

# Bulletin

Volume 31 Number 2

November 2006

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

### Borough Hires Special Counsel to Advise on Possible Yeshiva Litigation; Three Candidates Unopposed for Council Seats

By Michael Ticktin

At a special meeting held on September 20, the Borough Council voted to hire Marci Hamilton, a professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University, to serve as special counsel in the event of any litigation between the Borough and Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah. Ms. Hamilton is nationally recognized as the leading advocate opposing Federal legislation that limits the applicability of local land use controls to religious institutions. She was successful in persuading the United States Supreme Court to declare the "Religious Freedom Restoration Act" unconstitutional and has taken the position that its successor statute, the "Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act," commonly known as RLUIPA, is also unconstitutional. The Borough will pay Ms. Hamilton at a rate of \$500/hour, on an as-needed basis.

At the regular monthly meeting held on October 11, Administrator Bill Schmeling reported that the tank removal project at the former service station was proceeding, with the contractor currently preparing the preliminary

paperwork required by the Department of Environmental Protection. Once the tanks are removed and the extent of any pollution beneath the tanks is determined, the Council will be able to decide whether to retain the property for use as a fire and first-aid station or to sell it for private redevelopment. The Planning Board has recommended that the Council consider the need for, and feasibility of, public use before offering to sell it, since there is not likely to be any other land so readily available for public purposes in the future. Mr. Schmeling also stated that the Hightstown Public Works Department would be asked to assist in locating a leak in the municipal water system—Hightstown provides repair services for Roosevelt under an interlocal agreement—and also indicated that he had, in his capacity as acting zoning officer, sent a letter to Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah regarding use of the residence at the synagogue.

Councilman Dan Hoffman, chairman of the Public Works committee, reported that the cost for the instal-

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flu shots will be available on Friday, November 17 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Remember to bring your insurance cards with you.

This marks our second issue of the 2006-2007 season and we hope it is giving you the interesting read we promised.

Are you getting involved with the Community Mural Project? There will be another workshop at the school on Saturday, November 4th.

You will note that our contribution page has over fifty names so far, for which we thank them sincerely. How about you?

### **Sunday, November 5 (Postponed from October)**

#### **Clean Community Fall Litter Pickup**

Join in to keep our town clean!

Meet at the Post Office at 10:00 a.m. for assignments.

Food at Leny, Michele and Roman afterwards, 24 N. Rochdale Avenue.

Please report any bear sightings to:  
State Bureau of Wildlife Management  
Kim Tinnes  
Wildlife Control  
609-259-7955  
As well as to David Schwendeman, 443-6204



Parents: It has come to our attention that many children as well as teenagers have been playing in the streets. Before there is an accident because of on-coming cars, please make sure that this practice is stopped.

Be a good citizen and attend the Borough Council Meetings on the first three Mondays in the month at 7 p.m.

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

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Breaking Bread Art and Calendar Art by Shan Ellentuck

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# From the Mayor

Dear Friends,

Roosevelt (formerly Jersey Homesteads) exemplifies an ideally planned place to live. The carefully planned use of the land fostered a lifestyle that is unique in most of modern society. It is a lifestyle of community concern, cooperation, action and participation. The planners of our unique community were people who envisioned a new hope of a humanistic society to be achieved through careful planning which took into account the social, as well as physical needs of the residents.

In 1983, all of the area within the corporate boundaries of Roosevelt was granted National Historic Status due to its national significance in social history, art, politics, government, architecture, community planning and development. Roosevelt Borough is the only town in New Jersey on the National Historic Register of Places in its entirety and only one of fifteen towns so recognized in the U.S.

The Importance of Roosevelt is clearly seen in its influence on the planning of many towns throughout the world. Hundreds come from all around the U.S. and the world to

see and study our community plan. Roosevelt remains a wonderful place to live and raise a family, and recognition must be given to the stewardship of several generations of Roosevelt citizens who, often at great personal sacrifices in their lives, acted to safeguard our original community plan for future generations. We have faced legal challenges by developers with deep pockets who attempted to gut our original community design for their own gain. It appears we may again be challenged in this regard.

During a special meeting of the Council held on September 20th, we authorized \$10,000 to retain special legal counsel in the field of Constitutional law in order to better position ourselves to protect and defend our town and all of our citizens' Constitutional rights. The Constitution grants everyone "equal protection" under the law, regardless of religion. Through this vote, the Council stated emphatically that no citizen should be deprived of their Constitutional rights by any citizen or group claiming superiority and that no local government, no matter how small, should sacrifice their citizens'

rights to any person or group of persons claiming superior rights.

Please let me introduce our special legal counsel, Marci A. Hamilton, Esq. Marci Hamilton holds the Paul R. Verkuil Chair in Public Law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, NYC.

Professor Hamilton is one of the United States' leading law and religion scholars. She has published extensively and frequently lectured on Constitutional issues in the U.S. and Europe. Her most recent work is *God Verses the Gavel, Religion and the Rule of Law*. Professor Hamilton clerked for Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor of the U.S. Supreme Court and Chief Justice Edward R. Becker of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She received her J.D., magna cum laude, from University of Pennsylvania Law School, and her B.A., summa cum laud, from Vanderbilt University. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Coif. It is with great pleasure and anticipation the Council looks forward to working with Professor Hamilton. ■

## RESIDENTS!

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

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

Let us know what you think, what you do.

How about it?

# From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

I began writing this article just after the recent tragedy that took place in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In light of the recent events, I would like to remind the community of the ongoing safety measures that are taken in Roosevelt School to secure our building and to keep our students safe.

**Locked Doors:** The doors to the school are locked at all times. Visitors can only gain entrance to the building by being “buzzed” in through the front door, and signing in at the main office. There is a camera in the office that enables us to see who is at the door.

