

Bulletin

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July 2008

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Bob Clark and Michael Ticktin

Estimated Tax Bills to be Issued for August 1 Payment; Liquor License Declared to be Lapsed and Surrendered

At its June 16 meeting, the Council adopted, by unanimous consent, a resolution declaring the plenary retail liquor license held by previous owners of the Roosevelt Deli to be lapsed and surrendered, a resolution authorizing the tax collector to send out estimated tax bills for the third quarter of 2008, a resolution authorizing a change order to the contract with WJE Associates regarding inspection of the water tower, and a motion to accept the resignation of Robert Clark as the Community Development Representative. The estimated tax bills for the third quarter, which are payable on August 1, are necessary because State aid figures are not final until the State budget has been approved and the municipal budget has not yet been approved by the Division of Local Government Services of the Department of Community Affairs. This means that taxpayers can expect any increase in property taxes for 2008 to be entirely in the payment for the fourth quarter, which is due November 1.

Mayor Beth Battel thanked Mr. Clark for his service as the Community Development Representative. In his resignation letter, Mr. Clark stated that he had passed along pertinent information about the upcoming block grant program to Councilman Kirk Rothfuss, who is the alternate representative for calendar year 2008. He further stated that, during his tenure, he was pleased to have helped the nonprofit Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation obtain a \$122,896 Federal Community Development Block Grant for walkway, handi-

capped parking and accessibility improvements at the Solar Village. He pledged to continue to guide that project through the specification, sealed competitive bidding and contracting processes by assisting the Solar Village's new Managing Agent, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, and the architect it has retained for design and inspection of the work, in his capacities as the corporation's executive vice president, advisor to the board of trustees and government liaison.

By a vote of 3 (Stinson, Malkin, Ellentuck) to 2 (Rothfuss, Silverstein), the Council passed a motion by Councilman Jeff Ellentuck directing that, for non-emergent matters, anything that a Council committee wants to be on an agenda for a Council meeting must be delivered by the committee to the Borough Clerk the Monday preceding the meeting.

After recognition of an impending application deadline, and advice from Municipal Attorney Richard Shaklee that submitting an application would not commit the Borough to action, the Council passed a resolution, with Councilwoman Arlene Stinson casting the only "no" vote, authorizing the Borough Engineer to electronically submit an application for the 2009 NJDOT grant for the reconstruction of Homestead Lane.

Mayor Battel relinquished the gavel to Council President Peggy Malkin and did not participate in the discussion of a proposal regarding a trade of 2½ acres of Borough-owned land, purchased more than three decades ago with State Green

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have come to the end of the 2007–2008 edition of our paper. We want to thank all of the wonderful people who, month after month, help us to bring you the *Bulletin*. See you in October!

If you want to contact the *Bulletin*, please look at our masthead to the right with our address and telephone number as shown.

NOTE! New dates and times for the Council meetings. They are the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. Come and see what's happening!

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.

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

Dear Readers:

The *Bulletin* is having significant financial problems. Postage costs have increased significantly this year. We are very close to running out of funds. If you have contributed in the past year, we thank you, and ask that you consider making your contribution to the 2008/09 *Bulletin* NOW so that we will have enough funds to print the first issue in the Fall. To those of you who have not contributed in the past, we ask that you consider a donation to help support our community paper. Any amount you can give us, no matter how small, will help to keep the *Bulletin* going.

THANK YOU.

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From the Mayor

By Elsbeth Battel

Dear Neighbors,

Congratulations to all the graduating classes of 2008. Graduation at each level is a significant goal for a student, but I encourage you to seek goals beyond your school work.

A happy, successful life is a series of goals achieved in scholastics, the arts, sports and numerous other things like family life, gardening, volunteer work and employment.

The higher your aspirations, the more your work and the greater your commitment of time and energy, the greater your rewards.

The sense of accomplishment, the satisfaction of achievement and the confidence gained are well worth the effort.

Good luck and have a wonderful summer.

Beth Battel ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 1

Acres funds, and leased by the Borough for use as a pasture by the horse farm now called Footlight Farm and owned by Mayor Battel. State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) officials indicated some time ago that they would no longer approve of that use, and discussions were initiated to permit an exchange of the 2½ acres of pasture adjacent to Clarksburg Road for 10 acres of forested land behind the houses on the north side of Lake Drive, which would then be owned by the Borough, subject to DEP Green Acres restrictions. State officials have indicated that the swap would cost about \$15,000 for a survey, attorney's fees and expenses. The Council unanimously passed Mr. Ellentuck's motion to authorize Mr. Shaklee to negotiate a reduced cost with the DEP, but to pay up to \$15,000, if necessary, to effectuate the swap, as well as to discuss with representatives of the Fund for Roosevelt, Inc. the possibility that the Fund would pay some or all of the final cost.

After neighbors complained about noisy, early-morning tree removal on successive Sundays at a Pine Drive residence, the Council asked Mr. Shaklee to review State law and a recently passed local ordinance regarding excessive noise to determine whether they adequately address such situations.

Residents of at least two houses on the north side of Lake Drive complained about a colony of cats, most of whom had been fed by the late Anthony Wisowaty at his now-demolished house across the street. The Mayor and Council members noted that Jaymie Witherspoon has supplied shelter, food and water for the colony on Footlight Farm property, while capturing many of the cats, bringing them to a veterinarian for spaying or neutering and inoculations, and finding homes for the tamable ones, all at her own expense. Mayor Battel advised that the colony has been reduced to six or seven cats as a result of Ms. Witherspoon's ongoing efforts. During the public portion of the meeting, Mary Tulloss, speaking on behalf of Lake Drive residents who have had difficulties with the cats, suggested rescuing the cats for adoption or their transfer to the Popcorn Zoo. She noted that continuation of the colony, no matter where it might be relocated, would allow the cats to continue to reduce populations of songbirds and other vulnerable wildlife. Nancy Warnick said the Borough's animal control officer, Mary Klink, could trap the cats, find homes for those that could be adopted, and arrange for humane disposal of the rest. The Council unanimously passed Councilman Ellentuck's motion to write a letter requesting removal of the feeding station, to have his Environmental,

Health and Public Safety Committee work with the Borough's Environmental Commission to find a temporary location for the colony on public land distant from houses, and to develop a plan to diminish the cat population in accordance with SPCA guidelines.

Mary Tulloss said the Independence Day celebration would occur this year on Saturday, July 5, because the Fourth falls on a Friday when key event organizers must work. She said the public would be notified of the change with signs on the lawn across from the Post Office and on the bulletin board next to the Post Office.

