

Bulletin

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October 2006

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Mayor Responds to Yeshiva Letter; County Expresses Interest in Land Acquisition for County Park

By Michael Ticktin

Mayor Beth Battel opened the September 11 meeting of the Borough Council by reading a statement concerning a letter that the Council had received from Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah requesting discussions concerning rezoning of the property of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt to allow construction of school and dormitory facilities. The letter said that discussions would be better for all concerned than litigation, but implied that litigation would be the alternative if there were no agreement. Ms. Battel said that the Council would look forward to receiving and reviewing any proposals that the yeshiva might have, but that those proposals would have to be presented in a public forum and that any decisions would be made only at a public meeting and after public discussion.

Borough Administrator Bill Schmeling announced that the successful bid of \$20,730 for tank removal at the former service station, which is now owned by the municipality, had

been about \$10,000 less than anticipated. Once the tanks are removed, further investigation will be done to determine the extent of any contamination from tank leakage. Once this information is known, the Council will be in a position to decide whether to redevelop the property for municipal use or solicit proposals for private redevelopment.

Councilman Michael Hamilton, chairman of the finance committee, reported that the annual budget review had indicated need for only a few minor procedural corrections and that it could fairly be characterized as a "clean report." He further reported that our tax collection rate of 97.17%—meaning that percentage of taxes levied are collected within the year—was quite good, and that this was important because the higher the collection rate, the less has to be budgeted as a reserve for uncollected municipi-

Continued on Page 17

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Planning Board News	3	Town Topics	12
From the Mayor	4	Letters to the Editor	14
School News	5	Breaking Bread	19
Environmental Commission	7	Weather Almanac	20
Two Square Miles of Stories	9	Roosevelt Arts Project	21
Recreation Programs	11	Business Sponsors	23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Here we are again to begin our 2006 to 2007 series of Bulletins. As most of you know we have editions from October through July, leaving out January, 2007 and August and September.

We'll do our best with the help of our wonderful writers to give you an interesting read.

Sunday, October 15th

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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Roosevelt Preservation Association Wins Round One

After two prior meetings on the subject, on December 15 and March 14, and several postponements for various reasons, the Planning Board, on September 12, held its final session to consider the appeal of the Roosevelt Preservation Association against the decision by former Zoning Officer Bob Francis not to issue any citation for a violation of the zoning ordinance when Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah began classes a year ago with 12 students at the Congregation Anshei Roosevelt synagogue.

At the onset of the hearing, Edward Liston, attorney for the yeshiva, challenged the ability of alternate member Alison Petrilla to decide the case objectively on the basis of a letter she had written to *The Examiner* in which she expressed a preference for a "less Orthodox synagogue." Board attorney Michele Donato reviewed the letter and stated that she did not find any indication of bias that would disqualify Mrs. Petrilla from hearing the case. Mrs. Petrilla declined to disqualify herself. Ronald Gasiorowski, attorney for the Roosevelt Preservation Association, then moved to disqualify board member Lou Esakoff, on the grounds of a statement that he had allegedly made to the effect that anyone who is opposed to having the yeshiva in Roosevelt is an anti-Semite. Mr. Esakoff vehemently denied ever having made such a statement and refused to disqualify himself.

The board heard testimony from Rabbi Zevulun Charlop, the Dean of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and a congregational rabbi in the Bronx for over 50 years. Rabbi Charlop testified

that, in Judaism, there is no distinction between religious study and worship and that, indeed, religious study is the highest form of worship. He stated that, while not every synagogue is a yeshiva, every yeshiva is a synagogue. On the basis of his testimony, Bruce Shoulson, Mr. Liston's co-counsel, argued that the use of the synagogue building by the yeshiva under a lease with Congregation Anshei Roosevelt was not a change of use requiring any approval from the board.

Mr. Liston also presented testimony by Elly Shapiro, the president of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt. She stated that the congregation had entered into the lease with the yeshiva in order to continue in operation and in the hope of increasing membership and that the yeshiva is providing rabbinical services to the congregation. Thus, she contended, the two organizations should be viewed as a joint entity. She acknowledged that, since associating with the yeshiva, the congregation had maintained a constant membership, now 49 families, though it had lost some members and gained others. She also acknowledged that, whereas membership was formerly open to all persons qualifying as Jews under religious law, membership is now denied to anyone known to be associated with any group opposed to having the yeshiva at the synagogue. In response to a question from Mr. Gasiorowski, she stated that the residence next to the synagogue is now occupied by six "junior rabbis" who are involved with the yeshiva.

After board members had finished asking questions of each witness, Ms. Donato opened the floor for questions, and later statements, by

members of the public. Bert Ellentuck expressed his position, and that of the Roosevelt Preservation Association, that the issue is the right of any group to disregard the stated objectives of the zoning ordinance by introducing a more intensive and disruptive use into a quiet residential neighborhood. He referred to the increase in the number of students from 12 to 34, with greater numbers planned in the future, and the increasing volume of vehicular traffic, as well as the lights and activity from early morning until after midnight. Mr. Liston challenged Mr. Ellentuck on the grounds that he was hostile to the synagogue because it had refused to sell the wooded lot between the synagogue building and his house to him in 1991 when he offered to buy it. Mr. Ellentuck replied that his only reason for wanting to buy the lot was his desire to preserve it in its current undeveloped state and to keep it from becoming a building site or a parking lot, something that remains extremely important to him.

Melissa Branco, a member of the Roosevelt Preservation Association, pleaded with the board to take action to restore peace and quiet to the residents of Homestead Lane. In response, however, Ms. Donato pointed out that the only question before the board was whether governmental regulation applied, not what the outcome of that regulation should be.

In his summation, Mr. Liston argued that the synagogue is a legal nonconforming use, that the use of the building by the yeshiva is a continuation of that legal use that is protected by the First Amendment's guarantee of free exercise of religion,

Continued on Page 8

From the Mayor

Dear Fellow Citizens,

Roosevelt is a wonderful place to live. It was conceived with a great deal of effort put into its original greenbelt design. Subsequent councils, planning boards, and individual groups have done their best to safeguard its unique properties, with care for sensitive environmental areas and saving open space. At times we have had to struggle to maintain respect for our historical heritage, and it looks like we may once more be challenged to protect our zoning and guarantee the constitutional rights of all of our citizens.

To that end, council has voted to requisition money for special legal counsel, should we need it, and to enter an agreement with an expert in the field of constitutional issues.

Personally I can truly say I have only respect and admiration for the people involved, and that my only motivation is to protect Roosevelt from violations of our community planning. ■

Temperatures are dropping, days are growing shorter, kids are studying - Fall has returned! And so has this column, so look around, take stock and drop me a line (TheSilversteins@aol.com). Next month's deadline is just around the corner

A warm welcome is due (or perhaps overdue, for those who have been here a little while) some new residents. Jennifer Kohlepp and Jamie Callahan have settled into their home at 1 Homestead Lane. Kevin and Britta Zyglar (formerly of Milltown, N.J.) now occupy 17 Homestead Lane while John and Barbara Jo Boomer have set roots down at 6 Homestead Lane after their move from Middletown, N.J. It is always interesting to note how new people make old places their own. From the outside, some nice changes can be observed. Welcome to Roosevelt!

