

# Bulletin

Volume 28 Number 2

November 2003

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

### Council Introduces Ordinances Adopting Maintenance Code and Redevelopment Plan

By Michael Ticktin

At its October meeting, the Borough Council voted to introduce an ordinance adopting the International Property Maintenance Code/2003 as the Property Maintenance Code of the Borough of Roosevelt and another ordinance to adopt the Redevelopment Plan that was prepared and approved last month by the Planning Board. Introduction on “first reading” means that the Council will vote on these ordinances after public hearings that will be held at the November 9 meeting. If passed on “second reading” after the hearing, the ordinances would become effective.

The International Property Maintenance Code is the successor to the

BOCA Property Maintenance Code. The BOCA organization recently joined with the two other national code organizations to publish a single series of new codes. The International Building Code, which governs construction, as opposed to maintenance, is in effect everywhere in New Jersey as part of the State Uniform Construction Code. In Roosevelt, the State Uniform Construction Code is enforced by code officials employed by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs because Roosevelt has chosen not to have its own construction code enforcement office. The maintenance code, however, would be enforced by the municipal

housing inspector, a position currently held by Ed Goetzmann.

Councilman Jeff Hunt reported that hydrant flushing, which is necessary to clear iron deposits out of the water pipes, were to begin on October 27, with two streets being done each day. He also reported that the metering project was proceeding, that 250 meters were already installed and that the work would be done on schedule by the end of the year. Councilwoman Pat Moser reported that leaves that were collecting in drains were being taken care of by the Borough maintenance staff. Mayor Michael Hamilton stated that the repaving of Pine Drive was complete.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ELECTION DAY - VOTE!!

Remember Election Day - November 4  
Come out and vote!

Are you thinking of going on the trip to the Newark Museum on November 15? Applications are at the Borough Hall.

May we add your name to the Supporters and Contributors' page?

Remember the RPS library is open for adults on Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (see the calendar for instructions).

Neighborhood Notes is looking for town news! Tell Ron Kostar what's happening!

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

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# BOARD APPROVES CELLULAR EQUIPMENT, CONSIDERS FACTORY EXPANSION

The Planning Board held a public hearing on October 14 to determine whether to approve AT&T Wireless' proposal to install 12 antennas on the Borough water tower to improve cellular coverage in the area. After hearing from three experts presented by attorney Michael Levine, representing AT&T Wireless, the five members of the Board present and eligible to vote unanimously approved the applicant's request for a variance and preliminary and final site plan approval. As the successful (and only) bidder to lease space at the water tower for cellular service equipment, AT&T Wireless can now construct the facility. The lease, approved by the Borough Council on September 8, could not take effect until AT&T wireless obtained the necessary Planning Board approvals. Now the Borough can collect \$21,000 per year for permitting AT&T Wireless to operate the cellular facility.

Presenting expert testimony on behalf of AT&T Wireless and answering questions from the Board and members of the public, were Daniel Penesso, a radio frequency engineer, Arife Malick, a civil engineer and site plan designer, and John Leoncavallo, a professional planner. The antenna installation required a zoning variance because the water tower is in the R-100 residential zone. The 12 antennas will be installed 118 feet high, and they will not protrude above the tower. Painted the same color as the tower, they will not be obtrusive. Cables will run

down one leg of the tower within a covered tray that also will be the same color as the tower. The cables will connect to four refrigerator-sized cabinets within a fenced in area on the ground. Radio frequency emissions will be well within FCC emission limits. The antennas themselves are about five feet high, six inches wide and two inches deep. Underground wires will supply electrical service to the cabinets.

The Board determined that positive factors outweighed negative factors and granted the required variance. Voting in favor of the application were Chairman Ralph Seligman and members Edwin Moser, Jessica Hecht, Robert Petrilla and David Ticktin. Mayor Michael Hamilton and Council member Beth Battel were present but unable to vote because they also are members of the governing body. Board member Michael Ticktin was present, but he too could not vote because his dwelling lot is within 200 feet of the proposed facility. Three other members of the Board were not present.

The Board also reviewed an informal concept plan prepared on behalf of Valley North LLC, a manufacturer of prototype machinery located at 30 North Valley Road. According to Board Attorney Michele Donato, the purpose of the procedure was to enable the applicant to learn which issues would be important to the Board and, therefore, need to be addressed in a formal application. Any guidance provided would not

bind either the Board or the applicant. Michael Ticktin did not participate because his residential lot is within 200 feet of Valley North's property. The concept plan called for a different loading area, additional parking spaces, enlarging the existing building and construction of a second building. Attorney Lawrence Sachs represented Valley North and its owner George Pall.

Although not required to do so for a concept plan, Valley North sent notices of the meeting to the surrounding neighbors. Some residents of Homestead Lane and North Valley Road, whose properties overlook Valley North's property, voiced objections to the concept plan. The factory is 5,143 sq. ft now. Under the concept plan, it would be expanded in the rear to include another 4,793 sq. ft. When completed, half of the building would be used for office space and the other half for assembly. A new, 9,000-sq. ft. building toward the rear of the property would provide storage and a loading dock. Although woods surround the property, Mr. Sachs said his client would accommodate requests for buffering and screening.

Homestead Lane resident Bert Ellentuck said current zoning requires a 90-ft. setback instead of 40 feet indicated in the concept plan. He said the planned square footage would require at least 24 parking spaces, not the 16 that were proposed. He added that parking should not be permitted

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# 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.”**

Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup> is Election Day in New Jersey. On the ballot will be State, County and Borough offices. In Roosevelt, three Council seats and the Mayor's seat are on the ballot. I thought you might be interested to know how our Borough government is designed to function, as well as the powers (and limitations) of the Mayor and Council.

