

# Bulletin

Volume 27 Number 9

July 2003

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

### Monmouth-Ocean Hospital Service to Return; Council Marks 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lafayette's March through Roosevelt

By Michael Ticktin

The Borough Council has approved an agreement with the Monmouth-Ocean Hospital Service Corporation (MONOC), which used Roosevelt as a base for its emergency services operations in this area a couple of years ago, but then withdrew due to lack of activity, under which MONOC will once again use the Borough Hall as a base of operations. Its ambulance and EMT staff will provide coverage for Roosevelt and vicinity during normal working hours when the Borough Hall is open, thus supplementing the service of the Roosevelt First-Aid Squad, whose members are most likely to be available evenings and weekends. The reason for MONOC's decision to return is that it is now

responsible for emergency services at Great Adventure, thus assuring sufficient demand for services in the area. It has acquired an additional ambulance so that it can carry out that obligation and Roosevelt is a convenient place to station it.

The Council also adopted a resolution by which it joined other municipalities in the area in proclaiming June 21 through July 13 as "Road to Monmouth Heritage Campaign Days." This action is part of the observance of the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth, which took place on June 28, 1788 and was the largest battle of the Revolutionary War. It was a battle between the British army, which had evacuated

Philadelphia and was headed towards Sandy Hook to board ships for New York (where they were to stay until the end of the war in 1783), and the Continental army, which had set out from Valley Forge to intercept them. The two armies met at Freehold, where the Americans held the field, but the British were able to continue their march to safety. (Further details may be found online at [www.road-tomonmouth.com](http://www.road-tomonmouth.com).)

As Roosevelt residents are well aware, our municipality is, in its entirety, an historic district. That designation is, of course, based upon construction of Jersey Homesteads as a New Deal resettlement community

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE LAST ISSUE

With this issue we've arrived at the end of our 2002-2003 season with the 2003-2004 season not to begin until October. As opposed to all the problems we are facing both nationally as well as abroad, it's been a good year for *The Bulletin*. Judging this by the generous contributions we have received, we are able to avoid being in the red as has happened for many years before. Many thanks for your generosity.

In addition to thanking our readers, we wish to thank our volunteer crew, both the writers as well as the production people who make it possible for the paper to appear in your mail boxes during the first week of each month. It is our contribution to Roosevelt!

### SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS

No library hours in the evening during the summer months, but from July 7 to August 8, the library will be open from 10 to 12 p.m. on Wednesdays.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Roosevelt School opens again on September 4.  
Back to School Night will be on September 25.

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

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly except August, September, and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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Calendar Art & Breaking Bread  
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# ARC OF MERCER MAY PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

At its June 10 meeting, the Planning Board received a draft Redevelopment Plan that would help Roosevelt cope with a handful of blighted properties. The Board could approve a final plan as early as next month and recommend that the Borough Council adopt it by ordinance. Michael Ticktin reviewed the draft plan with the Board. Among the highlights was a proposal to carve an affordable housing lot out of the property surrounding the abandoned service station on North Rochdale Avenue.

The draft plan calls for a zoning amendment restricting the use of the new lot to affordable group housing for persons with developmental disability. A group home would provide sufficient rental units to enable a single facility to meet the lion's share of Roosevelt's affordable housing. This would enable private purchasers of dilapidated residences to rehabilitate them and return them to the tax roles at full market value. According to Mr. Ticktin, the Borough could even renegotiate its regional contribution agreement with Asbury Park, which has agreed to take three of Roosevelt's required affordable houses in return for \$25,000 per unit funded by Roosevelt.

Mr. Ticktin invited Joseph Gousie, Executive Director of the ARC of Mercer, to explain how a group home for the developmentally disabled would work. According to Mr. Gousie, 5,000 people with developmental disabilities are on waiting lists for such housing. Currently, federal funding is available to finance tax-exempt group homes. His organization would build a

four or five bedroom senior or respite center. A senior facility would accommodate permanent elderly residents, and a respite center would provide temporary care for those whose primary care givers would be looking for much needed breaks. Board members expressed a preference for the permanent resident option.

Mr. Gousie assured the Board three shifts of certified staff members constantly would supervise the residents, who could number up to eight. He said the number of residents would more likely top out at four or five. He contended that the group home residents would not have mental illnesses, would not be wards of the justice system, and would not be a threat to other Borough residents. He noted that many group home patients have Down's syndrome. He agreed to provide a tour of existing homes for interested Board members.

Chairman Ralph Seligman pointed out that Roosevelt had a bad experience with a group home for autistic adolescents several years ago. Mr. Gousie replied that such homes are "part of the mental health world" and are not as well regulated as group homes for the developmentally disabled. Mr. Ticktin added that families of those with developmental disability have significant involvement in their care.

The consensus of the Board was to continue to look into the proposal. Other nonprofit organizations could submit competing proposals for the new lot.

Mr. Seligman distributed a May 24, 2003 New York Times article reporting

that experts say New Jersey will be the first state to exhaust its supply of land available for development. The process will take 20 years, according to the article. Mr. Seligman also provided Roosevelt's portion of the so-called "Big Map," which identifies in red land areas least suitable for development. He said Board Planning Consultant Tom Thomas prepared the depiction of the Borough's portion of the map, which was based on data compiled by GIS and the state Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Seligman pointed out that the only areas of the Borough deemed suitable for development are those already developed.

Jessica Hecht reported for the Zoning Committee that several articles of the zoning ordinance were being reviewed in June. The Committee will propose changes when the review has been completed.

Mr. Seligman praised as "excellent" the photographic parking survey prepared by David Ticktin. The Parking Committee will propose solutions for parking problems revealed by the survey.