Resident Teri Nachtman was recently honored through receipt of the 2006 Nursing Spectrum Award for Excellence in Clinical Care. This is a great achievement for Teri, who

has been employed at The University Medical Center at Princeton for 32 years, as she goes on now to compete with others for national recognition in nursing excellence. Another notable award was recently bestowed, this time to William Edelstein, in the form of a full scholarship for his junior year at the University of Arizona. The son of Evelyn Johnson and Gary Edelstein, William is a Fine Arts major who is on the Dean's List. Brother Jim Edelstein and his wife Selena presented a great-grandson, Dylan James, to Florie and Herb Johnson on August 10. Best wishes to the entire family.

Short and sweet this month. Perhaps you can help us expand with your contribution for the next issue. ■

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

As we begin another school year, the entire Roosevelt Staff and Board of Education would like to extend a warm welcome to all our students and their families. The 2006-07 school year promises to be filled with exciting learning experiences for Roosevelt students, parents and staff. We hope this school year will be marked by many successes and triumphs.

Our priority continues to be placed on student achievement, school community relations, professional staff development, school safety, and school funding. The Roosevelt mission statement and district goals, together with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, drive the educational program of our school.

This is year one of many new programs at RPS. The first Roosevelt Pre-Kindergarten opened its doors to 16 students. The Pre-K runs from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is free to Roosevelt residents and is open to nonresidents on a tuition basis. Roosevelt School has a new before school and after school care program. School Age Fun and Enrichment (S.A.F.E.) runs both programs. Before care hours are from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. The S.A.F.E. program will run on most days that school is not in session. S.A.F.E.'s mission is to, "create an environment that is friendly and warm for children, and to offer children interesting things to do, friends to play with and opportunities to grow and develop." Please contact the school if you would like additional information.

Please join the staff and me in welcoming Miss Ginny, Pre-K teacher and Miss Joanne and Miss Bonnie

Pre-K assistants to our staff. Ms. Michele Nixon has also joined our staff. She is our new World Language (Spanish) teacher.

RPS received NJ ASK and NJ PASS results at the end of June. Our scores were outstanding: far surpassing the state requirements in all grades. Highlights include:

- 100% proficiency in many areas including 3rd and 4th grade language arts literacy
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grade students scoring at the proficient/advanced proficient levels in math
- All students in 1st grade attaining 100% advanced proficiency in language arts literacy
- 53.8% of 4th grade students scoring at the advanced proficient level in science

Thank you to all staff, students and families for all your hard work.

I'm excited to announce that our school is the recipient of two grant awards. Ms. Ilene Levine, Mr. Scot Gershman and Ms. Barbara Atwood have been awarded a \$1,700 environmental education grant from the NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for their project, "Environments for Purposeful Learning." This inquiry-based science unit will give fifth graders hands-on learning experiences about environmental concepts. The culminating project will be the creation of either a terrarium or vivarium.

The school was also awarded a \$10,000 Department of Education grant to purchase books for the K-4 classrooms. Leveled books (books based on children's reading and

comprehension levels), trade books, novels, award winning books, different genres of literature and more will be purchased. An additional component of the grant is the administration of reading assessments to K-4 students. The assessments are designed to determine students' strengths and weaknesses in phonics, reading fluency and reading comprehension. Teachers will use the results to adjust instruction to meet the needs of the children.

State code mandates that each school district have an affirmative action officer. Ilene Levine serves in that capacity, along with our affirmative action team. The purpose of this team is to assure equal access of all programs to all of our students, and to assure that our working environment is free of discrimination. In addition, the Board of Education regularly updates policy that supports affirmative action.

Our wonderful PTA is well on the way to planning many exciting programs and celebrations. They began the year with a scrumptious lunch for the staff. Thank you to all who cooked, baked, set up and cleaned up. Please watch for information to come home about our annual PTA Book Fair, PTA meetings and Trick or Treat afternoon. We are sincerely grateful to our very active and generous PTA for providing the school with additional resources to have a well-rounded educational experience. Please show your support and join the PTA.

RPS will continue to have Fabulous Fridays. Once every other month, the students will be able to sign up

Continued on Page 6

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, SHARI PAYSON

Continued from Page 5

for activities that are not usually part of the school day. The groups will be cross-age groups, and some examples of activities are chess, gardening, crafts, and theater. If anyone is interested in volunteering to instruct during a Fabulous Friday (or Wonderful Wednesday), please contact me.

Our Roosevelt Back to School Night turnout was exceptional. It was such a pleasure to welcome all of our new Roosevelt Family members to our learning community and a joy to see so many familiar faces. It was standing room only as our staff made presentations, and shared upcoming events, expectations and grade level information.

Our library is in tiptop order thanks to Kay Drury and Ms. Sheila. Kay volunteered her time last week to shelve books and put the books in order.

The buildings and grounds look wonderful thanks to Karen Minutolo, Donna and Howie Kaufman, Kathy Dileo and Baileys Cleaning Service.

The parking lot has been paved, the basketball court has new blacktop, the inside and the outside of the building was painted, the trees have been pruned, new swings and basketball nets were installed, and the school is sparkling clean.

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. We often find litter that has been left overnight and includes broken glass. Let's all work together to keep the school grounds safe from vandalism and beautiful!

As always, we look forward to working with all of you throughout the school year. If there is anything we can do to help you and your family, please feel free to contact us. ■

By Clare Sacharoff

Many of the senior citizens enjoyed a boat ride and lunch on Aug. 15th. The boat was reproduction of an authentic paddle wheel boat.

One of our active senior members, Doris McIntyre has moved from the Solar Village to the Freehold area. We wish her well.

On Aug. 20th we enjoyed a bagel and lox luncheon.

On Sept. 5th — the seniors had a potluck lunch. There was a wide variety of dishes and everyone had an enjoyable afternoon.

The senior citizens hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. For those who wish to have blood pressure taken by a nurse is 12:30 p.m. Anyone who is 62 is eligible to join us.

Our trips are the third Tuesday of each month and there usually is a lunch on the last Friday of each month. ■

October 2006 School Dates

- Oct 2** School Closed
- Oct 11** School Closed - Teacher In Service
- Oct 17** Picture Day
- Oct 18** PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct 20** Pizza Day
- Oct 23** Red Ribbon Week/Violence Prevention Week
- Oct 24 & 26**..... Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct 26 & 27**..... PTA Book Fair
- Oct 31** PTA Trick or Treat Afternoon, 4:00 p.m.

Calling All Volunteers

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission is looking for a few good women and men, boys and girls with an interest in the natural world, conservation and our town. We have a number of projects we would like to undertake and we could use a little help followed by a dash of enthusiasm. More projects are associated with the school and one would be mapping and identifying the school yard trees. Another would be to walk the Roosevelt Woodland Trail and report back to us about the condition, animals and plants spotted and to make recommendations for maintenance. Put on your thinking caps and come to our meetings – Third Wednesday of the month (see end of column). Thank you.

Other Business

The traditional hunting seasons have started. First we may see camouflaged deer hunters with bows and arrows. Then small game hunters and duck hunters overlap with the archers. December will begin with shotgun hunting for deer and typically the time we hear the most shooting. Remember to wear bright orange in hunting areas. Perhaps it may be best to avoid the deep woods at this time except on Sundays. Sundays are still safe i.e., No Hunting on Sundays.

We still have not heard from the State regarding the status of the siltation grant and restoration project. So this project is on hold but if the grant is extended we will then need volunteers to continue the project. Ms. Ilene seems excited about the Roosevelt Environmental Commission plan to map the school

yard trees. This idea evolved from the Arbor Day 2005 program. The aim is to teach and educate students and grown-ups alike about trees and their importance in our lives. It is hoped that the Arbor Day program with RPS becomes an annual event. To hear more, try to come to a meeting but I will endeavor to report environmental highlights as I see them.

