



Bulletin



Volume 39 Number 10

July 2016

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By SharynWalz

New Towing Contractor, Surveying Roosevelt Municipal Cemetery, Installation of Street Light

The following resolutions were approved as part of the consent agenda on June 13, 2016:

- After advertising twice for bids for a towing contractor with no response, a two-year contract with LSC Mechanical of Hightstown was signed after they submitted a working agreement to provide towing services through April, 2018.
- The Borough will appoint a Cemetery Manager and will make arrangements with Public Works to utilize Ground Sonar equipment in order to properly survey the cemetery.
- Temporary Emergency Appropriations were approved for additional expenses involving General Administration and the Borough Clerk. These funds had been previously set aside as part of the standard budgeting procedures and will now be moved under the correct headings in the municipal budget.
- The Borough will utilize the services of Cleary, Giacobbe Alfieri, Jacobs, LLC during 2016 for professional services as a special labor counsel.

The following ordinances were heard as indicated:

- The final reading and approval of an ordinance to amend the Borough Code that affects fees for licenses and certificates of occupancies. The application for a Certificate of Occupancy will be \$100, plus a \$15 filing fee. Additional re-inspections, if required, will be \$10 each. Each license application will be \$100, plus filing fee.
- The first reading of an ordinance that added a new section to address the establishment of standards for registration and maintenance for vacant and abandoned

properties that are in foreclosure

- The first reading of an ordinance involving the Roosevelt Municipal Cemetery that enforces proper record-keeping procedures are in place, use of a Cemetery Manager or Management Company, and added language around the placement of monuments and markers. The ordinance also clarifies the criteria for being interred at the cemetery.

Council committees reported that the historical marker being donated by the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation is currently being manufactured. This marker will be placed along the roadside near the Roosevelt Memorial and will further educate travelers regarding Roosevelt’s distinctive place in history. After speaking with Jerry Riccardi, the community liaison of JCP&L, who was present at the meeting, Councilman Ticktin made a motion to have a streetlight installed at the intersection of Nurko Road and Rt. 571 to increase safety.

The motion was approved by the Council. The added cost of operating the streetlight is estimated at approximately \$200/year.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 39th edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from September through July. We will not publish in January and August.

We welcome your emailed submissions for articles, letters, poems, artwork, and other items of interest. Please send your submissions and inquiries to Rick Pressler (rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com). Non-digital submissions will be accommodated to the best of our ability, but we cannot guarantee publication. Inclusion of all items is subject to the availability of space and the editorial judgment of our Editor. Items must be received by the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue.

We will do our best to make the Bulletin both informative and interesting with the help of our devoted writers and production people.

If you want to CONTACT THE BULLETIN, please look at our masthead to the right with our address as shown.



Please report any bear sightings to:
State Bureau of Wildlife Management
Kim Tinnes, Wildlife Control
609-259-7955

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 on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. The bus will pick you up at your home, you spend 1 ½ hours shopping, and the bus will take you home and leave your groceries at your door. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus Tuesday no later than 3:00 p.m. at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and your interest in going on Wednesday, the next day.

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.boroughbulletin.org., the official website of the Borough Bulletin that is maintained by Bulletin Trustee Bob Francis. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please go to www.boroughbulletin.org and press the “Push Here to Sign Up for Bulletin” button.

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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From the Mayor

By Jeff Ellentuck

The Open Public Records Act provides, in part, that . . . all government records shall be subject to public access unless exempt from such access. A government record shall not include . . . information generated by or on behalf of public employers or public employees in connection with any grievance filed by or against an individual. . . any record within the attorney-client privilege . . . [or any] communication between a public agency and its insurance carrier . . . or risk management office. These exemptions coincide with long established civil laws, cases and executive orders that clearly define the rights of accused persons and others in civil matters.

As I write this, we are approaching the July 4th holiday. The holiday celebrates our independence from the rule of kings. Instead, we choose to live by the rule of law in a free and (mostly) civilized society. Unlike many other countries, we chose to leave behind the world of stocks and pillory and public canings and to rely instead on codified criminal, civil, and administrative law and procedures. Some laws protect citizens' rights to speech free from governmental interference, while others protect citizens', employees' and volunteers' rights to privacy and due process. The Mayor and each member of the Council are sworn to uphold all of these laws, including the laws each of us may like and the laws each of us may not like.

It does not matter whether we dislike the content of a political sign or we disagree with an opinion. It does not matter whether the opinions are presented rudely or in a condescending manner or are responded to in like manner. It does not matter if adherence to the law subjects us to political accusations of secrecy and conspiracy. Mostly, it does not matter how loudly or frequently people demand that we violate these laws and subject the Borough to potential lawsuits and damages.

We use a labor counsel who specializes in public employment matters. I have personally stated in at least four public meetings (1) that investigations into personal allegations against our emergency service volunteers are ongoing, (2) that we cannot legally discuss these investigations in public, and (3) that all accused persons have been told publicly and privately that if the allegations are true, the actions were inappropriate and should not be repeated. We have paid our labor counsel to deliver a letter to each of the accusers to make it clear that the governing body is bound by certain laws and will abide by those laws. In the current world of instant gratification, we sometimes have to abide by the rules and let the process run its course.