*The Separation of Powers...*between elected officials in a Borough are divided between the Mayor and Council and our appointed Business Administrator. The Mayor and Council have what might be described best as “a bundle of powers.” While it is true that all local governments in New Jersey have essentially the same grant of statutory power, the form of munic-

ipal government (borough, town, township, city, village, commission etc.) affects the manner in which that power is exercised.

State and local statutes relevant to municipal law make two things clear as far as the Mayor's duties are concerned:

1. It is the Mayor's duty to see to it that the laws of the State and local ordinances are obeyed and,
2. It is the Mayor's responsibility to oversee the local government and make recommendations to the Council (and the community) on ways to improve the general welfare of our citizens.

Because many people are unable or unwilling to attend Council meetings, I feel that the best way to fulfill my statutory obligation to report on the conditions of our Borough government is to write a monthly Mayor's Column in the *Bulletin*. The Mayor's Column begins with the citation from the State statute that describes the Mayor's duty to recommend to the Council measures to improve the welfare of the Borough.

Our Borough form of government has a Mayor elected at large for a term of four years and six Council members elected at large for a term of three years, and an appointed Business Administrator.

*Powers of the Mayor...*NJSA 40A:60-5 states that:

- a. The Mayor shall be the head of the municipal government.
- b. The Mayor shall have all those powers designated by general law.
- c. The Mayor shall preside at meetings of the Council and may vote to break a tie.
- d. Every ordinance adopted by the Council shall, within five days after its passage, Sundays excepted, be presented to the Mayor by the Borough Clerk. The Mayor shall, within 10 days after receiving the ordinance, Sundays excepted, either approve the ordinance by affixing his signature thereto or return it to the Council by delivering it to the Clerk together with a statement setting forth his objections thereto or any item or part thereof. No ordinance or any item or part thereof shall take effect without the Mayor's approval, unless the Mayor fails to return the ordinance to the Council, as prescribed above, or unless the Council, upon consideration of the ordinance following its return, shall, by a vote of two-thirds of all the members of Council, resolve to override the veto.

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# The Candidates

Dear Roosevelt voter:

My four-year term as your Mayor ends in January. I wish to thank Roosevelt voters, whose trust gave me an opportunity to serve our special community. I hope to continue my public service as a member of our Borough Council.

Four years as Mayor, as well as 10 years as a member of our School Board, have given me valuable knowledge and experience. Your vote will allow me to continue to work as a member of an effective governing team.

I wholeheartedly endorse Democratic candidates Neil Marko as Mayor as well as Jeff Hunt and Dan Hoffman as Councilmen. We have accomplished a great deal together over the last few years but much remains to be done. We want to continue to work together to pursue grants and other non-tax revenue as well as to carefully manage municipal finances.

Perhaps you have noticed that almost every candidate for public office in New Jersey, Democrat or Republican, is focusing on preserving open space and farmland. They realize that improving the quality of life in their communities translates into higher property values. Preservation of open space and farmland in Roosevelt has already produced a dramatic rise in the value of our homes. My thanks to all in our community-elected and volunteer-who fought for this result.

Thank you again for your support over the last four-years as Mayor. I ask for your vote on November 4<sup>th</sup> for Borough Council.

Sincerely,

*Michael B. Hamilton*

It is a pleasure and honor to again place my name before you as a candidate for Borough Councilman.

During my first term under the previous administration, I was often the sole voice of dissent against a strongly pro-development Council who seemed to have a callous disregard for Roosevelt's unique social, historical, and environmental value. Those were stressful and contentious times. By contrast, these past three years have been both challenging and productive, and it has been a pleasure to work with my fellow Councilpersons in what has been an extremely effective administration under Mayor Mike Hamilton.

During this term, we have completed many of our goals and I am proud to have contributed to our achievements for the benefit of Roosevelt on your behalf. A partial list of what has been done follows:

**We prevailed against threatened development** that would have increased taxes and changed the historic and bucolic nature of our town forever; the divisive development debate has thus been concluded with the result that all of our open and farmland areas are now preserved.

After years of discussion and delay, we pursued and finally **purchased the derelict gas station** which property can now be reclaimed and improved in the near future.

**Water meters** required for years by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection have finally been installed throughout town at no additional cost to Roosevelt ratepayers.

Numerous **improvements to our Water and Sewer plants** have been made including the repair and installation of new equipment in our wells.

**Speed humps** have been installed to slow speeding drivers in town, a long-time concern of many residents.

A contract with AT&T for the **installation of cell phone equipment** on the water tower has been signed which will result in substantial new funds to benefit our aging infrastructure;

Several **road reconstructions** have been completed primarily with D.O.T. funds, among them North Valley, Farm, Pine, Tamara, and Spruce.

The **First Aid Squad** has been revived and is now a viable service once again.

Starting with seed money from a State grant we have initiated a **growing Recreation Program** overseen by our Recreation Director.

We have finally taken significant steps to fulfill our **low income housing requirement**.

And it is worthy of note that with all the above,

**TAXES HAVE REMAINED STEADY!**  
**and WATER/SEWER RATES HAVE REMAINED STEADY!**

In recent elections you chose a team consisting, in part, of Mayor Mike Hamilton,

Councilman Neil Marko, and myself as Councilman; there is still much work to be done by this collaboration. If successful on Election Day, some of us will shift positions – Neil Marko becoming Mayor, Mike Hamilton a Councilman, and I hope to remain your representative on Council as I have in the past. Please give all of us your vote on November 4<sup>th</sup> and keep this winning team together!

