

Bulletin

Volume 38 Number 6

March 2015

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Michael Ticktin

Citing Business Obligations, Michelle Hermelee Resigns from the Council; Jill Lipoti Elected by the Council to Replace Her Until November; Utility Repairs Proceed

On February 3, Councilwoman Michelle Hermelee, citing difficulty in balancing devoting sufficient time to the Council and running her business, submitted her resignation. At the February 23 meeting, the Council unanimously elected Jill Lipoti to fill the vacancy until the seat is filled for the unexpired term in November. Ms. Lipoti served on the Council in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

At the February 2 meeting, the Council voted to send a draft ordinance to make South Valley Road one-way from Clarksburg Road (Route 571) to Lake Drive to the Monmouth County Highway Department for review. After studying the obstruction of the view of westbound traffic for vehicles entering Clarksburg Road from South Valley Road due to the slope and curvature of Clarkburg Road, the Highway Department had previously determined that making South Valley Road one-way going north would be the solution that would best protect public safety.

Also at the February 2 meeting, after hearing a report from Councilman Jeff Ellentuck on a study conducted by Borough Engineer Carmela Roberts, the Council approved, in concept, the replacement of the current firehouse, which has a leaking roof and other deficiencies, with a new building that would be built behind the site of the current

building. The new building would have five bays and enough space in front of it to make it easier to get vehicles in and out quickly without taking away parking spaces needed for the borough hall. The cost for this design option, which would meet the needs of the Fire Department and First Aid Squad, was initially estimated at \$400,000. However, at the February 23 meeting, Councilman Ellentuck indicated that further review indicated that the cost might well be higher, and he recommended deferring any further action until all costs for this project, as well as for work that is needed at the sewage treatment plant, are determined.

Also at the February 23 meeting, Councilman Stuart Kaufman reported that work on the water treatment plant was proceeding well, with the new aerator being up and running and new filters scheduled to be installed in the spring, after which water quality, while not currently unsafe at all, is expected to improve considerably. He also stated that necessary repair work on the water tower will be started as soon as the weather allows.

At the February 9 meeting, the Council introduced an ordinance to establish new salary ranges for municipal officials and employees. This ordinance was adopted at the February 23 meeting. Salaries are set in the annual budget,

Continued on Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Board of Education News	4	Rescue Squad News	8
School News	6	Environmental Commision	10
Roosevelt Arts Project	7	Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation	13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 37th edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from October 2013 through September, 2014. We will not publish in January and August 2014.

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.

Roosevelt Open Studio

Roosevelt School Art Room Tuesdays 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Open for Roosevelt Residents over 15

Contact: Ellen Silverman, Home: 609 490 0557, Cell: 609 865 7396

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.

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From the Mayor

By Elsbeth Battel

Dear Neighbors,

How often have you heard someone say, "I can do whatever I want, it's my property!" Or the very same person say of a neighbor, "He shouldn't be allowed to do that, there should be a law against that!" One of the most interesting things about sitting on a governing body, no matter how modest, is finding the line between personal freedom and societal control. In our Borough government we are subject to the laws of the United States Constitution, as well as Federal, State and County laws. Members of the Borough Council have zoning laws and local ordinances to write and enforce, trying to balance the needs of individuals with the overall needs of the community. It's not easy!

At Council meetings, at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday evenings of the month, we welcome the input of residents to share their opinions and offer suggestions. Especially welcome are those with good productive ideas on how to improve the town and better serve the residents (without raising taxes, there's the rub!) So please, don't be a stranger; come and join the Planning Board or Environmental Commission, or run for Council. Your help is needed; it's your town, too.

Stay well,
Beth

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 1

but they must be within the range allowed by the salary ordinance. Also at the February 23 meeting, the Council approved a motion by Councilman Ellentuck to hire Borough Treasurer Anna Debevic to serve as Purchasing Agent as well.