**Visitor Sign In:** All visitors to the school are required to sign in at the front office. Visitors are also required to wear name badges.

**Drills:** Similar to fire drills, the school will conduct “Lockdown” and “Evacuation” drills to prepare our students and staff for a real emergency. These drills teach classroom procedures and precautions so that students know exactly what to do in the event of an emergency situation.

**Walkie-Talkies:** Every staff member is asked to carry a walkie-talkie when they take the children outdoors. There is a walkie-talkie that is on in the main office. This ensures that staff members have access to office personnel at all times.

Schools, although considered “soft” targets, are also seen as vulnerable places. We may think that “It would never happen here,” but we must act as if something could happen at any given time. All municipalities are required to submit safety plans to the County Office of Emergency Management. The plans are confi-

dential for obvious safety reasons. Safety plans also provide reaction to acts of nature, and any other event that is sudden. The plan is reviewed each year with staff. Please be assured that the Board of Education, along with all staff members, continues to make the safety of Roosevelt students a top priority.

On a lighter note, along with the crisp air and beautiful colors of fall, we are looking forward to our November events. Our wonderful PTA is well on the way to planning many exciting programs and celebrations. The week of October 9th was Fire Prevention Week. The PTA scheduled the Roosevelt Fire Company and the Roosevelt EMT to visit and speak with the students about fire prevention and safety. The children were so excited because the fire company came just after they completed a “real” call. A State Trooper facilitated a presentation for Red Ribbon/Violence Prevention Week. The Book Fair

was scheduled for October 26th & 27th and was open Friday evening for your shopping convenience. The traditional Trick or Treat afternoon was October 31st. Hope you joined us for Halloween treats and festivities.

Our classes will soon be involved with the upcoming election. This is an opportunity for students to read newspapers, analyze media programs, and get involved with discussions about candidates. On Election Day, students will vote for representatives from their classrooms to the Student Council. In this way, we hope to show them the importance of voting and the way the system works in this country. I hope everyone who can, will set an example by voting. Remember to bring your children with you so they can see this process in action.

American Education Week is November 12th-18th. Families are invited to visit their child’s classroom to watch the teaching/learning

*Continued on Page 6*

## November 2006 School Dates

- Nov 7..... Early Dismissal - Election Day**
- Nov 8..... PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**
- Nov 9 & 10..... School Closed**
- Nov 17..... Pizza Day**
- Nov 20..... Tentative Date for Cheese Cake Delivery**
- Nov 22..... Early Dismissal**
- Nov 23 & 24..... School Closed**
- Nov 30..... Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.**

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, SHARI PAYSON

*Continued from Page 5*

process. This year's theme is, **Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility**. This theme reflects the importance of bringing together educators, school staff, parents, students, and communities in a unified effort to build great public schools. Please join us for American Education Week.

This echoes one of our board goals, which is to enhance community involvement. Although we have great pride in the level of community involvement in our district, our board has set this as one of their goals. We are always looking for ways to involve families and the community in the school as well as ways Roosevelt School can serve the community. Feel free to contact the school with suggestions on expanding community relationships.

Very soon the sixth graders will be embarking on their major fund-raiser. They will be selling delicious pies for Thanksgiving. We expect to receive the pies on or about November 20th, just in time for Thanksgiving. You can be assured that the pies will be wonderful. On behalf of the sixth grade students, thank you to everyone for your continued support of the 6th grade fundraisers and the school.

Enjoy the beautiful fall season and have a wonderful Thanksgiving! ■

# Wood Debris Pick-Up Information

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission is scheduling its wood debris pick-up for the springtime. I'm sorry to disappoint those anticipating a fall pick-up including myself. I have started a big stack of branches in my front yard but at the October meeting it was decided to hold the wood pick-up in April or early May after the new year begins. Maybe we could find someone who needs the firewood for this winter? Watch the usual spots for notice of the exact dates as the new spring season starts.

## Other Business

Recently I was working in my front yard and noticed that the fire hydrant across the street was gone! Upon closer examination I found it covered in vines and weeds so I cleaned it of all nearby vegetation. It may be neighborly to check your local fire hydrant to make sure it is visible and easy to access. This winter please take a few minutes to clean the snow from fire hydrants nearest to you. It will save time and make it easier for our firemen during an emergency and it may even save someone's life. Thank you.

A sugar maple was selected by the students at RPS as the tree to be planted near the school sign on Rochdale. We are looking now for a nice specimen to plant there. If anyone knows of an appropriate tree or nursery where one can be purchased please give me a call.

It has come to the attention of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission that some people are not aware of the rules regarding public lands around town and certain other environmental laws.

1. It is against the law to cut any trees, woody plants, or vegetation on the public lands surrounding the town.
2. It is against the law to use an open 'burn barrel' to burn wood, leaves or garbage anywhere in New Jersey.
3. Operation of 'All Terrain Vehicles' in Roosevelt or on the public lands surrounding the town including Assunpink is prohibited and against the law.

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission doesn't make the laws but we were asked to address certain situations and questions that have come up for discussion recently. We thank you for compliance with these current rules and regulations.

Also remember to wear bright orange in the woods, fields and hunting areas around town. Perhaps it may be best to avoid the deep woods at this time of year except on Sundays. Sundays are still safe i.e. *No Hunting is allowed on Sundays in New Jersey!*

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meeting will be Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. on November 15, 2006 where we will continue with environmental business as usual. Everyone is welcome to attend and if anyone has a newsworthy nature note or comment of environmental concern, please give me a call at 609-443-6204 or drop a note to PO Box 203. Thank you for reading this column. ■



# My Rooseveltian Ancestors

I've thought more than once during the nearly 35 years I've lived here about how apt a home Roosevelt is for me, especially given my ancestry.