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meeting will be Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm on October 18, 2006 where we will continue with environmental business as usual. Everyone is welcomed 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. ■

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.

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

Continued from Page 3

that New Jersey law requires that private day schools be allowed under the same zoning conditions as public schools, and that the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) prohibits municipalities from using zoning to impose substantial burdens on the free exercise of religion without proof of a compelling governmental interest that cannot be satisfied in any less restrictive way. In reply, Mr. Gasiorowski stated that the zoning ordinance could not be disregarded, that the issue was the presence of two uses on the property and that, even if a yeshiva is indeed a synagogue, it is still a conditional use and the conditions must be met or variances obtained. Ms. Donato advised the board that the issue before it was whether Mr. Francis was or was not correct in his decision, after receiving the complaint of the Roosevelt Preservation Association and obtaining the advice of the municipal attorney, Ira Karasik, not to require the congregation or the yeshiva to apply for a variance before commencing operation of the school. She said that that question did not involve the First Amendment or RLUIPA. She further advised the board that changes that have occurred since Mr. Francis made his decision, including the increase in the number of students and planned future increases, should be taken into account, since it would be “myopic” of the board to do otherwise. She referred to an excerpt from New Jersey Zoning and Land Use Administration by William M. Cox, Esq. that she

had previously provided to the board indicating that the intensification of a prior nonconforming use requires a variance.

The board then proceeded to deliberate and vote. Jamie Kosa proposed a resolution to reverse Mr. Francis’ decision. Alternate member Bob Dermody summarized the issue as the balancing of freedom of religion and the community’s right to regulate it. He said that the use “cries out for some form of regulation” and said that he would support a reversal. The board then voted six to one to reverse the decision, with Jamie Kosa, Jane Rothfuss, Steve Yeger, Bob Dermody, Alison Petrilla and Jim Alt voting in favor of the resolution and Lou Esakoff voting in opposition.

It should be noted that, unlike a decision overruling an action taken by the zoning officer, this was a decision disagreeing with the zoning officer’s decision not to act, and it is therefore not self-executing. The proverbial ball is now in the court of the new acting zoning officer, Administrator Bill Schmeling to take such action as he may deem appropriate after consultation with the municipal attorney in light of the board’s decision. Alternatively, the Roosevelt Preservation Association may choose to go to court to seek an order requiring the yeshiva to obtain approvals in order to continue operating, or for some other purpose, or the yeshiva and/or congregation may choose either to file a variance application or go to court to obtain a declaratory judgment

that no approvals are required.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the board deferred action on a second appeal involving the yeshiva, namely the appeal of Paul Brottman from a violation notice issued by Mr. Francis alleging use of Mr. Brottman’s house at 53 North Rochdale Avenue as a dormitory for yeshiva students without any variances for that purpose having been applied for or granted. This case will be heard at a special meeting to be held on September 26. ■

Walkers!

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

My Roosevelt Adventure

My Roosevelt Adventure began in the winter of 1976-77. I had returned to Milltown, New Jersey from graduate school in Raleigh North Carolina ('the salmon syndrome') to apprentice with my grandparents. The family business was there and I had written in my Master's Degree thesis that I had the desire to learn the art of taxidermy from my grandfather whose health was failing.

I had great respect for the chosen occupation of my grandparents and consequently my father. First it was how they made the money to support a growing family and it also afforded me a little spending money by working odd jobs around the shop. Second, to me it was the ultimate in terms of conservation or 'the wise use' of our natural resources. For example say a pheasant dies by hunting or by hitting the windshield of a commuter bus going 65 mph on the NJ Turnpike. In either case it's brought in to the taxidermist for eternal preservation (a well mounted animal properly prepared will last indefinitely). The customer or collector then pays a deposit and leaves. When received fresh and the circumstances of demise are known, a determination is made whether to prepare the animal right away and serve the meat for lunch or dinner. My mother was not particularly thrilled with the business but loved fresh pheasant breast sautéed gently in a cast iron skillet, a delicious fringe benefit or wise use of the venison, turkey or striped bass that seasonally enters the studio. And thirdly we are producing a piece of Art, a tangible tribute to the species by that unique individual animal, an illusion of life



My parents, David J. and Irene Schwendeman, 1980

again, a special memory that will last indefinitely. In the case of many of our mounts they are commissioned by museums and nature centers and stand not only for artistic ambiance but also used to teach and educate. Now ask me how a bald eagle tastes.

But I digress. Perhaps I should backtrack just a little to explain some family history.

My mother's parents emigrated from Hungary by ship early in the 20th century passing through Ellis Island like so many others. Nearby New Brunswick had a sizable Hungarian population and my maternal grandparent followed the crowds there and then to the central New Jersey borough of Milltown. My grandfather, Steve, worked as a factory day laborer and at odd jobs when available. With the depression in full

swing my grandmother, Rose, had to work too and became a working mother of three at Johnson and Johnson Pharmaceuticals for the next thirty years. During that time we never wanted for 'band aids' or dental floss since samples and test over-runs were plentiful for employees!

My father's parents were both born in this country and lived in Milltown and East Brunswick their whole lives. My grandfather Arthur J. Schwendeman (born 1899) attended grammar school across the street from the family homestead. He was warned by the school marm that he would not graduate from the eighth grade if he continued to play hooky to hunt and fish. If he made the effort to attend school more regularly she would teach him about 'taxidermy' after classes from a book she found. He did and then she did and he passed the eighth grade. The hobby turned into a business and he had paying customers and business cards printed by 1919.

My Grandmother, Lillian Falk, had been working since age 15. The local Michelin tire and Rubber factory lost it's bookkeeper to the war in Europe (WWI) and since she was very good with numbers and looked old for her age she was hired. This early move towards woman's liberation caused quite a stir among male workers since she made more money than most of them.

Lillian and Arthur courted then married in 1921. That first Christmas they, together with a friend, mounted the fledgling business' first deer head! My grandmother was very upset. She

Continued on Page 10

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 10

became indispensable to both my grandfather and the business as chief animal skinner, bookkeeper and manager for the next 60 years.

The depression and lean war years (world war two) hit factory workers harder than most farm families or taxidermists. Stories of rationing and saving for rainy days, however, were prevalent on both sides of the fence. How many of us baby boomers heard about how grateful our parents were to get an exotic orange in their stocking at Christmas or about ration coupons for sugar and other necessities? Most survived and a new generation began their post war families.

My parents knew of each other in the small town and eventually met during their high school years. They married in 1950 and I was conceived during their honeymoon road trip that took them across this country from Niagra Falls to Yellowstone and California and back in 5 weeks at a cost of about \$20.00 per day.

I was born in 1951. Three sisters followed each several years apart.

Growing up in Milltown was for me like a Norman Rockwell painting. The Thanksgiving Day dinners were always held at our house. Small groups of us spent a lot of time riding bicycles and playing sandlot baseball and football without coaches or uniforms, and snitching fruit from any trees where they were ripe. Teenage years were like *American Graffiti* and *Grease*. Then we had the hippie days, ethnic riots and the Vietnam War. I went to college losing my room at home to one of my sisters instantly. I was out of the nest and on my own. Soon into freshman year, I drew a high draft lottery number but I still had mixed feelings. It was a confusing time. I always had feet in both camps, straddling the fence, I had friends that served and friends that

protested. Three and a half years later after occupying the Rutgers administration building one night I finished at Rutgers with high honors.

