Jan. 15.

Lillian Warren has joined the club and all welcome her participation.

Following the meeting, new member Karen Block provided delicious refreshments.

The next meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 5th, at 1 o'clock and will present a speaker from the state, whose topic will be Identity Theft, an important speech not to be missed.

**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!"
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

A Long Time Ago

When she was a young woman in Germany, my mother was having a relationship with a young man of a different faith which was severely frowned upon by both sets of parents (a different time), to the point where, finally, they were asked to stop seeing each other and my mother-to-be was very unhappy.

Her mother wrote about the problem to her other daughter, Martha, who was in the U.S., already well established with her husband in a thriving retail business in Hoboken, NJ. Martha wrote back to her mother and suggested that she send Hannah, her sister, who was to be my mother, to America as she had a very nice young man working in her husband's store who was looking for a wife. He had come earlier to the U.S. at the age of twelve with his nine year old brother, all by themselves, from Lithuania where they were met by his father who had come three years before with his two older sons. I cannot imagine a twelve-year old today being capable of doing that! Obviously, he was a very resourceful person even at that tender age.

So, it was decided upon and Hannah came to the U.S. in 1911, met the young man who was to be my father, and they were married after



a short courtship. The young man, still resourceful, later was the owner of what later became Lindy's on Broadway!

I had heard this story when I was quite young and it went into my "memory basket" along with many others, which have gathered so much dust that they are almost beyond retrieval. However, upon my mother's death, many years later, when I went to my parents' apartment, in the back of her closet, I found an old shoe box

(doesn't everyone have one?) filled with the memorabilia one collects during one's lifetime, including old photos and letters that brought back times and places I hardly remembered. And then I found a real gem – a picture postcard, yellowed and tattered, depicting the New York skyline as it was then. Unfortunately, I have since displaced it! Turning it over, I learned that it was a card that my father had written to my mother while she was still in Germany and whom he had not yet met, on which he had written "This is what I'll show you when you come."

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:

Robin Gould	448-4616
Marilyn Mages	448-6402
Pearl Seligman	448-2340

In Memoriam

The following two essays were read at the Tribute to Jacob on December 7.

For Jacob

When I was in grade school and high school, I never felt that an artist's occupation was in any way exceptional. After all, Jacob Landau, Stephan Martin, Ben Shahn and Gregorio Prestopino were my neighbors. Similarly, the writers and musicians in town were neighbors, parents of the kids I saw in school every day, people I saw at the post office and at parties around town. Because a life in the arts seemed so ordinary, art and the people who created it seemed available to me and creativity was a given. I didn't realize how lucky I'd been to grow up in such a milieu until I left Roosevelt for college.

Although I've been away from Roosevelt for a long time, I've often thought about the people who influenced me in a positive way. One of those who had the strongest effect on me was Jacob.

Before I ever interacted with Jacob personally, there were, of course, the paintings and drawings. I marveled at the strange, convoluted shapes and vibrant colors in Jacob's visions of biblical wrath at a world gone wrong. I was immediately fascinated by his use of text with graphic images. Whenever I saw a new painting by Jacob, I felt that I was being taught to see in a way that I never had before.

Beyond the paintings and drawings was the context within which they were produced and which they often addressed. One work that has always stood out in my mind, and which I doubt will lose its timeliness in the near future is Jacob's portrait of Albert Einstein. It carried this quotation:

"The splitting of the atom has changed everything save our mode of thinking. Thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe."

The quote was embedded in the drawing in a way that forced the viewer to observe the great physicist and philosopher in remorseful contemplation of a gradually disintegrating planet. Jacob's work, in this and many other ways, reflected an engagement with the world, in contrast with the otherworldliness of pre-Renaissance religious paintings and the solipsism of much recent conceptual art. This activist stance of the artist toward the world made a great impression on me.

We've heard a lot about a cultural war taking place in the United States, although that sort of talk died down recently. But there has been a cultural conflict in this country since the end of the Civil War – namely, a tension between individual autonomy and creative expression on one side, and increasing corporate power and influence on our culture on the other. Jacob's art was firmly situated in favor of individuality and creativity, and I don't think a full appreciation of his work is possible unless one considers the context and Jacob's responses to it.

Underlying Jacob's work was the idea that our socially constructed 'reality', in terms of patterns of behavior that come to seem 'natural' and permanent over time, is the result of choices made at various points throughout history that could have gone differently. Thus it is our moral obligation as thinking people to decide whether we are willing to accept reality as it is or to do what we can to attain a rational, humane, viable alternative.

Certainly he was outraged by injustice. During the Vietnam War, Jacob spoke at a town meeting on the subject, so angry about what our country was doing in Southeast Asia that he could hardly contain himself. He was hardly alone in that.

I remember excited discussions in the early 1970s about alternatives to our culture's relentless devouring of the Earth's resources. The United States had finally withdrawn from Vietnam. Buckminster Fuller's ideas were the object of much attention, and Jacob's studio was in a geodesic dome based on one of Fuller's concepts. Then stagflation, the Iran hostage crisis and political reaction brought Ronald Reagan to office, and the utopian dreams we'd discussed seemed to recede far into the distance.