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey M. Hunt*

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

I'm excited to announce that our school is the recipient of two grant awards. The fifth grade class, under the supervision of their teacher, Jeff Santanello and Mrs. Goldfond, have earned an award from the Monmouth County Coalition for Service Learning. Their grant proposal involves the fifth grade class inviting senior citizens to the computer lab twice a month for technology instruction. We had our first lesson and everyone had a most productive session. Pictures of that first session can be viewed on our web site, [www.RPS1.org](http://www.RPS1.org) - click on fifth grade, and click on activities.

Ms Ilene Levine has been awarded a \$1,375 environmental education grant from Public Service Electric and Gas Co. and the the New Jersey Business/Industry Science/Education Consortium. She received the grant for her project "Compost, Critters and Plants: An Inquiry-Based Science Unit," which enables third and fourth graders to learn hands-on about the

natural cycle of life. Ms Levine works with The Goldmans at Gold farm for this project.

Each year our school Professional Development Committee designs our plan for teacher professional development. As part of our needs assessment, I ask anyone who has thoughts about professional development to please contact me with your suggestion. I can be reached at 609-448-2798, or can receive your email at [dweinbach@RPS1.org](mailto:dweinbach@RPS1.org). Our professional development always has a technology component to keep us current with the latest trends for technology in education. This year we will be adding Leapfrog materials to our K-2 language arts program. Differentiation of instruction is also an area upon which we continually focus. With that in mind, we are maintaining portfolio assessments in writing in all our classes. This enables teachers to carefully monitor the progress of students as they learn the writing process.

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## RCNS November Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

This month we learned how to stay safe. Our class went on a field trip to the Clarksburg Firehouse. It was so much fun to see what happens at the firehouse and how all the equipment works, especially the fire truck! The children also learned about fire safety and how to call 911 for emergencies.

On Election Day, the children learned about the voting process by casting their ballots for their favorite snack. We also talked about Uncle Sam and our flag.

To get a better understanding of the Thanksgiving holiday, the children will see how the Pilgrims and Indians lived and helped each other. It's a wonderful time to show how people could be very different and yet get along so well. We will make teepees and buffalo hides with Indian pictographs as decorations.

The children will learn how the Pilgrims came to America on the Mayflower and how hard it was to learn how to live in a new place. They will see how the Indians taught the Pilgrims many things so they would survive through the winter.

As Thanksgiving approaches, our class will talk about why we are thankful. Our projects will include a cornucopia and one of our favorites, the turkey! Happy Thanksgiving to all! ■

### November School Dates

<b>November 4</b>	Early Dismissal
<b>November 6</b>	Closed – NJEA Convention
<b>November 7</b>	Closed – NJEA Convention
<b>November 14</b>	Pizza
<b>November 20</b>	Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
<b>November 26</b>	School Performance & Early Dismissal
<b>November 27 &amp; 28</b>	Closed – Thanksgiving

Well, aside from my youngest's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday, there were some other PTA events in October that were *Bulletin* worthy.

Picture day seemed to go well in the school, including an addition of an entire school picture. We hope it turns out well. Anna Fenerty and Kathleen Towle organized the day for us that included alphabetizing students' cards and packets and working with those tiny white letters that are placed on the board to ID the class. You remember those tiny white letters, don't you? Talk about fine motor skills!

October also brought our Scholastic Book Fair, run brilliantly by Linda Schuster and aided by many volunteers on sale days. It's always fun to watch the kids make wish-lists the first day, usually containing 20-25 books. Then we imagine the parents' reaction that night, "Honey, how's about we scale it down to one or two?" (I guess this is a case of the eyes being too big for the eyes instead of the stomach!)

We had the "Shoestring Players" come and work with the kids, organized by Susan Dermody and Dr. Weinbach. Jane Rothfuss organized

our next fundraiser with the help of art teacher, Ms. Brauner. The children drew pictures, and then the parents had the option of making them into a pack of 20 note cards. It's a nice gift idea.

We had three Paul Gerling Pizza days and Kelly Mitchell ran our Halloween Trick or Treat at the school as well as the town-wide watch.

We hope to have our phone book entries back by the November meeting and we are trying, we are hoping, we are really gonna give our best shot for an early 2004 phone book release. If you thought there was a line for the new Harry Potter book, you ain't seen nothing yet!

Of course, due to journalistic deadlines, I am forced to prophesize about all of this and I am hoping my fortune telling is correct. I am hoping Linda Schuster didn't run out screaming "No more books!" and the children didn't throw up on their artwork for their cards and Halloween wasn't cancelled and the pizza wasn't dropped on the ground (for more than 5 seconds). I do see a meeting in the future... November 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. ■

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In other actions, the Council approved resolutions regarding the 2002 annual audit report and authorizing change orders for the Pine Drive and Spruce Lane road projects, as well as motions authorizing the Mayor to execute a transportation agreement for senior citizens with Monmouth County SCAT, appropriating up to \$843 for installation of a radio in the fire truck and approving the use of the Borough Hall for the upcoming birthday party of Deidre Pizzarelli's daughter. It should be noted that local residents are allowed to use the Borough Hall for private parties if there is no conflict with other events and a deposit is paid to assure proper cleaning up afterwards. ■

**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.**



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

The “Notes” are limping these days. And reeling. Like Mohammed Ali in the third round of his first fight with Joe Frazier. Or as Joe Frazier would say, “Joe Fra-zer.”