My paternal grandparents, Harry and Celia, were involved in the labor movement, both working in women's clothing. Harry helped found the ILGWU.

On the wall of my study hangs a photograph of a young Harry. He's wearing a three-piece suit and sporting a stick pin in his tie and a watch chain on his vest. His hands are in his pockets, a look of quiet but firm assurance on his face. In short, he projects the very image of confidence and prosperity – except that in all likelihood the jewelry (and perhaps even the suit) were props borrowed for the occasion. For most of his life, mere existence was a struggle for Harry; prosperity – at least in the usual sense – was a long time in coming. The picture was probably taken to convince people back home that Harry was making a successful life in America.

"Back home" was the Polish town of Lukov, near Warsaw, one of the many Jewish *shtetlekh* later wiped off the map by the Germans during the Holocaust. Lukov was destroyed in November, 1942. Some 30 years before then, Harry walked from Lukov to Hamburg and secured passage on a liner to America. He entered the United States through Canada, a popular route for immigrants whose political leanings might have caused a problem coming through Ellis Island. His walk across Europe was almost



Celia & Harry

500 miles, a trek punctuated by frequent arrests for vagrancy or other offenses that were essentially code for "traveling while Jewish." Because he was an expert tailor, he often got out of jail by mending clothes of the people in authority.

Harry developed expertise with needle and thread as a result of his family selling him into apprenticeship with a tailor. This was such a bitter experience that he would never speak of it, not even to tell his son (my father) his parents' names.

While the material props in my grandfather's portrait may have been borrowed, his demeanor was entirely genuine. He was a man of firm convictions and the courage to live them, with compassion that went beyond bringing home stray dogs. One story

for me is emblematic. At one time, it was common practice in the needle trade to exploit "greenies" (new immigrants) by demanding they work their first week for free – ostensibly because it would take them that long to learn the English system of measure, coming from the metric system. Harry held free classes after working hours to teach greenies English measure and other practices so they could claim New World experience and avoid being penalized a week's wages.

Harry was passionate about baseball and politics. His baseball team was the Brooklyn Dodgers. I remember going with him to Ebbets Field, once along with my father to a father-and-son game, two generations. He had dreams of a season's ticket when he retired, but the year he retired the Dodgers deserted Brooklyn for Los Angeles. (His other retirement wish was being able to fish from the Coney Island pier, but, like the Dodgers, the pier abandoned him: it burned down.)

Politically, Harry was a dedicated socialist. By dedicated I mean: Harry became a U.S. citizen so he could vote for the Socialist Party's Eugene V. Debs for president, which he continued to do after Debs was dead (I guess Norman Thomas wouldn't do), passing up his chances to vote for FDR. Nor did Harry keep his political views secret, which later put the kibosh on my late uncle Lester's ambition to be an embassy military attaché. Harry loved to argue, especially about politics. He had his third – and fatal – heart attack in the midst of one of

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## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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these arguments, about a year shy of my bar mitzvah. I am still sad he missed it.

At the time I came into the picture, Harry and Celia lived in Brooklyn, in a bungalow on a mews about a block and a half from the Coney Island boardwalk. My father converted the coal cellar into an apartment so he and his new bride could have a place to live. I spent my first few years there, too, which is probably why I feel such an attachment with my grandparents, who lived upstairs.

Celia also worked in the needle trade. I believe she had some connection to people who died in the Triangle Fire, but I'm not sure. Through much of my father's early life – during the Great Depression – she had another career. Harry and Celia rented houses and, in an attempt to cover their rent, sublet rooms to boarders. In addition to managing the family, which included 3 children, Celia managed this enterprise, painting rooms, hauling furniture, effecting repairs. Although it was a good idea in theory, in practice it didn't work so well since the boarders didn't accumulate any more money than my grandparents.

Celia never became a U.S. citizen and had disdain for many things American, especially baseball. Instead, she maintained an attachment to her birthplace, a small Russian town near Odessa. She subscribed to *USSR*, the Soviet propaganda magazine (probably another reason Uncle Lester couldn't realize his military/diplomatic ambition), and would argue with my father about the relative merits of life in Russia vs. here. This was sentimental, not political, a feeling not shared by her younger sister Rose, who immigrated young enough to attend high school in America. Celia would talk wistfully

about their house in Russia, which was on the edge of town and so right next to beautiful fields, whose crops would ripple in the summer breezes. Rose remembered their house differently: because of its location, it was the last Jewish house drunken peasants could vandalize before leaving town.

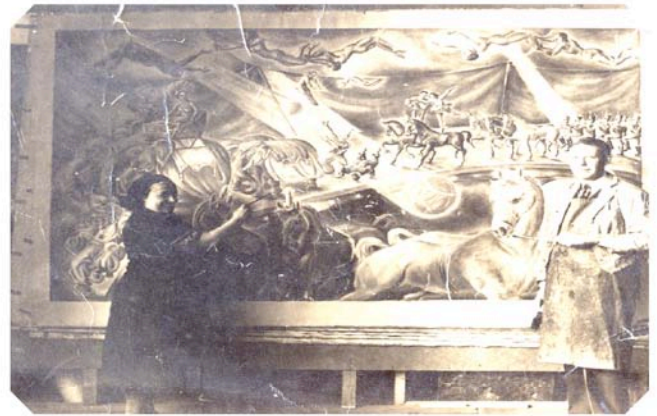
While my paternal lineage connects with Roosevelt's labor roots, my maternal side was artistic. By my maternal side, I mean my grandmother, Isabelle Meisels. She and my grandfather were divorced when my mother was a child and my grandfather died before I was born. He was never a factor in my life. I don't even know his name.