Jacob's influence on me extended beyond his paintings. Jacob and Franny had a wonderful book collection in the entry of their house where Jacob introduced me to the works of Thomas Pynchon and to *Neutron Star* by Larry Niven. They also had an interesting record collection. One day Jonas and I, being typical suburban teenagers, spent the afternoon lounging on the living room couches, listening to Jacob and Franny's Stockhausen records. It would be a few years before I realized how privileged I'd been to have that experience.

But mostly I remember going to the studio with Jonas [Jacob's son, editor's note]. There would be Jacob, working on a new project while classical music played in the background, or getting ready to eat a meal prepared by Franny. Jacob was gently welcoming, obviously delighted with life, brimming with curiosity and humor. He would ask us what we were doing with ourselves and encourage us – more by being himself than by saying or doing anything.

Jacob lived life with creativity, intelligence, commitment and humor, sharing what he could along the way. He acted on the notion that not only could he create works of art, but that one's life itself could be a work of art.

I've always wanted to do that, and although I haven't achieved it, I still want to.

Jacob – For everything you taught me, for everything you shared with me, for making me laugh and want to grow.

Thank you. I love you.

By *Ethan Rips*

Tribute to Jacob Landau

There were rumors, when I first moved into a small town in New Jersey, that the artist in his dome studio just visible through the woods from my house was wrestling with Dante. And it was true. In the microcosm of that geodesic dome, Jacob Landau and Dante Alighieri were locked in a struggle. Descending circle by circle into hell, Jacob created powerful images to mock and counter Dante's. At the same time, Dante's images pierced the artist.

At stake in this inferno of imaginative fires was his own body, its hopes and desires, as well as the body of humanity itself, mutilated and destroyed by the tortures and massacres of our century. And after nearly seven years wrestling, Jacob awoke refreshed, having received a blessing: the seven miraculous prints of his Dante Cycle.

Becoming Jacob's friend over the years to follow, as I was fortunate to do, was to keep company with a wrestler. Always, he was in the grip of a struggle, often with some unseen presence. And there was no guarantee of a blessing, and he knew it.

His illustrations to Dante's *Inferno* followed on the heels of 10 monumental stained glass windows

commissioned by the Keneseth Israel synagogue in Elkins Park, each devoted to an individual prophet. These two works of the early 70s—this pictorial symphony in glass, which he called the "Prophetic Quest," and the chamber music of the Dante Cycle prints—epitomize what I came to cherish about Jacob: his commitment to STRUGGLE. He struggled against principalities and powers, the art world, the state, the self:

- He struggled with personal obsessions
- With ideas and with images, which for him were ideas
- He struggled to make sense of our tragicomic world, to understand the life of the world and its death, to transform it into a better world by the power of the image.

I was privileged to be invited into this striving life. It was exhilarating. Like a crackling bonfire, it warmed me and made me nervous.

Jacob's power to make us uneasy is what I want to celebrate tonight. As a friend, challenging my cherished notions, and as an artist making unsettling, seductive images, he made me uneasy. Prophets do this.

Not the kind of prophet who predicts the future, but the prophet who simply says, in the words of the Chinese proverb that Jacob was fond of quoting, "If you don't change direction, you might end up where you are headed." Jacob was this kind of prophet:

- During Vietnam he protested against the course of the state
- And he continually wrestled with where he was headed as a person and as an artist

- He struggled with where the art establishment was headed in its denigrating or even deleting of the human body and its swallowing of formalism
- He set himself like flint against individual artists who in his words "give the images back to society that society wants to see"; his antagonism was unremitting because it was this kind of artist who did not know what was at stake, and thus was dangerous.

An irony Jacob would have relished: The night after he was buried, an artist was featured on a national TV news magazine who churns out works by the thousands with the declared intent of giving society the images it *wants* to see. Proud of his pious life, he glowed with pride as he described the images he made of cozy cottages in the woods, all according to the same formula with the same saccharine light.

And I'm reminded of Jacob's contempt for the fashionable Colombian artist on the left, Botero, who portrays everyone using a single best-selling formula: from kids to tyrants they all have the same exaggerated rotund features.

In his two triumphs of the 70s, Jacob came to identify with the Biblical prophets who made everyone uneasy. They were the true heroes of struggle, bearing witness to cruelty and challenging the entrenched powers of the state for the redemption of a people.

This means stress. But where there is no stress, Jacob believed, there is no growth; there is only death. Jacob's commitment to *life* was thus a commitment to *struggle*.

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As a resident of Monmouth County (I live in nearby Manalapan) I have enjoyed living around farms and open land. As the county has been becoming heavily developed, I really wanted to be a part of helping keep a sense of community and making this area of New Jersey a special place to be. While we cannot always stop new housing developments, we can “work hard” at making our towns friendly, fun, and downright neighborly places to live. Preserving land is the “physical” part of the answer, while bringing back a sense of community and family fun that can happen on a farm is the “social” part of developing our community. I am excited to tell you about what we are doing on Gold Farms, but first I would like to share my thoughts on Roosevelt.

When I inquired to the Monmouth County Agriculture Department about interesting land preservation projects, the person I spoke to knew immediately what to tell me, “Contact Rod Tulloss, he is working on a great project to keep the town of Roosevelt a unique and community involved town.” A couple of years later, after much hard work by Rod and the Fund for Roosevelt, I purchased what was referred to as the Northern farm. We are turning this land into Gold Farms, an organic farm that specializes in heirloom vegetables, fruits, and herbs. Our real emphasis, however, is on building a community farm that offers activities and events that involve all the people of Roosevelt and the surrounding communities.