Jonathan Shahn reported that a survey he commissioned as executor of his mother's estate revealed that a portion of the studio building extends into Borough-owned common land. Mr. Shahn suggested that a swap be arranged of the Borough land occupied by the outbuilding in return for a transfer to Borough ownership of Shahn property at the side of the house adjacent to other Borough-owned land. Mr. Shaklee will research the law and consult with Michael Ticktin, who had advised Mr. Shahn that a similar swap had been done in the past, but that approval by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development would be needed. ■

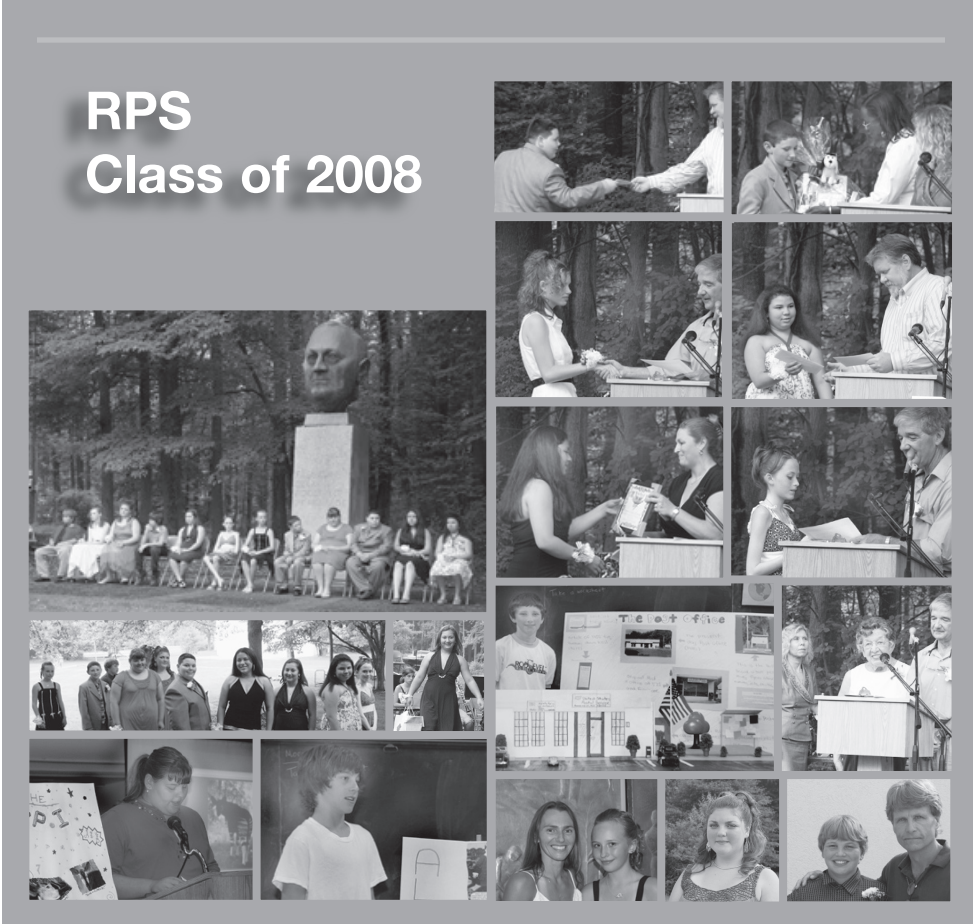
From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

The close of the 2007-2008 school year came in a flash. It was a busy, productive year.

Graduation was held on June 14th. It was an honor to preside over the seventy-first commencement ceremony. The day was lovely, the students looked handsome and beautiful, and the audience was wonderful. Our sixth graders were poised and delivered well-written essays about friendship. Thanks to Ms. Glickman, our band members were on hand to play *Pomp and Circumstance*. Honors earned by the graduates are as follows:

- Mayor's Leadership Award
..... Sage Duchai
- Environmental Commission Awards
... Lucas Carnevale and Annika Aakhus
- Fund for Roosevelt Environmental
Issues Tara Carnevale
- Roosevelt Post Office Project Award ...
..... Luke Dermody
- Roosevelt Arts Project Award
..... Victoria Pizzarelli
- Roosevelt PTA Community Service
Award Jessie Hickey
- Outstanding Musician Award
..... Luke Vuolle
- Outstanding Artist Award
..... Leslie Alvarado
- Nathan Bard Social Studies Award
..... David Merkin
- Graham Nisnevitz Math Award
..... Cameron Grayson
- Oscar Nisnevitz Citizenship Award
..... Caitlin Powers
- Class Recognition Awards
..... 6th grade class

We are grateful to the members of the community who generously give these gifts each year to our graduating class. Your dedication to education is unsurpassed and truly appreciated. This has been a fantastic school year. Thank you to the following people who presented the above awards:



Photos by Ilene Levine

Mayor Elsbeth Battel, David Schwendeman, Susan Dermody, Allan Mallach, Rochelle Shipman, Dr. David Herrstrom, Silvia Raines, Michelle and John Orlick, Geryl and Thomi Hickey, Arnie Bard and Fran Bard.

Congratulations to the families of all our graduates – in elementary school, middle school and high school.

Substitute teachers are needed for September. To be eligible, a candidate must have 60 college credits. Paperwork for substitute teaching can be obtained in the main office. I would be happy to explain the procedure to anyone who is interested.

Please check our school Web site (www.RPS1.org) for the school calendar and events.

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

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Roosevelt Public School Special Education Services

Roosevelt Resident Parents of children ages three to twenty-one years of age, who notice special problems in their child's development, acquisition of age appropriate cognitive skills or other significant development delays should contact Susan Goldfond, Coordinator of Child Study Team at 609-448-2798. This also applies to homeless children and children of families of migrant workers.

MEALS ON WHEELS

By Frances G. Duckett

If you are over sixty years old and home bound, you can get meals delivered to your home by Meals on Wheels. A donation of \$2.50 per meal is requested from those who can afford it. Since I have been involved with the program there have been from five to two recipients in Roosevelt.

The meals come from Interfaith Neighbors, 810 Fourth Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Their phone is 732-775-5155. Interfaith Neighbors, I was told by Sally Maloney, was set up initially to provide rental assistance to families. It has been involved in nutrition programs for thirty years. Currently the money is federal, funneled through state and county offices. (Your tax dollars at work!)

Some years ago, largely owing to the efforts of Delores Chasan, deliveries in Roosevelt began. The hot meals, milk, bread and fruit are dropped off at the Borough Hall at 9 a.m.. Currently Roosevelt has only two recipients. Local volunteers pick up meals Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. The route takes less than an hour, even if one stops to schmooze.

It is on behalf of these local volunteers that I write. Substitutes and additional volunteers would be so welcome! It's a fairly small time commitment to sustain a program that has done so much good. If you are interested in volunteering or if you would like more information call Jackie Carpenter, 443-2859 or Frances Duckett, 448-3212. ■

FROM THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

By April Fierro

In light of the recent Tornado Watch, and heavy thunderstorm season upon us, it is important for the citizens of Roosevelt to be proactive,

and be prepared for possible short term power outages.

Twice a year, JCP&L sends an insert in your electricity bill asking those households that rely on electrically operated private wells for drinking water to contact them, so that they can be placed on the Well Water List. During times where outages last longer than 24 hours, JCP&L contacts those on the list to advise them that their power may be out longer than 24 hours. They will also advise you as to locations where they have emergency supplies of water and ice available.

This list is updated and sent annually to State, County and local Emergency Management offices to keep us abreast of these households in case of an emergency. The 2008 list which was sent out in May has one household in Roosevelt listed. Knowing that there are several homes on Eleanor, as well as additional homes on Rochdale and North Valley that also rely on well water, I implore these citizens to contact JCP&L as soon as possible to have your home placed on the Well Water List. If your home does rely on electricity to provide your family with drinking water, please contact JCP&L at 1-800-662-3115 and inform the call center representative that you need to be placed on the Well Water List.