Also at the February 9 meeting, the Council responded to notice of a proposed encroachment upon a wetlands buffer by an owner of land in Millstone that is adjacent to land of the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Roosevelt south of the cemetery. The application for the encroachment upon the wetlands buffer is being made to the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), which is the owner of the Assunpink WMA. The Council expressed concern the proposed construction would increase runoff into Empty Box Brook, thus exacerbating

the water problems that have resulted in the loss of forest land in Roosevelt. Councilman Michael Ticktin reported at the February 23 meeting that the Environmental Commission had discussed the proposed encroachment with Professor Jean-Marie Hartman, the consultant who is preparing the Environmental Resources Inventory, and that she would be preparing a detailed list of concerns for submission to the DEP on behalf of the Environmental Commission.

Also at the February 9 meeting, the Council voted to purchase a 25-cot kit so that the Borough will be prepared for any emergency in which the Borough Hall might need to be used as an emergency shelter. At the February 23 meeting, Fire Chief Dan Archer announced that the Fire Department was expecting to receive a new used fire truck by the end of February.

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:

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555



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

Budget Time

The Roosevelt Board of Education sets policy for the school, hires the Chief School Administrator/Principal, and adopts the budget. We welcome you to attend the upcoming Board meetings to hear about the 2015 proposed budget. At the time of this writing, we have not yet received the estimates of state aid to be incorporated in the budget.

The draft budget was presented to the Board of Education on February 26 at 7:30 pm. The Board will vote on the preliminary budget March 19 at 7:30 pm. The Public Hearing for the Budget will be held on April 30 at 7:30 pm.

Interested in Serving on the Board of Education?

If you are interested in becoming a BOE member please contact us at the rpsboe@gmail.com.

Policy Highlights

The BOE meets monthly. At those meetings there are two available times for public input. In between meetings parents often have questions related to the school. In this article, we address Policy 9130, Public Complaints and

Grievances (all policies are available at the school website, <http://RPS1.org>).

This policy outlines who parents should contact in relation to certain events. In general, the first step is always to reach out to the teacher with any questions or concerns. The teacher will make every effort to explain details of situations that might help clarify the concern. The teacher will share any related information with the CSA/Principal.

Sometimes a parent will need more information or their teacher may not be able to address the concern without assistance. At that time a meeting may be held with the CSA/Principal, parent, and often the teacher.

A concern that is not resolved at the CSA/Principal meeting may be forwarded to the Board of Education by following the steps in Policy/Regulation 9130.

Matters related to potential bullying will be routed from the teacher to the CSA/Principal who will determine if a bullying investigation needs to be implemented according to Policy 5512, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying.

Matters related to RPS policy, curriculum, practice, operation, or instructional materials may be addressed directly to the CSA/Principal, but it never hurts to make the first request to the teacher. The teacher may be able to quickly explain the background information relating to these items. Luckily, most of our teachers have been here for more than ten years and can quickly explain the value of Everyday Math over Singapore Math (as an example).

The CSA/Principal may decide that new policy, curriculum or materials are warranted and will make that request to the appropriate Board of Education committee.

To view all of the school policies, including those mentioned in this article, visit rps1.org and scroll down to the Board of Education section.

Committee Update

The Board of Education has created a new committee – the Outreach Committee. This committee is responsible for writing these articles, attending PTA meetings, attending RPS Educational Foundation meetings, and working with other districts or entities for shared services. This committee replaces the previous legislation/public relations committee.

Schools after RPS

Roosevelt sends its 7th and 8th graders to Melvin H. Kreps Middle School in East Windsor. Other middle school and high school options are available to families by applying to the Interdistrict Choice Program at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/choice>. The deadlines are the fall of the school year prior to admission.

Roosevelt high school students are sent to Hightstown High School. Because of this relationship in Mercer County, our students are also eligible to apply to the Mercer Health Science Academy. This deadline is in the fall of 8th grade. Watch for a new Mercer Academy of Engineering that is under discussion.

In addition Roosevelt students can attend Hightstown High School for a half day and then attend one of two vocational schools: Career Center in Freehold (Freshman through Senior Year) or Mercer County Technical Schools (Junior and Senior years).