After speaking with Rod, I was totally convinced that Roosevelt is so special that we had to preserve its legacy. I was amazed at Rod’s tenacity, creativity, and love for the uniqueness of Roosevelt. To look around you in Roosevelt is to peek into history. Here is a town

- that is a State and National Registered Historic District

- that was home to the first woman fire fighter (and fire chief) in NJ
- that it has an unbelievable mural by one of the greatest artists in America
- that is a place that attracts great talent
- that invites all citizens to the sixth grade graduation!

The history speaks for itself, but now let’s turn to the future. We at Gold Farms want to help inspire the next generation of citizens — the children of Roosevelt — future artists, entrepreneurs, poets, lawyers, teachers, and scientists to reach new heights and to do it while living in Roosevelt. There is great history and will be a great future in our town — just consider the resources — your children, your neighbors, and yourself. At Gold Farms we want to join in the collective job of continuing and enriching a special community in a way that helps attract and brings out such talent. From talking with people in town, I feel we all enjoy the memories of the past. Gold Farms wants to be a part of creating an equally unique and eclectic environment for our children, ourselves, and the generations to follow. If we can succeed in this, we will have truly done our part in preserving Roosevelt’s legacy.

I thank Rod and the whole town of Roosevelt for allowing me to be a part of a great community. I am looking forward to the fantastic journey we will have over the coming years.

Gold Farms: A Community and Organic Farm

Bill Phelps, my close associate and farm director, and his team are extremely busy transforming the land into a beautiful organic farm that can be enjoyed by the entire community with visits and events. In early November, after much soil testing and soil preparation, we planted our first crop of organic, heirloom garlic;

over 20 varieties selected for unique and outstanding flavor. So, if you love to cook or eat fresh and natural, you’ll enjoy using our garlic in your recipes.

Heirlooms are plants for which families have carefully saved the seeds in their natural state for over fifty years. Once planted, these seeds grow into delicious and nutritious foods, which come back “true to type,” or in other words, the next generation will look and taste like its parent. [As opposed to other produce that uses genetically modified seeds and is grown with chemicals hoping to produce a high yield.] At Gold Farms, we are always searching for different variety of heirlooms to provide you with the best old time flavor and goodness.

Our current project, managed by Natalie Peric, is constructing two greenhouses that will rely heavily on both active and passive solar power. These greenhouses will yield a mixture of lettuces, greens, herbs, and edible flowers. Gold Farms will be packaging these into delicious salad mixes ready to serve and eat. After construction is complete, we will be giving tours and conducting educational programs about the greenhouses, ecology, natural and organic growing practices, the use of renewable energy sources, and nutrition.

Gold Farms consists of approximately 88 acres of tillable farmland, woods, and a pond. In addition to the garlic and greenhouses, we are in the design phase for the remaining acres of tillable land. We are also developing a Woodland Management Program to protect the woodlands and pond. Part of this plan is to have children and adults rediscover nature by having walking and jogging trails that have information along the way about the surrounding trees, plants, and wildlife. We will also be using the woodlands to demonstrate agro forestry (growing food and other useful plants such as mushrooms, herbs, native plants as well as fruit, nut, and specialty trees).

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FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

Continued from Page 4

Congratulations to new Council members... I would like to extend my congratulations to Pat Moser and Elly Shapiro who took the oath of office at the reorganization meeting on January 1st, 2002. Marilyn Magnes, who was elected to fill the remaining year of a three-year term, officially took office in November. Like Council members present and past, they have volunteered to devote considerable time, energy and dedication to their official tasks. Judging by the turnout at the meeting (and by the lively dialogue in last month's *Bulletin*) I can report to you that participatory democracy is alive and well in Roosevelt.

I wish everyone peace, good health, and much happiness in the new year.

Mike Hamilton, Mayor
Phone: 443-5227

Roosevelt Ordinance #165, also known as "The Administrative Code" requires the Mayor to report annually to the Council and the public on the state of the borough. For those of you who were unable to attend the Reorganization Meeting on New Year's Day, I have included a summary of my address in this month's column.

In my opinion, this is as good as it gets. We live in a *real community* of friends and neighbors. Look around you. How many places are there to live in where you can know most of your neighbors and be friends with people of all ages? We are a tight-knit community. We share our happiness and our sorrows. We act like an extended family.

How many places are there where you can take walks anywhere in town, any time of the day and night and where you are likely to see other people walking whom you know?

How many towns have their own small school with an average class size of fifteen children and where children feel that their efforts matter? How many towns have sixth-grade graduations where the young graduates tell the town in their own words what growing up in Roosevelt has meant to them?

Think about what most people want everywhere in the world... They want the right to govern themselves and they want a safe place to raise their families. They want what we have, many are willing to die for what we have in Roosevelt.

When you serve in office here and you are passionate about your beliefs, you have vigorous policy arguments about what is best for the town. This is something that only happens in true democracies.

It is a sign of engagement in a real democracy. It is good to remember that our arguments should not be personal attacks but dialogues about what we value most. Everyone who lives here has a voice in Roosevelt and everyone's voice matters. Roosevelt citizens know that they can come to public meetings and speak their minds. Make no mistake about it, if you do not govern yourself, someone else will.