The Board held a special meeting on May 20 to consider plans for paving Spruce Lane and repaving a portion of Pine Drive. The Board adopted the Environmental Commission's suggestions for removal and planting of trees as part of the Pine Drive project and forwarded them to the Council, which is seeking state funding. Kirk Rothfuss presented the Environmental Commission's proposal to the Board. ■

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# FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

*A reprint of an article by Michael Hamilton that appeared in the Examiner of May 8.*

William Blake said that “*a fool sees not the same tree that a wise man sees*” and after reading developer William Martin’s letter “Roosevelt is blessed with potential” in the May 8 Examiner, I can see what Blake was referring to.

To a developer like Mr. Martin, ‘Potential’ means the ‘potential for profit’ in a developer’s bottom line. Mr. Martin sees Roosevelt as another Hopewell or New Hope...he claims that we could be marketable if we would only ‘deal in good faith’ with developers who would ‘improve’ our town and repair our infrastructure.

Unfortunately, our experience and the experience of many other communities has been that developers do not often pay for their fair share of costs related to their development. In fact, the developers lobby has successfully opposed any effort to allow municipalities to access impact fees so that they will pay their fair share of all infrastructure costs related to residential development especially school costs. Since school taxes comprise over 2/3 of our residential property taxes, all too often school taxes increase as school enrollment skyrockets and new facilities must be constructed to accommodate the new school-age children.

Sixty-five years before “smart growth” was in the vernacular,

Roosevelt planners designed a unique community where our residents could live in a place that was designed so that almost every house borders on forested greenbelts giving a feeling of infinite space to our residents. Our elementary school is well equipped and our average class size of 16 children provides a private school atmosphere where children feel that their efforts matter. Our school taxes have remained relatively constant over the last few years and we have no need or plans to expand our school due to new development.

We have always been different than other towns and our community has a very tangible spirit of place that bonds us to each other in many ways. We have a long-standing tradition of volunteerism and public service that still flourishes today and although we argue passionately about public policy, we are still able to wave to each other as we pass on the street.

Despite Mr. Martin’s claims that property values do not rise in Roosevelt, since we began to preserve our remaining farmland several years ago, property values have risen dramatically. This can be affirmed through any realtor in the area. In fact, over the last few years many homeowners have tapped into the newfound equity in their property by

adding onto their Roosevelt houses.

I and many other citizens see the beauty and value of what we already have, we live here and we appreciate it and to put it bluntly: we are happy with who we are and we do not want to be ‘improved’ by developers. Sure we could exploit and market the creativity, talents and artistic abilities of our residents by opening shops and galleries but Roosevelt is a community not a commodity.

Perhaps Roosevelt is just different... perhaps we are a crooked country road, something unique and as Blake also said, “*Improvement makes strait roads, but the crooked roads without Improvement, are roads of genius.*”

Sincerely,

Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor

Borough Hall: 609-448-0539

E-mail: mham82@comcast.net ■

# From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

The 2002-2003 school year has come to an end. Graduation was held on the first day of summer; in a beautifully decorated indoor ceremony. Our sixth graders were poised and delivered well written essays. Thanks to Lian Garton, High School students were on hand to play Pomp and Circumstance for us. Honors earned by the graduates are as follows:

<b>Nathan Bard Social Studies Award:</b>	Allison Harding
<b>Graham Nisnevitz Math Award:</b>	Andy Unger
<b>Oscar Nisnevitz Citizenship Award:</b>	Ben Silverman
<b>Dominic J. Ross Academic Achievement:</b>	Kimberly Grasso
<b>Roosevelt Historic Commission Award:</b>	Devin Kostar
<b>Mayor's Leadership Award:</b>	Jamie Hague
<b>Fund for Roosevelt Environmental Issues:</b>	Jonah Atwood

We are grateful to the members of the community who generously give these gifts each year to our graduating class.

Substitute teachers are needed for September. To be eligible, a candidate must have 60 college credits. Paperwork for substitute teaching can be obtained in the Monmouth County Superintendent's Office in Freehold. I would be happy to explain the procedure to anyone who is interested.

I have been informed that RPS will undergo state monitoring next year. The state monitors every school district on 7 year cycles. State monitors review the facility, all the paperwork and certifies whether a school meets all state mandates. I'm looking forward to this procedure, which will serve as a self study for us.

The school library will be open on Wednesdays, from 10:00-12:00 from July 7-August 8. Kay Drury and Sheila Jaeger will be available to run our library reading incentive program for students, and to help adults check out books.

The Recreation Coalition is sponsoring a summer recreation program from July 7-August 8. Contact Eric Schubiger at the Borough Hall for information.

The administrative staff will be in the building during the summer. Feel free to contact us if you need any information. Have a great summer. ■

## September School Dates

<b>September 4</b>	School Opens
<b>September 25</b>	Back to School Night

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar  
by phone 448-5191, 18 Pine Drive, or e-mail at ronkostar@cs.com.

Graduations and Graduation parties are or were the talk of the town: dances and parties and Monet picnic lunches and pot luck dinners sprouting up on lawns everywhere. It's the time of the year to celebrate — the end of an unusually rainy season, the closing of school and, I'm told, the end of the fiscal and beginning of the physical year: Welcome the Season of Bare Arms. It's summertime and the living can become easier again; especially with easy to I-195 (or is that 295 South when you're actually driving north) making the Atlantic Ocean only about 35 minutes away.

Graduates from this year's Roosevelt Public School's sixth grade class included:

Jonah Atwood  
Michael Cordo  
Kim Grasso  
Jamie Hage  
Allison Harding  
Sam Husth  
Devin Kostar  
Ashley Lawson  
Mathew Lawson  
Rachel Lopez  
Nyasia Mendes  
Ben Silverman  
Andy Unger

Graduation festivities, both at the school and around town, took place on June 21.

