



Bulletin



Volume 42 Number 5

February 2019

Council Reorganizes; Appointments Made and Approved

By Michael Ticktin

The reorganization meeting of the Borough Council was held on January 7. It was followed immediately by the first January meeting. The next meeting will be held on January 28, with subsequent meetings held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, except for Tuesday meetings on May 28, October 15 and November 12 due to holidays.

Councilman-elect Steve Bowen was sworn in for a full three-year term. Councilman-elect Cody Parker, who had served until mid-November filling a vacant seat, was scheduled to be sworn in for a full term as well, but was unable to be present at the meeting and will be sworn in on or before the next meeting. Councilmen Lou Esakoff and Luke Dermody, who had been elected in November to complete unexpired terms, had already been sworn in at the second November meeting, since the election law provides that candidates elected to complete unexpired terms take office as soon as the election results are certified by the county clerk, rather than at the beginning of the new year.

Councilman Mike Hamilton was elected council president. As such, he will serve as acting mayor if Mayor Peggy Malkin is out of town for at least three days

The following committee appointments were made, with the committee chair being the first named: Administration- Esakoff, Dermody, Hamilton; Community Development and Code Enforcement- Dermody, Esakoff, Hamilton; Environment, Health and Safety- Parker, Bowen, Dermody; Finance- Hamilton, Esakoff, Trammell, Public Works- Bowen, Parker, Trammell, Utilities- Trammell, Bowen, Parker.

No Council appointment was made to the Planning Board, since the members present wanted Council-

man-elect Parker to have an opportunity to participate in the discussion, and perhaps accept the appointment. Mayor Malkin reappointed Assessor Donna Taylor as the public official member, and Alison Petrilla and Jacqueline Carpenter as citizen members, of the Planning Board. She also reappointed Kim Felong, Tim Hartley and Nick Murray as regular members, and Matthew Margotta as an alternate member, of the Environmental Commission.

The following appointments were made by Mayor Malkin and confirmed by the Council: Gregg Possiel as Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner and also as Safety Coordinator; Salvatore Cannizzaro as Tax Search Officer; Kathleen Hart as Assessment Search Officer; Ana Debevec as Public Agency Compliance Officer and also as Records Officer; Ron Kostar as Clean Communities Coordinator; Rob Masterson as Emergency Management Coordinator; Cody Parker as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator; Raymond Raya, Esq. as Public Defender; Susan L. Solda DeSimone, Esq. as Municipal Court Prosecutor; Jeremy Kuipers as Zoning Officer, Code Enforcement Officer and Housing Inspector, and Fran Hezrony, Danielle Hubiak, Alissa Schembry and Christie Hague as school crossing guards. Borough Clerk Kathleen Hart was reappointed as Registrar of Vital Statistics and Lorraine Maher was reappointed as Deputy Registrar. Councilman Dermody was designated as liaison with the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Organization and Councilman Hamilton as liaison with the Board of Education. Michael Ticktin was reappointed as Borough Historian and as Representative to the Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 42nd edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from September through July. We will not publish in January and August.

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin Submission Process

The Bulletin welcomes submissions for news items, information of local interest, letters to the editor, poetry, and visual arts. We ask all contributors to adhere to the following submission guidelines:

- Send your submission to the email rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com. For short messages, you can also use the contact form on our web site, which will go to the same address.
- Send your submission as a Microsoft Word attachment or as plain text within the body of your email.
- Please limit your letters to 500 words (about one page in MS Word). We will edit letters for length when necessary. Longer letters may be published in full on the Bulletin web site.
- Please include images as separate files. If you have multiple files, please put them into a zip file, if possible. Please submit only JPEG images.
- The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (e.g., January 15 for the February issue). Submissions received after the 15th will normally be printed in the issue following the one currently in production. (So, for example, a submission received on January 16th would be printed in March.)
- Most submissions will also be added to the Bulletin web site. Allow up to one week for submissions to appear online after publication of the print edition.
- Please name your files with your last name, or the name of your organization, and the month.

It's natural that people have second thoughts about what they've written, but we want to discourage multiple submissions of the same thing, whenever possible. When this is necessary, the revised version should be clearly named as a revision.