I feel fortunate to live here and so I devote some of my time and energy to Roosevelt. Many others feel as I do and so they volunteer. All of the Council members are volunteers. Roosevelt depends upon volunteers and we have many. Newly-elected Council members, Pat Moser and Elly Shapiro and Marilyn Magnes, have volunteered to serve because they feel that they owe something to the town. As elected officials who have earned your votes, we are aware that we have received the ultimate expression of trust and respect from our neighbors.

Think about all of the citizens who

volunteer for the School Board, the PTA, the Council, Planning Board and Environmental Commission, the Fire Department and First-Aid Squad, and the Historic Advisory Council, and these are just some of the official governing bodies. There are many other groups such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Synagogue, and the Senior Citizens Organization, the Borough Bulletin, and The Fund for Roosevelt. All of the volunteers in these organizations are devoted to our town and they work hard to keep it special.

This was a rough year for our nation. Our town also faced personal losses. We said goodbye to some Roosevelt citizens: Josette Altman, Sol Libsohn, Judy Trachtenberg, Peter Warren, Jacob Landau, and Anita Azhkenazy. But we experienced these losses together, as a community. All volunteered time and energy to our community. Judy Trachtenberg was so committed that she served on the Council even though she was quite ill at times. Peter Warren not only served on the Council, but many of us became volunteers because Pete got us involved.

I would like to recognize the efforts of outgoing Councilmen Harry Parker and John Towle. In addition to serving a three-year term on the Council, Harry served several terms on the Board of Education and the Planning Board. John Towle served a three-year term on the Council and both were hard workers for the town. I would also like to recognize outgoing Planning Board members Gail Hunton, Joe Zahora and Kate John-Alder. Gail served 15 years on the Planning Board, most recently as Board Chair. She helped lead the Board through the completion of the Master Plan, a significant achievement. Joe served many years on the

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**FROM THE
MAYOR'S CHAIR**

Continued from Page 13

Board as well, and was Chair of the Planning Board through many difficult meetings. Kate served for several years on both the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission.

In the year ahead, we will face many challenges. There is every indication that we are in a recession and that the state will have a budget deficit of between \$3 billion to \$6 billion. Although the municipal budget comprises only 13% of the total tax bill, it is more important than ever that we watch every penny. We must be tenacious in holding onto our money. In a small town, small things matter, every invoice, every phone bill matters. We must examine in a detailed way every proposal before us to ensure that it will benefit our citizens. We should assume nothing, take nothing for granted.

In spite of these challenges ask yourself, isn't what we have worth fighting for? In my opinion it is.

Roosevelt is worthy of our efforts. ■

Environmental Chairman, Rod Tulloss

In mid-January, the Environmental Commission received some good news. A letter announced the approval of our town's application for an "Action Now" grant from the Department of Environmental Protection's Watershed Management Area (WMA) 11 (Middle Delaware Tributaries). Most of Roosevelt is part of the Assunpink Creek Watershed, which is a part of WMA 11.

Roosevelt's proposal was made up of two parts: prevention of further erosion from the former Notterman Tract and stabilization of the area of silt between Lake Drive and Farm Lane that has been created by Notterman Tract erosion. We proposed to achieve the first goal by creation of a strip of native prairie grasses and wildflowers along the downslope edge of the former Notterman fields.

Roosevelt was one of eight original applicants and one of three that made it into the second stage of the "Action Now" process. We are the smallest WMA 11 grant recipient by far. With budget restrictions and other factors coming into play, it is hard to know how much of the \$117,000 we sought


will actually become available to us. (Originally, we were told the request might be "too small"!)

We estimate that the Borough's contribution to the project will be under \$10,000; and some of that contribution will be in the form of volunteer work in the field and volunteer project management.

Our strategy was to form partnerships from other organizations to demonstrate support for our somewhat unusual proposal (which included growing threatened and endangered species for sale back to the state and other municipalities). We received excellent support from the Native Plant Society of New Jersey, the Assunpink Watershed Association, the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, Gold Farms, and local citizens. Fund for Roosevelt endorsed the project.

The next step is to convert our preliminary proposal into one that satisfies all the regulatory requirements. We will receive expert help from DEP in this stage of the process - from administrative staff, botanists and ecologists. Our first working meeting with DEP in Trenton is scheduled for the second week of February. ■

Notice:
The Planning Board Meeting has moved to the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM in the Borough Hall.



February 23

Come to the PTA Winter Carnival & Chinese Auction

Great fun for everyone.

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.



IN MEMORIAM

Continued from page 11

I celebrate this unnerving commitment. And to do so, I must celebrate Jacob's *intelligence*, a grappling with ideas and images that was ultimately a wrestling with the *tragic and the comic*, with the world itself.

The images he made out of his struggle, which make us both ecstatic and uncomfortable, were born of a commitment to bring his *intuition of a new life* in line with his *profound sense of apocalyptic doom*. From such agony came images uncompromising in their witness and imaginative power, unswerving in their steely conceptualizing and feeling for individual suffering.

"I know of no art which calls for the use of more intelligence than that of drawing." The great French poet Paul Valery said that. I don't know what he means. But for a poet to say this of a graphic artist is at worst gracious, at best profound, so I believe him.

Time and again Jacob insists on the intellectual dimensions of his art. He told me once that he likes to dream his images first. But I take this with a grain of salt because I've seen the arcane reference books open beside his drawing table and the sketches derived from old tomes of natural history, such as an exquisitely precise rendering of a bird's skeleton. He also confessed that the artist is a "predator," taking whatever he needs from other artists.