Students in Monmouth County are eligible to apply to any one of five full-time specialized high schools (also known as “career academies”), two of which – High Tech High School in Lincroft, and Biotech High in Freehold – are ranked among the best schools in the nation by U.S. News and World Report as well as Newsweek. These schools are part of the Monmouth County Vocational School District (MCVSD), which accepts qualifying students who are full-time residents of Monmouth County. Interested

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
(CONT'D.)**

middle school students must attend a scheduled information session sponsored by MCVSD, where they can receive application materials the fall of 8th grade.

There are a total of five academies in the MCVSD system: Academy of Allied Health and Sciences (Neptune); Biotechnology High School (Freehold); Communications High School (Wall); High Technology High School (Lincroft); and Marine Academy of Science and Technology (Sandy Hook).

To learn more about upcoming information sessions and the application process, visit the Monmouth County Vocational School District website at www.mcvsd.org.



**ELECTRONICS
RECYCLING**

State law now prohibits disposal of computers and TVs with trash. Free drop-off. Program open to all Monmouth County residents, small businesses, and institutions. Limited to one pick-up truckload.

Items accepted:

- Computer cases, CPUs
- Keyboards, Mice
- Monitors, Scanners
- Printers, Cables
- Laptops, Peripherals
- Televisions
- Radios, Cameras
- Telephones
- Copiers, Fax Machines
- VCRs, DVD Players
- Stereo Components

Location:

MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP
Dept. of Public Works Garage
Recycling Center
899 Perrineville Rd.

Open on
Tues., Wed., Thurs.
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Sat & Sun
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For additional sites within Monmouth County, please visit
www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?ID3021

WEATHER ALMANAC

By Ron Filepp

January 2015

Day	High	Low	Avg Precip	Cool'g/Heat'g Degree		
				Snow	Days	
1	38.8	20.1	29.5	0.00	0.00	35.6
2	41.7	27.7	34.7	0.00	0.00	30.3
3	45.5	25.0	35.3	0.60	0.00	29.8
4	58.8	42.6	50.7	0.50	0.00	14.3
5	54.3	45.0	49.7	0.20	0.00	15.4
6	26.8	17.2	22.0	0.08	0.80	43.0
7	26.4	10.9	18.7	0.00	0.00	46.4
8	19.9	8.8	14.4	0.00	0.00	50.7
9	36.3	14.0	25.2	0.00	0.00	39.9
10	27.9	12.7	20.3	0.00	0.00	44.7
11	38.5	13.1	25.8	0.00	0.00	39.2
12	37.0	31.6	34.3	0.80	0.00	30.7
13	39.7	19.6	29.7	0.00	0.00	35.4
14	35.8	16.7	26.3	0.00	0.00	38.8
15	36.1	25.0	30.6	0.00	0.00	34.5
16	42.1	20.1	31.1	0.00	0.00	33.9
17	33.3	14.2	23.8	0.00	0.00	41.3
18	39.0	22.1	30.6	0.90	0.00	34.5
19	45.5	32.0	38.8	0.00	0.00	26.3
20	45.0	29.8	37.4	0.00	0.00	27.6
21	36.9	22.6	29.8	0.00	0.00	35.3
22	39.7	28.9	34.3	0.00	0.00	30.7
23	38.5	19.9	29.2	0.00	0.00	35.8
24	40.6	32.4	36.5	0.20	2.00	28.5
25	44.6	30.4	37.5	0.00	0.00	27.5
26	39.2	25.2	32.2	0.75	0.75	32.8
27	33.6	22.1	27.9	0.03	0.25	37.2
28	33.3	12.9	23.1	0.00	0.00	41.9
29	37.4	8.4	22.9	0.00	0.00	42.1
30	40.1	19.4	29.8	0.00	0.00	35.3
31	27.0	12.0	19.5	0.00	0.00	45.5
Totals				4.06	3.80	1084.2

Ere frost-flower and snow-blossom faded and fell, and the splendour of winter had passed out of sight,

The ways of the woodlands were fairer and stranger than dreams that fulfil us in sleep with delight;

The breath of the mouths of the winds had hardened on tree-tops and branches that glittered and swayed

Such wonders and glories of blossomlike snow or of frost that outlightens all flowers till it fade

From "March: An Ode" By Algernon Charles Swinburne

I hope you enjoyed the work of some of our students that was published in the last two issues of the Bulletin – RPS is fortunate to have creative students and talented teachers to guide them!