I am proud that Roosevelt relies on volunteers and minimal staff. In addition to their regular jobs and activities, certain members of our governing body, planning board, and environmental commission regularly spend 10 to 30 volunteer hours a week dealing with Borough roads, water, sewer, grants, NJDEP matters, zoning, housing, planning, trails, waste, recycling and personal resident matters. This is the work for which we volunteered.

Our emergency responders are also all volunteers and they respond selflessly to our health emergencies, accidents, fires, downed lines, closed roads and myriad other events. In cases of natural disasters, many of our volunteers have gone days in dangerous or unpleasant duties on one or two hours of sleep. The only Borough staff member who lives in town often makes herself available to the town and its residents at all hours of the day and night and many of those hours never make it to her time sheets. While we all have the right to criticize and complain, I believe we all also have an obligation to remember to thank them.

Thank you volunteers and staff, your time and efforts are appreciated.

Lastly and certainly no less importantly, I had the opportunity and honor to attend the 79th commencement of the Roosevelt public school. This year's graduating class consisted of three (three!!) bright young people, each of whom has demonstrated a commitment to helping others. I congratulate them and their families. I would also like to recognize and thank the volunteers on the Board of Education and the PTA, and to especially thank the principal, teachers and staff at RPS for their dedication to the education of our children. Education has always been a central rallying point for Roosevelt and RPS has always been the centerpiece of the Borough. While many city dwellers gladly pay tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars for fairly small classes and individualized education, RPS provides those services to all of our residents just for living here. Well done.

I wish all of our residents a happy and healthy summer.

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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Multiflora Rose

“What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”

But what if the name were multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)? What if you didn’t have to go to the nursery, pay for rosebushes, plant them, and give them meticulous care in order to have beautiful roses in your backyard? What if the roses just grew and grew on their own, each year spreading over the landscape like a scene from a certain Disney movie? If this is happening around you, it’s no fairy tale! It might just be a nightmare called “multiflora rose,” an invasive species here in Roosevelt and beyond.

Multiflora rose shares some of the same characteristics as nursery roses:

- Beautiful flowers? Check.
- Heady fragrance? Check.
- Thorns, thorns, and more thorns? Check.

However, multiflora rose has a downside: it’s incredibly invasive and, if left unchecked, will quickly create an impenetrable thicket. Multiflora rose is native to East Asia and was originally introduced into the US as an ornamental in the 1700s. Between 1940 and 1960, it was widely planted on the East Coast to control erosion. Since then, its nasty invasive tendencies have landed it on the “Noxious Weed List” in at least ten states. Multiflora rose now infests more than 45 million acres along the East Coast, causing significant reduction in beef production due to pastures that are now covered in brambles.

Why is multiflora rose so successful? One of its secrets is its zealous seed production: One plant can produce 500,000 seeds per year, and even if the mature plant is ripped out, enough seeds remain behind to re-infest the area for the next 20 years. Another of its secrets is its

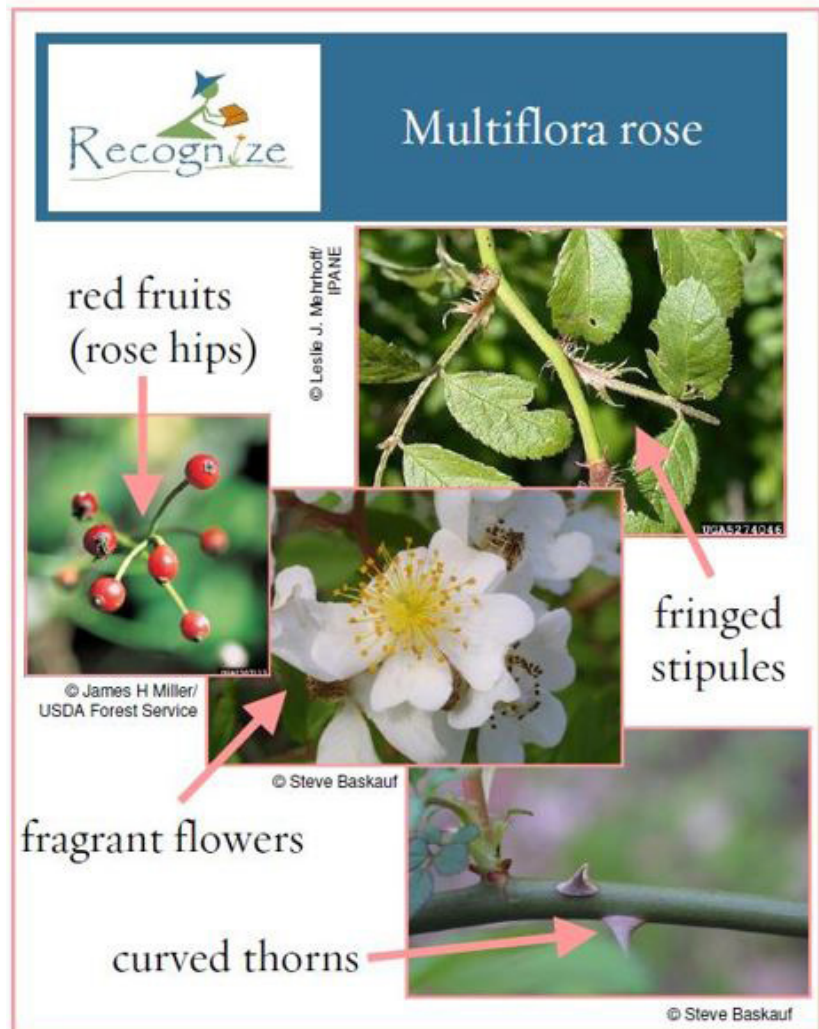
fondness for growing on steep slopes, where mowers can’t gain access. It’s not picky where it grows and will thrive in a large variety of habitats. Multiflora rose grows so thickly that it excludes almost everything in its path, and can even restrict animal movement—it has been used as a living fence to separate herds of horses. It also competes below ground for resources, and can inhibit the growth of native species and adjacent commercial crops.