The Bulletin board members are thrilled to see that people are utilizing the Bulletin as a forum for communicating about our community's most critical issues. And it is impressive that Roosevelt has supported this publication for so many decades by contributing both financially and intellectually. We are committed to providing you with the best publication possible—your support of our submission guidelines will enable our volunteers to most effectively meet that goal.

The MEALS ON WHEELS program delivers prepared meals to Roosevelt seniors who need this assistance. Though meals are provided free of charge to recipients, the cost to the program is \$2.50 per meal. Donations to help cover these costs may be sent to Interfaith Neighbors, 810 Fourth Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712

SENIOR CITIZENS: There is a S.C.A.T. bus provided by Monmouth County Division of Transportation that comes to Roosevelt and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and where you wish to go.

An archive of all past issues of the Bulletin can be found online at www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm, courtesy of Mark Zuckerman. Current and recent issues can also be found online at www.rooseveltboroughbulletin.org, the official website of the Borough Bulletin. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please send your request to rpessler32@gmail.com.

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly, except August and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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Program, and Councilman Esakoff was appointed as Deputy CDBG Representative. Contracts were approved for tax and utility collection software support services with Edmunds & Associates, Inc. and for professional information technology services with Cross Over Networks, LLC.

Professional service contracts were awarded to Gregory J. Cannon, Esq. (attorney), Carmela Roberts, PE (engineer), Gerard Stankiewicz, CPA, RMA (auditor), Meghan Bennett Clark (bond counsel), Thomas A. Thomas (planner) and Kerry Higgins, Esq. (labor counsel).

A temporary budget appropriation of just over a quarter of the 2018 budget amount was approved. This is necessary each year in order to keep the Borough in operation until the annual budget is adopted. Ocean First Bank was designated as depository for the municipal court. As with other resolutions concerning the municipal court, such as appointment of court personnel, the Borough has to make the same appointments that Millstone makes, since their court also serves as our court. First Constitution Bank, Hightstown office, was designated as

depository for the Borough for all other purposes.

At the regular first January meeting that followed the reorganization meeting, the Council voted to pay bills and to ratify and approve a change order for iron sludge removal in the aerator and settling tanks at the water plant. The Council also approved the use of the Borough Hall for tai chi on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings, for First Aid training on Sundays and on Tuesday evenings, and on three evenings in January for RAP rehearsals.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad needs you!

“The Rescue squad desperately needs your help. We pay for training and uniforms. Keep volunteerism alive! for more info email us at roosevelt-firstaidsquad@yahoo.com”

Senior Group Meetings

The Senior Citizen Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Borough Hall.

At 1:30 pm we frequently have guests who speak about a variety of topics, generally applicable to everyone. Finances, health, and safety in the home are a few examples. Notices will be on the bulletin board at the P.O. All residents are welcome to take advantage of this worthwhile program.

Thank you.
Geraldine Millar, President, Seniors



Keep up to date with the latest happenings, events and announcements. Follow the Bulletin on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoroughBulletin

If you would like your organization’s event posted to the Bulletin’s Facebook page, please send event details to

rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com.

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are very much 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.

In order to save on postage, we would encourage non-residents who have computers to subscribe to the *Bulletin* online at www.boroughbulletin.org in lieu of receiving a paper copy.

Donations from readers, wherever they may be, and regardless of the medium in which they read the *Bulletin*, are still very much welcome, since we could not publish without your support.

PLEASE SEND IN A CONTRIBUTION TODAY. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.**

Please send contributions to:
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**From Roosevelt to the
Southern Hemisphere and
Back in 80 Days
Day 8, Saturday, 1/26/08
in the Delta
February 3, 2008**

Bush douche and Bush key are worthy reminders of bush nights. A toilet seat surrounded by a canvas curtain over a hole, which gets filled with dirt instead of flushed. The key is the roll of paper that announces if it's occupied.

During the night, while the storm was on, I thought about taking care of urgent needs but realized that Heather had the umbrella I'd lent her, and the bush toilet had no roof. Furthermore, it struck me that if I had had the umbrella, I'd have gone out and probably would never have needed a toilet again as the hippos were about. The morning was a much better time to go out. We broke camp after two nights on the island and got into our mokoros. The first leg was through the thickly forested delta. It is a world onto itself. One can easily lose oneself in reverie. (The reeds about two feet high, the lotus leaves blanket the water and many water lilies surround the reeds, all one foot from you.) One feels so at peace that the thought of slipping into the water seems appropriate. But



Heather reminds me that the waters are infected with crocodiles and hippos. It seems paradoxical and unfair. A lovely setting should have a lovely and desirable background as well. The second leg of the return trip to the lodge where our Land Rover and other gear were waiting is made on a flat bed open motor boat with chair. The channels were much wider than where we were gliding in our mokoros.