My maternal background is Czech/Austrian/English, but Belle was born here. Recently divorced, with secretarial experience and a background in art, she found work with the WPA Artists Project, first as a secretary and, later, as a painter. She worked on a number of murals and met quite a few of the prominent artists involved with the Project.

Belle was one of the early self-actualizing free spirits, charting her own course. It was a brave thing to do, especially considering the times – the Depression – and her conventional background. However, her choices sometimes came at the expense of her teenage daughters. At one point, for example, she left them to run off to Mexico with a well-known Mexican artist, one of developers of acrylic paint. She didn't return home for months, after she became convinced she'd never be more than his mistress (he already had a wife). In the mean-

time, my mother and aunt had been evicted from their apartment, since the lease had expired and they were too young to execute a renewal.

When I knew her, Belle was spending summers in Rocky Neck, near Gloucester, Massachusetts, and winters in New Orleans, earning her living painting clown pictures and portraits. She was with (and, much later, married) the painter David Pollock. Belle had the gift of easy conversation com-



Belle at work on a WP Mural

bined with the ability to win the instant good will of total strangers. These skills came in very handy when selling her work and securing help when she traveled alone. David benefited, too, since Belle was able to sell his work (which was much better than hers) as well. Otherwise, David might not have sold anything, since his demeanor usually ranged between sullen and hostile.

We'd see Belle on her way in between seasons. David would drop her off for a short visit and then drive off in a car whose life expectancy was closely calculated to get the two of them from one home to another and not much beyond. While Belle was with us, David would stay with his mother and spinster sisters, who wouldn't countenance him bringing home the woman with whom he was

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## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

*Continued from Page 9*

“living in sin,” even though by then both David and Belle (not to mention his sisters) were well into middle age. After David died, Belle spent her final years in La Jolla, California. After she moved to the west coast, I never saw her again.

On each visit, as soon as she got settled, Belle would sit down at the piano and play Beethoven’s *Für Elise*, one of his short piano pieces. During her stay, she’d return occasionally to the piano and play *Für Elise* again, and maybe read through some of the elementary music in the books I was studying. That piano now sits in the back room of our house in Roosevelt. ■

### 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:

Pearl Seligman	448-2340
Bess Tremper	448-2701

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

By Clare Sacharoff

There were 17 people present at the Oct. 3rd meeting. The nurse addressed the group and reminded them that this was Cancer Awareness month. She urged members to be diligent about going to annual mammograms.

Dolores Chasan discussed with the Recreation Chairman Eric Schubiger the feasibility of attending a play at the George St. Playhouse, Nov. 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Our Oct. 17th trip was to the Target Strip Mall followed by lunch at the new East Windsor Garden

Buffet. Volunteer drivers were Diana, Dolores, Alan, and Geri. We met at the restaurant at 12:00. People were picked up at 10:30 a.m. Drivers will be reimbursed for gas at \$3.00 per car.

On Oct. 27th, Friday – our monthly lunch was chicken by the McBrides at the Borough Hall at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Nov. 6th – Monday due to Election Day. Shirley Sokolow will be hostess for November. ■

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I am writing to invite the community to my **Open Studio Pottery Sale on Sunday, November 12 from 1 to 5 p.m.** If you would like to stop by at another time call me at 443-1898 for an appointment. Looking forward to seeing you.

*Naomi Brahinsky*  
1 Clarksburg Road

To the Editor:

Do you have used or old dictionaries, encyclopedias or school textbooks? Call 638-9595 or 882-2316. Books are needed in Africa for schools and libraries.

*Judy Stryker* ■

## 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.

## Trip to George Street Playhouse

The Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to the George Street Playhouse to see "The Value of Names," starring Jack Klugman, on Saturday, November 18th. The trip will depart the Roosevelt School parking lot at 12:30 p.m. and return at 5:00 p.m.

The cost per person is \$40.00. Cost includes ticket and transportation. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the Recreation Department at (609) 448-0539, x3 for a registration form and further information. Deadline for registration is November 10th.

## Yoga

The Recreation Department is continuing its very popular Yoga program this Fall at the Roosevelt School. Classes will be instructed by Kym Kulp, a certified Yoga Instructor who teaches at The Peddie School and throughout the area. While yoga mats will be provided, participants are welcome to bring their own. Classes will be offered on Tuesday nights from **6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** Walk-in fee is \$10.00 per class. Program will continue throughout the fall and winter seasons. Please contact 609-448-0539, x3 for an updated schedule.

## Community Dance Night - "Dancing with the Stars"

Residents are invited to a Community Dance Night on **November 11th** at the **Roosevelt School**, from **7 p.m. – 10 p.m.** This special event will be led and DJ'd by Candace Woodward-Clough. Candace has extensive

training in Ballroom Dance, Jazz, Tap, Acting and Singing. She has acted, danced in or choreographed several Off-Broadway and summer stock productions, as well as movies, soap operas and videos.

The night will start with an hour of brief instruction of various types of dances, based upon the interest of those in attendance. The remaining two hours will be devoted to an open dance party! No dance experience is required – adults and children are welcomed. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Please contact (609) 448-0539, x3 for further information.

## Movie Night

### Saturday, November 18th, 7:00 p.m. "Herbie: Fully Loaded"

The world's wackiest Volkswagen is back in action in this action comedy. Maggie Peyton (Lindsay Lohan) is the 18-year-old daughter of Ray Peyton Sr., a once-successful stock car driver whose career is not what it once was. Maggie loves racing and is in line for a job covering NASCAR for ESPN, but in her heart she'd rather be behind the wheel, even though her father strictly forbids this. For Maggie's birthday, Ray takes her out looking for a used car, and she finds herself strangely drawn to a wrecked 1963 Volkswagen in a salvage yard.