Additionally, JCP&L also sends out an annual list of those residents that rely on electricity for medical or life support systems. It is critical for all Emergency Services within the Borough that this list is kept updated. If you or someone in your household relies on electricity for medical or life support systems, please contact JCP&L immediately. While they cannot guarantee that your power will not experience any outages due to emergency situations, this list will greatly aid Roosevelt's OEM, First Aid, and Fire Department in providing what aid you can receive in such situations. ■

ROOSEVELT DRAGONS

By Mary Macher

The Paddle for Pink Dragonboat race in support of the Breast Cancer Resource Center, YWCA Princeton, took place on Sunday, June 1 at Mercer County Park and the Roosevelt community team, the Roosevelt Dragons, did great! It was a beautiful day and a lot of people were on hand to show their support of the BCRC and the teams. We were in three races. Race 1: We came in second out of four boats; Race 2: We came in second out of three boats but it was a REALLY CLOSE second; Race 3: I prefer to think that we came in second rather than last because there was a third team but they didn't show up at the dock. We all did our best in all three races!

It was a great day in that money was made for a good cause and that our team got to know one another better: We are not just folks waving "hi" on the streets or a "hi, how are you?" at the Post Office anymore. There were other activities going on that day in addition to the races. Along with drummers, dancers, and music, there was a special ceremony called "Flowers on the Water." At one point, breast cancer survivors and women who were still fighting it got into two of the dragonboats and pink carnations and flower petals were thrown in the water in remembrance of those who lost the fight or were still fighting it. There were some women from my team in those two boats. It was very difficult to describe how I felt at that ceremony, but the closest that I can come to it is that I felt like I was looking at veterans of a big battle which, in a true sense, I think they are.

After the last race, the Roosevelt Dragons started thinking about next year's Paddle for Pink. ■

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SCHOOL (CONT'D.)

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The School Garden



Photos by Ilene Levine

It Takes a Community to Grow a Garden

By Ilene Levine

There's a saying that goes "More grows in a garden than is planted," and that has certainly been true in creating our RPS garden. From this delightful, enriching experience, the third and fourth graders have learned a tremendous amount about providing for the needs of living plants and about growing up.

The students can tell about and show you how to: plant seeds and take care of seedlings indoors, and in the outdoor garden, choose a sunny location, put up a fence to keep animals out, take soil samples to test the soil, spread compost and fertilizer, dig holes, separate the roots

of two seedlings growing together, transplant seedlings, rake, hoe, soften garden beds, water, put down garden fabric on the walkways, put up trellises, mulch, dead-head flowers, weed, use tools properly, and make stepping stones and puddling plates (containers with minerals for butterflies).

The children have learned that the way "to tell if a plant is healthy is by looking at the stem and leaves. If they're dark green, they're healthy." (Traci) They've learned what to do to be successful in growing plants. "I learned that you have to measure the pot that the plant is in so the hole you dig for it in the garden will not be too small." (Ari) "I learned that you should water the plants and fertilize them with nutrients." (Adam)

They also learned what not to do. "If you do not water or feed nutrients to the plants or put them in light, your plants will die quickly." (Roman) "The most important thing I learned was not to water the plants too much, or else they will die." (Bryden) "You should not put plants too close together, or their roots will not have enough room to spread." (Ben DF)

In addition, the children have learned that "you have to plant different kinds of plants to attract different kinds of butterflies in different stages of their lives." (Eli) They've learned how to find out information about plants, such as what plant attracts which butterfly, its height,

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Muz and Money

We called my Irish grandmother on my father's side "Muz." Born as Margaret Weldon, she was raised in Philadelphia. During the Great Depression, Muz would carefully study the newspapers for the grocery store loss-leaders, items often sold below cost to lure shoppers to the store. Every week, Muz would send my uncles George, Bob, Ray and my father Tom, the oldest, to different stores with just enough money to buy only the sale items. These items would determine their menu for the week resulting in some odd meals. My father complained that it was nothing but beans served every which way 'till Tuesday, the day the next supermarket circulars came out. Muz was able to save enough money in the 1930's, during the Depression, to shrewdly negotiate the purchase of a rental property.

My grandfather was a telegraph operator for Western Union and earned a steady income for the family. I remember him telling my brother and me to reach into his coat pocket for change. "Grab all you can boy!" he would say in a very warm but firm voice. We felt like we hit the jackpot as we hurried off to buy penny candy with our handfuls of change.

As a young woman, Muz was striking with flaming auburn hair and intense eyes. She walked with a cane, the result of having been hit by a car when her children were still young. My grandmother was a Roman Catholic. Although she was a penny-pincher, as a child I remember sitting at her large wooden desk helping her place single-dollar bills in envelopes addressed to orphanages in the Philippines and clinics in Africa run by nuns or missionaries. Muz said that it was a sin to waste money. She said that money was a precious commodity that should be put to good use.

Muz was clearly the head of the Hamilton household, a family of four

young sons, her husband and herself. When my uncle George was about five or six, he fell out of a tree while trying to reach a birdhouse and after infection, he lost his right arm just below his shoulder. Muz encouraged him to persevere with his disability as she had with her leg injury. He took on a newspaper route later to prove himself, then took on several more paper routes. He gave the money to his mother to manage. Everyone was impressed with his industry and he would later go on to become a very successful business owner. He owned

a large newsstand called Shorty's in Fairview, as well as other businesses. All of the children were encouraged to be industrious. Muz kept the books and managed the money with her characteristic tenaciousness.

During World War II, my father, the oldest of the four boys, served in the army in the south Pacific. My father was lucky and survived beach landings at Guam, Leyte Gulf and Okinawa. He was also apparently lucky at craps and poker. I suppose that it really wasn't only luck since my grandfather, having played in many back room games after work, taught my father about the odds of winning in many situations. My father could quote the odds of hitting a number with the dice or of filling in an inside straight in cards. During the war my father sent home most of his winnings for my grandmother to manage. She kept a financial ledger of all of the money he sent home, as well as bookkeeping for Uncle George. Because no one was sure if my father would return

from the war, my grandmother loaned some of my father's money to my Uncle George who did not serve in the war due to his disability. The Hamilton family was run by Muz as a business.

My father and uncles would all go on to become successful business owners.

In 1956, my grandfather, died leaving Muz a widow at 56-years old. Life was not easy for Muz. Although Muz was a widow living on a fixed income, she invested a significant amount of her life savings in an African copper mining stock. My father was concerned about this and he contacted a



stockbroker to see if this was a wise investment. The stockbroker told my father that this was a highly speculative investment for a senior citizen and warned that the country was politically unstable and she could easily lose all her money. My father confronted Muz with this information and asked who had given her this financial advice. Muz informed my father that this stock purchase was made the way all of her successful investments in the stock market were made. While saying the rosary, she placed her finger on this stock in the stock market pages of the paper and knew that God had instructed her to invest in this copper mining stock. My father knew enough not to argue with his strong willed mother, who had God as her financial advisor. After church one Sunday, about six weeks later, Muz prayed and God advised her to sell this stock. A month after she cashed out of this stock, the copper mines were

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MUZ (CONT'D.)

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nationalized and the stock became virtually worthless. When Muz sold her shares, she had more than doubled her money.