What does it look like? The branches of this shrub are thick and thorny, and form arches from a central hub. These branches can also sprawl along the ground or climb in trees. The leaves also have thorns. Large clusters of white/pink flowers with yellow centers will bloom in late May/June,

with fruit (rose hips) that turn bright red in the fall when they mature. The birds and other wildlife eat the seeds and disperse them about the area in the usual fashion.

Is there any good news about multiflora rose? Well...a new study from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign examined how leaf litter in water influences the abundance of *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes. How is this helpful? *C. pipiens* is the species of mosquitoes responsible for transmitting West Nile virus to humans, pets, birds and other wildlife. The study found that different kinds of leaf litter in standing water influence where these mosquitoes decide to lay their eggs and whether or not the hatchlings thrive or flounder. As it

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Spring Activities of the Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation

By Maria Del Piano

As we approach the end of the 2015 - 2016 school year and look back on the activities of the past few months, we can say that it has been a busy and productive time for the Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation.

On the 6th of May, we raised funds for Roosevelt Public School by sponsoring our third annual rock climbing event at Rockville Climbing Gym, in Hamilton. The kids who participated really enjoyed themselves as they puzzled out ways to scale the 30-foot walls.

On the 21st of May, we kicked off our "Under the Mural" series with a well-attended concert and silent auction in the main lobby of RPS. The featured performers were a home-grown quartet, aptly named "The Neighbors." The group includes Ron Kostar on clarinet and vocals, Nancy Hamilton on vocals and harmony, Kevin McNally on hand-held percussion, and Judith McNally on keyboard. The group's lively rendition of jazz standards and show tunes had many people singing along. The silent auction featured art works by local and not so local artists.

From April through May, resident

Stacey Bonna, a certified Pilates teacher, taught a series of six Mat Pilates classes in the RPS gym on Thursday evenings. We thank Stacey very much for donating her time for us.

Members of the Foundation also received funds through a Clean Communities Grant for our participation in May's Litter Pick-Up Day.

With the proceeds of these activities and past events, we have been able to donate plants to expand the school's existing herb garden and purchase additional shelves for the Art program's pottery kiln, for which we won a grant. We shared with other community organizations the cost of the "Mural of Roosevelt" created by RPS students and staff in the school's lobby. We also co-sponsored with the RPS PTA, a StarLab presentation at which all students learned about stars, constellations, and the universe. All of these activities are in line with our mission to provide funding for programs, equipment, training, and other resources to support the district's efforts to educate our children to be independent and creative thinkers, skillful communicators, and lifelong learners.

Our board members continue to sharpen their skills by attending seminars and participating in webinars. Elections were held for President and Vice President positions, at June's monthly meeting. Mary Tulloss was re-elected as President and Lisa Menda, our newest member, was elected as Vice President. Lisa fit right in our team and is replacing Tom Bonner, who is moving out of the RPS district. His valuable input and energy will be missed.

We will put your tax-deductible donations to good use, and need the support of our community as volunteers and attendees at events and as new members on our Board. Our Third Annual Wine, Cheese & Dessert Event and Silent Auction will take place in September. You can learn more about the Foundation and contact us via our website at <http://rpsef.org>. Thank you.



Continued from Page 4

turns out, *C. pipiens* mosquito larvae do not do well in water that contains leaf litter from multiflora rose.

How to control: Repeated mowing/cutting is a start, but multiflora rose will sprout from the stumps left behind. Small plants can be dug out, but be sure to get the entire root. Herbicides can be used with caution, as to not harm the native plants nearby.

Native alternatives:

Climbing prairie rose (*Rosa setigera*)
Summersweet, aka sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Choke cherry (*Prunus virginiana*)

For more information:

<http://www.treehugger.com/lawn-garden/4-plants-your-garden-reduce-west-nile-virus-risk.html>

<http://www.invasive.org/biocontrol/22multiflorarose.html>

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

<http://www.vtinvasives.org>

<http://www.nature.org>

<http://www.minnesotawildflowers.info>

MEDITATION & RELAXATION

By Buddhist Nun Trime (Nettie Polling)

**Thursday, July 21, 6-7 pm
at the Roosevelt Borough Hall everyone is welcome
there is no charge**

**Call June Counterman
448-3182 for additional
information**

On behalf of Peggy Malkin and me, we are writing to thank you for electing us to be the Democratic nominees for the two three-year Council seats, and for selecting us to be the new Democratic Committee Chairpersons representing Roosevelt. We've already begun our work. We'd like to thank Ann Baker and Bob Atwood for their many years of service as the outgoing chairpersons.

The 2016 primary election results give us much to be proud of.