You can blame it on any number of things. But probably it started with the advent of the notorious Blaster Worm, and has just been exacerbated by kids leaving and the change in seasons. Summer’s over and with that end comes the annual listlessness. Falling dead leaves, slate wiped clean, etc.

In any event it’s time for “Notes” to go into its version of the Rope-a-Doper. Time to lean back against the ropes, “Notes”, shift your feet and redistribute your weight and recollect your energy and verve. And jab, maybe even take in some new action verbs.

But “Notes”, like Ann Landers’ col-

umn and Jerry Lewis’ wretched Telethon, is nothing without you, its readers and contributors.

And so I ask you to send us fresh blood, in the form of your timely latest news, to our post here at ronkostar@cs.com or 18 Pine Drive. “Neighborhood Notes” is no one man band, it will have to continue to be a collective effort due to the insatiable nature of the economy and the fact that no man is an island, etc.. But if you send your insights, inspirations and news, I’ll continue to be your faithful though occasionally feckless conduit.

Meanwhile, the news for last month, October, is that apparently nothing happened. Not one reported thing. It was, as a friend said, “A good month to be an existentialist or a Buddhist.” ■

The senior citizens are participating in a computer class at the Roosevelt Public School. Fifth graders are instructing interested members twice a month which began Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Flu shots were administered at the Borough Hall on October 27<sup>th</sup> between 10 and 11 a.m. Those with Medicare cards received shots free of charge.

Many members expressed interest in attending the trip to the Newark Museum on November 15<sup>th</sup>. This trip is open to the community. The Roosevelt Community Education and Recreational Commission sponsor trips.

The Senior Citizens monthly meeting was held on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> rather than November 4<sup>th</sup> due to Election Day.

Our senior luncheon was held at the Borough Hall on October 31<sup>st</sup>, prepared by the talented Pat Moser. ■

**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?



## PLANNING BOARD NEWS

*Continued from Page 3*

Dear Mayor Hamilton:

I began my expedition to find Roosevelt late on the morning of October 13, 2003. My vision of reduced traffic on Columbus Day between Somerset County and Roosevelt was soon shattered. But, then again, this is New Jersey.

Route 571 seemed to evaporate from time to time on the maps available to me. But I was determined to find Roosevelt. I'd heard rumors of its history. And, after all, "Roosevelt" was the name of the first president I remembered and he lived long enough to be my Commander-in-Chief in 1944 and 1945.

It was the parked ambulance that caught my attention. I parked in front of a small building assuming someone there would know where Roosevelt was. I intended to keep the engine running in obedience to the warning about parking. Before I could execute my plan the door flew open and a graciously determined woman directed me to park at the side of the building.

When I returned to the front of the building, I discovered the Borough Hall and the Borough Clerk. The purpose of this letter is to commend Krystyna Bieracka-Olejnik. When I shared with her my interests, she set about gathering materials for me to take away, marked sites on a map I might want to visit and encouraged lunch at the nearby "deli." She is to be commended for what we once called going "beyond the call of duty."

The friend who accompanied me and I trust you will use this letter to call appropriate attention to the services she renders without supervision on behalf of the residents of the Borough.

Very truly yours,  
Ritamarie G. Rondum

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in front of the existing building. He also noted that Valley North would have to obtain a permit for fill material used to provide a level surface to aid construction of the new building. Environmental Commission member Rod Tulloss said a 150-ft. buffer would be required because the property adjoins exceptional-value wetlands. He added that the Environmental Commission should review any formal application, and the State Department of Environmental Protection should provide a letter of interpretation indicating compliance with wetlands requirements.

Residents and Board members raised concerns about the percentage of the property that would be covered by buildings and impervious asphalt surfaces. Arlene Stinson wondered whether noise from the expanded operation would create a nuisance. Board Attorney Donato said the State's noise code applies to all uses. She noted that the plan calls for coverage of 40 percent of the property with buildings and asphalt, whereas Borough zoning permits a maximum of 30 percent coverage by impervious services.

Mr. Petrilla said the applicant should resolve any DEP issues first. Mr. Moser said the applicant should consider whether rotating the buildings would bring them into compliance with setback and wetlands buffering requirements. ■

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE  
CSA, DR. DALE WEINBACH

*Continued from Page 6*

As the Department of Education continues to operate under the federal **No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)**, New Jersey has required that all teachers be or become highly qualified in the core academic areas they teach. NCLB places major emphasis upon teacher quality as a factor in improving achievement for all students. Our preliminary survey of Roosevelt teachers indicates that they are all highly qualified based on the criteria set out by the New Jersey Department of Education.

Our school building and grounds serve the community on a regular basis. I hope that everyone will be involved in helping us preserve the school. We can do this by teaching our graduates, neighbors and friends to treat the school and the grounds with respect. That way we can all enjoy the facility.

Our annual Thanksgiving Pie sale will soon be underway. This is a major sixth grade fundraiser. The pies, from A & M farms are delicious, and the choices are varied. Please help by purchasing pies. They can be frozen and used for any future party! ■



Among the stories of the Jewish diaspora is one in which I became a player. My parents, Rose Wolfinger and Eugene Spitzer met in Vienna, Austria while part of a youth group, and married there in 1938, only months before the start of World War II, during the Anschluss, which marked the rise of Adolf Hitler.