Rooseveltians graduating from Hightstown High School included:

Jim Carroll  
Ilan Grunwald  
Kathleen Hamilton  
Leah Howse  
Wesley John-Alder  
Nathaniel Kostar  
Penny Lopez  
Jamison Parker

Jeff Possiel  
Christina Septak  
Chris Wong  
Sheri Yeager

The HHS Graduation ceremony was held at the Sovereign Arena in Trenton on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Noteworthy Items:**

Leah Howse has a number of articles in the HHS school newspaper, The Ram Page, as a preliminary to what promises to be an exciting and successful career in journalism.

Chris Wong, who graduated 10<sup>th</sup> in his class, also has an intelligent, reflective article in the paper as he embarks on a college life at George Washington University.

Athletic awards presented to local athletes included: Brian Davis, boys' baseball MVP; Brandon Tyers, Wrestling MVP; Ashley Goldfond, girls' swimming, MVP; and Nathaniel Kostar, boys' basketball Coach's Award.

Lyssa Cousineau, daughter of Paul and Elise Cousineau, received a "First Year Honor" award from HHS in a special ceremony given to students who were on the Honor Roll the first three quarters of the academic year.

Ina Clark recently completed her sophomore year at the Peddie School with High Honors for the Spring Term.

And, from the colleges, Kathleen Alfare, a June graduate from Franklin & Marshall College, recently presented a project at the F & M Research Fair. Kathleen's project was titled "The Importance of the Spanish Castle as a Visual Reminder of Spain's History."

And finally, in keeping with the occasion, here's a poem for all

the recent graduates and other spring-time celebrants:

**Heel & Toe to the End**

*By William Carlos Williams*

Gagarin says, in ecstasy,  
he could have  
gone on forever  
he floated  
ate and sang  
and when he emerged from that  
one hundred eight minutes off  
the surface of  
the earth he was smiling  
Then he returned  
to take his place  
among the rest of us  
from all that division and  
subtraction a measure  
toe and heel  
heel and toe he felt  
as if he had  
been dancing

And from the college desk comes the following:

Jessica Hamilton, who's a senior at Rutgers College, will be inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa in early June. Jessica will graduate in June with a B.A. in Chemistry and is making plans to enter Medical School in the fall.

Kathleen Carla Alfare received a BA in Chemistry, Summa Cum Laude, from Franklin and Marshall College on May 18. A John Marshall Scholar, Kathleen was also inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, and received the American Institute of Chemists Award and the W.E. Weisberger Award in Chemistry. She will pursue a Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. ■

## First Aid Squad News

By Carol Watchler

Roosevelt First Aid Squad continues to seek new members, both regular members and driver-only members. Applications and a review of requirements can be obtained from the squad's lieutenant Elise Cousineau, 609-371-3344 or elisecousineau@comcast.net.

The remaining summer courses which the first aid squad will offer are steps to certification. Both driver-only members and regular members will need the "CPR for the professional rescuer" course on Sunday, July 27. The "Community First Aid" course is a must for the driver-only members and will be held on the regular squad drill day, Sunday, August 10.

These two courses are open to additional interested community members. Contact Elise Cousineau as above for registration information.

## Academy Of Music

By Lois Hunt

These are just random recollections from my history with this noble and historic building. The Academy is located at Broad and Locust streets just south of the center of Philadelphia.

When I was a freshman at the Philadelphia High School For Girls, my parents permitted me, for the first time, to go downtown alone and spend the night lined up with hundreds of other music-loving teenagers. We were waiting for the box office to open at 9 a.m. to purchase tickets for the Youth Concerts. What an adventure!

This ritual was one that I was to repeat for the next several years. It meant spending the whole night complete with beach chairs and blankets, in a long raucous line with

my contemporaries, waiting for the 9 a.m. opening. I had never spent a single night away from my home, never gone to camp or even had a sleepover with a schoolmate. So, the sheer excitement of it was huge for this most sheltered teen.

The coveted tickets for which we were mortifying the flesh (exposed to the weather and the resident pigeons) were admission to the concert series offered by the legendary Leopold Stokowski. I attended these concerts throughout my HS years ('39 through '42).

At about that same time, the famous baritone Paul Robeson was completing his fabled movie "The Emperor Jones" and needed to record certain background sounds. It was determined that high-pitched young girls' voices had just the quality they were looking for. The Girls' High School a capella glee club, of which I was a member, was invited to provide same. We were taken into the bowels of the Academy, which resembled catacombs, and instructed to squeal as only teen-aged girls can. We were making the sounds that were to be heard behind various jungle scenes. Thus, I had done my very first performance in that most august of Philadelphia's musical temples. (1941)

Early on I had become addicted to symphonic music, not only from the Youth Concerts, but also from spending many summer evenings at Robinhood Dell, the orchestra's summer home. Somehow I got the idea of passing myself into the Philadelphia Orchestra's Friday afternoon concerts. Some latent larcenous streak was at work when I realized that I could slip into the lobby just before the opening number, pick up a ticket stub from the lobby floor and hand it to the harried usher who never paid

much attention. And so, I became a symphony groupie, in a group of one. This exercise merely required cutting my last class of the day. Nobody ever scolded me for this behavior, and there were always empty seats, either in the vacant orchestra pit or in an unused stage box.

The musicians soon began to recognize me as "that kid" and were possibly nonplused when I showed up front and center just a few years later as soloist with that virtuoso orchestra.

My first appearance there occurred under slightly shady circumstances. As a student at the Evans Institute of the U. of Penn., I did not actually qualify for the University Chorus. But I went to the rehearsals unbidden and unquestioned, so when the group performed the Beethoven 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony with the Philadelphians, I followed them through the stage door, grabbed a robe and score, positioned myself on the front row and sang the "Ode To Joy" along with the rest. I was at the time a most conscientious singing student elsewhere, so at the time it seemed the right thing to do. (1943)

Three years later, I appeared legitimately at the front of the stage before my beloved orchestra in my beloved Academy. This was a performance of the Bach "St. Matthew Passion", and I was the soprano soloist. An article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* was entitled "Bach and a Babe", written by the usually austere Max de Schauense.