So I don't know about his dreams, but I am convinced when Jacob confesses that the "conjunction of words and ideas is very important to me. From the beginning, I was a conceptual artist." Bit of shock to think of Jacob as a conceptual artist. Yet in what other artist's notebook would you find excerpts from Ginsberg and Goethe; Jefferson Airplane and

Darwin; Bob Dylan and Martin Luther King, Jr.; Blake and Virgil Thomson? We're compelled to take this seriously.

We must because he continually struggled with ideas and books. More important, out of this argument with words came some of his greatest art: the prophet windows and Dante prints. Each was a wrestling with a sacred text: the Bible and the *Divine Comedy*. And if there's anything constant in Jacob's art it's the struggle with words and the human body (more about this in a minute). What is his comic book work but spatial wrestling with words? And he spent a good part of his professional life doing illustrations that often tell a story counter to what they illustrate, arguing all the way.

Beyond words as catalyst, ideas were important in another way. Jacob was that rare artist for whom the Second Law of Thermodynamics was as important as the late nineteenth-century Mexican artist, Juan Guadalupe Posada's "clarity of gesture," as Jacob called it—how with a single line the great woodcut artist made the action absolutely clear. Posada greatly influenced Jacob when he was in his early 20s in New York City, but so did the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

What's more, Jacob actually understood and admired the Second Law as much as Posada's "clarity of gesture." He didn't merely collect images that an idea such as the Second Law spun off but struggled with its implications. He was haunted by the direction that energy in converting from one form to another takes. Haunted by an increase in disorder that means a decrease in energy.

And does this sound like your typical artist writing in his official

Catalog Raisonne? Only Jacob with his restless intelligence would begin:

Polarity, paradox, contradiction. ... Evolution as a function of self-organizing process in nature. Ambiguity and mortality are built-in. ... Birth and death, evolution and entropy. ... Life is achieved by bootlegging low entropy from the surround and transforming it into high entropy. ... the pressure to grow or die, the marriage of heaven and hell, the cosmic dance which leads either to collapse or transformation.

More than a metaphor for Jacob, he took entropy personally. It was image and fact of his personal struggle.

Larger than this, Jacob's was a struggle for an understanding of the world and the cosmos. He absorbed ideas on the working of evolution from L.L. Whyte and on the connection of things from the physicist David Bohm, just as he grappled with the ideas of Goethe and Beethoven, the images of Blake and Goya.

Engaging with biologists and physicists, as well as poets and painters, gave Jacob the insight that his prophetic struggle was rooted in the way things are. And enabled by an unusual intelligence he strove to transform the contradictory poles of tragedy and comedy into complementary contraries—interpenetrating aspects of a one world.

On the one hand, Jacob was oppressed by what he referred to as the "tragic certainty of our apocalyptic doom as a species."

"We are castaways in landscapes of terror," he declared. Jacob is one of Dante's virtuous pagans who like all of us on this hell that is earth, in Dante's phrase, "live on in desire." But like the Biblical prophet Jacob realizes what's at stake: *Continued on page 17*

A Tarnished Silver Lining

A year ago, I wrote about a single late December storm that dropped 16 inches of snow in town. Up to January 16, this winter has only brought a trace of snow. By the time you read this, things may have changed dramatically. The *Old Farmer's Almanac* forecast a heavy snowfall for the end of January.

If the old farmer is wrong, we may have to rely on the groundhog for better prognostication. The furry fellow can't be more vague than the National Weather Service winter forecast. The service predicted "equal chances of above normal, normal, or below-normal temperatures and precipitation" this winter. If the groundhog lets us down, keep your ears tuned for pigs. A weather proverb says when pigs squeal in winter, it's a sign of snow, perhaps even a blizzard.

The ongoing weather story of greatest significance this season is the threat of a drought in our area. The Weather Service has issued a Drought Warning for all of Monmouth, Mercer, Burlington and Ocean counties. A drought warning calls for a voluntary 10 to 15 percent reduction in water consumption. Drought Warnings and Drought Watches are in effect for most of New Jersey, and parts of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

According to the Weather Service reservoirs throughout the area are below normal and dropping. Streamflow is well below normal. Ground water levels show seasonal drops and many shallow wells show below normal water levels. The Palmer Drought Index indicates moderate to severe drought conditions over much of the area. The salt line in the Delaware River estuary is at mile 80 nearly 12 miles upstream from normal.

The Weather Service says the dry spell began in late summer. In Roosevelt, we had a dry July, but August and September brought normal rainfall. October, November and December were all dry months with November bringing less than an inch of rain. There was been a little bit more than normal precipitation in January.

At the Fresh Kills landfill, the dry weather has been a godsend, according to Deputy Inspector James Kuongo. He was quoted in January 15, 2002 *The New York Times* as saying, "We really believe God has been helping us. The weather shouldn't be this good. I attribute it to God. I'm not kidding." The weather has been good for his and his colleagues' grim work—sifting through the debris that once was the World Trade Center.

Joe Bradley is a foreman of one of the crews cleaning up the rubble at the World Trade Center site. In December he was quoted in the *Times* with a similar sentiment regarding the warmer than normal autumn. He said, "(The warm fall weather) was a gift from God, a real miracle."