They were, along with various family members, fortunate enough to be able to flee the rising evil against Jews, and settled in La Paz, Bolivia in 1939. At that time, Bolivia was one of few, or perhaps the only place in the entire world allowing Jewish refugees to enter. Indeed, Bolivia became home to more than 20,000 people from Central Europe, and allowed them to escape persecution while remaking their lives in a place as different as possible from their native land. My brother, Leo Spitzer, in the award-winning book entitled "Hotel Bolivia," has already written this story of the reinvention of their culture in this strange place. Therefore, I will tell you about what happened after we left Bolivia, where my brother and I were born, and where we stayed until 1950, when we moved to the "Big Apple."

My grandmother, grandfather, uncles and aunts had already left



Elly, Leo & Ana in La Paz, Bolivia, 1948

Bolivia and were living in New York, where the streets were "lined with gold" and one could join the melting pot without fear of persecution. A year or so after they arrived, visas could be obtained for two more people, and the elderly mother of my father was to travel by ship to the United States. My then 11-year-old brother was chosen to escort her, and to be the interpreter along the trip. We were, for the most part, tri-lingual, having been raised with German as

our primary language, Spanish as our secondary language and learning English in order to be able to understand our next "new" home. And so, Leo and Grandma Lina came to the US before us, and made a home with my mother's parents.

Shortly thereafter, in 1950, my parents and I were also able to come to the US. We arrived during an October heat wave at Pier 90, on a United Fruit Lines banana boat, having been part of a small group of humans mixed in with the fruit and the tarantulas. We were First Class passengers and enjoyed our time aboard, anxiously anticipating our next adventure.

Our new apartment was a four-story brownstone on Second Avenue, between 79<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> street. Our 4<sup>th</sup> floor walk-up railroad apartment had a hall bathroom that we shared with the other tenants on the floor. The front door of the apartment opened into the kitchen, which housed a bathtub, along with the icebox and other kitchen amenities. There was a cover one put over the top of the tub, turning it into a useful storage area when no one was bathing. The house had settled in an odd manner, leaving the kitchen floor so crooked that one actually walked uphill from the front

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## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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door to the stove. For me, the best thing was having my maternal grandmother and grandfather living in the brownstone next door. They too, lived on the fourth floor of a four-story building, and to save time and energy, we would go up one flight of stairs to the roof, step across to the next building and go down one flight of stairs to visit them. Between my grandmother and my grandfather's constant urging that I eat, I managed to gain an inordinate amount of weight in a short time. So, in the eyes of my immigrant grandparents, this was seen as success.

I began school in the U.S. in the second grade class of Mrs. Murphy, who might have missed her true calling, as she thought that whacking a child on the hand with a ruler when they mispronounced a word during reading aloud an appropriate way to teach. I remember best trying to read from a book a few weeks after arriving in New York. The title character was named Bartholomew Cubbins, and I recall getting a number of raps across the knuckles when, as a new immigrant, I could not say that name correctly. Isn't it strange what stays in our memory?

The Korean War was under way, and we frequently had Air Raid drills in which we had to crouch under our desks, putting our head between our legs. We collected for the Red Cross, bringing dimes to school for the war effort and getting lapel pins with Red Cross on them, displaying them proudly. I think that that was when I decided to become a nurse. My classmates and I spent so much time playing war and taking turns being

shot or being the shooter, that I knew that saving lives (or putting on bandages) was my calling.

Back home in our apartment, the favorite pastime for my brother and me was to climb out on the fire escape, which was shared with the apartment next door, and trade comic books with the kids who lived there. These fire escapes overlooked an alley that had become a garbage dump, as people threw things out the window and it landed below, becoming blight when residents showed no pride in their own surroundings.

Early on I was "adopted" by a youngish woman who owned an antique shop in a storefront of the house next door. She called herself Grandma Flanagan, and allowed me to play in her shop, and especially encouraged me to be a friend to her cat, Percy, a longhaired domestic with a regal look and attitude. Grandma Flanagan introduced me to the Irish culture, and bought me special treats like marzipan potatoes on St. Patrick's Day. In addition, and in order to remain ecumenical, she always bought me chocolate covered matzos, as frequently Passover and St. Patrick's Day were close together on the calendar.

My best friend was a girl named Felicia. Her mother was everything my mother was not. She was tall, (my mother four foot eight inches) and slender. Felicia's mother was a ballerina, while mine was a housewife. She gave us ballet lessons in her home on 79th street, and taught me to be graceful and limber (well, at least she tried). But, best of all, she allowed us to play with the hairpieces that she used

when she danced, professionally. These long falls and braids became horsetails and manes for two imaginative young girls, as we pinned them to our pants and walked around neighing and snorting, and begging for carrots. My imagination was unleashed, as we were allowed to make-believe and encouraged by both families to be dancers and actors and enjoy childhood. I will always remember fondly that time in my life.

By the time I was in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, my family moved to New Jersey, and my time as a Jersey girl began. What exit, you ask? Ah. But that's a story for another time! ■

### 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

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## FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

*Continued from Page 4*

- e. No ordinance shall be passed, or appointment of any subordinate officer of the Borough be confirmed, except by a vote of a majority of the members of the Council present at the meeting, provided that at least three affirmative votes shall be required for such purpose, the Mayor voting only in the case of a tie.
- f. If any ordinance contains more than one distinct section, clause or item, the Mayor may approve one or more thereof and veto the rest.
- g. The Mayor shall nominate and, with the advice and consent of Council, appoint all subordinate officers of the Borough, unless the specific terms of the general law clearly require a different appointment procedure. He shall make his nomination to any such office within 30 days of that office becoming vacant.
- h. The Mayor shall see to it that the laws of the State and the ordinances of the Borough are faithfully executed. He shall recommend to the Council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the Borough. He shall maintain peace and good order and have the power to suppress all riots and tumultuous assemblies in the Borough. (Source: R.S. 40:87-16, R.S. 40:87-31, R.S. 40:88-1, R.S. 40:93-1, R.S. 40:93-3 to R.S. 40:93-8, R.S. 40:94-3 and New.) (Added by P.L. 1987, c.379, effective January 8, 1988.)