Meanwhile, back at Evans Institute, which is the Dental school of the University, I was singing regularly at the Stage Door Canteen with a built in audience including the dental students who were in Army uniform as part of the A.S.T.P. The Canteen was located in the same catacombs in which I had giggled and squealed for the Robeson movie track. How weird is that?

*Continued on Page 9*

# Olaf Aakhus

In July 1943, Olaf Aakhus opened his new copy of LIFE magazine. He found a picture in that issue that he liked very



Olaf Aakhus

much. He carefully cut out the black and white glossy, gently folded the edges and placed it in a frame. That picture remained on my grandfather's bedroom dresser for 48 years.

I first noticed the picture when I was very young. It was during one of my family's regular Sunday afternoon visits to my grandparents. They lived in a little farmhouse on the edge of the northern Minnesota lake country and prairie. Grandpa Olaf had just finished entertaining us by playing his violin and all the adults adjourned to the kitchen for coffee and conversation. Olaf loved to talk about politics and so they were probably discussing the price of wheat and how much better things would be if only Humphrey had won. Meanwhile, I was scurrying around investigating the farm and the house. In my grandparent's bedroom, I noticed this very handsome picture of who I thought was my grandfather and wondered why my grandmother was not a part of the photo.

During my years in college, I would drive back to visit my grandparents. No matter when I arrived, my grandmoth-

er quickly prepared a roast dinner, complete with mashed potatoes, gravy, and lefse. We would sit at the table and discussion would often turn to politics. Olaf loved to talk about politics and like my grandfather, so did I. We would talk about the price of wheat and how much better things would be if only Mondale had won. Olaf would insist on a short violin program with my grandmother accompanying on the piano. I would always oblige with great delight. His nimble fingers danced on the strings of his violin as a fusion of Norwegian folk music and European waltzes and polkas filled the room. Before I would leave, I would take a walk around the house and, sure enough, I would see that picture on his bureau. I knew by now, of course, that it was not a portrait of my grandfather. It always struck me how the picture seemed out of place, but yet, knowing my grandfather it also seemed just right.

After I moved away from northern Minnesota with my wife Teresa, we would always stop to visit Olaf on our trips back to our homeland. My grandmother had since passed away and many things had changed. Grandpa now lived in town. There was no roast dinner waiting on the table. Grandpa's fingers had become too stiff with arthritis to play the violin music he so desired. So, we would go to a nearby diner to eat. Olaf still loved to talk about politics. We would talk about the price of wheat and how much better things would be if only someone like FDR was president. Olaf would remind us about being a young man on the prairie, surviving the depression, and worrying about his sons fighting in the Pacific during WWII. As our visit drew to a close, I would take a look through his house and see the framed picture on his bureau.

In the summer of 1992, I received a small box of mementos from my uncles after Grandpa Olaf passed away. There, among those old things from my grandparent's house, was the picture grandpa had cut from the Life magazine. The picture is of



Photo of Franklin D. Roosevelt

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Olaf's hero. That framed magazine black and white glossy is now proudly displayed in my office at my house. It makes me feel at home—a little out of place, but somehow just right. ■

*Mark, Teresa, and Annika Aakhus, along with their dog Carmella, live at 37 Farm Lane. They have lived in Roosevelt since the spring of 2001.*

## 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



## TOWN TOPICS

*Continued from Page 7*

The Academy was also the home of a delightful local opera company. The Philadelphia Opera Company was a young, attractive group of American singers. They were totally professional and put on beautiful performances. Best of all, from my standpoint, they sang all their operas in English, in fine, literate translations.

In 1947 this company gave me the opportunity to sing, in my musical font, my first Masetta, in "La Boheme." It was my hometown opera debut, and was followed by many more engagements with other opera companies, including the Metropolitan, which visited the academy regularly on Monday nights. With them I revisited Masetta as well as other roles that I sang at the Met's 39<sup>th</sup> Street home in Manhattan. My first Gilda (in Rigoletto) and also my first Violetta (in La Traviata) were sung there with the Philadelphia Grand Opera Company.

Over the years, there have been other occasions of varying degrees of musical import, the last of which was a concert with the Philly Pops under the baton of Peter Nero. My beloved singing partner, Earl Wrightson, and I

sang to a sellout house and a standing ovation. It was a most fitting farewell. That was in the late 80's.

About a year ago I took my dear friend Bonnie on a sentimental journey to my hometown. We hit the usual tourist spots, including some of my favorites, like Rittenhouse Square and the Art Museum. Then we lunched at Bookbinder's, just around the corner from the place where I had sat outside all night waiting for the box office to open so many years ago. How could I not go in?

Bonnie and I entered the familiar stage door and spoke with the young attendant, who took us directly into the manager's office. This most gracious woman ushered the two of us right onto the stage and flipped a few switches, lighting up the whole auditorium, just for us! And so, for one last time, I stood on that beloved stage wallowing in nostalgia.

Shortly thereafter, an announcement was made that the Philadelphia Orchestra had decided to leave the grand old Academy for a new modern home several blocks away. How pleased I am to have made my pilgrimage in time. The memories linger on. ■

By Clare Sacharoff

The June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was held at the Solar Village instead of the Borough Hall because of Election Day.

We discussed the possibility of a cruise at Toms River. This will include a two-hour cruise including lunch. Cruises begin at 11:30 a.m. We are expected to be there one half hour prior to that time. A tentative date of August 19<sup>th</sup> was proposed. These are called Riverboat Tours.

On June 17<sup>th</sup> our regular monthly trip was to Rova Farms in Cassville. The bus picked people up at approximately 9:00 a.m.

On Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, for our usual end of month lunch, there will be a chicken meal provided by the McBrides at the Borough Hall at 3:00 p.m.

We thank Pat Moser for preparing a delicious lunch in May, also Florie Johnson who made the delicious cake for dessert. They expend much time and labor and seem to enjoy doing so, which is great for us.