New Jersey Weather Event

Atlantic City was the home of the nation's first storm-warning station. On February 9, 1870, President Ulysses Grant signed legislation creating the storm-warning service. The service was under control of the U. S. Army Signal Service.

Weather Word

Ombrometer is a fancy name for a very sensitive rain gauge. Need to add more variety to your rain gauge vocabulary? Micropluviometer is another word for ombrometer.

Dec. 15, - Jan. 15, 2002				
Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	61.5	32.2	46.9	0.20
16	43.7	26.2	35.0	0.00
17	52.0	37.8	44.9	0.00
18	56.8	48.4	52.6	0.45
19	48.7	34.5	41.6	0.15
20	45.7	36.0	40.9	0.00
21	43.5	32.2	37.9	0.00
22	41.2	25.0	33.1	0.00
23	49.8	23.5	36.7	0.00
24	52.2	30.2	41.2	0.55
25	38.5	24.8	31.7	0.00
26	30.2	23.9	27.1	0.00
27	36.1	19.9	28.0	0.00
28	41.2	19.9	30.6	0.00
29	42.8	27.1	35.0	0.00
30	31.5	33.1	32.3	0.00
31	30.9	18.0	24.5	0.00
1	33.6	13.8	23.7	0.00
2	35.6	17.1	26.4	0.00
3	35.4	19.6	27.5	0.00
4	38.7	17.2	28.0	0.00
5	41.2	25.7	33.5	0.00
6	41.4	25.3	33.4	0.00
7	38.1	32.4	35.3	1.04
8	34.5	19.0	26.8	0.15
9	38.8	26.2	32.5	0.00
10	54.7	33.4	44.1	0.15
11	45.7	29.7	37.7	0.00
12	45.1	34.2	39.7	0.50
13	44.8	36.1	40.5	0.10
14	47.3	28.9	38.1	0.00
15	50.0	28.9	39.5	0.00
Total Precipitation				3.29

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from Page 6

team and recently participated in an Intercollegiate Horse Show Association competition, gaining sixth place in the “Walk, Trot and canter” event.

Jessica Hamilton, who attends Rutgers University, is spending spring semester at the University of Melbourne, Australia studying in their Mathematics department.

Birth and Other Noteworthy Events:

Debbie (Nahmias) and Adam Dauer became the proud parents of a new son Ean Brett born on November 26, 2001.

Bernarda Shahn will exhibit in an art show at the Ben Shahn center Galleries on the campus of William Patterson University. The exhibition will run from January 30th until March 8th. Information is available at 973-720-2654.

Herb and Florie Johnson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 21st. Their children made reservations for them to stay in the same hotel that they went to on their first wedding night. They went to two plays and had dinner at the Tavern On The Green. The following Saturday, the children arranged a luncheon for family, relatives and friends at Braddock's Tavern in Medford, New Jersey. The party continued two doors down at the Iris Inn owned by their daughter and her husband, Jennifer and James Cicalese. The celebration was rounded out with Herb and Florie spending the night in the bridal suite of the inn.

Thanks for your contributions, and please keep them coming next month!

IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Page 15

If in my work I seem to stress the tragic, it is because of a felt need to counter the fake cheerfulness of our culture, its smiles max-factored out of all resemblance to the human. Bert Brecht said, ‘The man who laughs has not yet been told the terrible news.’ ... I contain the joy of forming and the pain of awareness. ... I see the human body as paradigmatic—all that we call universe is contained in its form. ... I seek whole-person, whole-cosmos interpenetration, but often succumb to my obsessions. For me, art is more than formal exploration or exploitation. Without it, we are an endangered and endangering species.

Aware of our ultimate doom as a species, Jacob could still exult: “I love the forms, patterns, and structures of life.” So along with his “tragic certainty,” Jacob was blessed with what he described as a “comic intuition of our new life.” Out of this intuition he struggled against the tragedy that envelopes us all and makes a ringing affirmation: “Each time we create something, we win a victory over decay.”

And the center of this struggle to create is the human body. The body is not just one structure of life among structures, but the form of all forms. As Jacob was fond of asserting, “Human beings are beautiful creatures.”

I'm with him in Paris in the Musee D'Orsay. We enter a tiny room filled with tier on tier of miniature busts, sculptured heads by Daumier. Jacob exclaims how they “preternaturally explore” the human face. We linger. We look again and again. He cannot tear himself away from these splendid, compassionate explorations of the human form.

Thus Jacob reacted against what he called the “reduction of human being to an object among objects,” his quarrel with Picasso. The human body is central to all Jacob's work, from the street “Vendor” he captured

in confident, deft strokes at 18, with his doleful, ancient eyes, to the Sybil drawings he was working on almost to the day he died.

Jacob asserted the human form when it was not popular to do so during the days of doctrinaire abstract impressionism and when it verged on blasphemy, as he populated the windows of a synagogue with outsized human figures. But his going against the grain was necessity, for in celebrating the human form, Jacob was asserting his comic intuition of new life interpenetrating death.

Jacob struggled to the end with the haunting fact, as he said, that “Human life is bounded by great silences at both ends.” He knew he would lose this last contest. And so he has.

But unlike most American artists Jacob felt the weight of history. He heard time like a “howling wind over him” (in Czelaw Milosz' phrase). And he makes us listen. And that's why we celebrate Jacob. His intelligence probed and reconciled *certain doom* with an equally *certain intuition of growth*, and he made unsettling images out of these contraries.