*Powers of the Council...*NJSA 40A60-6 states that:

- a. The Council shall be the legislative body of the municipality.
- b. The Council may, subject to general law and the provisions of this act:
  - (1) pass, adopt, amend and repeal any ordinance or, where permitted, any resolution for any purpose required for the government of the municipality or for the accomplishment of any public purpose for which the municipality is authorized to act under general law;
  - (2) control and regulate the finances of the municipality and raise money by borrowing or taxation;
  - (3) create such offices and positions as it may deem necessary. The officers appointed thereto shall perform the duties required by law and the ordinances of the Council. Other than the Borough attorney, engineer, and building inspector, these officers shall be residents of the Borough and shall serve at the pleasure of the Council, except the Clerk, who also shall be exempt from the Borough residency requirement, the tax collector and tax assessor who shall serve for terms as provided in chapter 9 of Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes. The Council may exempt officers from the residency requirements but only pursuant to the

adoption of an ordinance to that effect;

- (4) investigate any activity of the municipality;
- (5) remove any officer of the municipality, other than those officers excepted by law, for cause; and
- (6) override a veto of the Mayor by a two-thirds majority of all the members of the Council.
- c. The Council shall have all the executive responsibilities of the municipality not placed, by general law or this act, in the office of the Mayor.
- d. The Council, whenever it fails to confirm the nomination by the Mayor of any official to a subordinate office of the Borough within 30 days of being presented such nomination, shall make the appointment to that office, provided that at least three affirmative votes shall be required for such purpose, the Mayor to have no vote thereon except in the case of a tie.

Amended 1988,c.185,s.1.

The Borough Council may, by ordinance, delegate all or a portion of the executive responsibilities of the municipality to an administrator, who shall be appointed pursuant to N.J.S. 40A:9-136.

As always, I rely upon your advice and support.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor

Borough Hall: 609-448-0539

E-mail: mham82@comcast.net ■

*Continued from Page 9*

Dear fellow Rooseveltians:

I want to express my thanks to so many of you who responded to my appeal for support for participation in the Race for the Cure.

This event, held on October 19, raises funds and awareness about breast cancer. I appreciate your generosity in supporting research for treatment and cure of breast cancer, education for prevention and early detection, and services to persons with breast cancer especially those without means for adequate care.

I am proud to assist in this work by joining in the Race for the Cure and grateful to you for donating contributions to help me.

Sincerely,  
*Carol Watchler*



*Continued from Page 5*

Dear Editor and *Bulletin* readers:

My name is Neil Marko and I am running for the office of Mayor. I would like to take this time to express my gratitude to all Roosevelt residents for your support during the last three years as your Borough Councilman. During that time we have had many challenges in the Borough. Thanks to the hard work of the Mayor and the Council, we have had many recent successes. We have successfully fought off two developers and two ensuing lawsuits; we have seen many parcels preserved as farmland or as open space; we have seen our roads repaired, our infrastructure improved and our institutions, such as our First Aid Squad, return to viability. We have worked hard to keep taxes and water sewer rates from going up, but there is still more work to do.

That is why I am running for Mayor. We still have many more challenges ahead. Those challenges will not be solved easily. Those challenges will require more hard work, and much effort on the part of the Mayor and Council and all of our professionals and employees.

Roosevelt has turned the corner. With your support, I as Mayor, and Mike Hamilton, Jeff Hunt and Dan Hoffman as your councilmen, as well as the other hard working members of the Council will make Roosevelt an even more wonderful community than it already is.

Thank you for your support,  
*Neil Marko*



## 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

**Thanksgiving Forecast**

I was looking over my weather data for the last ten Turkey Days and wondering what average Roosevelt Thanksgiving Day weather should be like. It turns out that the past indicates a good chance of decent, perhaps even nice weather for the holiday. Since 1993, snow has only fallen once, in 1995 when morning flurries turned into light rain later in the day. The most precipitation to fall occurred in 1998. Only 0.30" fell that rainy, windy Thanksgiving. In fact, there were only three Thanksgivings in the last ten that had any measurable precipitation. And the total precipitation for all 10 of those days is less than 0.50". Eight of the 10 had no rain or snow. Six were clear and two cloudy. Therefore, a typical Roosevelt Thanksgiving is dry and more often than not, clear.

So with a good chance of dry weather we still need to know whether we'll need to wear a sweater and light jacket or a heavy coat to brace ourselves against the cold. Our coldest Thanksgiving in the last 10 years occurred in 1996. The top temperature was 36.0 degrees. The low that day was 18.0 degrees. The warmest Thanksgiving was just a couple of years ago. In 2001 the mercury peaked at 53.8 degrees and bottomed out at 31.6. The average high temperature for a Turkey Day is 41.9 degrees. The average low, 27.0.

Based on all this data it seems safe to predict that Thanksgiving Day 2003 will be mostly clear with a low in the upper twenties and a high in the low 40's. Of course,

it's not a bad idea to keep in mind that on November 24, 1938, Thanksgiving Day, eight inches of snow fell in New Jersey.