In this issue, I am going to address the upcoming PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) test, some of the “hubbub” that is surrounding it and how it will affect RPS. The first administration of the PARCC test will be held this spring for all public schools in New Jersey; the test is aimed at gauging how well students have mastered the new Common Core standards. At RPS students in grades 3 through 6 will take the PARCC test; additionally 4th grade students will take the NJ ASK in science.

Standards promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education are not new in New Jersey; nor is testing students on mastery of them. The former tests were called NJ ASK (NJ Assessment of Skills and Knowledge) at the elementary level and the standards they assessed were the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS). At RPS we are fortunate – on the most recent administration of the NJ ASK, 100 percent of our students scored proficient or above on the mathematics portion and 95 percent scored proficient or above on the language arts portion.

In New Jersey, all public schools must prepare all students to be ready for college and careers when they graduate. The new standards and the new test have the same aim as the old – the standards address, and the test assesses, student proficiency in language arts and math. How schools teach the standards and what curricula and resources they use are local decisions for schools such as RPS that have a tradition of high achievement.

The new standards are thought to cover the content area less broadly and more deeply and to advance student’s critical thinking skills. The new PARCC test has two required components: a mid year test which - given at RPS in early March - and an end of the year test - given at the end of April and beginning of May at RPS. The format of the test is new – instead of using paper and pencil, students will take the test on the computer.

Change often brings concerns. With respect to the new standards, political discussions have centered on the Constitutional appropriateness of standards that are being used on a national scope. The concerns about the test have centered on the new computer platform (including but not limited to whether schools can afford enough computers to administer the test and the inherent inequities among communities, whether or not students are capable of navigating the computers to properly demonstrate what they have learned), the correlation between PARCC and the former test, NJ ASK, and whether students and teachers are spending too much time learning how to take the test. Additionally, New Jersey has a new teacher evaluation model, and teacher evaluations scores, and some administrative scores, are tied to student performance on the new PARCC test.

As an educator, a parent and, frankly, someone who has taken many tests to advance my educational credentials, I consider testing a part of life. We urge students to aim high and part of that process will involve sitting for many exams, both in school and possibly on the job. At RPS, we regularly assess our students both informally and formally and use the information that we gain to help students to achieve. Teachers use the data to inform their teaching; for example,

they may provide additional instruction for struggling students and gifted students, and if all of the students in a particular class have mastered a specific standard, the classroom teacher might skip the unit and/or add enrichment activities to a lesson.

A few parents have approached me about the PARCC test and “opting their children out.” There is no formal process in place to “opt out.” RPS parents who make the choice to not have their children take the test need to communicate that to the school in writing and understand that there will be no formal instruction for students in another location while the test is being administered; at RPS they will be able to sit in another classroom and read or work quietly. Parents should be mindful that students who do not take the test affect RPS’s attendance rate and that the NJ Commissioner of Education has said that attendance rates of less than 95 percent can be tied to a loss of funding. At RPS, we have 41 children who are eligible to take the PARCC test; if less than 39 students take the test, we will be below 95 percent.

Parents worry that their children will have anxiety about tests; I would submit that it is the parents, and not the children, who really might have the anxiety about the tests. Children are very flexible and quite adept at navigating the computer. At RPS, we are fortunate that our students have access to new laptops and iPads and a lot of exposure to computers. Our children truly are “digital” natives; I observed a class last week in which the students incorporated technology into their projects and the teacher was truly the facilitator, instructed by the students to advance the power point slides! I urge the adults who are having concerns about PARCC to remember to have “grown up” conversations about this, and so many other topics, out of the range of “little ears.” As a parent, I always encour-

SCHOOL NEWS (CONT'D.)

aged my children to participate fully in all of the experiences that their schools offered, including the ones that I might not have chosen to do myself; the good news is that they taught me new things along the way!

This is not to say that I do not have any issues with PARCC: If I were appointed “Queen of Testing for a Day,” I would declare this a pilot year for PARCC testing because I am not convinced that all of the kinks in the test itself and the platform it will be administered on have been resolved. Most importantly, I do not support the idea that teacher and administrative evaluations should be tied to student performance on the PARCC test because there are so many other variables that affect student performance, including the parent’s role in the education of their children. I look forward to writing about other ways that parents can help their children be successful in school in future editions of the Bulletin.



The Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) is a collaborative venture of friends and neighbors in and around Roosevelt, New Jersey. Bringing together artists in a variety of media, our mission is to foster collaboration and present work to the public.

Founded in 1986 by the nationally known artists, Bernarda Bryson Shahn and Jacob Landau, and others including writers and musicians, RAP presents a series of annual programs. This varied series premieres new works by Roosevelt playwrights, painters and potters, folk singers, poets, and composers, as well as experimental collaborations.

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
Saturday, March 14 8:00 PM	Boro Hall	Music from friends & neighbors Come join us for a variety of musical sounds, from folk to jazz to blues & more. Performances by some familiar faces as well as some new friends & neighbors.
Saturday, April 25 2:00 - 5:00 PM	Roosevelt Public School	“Festival Latino” Join us for a fiesta of Latino music and dance. The group Herencias is back after their success in last year’s Roosevelt Arts Project
Fri, May 8 and Sat, May 9 8PM	Boro Hall	“The Roosevelt String Band in Concert” David, Paul, Ed, Sam, Kai, Joe and Howie will present an evening of folk music guaranteed to stimulate great thoughts, mighty feelings, sweet sensations and a whole lot of fun
Thursday June 4, 2015 at 7:00 PM	Roosevelt Public School	Bringing a Mural to Life Culminating a year-long collaboration between the school and the community, the Roosevelt Public School will present a theatrical piece bringing the Ben Shahn mural to life.

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://www.rooseveltartsproject.org> Be sure to join our mailing list at <http://www.rooseveltartsproject.org> so that you get the brochure sent to you via email each season and timely reminders of each upcoming event. For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616.

The First Aid Squad has responded to 15 emergency calls from January 1 to January 31.

In January the Squad responded in Roosevelt to 1 cardiac, 1 burn and 1 crisis.

Mutual aid into Millstone Twp., 1 crisis, 1 MVA, 1 stroke, 1 abdominal pain, and 1 altered mental status.

Mutual aid into Upper Freehold Twp., 1 respiratory emergency

Mutual aid into Freehold Twp. 1 respiratory emergency, 1 stand-by, 1 emergency transport and 1 seizure.

Mutual aid into Manalapan Twp., 1 syncope and 1 seizure.

For February, the Squad did its annual Bloodborne Pathogens to meet the OSHA requirements 29 CFR 1910.1030. Members of the Roosevelt Fire Company also attended.

As the Squad sent out our donation letters we included "My Personal Medication Record" form. Please complete the form with your current medication and place it on your refrigerator. This would be a great help to the Squad members if we had to come to your home in an emergency. If you misplace the form, or need additional copies, contact any Squad member.

We would like to thank all the residents of Roosevelt for their generous donations to the Squad. Without your support we could not operate. Thank You!!!

If any one wishes to make a donation, you can send it to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad at P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Remember, all donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

We are always looking for new members. We will pay for the required basic training. If interested, please contact any Squad member or stop

Roosevelt First Aid Squad
33 North Rochdale Ave.
P.O. Box 274
Roosevelt, New Jersey 08555
Est. 1948

in during our training for an application. If you would like to join or receive information about becoming an EMT please email roosevelt-firstaidsquad@yahoo.com. You can also find us on facebook. Health Notes: Slipping and Tripping

Slip and Fall, the surface of the pathway is in a condition that causes the person to slip (e.g., wet surface).

Trip and Fall, a foreign object in the pathway caused the fall (e.g., a stack of books); an impediment in the pathway caused the fall (e.g., a power cord, uneven sidewalk, pot hole or broken sidewalk).

The most common cause of trip-and-fall and slip-and-fall injuries occurs when an area is unexpectedly wet or uneven. If it can be shown that the owner of the property either knew about or caused the unsafe condition and did nothing to fix or warn of it, he may be held liable for any injury incurred from a slip and fall/ trip and fall accident.

Winter increases the potential for slips, trips, and falls.