His was a struggle for life itself, not for solutions to formal problems in art, nor primarily to make money or ingratiate himself with the public. His was the prophet's struggle to witness clearly and change direction.

In short, Jacob cared about content—*what* we must see, where we must be headed. Content is what his art is about and why he makes us uneasy. It is the image freighted with human content that blesses and challenges, that witnesses, that stresses us into growing.

So, though Jacob is silent he leaves us standing with his images and “clarity of gesture,” uncomfortable and grateful.

By David Herrstrom

A Very Special Cheesecake



She would make the following recipe, which was very special, for the holidays and is now over thirty years old. When I grew up and started to cook and bake, I would make it for my children and now, for my grandchildren as well.

Any preferred crust

5 pkgs. (8 oz.) cream cheese, slightly softened

1 3/4 cups sugar

3 tablesp. flour

1/4 teasp. grated lemon rind

1/4 teasp. grated orange rind

1/4 teasp. salt

1/4 teasp. vanilla extract

5 eggs room temp.

2 egg yolks

1/4 cup heavy cream

Seedless grapes, canned apricot halves, drained

1/3 cup apricot or peach preserves or 1 can of cherry pie filling

1 tblsp. rum

Prepare crust & chill. Beat cream cheese until light & fluffy. Add vanilla. Combine next 5 ingredients & gradually add to cheese, beating constantly. Add eggs plus yolks one at a time, beating well after each. Gently stir in cream. Pour into prepared pan & bake in extremely hot oven (500 degrees F) 10 min. Turn oven to 200 degrees F (do not open door) & bake 1 hr. longer. Turn off heat & leave cake in closed oven 1 1/2 hours or until completely cool. Remove from oven & let stand at room temp. a short time. Then chill several hours or overnight. Remove sides of pan & put cake on plate. Heat preserves or filling with 1 tbs. rum, drain. Spoon over cake to glaze.

Serves eight.

I have always been interested in cooking and baking, probably because I had a mother who prepared wonderful meals. Despite the fact that she was a diabetic, she made all kinds of wonderful goodies for my brother and me without ever eating them herself. What self control!

DEVASTATION AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER 2001

The planes roared over, under new command.
With the pilots at bay, under siege by terrorist with devastating plans.

Passengers alarmed, witnessing the plight.
In wait of the devastation, that would soon claim their lives.

With a fiery crash, the buildings they did crumble.
To the ground the buildings fell, and the bodies did tumble.

Lives shattered and taken without a cause
Country under siege by terrorist with "A Death Clause".

Overpowering sadness fill the air at the sight.
The nation comes together in the strongest of might.

The cries of death, fills the air with the smoke.
Televised Palestinian children laugh and dance with a joyous note.

Filling the streets with dance and cheer.
Over the death of the innocent lives lost here.

Rejoicing over the devastation, caused by their fellowman.
Giving joyous applause to their "terrorist clan".

Is it a hereditary sickness, this cry for death and pain.
Bringing grief to others, such hate is insane.

Numbing is the after effect, it seems war is at hand.
Is it rally the answer to end this plaque of hate in the land.

To stop the "terrorist" what will it take
We must stop this insanity, it's already too late!!

09-11-01

ON THE MEND FROM DEVASTATION

Slowly we mend, with diligence and depth.
To bring closure from the devastation, so hard to accept.

Accept and rationalize for there's no reasoning to this mess.
Makes it hard for the mind to absorb, even harder to digest.

But we move as swiftly as allowed
Through the remains and rubble the forklifts will plow.

In want and wait with pain and grief
To bring closure for many, and some a sign of relief.

Pain brings strength, and strength determination.
In rationalizing it all, you see that there is no explanation.

So we weep

Weeping for the missing, with hopes and prayers
Eyes have cried so much, they're left with blank stares.

Of the shock and the horror, the hurt, such pain
Why did this happen? Is ignorance truly the blame?

Now for the reproach, for the aftermath that we must face.
We must use logic in our strategy with steadfast haste.

To employ our forces swiftly over the lands
To bring an end to the devastation of the "Terrorist Clan".

It won't take many, just the best of the best
To hunt down our enemy and bring our nation to rest.

09-18-01

Continued on Page 20

A TRILOGY

Continued from Page 19

RETALIATION AT NO END

Now that war is declared, our country steadfast to defend.
From the "Terrorist Acts" that has now transcend
Upon our soil did they stake their claim
Bringing on devastation and hate is the blame.

Defend we will from enemy and foe.
Bringing an end to terrorism, just how far will we go?
Over and beyond for the call of what's "right".
Deleting this plaque from mankind with all our might.

Going from the cities to the mountains delivering a devastating blow.
Plowing through towns and villages leaving mourners as we go.
It's the price that must be paid when there's retaliation at no end.
All in the name of democracy, to protect and defend.

Lives will be lost in the course of our plight.
Isn't it the duty of our Nation in the name of what is right?
In the eyes of Democracy in the Land of The Free.
In an endless war, let us pray that it cease.

When will it end, how far will we go?
Battling a country that's never known peace
Only sorrow and woe.

12/24/01

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.

ROOSEVELT: BACK TO THE FUTURE

Continued from Page 12

In fact, we found a section of the farm that has excellent soils for blueberries.