**Winter Forecast**

The National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center in a nod toward ambivalence has forecast an equal chance of above or below normal temperatures and precipitation for the period from November 1 through January 31. (Which way does one nod toward ambivalence?) Meanwhile the Old Farmers Almanac is more specific. It tells us we will have both below normal temperatures persistently from mid-November through early January. For the entire winter, expect below normal precipitation and near normal snowfall.

**Weather Word**

You may have heard the phrase "a trace of precipitation". A trace of rain or snow means an amount less than 0.01" of either substance. While a "trace" may not sound like much, it can weigh up to 400 tons per square mile. So, don't request a trace of stuffing this Thanksgiving! Happy Holiday! ■

**September 16 - October 15, 2003**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
16	75.9	62.4	69.2	0.82
17	75.9	52.5	64.2	0.00
18	70.2	59.2	64.7	0.00
19	82.6	66.0	74.3	0.50
20	80.6	62.6	71.6	0.10
21	74.8	58.3	66.6	0.00
22	75.0	61.3	68.2	0.00
23	73.8	62.2	68.0	0.00
24	71.6	50.4	61.0	0.98
25	78.1	56.8	67.5	0.00
26	75.0	62.2	68.6	0.00
27	82.4	67.3	74.9	0.00
28	75.2	61.3	68.3	0.36
29	68.7	51.6	60.2	0.15
30	65.7	44.2	55.0	0.00
1	64.8	43.0	53.9	0.00
2	61.5	42.1	51.8	0.00
3	57.2	34.5	45.9	0.00
4	60.6	42.6	51.6	0.00
5	61.9	40.5	51.2	0.08
6	60.8	36.9	48.9	0.00
7	63.7	36.0	49.9	0.00
8	71.2	47.5	59.4	0.00
9	76.8	53.4	65.1	0.00
10	68.4	55.2	61.8	0.00
11	72.7	51.8	62.3	0.00
12	71.8	54.7	63.3	0.00
13	68.4	50.4	59.4	0.13
14	70.3	45.9	58.1	0.00
15	63.9	54.1	59.0	0.75

Total Precipitation 3.87"

**P o s e**

*By Maria delPiano*

I choose not to smile for the camera,  
or say cheese.....this is my Life.  
A statement to it's soul.

I have a deep desire to be true to this  
energy that animates me. Speaking,  
not always with words,  
but also thru the bones and fibers  
of my body.

I've decided to listen, to honor and respect  
It's needs. To trust It's instincts.  
So in this instance only a candid shot  
will do.

**W i n t e r y**

*By Maria delPiano*

Outdoors, all appears to be asleep,  
with it's yellowed coloured grass and  
trees down to bare bones.  
No lovely newly mown grass scent,  
to tickle the nose.

Today you must look closely for signs  
of activity...  
luckily they're everywhere.

**"THEY SAY WE'RE  
ONLY ANIMALS"**

*By Suzanne Herlihy*

They say we're  
only animals.  
But, we are your  
true PALS\*

When we are shunned  
and put ASIDE –  
we know your  
true feelings –  
INSIDE\*

When you see us –  
on the side of the  
road, DEAD OR ALIVE,

Know that we are  
scared and only  
trying to  
SURVIVE\*

AS you drive by –  
Say a little PRAYER –  
that we will NOT  
continue to suffer –  
As our souls lift  
to the AIR!

We are just  
animals,  
small & meek,  
not worthy of someone's  
love, tenderness  
or reason to  
speak.

Please,  
See us.  
Notice US.  
On the side of the road.  
As you drive by,  
in your car, truck or  
BUS LOAD\*\*

WE ARE ALL JUST ANIMALS\*



# Potluck



“Potluck.” I think that is a good name for the meals you have when you attend a meeting with a mixed group. Over the years, Herb and I have attended Peace meetings, Civil Rights get togethers, Unitarian meetings and conference weekends with potluck meals. The idea of everyone bringing something works out great for family picnics and birthday parties, so I’m always on the lookout for new recipes.

Here in Roosevelt, the senior meeting in September began with a potluck luncheon. I am always amazed at the variety of food. There is enough for a well-balanced meal and delicious desserts! I sure hope we will soon see the recipe for the delicious dessert that Michele Guye-Hillis brought to Bess’ 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party at the Borough Hall in September.

This is the recipe I used for this September’s luncheon.

## Taco Fiesta Chicken Lasagna

- 2 (14 1/2 oz.) cans diced tomatoes with mild green chilies, un-drained
- 1/4 cup taco sauce
- 3 cups cubed, cooked chicken
- 1 (16 oz.) can refried beans
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 12 uncooked lasagna noodles
- 12 oz. (3 cups) shredded Colby-Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped green onions
- 1/4 cup sliced ripe olives, if desired
- 2 Tbls. Chopped fresh cilantro

Spray 15 x 12 inch sheet of foil and 13 x 9 glass baking dish with non-stick spray. In large bowl, combine tomatoes and taco sauce, mix well. Stir in chicken. In medium bowl combine refried beans and sour cream, mix well.

Spread about 1 cup of chicken mixture in bottom of sprayed baking dish. Top with 4 uncooked noodles. Spread with half of bean mixture and 1 1/2 cups chicken mixture. Sprinkle with 1 cup of the cheese and half of onions and olives.

Layer 4 more noodles, remaining bean mixture, 1 1/2 cups chicken mixture and 1 cup cheese. Top with remaining 4 noodles, chicken mixture, onions, olives and cheese. (Be sure top noodles are covered.) Cover with foil sprayed side down. Refrigerate at least 8 hours or overnight.