- In Monmouth County 22.97% of the registered voters voted in the 2016 primary.
- In Roosevelt, 44.36% of the registered voters came to the polls to vote, almost twice the county average, and one of the highest voter turnouts in the county!

This is a big improvement over the prior year's primaries in Roosevelt (see below)

- 2016 Primary Election, a Presidential Primary, 44.36% of registered voters voted.
- 2015 Primary Election 10.86% of registered voters voted.
- 2014 Primary Election 9.73% of registered voters voted.

Democrats Nominate Malkin, Hamilton, Ticktin and Porter for Council; Elect Malkin and Hamilton to County Committee; Sanders and Trump Carry Roosevelt in their Respective Primaries

By Michael Ticktin

On June 7, Democratic primary voters nominated Councilwoman Peggy Malkin and former mayor Michael Hamilton for three-year Council terms, Councilman Michael Ticktin for the unexpired two-year term, and Alana Porter for the unexpired one-year term. Ms. Malkin and Mr. Hamilton were also elected as the Roosevelt members of the Monmouth County Democratic Committee. There were no Republican candidates for either Council or County Committee seats.

Vote totals for Council and County Committee candidates were as follows:

Three-year terms (2): Peggy Malkin-153; Michael Hamilton-150; Jessica Hanley-96.

Two-year term: Michael Ticktin-147; Judith Mathus-71. One-year term: Alana Porter-151. County committee (male): Michael Hamilton- 115; Robert Atwood-108. County committee (female): Peggy Malkin-131; Ann Baker-113.

In the Democratic presidential primary, Bernie Sanders received 137 votes, while Hillary Clinton received 119. In the Republican presidential primary, Donald Trump received 22 votes, John Kasich received 5 and Ted Cruz received none.

- 2012 Primary Election, a Presidential Primary, 28.36% of registered voters voted.

As Democratic Committee Chairs, we will continue our efforts to encourage active citizen involvement and participation in our political system.

Michael Hamilton
Democratic Committee Chairman

Hello Neighbors,

I want to sincerely thank everyone who voted for me.

It feels really good to know that you have the confidence that I will continue to do a good job as councilwoman.

I am already working hard as your new Democratic Committeewoman.

As you know, we have many issues looming in town. I am your representative, and hope you know you can contact me regardless of your opinions and I will listen to your concerns.

Roosevelt has always been a town where people have worked together to make it a viable, thriving, wonderful place to live.

With everyone's help, I hope to continue carrying on that tradition.

Again, Thank You

Peggy Malkin



Improvements Scheduled for Roosevelt Woodland Trail

Work is set to begin in July for restoration and repairs of the Roosevelt Woodland Trail.

The two-mile trail, which runs from the end of Pine Drive Extension to the cemetery, was established over two decades ago. Since then, the portion between Tamara Drive and Rochdale Avenue has become nearly impassible through the wetlands along Empty Box Brook. The project will create wooden bog bridges to cross the wet spots and restore full use of the entire trail. Further repairs or resurfacing in other segments will also be made as needed.

In addition, a new trailhead will be created at the eastern end near the cemetery. Currently, that end of the trail can be accessed only through the synagogue section of the cemetery, which is private property. A new path will be routed through the adjacent field, belonging to the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, allowing access to the trail through public property.

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission secured a grant to cover the cost of all equipment and material, and we formed a project partnership with the Student

Conservation Association (SCA) to provide the labor, which will be paid through a second grant. The work is being funded by the Recreational Trails Program administered by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection.

The SCA crew, comprised of high school students and their adult leaders, will be spending two weeks (July 11-24) working on the Woodlands Trail project. If you see them working in the woods, or walking around town, please be sure to welcome them to Roosevelt!

Volunteers Needed for Environmental Projects

The 2015 Environmental Resources Inventory recommended further action in three priority areas:

- Managing the health of our forest, including consideration of fire hazards.
- Managing the control of invasive plant species.
- Managing the health of our streams, including monitoring and the possibility of restoration.

The Environmental Commission is developing projects to address each of these priority areas. If you'd like to learn more and get involved, contact Eitan Grunwald at eitan@eitangrunwald.com or (609) 426-4636.

Free Food Distribution

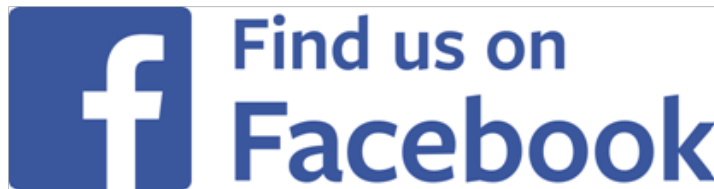
To All Roosevelt Residents:

Do we have any needy families in Roosevelt? I'm sure we must; there is nothing to be embarrassed about. Times are hard, people are out of work or on a fixed income.

Food is distributed, free of charge, by volunteers one Saturday a month between 10:00 am and noon at the Clarksburg Community Center, Route 571, next to the Clarksburg Fire House. You have to pick it up yourself since there is no delivery. No questions as to eligibility will be asked.

The Saturdays do vary, so when I find out which Saturday, I will put a notice on the bulletin board at the Roosevelt Post Office. Call me if you have questions.