Muz went to church daily even as she aged. At one mass, Muz became tired of hearing a new priest repeatedly ask for money. During the sermon she rose from her pew pointed her cane at the poor young priest and chastised him openly for his focus on money saying "Christ threw the moneylenders out of the temple for all of their talk about money! Shame on you!" It was said that the new priests in the parish feared the wrath of Mrs. Hamilton.

When Muz became ill, my family took care of her. She stayed in my room, while I shared my brother's room, until her death in 1968. I was sixteen at the time. During that year of her life my uncles would visit her. I learned many lessons from her during that year, lessons about how to live one's life and lessons on how to die well. Muz cautioned me not to be attached to material things, but rather to view money as something to be used to help others. She would tell me that it is more important to have a good heart than a big wallet and that we would receive our rewards in heaven. As she grew more and more ill, she was in a great deal of pain but I could often hear her calmly reciting the rosary and praying as I fell asleep. I was by her bedside

the last few days of her life and she passed reverently and in prayer. Although filled with many challenges, her life was one of frugality, perseverance, charity and faith. I learned much from her and she was a powerful female role model in my life. ■

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

TOWN TOPICS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 5

Letter from the Rescue Squad

By Jack Rindt

The Squad so far this year has responded to 28 calls in town and out of town this year. Our last three calls were into Millstone Twp. two were difficulty breathing with chest pains and one was a CPR in progress call.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad is looking for any and all old picture, letters, and newspaper articles of the Squad when it first started back in 1948. We are looking to update the Squads history from the beginning to the present. The Squad is in its 60th year of service to the community and still going strong. The new ambulance is now in service and has responded to calls.

The latest training that the Squad members have attended was Lifting and Moving patients. The Squad has recently preached some new equipment.

Our member Jennifer Shamburger/Rindt rejoins her unit the 10th Mountain Division back on May 25th in Kirkuk, Iraq. Her tour of duty should be over in September or December 2008. After returning to Fort Drum, NY, Jennifer will be reassign to the West Point Military Academy, NY sometime in April 2009.

We can always use more members. We will pay for the training. If anyone is interested please contact a Squad member or stop in during our training and meetings for an application and an EMT training schedule. Buy receiving your Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) you can help you community and have a good chance in getting started in a career as an EMT.

If any one wishes to make a donation please make it out to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Remember all donations are tax deductible.

A Safety Note: If you are on medications, to help us in a time of an emergency, please have all you medications written down on a bright color paper and place on the refrigerator. The medication list should include all current prescription medications, over the counter medications, and any herbal supplements. We will need to know the names of the medications, dose and how is it taken.

Check your house numbers to make sure that they are large enough and colorfully enough so Emergency Services can see it from the roadway. Remember if you need help just Dial 911. ■

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.



Greenbelt Gossip

By Manuela & Mark McCusker

Folklore has it that the gods created male and female humans by separating double trees and causing the trees' limbs to become arms and legs, the crowns to become heads packed with wisdom. Not all trees were turned into humans; the sassafras tree was one that was not chosen. But upon witnessing this magical event, the sassafras developed a strong desire to be human, but all it could manage was to form mitten-shaped leaves as it tried to create human hands for itself.

The sassafras is a deciduous tree native to eastern North America, ranging from Maine and Ontario and south to Florida and Texas. It can be found growing in thickets, woodlands, forest openings and edges, along roadsides and fence rows and, of course, in our greenbelt. Here, and further north, it may grow to maturity as a shrub-sized plant, or it may become as large as a small tree. In the more southern areas of its range, the longer growing season encourages it to grow much larger, the average height being 40–50 feet, with a typical trunk diameter of 12–36 inches. The tallest sassafras tree ever documented was found growing in Owensboro, Kentucky with a trunk diameter of 262 inches and a height of 78 feet!

Sassafras belongs to the laurel family and is one of the very few American plants to have leaves of varying shapes produced by the same individual plant: simple (entire) or oval leaves, left- and right-handed mitten-shaped leaves, and three-lobed leaves. It most often spreads via root runners, rather than through seed-based propagation. The leaves are a light bright green throughout the summer, but turn a brilliant yellow-orange to red-orange in the fall. This autumn color spectacle makes the trees easy to locate. Young trees have an easy-to-spot, unusual greenish colored bark. The bark of older trees

is reddish-brown, becoming rough, thick and ridged. The young leaves and twigs are mucilaginous, caused by the presence of a polar glycoprotein. This mucilaginous property is believed to aid the plant in water storage and seed germination, as well as acting as a membrane thickener and food reserve. Sassafras produces male and female flowers on separate trees (-it's dioecious). The flowers of both sexes are fragrant, but the male flowers are inconspicuous. The female flowers, however, which are borne on small terminal clusters, although small at one centimeter across, are quite noticeable. Though without petals, the female flowers have six greenish-yellow sepals, each 3 to 5 millimeters long. The flowers always appear before the sassafras leaves emerge. Sassafras produces a blue-black, egg-shaped fruit on long, red-stalked cups. The fruits average one centimeter in length and appear late in summer. These fruits are eagerly consumed by many wildlife species. Birds, such as quail, wild turkeys, mockingbirds and woodpeckers relish them. Black bears, beavers, rabbits and squirrels also eat the fruits, as well as consuming the sassafras bark and wood. White-tailed deer like to nibble on the twigs and foliage.

In the 16th century, in what is now the state of Florida, the French and Spanish colonizers noted the Native Americans' extensive and multi-purposed use of sassafras. Later, they

would begin to ship sassafras back to Europe. Why? Europeans of that era came to highly prize sassafras as a beverage ingredient, spice, food additive, pest repellent (detering fleas, lice, bedbugs, etc.), medicinal cure-all, perfume and general scenting ingredient, mouthwash—what couldn't it be used for or do? It became one of the two most important exports of the British American coastal colonies through the 17th century...second only to tobacco. Sassafras acquisition was one of the primary motivations for the colonization and settlement of the North American Atlantic coast. The English crown made a condition of continually receiving the oil of sassafras from Virginia before granting that colony's charter. By the late 18th century, most Europeans had become disillusioned with sassafras' alleged curative properties, and that, combined with the ability to now "grow their own" from the propagation of imported living plants, ended the "great sassafras boom" of the 1600's.

Before any recent and current uses

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GREENBELT GOSSIP

Continued from Page 9

of this plant are enumerated here, it must be noted that, in 1960, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration banned safrole, a volatile oil and one of sassafras' components, as a potential carcinogen, unsafe as an ingredient of any food or beverage. It has been estimated that one strong eight-ounce cup of sassafras-root tea may contain up to four times the amount of safrole considered to be hazardous to humans if consumed on a regular basis. While sassafras roots are "off the menu", dried and powdered sassafras leaves are still very popular and sold as file', a thickening spice used in Creole gumbo. Sassafras leaves have been categorized by the FDA as "generally recognized as safe," since they contain no significant amounts of safrole—and only the safrole oil is considered to be dangerous.

Bruised sassafras roots (actually, the roots' inner bark) smell, to many of us, "just like root beer". That's because sassafras root bark was, for many years, the main ingredient in commercial American root beers, such as the original Hires and A&W root beer soft drinks. Today, almost all commercial root beers are synthetically flavored. Those few "natural" root beers that are still made from sassafras utilize root bark that has been previously rendered entirely safrole-free.

Residents of the American South and Appalachia have always and still do drink sassafras root tea as a "spring

tonic", from tradition or because they persist in believing that the beverage invigorates them and "thins the blood".

