



ROOSEVELT NEWS

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

December 1970

Roosevelt Market Changes Hands

On Saturday November 14 the routine for 17 years of working six days a week and sometimes on Sundays and holidays in the Roosevelt Market ended abruptly for Sol and Bebbie Berg as they turned over the keys to the new owner, Robert A. Deptula and his wife Cindy.

One by one, Roosevelt residents had dropped in that day to wish the Bergs "good luck." Sadness and nostalgia were visible on the faces of some of those who came to say farewell and to pose questions about the storekeeper's future plans. A number of long-time residents felt this change in the market scene might represent a change from the friendliness and the sharing of problems, joys, and cultural interests that kept this community so closely knit for the more than 30 years of its existence.

Asked to comment on their plans, Mr. Deptula and his wife, residents of Shrewsbury, stated emphatically that they have no intentions of interrupting the Berg tradition of offering neighborhood convenience and personal service. They hope, moreover, to accomplish, and even expand, this with Joe Pogrebin at their side as store manager. Their five children aged 9 to 17 have been enthusiastically helping their parents during this period. Later, Mrs. Deptula confided that she hoped that the community would patiently endure with them the pounding and confusion of interior renovation now in progress.

Despite the headaches involved in getting started, Deptula who has a background in food and liquor distribution, let it be known that "it shouldn't be too long before we have a separate fully-stocked grocery department which will also be open on Sundays." Even Mr. Berg has been on hand occasionally for consultations on ordering and pricing before he takes his eagerly awaited trip to Florida. But this activity has not helped him to overcome his feeling that he would miss "the daily pleasant contacts with many friends and customers who have been so loyal."

Berg was referring to residents he knew from the time he arrived here from Massachusetts in 1941 to become assistant manager in Kartiganer's millinery factory (for ladies' hats). This building presently houses Hubert Industries. When Kartiganer asked him to move to his Beacon, N.Y. plant after closing

the factory here in 1953, Berg resigned and purchased the Roosevelt Market which previously had been owned by the late Fred Lobl.

Originally, the store had been a community cooperative until Lobl bought it from the government when it disposed of its holdings by private sale to Roosevelt residents, and operated it until his death several years later.

Further reminiscing, Berg recounted some of the problems during his years at the market. They ranged from a down-to-the-ground fire in 1957 to recent youthful vandalism with soapy obscene signs drawn on the store windows. He described his own recipe for handling this vandalism. After tracing the handwriting on the windows to his file of signatures on credit slips for family groceries, he would not permit the culprits to reenter the store to purchase food until they completely cleaned the windows. More often, he likes to recall that many of his young store helpers developed into accountants, doctors, scientists and pilots.

Mayor Resigns

Theodore Marton resigned last week as Roosevelt's mayor. Official announcement of his resignation will be made at the next council meeting. Marton, after three years as mayor, "has started a new enterprise which keeps him out of town more than in town," according to Bert Ellentuck, acting mayor and president of the borough council.

Mrs. Marton told the Roosevelt News by telephone that her husband has established a consulting office in Washington, D.C., after having served for eight years as manager of a research project in the Space and Missile Division of General Electric at Valley Forge, Pa. She said she couldn't predict whether her family would have to relocate.

HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL HONOR LIST

The list of 165 students who made the Honor Roll at Hightstown High School for the first period, included six Roosevelt students. Second honors were achieved by Harriet Weisberger, senior; Deborah Sacharoff, Doreen Brader and Joanna Shally, juniors; Sharon Esakoff, sophomore, and Laura Vigiano, freshman.

School Board

To pave the way for adoption of a school health program for this year, Mrs. Moser, the new health chairman, reviewed in detail the past and present health plans: 1) A school nurse, assigned part-time by the Monmouth County office of Social Services, maintains health records, performs hearing and eye tests and administers tuberculosis tests. 2) A school psychologist and a speech therapist handle special problems on a fee basis upon recommendations of the teachers or the school principal. 3) A dentist makes a cursory examination of each child's mouth once a year. 4) During the past few years, supervision by the school physician (on a fee basis) has ranged from one brief physical per child each year to an examination performed only upon request, with all other children presenting certificates from private physicians.