Gold Farms will be selling our produce along with natural products from other organic farmers to local households and to restaurants in the surrounding area, Princeton, New Brunswick, and Red Bank. If you know any chefs or restaurant owners please let them know we are here to serve their needs.

In the end, all this work will only be effective if we are reaching out to the entire community. To that end, we hope to have many events and festivals on the farm starting in the spring and continuing throughout the entire year. As we develop these programs, we will be sure to let you know. If you have ideas or are interested in helping us plan community activities please contact us.

The entire Gold Farms team is excited about meeting everyone in the community. Our farm staff currently is Bill Phelps, Natalie Peric, Chris Hunker, Ron Cannavino, and Sheri Phelps, with much appreciated help and support from neighboring farmers and friends. We'll see you around soon.

Note to the readers: Gold Farms will be starting a Fresh Direct program for residents of Roosevelt and Millstone, offering exclusively organic produce and other organic products. Households can either come to the farm to select their produce or choose to have it delivered to your doorstep. If you are interested in participating in the Fresh Direct program and would like more information, please send us your name, address, phone, and email address. The Gold Farms is located at 11 Nurko Road. We can be reached (1) by mail—Fresh Direct Program, Gold Farms, P.O. Box 158, Roosevelt, NJ 08555 (2) by email—freshdirect@goldfarms.com or (3) by phone—609-426-8788 extension 3. ■

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 2001-2002 SEASON

Saturday, February 9, 2002

8:00 P.M.

THE ELLARSLIE TRIO

Returning after its appearance last year, the Ellarslie Trio offers a new program of classical masterworks. Cindy Ogulnick violin, Erika Phillips cello, and Roosevelt resident and RAP regular Alan Mallach piano, will present music from the classical piano trio literature. The concert will culminate with Mendelssohn's glorious Trio No. 2 in C minor.

Saturday, March 9

8:00 p.m.

AN EVENING OF POETRY

Join the Roosevelt Poets for an evening of March Madness. Poems accompanied by music.

Friday & Saturday, April 26 & 27

8:00 p.m.

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

Once again, the Roosevelt String Band will perform a new set of songs, some from the folk traditions of different cultures, others from contemporary singer-songwriters. The members of the group are David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar and Howie Jacobson.

Saturday, May 18

8:00 p.m.

"SOUNDS"

Computer music and Roosevelt multimedia artists, Brad Garton and Wiska Radkiewicz, invite you to an informal evening of digitally transformed "Sounds of Roosevelt." Presentation also of works by students from the Roosevelt Public School, the Hightstown High School and the Columbia University Computer Music Center will round out this evening of creative technological exploration.

Admission (Voluntary):

Roosevelt String Band \$10 (\$5 seniors and students) Other events \$6 (\$4 seniors and students)

Visit the RAP website: www.music.columbia.edu/roosevelt

MURAL POSTCARDS AVAILABLE THROUGH ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT



The Roosevelt Arts Project proudly offers for sale our beautiful three-panel reproduction of the Ben Shahn mural from our school. The postcards are available for \$2.00 each and a small number of flat, unfolded copies, suitable for framing, are available for \$10.00 each. All proceeds go to the Roosevelt Arts Project to cover the cost of these cards, enable us to produce future postcards in our Roosevelt Arts series and to support RAP exhibits and events. Cards are available at the Borough Hall or by calling Robin Middleman at 426-4583, Deborah Metzger at 443-3759. The Roosevelt Arts Project is a tax-exempt cultural organization funded exclusively by admissions and donations. RAP appreciates your support. ■

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2001 - 2002

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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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 Roosevelt Branch of the Monmouth County Library open at RPS – Wednesdays 7–8:30 p.m.
 RPS Computer Lab Open Wednesday evenings.

February

1	Fri.		RPS Report Cards Distributed
4	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
5	Tues.	1:00 p.m.	RPS 4 Hour Session - Professional Development Seniors Meeting - Borough Hall
9	Sat.	8 p.m.	RAP Program, The Ellarslie Trio, Borough Hall, Robin Gould, 448-4616
11	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
12	Tues.	8 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Chairman Ralph Seligman, 448-2340
13	Wed.		♻️ RECYCLE
14	Thurs.		RPS Lobby - Kindergarten & 1st Grade 100 Days of School
		7:30 p.m.	Board of education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440
15	Fri.		RPS Closed – President's Birthday
18	Mon.		RPS Closed, Post Office Closed – President's Birthday
19	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting, RPS, President JoAnne Parker, 448-5619
		7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings, Borough Hall, President Jeff Hunt, 443-9475
20	Wed.		RPS 4 Hour Session - Parent Conferences
21	Thurs.		RPS 4 Hour Session - Parent Conferences

21	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting, Neil Marko, 443-6818
		8 p.m.	Environmental Commission Meeting, Borough Hall, Chair Rod Tulloss, 448-5096
22	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day
23	Sat.	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	PTA Winter Carnival, President JoAnne Parker, 448-5619
25	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
27	Wed..		♻️ RECYCLE
28	Thurs.		RPS Physical Education Fitness-A-Thon
		7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440

March Calendar Preview

1	Fri.		RPS Closed - Professional Day for Teachers
4	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
7	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440
9	Sat.		RAP Program, An Evening of Poetry, Borough Hall, Robin Gould, 448-4616

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