Geraldine Millar 609.448.0351



Keep up to date with the latest happenings, events and announcements. Follow the Borough of Roosevelt on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoro

If you would like your organization's event posted to the Borough's Facebook page, please send event details to aprilsuk@gmail.com

School's Out for Summer!

At RPS we were busy until the end. In addition to finishing our academic calendar, our students and staff participated in extracurricular events.

The annual 6th grade trip was to Camelback Mountain for a day of fun and then dinner at Medieval Times.

Our 5th graders traveled to Philadelphia to see historic sites and visit the zoo; they had a great day!

Pre-schoolers went to a local farm to see the horses.

The Student Council treated the entire school to ice cream for dessert after lunch; everyone enjoyed the treat.

Field Day and the annual "6th graders versus the faculty kickball game" enjoyed excellent weather. We were happy that former classmates were able to join the game.



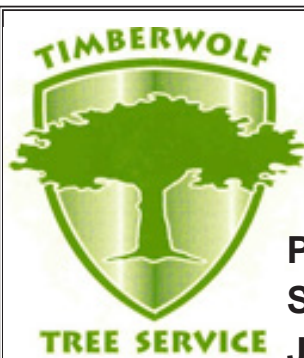
Even after graduation, our sixth graders were still hard at work!

The school wide awards ceremony was followed by yearbook distribution and autograph signing.

Our 6th graders graduated on June 11th at a lovely four o'clock ceremony that was held indoors since thunderstorms were threatening. That graduation marked the 79th that has been held at

Roosevelt School—what a wonderful tradition and history we share here.

Enjoy the lazy, hazy days!
 Mary Robinson Cohen, M.A., J.D.
 Superintendent and Principal
 Roosevelt Public
 Schoolmcohen@rps1.org



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An electronic calendar was installed on the Roosevelt Board of Education's website containing information about state testing, upcoming field trips, events and additional pertinent information. Learn more about all of the happenings in our school, visit RPS website: www.rps1.org. Please send notice of your events to Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com.



MISSION

To educate and inspire all students to excel academically*, to become independent and creative thinkers, skillful communicators and lifelong learners. Roosevelt Public School nurtures and challenges the unique potential of each student so that our children will develop individual, social and civic responsibility as well as respect for themselves, each other, and the environment.

*to achieve or exceed N.J. CCCS at all grade levels

At a special Board meeting on May 26, 2016, members of the RPS Board of Education met with Kathy Winecoff, our designated New Jersey School Boards Association Field Service Representative, to formally initiate our Strategic Planning Process. This year-long process will create a Strategic Plan for Roosevelt Public School, utilizing data and input from the entire RPS community, to create a shared vision to equip Roosevelt Public School for the next five years of excellence in education.

Key dates in the upcoming Strategic Planning process are:

1 September 2016: Meeting with Kathy Winecoff, Strategic Planning facilitator, and RPS staff. This meeting will inform and engage the RPS staff about the Strategic Planning process and their part in it.

6 October, 2016, 7 pm: Strategic Planning Orientation Meeting for the RPS community. This meeting will be open to all interested parties: parents (including Choice Program parents and pre-K parents), other Roosevelt residents, RPS staff, and members of community organizations. This meeting will focus on strengths and challenges facing the district.

14 November 2016: Training Session for the Information Committee. After training, this committee will be tasked to gather information on the school and community.

10-11 February 2017: Strategic Planning: Beliefs, Mission, Goals. These meetings, held on Friday at 7 pm and Saturday from 8 am - 2 pm, will take the information collected and work together to develop a new mission statement for RPS and to set goals for the next 5 years.

7 March 2017: Training of Action Teams. The Action Teams will take the document produced in the February Strategic Planning Meeting and create plans for action to implement the defined goals.

9 May 2017: Action Plan Review. At this meeting, the Action plans developed will be reviewed and finalized.

25 May 2017: Delivery of the Strategic Plan to the Board for adoption.

The RPS Board strongly encourages the widest possible participation in the entire Strategic Planning process; we need your ideas, thoughts, and voices to create the best possible plan to guide Roosevelt Public School through the next 5 years.

Vacancies on the RPS Board of Education

There is currently a vacancy on the RPS BOE, and there will be three three-year seats open in the November 2016 election. The term of office for these seats is January 2017 - December 2019. The Board actively encourages anyone with an interest in the future of RPS to consider joining the Board. The deadline for filing for the November election is Monday, July 25, 2016, so there is still time to learn more and get involved.

For more information, please contact Natalie Warner, Board President (rpsboe@gmail.com) or speak with any curre Board member.

RECYCLING DATES
 July 13, 27
 August 10, 24
 September 7, 21

STATE PERMITS
 Wednesdays 1 - 3

ZONING PERMITS
 Tuesdays 4 - 6 PM

BOROUGH HOUSING INSPECTIONS
 Tuesdays 5 - 6 PM
 Borough Hall

Join other good neighbors at
ROOSEVELT SOLAR VILLAGE
 North Valley Road, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

- One and Two Bedroom Units for Adults Age 62+ Years Old
- Some Units Available for Disabled Individuals 18+ Years Old
- Rent is Based on Income & Eligibility Requirements
- Parking available • On-site Maintenance

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 609.371.1350

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Happy Fourth of July from the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company!

