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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



BULLETIN

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To Health

A real solution to the gypsy moth

by Becky Russell

"As crude a weapon as the cave man's club, the chemical barrage has been hurled against the fabric of life - a fabric on the one hand delicate and destructible, on the other miraculously tough and resilient, and capable of striking back in unexpected ways." - Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

Before we embark on another annual debate over the gypsy moth aerial spray program, I would like to analyze the problem more carefully. Roosevelt has not been sprayed from the air since 1979. This is to our advantage because it has allowed parasites and predators time to establish themselves. It has saved Monmouth County money, and probably has benefited our health. Let us not lose what we have gained during the past four years. Every citizen should know what we stand to lose by spraying with chemical pesticides. Most of the information presented here is derived from the minutes

of the public hearing on October 2, 1980 before the Assembly Agriculture and Environmental Committee in Trenton.

The gypsy moth has a cyclic nature, propagating over a period of two to three years until it reaches a critical level, and then collapsing. Factors influencing the population size are weather, available food and resting sites, the number of parasites and predators, the effects of crowding, and the size of other gypsy moth populations in the area. Viral infections cut the population down when it reaches a certain density. The level of infestation has been increasing in spite of chemical spray programs - in fact, chemical insecticides appear to aggravate the problem. The average infestation in chemically sprayed areas lasts up to twice as long as in unsprayed areas. It is easy to see why this is so. After spraying, about ten percent of the larvae survive, and since they then have abundant food

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gypsy moth

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and living space, they produce larger and healthier egg masses. However, broad-spectrum chemicals such as Sevin also kill predators and parasites of the moth, and then the caterpillars lack natural controls as well. So in the following years the gypsy moths propagate more rapidly than if the predators were present, and another epidemic results. If a biological insecticide such as B.t. (*Bacillus Thuringiensis*) is sprayed instead of Sevin, the pests are killed, but the predators are not. This is the key: Sevin kills the pests and the predators whereas B.t. kills only the pests, so that with B.t. the ratio of predators to pests increases. Thus, chemical pesticide use makes a permanent solution to the problem increasingly difficult and costly.

One of the ecological side effects of Sevin is that it kills bees and other insects, aquatic organisms and soil arthropods. This can have an impact on garden yields since many vegetables and fruits require bees for pollination. Adverse effects have been observed in birds and fish. Although Sevin is biodegradable, its breakdown product, 1-naphthol, is usually more toxic to fish and shellfish than Sevin. Attempts to manipulate our environment with such clumsy methods show an appalling lack of sophistication on our part. Besides, recent studies indicate that trees are not as passive as we may think. Dr. David Rhoades, a biologist at the University of Washington, has discovered that when leaf-eating insects infest a tree, the tree alters the chemistry of its leaves so that they are less palatable and harder to digest. And what is even more interesting, uninfested trees within sixty

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meters react in the same way. Jack Schultz, an entomologist at Dartmouth, has demonstrated that this occurs because trees communicate with each other with airborne chemicals, and experiments are underway to isolate these messengers. Healthy trees can defend themselves better than unhealthy ones, and defoliation is not as hard on them. In fact, studies show that only five percent of healthy trees die from defoliation while fifty-five percent that are in poor condition die. Also, a healthy tree can re-leaf. The best method of preserving favorite trees is to give them extra fertilizer, prune them, and dispose of deadwood. Banding trees, destroying egg masses, using dormant oil sprays and pheromone traps, and spraying with a biological insecticide such as B.t. also provide effective protection.