The club voted to increase annual dues to \$4.00 payable in January.

Beth Johnson provided excellent refreshments. ■

## 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?

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

*Continued from Page 1*

in the 1930s. A map of troop movements leading up to the Battle of Monmouth showing current roads that was prepared as part of this year's commemoration, however, shows that the historical significance of the place that is now Roosevelt goes back a good deal further than was previously appreciated. On June 26, 1778, a division of several thousand Continental troops under the Marquis de Lafayette marched through here on what is today Rochdale Avenue on the way to intercept the British line of march on what is today Route 524. Lafayette's division disengaged from the British at Clarksburg and proceeded to Englishtown to join the main American force.

On a more contemporary note, Councilman Jeff Hunt reported that scuba divers had removed 3 feet of sludge from the settling tank at the water treatment plant. Mr. Hunt recommended that the Borough install an additional settling tank, a recommendation endorsed from the audience by former Council member Stuart Kaufman, who said that such an installation would be the best way to preserve the system. Councilman Neil Marko pointed out that the main reason for brown water coming out of the system is that water is being drawn off too fast for the iron oxides that are formed when the water is aerated to settle. An additional tank will provide additional opportunity for settling. Councilwoman Pat Moser asked if more frequent removal of the sludge would be a substitute for an

additional tank. Mr. Marko said that it would not.

Mr. Hunt also reported that, on the recommendation of the Environmental Commission, eleven poor quality or diseased trees on Pine Drive that are under electric lines would be removed, in conjunction with the road improvements that will begin shortly.

Councilwoman Beth Battel expressed appreciation for the work being done by Marie Klein in providing veterinary care, including neutering and vaccination, for the cats at the factories, and for placing those young enough to be easily adoptable, all at her own expense. Ms. Battel commended Mrs. Klein for voluntarily undertaking an obligation that would otherwise rest upon the Borough.

Also at the June meeting, the Council adopted an ordinance raising the annual liquor license fee to \$820. This amount was determined using the maximum increase percentage allowed by New Jersey law.

A resolution to enter into an inter-local services agreement with Upper Freehold Township for animal control services was approved, after having been tabled at the May meeting to determine if there were any additional charges to the Borough. Further inquiry indicated that there were not. Services will continue to be provided by Mary Klink, who is an employee of Upper Freehold. Requests for animal control services should be made to the Borough Administrator.

Other business included the introduction of an ordinance to create the

position of Deputy Borough Clerk, a resolution to approve a landscape maintenance agreement with Dr. K.'s Landscaping and Lawncare at a cost of \$550 every two weeks, approval of a raffle license for East Windsor Area Hadassah, appointment of Ed Goetzmann, who already serves as Zoning Officer, as Housing Inspector, endorsement of submission of a tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and appointment of Penny Danley-Gravatt as Deputy Court Administrator. Appointments of court personnel are pro forma, since Roosevelt uses the Millstone Municipal Court facilities and therefore appoints the same persons whom Millstone has already appointed. ■



To The Editor:

Mayor Hamilton states in The Bulletin "In 1992 under the leadership of Mayor Allen, the Borough Council made the decision to expand our sewer treatment plant to twice its capacity." The Mayor also states "For the last ten years Roosevelt homeowners have been paying for the unusable excess capacity". I disagree with those statements. By using past *Borough Bulletins*, I will show the reality of our present water and sewer rate of \$125.00 per month.

In the November 1990 *Borough Bulletin*, the then Councilwoman and chair of the Utility Committee, Marilyn Magnes wrote an article. The article was titled "Trouble in Paradise". In this article Marilyn writes about the crisis and cost facing Roosevelt in connection with DEP and our Sewer system. Marilyn starts her article by stating "Trouble often takes the most mundane of forms; our particular burden is called the Waste Water Rehabilitation project. While the cost of building the whole of the original town was about \$3.5 million, it is estimated that the cost of the waste water rehabilitation project will be about \$2.4 million." Marilyn writes about how our sewer system "has become out of date and deteriorated" while at the same time laws to reduce air and water pollution had become more stringent. Marilyn sums it up "Thus, as the condition of our infrastructure worsened, the environmental laws became more exacting." The next part of the article explains when the project had to be completed.

"The strategy of the previous Council (1985-1988) was through negotiation with DEP, to reconstruct the sewer system incrementally over a ten year period so that user fees would not have to be dramatically

increased at one time. However, the DEP refused to accept that strategy and told Roosevelt it must clean up its act by an immovable deadline or face stiff monetary penalties. The Borough has agreed to meet mandated standards set by federal and state laws by February 1992. Specifically, in an Administrative Consent Order (ACO), signed in 1985, Roosevelt has agreed to both reduce the quantity and improve the quality of the effluent discharged from the sewerage treatment plant into the Assunpink. Currently the quantity of treated wastewater the Borough's sewer plant discharges averages much more than the DEP allows. Furthermore our plant must be able to do a better job of removing pollutants, i.e. improve the quality of the effluent that is being discharged. That, in essence, is our problem. We must, under a deadline, spend a lot of money to fix the problem." As you can see by Marilyn's article, that Council was under tremendous pressure to complete the project by the deadline date of February 1992, knowing they would have to raise water/sewer fees. By September 1990 the water/sewer rate was \$140.00 a month.

In the same Bulletin that Marilyn's article appeared, then Councilman Kirk Rothfuss in a letter to the editor states: "if the current Council is in a position to award the contracts in 1990, I believe I have a legal obligation to vote to do so. We are under threat of heavy fines if we delay, and are seven months behind schedule." In December of 1990 the out going Council voted to award contracts for the reconstruction of the sewer plant and rehabilitation of 50% of our old sewer lines for a cost of \$2.4 million, which happens to be the original amount of our largest sewer loan bill. In January of 1991, the incoming

Council was given the task of overseeing a \$2.4 million project they never voted on and a water/sewer rate of \$140.00 a month. That Council completed the project within DEP deadlines and avoided paying any of the \$500,000.00 worth of DEP fines. They also refinanced the original FHA loan, taken out by the previous Council, to a lower interest loan and used the savings to reduce the monthly water/sewer rate from \$140.00 to the current rate of \$125.00 a month.