General Tips for Surviving Winter

- Make a workplace safety program for the winter – Create an action plan customized for winter hazards. This should contain helpful information for workers on how to prepare for winter conditions around their facility.
- Keep walkways clear. Remove hazards immediately such as water on floors and stairs, and snow on sidewalks.
- Mark hazardous areas whenever necessary. Use temporary signs,

cones, barricades, or floor stand signs to warn workers passing by.

- Select footwear with appropriate traction. You may also wear removable ice cleats when walking outdoors. Just remember to remove them indoors.

Tips for Walking Safely in the Wintertime

- Wear footwear with heavy treads for increased traction.
- Make yourself visible to drivers by wearing brightly colored jackets or clothes.
- Consider wearing sunglasses to enable you to see through the bright snow reflection.
- Keep your hands out ready to steady yourself in case of slips.
- Look ahead where you're going and anticipate obstacles like uneven ground and ice or puddles.
- Avoid carrying heavy loads that may tip your balance.
- Test slippery areas by tapping a foot before walking.
- Walk slowly and in small shuffling steps to prevent slipping.
- Walk along the grassy edges for maximum traction if the walkway is covered in ice.

Slips, trips and falls are the most frequent accidents leading to personal injury. Slips, trips and falls can result in head injuries, back injuries, broken bones, cuts and lacerations, or strained muscles.

There are two risk categories for the occurrence of slips, trips and falls: internal hazards and external hazards.

Internal Hazards

Internal hazards are just as important as external hazards and involve us as workers and our internal environment, or our own bodies. Just as we have control over our external

RESCUE SQUAD (CONT'D.)

environment, we also have control over our internal environment. Four contributing factors of slips, trips and falls caused by internal hazards are posture, balance, core stability and walking patterns.

External Hazards

External hazards are in our environment and our surroundings. Rules are often put in place to reduce these external hazards. Four common external hazards of slips, trips and falls are wet or slippery surfaces, environmental conditions, insufficient or inadequate lighting and footwear.

Getting through the winter season without suffering a slip, trip or fall is not a difficult feat with the right preparation and presence of mind. Just remember that safety should always be the top priority in every season, all the time.

There are still many houses in town that do not have house numbers or have numbers that are too difficult to see from the street. Please check the numbers posted on your house to ensure they are large and visible enough for emergency services and State Police to see from the road, especially at night. Remember if you need help please "Dial 911".

Remember if you need help please "Dial 911".

Jack Rindt, Captain EMT (I)
Roosevelt First Aid Squad
rooseveltfirstaidsquad@yahoo.com



RECYCLING DATES

March 11, 25
April 8, 22

STATE PERMITS

Wednesdays 1 - 3

ZONING PERMITS

Tuesdays 4 - 6 PM

BOROUGH HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Tuesdays 5 - 6 PM,
Borough Hall

Come Join the Hightstown Pop Warner Family!

The Hightstown Rams Youth Football & Cheerleading is an organization for children ages 5 through 14. Participation is open to residents of Hightstown, East Windsor, Cranbury, Roosevelt, Washington Township, Robbinsville and surrounding towns.

Why Pop Warner

- National organization with programs in 42 States & 7 Countries
- The only national youth sports organization in America that requires its participants to perform adequately in the classroom before permitting them to play.
- Mandatory Play Requirements - Every child is guaranteed to play.
- Did you know that Pop Warner football is safer than soccer? Pop Warner football has 12% fewer injuries per capita among 5-15 year olds than organized soccer in the same age range!
- Pop Warner programs emphasize fun for all and encourage teamwork, discipline and respect.

For more information and to register online go to www.hightstownrams.org

Live registration dates and locations:

Thursday, March 12, 2015; 6 - 8:00pm @ Walter C. Black School (cafeteria), 371 Stockton St., EW
Wednesday, April 22, 2013; 6:30 - 8:30pm @ Hightstown High School (cafeteria)
Saturday, May 30, 2015; 1:00 - 3:00 pm @ East Windsor Fire Co #2, 69 Twin Rivers Dr., EW

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 an over 90% decline in numbers in the past 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 monarch population. Factors include loss of habitat (for example, prairie land being converted to 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 monarch's overwintering habitat. There's a joint USA/Mexico working group, established in February 2014, to study ways to protect the monarch butterfly. In February of this year, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, with the National Wildlife Federation and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, initiated a project, #savethemonarch. These partners 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 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.