### Saturday, December 16th, 7:00 p.m. "The Shaggy Dog"

Tim Allen transforms from family dad to family dog and back again in this update of the Disney comedy. It all begins when workaholic Deputy D.A. Dave Douglas (Allen) takes on a case involving an animal labora-

tory — one that will take him away yet again from his wife and kids, who already yearn for his all-too-distracted attention. But when Dave is accidentally infected with a top-secret, genetic-mutation serum, everything he thought he knew about being himself and his family changes.

## Teen Nights

The Recreation Department is asking for your help in coordinating a "Teen Night" program one night per week throughout the school year. The program will include various activities for students in 6th – 10th grades. Please contact (609) 448-0539, x3 with your ideas for the program. We anticipate starting the program in November.

For further information on any Recreation Department programs, please contact **(609) 448-0539, x3**. The Recreation Department is also looking for volunteers, ideas for new programs, activities, and trips. Please let us know what you would like to see offered to our community! ■

## Walkers!

Be visible on the  
road at night.  
Wear reflective  
clothing.

## Do Seniors Need Help?

by Judy Stryker

Call Judy (609) 638-9595 for senior professional companionship. If you need help with errands, driving, help cleaning and personal care. Available on weekdays, Monday to Fridays, 7:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.; 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## Would You Believe 50 Years Later?

by Virginia Monk Gerrish

Roosevelt Public School Class of 1956

Robert Bard, David Berkman, Robert Blumenfeld, Maxine Cooper, Myra Dashevsky, Sue Finn, \*Joseph Goldstein, Susan Kaye, Mark Kleinman, Edward Levin, Virginia Monk, David Spelkoman, Iona Yudin

\*classmate to grade seven



Top Row: Virginia Monk Gerrish, Sue Finn, Iona Yudin Rebh, Sue Kaye Bliley, Mark Kleinman; Bottom Row: Bob Bard, Joe Goldstein, Ed Levin

Roosevelt Public School eighth grade graduating class of 1956 celebrated its 50th anniversary at the residence of Bob and Elle Bard in Loveladies, NJ, on Saturday, September 9 2006, followed by Sunday brunch on September 10. Classmates came from as far as

Brazil, Canada, Florida and Maryland. We even had a phone-in from Bob Blumenfeld in Paris.

It was a perfect weekend shared in friendship, remembering our Roosevelt experiences and catching up on current news. In addition to the gourmet food, we shared numerous stories, lots of laughs, photos, kisses and hugs. In a solemn moment we all paid tribute to our classmate David Spelkoman, who passed away in 2001.

Bob and Elle graciously extended their invitation for all to return in two years. Bob remarked, "After all, we're not getting any younger." We all consented and expressed the hope to see in 2008 those of us who were absent.

Many thanks to Bob and Elle Bard for their generous hospitality which provided an atmosphere of warm camaraderie. We all had a superb time!

## Roosevelt Community Mural Gets Going!

by Judith McNally

With the help of 45 Roosevelt residents, the community mural project got off the ground at the first in a series of workshops at the Roosevelt Public School, Saturday, October 7. The project is sponsored by the Roosevelt Arts Project as part of RAP's 20th anniversary celebration.

The two-hour workshop included Lambertville tile muralist Katherine Hack's introduction to the community project. Said Katherine, "A lot of things happen in the collaboration process that don't happen individually." She explained the process is one that entails making drawings - "no artistic experience necessary" - then transferring the drawings to clay, followed by more drawings and more transfers, to fill the mural, intended

to be approximately eight feet wide by three feet high.

Following Katherine's presentation, Rod Tulloss gave a brief slide presentation about some of the flora and fauna of Roosevelt, so that the 45 residents could start thinking about what to draw. Included in the images he presented were ferns, mushrooms, wood turtles, butterflies, seed pods of the white ash, a dragonfly, spiders and wildflowers. Rod also supplied many illustrated reference books from his own collection.

Workshop participants then took their places at tables in the school gymnasium where they drew with pencil, crayons and Sharpies on 11 x 17 white paper. Katherine and Barbara Atwood circulated among the tables, offering help and suggestions as needed.

By 2:30 that afternoon, 27 adults and 18 younger people had drawn a collection of flowers, birds, snakes, turtles, bats, deer, leaves, ducks, mushrooms, trees, bears, squirrels, chipmunks and even a large-scale tick.

A second workshop was scheduled for Saturday, October 28, when residents would begin transferring their images to clay. Anyone who missed the October 7 workshop is still welcome to attend subsequent sessions.

The completed mosaic mural will be installed on the front of the Roosevelt Borough Hall.

For more information about participating in the ongoing project, please contact Deirdre Sheean, deirdresheean@hotmail.com (443 - 4179) or Barbara Atwood, barbatwood@comcast.net (918 - 0757).

Another workshop is planned for Saturday, November 11. Please join us in this exciting community project!

*Continued on Page 12*

## ROOSEVELT FIRST AID SQUAD TRAINING & RESPONSE NEWS

*Continued from Page 11*

### Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training & Response News

*By Jack Rindt, Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training Officer*

In the month of September, the Squad responded to 14 first aid calls. In Roosevelt, one was a medical emergency, two fire standby, and one a motor vehicle accident (MVA). In mutual aid calls to Millstone Twp., we responded to 10 calls. Eight were medical emergencies and two were MVAs.

The Squad has responded to 106 emergencies from January 1 to September 30.

If anyone or group is in need of any kind of first aid training, contact a Squad member and we can schedule that training.