Back to the Norman Rockwell characterization.

When I moved back to New Jersey from Raleigh, I did not want to live too close to the business. My dad who has lived his whole life next door to the shop in the house he was born in was always there after work and weekends. I wanted to be able to separate work from home life and I wanted to be able to hunt nearby.

I put a dot on Milltown on a state map and drew a twenty-five mile radius around it. South and west was more rural so I started there to look for a place to rent or buy. *The Princeton Packet* listed an affordable home in Roosevelt. It took three tries to finally find the town and look at our first house. We were shown a house on Farm Lane after first proving we were married. It was not what we were looking for and we went to the deli/grocery store for a sandwich.

Sal the owner asked what brought us to Roosevelt and we told him the story. Then he said let me call Mel and see if he has anything. Mel Adlerman soon met us and showed us a home on Tamara which we liked and signed the papers to rent with first option to buy. Assunpink was right in the back yard!

When Marilyn Ticktin started showing the house to others we would put out a bunch of mouse traps and talk about the hunters in the backyard. Within a year we purchased the home

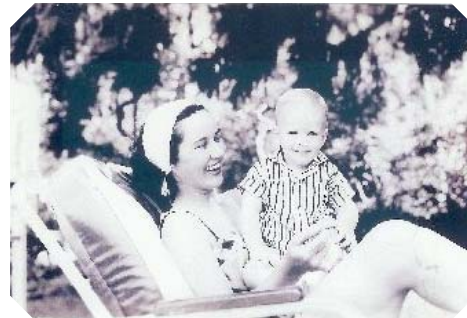
from May Shandalow whose daughter (Shan Ellentuck) still lives in town. That's when I learned what *mazel tov* meant as people congratulated us for buying.

Our circle of friends grew and I was accepted as the towns' token taxidermist, an oddity in my own right amongst many noted and acclaimed artists, writers, musicians poets and photographers. I also kept bees, trapped woodchucks for the Philadelphia Zoo and had a cargo van which made me an instant friend to all the seniors who needed things moved. Life here was great.

One interesting story happened (or started) just before our daughter Abbie was born. At some point in the late 1980s Peter Warren asked if I would be interested to serve on the newly established Roosevelt Environmental Commission. I said yes and was soon attending meetings that seemed over my head. We discussed things like repaving streets and street tree surveys, new developments and housing density.

Then I think it was Stu Kaufman who said that the sewer line that parallels empty box brook from Rochdale to Tamara and on to the water treatment plant at the end of Pine Drive needed to be replaced and were there any environmental concerns. I mentioned that I saw a wood turtle near the brook about 150 yards in from Tamara and it's a threatened species in New Jersey.

Well, all heck broke loose. The big construction project for the new pipeline was put on hold. The news-



My mom, Irene Schwendeman and me

Continued on Page 11

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 10

papers got ahold of the story and it made its way to the *Asbury Park Press*. Someone there called me and asked about the turtle. During the conversation she asked my occupation and I said taxidermist. That led to a story about our taxidermy studio which was read by a writer for the *New York Times* who called to do a story for that paper. That story was read by the producers of the Martha Stuart Show which led to six minutes of fame as one of Martha's field trip segments for the CBS nationally syndicated show. It was a great experience but no real financial gain. According to Andy Warhol, I still have 9 minutes to go. Oh, by the way, the town received a plaque for saving wood turtle habitat which hangs in the offices at borough hall and I'm still a member of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission.

In summary this town has been very good to me and very good for me and if I may adapt a favorite saying used sparingly by my grandmother and usually reserved for close family and special friends, "*Roosevelt, with all your faults I love you still!*" ■

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

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 welcomed 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.

Playing Around with Theatre – After School Program

The Roosevelt Recreation Department is sponsoring "Playing Around with Theatre" beginning

September 28th for students in Grades K - 6. In this workshop, students will participate in theatre games, movement, and arts activities as they learn about improvisation and character development.

Classes will be held on the following Thursdays: September 28, October 5, 12, 19, November 2, 16, 30, and December 7 from 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. The cost of the program is \$80.00. Please contact (609) 448-0539, x3 for further information.

Movie Night

The Recreation Department invites all area residents to the Roosevelt Public School grounds to enjoy movies on the "big screen" on Saturday nights. All outdoor movies begin at dusk or 7:00 p.m. Movies will move indoors to the gymnasium as the weather turns colder. Please contact (609) 448-0539, x3 for updated information and movie titles.

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 October.

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! ■

September Songs Music of Kurt Weill Review

by Frances G. Duckett

The Roosevelt Players' production of Weill's songs, sponsored by the Roosevelt Arts Project and the Roosevelt Recreation Department at the APAI loading dock, was rained out Friday the 15th but drew a sizeable crowd on Saturday. A smaller group attended on Sunday, the rain date.

I'm completely incompetent to be a music reviewer, but for me it was a thrill to hear so many diverse and talented local musicians performing in an all new format.

The program, directed by Margaret Schlinski and Ani Rosskam, had a bittersweet character, combining nostalgia and an all too modern streak of *Weltschmerz*. It was impossible to hear Karyn Grunwald sing *Soldier's Wife* without thinking of today's wars.

The songs in the earliest part of the program were written before World War II, in Nazi Germany. The program then moves to songs written in the USA, in English. The numbers went off without interval, the transitions being filled with recorded sounds—sounds which included sirens and breaking glass.

My feeling was that the choice of venue was inspired. The loading dock looks like a stage and has better parking than the Borough Hall. The set, designed by Ani Rosskam, had a frontispiece of rubble adorned with an unexploded bomb and a dirty rat. Onstage, large doors became stage doors to a space which could function as interior or exterior. Black and white costuming contributed to the dark side of the ambience, while soft lighting, achieved with gels, gave color and sweetness to the performance space.

The show opened with duelling versions of *Mack the Knife*—in German

by Michael Ticktin, then in English by David Brahinsky, who did not (by the way) use the Bobby Darin translation. Next, it was a gas to see Ani Rosskam and Ellen Silverman hoof it up to *Cannon Song*. There was humor, too in Claudia Luongo and Ron Kostar's *Come in Mornin'* and in Jacob Wall and Bill Leech's drunken entrance. Cecelia Ticktin's lovely voice, accompanied by Alan Mallach on keyboard, made *What Good would the Moon Be?* a special joy. *September Song*, the title number has always been a favorite of mine. John Parrot added a touch of jazz. The program closed with Sue Cedar's excellent rendition of *Speak Low*.

On Sunday there was a special addition: *My Ship from Lady in the Dark*.

On the whole the audience came away better acquainted with the music of Weill, who may have been somewhat sad and disillusioned, but somehow managed to remain deeply romantic.

I'd like to thank the sponsors, all forty-four participants, and most particularly APAI Action Packaging for making this event possible.

Videos made by David Schwendeman are available for purchase from Margaret Schlinski.

Attention Roosevelt Residents

by Herb Johnson

A meeting to find out what the Roosevelt Chapter of the Coalition for Peace can do about war and peace, nuclear weapons production and proliferation, and having a sustainable peace economy will be held.

Where: The Roosevelt Borough Hall

When: 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2006

Bob Silverstein and Herb Johnson will be hosts. To assist in telling what Peace Action is doing nationally and locally will be Bob Moore, Executive

Director of the Princeton office of the Coalition or an associate.