Summer has officially started, the kids are off from school and summer vacations are underway. Before you break out the BBQ, the Fire Department would like to remind you that July is the peak month for grill fires. An estimated 8,900 home fires are caused by grilling each year. Failure to properly clean the grill was the leading factor contributing to the fire, a close second was having items too close to the grill, which is why your grill should be kept at least 10 feet from the house.

If you choose to have a more non-traditional cooking fire, make sure it's contained, has a grate and a chimney. It is not advisable to burn lawn debris or trash, as open burns are not permissible in the state of New Jersey. However, if you would like to have a campfire in your yard, permits are available for free from the New Jersey Forest Fire Service.

The Fire Department responded to two calls in June, a motor vehicle accident on Clarksburg Road and a report of a smoke condition on North Valley Road.

This June marked my tenth year as a certified firefighter with our Fire Department, as well as the tenth anniversary of April Suk and John Lenart. We joined the department together in 2005 and completed the Fire Academy together in June of 2006. Ten years makes us all lifetime members of the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company, and we are honored to have been able to serve the community for a decade now.

Speaking of lifetime members, we would like to welcome back Steve Yeger, lifetime member and past Chief of the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company. Steve has decided to become an active member again and

we are honored to have him back. Steve brings more than 30 years of experience with him, and something this department was in much need of, old firefighters. After all, they say the best thing an old firefighter can teach a young firefighter, is how to be an old firefighter. Steve was responsible for getting our department involved in Mutual Aid and fostering the relationship with Millstone back in the 80s and 90s, and his experience and connections will no doubt be invaluable assets to our department today.

A few years back when we decided to give things another try, having no 'legacy' members available to us we didn't know where to start to get our department back up to current standards. Rather than struggle through the red tape and standards ourselves, we reached out for help.

We realized the department didn't have any Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs), not knowing where else to start, we reached out to Millstone's Chief, Jim Carbin, and asked for copies of Millstone's. We adapted those into our own and continue to review, adapt and improve them each year.

We called the Division of Fire Safety and asked, "We're restarting a department, what should we do?" Their team was more than happy to help, came out and met with us and walked us through all the processes for reporting our calls the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), helped explain the certifications we would need, found missing certifications for other members, and helped us get back into compliance.

We called the New Jersey Forest Fire Service and said "We live in the woods, what should we do?" They too went above and beyond to help. They pointed us towards trainings and grants, they came out and met with us, they called in every other

month to check on us. They even came out to our fundraisers.

We called the Fire Marshall, who at that time was Hank Stryker, we said "We don't have up to date equipment, what should we do?" Hank sent an email out to every department in Monmouth County to find us help, and we were connected with several incredible departments who offered us equipment, training, support and just overall goodwill.

Through my involvement in the First Aid Squad, we were lucky enough to have Jack Rindt also helping us. Jack is not only an experienced career firefighter and line officer, but also a Fire Services Instructor. He encouraged us all to get our Incident Management trainings early on and even held trainings in Roosevelt for the officers to attend. He helped us navigate the NFPA standards to get our department back on its feet and into compliance and even after he moved out of Roosevelt, he is still an incredible mentor and source of support.

We knew we weren't the most experienced department, we knew we had a lot to learn, which is why when other, more established departments reached out to help we jumped at the opportunities. When Hightstown offered to bring us to the Large Diameter Hose relay, when they offered to give our members Pump Ops classes and compressed air foam system (CAFS) training, we went. When Hope Fire Company offered us Ice Rescue classes and the opportunity to participate in live burn evolutions, we went. When Millstone offered us Solar Panel Training, we went. Humility is not an easy virtue, but people's lives are at stake, so we knew we had to swallow our pride and get help when we needed it. We know the day you claim you know everything is the day you stop learning, which is why our members continue to attend classes at the Fire Academy and take every other oppor-

tunity to continue their education.

We have been honored to have so many experienced members of the fire service step forward to help us rebuild, and we continue to take advice and constructive criticisms from departments more experienced than ours. We have learned that as long as you are working with experienced and respectful individuals, there truly is no such thing as a stupid question.

We also continue to build our relationship with the Roosevelt First Aid Squad; ten years ago there was animosity between the two organizations although as a new member I didn't understand why. Today, more than half of our Firefighters are also members of the First Aid Squad, and we regularly train together and assist each other on scene and off.

Every person that reaches out to help brings their own experiences and skills which can only help to round out our department and our community. We know we will never be perfect, we know we can always get better, and as long as we remain open to accepting help from our brothers in the fire service, we can only continue to improve.

If you would like to help us get better, we encourage you to reach out to the department. We aren't superheroes and we're not members of a private club; we're just a group of your neighbors that are crazy enough to run into burning buildings for free, and we're always looking for new members.

From our officers and members, we hope you have a great summer.



ROOSEVELT FIRST AID SQUAD

End of an Era for the Roosevelt First Aid Squad

After more than two decades of volunteer service, Jack and Kimberly Rindt are retiring as lifetime members of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad. Jack, a military veteran who served with the Military Police stationed at Fort Dix, Battalion Chief for Fort Monmouth's Fire Department, and First Assistant Chief for the Applegarth Engine Fire Company No. 1, and former member of the Millstone Township Fire Department moved with his wife Kim, at the time an emergency room nurse, to Roosevelt in 1982.