When the Acadian diaspora ("Cajuns") settled the Gulf coast and Louisiana bayou country, the Native American Choctaws taught them the use of sassafras leaves as a food spice and additive. Called file' (pronounced FEE-lay), the leaves' mucilaginous properties make them, when dried, ground and powdered, an excellent thickening agent, a requisite for authentic Cajun or Creole gumbo. Some consider it to be an okra substitute, to be used when that vegetable is not in season. As a spice, file' imparts an unusual and distinctive "woody" flavor, and a fragrance described as redolent of "juicyfruit gum." It's never cooked...cooking file' makes the gumbo thick and stringy. File' is sprinkled on the surface of gumbo at the table. The desired thickening occurs several minutes after seasoning. File' is currently widely available as a commercially vended spice.

Sassafras wood has been and is used for cooperage (the construction of wooden barrels), posts, rails, furniture, cabinetry and fuel. But- some

of those residing in Appalachia never burn the wood of sassafras, believing that, when the burning wood sputters and pops, someone dies. Even though sassafras never did have the opportunity to become human it has a

rich history among man and an important role in nature, and we are fortunate to have it grace our woods and backyards.

"Trees were so rare in that country, and they had to make such a hard fight to grow, that we used to feel anxious about them, and visit them as if they were persons. It must have been the scarcity of detail in that tawny landscape that made detail so precious."

Willa Cather (1873–1947), *My Antonia*



—Comments and/or Future topic requests?

—write the McCuskers at PO Box 131 or 3artists@comcast.net

"Trees were so rare in that country, and they had to make such a hard fight to grow, that we used to feel anxious about them, and visit them as if they were persons. It must have been the scarcity of detail in that tawny landscape that made detail so precious."

Willa Cather (1873–1947), *My Antonia*

By David Schwendeman

CONGRATULATIONS RPS CLASS OF 2008!

June 14, 2008

My name is Dave Schwendeman and I'm the current Chairman of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission. One of our goals is to work with the teachers and students of RPS for the proper stewardship of our environment and to develop a sense of community working together for the common good. To further that goal we voted to give an award at this graduation ceremony.

This award is a tribute to one of the first chairmen of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission nearly 20 years ago—Mr. Jim Carnevale who passed away this January. Jim was a daring businessman, a teacher, a conservationist, a husband, a father, and a friend who led by quiet example. It is this example we hope will inspire these students and those that follow to continue to help save and conserve our environment.

The award is in two parts:

First is a \$50 stipend to support any "not for profit" conservation group as chosen by the sixth grade and this year it will be The World Wildlife Fund.

Then two \$50 US Savings bonds will be given to two deserving students for their work and presentations on endangered animals. They first had to select an animal species, research that animal's life history, prepare a story board and deliver a speech about their animal to the whole school. All the presentations were excellent and caused me to want to adopt them all and the selection process was difficult but fair. The whole school participated by voting as did some faculty and representatives of the Roosevelt Environmental Commission and the recipients of this year's award are –

It is my pleasure to acknowledge

and award these US Savings Bonds to Annika Aakhus and Lucas Carnevale

Congratulations! from David Schwendeman and the entire Roosevelt Environmental Commission

NORTHERN TREE FROGS DEAFENING IN PARTS OF TOWN

Okay, I need some help getting a dialogue started at our web site. Last night (June 4, 2008 - Wednesday) during the rain 8 to 11 p.m., the tree frogs surrounded our house singing in at least three ways. It was great. Next time it happens I will record it. Most people think they are birds singing but sometimes they will climb on windows and sliding glass doors to eat insects attracted to the lights. Then they are easy to see and a thrill for kids and grown-ups alike to actually see them vocalizing their great sounds!

Who else heard them?

Did anyone see them?

BUTTERFLY GARDEN AT RPS NOW OPEN TO ALL!

There was an open house tour on June 10 and Ms. Ilene and her students explained all the details. It is open to all to view in front of the school by the flagpole. Now who will be the first with a photo of a butterfly, besides a cabbage butterfly, to post on the recgreen.ning.com web site? All submissions welcome.

FREE ! (NO GAS REQUIRED)

Participation is FREE at our new web site: recgreen.njng.com. It's easy and fun to see the many pictures and nature notes about Roosevelt and as a bonus you may learn something.

Walk the Roosevelt Woodland Trails for free. No gas required to get there. Easy access is from anywhere in town. Trail sections C and D are clear and well marked. Start across Rochdale from Franklin's head or from the path connecting Solar Village with Lake Drive or at the Roosevelt Cemetery entering the woods to the left of the hedge row that borders the field. It's great exercise too. Recount your experience on the recgreen.ning.com web site. Enjoy the summer!

OUR NEXT MEETINGS

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meetings will be held Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm on July 16 and August 20, 2008. Everyone is welcome to attend and there is a chance for public comment and questions at the end of each meeting.

If anyone has a newsworthy nature note of interest 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. ■



STOP THE PRESSES!

Bear are back in Roosevelt! My neighbor has a photo from June 18, 2008 at 5:45 p.m.

Be alert... . More next issue. DBS

Dear Editor,

Although Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah has sued the Borough for harassment and accused it of conspiracy under RLUIPA for interfering with its rights to practice its religion, nobody - no organization nor individual - is interfering with the right of members of the Yeshiva or of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt to practice their religion. Their claim of such interference is without merit.

The Planning Board ruled that the Zoning Officer was in error when he approved the use of the Roosevelt synagogue as a private religious school. The normal response to a decision of this type would have been for the Yeshiva to appear before the Planning Board for a hearing to present its proposal.

This the Yeshiva has refused to do, continuing to operate a private school for teenage boys in defiance of our Planning Board. It is also in non-compliance with its contract with Congregation Anshei Roosevelt which states that it will not operate a school until it has received all necessary government approvals.

Yeshiva Me'On Hatorah stated, when it first came to town, that it projected an eventual student body of at least 150 students - three to five times as many as it now enrolls. Although these students have been described, in Bob Clark's flowery words, as "prayerful walkers into a dormant religious institution", they are, in fact, teenage boys living together under minimal supervision, and when they are not praying they act like adolescent boys everywhere. Imagine 150 of them at play.

Furthermore, despite State and local laws that limit to five the number of unrelated persons who may inhabit a single family dwelling, the Yeshiva continues to use three such dwellings to house 30 to 40 students. This has been confirmed by the N.J. State Department of Housing's Department of Community Affairs (DOC). In fact, on or about April 4th, the DOC

inspected 28 Homestead Lane and designated the building as a hotel. Without a doubt, operating a hotel in Roosevelt is in defiance of our community's zoning regulations.

The Yeshiva does not pay taxes on the synagogue property (which, as a religious building, has never been on the tax rolls). It remains to be seen whether or not it will pay taxes and water and sewer fees on the former one family houses it now uses as dormitories.

As Bob Clark has pointed out, if the Yeshiva constructs a parking lot on the Congregation's property, it will reduce the resale value of 22 Homestead Lane. This reduction has probably already occurred, given that 22 Homestead Lane is now bracketed on one side by a religious school active 18 hours a day and on the other by an illegal hotel/dormitory. I strongly suspect that all the residential properties on Homestead Lane have depreciated in value by now.