Roosevelt Community Mural Off to a Start!

by Judith McNally

You're invited to get the Roosevelt community mural off the ground at a workshop Saturday, October 7, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., in the Roosevelt School gymnasium. The workshop will feature a brief lecture by Rod Tulloss about Roosevelt's flora and fauna, followed by an introductory presentation by Lambertville mosaic tile artist Katherine Hackl. Families are very welcome, though children 11 and under do need to be accompanied by an adult.

There will be fern fronds and hand-outs of wildlife, such as bears, foxes, turkeys, etc. to help you get started thinking about what you'd like to draw. Aided by Katherine, who stresses that "no artistic experience is necessary," participants will later be guided in transferring their drawings onto clay. The clay will be fired in Katherine's Lambertville studio, and individual pieces will then be compiled into one mosaic tile mural. The workshop is open to all Roosevelt community members.

The mural is scheduled for an unveiling in May, 2007 as part of the Roosevelt Arts Project's 20th Anniversary celebration, and will be RAP's gift to the town.

Please join us October 7 at the School – bring yourself, and the rest will be provided!

Our Exercise Class

by Bess Tremper

For about two years we have been attending an exercise class at the

Continued on Page 13

OUR EXERCISE CLASS

Continued from Page 12

Borough Hall every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 12 noon as well as an additional class on Mondays which was added six months ago, but was discontinued during the summer. This will resume on October 9th.

The class is conducted by Regina Sachs, a vibrant, energetic and charming woman who makes the classes most enjoyable.

During the hour long class, we manage to work on our whole bodies, or, as Regina says, we do strength, stretch and low impact movements.

The classes are arranged in six-week units and costs range from \$3 to \$4.50 per class, depending on the number of people registered (we even have two men) and can be started at any time during each six-week cycle.

I'm sure, if you try it, you will be hooked as are we. In fact, one of our attendees has said, if Regina gave five classes a week, she would attend them all!

Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training & Response News

By Jack Rindt, Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training Officer

In the month of June, the Squad responded to 13 first aid calls. In Roosevelt, four were medical emergencies and one was a fire standby. In Millstone Twp., five were medical emergencies and three were motor vehicle accidents (MVA).

In the month of July, the Squad responded to 22 first aid calls. In Roosevelt, five were medical emergencies, one was a motor vehicle accident (MVA), and one was a fire standby. In Millstone Twp., 13 were medical emergencies, one was a motor vehicle accident (MVA), and one was a fire standby.

In the month of August, the Squad responded to 10 first aid calls. In

Roosevelt, four were medical emergencies, and one was a fire standby. In Millstone Twp., four were medical emergencies, and one was a fire standby.

The Squad has responded to 92 emergencies from January 1 to August 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.

MONOC is donating a used ambulance to the Squad and should be delivered to us sometime in September. 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 them to P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. The First Aid Squad is always thankful for any contributions. A second 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. Cynthia Imbrie, Bess Tremper, The Seligmans, Robin Gould, Barbara Clark, Margaret Force, The Herrstroms, Lattie Sackowitz-Eisner, Stephen Trevelise, The Zahoras, The Hillis, The Machers, Dan Hoffman, Allen Newrath, The Graysons, Diana Klein, The Goetzmans, Allen Mallach, Martha Digiorgio, Virginia Edwards, The Lefts, The Nahmias, Frances Duckett, Louise Baranowitz, Edna Patterson, The Barths, The Shahns, The Millars, Veronica Murren, The Lipoti/Gartons, Louise Anish, The Prestopinos, Anthony Wisowaty, The Tulloss, The Clarks, The Petrillas.

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.

The Squad is happy to welcome two new members to our rolls. They will be attending EMT school this fall.

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!**

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. ■

Letter to the Editor:

The Roosevelt Borough Council has driven, or soon will drive, Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah into the courts to vindicate its rights under state and federal constitutional, statutory and case law. The recent Planning Board proceedings were just warm ups. Despite at least two good faith overtures by the Yeshiva to negotiate with the Council acceptable limitations on religious uses of the three lots belonging to Congregation Anshei, the Council, perhaps with one or two dissenting voices, has adopted a no-compromise attitude.

At her first Council meeting as Mayor, Beth Battel, stated, "I wish to assure all members of this community, regardless of who they are or how long they have been here, that their concerns will always be listened to with understanding and be addressed fairly." Shortly thereafter, Mayor Battel, the Borough Engineer and I met with Yeshiva representatives to discuss whether a dormitory could be located somewhere other than the Synagogue lots. The meeting satisfied Mayor Battel's promise in a perfectly legitimate way. It was not set up or conducted in secret (several people who were pro and anti-Yeshiva knew about it); similar meetings routinely were held to inform other would-be land users what issues they would have to resolve; no commitments were made to the Yeshiva representatives; and Mayor Battel and I reported to the Council what occurred at the meeting. Nonetheless, Mayor Battel ran into a firestorm of chastisement led by Bert Ellentuck, the head of the Roosevelt Preservation Association.

More recently, the Yeshiva's attorney, acting in good faith, shared a plan with the Borough Attorney "in confidence," for limited distribution to Council members and other

officials, "as a basis for commencing discussions." Instead of saying they would not look at the plan because they had no intention of negotiating zoning changes (ones that might have satisfied everyone's concerns), someone on the Council, with the apparent approval of other Council members, published the plan around town on posters and flyers. Unleashing the half-truths that are a frequent modus operandi of the Roosevelt Preservation Association's leaders, the distributors of the plan blocked out the words "FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY" that had been written across it. Using the plan as a propaganda piece, they dishonorably implied that information submitted with the plan constituted the Yeshiva's final position and left out proposals that would have made the Yeshiva seem more benign, such as a willingness to leave untouched the forested lot between the Synagogue and the Ellentuck house.

Such conduct belies the claim that anti-Yeshiva activists are solely interested in proper land use. Although at least one has publicly acknowledged that she is anti-Semitic, most probably are not. Many, however, are roundly intolerant of Orthodox Jews. Their extreme insistence on retaining the Synagogue as a stagnant religious institution and providing no place for any significant religious activity in Roosevelt shows their true colors. Their intransigency, spiced with crocodile tears about the boys' safety and patronizing rants about women who don't shake hands and boys who don't play basketball with girls, have attracted profane bigots like a water-filled tire attracts mosquito eggs. Some Council members smugly tell us, "Just don't look at the Bulletin Board; we don't."

One can get away with exercising

prejudice in a secret voting booth, as a decent former mayor of Roosevelt found out. We all know the siren, which now torments residents near the North Valley Triangle, was not why he was removed from office by the voters. Other, non-Yeshiva issues also were inconsequential.

Meanness in the voting booth may not be remediable, but impermissible stifling of religion to accommodate overzealous land use concerns will not fly in court. The Council and the Roosevelt Preservation Association cannot keep judges from scrutinizing Roosevelt's zoning ordinances against the constitutional and statutory requirements which protect a freedom that it took centuries to achieve. If judges consider Roosevelt's interesting, but comparatively brief, history at all, it will be to puzzle why anyone would claim that a town founded by Jews, with a Synagogue as its only house of worship, would argue that they should approve turning the town into a virtual secular enclave to the detriment of devout Jews.

Judges also will not want to hear about how large the Yeshiva naively thought it could be (150) if officials and residents had embraced and nurtured it, or as a starting point in settlement negotiations (120). The figure now most often cited in serious talks is 60. Judges will not want to hear about how a town without sidewalks in most places disapproves of more walkers (I thought we liked as many walkers as possible). They will not want to hear about sewer constraints in a town with excess sewer plant capacity. The town may or may not need a new water tower regardless of the Yeshiva's activities. If it does, judges will want to know only how much the Yeshiva would owe as its proportionate share.