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Bake covered lasagna for 50 min. Uncover baking dish, bake an additional 18 to 25 min. or until bubbly and thoroughly heated. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Sprinkle with cilantro. If you want, you can garnish each serving with sour cream, chopped tomato and shredded lettuce. ■

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# ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

## 2003-2004 SEASON

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**Sunday, November 16, 2003**

3:00 p.m. at Borough Hall

### **ALAN MALLACH PERFORMS BOOK II OF BACH'S WELL-TEMPERED CLAVIER**

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**Saturday, December 6, 2003**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **COOL WOMEN READ THEIR POETRY FOR OUR ROOSEVELT RESIDENTS**

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

---

**Saturday, February 14, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **ROOSEVELT POETS**

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

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**Saturday, March 20, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **THE STORY OF PIETRO MASCAGNI**

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

---

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

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND**

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

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

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**Saturday, May 22, 2004**

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

### **ARTNOLOGY/COMPUTER MUSIC AND INSTALLATIONS**

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

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

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

### **ART IN THE FACTORY**

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

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### **Voluntary Contribution:**

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

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2003 - 2004

Contributions received after October 16 will appear in the December *Bulletin*.

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

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## BUSINESS SPONSORS

*The Bulletin* publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and business, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Borough *Bulletin*, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$40.00/year, \$50.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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Roosevelt resident, Bob Francis  
Contact [sales@treevine.com](mailto:sales@treevine.com) or  
call 609-448-4064.

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Robert A. Axel, Ph.D.  
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Relaxation & Balance for all ages  
Wednesdays – 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
Fridays – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
At the Borough Hall  
Call June Counterman 448-3182

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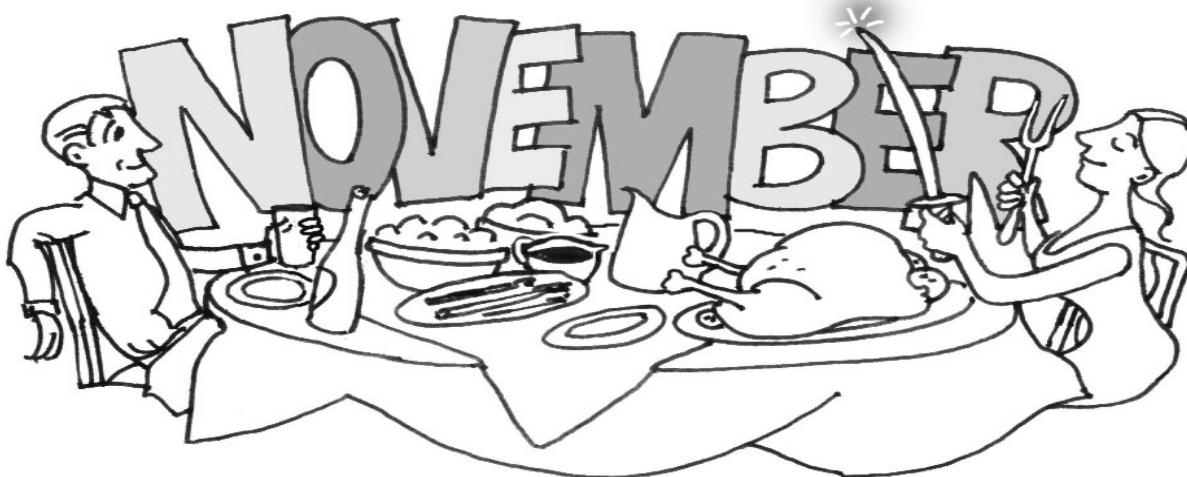
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Fri. 6 a.m. - 9 p.m., Sat. 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
443-5111

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business sponsors.  
Most of them are  
our neighbors.**



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

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

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

## November

<b>3</b>	Mon.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall because of Election Day
		1 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351
		7 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>4</b>	Tues.		RPS Early Dismissal
		6 a.m.-8 p.m.	Election Day, <b>Voting</b> Borough Hall
<b>5</b>	Wed.		<b>RECYCLE</b>
<b>6</b>	Thurs.		RPS Closed-NJEA Convention
<b>7</b>	Fri.		RPS Closed-NJEA Convention
<b>10</b>	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting Mayor Michael Hamilton 609-443-5227
		7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting RPS President Larisa Bondy 609-443-7430
<b>11</b>	Tues.		Veteran's Day
		7:30 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Chairman Ralph Seligman 609-448-2340
<b>14</b>	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day
<b>16</b>	Sun.	3:00 p.m.	RAP Program Alan Mallach performs Bach Borough Hall
<b>17</b>	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings Borough Hall President Neil Marko 609-443-6818

<b>19</b>	Wed.		<b>RECYCLE</b>
<b>20</b>	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	RPS Bd of Ed Meeting President Jill Lipoti 448-9214
		7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting Neil Marko 609-443-6818
<b>26</b>	Wed.		RPS School Performance & Early Dismissal
<b>27</b>	Thurs.		Thanksgiving – RPS Closed
<b>28</b>	Fri.		RPS Closed

## December Preview

<b>1</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>2</b>	Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Senior Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1 p.m.	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall President Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351
<b>3</b>	Wed.		RPS PTA Holiday Gift Fair – School hours
<b>4</b>	Thurs.		RPS PTA Holiday Gift Fair – School & evening hours
<b>5</b>	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day

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