Following a lengthy discussion of alternate proposals by the board and members of the audience, the board tabled a motion by Mrs. Moser to authorize a yearly school medical checkup for all children except those requiring inoculation before entering kindergarten and reinoculation upon entering the fifth grade. It was announced that alternate proposals for a school health program would be considered at the next board meeting before a definite plan is adopted.

In other business, the board announced the appointment of James Cordasco of Lakewood as custodian to replace Ernie Henderson, who resigned, recognized the CSA to replace the PTA, approved a survey in depth of the heating plant and asked for a further study of the school lunch program.

New substitutes approved were Rachel Folsom, Pat Martin, Diana Weisman and Rital Klein. The board also thanked Roy Terry and Mike Block for repairing the basketball brackets and Pat Martin for volunteer duty three days each week in the kindergarten.

Five or more seats on the board will be vacant next February. Petitions of candidates who have been borough residents for the past two years must be filed with Mrs. Arlene Esakoff, the school secretary, before December 31.

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Council

BURIAL RULES...An amendment to the "ordinance regulating the community cemetery..." was unanimously approved by the council, to allow burial of former residents if they or their spouses had resided in the borough for at least 25 years, or if they are spouses or unmarried children of public office holders. The amendment points out that the burden of proof of such residency rests with the applicant for the burial.

REPAIRS ON THE ROBBINSVILLE ROAD...Work has been delayed by the necessary relocation of the poles.

INSPECTION OF FIRE EQUIPMENT AND FIREHOUSE...Council authorized inspection of the fire equipment by an engineer from American La France at Elmira, N.Y., at \$100 per day (for one day), particularly to look over the pump. Mr. Ellentuck suggested that the building inspector be instructed to inspect the firehouse itself for roof leaks, etc.

Another robbery occurred at the post office the morning of Nov. 9. Mr. Libove suggested that the borough needs added protection. A letter was sent to the firemen thanking them for their Halloween patrol. In another action, the council approved paying for the extra day required to clean up the old dumping ground.

Viewpoint

To the Editor,

All of us regret that we will no longer see Sol, Bebbie, Michael and Sam Berg when we go to the store. Their warmth, good nature and public spirit have set a high standard. They made our grocery more than a place to buy food. They made it into a town center where people got into the habit of meeting one another and talking about big issues or funny incidents in town--of communicating, as it's called today.

The kindness and decency of the Bergs literally made it possible for many residents in temporary trouble to keep on feeding their families. Credit was given without condescension, as if it were no more than should be expected of a town store. To all of us the Bergs were more than merchants. They were our friends, and we shall miss them.

We wish the new owner the best of luck, and we hope to keep on seeing Joe Pogrebin's friendly face behind the counter, so that the continuity of a long-standing relationship may not be broken entirely. Our town has a tradition of mutual help and respect, and the store, under Sol's management, has been an important factor in keeping it alive.

Thank you, Sol.

The Adlerman, Altman, Anish, Appel, Bermowitz, Berlinrut, Chasan, Datz, Crozier, Ellentuck, Folsom, Gibbons, Goldberg, Hall, Hecht, Herman, Imbrie, Irwin, Katzenellenbogen, Kleinman, Landau, Levinson, Libsohn, List, Lobl, Marchon, Margolis, Martin, Marton, Mondlin, Mueller, Plungian, Prestopino, Rips, Roskam, Sackowitz, Schlinski, Seitz, Seligman, Shahn, Socholitsky, Steinberg, and Weiner families.

COFFEEHOUSE RAP

On Saturday Nov. 14, the booming sounds of rock music echoed in the Roosevelt School gym at a dance sponsored by the CSA for Coffeehouse members and their guests. We danced to two bands, with music kept going from 8 to 11 P.M. by Bill Wisowaty, Robby Goozner, Bob Drapola, Ezra Herman, Keith Clark, Dana Haydn, Veto Oliveri, and Bobby and Jeff Prezant.

The money collected from admissions and refreshments (\$23) was added to the Coffeehouse fund. Chaperones included: Frank Herman, Frances Duckett, Betty and Jim Fitzpatrick, Judy and Jim Farnell, Helen and Michael Seitz, Marge Silverzweig and Bruce and Toni Herman.