Hooray!!!! We now have two ambulances in town. On Tuesday, September 26, Jeff Belm Chief of Operation MONOC Corp. donated a used ambulance to the First Aid Squad. With your donations we have been buying new equipment to outfit the new ambulance and upgrade older equipment. If the squad had to go out and buy this ambulance it could have cost \$40,000 to \$60,000 used. This is a great addition to the squad and the town. We are trying to place the new ambulance in service within 30 days. Stop in on any meeting night or training day to see the new ambulance. We are still trying to save to buy a new ambulance, but since the cost of a new

ambulance is around \$150,000 it will take time.

The squad has started to put away funds for the new ambulance. Any contributions for the new ambulance would be greatly appreciated. Please indicate that your contribution is for the new ambulance fund. Please make out checks to Roosevelt First Aid Squad and send then to P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. The First Aid Squad is always thankful for any contributions. Another ambulance in town will help insure that one will always be around.

The Squad would like to thank the following families for their generous donations. Robert & Robin Axel, Beth Battel, Meir & Reva Bass, Karen & Marvin Block, Michael & Linda Block, David & Naomi Brahinsky, Robert & Susan Cayne, Ezio Creglia, Maria DelPiano, The Frascilla Family, Karyn & Eitan Grunwald, Herb & Florrie Johnson, Ann Kassahun, Marie Klein, Jane Lawlor, Ronald & Dianne Moore, Project Revive, Ethel Salmonsohn, Elly & Arthur Shapiro, Peggy Sharkey, Shirley Sokolow, Eric Vuolle/Larisa Bondy. Thank you to all the families.

A lot of the equipment that the Squad uses is a one-time use only and has to be replaced after each call.

Do you want to be challenged, help your community, maybe start a career or just help people? Join the Roosevelt First Aid Squad: **We Need Members!**

A senior in high school looking at county colleges, looking to go back to school for that degree, now with the NJ State Volunteer Tuition Credit Program you can. By joining the emergencies services and becoming an active EMT you can be eligible for free tuition up to \$24,000.

If you would like to join the First Aid Squad, you can contact any squad member or stop in during our business meeting on the third Tuesday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall, or the second Sunday of each month when we hold our monthly training, which starts at 10:00 a.m.

The squad has only six Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) at this time. We are always looking for new members to join and **we pay for all training**. New members can join at the age of 16 and become New Jersey Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Becoming an Emergency Medical Technician with the Roosevelt First Aid Squad could lead to a paying position with a career ambulance company.

*In case of an emergency, dial 911.*

Thank you. ■

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

**To keep it alive, it needs to be used.**

**“A town library would be a terrible thing to lose!”**



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## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

*Continued from Page 1*

lation of a new siren in the area near the Roosevelt Memorial would be between \$12,000 and \$15,000. The siren that was formerly on the roof of the school is now located at the pump house on the water tower property, in close proximity to existing homes and right next to a new home being built on the former Pine Valley Swim Club property. Aside from being a nuisance to nearby residents, it has the disadvantage of not being audible everywhere in the community because it is not centrally located.

Councilman Jeff Ellentuck, chairman of the Community Development committee, reported that the Data Doctors firm was providing estimates on the cost of an upgraded computer network. He also stated that he would withdraw his sponsorship of the proposed revised zoning ordinance so that further work could be done on it.

Councilman Mike Hamilton reported that the Planning Board had not reached any decision on the appeal of Paul Brottman from an order issued by Bob Francis, the former zoning officer, concerning use of 53 North Rochdale Avenue as a dormitory by Yeshivah Me'on Hatorah. The Planning Board attorney, Michele Donato, had stated that more information about the use of the building was needed in order for the board to make an informed decision. To that end, the board was issuing subpoenas to representatives of the yeshiva. The matter will be continued at a special meeting on November 20.

Councilman Bob Silverstein, chairman of the Utilities committee, reported that Chief Finance Officer

George Lange had expressed concern about the state of the utilities budget and had stated that an increase in rates may be necessary. Mr. Silverstein said that we should explore all options for refinancing the utilities debt, since lower debt payments might provide relief to ratepayers. The Rural Resources Administration (formerly Farmers Home Administration) of the United States Department of Agriculture has refused to refinance the loan. Mr. Silverstein recommended seeking assistance from our representatives in Congress in getting Rural Resources to reconsider its position. He also reported, in his capacity as Council representative on the Environmental Commission, that Bill Schmeling would be speaking with representatives of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in an attempt to get them to approve work on restoring the flow of Empty Box Creek, work that was to be paid for by a grant from another unit within DEP. He also said that Ann Baker, a member of the Environmental Commission, had obtained information concerning grants for installation of solar energy systems to provide electricity for public buildings, homes and businesses.

Mayor Beth Battel, reporting in her capacity of liaison to the Board of Education, stated that the Roosevelt Public School had "outstanding results" on State tests, that there were now 91 students, including pre-schoolers and out-of-town students paying tuition, and that there was an interlocal agreement with the East Windsor Regional district to share the services of a music instructor. The Board of Education is

looking into the use of solar panels to save on energy costs.

In the public portion, Melissa Branco asked what was being done about the use of 18 Homestead Lane as a dormitory. Mr. Schmeling indicated that he had written to the yeshiva about it. Josh Hecht asked if any action was being taken in response to a request for speed bumps on Homestead Lane. Mayor Battel said that installation of any bumps could be done next time there was a paving project in town. Mr. Hecht recommended the purchase and installation of prefabricated speed bumps. Councilman Hoffman said that the Council would look into what was available and could legally be used.

The Council withdrew from consideration the ordinance consolidating the various zoning ordinances and amendments that had been submitted to it by the Planning Board. Councilman Ellentuck indicated that he wished to meet with Planning Board committee members in order to make changes.

The Council then approved an amendatory ordinance concerning the Fire Department which will now allow non-residents of Roosevelt to become members.