Continued on Page 15

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 14

Judges first will encourage the parties to come to some agreement. The Yeshiva's attorney has written to ask for this already, seeking zoning that would permit a "modest facility" and expressing a willingness to afford "surrounding neighbors with reasonable protections from undesired intrusions upon their residential uses." If there is no agreement providing the Borough with "the opportunity to have meaningful input into the final configuration of the religious institution's project," judges will not want to hear about how some Rooseveltians would feel "threatened" should the Yeshiva resort to courts to vindicate its perceived rights.

If, after a long and expensive legal process, the Borough loses in court, it likely would have to pay for any damages, legal fees and costs incurred by the Yeshiva, as well as its own legal fees. That is one reason why it is so important to the Roosevelt Preservation Association that there be no agreement between the Yeshiva and the municipality. If the Council and the Yeshiva were to agree on reasonable limits for the Yeshiva's operations, the Roosevelt Preservation Association would have to pay to challenge the agreement in court. The municipality and the Yeshiva would then have a common interest in defending the agreement, and if they were successful by relying on the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, the Preservation Association likely would have to pay the Borough's and the Yeshiva's expenses, as well as its own. The Association's attorney notified the Planning Board in writing that Council members Peggy Malkin and Jeff Ellentuck were members of the Association. The Yeshiva's attorney has asked that they be disqualified from participating in Council delib-

erations and decisions regarding the Yeshiva because of their obvious divided loyalties as to whether to preserve the Association's funds or the municipality's (taxpayers') funds.

Roosevelt has high-density senior housing next to a neighborhood of single-family houses. It has given preliminary approval for a huge commercial horse farm across from single-family houses in the residential/agricultural zone. It solicited a group home for developmentally disabled residents to be located close behind the Synagogue between the Factory and a house. Diamond Machine Co., Inc. was granted a large addition, so long as it agreed to construct a modern bioretention basin, plant buffering vegetation, etc. Apparently we are willing to be creative when we want to satisfy our affordable housing obligation. We also respect the state Right to Farm Law enough to agree to accommodate it with zoning changes. In addition, we find creative ways to lessen the restrictions on light industrial rateables. It seems all these were deemed worthy, although the neighbors were not always pleased. They were all secular, don't you know?

Bob Clark

Former Borough Administrator

To the Editor:

An Open Letter to Ann Baker:

I read with interest your letter to the Bulletin (July, '06) regarding statements you made at a public Borough Council, admitting to being anti-semitic (sic). Since I, too, was at that meeting and you seemed to be addressing many of your remarks toward me, I believe it's important to speak to your letter. Like you, I have dedicated my life to social issues and injustice. In writing my book, *Everybody Belongs*, devoted to the topic, I learned a great deal. I commend you for "owning up" to the

statement, trying to "work on" your prejudices, and expressing that you hoped someone would be around to help you understand. Please let me try.

To begin with, *prejudice* is a thought. Examples of prejudice include such statements as, "I don't like you because you're Black, Asian, Jewish, gay or disabled." And, if I don't like you for such reasons it's just my stupidity, insensitivity and ignorance. However it is *not* illegal. In this country we have a right to think whatever we want to think. While prejudice is a thought, *discrimination* is an act. Statements regarding discrimination may be "Because of the group you belong to you're not permitted to go to school here, work here, or live here." Prime local examples of paraphrased expressions of discrimination include, "We don't want any Orthodox living in our town in any way, shape or form," or "I don't want to see boys with yarmulkas walking around Roosevelt," or "I'm against the Orthodox moving in because their kids won't play with mine." Because discrimination is an act, it *is* illegal. ANYONE has a right to move into this town and live here without becoming the object of obscene gestures, as the yeshiva boys have experienced while walking around this wonderful accepting utopia! (Although I must admit, that one yeshiva official recently informed me that "Things are getting better finger-wise!")

Finally, and most important, when an individual voices discrimination, who herself or himself belongs to a group that is often discriminated against, that's *hypocrisy*. In this country, there is no such thing as "My rights are more important or meaningful than your rights."

Ann, I could abide and tolerate

Continued on Page 16

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 15

your prejudicial feelings, your discriminatory leanings, or even your hypocritical stand, but you have a position of political power and leadership in this town, which unfortunately, provides you the opportunity to turn your prejudice, discrimination and hypocrisy into public policy. A public official should be fighting bigotry, not owning up to it, and certainly not enabling it, particularly anti-Semitism in this town with its strong Jewish roots. Saying that you're "working on it" doesn't make it right. You should have expressed rage, not smugness and self-righteousness when, as a result of such blatant bigotry, this town suffered the departure of several outstanding officials who served with competence and diligence. Instead of taking the "high moral ground," and backing them, you played to the "herd mentality." Your actions, in part, caused Roosevelt a deprivation and loss of the services of some truly dedicated individuals. Perhaps now it's time for *you* to consider leaving office. Maybe the time-off will afford you the opportunity to reflect on your position so you can truly better understand your prejudices. Thank you.

Arthur Shapiro

Borough of Roosevelt - Support for the Volunteer Services

It is not about how many emergency responses made, but it is about helping people and the borough. Look at the support we received from surrounding local volunteer and paid fire companies and departments for mutual aid for a structure fire in Roosevelt. We had 8 local companies respond with Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company to the structure fire.

Mutual aid from other towns is a big savings to the borough.

We are thankful for these dedicated

people who risk their lives to help us.

This is not about money, but support for all the volunteer services of the borough.

Volunteers are hard to come by these days. Volunteers need to support volunteers of all services of the borough. Support is needed for all volunteers and for residents to come forward to volunteer to help their borough.

I am thankful that the residents are responsible and know how to avoid fires. It is not about how many calls, it is about protecting people and property of the borough.

A big THANK YOU to all volunteers.

Quote..

We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.

—*Winston Churchill*

Bob Francis

Zoning

This is an open letter to borough residents. I would like to thank the residents for their support of the Zoning Officer for the past year.

The time I needed to allocate to the position, this time was of my own choosing to do a good job, turned out to be more than I could spare. After evaluation of the time, position, and other obligations, I found it best for me to resign for professional and personal reasons.

Please give the support I received to the new Zoning Officer that the council appoints.

I hope I served the borough well and will help the new person as much as I can in this challenging position. Thank you for your support.

Here are some ideas I think could be a help to the residents and the new zoning person.

1. Better communications
2. Consistency in the position (follow the rules)
3. List of items and steps that must be followed in the position
4. Check with the borough before you start a project
5. Check the web site for information at www.web2sons.org (unofficial site)
6. Only one notice of a possible violation with a time to abate it should be given out
7. The second notice if no response from the first will be a fine and or court notice
8. I put forms on the web site to download and print for submission of projects

These are based on what I learned and did in the position about notices and responses. Although I tried to be fair to all, the few that do not cooperate make it hard for those that want to.

The times ahead may be a challenging period of change in land use planning, and zoning for the borough. The residents need to get involved.

Remember the zoning officer works for all residents of the borough. Also, the position is for the safety, health, and welfare of the borough and the residents.

Please be fair to the Zoning Officer, you are the one he/she is trying to help. Your tax dollars at work.

Bob Francis

Do Seniors Need Help?

Call Judy (609) 638-9595 or (609) 977-5081, if you need cleaning help.