Jack immediately joined the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company where he was instrumental in acquiring equipment and grants for the small department. He retired as a lifetime member in 1992 at which point he joined the Roosevelt First Aid Squad. Although now retired from his career firefighting position at Fort Monmouth, Jack continues his career in emergency services as an EMT instructor at MONOC, an instructor at the Mercer County Fire Academy, and an adjunct professor at both Burlington County College and the University of Texas at Arlington.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad was founded in 1958 by Roosevelt's Fire Chief, Mark Klatskin. "Jack is the reincarnation of Klatskin," says squad president Steve Yeger. Klatskin not only started Roosevelt's First Aid Squad, but he's also credited with helping to establish Millstone's First Aid Squad.

By April Suk

Roosevelt and neighboring Millstone Township have shared a mutual aid response plan for more than 30 years. "Millstone's first ambulance was actually bought from Roosevelt," explains Millstone First Aid's Captain, Petronio Zalamea.

"The legacy Jack leaves the squad is how to do it right," says 20 year veteran and current squad vice president, Neil Marko. "When I first joined, the squad had two members, Herb Johnson and Jack. If it wasn't for the single handed perseverance of Jack, the squad would not be in the great shape that it is today."

"It's never been an individual effort," says Jack, "It's always been a team effort." Under Jack's leadership, the squad has increased its membership, been awarded thousands in grants and purchased two new ambulances which they use to answer an average of 300 calls a year, most of which are for mutual aid.

Knowing a move was in his future, Jack stepped down as Captain of the squad at the end of last year and John Vo was voted in as the new Captain for 2016. "With Chris Suk as the new Fire Chief and John Vo as the new First Aid Captain, the town is in good hands," says Rindt.

With large shoes to fill, both new leaders remain positive about the future of emergency services in Roosevelt. "We will continue to do our best to help the residents of Roosevelt," says Vo.

On Saturday, June 4 the officers and members of the squad presented Jack and Kim with a plaque as a token of thanks for their many years of service.

"The squad will live on," says Kim Rindt. Thankfully, the squad has had six new members join in the last twelve months, but filling the void left by the Rindt's departure will surely be felt for many years to come.

July is Monarch Butterfly Month in Roosevelt

In celebration of the Mayor's proclamation of July as Monarch Butterfly Month in Roosevelt, we reprint this article from the March 2015 issue of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin.

Talk to any Roosevelt School student – past or present – and they can tell you tremendous tales of the monarch butterfly. They can describe its metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly, its utter reliance on milkweed as a place for adults to lay eggs and caterpillars to feed, and its phenomenal seasonal migration to overwintering grounds in Mexico. This is thanks to the fact that RPS students have raised and studied monarchs for many years, and are fortunate to have on school grounds, a butterfly garden that is a certified Monarch Waystation.

RPS students and Roosevelt residents here in Monmouth County have enjoyed seeing these iconic orange-and-black-winged beauties at their flower beds in the summer for decades. I've heard stories from Cape May about early fall gatherings of migrating monarchs that were so plentiful, their collective weight bent branches. Unfortunately, although it seems inconceivable, it is possible that this once-plentiful creature, the migrating monarch, is at risk of becoming extinct in our lifetime.

Forgive me for being the bearer of bad news, but the truth is, the overwintering population of monarchs has seen a 92% decline in numbers over the last 20 years. That's a billion butterflies fewer than the highest numbers recorded in 1996. You might wonder why there has been such a massive decline in numbers, and how you can help. If you asked yourself those questions, thank you! And, read on ...
Why the decline?

There are many different reasons for the precipitous decline in the mon-

arch population. Factors include loss of habitat (for example, prairie land being converted for agriculture or development); the increase in herbicide-resistant crops leading to loss of the milkweed plant; logging of the forests in the Mexican overwintering grounds; a couple of extreme weather events that killed off large numbers; and, increases in the use of certain insecticides.

What's being done and how can I help?

There are different programs and efforts in Mexico to conserve what's left of the overwintering habitat. There's a joint USA/Mexico working group, established in February 2104, to study ways to protect the monarch butterfly. In February this year, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, with the National Wildlife Federation and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, initiated a project, #savethemonarch. In partnership, they have established the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund to help fund monarch habitat conservation projects, especially in the corn belt of the United States. Also, there is a growing movement in the eastern US states to do everything possible to help the survival of this species. The good news is, every one of us can do something to make a difference for the monarch.

You can directly help the eastern migrating population of monarch butterflies:

1) Plant milkweed! - Plant lots and lots of milkweed. Or, plant a small amount of milkweed as every little bit helps! Monarch butterflies only lay their eggs on milkweed and the caterpillars can only eat milkweed.

Please ensure it's the RIGHT milkweed! To aid monarchs, the milkweed should be locally-sourced and untreated (not sprayed with pesticides). Some nurseries might sell

tropical milkweed, but recent reports indicate there is some trouble with this species, so I would avoid it for now. The Native Plant Society of NJ has a list of nurseries that sell native plant species on their website at www.npsnj.org.

You can order milkweed plugs (individual seedlings with roots in soil) from Monarch Watch's Milkweed Market (<http://monarchwatch.org/milkweed/market>); they will only send you plants from seeds originating in your region.