Many of these excursions into parks include several miles on dirt roads, followed by several miles of bush roads. These have deep ruts filled with water, which forces us to slow down. Today the rough roads made the trip lengthy and tedious. But we did get to Maun, a principal city in Botswana, where the company conducting the tour, www.bushways.com, resides (by the way, if you're curious about other details of this tour you can check the site and link to Elephant Trail). Getting to Maun meant that Heather would get her delayed suitcase, which made her so happy she bought a lot of wine to share and celebrate her freedom to be herself again.

Day 9, Sunday, 1/27/08
Saturday, we'd spent in the most luxurious of camps in Maun. A lone camper I overheard had an American accent and his neat looking tent (nylon taffeta vs. canvas, or 3 lbs. vs. 30 lbs.) was near mine. I asked him about his stay in Africa. He'd come to travel and then found a job teaching, which he did for two years. He liked it so much because "the people are so nice, they're all gentle and considerate and even tempered" as Heather had experienced during her other three trips. She'd said that she couldn't detect any inflection in African speech. I listened for it in English and in their

By Al Hepner

first tongue; she is correct although there is a bit more deviation in their first language. The loan camper was bemoaning the fact that he had to go home to San Diego for his sister's wedding in August. People are not kind in the States he feels. He also thinks everything is a hassle there whereas in Africa it's laid back. Coming from the East Coast, I think San Diego is as laid back as one city can get.

Saturday, I thought that since we were going to have all the pleasure of home, flush toilet, hot water and a solid under soil, I'd treat myself to a bag of potato chips and mango flavored seltzer. I pigged out on them while waiting for the Land Rover to return. Then at dinner, having been annoyed by some upstaging from another camper (of course), I felt even more isolated when my only English-speaking companion disagreed with my assessment. I drank two cups of wine and ate very little of the tasteless dinner. It made me quite high and I probably annoyed people around me. I found the Internet cafe, wrote home and felt homesick as Heather did. I wrote some postcards and went to sleep without benefitting from the new flashlight I had bought in Maun and used as an overhead light, which made the tent feel like a real room. I woke up at 3:15am with 'shul shul;' you don't really want to know what this is if you haven't guessed.

The next morning, Sunday, we had a successful game ride: we saw giraffes, zebras, spur-winged geese, tsessebe (antelope), kudus and one lion. I'm sure I mentioned this tracking event before, but this is written so much better that it must have been another person who wrote it. Think of this as a revision of the first draft. The lion tracking was the highlight of the trip until the last day. Our guide spoke to another safari guide

who was coming from where we were heading. He was told that there was some evidence of a lion in the area. Our guide broke the cardinal rule of not going off the road. He unhitched the trailer and went off into the bushes. He and his assistant continued to look for footprints and flattened turf as evidence of a lion having walked around. He drove around several trees and bushes knowing that the lion would be resting under one of these. I don't think any of us were breathing for fear of making some noise. In the end, it was the call of a francolin that tipped Master as to which tree/bush the lion was under. A magnificent looking lion was resting. At first, even the noise of the Land Rover didn't wake it. When we got really close it woke up looking more annoyed and disdainful than threatening, which is what I had expected. The eight of us must have taken 100 shots of the poseur. It was a thrill to have found it. I think we all felt fortunate to have experienced this as we had.

I guess what we're doing is oxymoronic; the best way to explain

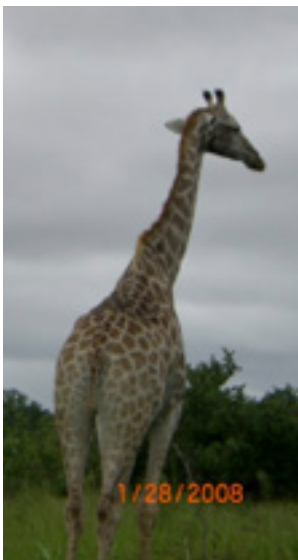
what goes on during these days: we spend all day looking for animals and all night in our tents because they might be there and come after us.