There are several way 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

New Jersey 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.

If you are interested in purchasing seeds, you can use the Xerces Society's Milkweed Seed Finder to find a supplier of locally-sourced, native milkweeds (<http://www.xerces.org/milkweed-seed-finder>).

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 New Jersey 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 New Jersey native plants provided by the Native Plant Society of New Jersey 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 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. We will be researching best plants, best sources for plants, and best practices for our area and will have a fact sheet available in early April. If you are interested in obtaining the butterfly fact sheet, helping with butterfly gardens, or participating in citizen science monitoring, contact Diane at RooseveltEC@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!

Useful links for more information:

www.fws.gov/savethemonarch

www.monarchjointventure.org

<http://monarchwatch.org>

<http://insects.about.com/od/butterfliesmoths/fl/How-to-Find-Locally-Sourced-Native-Milkweeds-for-Your-Monarch-Butterfly-Habitat.htm>

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



More on Monarch Migration

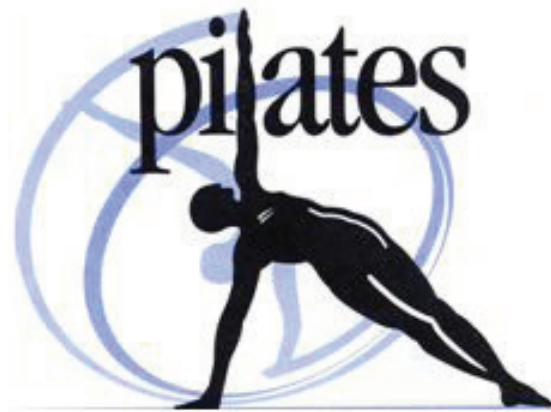
Monarchs born in New Jersey in late summer migrate over 2,000 miles to Mexico where they join up with monarchs from all over the continental US to overwinter – clustering together in large bunches on the branches of oyamel fir trees. In the spring, they begin to journey north, stopping, mating and laying eggs in the south eastern United States. After laying their eggs, these adults die, but their offspring continue the journey to the northern breeding grounds. Once here, there can be two or three 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



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...)

Bathing suit weather is right
around the corner!



Join us for six weeks of Pilates classes.

WHERE: Roosevelt Public School Gym

WHEN: Thursdays, March 26th through April 30th

6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

COST: \$60 for all 6 classes, \$15 for individual class

Equipment needed: Pilates or Yoga mat or large towel

Suitable for all fitness and experience levels, 18 yrs. and up

Instructor: Roosevelt resident Stacey Bonna

Stacey holds certificates in Mat Pilates Phase I, II and III and has experience teaching group fitness classes. Thank you to Stacey for generously donating her time for these classes.

Pay at the door, or send checks to Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation, P. O. Box 22, Roosevelt, NJ 08555 to reserve your place.

Send questions to foundation@rpsef.org or call 973 508-7971.

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ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

By Maria Del Piano

Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation (RPSEF) has been active this past month and has some new events planned for the Spring.

- RPSEF managed to sneak in a night of bowling on January 18th, at Knob Hill Lanes, in between snow storms. It was well attended and a lot of fun! We thank everyone for coming out and contributing to a great cause, our students. Thanks also to those who made a donation to RPS Education Foundation in honor of their Valentine and received a chocolate lollipop.

- RPSEF has reserved the RPS gym for six consecutive Thursdays beginning March 26th through April 30th, from 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., to host Pilates classes taught by Rooseveltian Stacey Bonna. Come join us and get ready for bathing suit weather. See this month's flyer in the Bulletin for full details

- RPSEF is partnering with RPS PTA to host a monthly babysitting night. This will give parents in town an opportunity to have a night to themselves. More information will be available in next month's Bulletin or check our website, "www.rpsef.org", or Facebook page – Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation.