Available on Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Mondays to Fridays, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT

Continued from Page 1

pal, county and school taxes. This reserve can be a major component of a municipal budget and can inflate the tax rate. He reported that the surplus in the general municipal account was being maintained at an acceptable level but that, despite a utility collection rate of nearly 100%, there was no surplus in the utility account and it would therefore be necessary to watch that account very carefully, and to expect fee increases if cutbacks in necessary maintenance were to be avoided. He further addressed the need to make allowance for future contingencies, particularly those related to a possible significant increase in demand for water if the yeshiva were to build a dormitory. Given the documented lack of excess capacity in the water system, a new water tower and associated piping, priced at \$500,000 in 1999, would have to be installed. The only alternative to spending utility funds for this purpose would be to use tax funds to pay such legal costs as might be necessary in order to avoid increased demand that the town cannot accommodate. In any event, he concluded, we cannot expect the tax and utility rates to remain constant in light of "current trends."

Councilman Bob Silverstein, chairman of the utilities committee, reported that a power surge had caused damage at the sewage treatment plant that had to be repaired. He stated that new Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) permit requirements for the sewage treatment plant would impose added costs of \$10,000 to \$30,000 for compliance. He further reported that an automatic flushing device had been installed in the water line on Brown Street in order to deal with the problem of water of the same color and the

scheduled high-diving expedition to examine the condition of the tank on the water tower had been postponed until cooler weather due to the active presence of hornets.

Councilman Jeff Ellentuck, chairman of the community development committee, reported that an ordinance was being introduced that would allow nonresidents of Roosevelt to join the Roosevelt Fire Department and that a resolution to have Roosevelt participate in the State's Volunteer Tuition Credit Program would be introduced. Under this program, active members of volunteer fire companies and first aid or rescue squads and their spouses and children are eligible for free tuition, up to a total of \$2,400 per member, at county colleges and county vocational or technical schools. To be eligible, a person must enter into an agreement to serve as a volunteer for four years in exchange for the credit, which accrues at the rate of \$600 per year. Mr. Ellentuck also reported that the revised consolidated zoning ordinance would be proposed for introduction.

Speaking in his capacity as Council member of the Planning Board, Councilman Hamilton reported that Administrator Schmeling had been appointed to serve as zoning officer through the end of 2006 and recommended that the Council budget the necessary funds to implement the recommendation of the Planning Board that the Borough take title through eminent domain to the property at 19 South Rochdale Avenue, which has been vacant for years and been designated as a redevelopment property, and therefore subject to eminent domain. Since the tax lien holder who had previously indicated an interest in foreclosing was no longer interested in

doing so, the Borough would have to act in order to end the blighted condition of the property. Once the Borough takes title, it will be able to sell the property for private redevelopment.

Councilman Silverstein, speaking as Council member of the Environmental Commission, advised the Council that new DEP phosphorus limits in sewerage effluent would be very difficult to meet. He reported a suggestion that the water upstream of the sewage treatment plant be tested for phosphorus content so that any phosphorus that may be in the water prior to it reaching our plant is not counted as part of our discharge. He also reported that Environmental Commission member Ann Baker is investigating solar energy grants that might be available either for property owners or for the municipality.

In the public portion, Nona Sherak expressed her concern that necessary action, such as installation of speed bumps, be undertaken on Nurko Road in order to deter motorists coming from Millstone who do not appreciate the necessity of stopping at the stop sign at the intersection with North Rochdale Avenue. She also observed that there were many places in town where low tree branches are interfering with vehicular traffic and ought to be trimmed. She also complained that the proposed water blowoff on Maple Court will make the brown water situation at her house worse, instead of correcting it as the municipal engineer has stated would be the case.

Bob Francis stated that holes on Lake Drive that had been made by PSE&G when it repaired gas lines under the new pavement were still not fixed. Councilman Dan Hoffman replied that the engineer has been dis-

Continued on Page 18

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 17

cussing this matter with PSE&G. Mr. Francis also inquired as to the status of the work to restore Empty Box Brook. Councilman Silverstein said that, though DEP provided funds for the restoration, it is now refusing to issue a permit for the work because, as a result of the change of administration, the people in charge now think that swamps are a good thing. He said that records show that the land was originally swampy and was only channeled in the 1930s, when the town was built. Mr. Francis also called upon the Council to make sure that the people hired to cut the grass on public property cut the grass around fire hydrants in order to make them more accessible.

Melissa Branco asked that action be taken with regard to the use of the residence next to the synagogue by persons connected with the yeshiva. Ms. Battel replied that the municipal attorney was reviewing the matter and would recommend action at the appropriate time.

Misty Carr asked how Bob Clark, who had made the letter from the yeshiva to

the Council available to the public, had gotten a copy of it, since the Council had made it the subject of a nonpublic meeting regarding potential litigation. Mr. Clark replied that he had gotten his copy from the yeshiva, which did not regard it as a confidential document.

In other action, the Council adopted an ordinance amending the salary ordinance by establishing ranges and introduced the aforementioned ordinances on nonresident firefighters and zoning ordinance consolidation and revision. The Council adopted resolutions to participate in the previously-discussed Volunteer Tuition Credit Program, to set a fee of \$10 per person for the yoga program, to award the contract for removal of tanks at the former service station to T. Slack Environmental Services for \$20,730, to adopt the corrective action plan outlined in the audit report and to fix certain salaries.

Aside from the ongoing issues discussed at the September meeting, perhaps the most notable event during the summer was the receipt of a letter

from the Land Preservation Office of the Monmouth County Park System expressing Monmouth County's interest in acquiring three properties: the 137-acre Beer tract north of Oscar Drive, the 30-acre Brottman tract on North Rochdale Avenue, and the 15-acre Rogers tract on the south side of the undeveloped portion of the road that is called Oscar Drive in Roosevelt and Witches' Hollow Road in Millstone, and therefore has both designations where it fronts the property and serves as the municipal border. The letter acknowledged Roosevelt's support for the project. If these properties are acquired as part of the Rocky Brook Greenway project, as the County is interested in doing, the prospect of any large scale residential development in Roosevelt, a source of controversy for decades, will be eliminated as a possibility, since all large tracts will then either be owned by state, county or local government or be subject to farmland preservation restrictions. ■

**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!"**

One Maestro's Menu

Harry John Brown was the creator and first conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He became a very close friend of Earl Wrightson's and mine beginning in the early 60's, (when we were engaged as his soloists for a 'Pop' series) and remained so for the next thirty years. His friendship was one of the unexpected perks of our long peripatetic careers.

One of Harry's greatest pleasures (other than making music) was entertaining his friends with intimate gourmet dinners at his oh-so elegant home.

This very simple recipe was the centerpiece of one such occasion. The salmon loaf was served with simple vegetables, an extraordinary salad, and of course, crispy bread.

Ah, yes! ...I seem to recall also, some lovely white wine or other. There was always plenty of wine around when we got together with Harry. ! ■



Harry John's Salmon Loaf

2c cooked or canned salmon	2tbsp minced onion
2/3c evaporated milk	1/2 tsp salt
2c soft bread crumbs/or croutons	1/4 tsp poultry seasoning
2 well beaten eggs	(Try just a few drops of liquid smoke)
1tbsp minced parsley	

Preheat oven 375° degrees. Mix salmon, milk & bread thoroughly with fork. Add eggs et al, mix well. Turn into well-greased loaf pan. Cook for 40 minutes.