On November 7, in addition to filling the usual 2 three-year Council seats, voters will fill a seat for an unexpired two-year term. Arlene Stinson and Councilman Bob Silverstein are running for the three-year seats and Councilman Jeff Ellentuck is running for the unexpired term. All three candidates are unopposed. ■

# Trifle



This is a recipe for English trifle. The essential element is Bird's custard. We haven't found an American brand that will do. While not universally available, it is found widely on supermarket shelves. The pound cake, after having been made or purchased, should be exposed to the air long enough to start to be a little stale.

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 2 pkg. Jello, any flavor, diet or regular, prepared | 1 pint of Bird's custard, chilled     |
| 1 large pound cake, partly stale and crumbled       | 1 big banana, sliced in rounds        |
| 1 large can fruit cocktail, well drained            | halved strawberries, if desired       |
| 1 cup cream sherry                                  | Whipped cream (prepared is all right) |

Place pound cake in a large compote bowl. Mix in fruit cocktail, Jello, and sherry. Chill. Make custard after Jello mix sets. Pour over mix. You are looking for two layers. (yummy). Slice banana on top of custard. Chill everything. Top off with whipped cream and halved strawberries. ■

The first half of autumn featured some soggy weather in Roosevelt. The total precipitation for September is 6.98 inches. That's over 2.5 inches above normal for the month. The first twelve days of October brought more precipitation than normal for the entire month. Most of that precipitation was recorded on the 12th. Two-point-three inches of rain fell. The same system that brought us rain dumped up to two feet of snow in parts of New York State.

You may recall that one inch of rain equals roughly ten inches of snow. Had it been cold enough, we would have had nearly two feet of snow, too. Fortunately, October temperatures seldom dip far enough to bring substantial amounts of snow. Average snowfall for the entire month in our area is 0.10 inches. The highest daily snowfall recorded in an October from 1971 – 2000 in our area was 1.6 inches on October 11, 1979.

The average temperature for September in town was very close to normal. It was 64.9 degrees, just two-tenths of a degree below normal. We had 63.8 heating degree-days for the month, fifty-seven degree-days is normal.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is forecasting a milder than normal winter for most of the country. In our region, it is predicted that there is a 33 percent greater than normal chance for warmer than normal temperatures this winter. Although the forecast is for a warmer than normal winter, it will likely be a colder season than last winter. Last winter was considerably warmer than normal.

It's a good time to tune up your snow blower or your snow shoveling

muscles. NOAA is calling for equal chances for normal, below normal or above normal snowfall. If you rake your own leaves, the transition to the next season's physical challenge should be easier.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. Before you toss the remains of your holiday meal, keep this bit of weather lore in mind. "If the breastbone of the Thanksgiving goose is red or has many spots, expect a cold and stormy winter; but if only a few spots are visible, expect a mild winter."

**Weather Word**

November is the month when *fog* most often forms in New Jersey. *Fog* is water droplets suspended in the air at the Earth's surface. It is often hazardous when the visibility is reduced to one-quarter mile or less. *Fog* differs from cloud only in that the base of fog is at the earth's surface while clouds are above the surface. When composed of ice crystals, it is termed *ice fog*. If fog is so shallow that it is not an obstruction to vision at a height of 6 ft above the surface, it is called simply *shallow fog*. Sources: National Weather Service, and the American Meteorological Society ■

**September 15 – November 15, 2006**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	70.2	64.8	67.5	0.48	0.0
16	76.3	63.3	69.8	1.05	0.0
17	77.4	57.7	67.6	0.00	0.0
18	80.6	58.8	69.7	0.00	0.0
19	82.2	62.6	72.4	0.00	0.0
20	71.1	56.5	63.8	0.05	1.2
21	67.1	47.3	57.2	0.00	7.8
22	70.3	45.1	57.7	0.00	7.3
23	77.2	59.4	68.3	0.05	0.0
24	81.0	66.4	73.7	0.09	0.0
25	72.9	54.9	63.9	0.05	1.1
26	71.8	49.6	60.7	0.00	4.3
27	72.7	47.8	60.3	0.00	4.8
28	75.6	53.4	64.5	0.00	0.5
29	65.3	48.6	57.0	0.37	8.1
30	68.0	41.9	55.0	0.00	10.1
1	67.6	54.5	61.1	0.27	4.0
2	66.7	46.6	56.7	0.05	8.3
3	75.4	48.7	62.1	0.00	3.0
4	77.4	57.9	67.7	0.00	0.0
5	69.4	50.9	60.2	0.40	4.8
6	55.2	49.1	52.2	0.12	12.9
7	60.8	49.1	55.0	0.45	10.1
8	66.7	47.3	57.0	0.00	8.0
9	72.3	48.2	60.3	0.00	4.8
10	73.4	52.0	62.7	0.00	2.3
11	66.9	58.6	62.8	0.00	2.3
12	69.6	57.9	63.8	2.30	1.3
13	59.4	35.2	47.3	0.00	17.7
14	57.7	35.4	46.6	0.00	18.5
15	57.6	34.5	46.1	0.00	19.0
<b>Total Precipitation</b>				<b>5.73</b>	
<b>Total Heating Degree-Days</b>					<b>161.7</b>

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# ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

## Twentieth Anniversary Season 2006 -2007

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Saturday, November 11, 5-8 p.m. reception, 8 p.m. concert with David Brahinsky and friends

Sunday, November 12, 12-4p.m. Exhibit continues; 3 p.m. concert with Karen Santinon accompanied by Jess Unger

### JACOB LANDAU, OPEN STUDIO, AT 30 LAKE DRIVE

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Saturday, December 9, 2006, 12-5 p.m. reception at the Eleanor gallery.