- Are you a NJ Devils fan? Like us on our Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation Facebook page during the first week of March to be entered into a drawing to win two mezzanine level tickets to an upcoming home game at Prudential Center during the 2015 season.

- After being introduced to rock climbing through our climbing event this past June, some RPS students have become regulars at the Rockville Climbing Gym in Hamilton. RPSEF looks forward to hosting our 2nd annual climbing event this May.

We need your help. Please volunteer your time and expertise. Our website, "www.rpsef.org", has a full list of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. Please review the list and decide which is the right event for you to help with. You can reach us at "foundation@rpsef.org" with your choice. Volunteering is a satisfying way to help your school, meet the RPSEF Trustees, and your fellow Rooseveltians.

Roosevelt Public School
Education Foundation



Here in this spring, stars float along the void;
Here in this ornamental winter
Down pelts the naked weather;
This summer buries a spring bird.

Symbols are selected from the years'
Slow rounding of four seasons' coasts,
In autumn teach three seasons' fires
And four birds' notes.

I should tell summer from the trees, the worms
Tell, if at all, the winter's storms
Or the funeral of the sun;
I should learn spring by the cuckooing,
And the slug should teach me destruction.

A worm tells summer better than the clock,
The slug's a living calendar of days;
What shall it tell me if a timeless insect
Says the world wears away?

--Dylan Thomas

Spring is like a perhaps hand
(which comes carefully
out of Nowhere)arranging
a window,into which people look(while
people stare
arranging and changing placing
carefully there a strange
thing and a known thing here)and
changing everything carefully

From "Spring is like a perhaps hand"
by E. E. Cummings

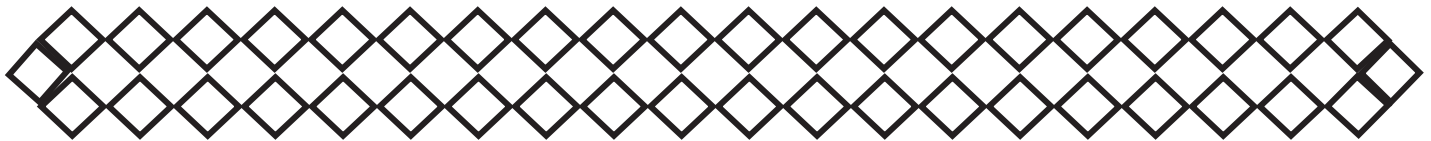
Contributors to the Bulletin 2014/2015

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

Carlo & Mary Alfare
James Alt & Susan Schwartz
Robert & Robin Axel
Elsbeth Battel
Rebecca & Jacob Barnett
Helen Barth
Janet & Richard Bernardin
Irene & Bruce Block
Linda Block
Marvin & Karen Block
Stacey & Ulrich Bonna
David & Naomi Brahinsky
Robert & Susan Cayne
Maureen & Bob Clark
Patricia & Keith Clayton
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Cornelia Spoor
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MARCH

1 Sun.	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company Pasta Dinner, Borough Hall
3 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall
3 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
7 Sat.	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Smoke Alarm Battery Exchange, Roosevelt Post Office Roosevelt Fire Company
8 Sun.	10:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training Jack Rindt, Training Officer
9 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
11 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
12 Thurs	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education – Budget Adoption
12 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
14 Sat.	8:00 pm	Roosevelt Arts Project Music from Friends & Neighbors, Borough Hall
17 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, Jeff Klein, President
19 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061
23 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
25 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
25 Wed.	7:30 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Diane Lowery, Chair.
26 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS
26 Thurs.		RPS early dismissal for Parent Conferences
27 Thurs.		RPS early dismissal for Parent Conferences

APRIL

2 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS
2 Thurs.		RPS Early Dismissal
3 - 10		RPS Closed Spring Break
7 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall
7 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
8 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
9 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
9 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS
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13 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
16 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS
21 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, Jeff Klein, President
22 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
22 Wed.	7:30 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Diane Lowery, Chair.
23 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS
25. Sat..	2:00 - 5:00 pm	Roosevelt Arts Project, Festival Latino, RPS
27 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
30 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061
30 Thurs.	6:45 pm	Pilates, Roosevelt Education Foundation, RPS

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.