Sincerely,
Bert Ellentuck

Letter to the Editor:

Good Neighbors Make Good Neighbors.

First off, I would like to say I am writing this letter as a private resident of Roosevelt, so please do not confuse what I have to say with any office I hold or any organization I am affiliated with.

As a relatively new member of the Roosevelt community, having moved to town in the summer of 2004, I have grown to love this town despite all of its eccentricities. My neighbors are my extended family, and much like family we do not always see eye to eye, but we do what we can to get along and show each other a mutual respect.

When the beautiful, yet decidedly dying, tree in my front yard started dropping large branches into my yard and onto Tamara Drive, my first thought was the health and safety of

the children who live around me, the owners of the homes adjacent to the tree, and the owners of the vehicles that are often parked on either side of Tamara Drive near my home. I relied on a *good neighbor* who was happy to cut down the tree as it had become more of a danger to mine and his life and property than it was an asset to my "view-shed". I was questioned by other neighbors as to why I should destroy such a wondrous old tree, but it wasn't I who sealed its fate, it was Mother Nature. Unfortunately, you can't reason with carpenter ants.

When the enormous tree in my neighbor's yard had a very large branch fall off of it, taking out both of our electricity and bending our shared mast, I relied on a *good neighbor* to come to our home on a Sunday afternoon with his toddler in tow to repair the mast. Without his help, JCP&L would have not fixed the problem and we would have both been out of power for quite a while longer and at a much larger expense.

When I was away on business, I relied on *good neighbors* to check in on my daughter, my pets and my home. Collectively they ensured my daughter got off to school on time, my pets were fed, and (surprisingly!) my laundry was done when I got home. How you can find better neighbors than that I will never know.

When my kitchen flooded, I relied on a *good neighbor* to spend his Saturday afternoon fixing my plumbing.

When my roof leaked, I relied on a *good neighbor* to spend his weekend hours in the rain and cold on the roof fixing it.

When we decided to thin out the trees in the back of our property, I relied on *good neighbors* to help do so safely, and offered them the lumber for firewood for their wood burning stoves.

Out of all of the wonderful things our neighbors do for us, it often shocks me that nothing is more polarizing

Continued on Page 13

LETTERS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 12

than the first and last example. As many wonderful things that we as a community share together, it saddens me to see how much stress and aggravation is brought on by the simple act of cutting down a tree on private property. Yes, we all moved to Roosevelt because it is a wilderness wonderland. Yes, we all love looking out our back doors to see deer frolicking, blue jays dive bombing squirrels, and turkeys...well turkeys being turkeys, but while we share a collective love of our surroundings, there does need to be some consideration made for that one small statement, *private property*.

When we began to thin the trees in our back yard, people who had made little to no effort to get to know me previously crawled out of the woodwork to shake a finger at my "slaughtering of the forest". Large trees should not be growing so close to a home because of root damage to the foundation, roof problems, and most of all, acts of God that may bring that tree down. I don't consider that genocide; I consider that being a pro-active homeowner. When I removed the dead trees from my back yard that had stood leafless for so long, I don't consider that the ruining of a "view shed," I considered that

the removal of an eye-sore. When I removed the poison-ivy vines thicker than my arms from the remaining trees in my yard, no one gave me an award for saving trees that were being slowly suffocated, instead they questioned the trees I had cut down surrounding a utility pole. While we do love the trees in our yard and the forest beyond, we all have to take some responsibility as homeowners to ensure that we maintain the trees in our yard to ensure both their lives and ours are long and prosperous ones. Simply letting a dead tree fall onto your neighbor's house or ignoring overgrown or sick trees on your property is not being a responsible homeowner, or a *good neighbor*. Remember, an act of God is not covered by insurance, so when that mighty oak ends up in your living room, what will you be more upset over? The death of the tree or the destruction of your home?

Next time someone is landscaping their property or making other improvements to their home, think about this. For every improvement I make that may create chaos or noise for a few hours or a few days, rather than immediately coming out to complain, throw a fit, or otherwise be an unfriendly neighbor, realize that the improvements I make to my home, and the other neighbors make to their homes, are increasing your property value. Is the short term and infrequent noise created by heavy

equipment, chain saws and other equipment worth having to live next to someone you dislike for the next 10 years? Probably not. Is it worth the 10% increase your property may be worth a few years down the line? I'm pretty sure it is. When you think of the harmony we can share as a community when we realize our neighbors will not make a fuss about such things when it comes time for us to improve if we show them the same respect now, that mutual respect and friendship is priceless. Very simply put, be a *good neighbor* and you will have *good neighbors*.

Conversely, those that do little or no maintenance to their homes, homes that look unkempt, overgrown, and run down are really in no position to criticize those of us who are putting time and money into our homes, which in the long run only betters our community as a whole. I realize not everyone is in a position to have the time and resources to do major improvements to their homes, but a good attitude which inspires *good neighbors* can go a long way. As the old adage goes, those in glass houses shouldn't throw stones, and last time I checked Google Earth, there were quite a few of them in Roosevelt.

Sincerely,
April Fierro



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

GARDEN (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 5

color, and spacing. "The most important thing I learned from my gardening experience was how to identify plants by their properties. One plant I will always know is Mexican Sunflower because it has big, fuzzy leaves. Another two plants I will always remember is Spearmint because it smells like minty gum and Lemon Bee Balm because it smells like fresh lemons." (Samantha)

There were other things about gardening that the children learned. They learned that "gardening takes a lot of hard work, months, sweat, and heart...that gardening is worth it when you see all of those beautiful plants." (Ben H) Making a garden is "very fun. It's fun because seeing the plants grow bigger every day is just amazing to watch." (Hunter)

The children had great pride in the plants, especially the ones that they started from seed. "One thing that was important to me was that we actually grew some plants from seeds, like the Cosmos. They are thick, tall, and healthy." (Max) "The most important thing I learned was to tell if the plant is healthy or not healthy by looking at the stem and leaves. If they're dark green, they're healthy." (Traci)

Gardening taught the children life lessons. "By growing plants from seeds, we learned responsibility because we had to water them." (Hunter) "I learned that when you start a garden, you want to go all the way to the end of making it." (Trace) "The garden was an experience that I will remember for the rest of my life. I learned how to start a life for a plant and also make a good environment for it. I learned that you always have to look out for your plants. If the plants die, the butterflies can't stop here on their trip to Mexico." (Sean) "It is important to me to know how to garden so that, in the future, I can make my own butterfly garden...." (Ari)

Finally, the students saw that two communities, their school community and their town community, worked together to make a great garden. "I've learned that our garden brings teamwork by everyone helping planting, watering, weeding, and

hoeing." (Samantha) "I learned that gardening is fun and easy in a group. For example, we mulched the entire garden in two days." (Eli) "The most important thing I learned in the garden was sharing the garden. For example, when we put the mulch down, seven or eight people filled up buckets of mulch. Then one or two people brought the buckets to one or two other people, and those people poured the mulch and spread it in the garden. It was a lot of fun." (Max)

The children lived and breathed together in the garden. They solved problems, shared, cooperated, laughed, talked, had fun, and worked together. They saw the tangible results of this communal effort. Each day when they went out to look at the garden, they marveled at each new bud, the tiniest insect, and a new butterfly visitor.

The children also knew that many other people were involved in the project, and that every adult contributed happily and generously. As I write the following list, I am touched, honored, and grateful to have had so much support from community members.