The Coffeehouse crowd was well represented at the annual Thanksgiving dance held by the American Field Service Club of Hightstown High on Friday Nov. 20 at the high school gym to music supplied by the H.H.S. Stage Band.

At the H.H.S. girls' basketball tryouts, Debby Martin and Betsy Shally were selected as finalists.

Planning Board

The planning board is losing no time in investigating the possible involvement of Roosevelt facilities by the proposed development of a 776-unit residential community for a Millstone Township tract on their route 35 and bordering Roosevelt. At the Nov. 30 meeting Chairman Ralph Seligman suggested the formation of a committee to attend the Dec. 15 meeting of the Millstone zoning board on this topic.

Isidore Sackowitz also announced that the latest population count for Roosevelt was 805, 20 persons less than the 1960 figure, according to the preliminary census report released by the county planning board. He was authorized to obtain a more accurate count from the regional census bureau office. In later discussion, it was noted that replacements are needed for three seats on the committee.

70 PERCENT ELECTION TURNOUT

In the Nov. 3 Roosevelt elections, 307 of 434 registered voters went to the polls. Esther Schleifer (D) and Richard Schmalzbach (R) received 196 and 133 votes respectively in their virtually unopposed bids for three year council terms. There were 44 write-in votes for Richard Weissman.

For Freeholders, borough voters favored Democrats M. Olinsky (230) and C.B. Cargile (226) over Republicans Albert E. Allen (28) and A.B. Carlson (24). Incumbent Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (269) won over Nelson Gross (R) with 27 votes; Socialist Labor Julius Levin received 2 votes. Democratic candidate J.J. Howard (261) was favored over Wm. F. Dowd (27). The 19-year old vote won in Roosevelt by a 164 to 68 tally. Senior citizens exemption was approved 210 to 26.

BIRTH.... Barbara and Mike Santo have a baby girl, Marisa, born November 16.

HALLOWEEN PATROL LAUDED

Memories of Halloween are already dim but the fire and first aid squads are to be commended for their wise actions on the nights immediately before and following Halloween. The all-out surveillance program of the firemen who patrolled the streets in their own cars for three nights from 9 P.M. to 6 A.M., assisted by the council-imposed curfew, was responsible for clearing the borough streets of potential trouble makers and keeping vandalism to a minimum (cats in the Shally pool and broken eggs and soap on a number of windshields).

Nat Richter, captain of the first aid squad, informed the Roosevelt News that the automobiles patrolling the streets those nights were driven by volunteers Ed Schmalzbach, Frank Fiori, Joe Drapola, Nat Richter, Saul Ernstein, Marvin Block, Jack Yudin, and Wm. Jelinek. Hot coffee and cake were served all night long at Mayor Marton's house to support the patrol's vigil.

Captain Richter also reported the addition of three new squad members: Diane Klein, June Counterman and Elizabeth Johnson who had just completed 8 weeks of first aid classes. The first aid squad attended a convention of New Jersey first aid squads on Oct. 21 at Atlantic City, to watch demonstrations of the newest equipment and new life saving techniques.

Residents are urged to call 448-1234 in case of an emergency; this is the police telephone number, they know where to reach the first aid squad.

HADASSAH VISIT TO THE SHAHN HOME

A visit to the home of Bernarda Shahn and the late Ben Shahn on Nov. 10 climaxed a tour of Western Monmouth County sponsored by the Ima group of the Highland Park chapter of Hadassah in New Brunswick. When the tour of three busses arrived in Roosevelt, small groups of women (140) alternated visits first to the Margolis' house and then to the Shahn home where Mrs. Shahn explained the unusual construction of the house and showed the art collection and library of her late husband, while another group waited at the Margolis' place.

This house tour, part of a fund-raising drive programmed to include visits to interesting New Jersey homes, was preceded by a donor luncheon at the American Hotel in Freehold, with Dr. Kenneth Prescott of the Trenton museum as guest speaker. This group of women contributed \$14,000, making this day the most successful event of the entire campaign.