In the June 1988 *Borough Bulletin*, then Chair of the Utilities Committee Ed Moser wrote a report on the Sewerage Treatment Project in which he describes the new design for the sewer plant. Currently our sewer plant consists of two primary settling tanks, two secondary settling tanks and two original trickling filters. "At a recent meeting with the engineers, the Mayor, Dr. Lipoti and I were presented with a plan which would have two new primary settling tanks, two new secondary settling tanks, and would convert the current settling/digesting unit (Imhoff tanks) into a sludge depository, which would be emptied as often as necessary. This versatile design would allow the wastewater to be diverted to any of the three remaining settling units in the event of a maintenance shutdown of one unit. It also has a contingency design that would allow easy alteration in the event that DEP decided to place additional requirements on the effluent in the future."(which DEP has done). The present design of our Sewer plant is the same design that was approved and voted on by a 1988 Council that could be described as not in favor of development, and would never have designed a plant that favored development.

In the same report Ed Moser writes

*Continued on Page 12*

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Continued from Page 11*

about another problem, "A further serious problem is the leakage of storm and ground water into our sewer pipes. This dilutes the sewerage and forces us to process far more than we need to and is inefficient, wasteful and expensive."

In a May 1998 Bulletin, Councilwoman Jill Lipoti writes about this problem: "there is a lot of water flowing into the sewers. That means that the liquid that must be treated at the plant is very dilute mostly storm water that has infiltrated the pipes. The plant is overloaded with mostly clean water." They are talking about the infiltration problem with our sewer lines. These 70-year-old lines allow ground water to enter our sewer system. While 50% of our lines have been replaced it is not enough to reduce water infiltration. On a good day the sewer plant will process 200,000 gals. of sewerage, while only 50,000 gals. of water will be used by the town. On especially high ground water days, its not unusual for the plant to process over 400,000 gals. It is important to note that we are spending more for processing ground water than for water we actually use but that is still less than the cost of replacing all our sewer lines. The cost of replacing all of our sewer lines and building a smaller sewer plant, would have added two million more dollars to the rehabilitation project. The water/sewer rate would have been astronomical. The financial compromise was: build a sewer plant that could handle 300,000 gals. per day and replace only 50% of the sewer lines. There is no unusable excess capacity, it is the inherent design of the plant to process the combined infiltrated ground water and house hold water that dictated the capacity of the plant. We are paying for a project that, because of prohibitive cost, could not be done

completely. There was no decision to expand our sewer treatment for future development by the Council of 1988, 1990 nor the Council of 1992.

The claim attributed to Mayor Allen, that our sewer system was upgraded to handle twice the population, is a claim made by a fool. Mayor Allen was known to make statements that were highly exaggerated with no real facts to back them up. Mr. Israel saw right through Mayor Allen, he realized there was no usable excess capacity without spending a lot of money. It would be less expensive to expand a sewer plant than replace sewer lines. I don't fault Mayor Hamilton for his belief, that based on statements by past Councilpersons and Mayor Allen, the sewer system has excess capacity for twice the present population. These claims were false and meant to mislead any developer into believing the town had paved the way for them. Mayor Allen deluded himself into thinking that making these claims would relieve Roosevelt of any obligations to pay for infrastructure expansion. Mayor Allen was obsessed with his believe that development could solve our problems, he squashed any plans to generate revenues at the sewer plant, for fear that it would discourage development.

In 1994 while I served on the Council, our Water and Sewer Engineer (AWS) introduced a plan that could generate revenue. Although our Sewer plant did not have usable excess capacity for development, it did have enough usable excess capacity for processing gray water. Gray water is sewerage that is generated by homes and businesses that use septic tanks for their wastewater. This is wastewater only generated by bathrooms and kitchens, not industrial waste. Townships (Millstone, Upper Freehold for exam-

ple) where the majority of homes and businesses have septic tanks that need to be emptied periodically surround Roosevelt. Roosevelt's location would make it more profitable for companies that empty septic tanks to have access to a local processing plant, because of reduced transportation costs. I am encouraged by the initiative of Chairman of Utilities Jeff Hunt, to reexamine the idea of processing gray water to generate revenue.

*Stuart Kaufman*

To the Editor:

This letter is an appeal to Roosevelt's residents because we have a serious problem with littering on our streets and rights of way (this doesn't include Route 571, which is a county road, and therefore not within our jurisdiction). In order to maintain our mown and serviced areas in the good order that you rightly expect, we need everyone's cooperation.

As chair of the Public Works and Roads Committee of the Borough Council, it has come to my attention that some of our Borough roadsides are a disgrace: there are bottles, cans, and other kinds of litter strewn throughout most of the town, creating aesthetic and potential health and safety problems. They also create difficulties in using lawnmowers, which are not designed to handle bottles, cans and paper. Alerting your family members, neighbors, visitors and anyone willing to help, can lessen or end this situation.

Throughout town there are trash receptacles strategically placed for your convenience. We encourage the use of these. However, all dog leavings should be bagged. Exposed dog feces is a health hazard, attracts flies and vermin, and is unsafe and unpleasant for Borough employees to handle. As

*Continued on Page 13*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Continued from Page 12*

a responsible pet owner, it is up to you to properly dispose of your pet's leavings in a sanitary way. We promise to maintain these receptacles diligently. If you have any comment, suggestions or complaints regarding this matter, please call me.