Tom Curry and Eric Vuolle cut out the sod (which was rolled up and removed by family and friends), rototilled the ground, put up the fence, donated plants, taught the children, checked on the garden, and answered all of my many questions. Michelle Orlick drew initial designs for the garden, which we submitted in our application to the National Gardening Association. Manuela McCusker taught me which seeds and plants to buy and picked up a shipment of plants for our garden. Jeb Shahn and Eric Vuolle lent us fertilizer spreaders. Eric built us a beautiful indoor light fixture for the seedlings. Lawrence Mendies donated and delivered a huge pile of mulch. He also gave us a great price on his beautiful perennials.

Valerie Skillman worked many days with the children in the classroom and in the garden. She taught them how to put small seedlings into larger pots and then how to transplant the larger plants into the garden. She helped the children plant, mulch, weed, nail down

garden fabric, and make puddling plates. Rod Tulloss constructed trellises with the children. He also donated plants and a large collection of beautiful butterfly, moth, and caterpillar books. The Block, Hezrony, Hillis, and Hickey families donated plants and tools. All of the students' parents enthusiastically supported the project and attended our festive garden open house. Many of the families have already volunteered to weed the garden this summer.

In the school, our art teacher, Barbara Atwood, made cement stepping stones with the children. Howard Kaufman, our gym teacher, helped the children place the stones into the ground. Sheila Jaeger, our school aide, watched small groups of students when I couldn't be in two places at once! Mrs. Minutolo, our school board secretary and business administrator, Mrs. Payson, principal, and Mrs. Dileo, school secretary, helped with the behind-the-scene business related to the garden, and they will be watering the garden this summer. Mrs. Minutolo arranged for our new watering system, which the school board financed.

In addition to the financial support from the National Gardening Association (which contributed a gift certificate to Home Depot), the Roosevelt Public School Board, and personal donations, the Roosevelt Environmental Commission supported us as well. We purchased many plants from the New Jersey Audubon Society with the funds from the Environmental Commission. We had some cash from a fundraiser, in which we sold nature greeting cards. Also, an anonymous community member made a generous donation to our project. We were able to cover our expenses with all of these funds.

And so, the RPS butterfly garden has truly been a community effort. Each person that has contributed to our garden has added his or her unique talent and touch to create a tranquil, special place for nature's beauty. We hope that you'll be able to visit the garden this summer, and enjoy the plants, butterflies, and bees. Weed, if you'd like! ■

Contributors to the Bulletin 2007/08

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Janis & Joseph Datz
The Doyles
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Frances Duckett
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Sharlene & Jeff Ellentuck
Irma & Louis Esakoff
Ellen and Robert Francis
Lynn & Melvin Friedman
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Tristen Herrstrom & Scott Carpenter
Michele & Leonard Hillis
Louise & David Hoffman
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Doreen Kirchner & Wayne Garcia
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The Kosa family
Lynn Lawson & Neil Persh
Betty Leech
Joanna & David Leff
Ilene Levine
Claudia Luongo
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Donna & Walt Suk
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Natalie & Michael Warner
Nancy & Ralph Warnick
Alexandra Bonfante Warren
Carol Watchler & Ann Baker
Judith & Robert Weinberg
Elizabeth Weiner
Erich Woitschlienger
Lydia Yohay
The Zahora Family
Judith & Mark Zuckerman

**Thank you to all who contributed
to the *Bulletin*.**

By Ron Filepp

I had to look twice while checking the numbers for May 2008. The month's average temperature was lower than normal. It has been many months since the monthly average temperature was lower than normal. May's average temperature was 0.6 degrees below normal making it the first cooler than average month since November 2007.

Then there is June. As of this writing (6/15/08), there have already been four days of 90+ degrees plus high temperatures. The normal average number of 90+ days for June is 3.6. We're not that far off the mark but then all of the 90+ days we've had so far came before the first 10 days of the month passed. The hottest day was 94.1 degrees and it came on the third day of a blistering four-day heat wave.

May continued the dry spell we've been locked in since February. There was only 3.22 inches of rain in May. That's 1.10 inches below normal. June is well on it's way to balancing out the precipitation deficit.

You've probably heard about tornadoes in the news quite a bit in the past few months. The summer months are the most active for twisters. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is suggesting that 2008 may set a record for tornadoes and tornado deaths. There have been 115 so far, the most tornado related deaths since 1998. In recent years, the average number of tornado deaths has been about 60 per year. But in 1998, one hundred and thirty-two people perished as a result of tornadoes. This year may be worse.

Tornadoes are not just limited to the mid-west and south-central part of the nation. We've had numerous touch-downs of tornadoes in New Jersey

over the years. We seem to get more tornado watches in the last few years, too. So it's good to be aware of what to do if you get a tornado warning.

NOAA says "if a Tornado Warning is issued or if threatening weather approaches:

- In a home or building, move to a pre-designated shelter, such as a basement.
- If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture.
- Stay away from windows.
- Get out of automobiles.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car; instead, leave it immediately.
- Mobile homes, even if tied down, offer little protection from tornadoes and should be abandoned.

Occasionally, tornadoes develop so rapidly that advance warning is not possible. Remain alert for signs of an approaching tornado. Flying debris from tornadoes causes most deaths and injuries."

The people most at risk when a tornado hits are people in automobiles; the elderly, very young, and the physically or mentally impaired; people in mobile homes; people who may not understand the warning due to a language barrier.

You can get more safety tips for many types of disasters at the Red Cross web site http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/0,1082,0_501_,00.html

Weather Word

Here's a cooling word for July. A **kaavie** what a heavy snowfall is called in Scotland. ■

May 15, 2008 - June 15, 2008

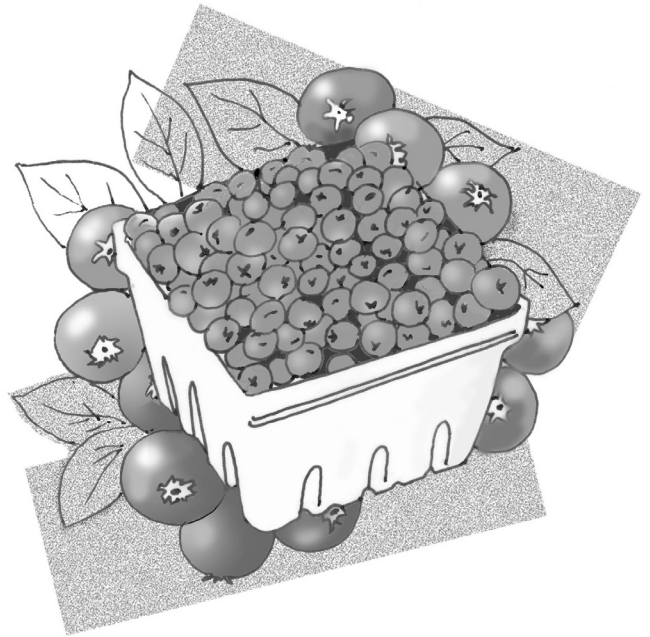
Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	77.4	51.8	64.6	0.00	0.0
16	61.0	51.1	56.1	0.15	0.0
17	72.5	46.8	59.7	1.15	0.0
18	73.4	50.7	62.1	0.05	0.0
19	64.6	44.8	54.7	0.65	0.0
20	53.4	41.2	47.3	0.00	0.0
21	70.3	44.4	57.4	0.60	0.0
22	67.6	45.7	56.7	0.10	0.0
23	70.5	47.5	59.0	0.12	0.0
24	73.0	45.0	59.0	0.00	0.0
25	75.2	44.1	59.7	0.00	0.0
26	82.0	51.3	66.7	0.00	0.0
27	85.8	63.9	74.9	0.00	4.8
28	81.9	54.5	68.2	0.40	0.0
29	74.8	43.2	59.0	0.00	0.0
30	81.3	49.6	65.5	0.00	0.0
31	81.0	61.2	71.1	0.00	1.1
1	81.3	62.1	71.7	0.75	1.7
2	78.1	55.9	67.0	0.00	0.0
3	82.9	56.3	69.6	0.85	0.0
4	76.8	60.3	68.6	1.90	0.0
5	74.5	60.8	67.7	0.05	0.0
6	77.7	61.2	69.5	0.00	0.0
7	90.5	63.9	77.2	0.00	7.2
8	91.9	72.0	82.0	0.00	12.0
9	94.1	72.5	83.3	0.00	13.3
10	93.9	72.0	83.0	0.00	13.0
11	83.7	65.8	74.8	0.20	4.8
12	84.7	61.5	73.1	0.00	3.1
13	85.5	58.5	72.0	0.00	2.0
14	87.8	65.5	76.7	0.00	6.7
15	83.5	67.3	75.4	1.10	5.4
Total Precipitation				8.07	
Total Cooling Degree-Days					75.0