Day 10, Monday,

1/28/08 What's this lift off time?

At night: Rushed by the group to leave at 6:00 am.

6:30 am: Zebras, no one responded to my question: Are they black with white stripes or white with black



stripes?

6:50 am: A brown jackal, which is rarer than black

7:37 am: A female waterbuck (white ring) which distinguishes from a male

9:17 am: A male kudu

10:17 am: Elephants too far to photograph (for my camera that is)

I didn't sleep too well at night, so I had to be wakened at 5:30 instead of getting up on my own at my usual 3:30/ 4:00 am. Couldn't get it together on time--got rushed and isolated—just as well since I didn't have anything good to say.

I saw the animals under duress; I was feeling stressed and tired, although I thought I'd slept enough. Hoping for sun instead of rain so I could find a way to use the bush douche.

5:14 pm: A bull elephant

5:50 pm: Cheetahs—not photographed because I'm not fast, even though the one we saw is not the fastest type.

I'd started listing the times I saw animals to prove to myself and anyone who might be interested (no one was) that a five-minute delay wouldn't have mattered much. But it turned out to be a good idea since my camera recorded the day and time (NY time), I'll be able to tell a person which animal it is. You see I said to me, "something good can often come out of

Day 11, Tuesday, 1/29/08 No Mormi Game Preserve

We're heading toward Nxai Pan National Park. The previous park was typical of the terrains in Botswana: grass expanses, fauna and trees. The roads throughout the park had various degrees of ruts and depressions, which at that time of year were flooded. Most often the entire width of the road was under water, but the Land Rover and its excellent driver could wade through. As it happened, we were taking a 300 to



400-mile detour to be able to get to our intended destination: Chobe National Park. The roads we would have taken were under water. It had rained daily since we'd been in Botswana, and Namibia. We'd only had one occasion when it rained when we were breaking camp. For the most part Master tried to set it up, so we could get there before it started raining. Right then, he was driving faster than usual on an open asphalt road, until a dog, cows or donkeys dotted the road. We'd been lucky in the morning that it stopped raining almost every time. We only had three nights left in the bush, then one night at the Waterfront Hotel Zambia.

I got rid of some clothes in Maun on Saturday, which was a bit sooner than I wanted to, but they looked worse after I washed them than before, and they were wet. The new pants I was wearing were dirty enough to throw away but handier to keep. (I must remember not to take things literally and personally always- people are what and who they are, and I can't change them- view them as they are- do your thing- but remember that it's NOT ALL ABOUT YOU, as I'm reminded by people who know me well).

3:13pm: An oryx

3:41pm: Fourteen giraffes crossing the road

There must be something to that. Never saw that in Roosevelt, only deer.



Greetings Roosevelt Community from your Board of Education.

The Board is actively advancing the strategic goals that were set by the community; these goals serve as our guide when deciding the individual goals and actions the school will strive to attain. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new board member Katherine Hamilton, while welcoming back Leo Gordon, John Petrillo, and Nikki Wiese. One of our main focuses will be finding a solution regarding the school funding impacted by the School Funding Reform Act Legislation.

The School Funding Reform Act (SFRA) will greatly impact the future of our school. It is through this legislation that our school will stand to lose a significant portion of our bud-

get. So much so that if we aren't proactive about this and work with the neighboring towns, we will be forced to close our doors in 2021. We have had meetings with the Boards of Education of Millstone Township School District, the East Windsor School District, and the Upper Freehold Regional School District. The options that we are currently exploring with these districts are regionalization, consolidation, and/or a send receive agreement.

There currently is another option being looked at by the Board of Education and that is having Roosevelt Public School become a charter school. Charter schools run independently of the local district and are free public schools that operate under a contract, known as a charter. The charter provides the school with

operational independence that allows it to pursue specific educational purposes regarding the curriculum, staff, and budget. The charter school would be open to all children on a first come, first serve basis, and do not have special entrance or admissions requirements.