Sunday, December 10, 2006, exhibit continues, 12-5 p.m., also December 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>

### THE ART OF ROBERT MUELLER- SCHEMA WATERCOLORS

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Saturday, January 20, 2007 at 8p.m. in Borough Hall

### THE THIRTIES:

A celebration of the art, music, and poetry of the days when Roosevelt was President and Jersey Homesteads was founded. With performances by David Brahinsky, Alan Mallach and others.

---

Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 8p.m. in Borough Hall

### OPEN MIC CAFE

Roosevelt residents, past and present, 13 and older are invited to sing, read, tell stories, do comedy, or play an instrument. To register, phone Deirdre Sheean (443-4179) or Judy Nahmias (443-5290). (See page 22.)

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Saturday, March 10, and Sunday, March 11, 2007, 1p.m. to 5p.m..

Eleanor Gallery, the factory, and Borough Hall.

### THE ART OF JONATHAN SHAHN

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Saturday, March 10, at 8p.m. in Borough Hall.

### ROOSEVELT POETS

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Saturday, April 14, 2007

8 p.m. in Borough Hall

### DIGITAL SOUNDS AND ART

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Friday, May 4, Saturday, May 5, Sunday, May 6, 2007

3 p.m. in Borough Hall

### TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WEEKEND WILL INCLUDE:

**THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND**

Friday & Saturday at 8p.m. in Borough Hall

**EXHIBIT OF ROOSEVELT ARTISTS**

Friday, 7- 9 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 12-5p.m. at the Eleanor Gallery

**GUIDED WALKING TOURS**

Sunday at 12:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. starting at Borough Hall

**DEDICATION OF THE ROOSEVELT MOSAIC**

Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at Borough Hall

---

### Voluntary Contribution:

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

Visit RAP's webpage at <http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt>. There is a link at the top of the page to the site where people can sign up to be on our e-mail list.

For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616. ■



*"terrific feeling of community"*

*Borough Bulletin*

# ROOSEVELT'S 2nd Annual Open Mic Cafe!

Saturday, February 3, 2007  
8 p.m. in the BOROUGH HALL



*"impressive array of performances"*

*Borough Bulletin*

ROOSEVELT RESIDENTS, PAST AND PRESENT, AGES 13 THROUGH ADULT! We're looking forward to another successful Open Mic Cafe so if you like to perform in an informal cafe atmosphere (singing, music, poetry, comedy etc.) please fill out the form below and mail it to either

JUDY NAHMIA  
P.O. Box 206  
Roosevelt, NJ 08555  
609-443-5290

DEIRDRE SHEEAN  
P.O. Box 620  
Roosevelt, NJ 08555  
609-443-4179

*or*

you can also email the information to:  
deirdresheean@hotmail.com  
judynahmias@comcast.net

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ NJ 08555  
email address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

A short description of your performance  
(performance should be kept to 10 min.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS 2006 - 2007

Contributions received after October 19 will appear in the next *Bulletin*.

Susan Schwartz & Jim Alt	Freda & Al Hepner	Jane & John Ord
Louise Anish & Family	Constance & David Herrstrom	Maria del Piano
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June & Bill Counterman	Diana Klein	Lucretia & Sanford Silverman
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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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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448-3713 or e-mail: kirkjane@juno.com

## November

<b>1</b>	Wed		<b>RECYCLE</b>	
<b>6</b>	Mon	12 pm	Senior Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall	
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Gerry Millar, President	Boro Hall 448-0351
		7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting Beth Battel, Mayor	Boro Hall 448-7701
<b>7</b>	Tues		Election Day, Voting at Borough Hall RPS Early Dismissal, Teacher In-service	
<b>8</b>	Wed	7:30 pm	RPS PTA Meeting Kelly Mitchell, President	RPS 426-9850
<b>9</b>	Thurs		RPS Closed	
<b>10</b>	Fri		RPS Closed	
<b>11</b>	Sat	5-8 pm 8 pm	RAP Program – Jacob Landau Open Studio David Brahinsky & Friends (See RAP Page)	
<b>12</b>	Sun	10 am	First Aid Squad Training Jack Rindt	Boro Hall 448-9475
		12-4 pm	RAP Program – Jacob Landau Open Studio (See RAP Page)	
<b>13</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Action Meeting Beth Battel, Mayor	Boro Hall 443-7701
<b>14</b>	Tues	7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Ralph Seligman	Boro Hall 448-2340
<b>15</b>	Wed		<b>RECYCLE</b>	
		7:30 pm	Environmtl Com. Mtg Dave Schwendeman, Chair	Boro Hall 443-6204
<b>17</b>	Fri		RPS Pizza Day	
		1:30- 2:30 pm	Flu Shot Clinic Bring insurance cards	Boro Hall

<b>20</b>	Mon	7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Ralph Seligman	Boro Hall 448-2340
			Tentative Date for Cheesecake Delivery, RPS	
<b>21</b>	Tues	7:30 pm	First Aid Squad Business Mtg Jack Rindt	Boro Hall 448-9475
<b>22</b>	Wed		RPS Early Dismissal	
<b>23</b>	Thurs		RPS Closed, Thanksgiving	
<b>24</b>	Fri		RPS Closed	
<b>27</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
<b>28</b>	Tues	7:30 pm	Planning Board Presentation on Residential Parking Ralph Seligman, Chair	Borough Hall 448-2340
<b>30</b>	Thurs	7:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting	RPS

## December Preview

<b>4</b>	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting Beth Battel, Mayor	Boro Hall 448-7701
<b>6</b>	Wed		RPS Holiday Gift Fair Kelly Mitchell, President	RPS 426-9850
<b>7</b>	Thurs		RPS Holiday Gift Fair Kelly Mitchell, President	RPS 426-9850
<b>8</b>	Fri		RPS Pizza Day	

Roosevelt, NJ 08555-0221

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