You can also learn how to find locally-sourced, native milkweeds at <http://insects.about.com/od/butterfliesmoths/fl/How-to-Find-Locally-Sourced-Native-Milkweeds-for-Your-Monarch-Butterfly-Habitat.htm>

If you know of someone who has milkweed growing on their land, you can collect seeds or even transplant a few plants to your own garden. Transplant with lots of root ball and water well for the first couple of weeks.

2) Plant wildflowers or sow wildflower seeds – Monarchs obtain nectar from a variety of wildflowers (not just milkweed). Please obtain native wildflowers or wildflower seeds from a source that is GUARANTEED to not be genetically modified (certified non-GMO) and not treated with any pesticides (e.g. organic). These wildflowers are essential food sources for early summer for the populations arriving back in NJ and for fueling in late summer for the populations about to embark on a 2,000 mile journey. Not sure if it's native? Check out the list of NJ native plants provided by the Native Plant Society of NJ at www.npsnj.org.

3) Let the weeds grow! - I don't mean let your whole yard look like it's neglected. I mean set aside a

Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12

small fraction and let the weeds grow - especially those late-season golden-rods.

4) Avoid the use of neonicotinoid insecticides - The butterflies AND the BEES will thank you! (See the useful link below.)

5) Stop buying annual flowers from non-organic sources - Or at least get a guarantee that the plants have not been treated with insecticides (especially, permethrin or neonicotinoid insecticides). You may think you are helping the pollinators by planting nice, nectar-rich flowers, but if your lovely impatiens and begonias have been treated with insecticides, you could be luring pollinators to their deaths.

6) Get involved! - The Roosevelt Environmental Commission is working on ways to further the Borough's role in helping save the Monarch. If you'd like to get involved, please contact us at environmental@rooseveltnj.org.

THANK YOU!

Useful links for more information:

www.fws.gov/savethemonarch

www.monarchjointventure.org

<http://monarchwatch.org>

<http://www.xerces.org/wings-magazine/neonicotinoids-in-your-garden/>



More on Monarch Migration

Monarchs born in NJ in late summer migrate over 2,000 miles to Mexico where they join up with monarchs from all over the continental US to overwinter - clustering together in large bunches on the branches of oyamel fir trees. In the spring, they begin to journey north, stopping, mating and laying eggs in south eastern states. After laying their eggs, these adults die, but their offspring continue the journey to the northern breeding grounds. Once here, there can be 2 or 3 more generations, with the adults of late summer being the ones that will migrate to Mexico for the winter. So, it is possible that the great, great "grandchild" of a monarch raised at Roosevelt Public School will, the following year follow in the path of its great, great grandparent. Even if the monarch butterfly does not completely die out, this migration phenomenon might be gone in a couple of years. Unless

Environmental Commission Activities for 4th of July

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission is looking forward to the Fourth of July Celebration! We will have a table that features hands-on activities that highlight what our individual committees are working on right now:

***Invasive Species Committee**—come try your luck matching live samples of invasive species with their common names. Avid gardeners and naturalists can challenge themselves by using the scientific names only.

***Stream Monitoring Committee**—scoop out live macro-invertebrates (insect larvae) that were collected from Empty Box Brook and match them with their pictures to discover what they will be when they mature.

***Trail Improvement Committee**—check out a giant map of Roosevelt that highlights our beautiful walking trails. Learn about the upcoming improvements and events being planned. Find your house and see which trails are closest to you.

***Information on recycling, composting, and planting native species will also be available.**

Please volunteer for Environmental Commission activities. We are a small, but active, group of residents who care deeply about preserving our beautiful borough. Our focus is on providing education and activities that ensure our forests, streams, and woodlands will remain healthy for years to come!***

Impact of GMOs

Decades ago, wildflowers, including milkweed, grew alongside major agricultural crops. Safe amongst the crops, these milkweed plants would provide the perfect place for the migrating monarchs to lay their eggs. By the time the crop was collected, the eggs had hatched, caterpillars had pupated, and adults had emerged and moved on. Now there are genetically modified (GMO) crops - modified to be resistant to certain herbicides. With GMO corn or soybean crops, the farmer can broadcast spray the entire field with herbicides; the GMO crops resist the toxic spray, but every other plant growing between the cornstalks or soybean plants, including the milkweed, dies. (... and we eat the sprayed corn ... Hmmm...)

Contributors to the Bulletin 2015/2016

Contributions received after the 15th of the month will appear in the next Bulletin.

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Thank you for your generosity!

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Help Wanted

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is a fully volunteer effort of its writers, editors, layout artist, and distribution captain. We would like to expand our team:

Roving Reporter – 4 hours a month – Write short features that focus on Roosevelt-specific themes.

Managing Editor in Training – 4 hours a month – Work with current Managing Editor to learn the editorial ropes for eventually assuming this esteemed role. Learn valuable editorial skills from a seasoned, if slightly over the hill, former professional editor who will unreservedly share everything there is to know about the production of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin.

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The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$50.00/year, \$60.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month

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J U L Y


4 Mon.		Roosevelt Fourth of July Celebration
5 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
5 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
11 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
13 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
14 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
17 Sun.	10:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training Jack Rindt, Training Officer
19 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting,, Jeff Klein, President
20 Wed.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
25 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall, Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
27 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
28 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 903-1061

A U G U S T

2 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
2 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
8 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
10 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
11 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
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24 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
25 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061

S E P T E M B E R

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7 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
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