As mentioned, we are being proactive about this and exploring all our options. We invite all community members and members of the Roosevelt Public School to the next Board of Education meeting being held on Thursday, January 24th, 2019, at 7:30 pm, in the lobby of the Roosevelt Public School where we will be continuing these discussions.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

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Telephone outage	Your telephone provider (phone # is on your bill)
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Trees down	911 /State Police 609-584-5000
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FtIoS outage	(800) 837-4966
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 at 732-431-7456



Art by Lois, William and Zachary Pressler

IN WINTER'S SANCTUARY

She sits alone
in an upper room

white cold below.
Distant dogs bark.

Each bark insistent
as a chisel on steel.

Each bark cuts a chunk
from the quiet blank.

Each bark starts
from the wolf's throat

becomes a human cry
sharp as an icicle.

Bread of silence.
Cries. Silence. Cries.

And there is no dog,
just barks, like prayer.

David Sten Herrstrom

CAMP ROOSEVELT – 2019

Plans are underway for
this summer's Camp
Roosevelt program.

The program will offer
traditional camp ac-
tivities such as sports,
games, arts and crafts,
trips, themed events

and a special emphasis on community based activities, outdoor
skill building and exploration. This year's program will run for six
weeks from Monday, July 8 – Friday, August 16. Camp hours are
9:00am to 1:00pm. A separate After Camp is also available from
1:00pm to 5:00pm. A detailed flyer and registration will be avail-
able soon. For more information, please contact Eric Schubiger at
recreation@rooseveltnj.us.



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In the event outages occur due to severe weather, customers without power are encouraged to report their outage by calling 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877), clicking the "Report Outage" link on www.firstenergycorp.com, or by texting out to 544487.

Customers should immediately report downed wires to 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877) or call their local police department. JCP&L reminds customers to stay away from downed wires, even if they believe they are no longer carrying electricity. Extra caution should be used in areas where downed lines are tangled with trees or other debris. Motorists are cautioned to treat intersections with inoperable traffic signals as four-way stops.

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By Katherine Hamilton

What's up with the RPSEF?

Some of you may have noticed the Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation (RPSEF) didn't host their annual wine and cheese event this year and you may be wondering what we're up to. At our board meeting in June of last year, we made a strategic plan to focus more on grant writing this year and not to do as many fundraisers. Don't you worry! We have still been busy behind the scenes at Roosevelt Public School and have already had an eventful year.



We were proud to co-host an Arts and Crafts Show with the Roosevelt Arts Project that helped us raise some money for issuing grants. We were one of the groups that participated in the Roosevelt litter pickup, also assisting us in earning funds to award to teachers' proposed grant

submissions. We also welcomed two new board members last year, Ann Kassahun and Heidi Montelone, and we are grateful to each of them for joining us.

We have already had many grant requests and we are proud to say we have been able to fulfill several grants! We were pleased to support Donna Gazzani's third grade class (with the help of Bob Atwood who obtained books at a discounted rate for us) and purchase an assortment of new science books for the class to enjoy (see picture). We bought some new oven racks that have been put to good use in the newly built (RPSEF-partially-funded) kitchen at the school. We also helped buy gardening supplies to replenish the outdoor garden. The cooking club and gardening club have been working together with these materials to create some yummy things (see picture). We have some exciting things coming up soon: we recent-



ly worked on a grant which was submitted to "Young Audiences Art Education," and we are excited for them to be putting on a music performance entitled "Beyond the Beat" for our RPS students to enjoy next month; and we will also be having a fundraising event at Panera Bread in East Windsor on Friday February 22 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm (see flyer). 20% of all proceeds that evening will go directly to the RPSEF.

We are surely keeping busy and will continue to do all we can to support RPS! We'd like to give a thank you to everyone who supported us so far this year either by coming to an event or through a year-end contribution. You are so appreciated by us, and most importantly by the students of RPS, whom your contributions directly benefit. A big congratulations to Sharlene Ellentuck who won our drawing after making a year-end contribution and in return, donated her winnings back to the Foundation (see drawing picture).

Winter

S. Taylor

When the winter's icy winds have swept the clouds away,
I see a bright blue sapphire sky, so sad it doesn't stay.
Nighttime brings the twinkling stars so high up in the sky.
They slowly chase the setting sun, around the world they fly.
Each morning with the sunrise; what will the daybreak bring;
Rain or snow, a wintry blast, perhaps a breath of Spring?