THE LIBRARY has recently received a number of important books, the selection ranging from "The Sinful Stones" by Peter Dickinson or Nabokov's "Ada" to Griffin's "Offbeat History" and "The Proper Study of Mankind" by Stuart Chase. To those of you who meant to read Solzhenitsyn, Kazantzakis or Samuel Beckett but let time slip by, Dot Beinin, our librarian, suggests that a short after-dinner visit to the library on Tuesday or Thursday evenings will offer a pleasant surprise.

UNICEF NOTES AND CALENDARS can be obtained from Ilus Lobl, 21 Farm Lane, 448-1845.

The ROOSEVELT NEWS is published by a volunteer staff and distributed free of charge to the community. We would welcome more staff members.

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MARRIAGES...

Alison Edwards, daughter of Morton and Virginia Edwards, 9 School Lane, was married to W. Thomas Walker of Mount Pocono, Pa., on Sunday, Nov. 8th, in a ceremony performed by Rabbi Albert Ginsburgh at the bride's home. Alison, a senior at Univ. of Pennsylvania, plans to do her graduate work at Bryn Mawr. Tom will receive his Master's Degree from Univ. of Pennsylvania next month. The couple will live in Philadelphia.

Mary L. Santo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Santo was married to Joseph W. Chamberlain of Trenton on Oct. 17 at St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church, Hightstown. Mary attends Rider College and her husband is planning a career in the U.S. Air Force.



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CSA HOPES FOR ANOTHER FINE YEAR.....

The Community School Association has been hard at work trying to encourage greater understanding and communication between Roosevelt residents by providing frequent activities and opportunities for exchange of ideas and opinions. "With members on both sides of the Generation Gap," Toni Herman, CSA chairman explains, "this organization has attempted to take up where the PTA left off--to contribute services not only to the school but also to groups no longer directly associated with the school system, namely, the Golden Age Club, high school and college students, and pre-schoolers."

CSA sponsors the Art Club for K-8 graders, expertly assisted by Frances Duckett, the teenagers' Coffeehouse guided by Dick Weissman, Bruce and Toni Herman, and the Nursery School and School Lunch programs.

Jan Terry has arranged a gym program for guys on Monday evenings with the help of Roy Terry, and Tuesday nights (soon on Thursdays, too) professional slim-nastics for gals who need to limber up. Sandy Lugannani holds Sewing Club at her house on Tuesday afternoons for 5th graders and up, while Jan directs a watercolor and crochet group at her home on Sunday afternoons.

Mrs. Herman attributes the success of recent activities such as the cake sale, the Halloween Happening, Golden Age Club trip, outdoor sports program, and the pre-schoolers' arts and crafts class to the splendid cooperation of the community, particularly to the expert cake 'n cookie bakers, and Ann Rector, Lyn Friedman, Helen Barth, Liz Johnson, Judy Farnell, Jan Terry, Helene Schmalzbach, Irene Brum and Sandy Lugannani.

OBITUARIES...

Mrs. Rose Steinberg passed away on Nov. 10. She lived on Pine Drive with her son and his family, Herb, Lois and their sons, David and Stephen. She is survived by two sons, Walter of Huntington Station, L.I., and Joel of San Diego, Calif., and a daughter, Mrs. Sonia Rothschild of Rockville, Md. and five other grandchildren. Memorial services were held in the South Huntington Jewish Center, L.I. on Nov. 11, Rabbi Shapiro officiating.

Miss Marian A. Thomas, 65, who had resided on Pine Drive with two previously deceased sisters, Anna and Eleanor, died of leukemia Nov. 18 in Princeton Hospital. Born in Brooklyn and a school teacher there until 15 years ago, she later taught in the Roosevelt School until retiring five years ago. Surviving are two cousins John Saal of Comack, N.Y. and Mrs. Virginia Gibbons of West Hempstead, N.Y. Interment was in St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale, L.I.

ROOSEVELT GIRL AT PEDDIE SCHOOL... Susan Koffler, 14, is one of 22 girls attending Peddie School, for the first time since the school opened in 1908.

Wedding Invitations Commercial Printing

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