Sauce (optional)

1 c. white sauce (add lemon or dill)
1/4 c mayonnaise
1/4 c minced olives & almonds

By Ron Filepp

On September 14, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced that summer 2006 was the second hottest summer on record in the continental United States. In Roosevelt it was also another warmer and wetter than average summer. The average temperature for the entire summer was 74.3 degrees. Normal is 71.9 degrees. Total summer precipitation was about twenty-five percent above normal this year.

Normal average summer precipitation is 12.37 inches. This year 15.33 inches of rain fell during June, July and August. June was the wettest month. Over eight inches of rain fell. August was the driest month. Only 2.81 inches fell—a deficit for the month of about 1.4 inches. There were a total of 34 days of precipitation during the summer.

We had only two heat waves in Roosevelt this year compared with four in 2005. The first one this year started on July 16 and lasted through the 18th. The second heat wave lasted five days beginning on July 31 and plagued the area through August 4. That heat wave proved to be a killer. An elderly married couple was overcome by the heat on August 2. They were found dead in their New York City apartment the next morning.

In all, there were fifteen summer days in 2006 with 90 degree or greater high temperatures. That's just below the normal rate of 16.2 days with 90+ temperatures. Summer 2005 brought an impressive 24 days of 90+ temperatures.

The highest temperature for a summer day this year was 97.0 degrees and fell on August 3. The warmest summer night was on August 2. The

temperature dipped briefly to 76.1 degrees. There were 20 nights when the low temperature failed to drop below 70.

There were other weather highlights in New Jersey from the past summer. Flood rains in late June resulted in a shut down of parts of Trenton. Governor Corzine closed most State buildings in the city. Officials said it was the worst flooding in the city since 1955. On July 18, a thunderstorm caused a 75-foot tree to crash onto a New Jersey Transit track in Montclair disrupting service for the next day's commute. Closer to home, in nearby Washington Township, a July 28 storm with vicious winds toppled five telephone poles in a row on Gordon Road. That storm passed through parts of Monmouth, Mercer and Burlington counties knocking down branches, trees and utility wires. Some trees crashed into homes and parked cars.

Perhaps autumn in Roosevelt will be more peaceful.

Weather Word

An *Offshore Breeze* is a wind that blows from the land towards a body of water, also known as a *land breeze*. An *Onshore Breeze* is a wind that blows from a body of water towards the land, also known as a *sea breeze*. ■

August 15 - September 15, 2006

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	83.1	71.2	77.2	0.00	0.0
16	86.7	61.9	74.3	0.00	0.0
17	86.5	60.8	73.7	0.00	0.0
18	83.7	61.9	72.8	0.00	0.0
19	87.1	60.4	73.8	0.00	0.0
20	89.4	71.2	80.3	0.00	0.0
21	83.7	62.2	73.0	0.00	0.0
22	86.0	60.4	73.2	0.00	0.0
23	88.5	60.6	74.6	0.00	0.0
24	82.0	61.0	71.5	0.24	0.0
25	86.0	63.0	74.5	0.10	0.0
26	71.1	66.2	68.7	1.55	0.0
27	74.1	65.7	69.9	0.15	0.0
28	80.4	69.1	74.8	0.40	0.0
29	71.6	68.2	69.9	0.03	0.0
30	70.2	63.1	66.7	0.25	0.0
31	71.8	60.8	66.3	0.05	0.0
1	66.2	59.2	62.7	0.00	2.3
2	68.7	59.2	64.0	1.95	1.1
3	75.0	62.6	68.8	2.10	0.0
4	74.3	57.7	66.0	0.00	0.0
5	68.4	57.9	63.2	0.00	1.8
6	76.1	61.0	68.6	0.64	0.0
7	77.2	55.2	66.2	0.05	0.0
8	79.7	59.0	69.4	0.00	0.0
9	81.9	62.8	72.4	0.00	0.0
10	76.6	59.4	68.0	0.00	0.0
11	70.5	60.1	65.3	0.00	0.0
12	67.6	45.7	56.7	0.00	8.4
13	71.8	47.8	59.8	0.00	5.2
14	72.1	61.2	66.7	0.10	0.0
15	70.2	64.8	67.5	0.48	0.0
Total Precipitation				8.09	
Total Heating Degree-Days					8.18

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

Twentieth Anniversary Season 2006 –2007

Saturday, October 28, 2006, at 8p.m. at the Eleanor gallery.

Sunday, October 29, 2006, at 2p.m., starting at the Eleanor gallery.

A MEXICAN DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION.

On Saturday a traditional altar presentation and a musical performance by Mexico Beyond Mariachi. On Sunday a cemetery visit and poetry reading. The altar display will continue through November 3rd, 2006.

Saturday, November 11, 2006, 5-8p.m. reception, 8p.m. concert with David Brahinsky and friends. Sunday, November 12, 12-4p.m. Exhibit continues.

JACOB LANDAU, OPEN STUDIO, AT 30 LAKE DRIVE

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

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

THE ART OF ROBERT MUELLER- SCHEMA WATERCOLORS

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 Deidre Sheean (443-4179) or Judy Nahmias (443-5290). (See page 22.)

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

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

ROOSEVELT POETS

Saturday, April 14, 2007

8p.m. in Borough Hall

DIGITAL SOUNDS AND ART

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

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

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

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

October

1	Sun		Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	
2	Mon		RPS Closed – Yom Kippur	
		7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting Beth Battel, Mayor	Boro Hall 448-7701
3	Tues	12 pm	Senior Blood Pressure Check	Boro Hall
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Gerry Millar, President	Boro Hall 448-0351
4	Wed		RECYCLE	
8	Sun	10 am	First Aid Squad Training Jack Rindt	Boro Hall 448-9475
9	Mon	7 pm	Council Action Meeting Beth Battel, Mayor	Boro Hall 443-7701
10	Tues	7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Ralph Seligman	Boro Hall 448-2340
11	Wed		RPS Closed – Teacher In-service	
16	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
17	Tues		RPS School Pictures	
		7:30 pm	First Aid Squad Business Mtg Jack Rindt	Boro Hall 448-9475
18	Wed		RECYCLE	
		7:30 pm	RPS PTA Meeting Kelly Mitchell, President	RPS 426-9850
		7:30 pm	Environmtl Com. Mtg Dave Schwendeman, Chair	Boro Hall 443-6204
20	Fri		RPS Pizza Day	
23	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
			Red Ribbon/Violence Prevention Week	
24	Tues		RPS Early Dismissal – Parent Conferences	
26	Thurs		RPS Early Dismissal – Parent Conferences	
			PTA Book Fair	
27	Fri		PTA Book Fair	

28	Sat	8 pm	RAP Program – A Mexican Day of the Dead Celebration (See RAP Page)	Eleanor Gallery
29	Sun		Daylight Savings Time Ends	
		2 pm	RAP Program – Guided Trip to the Cemetery (See RAP Page)	
30	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Boro Hall 448-4865
31	Tues		Halloween	
		4 pm	PTA Trick or Treat	RPS

November Preview

6	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Pat Moser, President	Borough Hall 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting, Beth Battel, Mayor	Borough Hall 448-7701
8	Tues		Election Day	
7	Wed	7:30 pm	RPS PTA Meeting Kelly Mitchell, President	RPS 426-9850
8	Thurs		RPS Closed	
9	Fri		RPS Closed	
10	Sat		Veteran's Day	
		5-8 pm	RAP Program – Jacob Landau, Open Studio (See RAP Page)	
		8 pm	David Brahinsky and Friends (See RAP Page)	
10	Sat	12-4 pm	RAP Program – Jacob Landau, Open Studio (See RAP Page)	

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