Written by Katherine Hamilton,
Public Relations Committee Chair-
person for The Roosevelt Public
School Education Foundation





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WHEN Fri, Feb 22nd

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

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*Gift card purchases and catering orders are excluded and will not count toward the event.
Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

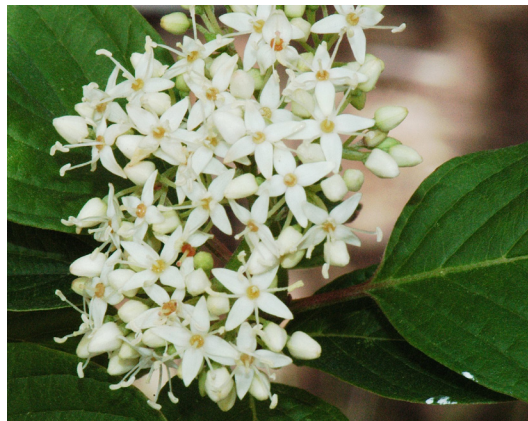
Brighten Your Winter Landscape With Redtwig Dogwoods

Continuing our series of articles highlighting the native species that we should encourage, this month we spotlight the Redtwig Dogwood.

Redtwig Dogwood, aka red osier dogwood, red willow, etc., *Cornus sericea* (also *stolonifera* or *alba*) is a shrub native throughout northern North America from Alaska east to Newfoundland, south to Virginia. It is another native that has become a landscaping staple, because of its bright red twigs in the dormant season. Several other cultivars with yellow twigs (Bud's Yellow), lime green twigs (Flaviramea), variegated



foliage (Hedgerows Gold), and a dwarf form (Nana) and many others are commercially available. They will grow from four to ten feet tall depending on the variety. As plants age, their twig color tends to fade, but removal of the older branches will encourage renewed bright growth from the base and keep the plant in bounds. They can be used as an accent plant or a broad hedge. When other shrubs have retired for the winter, redtwig dogwoods will add a bright spot to your yard.



not particularly fussy about the soil type. Go native!

Besides the colorful twigs, they have white flower heads in May or June that attract butterflies, followed by clusters of berries that attract birds. Redtwigs grow well in full sun or part shade. They don't like very dry soil, and do best with medium moisture or even very wet soil. In some areas, they are used to add stability to stream banks. Otherwise they are

References:

Search for *Cornus sericea* at:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

<https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/corser/all.html>

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REMINDER:

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Borough Mailing Instructions

When mailing anything to Roosevelt Borough, please use P.O. Box 128. This includes property tax payments and water/sewer payments.

Parking Reminder

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I've had my eye on Americans' obsessions for more than seventy years and I can't remember a time when public lying got as much attention as it does today. Attention yes, but consequences, no. I recently happened upon this clever poem about lying by Judith Askew. It's from her book *On the Loose*, from Bass River Press, South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, and she, too, is from Massachusetts.

Bakery of Lies

My favorite is the cream puff lie,
the kind inflated with hot air,
expanded to make an heroic-sized story.

Another is the cannoli, a long lie,
well-packed with nutty details,
lightly wrapped in flakey truth.

A macaroon isn't a little white lie,
but it's covered
with self-serving coconut.

The apple tart carries slices
of sour gossip, only
slightly sweetened with truth.

Then there's the napoleon,
an Iago lie of pernicious intent,
layer upon layer of dark deceit.

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Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?

At around 30, poor and at loose-ends, I started a typing business in Princeton that was modestly successful. Most of the University undergraduates had to write plenty of papers and all the seniors had to write senior theses.

My business office was located in the basement of the Firestone Library, inside a small glass-in room that housed two type-for-pay typewriters. The typewriters were coin-driven - you slid a quarter in the slot and were rewarded 20 minutes of service. By typing for pay I became a rapid-fire typist, and a decent businessman.

I posted advertisements around the Ivy League school's leafy campus and put ads in the local and university newspapers. And I did ok. In the spring I had the electric typewriter singing.

One night my phone rang and on the other end was a student who wanted me to type his thesis. The thesis was about 50 double-spaced pages long and it was on a philosopher named Wittgenstein. Did I know Wittgenstein? I told the student I had heard of him but that was about it, and that I didn't know anything about his philosophy. The student said that

was okay, as long as I could type, and I told him that, yes, I could type and could have him a beautiful, clean copy of his thesis within 24 hours.