We cannot separate the health of our environment from our own health, for we must constantly interact with and ingest products of our surroundings. The safety of carbaryl (Sevin) is still in question. Sevin is a broad-spectrum poison, a cholinesterase inhibitor that interferes with proper nerve function and affects the liver. Toxicity is a matter of degree, and what we can ingest without harm depends upon individual sensitivity. The following is a table showing the toxicity of Sevin compared with the toxicities of some other well-known insecticides. The data is from the USDA Handbook 331 and the Vegetable Growers News. Toxicity is given as LD50 (LD=lethal dose), which is the number of milligrams of pesticide per kilogram of body weight, or parts per million, required to kill fifty percent of the test population. The lower

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<u>Fact</u>	<u>Source</u>
1. The Burlington County, N.J. Board of health has recommended the use of B.t. (Dipel) instead of chemical pesticides such as Sevin in order to avoid any health hazards associated with the chemical sprays.	Burlington County Board of Health 609-267-0631
2. The state of Connecticut has banned aerial spraying except with B.t.	Connecticut Department of Environmental Resources 203-789-7260
3. Pennsylvania has recommended the use of B.t. instead of chemical pesticides.	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources Division of Forest Pest Management 717-787-5469
4. B.t. now only requires one application.	Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission 201-431-7910

If you prefer that Roosevelt be sprayed with B.t. instead of Sevin, or not sprayed at all, send a note to:
John Soloway
Borough Hall
08555

gypsy moth

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the number, the more toxic the substance:

	ORAL LD50		DERMAL LD50	
	males	fe- males	males	fe- males
parathion	13	3.6	21	6.8
endrin	17.8	7.5	18	15
DDT	113	118	--	2,510
Kepone	125	125	>2,000	72,000
carbaryl (Sevin)	850	500	>4,000	74,000
ryania		*1,200		*74,000
malathion	1375	1,000	>4,444	>4,444
pyrethrum	1870	820		*2,060
B.t (Dipel)		*15,000		-----
		*sex not indicated		

Two things are evident. First, Sevin is a moderately toxic poison. Second, it affects females almost twice as much as males when ingested orally. So Sevin is a special threat to pregnant women, and in fact most authorities recommend that pregnant women leave the area during spraying. Food from vegetable gardens should not be eaten until two weeks after spraying with Sevin. The dermal LD50 is important because Sevin is virtually completely absorbed through the skin.

Toxins can have many side effects besides acute poisoning symptoms. Sevin in low doses can affect kidney function. It may be responsible for gene mutation and birth defects, and could transform mild virus infections in children into the fatal Reye's Syndrome. Growing numbers of people are highly allergic to chemicals in our environment and frequently are not aware of what is causing their problems. The history of dealing with hazardous materials often has been to take the most expedient action at the time and pay the penalty later. We cannot afford to take these unnecessary risks.

When the Borough Council decides that Roosevelt is to be sprayed with Sevin, those people who do not want their property sprayed do not have a choice in the matter. Assurances from the County that it will not spray property which has been marked are of no value because sixty percent of the spray travels over 1000 feet from the intended area. B.t. is the best way to resolve these conflicts of interest while still taking effective measures against the gypsy moth. Connecticut has been dealing with the gypsy moth longer than we have and has banned aerial spraying except with B.t. Massachusetts, where the gypsy moth originated, also recommends B.t. Last year, Pennsylvania made a complete switch to B.t. and predator wasps, with excellent results. B.t. is now more potent and requires only one application instead of two, which lowers costs by about one third. Also, excessive rains now have little effect on B.t. because the new formula adheres better to foliage, and the B.t. continues to be effective for three weeks after application. The long term solution is to allow natural controls to take effect. New Jersey is releasing predators and parasitic organisms, and B.t. works synergistically with these natural controls instead of destroying them. It is counterproductive to use chemical poisons when this option is available.

Everyone agrees that the gypsy moth is a nuisance and that trees should be saved from defoliation. But it is preferable to find a permanent solution to the problem than to use chemical shortcuts that foster dependence and damage our environment. In light of the

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greater effectiveness, lower long term costs and complete safety of biological controls, we must insist that Monmouth County fund their use. Until that happens, we should accept the State of New Jersey's offer to pay half of the cost of applying B.t. Living in harmony with our environment instead of waging chemical war on it is mutually beneficial and it is a worthy goal. Let us put the Sevin issue aside once and for all, and concentrate on achieving it.