**Let's work together to keep Roosevelt clean and beautiful. Thank you.**

*Pat Moser*

Dear Friends

Little did I think one month ago that I would be writing about the topic of cancer for the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. I have just been diagnosed with breast cancer. "Ironic, isn't it," I said to the surgeon who did the biopsy, "I've been training for several months to go to Chicago to be with my sister for the Avon Breast Cancer Walk on June 7-8." My doctor told me I needn't give up my plane ticket just yet. And so I did make it to the Walk. Thanks to all of you who supported me in many ways with contributions and training help.

On June 11 I attended a public forum on Cancer Clinical Trials in New Jersey. This session included information about a new web site,

just launched on April 15 of this year with public funds, to provide cancer patients with access to new and innovative cancer therapies. We learned about how to log on and use our privacy-protected information to target the trials that would be appropriate for our diagnosis, as well as our current and previous treatment. The site gives full contact information for the hospital or other facility that is running the trial.

Having shared the fact that only 4% of adult cancer patients participate in clinical trials, the presenters did a lot of interaction with the audience to probe questions like: Where do people currently go to get information about clinical trials? What obstacles do people have in choosing to participate in trials? According to audience responses, one of the most persistent obstacles is lack of information about the trials.

With that in mind we brainstormed ways to make the information available. I decided to write this article as one of the ways I could share the benefits to me about the June 11 forum. I had already made the clear commit-

ment to myself that I intend to learn from my cancer experience and to teach from it. I'm just a beginner in the whole process, but here is a little bit that I can share.

Anyone dealing with cancer can go to the web site for "New Jersey Cancer Trial Connect," [www.njctc.org](http://www.njctc.org). Persons can also learn information from a toll free number, 1-866-788-3929. These contacts provide up-to-the-minute information about cancer clinical trials in New Jersey and how a person can enroll to participate in them if eligible. So if you know of anyone who would benefit from this information, please pass this along.

Because of participating in treatment for my breast cancer, I will need to go behind the scenes in my role in the Roosevelt First Aid Squad. Nevertheless, I hope to continue serving the Roosevelt community by passing along information that can be of use for the health and safety of all of us.

Sincerely,

*Carol Watchler* ■

### 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.

By Ron Filepp

**The Rain Ingrained Stays . . . Mainly**

In early July, the “dog days” of summer begin July 3 through August 11 when Sirius (the Dog Star) travels across the sky in conjunction with the sun. (In ancient times it was believed that the days were so hot on earth at this time because the heat of Sirius combined with the heat from the sun.) Just maybe the weather trend has taken a turn away from the clouds, chill and rain of late spring and early summer toward more typical weather. I hope that the following is a look back and not the current and continuing condition of the weather.

Dreary weather took hold in Roosevelt in April. By the end of the month, there had been 14 days of measurable precipitation. In May, eighteen days had precipitation and the first 15 days of June had nine with rain.

There are 76 days from April 1 through June 15. Forty-one of the 76 had precipitation. A dismal damp day doesn’t always include precipitation. Cloudy days that follow rainy ones can be almost as gloomy as the rainy days themselves. If you include all of the cloudy days in the count from April 1 through June 15 your count

of dreary days goes up to 51 days out of 76. That’s two bleak days for every day with sunny or partly cloudy weather.

Total precipitation for the period is typically around nine inches. This year the 76 days left about 13 inches. It was cool, too. April’s average temperature was about 1 degree below normal and May’s was almost 2 degrees cooler than normal.

**July Weather Event**

On July 1, 1792, forty young people out boating on the New Jersey and New York Bay drowned when a violent line squall moved across the water.

**Weather Word**

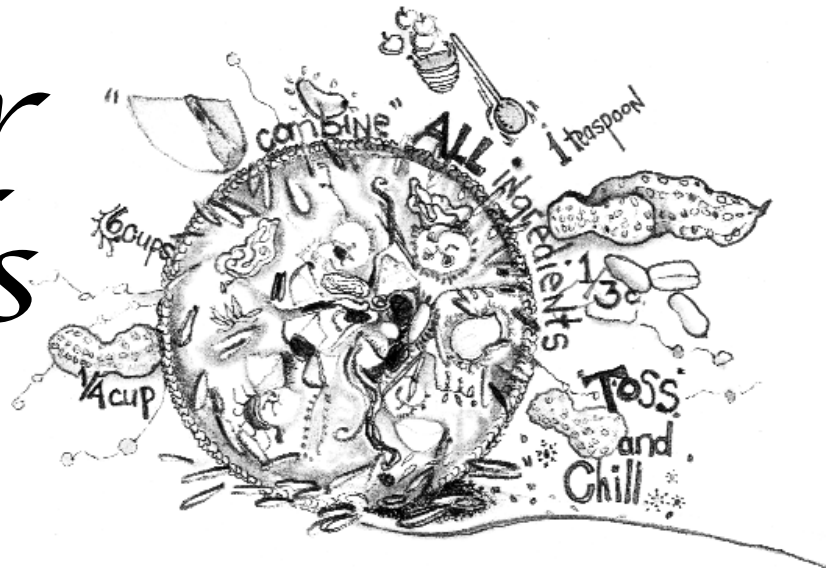
An anvil is the flat, spreading top of a cumulonimbus cloud, often shaped like an anvil. Thunderstorm anvils may spread hundreds of miles downwind from the thunderstorm itself, and sometimes may spread upwind. ■