A half hour later I opened my door and saw a stressed-out young man holding a manila folder. Alongside him was a young woman with a sexy intriguing and noticeably scarred face and long thin legs wrapped in tight faded blue jeans. The girl seemed to want to talk while the man was more diffident. I didn't know any more about Wittgenstein than I had a half hour ago, but I invited them in and the man handed me his manila folder and I told him I'd call him tomorrow to pick up the finished manuscript. His companion smiled deliciously and, charmed, I went back inside and tracked down a roll of quarters.

Thirty years later I was in my house watching one of my favorite movies for the fourth time. One of the many things I like about this movie is the main character's eloquent philosophical soliloquies. In the intervening nearly two score years I have also read a little about Wittgenstein, and the most interesting thing I had taken away was his idea that we create our realities by framing and expressing them in language. Reality,

by By Ron Kostar

according to Wittgenstein, is malleable and is always being shaped and reshaped by how we describe it. In keeping with his idea of a malleable, language-shaped reality, Wittgenstein, who was a professor, used to always improvise his lectures. He valued the courage necessitated by improvising, and he welcomed the discoveries he inevitably made while standing on the Verbal Edge. Similarly, the main character in my favorite movie used his "gift for gab" to explain a changing world to himself and to his two unmoored buddies. The richer a person's language, Wittgenstein and this character seem to be saying, the richer are one's experience and world. Wittgenstein and Ulysses Everett McGill were both great talkers.

This wise nugget of an idea was probably buried somewhere in my client's paper, but I missed it; and I missed other ideas as well, because I typed the student's thesis, whose name was Ethan Coen, way too fast to actually understand or absorb it. Hey, I was 30 and poor and trying to make some money, and I did: At the tune of \$2 a page, I took home \$98 minus the \$2.75 I fed the type-for-pay electric typewriter.

Ron Kostar, 1/2019

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- 2 Sat. 8:00 pm Roosevelt Arts Project, Staged Readings of One Act Play Selections**

- 5 Tues. 12:30 pm Senior Citizens Meeting
Borough Hall

- 5 Tues. 7:00 pm Planning Board
Borough Hall

- 6 Weds. Recycling Pickup ♻️

- 11 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting,
Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 18 Mon. Roosevelt Public School Closed
for Presidents Day

- 19 Tues. 7:00 pm Roosevelt First Aid Squad,
Business Meeting,
John Vo, President

- 20 Weds. 7:00 pm Environmental Comm. Mtg.,
Borough Hall

- 20 Weds. Recycling Pickup ♻️

- 22 Fri. 4:00 pm Roosevelt Education Foundation
8:00 pm Fundraiser at Panera
394 Route 130, East Windsor, NJ

- 23 Sat. 6:30 pm- Roosevelt Paint Night,
8:30 pm Roosevelt Public School
Fundraiser to benefit Class of 2019

- 25 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 28 Thurs. 7:30 pm RPS Board of Education,
Ken LeCompte, President

M A R C H

- 5 Tues. 7:00 pm Planning Board
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Business Meeting,
John Vo, President

- 20 Weds. 7:00 pm Environmental Comm. Mtg.,
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- 20 Weds. Recycling Pickup ♻️

- 21 Thurs. Early Dismissal,
Roosevelt Public School

- 22 Fri. Early Dismissal,
Roosevelt Public School

- 23 Sat 8:00 pm From Bohemia's Fields and Forests: A Piano Recital with Commentary by Alan Mallach, Roosevelt Arts Project Borough Hall, 33 Rochdale Ave. Roosevelt, NJ**

- 25 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 28 Thurs. 7:30 pm RPS Board of Education,
Ken LeCompte, President

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February 6, 20
March 6, 20

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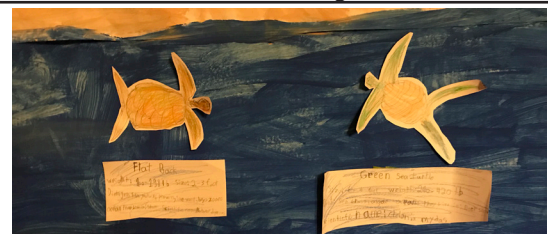
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Please send notice of your events to the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com.



Art by Zachary Pressler