The Jersey Blues

Did it ever occur to you that New Jersey is the only “New” state that’s casually referred to by its last name? New York, New Hampshire, and New Mexico need to use their full names – but we in the Garden State can boast of our Jersey girls, Jersey tomatoes, Jersey corn, and our Jersey blues, and everybody knows what and where we’re talking about.

In my mind Jersey blues – our local blueberries - are among the gems of our state. Maine produces more lowbush berries (the wild kind) and Michigan is the world leader in highbush production, but our local berries are sweeter, bigger, and generally more delicious than berries from any other part of the country. They’re especially luscious if you pick them yourself.

On a hot day in blueberry season (now!) it’s a delight to amble in the shade of the sweet-smelling high bushes at a local farm such as Boyce Berry Farm in Clarksburg, dropping handfuls of ripe, shiny blues in your bucket, and popping a few, or more than a few, in your mouth. If you do manage to get a bucket’s worth home, save a few cupfuls for this tasty cake.



Jersey Blues Blueberry Coffee Cake

½ lb. butter, at room temperature	2 ½ cups flour
¾ cup sugar – plus another ¾ cup sugar for filling/topping	2 teaspoons baking powder
1 ¼ cup sour cream, at room temperature	2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon baking soda	½ cup chopped, blanched almonds
3 eggs, at room temperature	2 cups of fresh blueberries in season (or, if you must, frozen berries, drained)

Heat oven to 350°

- o Beat together: butter, ¾ cup of sugar, sour cream, baking soda, & eggs.
- o Sift together: flour, & baking powder.
- o Add flour mix slowly to butter/sugar mix, beating until smooth.
- o Butter a 9”x12” baking pan.
- o Pour half the batter mix into the pan.
- o Mix the remaining ¾ cup sugar, cinnamon and almonds.
- o Spread half of this mix on the batter.
- o Top with all the blueberries.
- o Add rest of batter.
- o Sprinkle on rest of sugar/cinnamon/nut mix.
- o Bake 35-40 minutes.
- o Serve warm if at all possible.

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

2008 - 2009 Season

Sunday, September 14th, at 2:00 pm, Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County

SONGS FROM DAVID BRAHINSKY AND FRIENDS WITH ART OF JACOB LANDAU

David Brahinsky and Friends will perform songs from a variety of backgrounds, including Jewish and Hebrew sources, songs from Ireland and the British Isles, as well as contemporary songs from singer-songwriters such as Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, Kate Wolf and more.

The band will include, David on guitar and vocals, Sarah Houtz on vocals and Joe Pepitone on bass, both New York musicians who also play with the Roosevelt String Band; Guy Derosa, a professor of Political Science at Mercer County Community College who plays the harmonica like it's an organ, and, new to this group, Judith McNally, a Roosevelt Poet and playwright on her magical flute.

The Landau exhibit opens at 2:00 p.m. and the concert will begin at 3:30 p.m. at the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County in their restored barn, 2nd floor. This building is in the northwest corner of the shopping center at Wemrock Road and Rt. 537 in Freehold.

Directions:

From Rt. 18, take 537 west, go through Freehold and over Rt. 33, and it's on the right.

From Roosevelt, take Rt. 537 East, go past Center State Medical, and it's on the left.

From the NJ Turnpike, take Exit 8, merge right onto Rt. 33 East, after approximately 7 miles take Rt. 537 west, and it's on the right.

For more information about this event contact Michael Berman at 732-685-7377.

Friday, September 19th, & Saturday September 20th, at 7:30 p.m., Venue to be determined.

ONE ACT PLAYS WITH THE ROOSEVELT COMMUNITY PLAYERS DIRECTED BY MARGARET SCHLINSKY.

Co-Sponsored by the Roosevelt Department of Recreation.

Voluntary Contribution:

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

Visit RAP's webpage at <http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt>. Use the link at the top of the page to sign up for our e-mail list. For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616. ■

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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: \$50.00/year, \$56.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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Please send notice of your events to Ann Baker at P.O. Box 308 or email to abncpcm@comcast.net. I can also be called at 443-8780.

I apologize for my mixup in the last two *Borough Bulletins* about Recycling. For everyone who counts on the calendar page for key information, I probably created lots of confusion. We have trash pickup every Wednesday, and Recycling every other Wednesday.

JULY

5 Sat.	Annual picnic on school grounds
7 Mon.	12:30 p.m. Blood pressure check, Borough Hall 1:00 p.m. Seniors' Meeting, Borough Hall, Gerry Millar, 448-0351
9 Wed.	RECYCLE 
10 Tues.	7:30 p.m. Planning Board, Borough Hall, Jane Rothfuss, Chair 448-3713
14 Mon.	7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
15 Tues.	8:00 p.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President 448-9475
16 Wed.	7:30 p.m. Environmental Commission, Borough Hall, Dave Schwendeman, Chair, 443-6204
23 Wed.	RECYCLE 
24 Thurs.	7:30 p.m. Board of Education Meeting, RPS, Jaymie Kosa, President, 371-6294
28 Mon.	7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
29 Tues.	8:00 p.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training, Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475 This training is open to all. Call to sign up.

AUGUST

6 Wed.	RECYCLE
10 Sun.	10:00 a.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Drill, Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475
11 Mon.	7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
12 Tues.	7:30 p.m. Planning Board, Borough Hall, Jane Rothfuss, Chair, 448-3713
19 Tues.	8:00 p.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad Meeting, Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President 448-9475
20 Wed.	RECYCLE 
20 Wed.	7:30 p.m. Roosevelt Environmental Commission, Borough Hall, Dave Schwendeman, Chair, 443-6204
25 Mon.	7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
28 Thurs.	7:30 p.m. Board of Education, RPS, Jaymie Kosa, President, 371-6294

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