**May 15 - June 15, 2003**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	70.0	41.5	55.8	0.00
16	61.0	47.7	54.4	0.00
17	62.2	45.7	54.0	0.18
18	61.3	36.5	48.9	0.00
19	75.2	37.9	56.6	0.00
20	81.0	41.0	61.0	0.00
21	61.9	52.9	57.4	0.00
22	58.8	52.5	55.7	0.30
23	57.0	50.7	53.9	0.10
24	61.3	51.8	56.6	0.40
25	60.3	55.0	57.7	0.10
26	59.0	52.3	55.7	0.87
27	73.0	47.3	60.2	1.39
28	74.3	53.8	64.1	0.08
29	78.6	51.8	65.2	0.07
30	81.1	53.8	67.5	0.00
31	73.9	55.8	64.9	0.00
1	66.2	54.0	60.1	0.55
2	71.4	44.8	58.1	0.35
3	73.0	52.7	62.9	0.00
4	59.2	51.4	55.3	1.83
5	73.9	56.1	65.0	0.52
6	77.7	51.1	64.4	0.07
7	63.7	54.7	59.2	0.00
8	70.5	57.9	64.2	1.03
9	75.7	55.6	65.7	0.00
10	81.3	55.6	68.5	0.00
11	87.8	61.5	74.7	0.00
12	87.4	67.3	77.4	0.05
13	79.2	65.5	72.4	0.70
14	85.5	60.3	72.9	0.33
15	83.3	32.6	58.0	0.40

Total Precipitation 9.32"

# Summer Salads



In the summertime I don't like to heat up the kitchen. The following salads can be made ahead of time and served days later. In the recipes containing canned shrimp fresh shrimp or cooked boneless skinless chicken breast can be substituted.

## Shrimp Pineapple Slaw

1 teaspoon dry mustard  
 1/4 cup sugar  
 1/2 teaspoon caraway seeds  
 6 cups cabbage, finely shredded  
 2 cans Pacific shrimp

2 tablespoons vinegar  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1/2 cup mayonnaise  
 1 (8 3/4 oz.) can pineapple tidbits

Mix mustard, vinegar, sugar, salt, caraway seeds and mayonnaise. Toss with cabbage, shrimp and drained pineapple. Chill. Top with a dash of paprika or garnish with green pepper rings...Serves. 6

## Three Bean Salad

1 can yellow beans  
 1 can red kidney beans  
 1 cup chopped green peppers  
 1/2 cup wine vinegar

1 can green beans  
 1 cup onions, shredded  
 1 cup sugar  
 1/2 cup white vinegar

Wash and drain the canned beans; then marinate overnight in rest of mixture. Can also be canned; cold pack (not cooked) 15 minutes.

## Beach Party Salad

2 cups cooked shrimp  
 1 cup celery, diced  
 1/3 cup raisins  
 1/4 cup peanuts, chopped

1 (8 oz.) can pineapple chunks  
 1 apple, chopped  
 1/3 cup mayonnaise  
 salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients; toss and chill... ■

# ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

## Scoop! An Advance Look at Next Season's Attractions

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**Saturday, September 20, 2003**

6:45 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**STORYTELLING WITH JAMIE KOSA & DAVID BRAHINSKY/MUSIC WITH ALIYA GOLDMAN & DAMON DUCHAI/FACE PAINTING FOR CHILDREN WITH BARBARA ATWOOD**

Professional storytellers Jamie and David will transport the audience into fantastic places. Aliya started learning guitar from her father at seven but got better than him so began studying with Damon who will accompany her as she sings songs by Pink, Jewel and others with her beautiful voice. Barbara knows paint and she knows children, and children love it. (Face painting at 6:45 p.m., Storytelling and music begin at 7:30 p.m.)

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**Saturday, October 11, 2003**

5:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Jacob Landau studio

**OPEN STUDIO PLUS MUSIC WITH DAVID BRAHINSKY & SARAH HOUTZ**

This is the second annual Jacob Landau Studio Event and features work by Master artist Jacob Landau and artists who were greatly influenced by his teachings (all are former students). Artists showing: Priscilla Snow Algava, Joanne Leone Couris, Rhoni Groff, Jack McGovern, George Schorr, and Myron Wasserman. David and Sarah will perform at 8 p.m. (Sarah in her beautiful operatically trained voice, David on guitar and in his deep baritone.)

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**Sunday, November 16, 2003**

3:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**THE WELL TEMPERED CLAVIER BOOK by J.S. BACH PERFORMED BY ALAN MALLACH**

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**Saturday, December 6, 2003**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**"COOL WOMEN" WILL READ THEIR POETRY**

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**Saturday, February 14, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**ROOSEVELT POETS**

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**Saturday, March 20, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**PIETRO MASCAGNI, SONGS AND BIOGRAPHY WITH ALAN MALLACH**

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**Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND**

*Continued on Page 17*



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## ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

*Continued from Page 16*

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**Saturday, May 22, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

**ARTNOLOGY/COMPUTER MUSIC AND INSTALLATIONS**

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**Saturday, June 4 and June 5, 2003**

Time to be announced, at the Factory, Open call, details to follow

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2002 - 2003

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

## July

<b>1</b>	Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1:00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351
<b>2</b>	Wed.		<b>♻️ RECYCLE</b>
<b>4</b>	Fri.		Independence Day
<b>7</b>	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
<b>8</b>	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Chairman Ralph Seligman 609-448-2340
<b>14</b>	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall Mayor Michael Hamilton 609-443-5227
<b>16</b>	Wed.		<b>♻️ RECYCLE</b>
<b>17</b>	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Environmental Commission Borough Hall Chairman Kirk Rothfuss, 609-448-3713
<b>30</b>	Wed.		<b>♻️ RECYCLE</b>

## August

<b>4</b>	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

<b>5</b>	Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1:00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351
<b>11</b>	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting Mayor Michael Hamilton 609-443-5227
<b>12</b>	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Chairman Ralph Seligman 609-448-3713
<b>13</b>	Wed.		<b>♻️ RECYCLE</b>
<b>14</b>	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting Neil Marko 609-443-6818
		7:30 p.m.	Environmental Commission Borough Hall Chairman Kirk Rothfuss, 609-448-3713
<b>18</b>	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227
<b>27</b>	Wed.		<b>♻️ RECYCLE</b>

## September

<b>4</b>	Thurs.		School Opens
<b>25</b>	Thurs		Back to School Night

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