Ed note: The editors of the Bulletin agreed with Becky Russell that the following press release from the Governor's Office of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides important information to reinforce the conclusions she reaches in her article on the Gypsy Moth problem.

HARRISBURG (Sept. 9) -- Gov. Dick Thornburgh today directed that an environmentally-sound, biological insecticide be used in place of chemical sprays throughout most of Pennsylvania during the Commonwealth's 1983 gypsy moth suppression program.

"More than a decade of testing has convinced us that we can control the gypsy moth without any risk to our environment and I believe we should seize the opportunity to do so," Thornburgh said.

The governor said that a new parasite introduced this year had a "very noticeable" effect on helping to control the gypsy moth population in Pennsylvania.

Preliminary aerial surveys revealed that as a result of the administration's all-out gypsy moth control effort, com-

bined with the build-up of parasites, only about 2.3 million acres of Pennsylvania woodlands were defoliated by gypsy moths this year. The state Department of Environmental Resources (DER) has estimated that as much as 3 million acres would be defoliated.

Thornburgh said that this year -- in an effort to minimize the adverse effects of the gypsy moth -- DER, working with local and county governments, sprayed a record 500,000 acres in 43 counties at a cost of \$6 million.

Defoliation next year is expected to drop to a million acres or less in Pennsylvania, according to DER.

Thornburgh said that next season, DER's Bureau of Forestry will use the biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* (B.t.) instead of the chemical insecticide Dylox. Dylox has been used extensively in the past to help control the gypsy moth in the state.

The governor said the decision to use B.t. was based on two major factors:

"Gypsy moth control with B.t. on 32,000 acres of private land in four southeastern counties this year was as good or better than with chemical insecticides.

"The price of B.t. has dropped significantly the last two years and now is less expensive than the chemical insecticide Dylox.

"This switch to the biological insecticide will enable us to do a better job more economically through the use of an environmentally sound process," Thornburgh said.

DER Secretary Peter S. Duncan said the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has no restrictions on the use of B.t., an environmentally safe insecticide which is completely harmless to humans and other organisms, except leaf-eating caterpillars. Use

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gypsy moth

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of the biological insecticide is strongly endorsed by environmental groups and preferred by many counties in the cooperative suppression program.

According to Duncan, the effectiveness of B.t. has improved considerably with the development of a new material to make the biological insecticide adhere to foliage for a longer period of time. This is particularly important during times of heavy rains, such as occurred during the 1982 spray operation.

Duncan said excessive rains have little impact on B.t., and the material continues to be effective for up to three weeks after application. On the other hand, heavy rains reduce the effectiveness of

Dylox in some areas and necessitate retreatment in some cases.

Duncan said the test results of B.t. "are very promising and exciting. We have achieved a major breakthrough-- after years of experimenting with different formulas and dosages.

"Gypsy moth suppression has now reached the point where we no longer need to rely on chemical sprays. It is now appropriate to make the change to B.t. in the statewide program for most infestation situations."

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Singing along with the birds

by M.J. Berlinrut

Sunday, February 27, a brisk but bright day on the mild side, a large ragged 'V' of geese went over, heading North. Too early. The earliest I've noted the geese is March 5, in 1977. I dismiss them as local winter stop-overs on a warm-up run. Until my brother-in-law reports several large flocks passed over his farm in upper middle N.Y. State on that same day. Do they know something we don't?

Early crocuses too, pale lavender wistful buds, first showed some days before that, opened wide that cheerful day to be followed by a few gold globes of standard yellows a few days later. And snow drops, their drooping white blossoms delicately etched with pale green inside, traditional first harbingers, though mine, to my memory, have never "thrust right up through snow" as the catalogues always say. All now lie beaten down and muddy after several days of chilly rain. Nevertheless I poke around in last year's leaves looking for spikes of the many new bulbs I planted last fall-- I never mark their spots, it's so much more fun to find them in unexpected places. Few of the new ones show. Did the mice get them?

March, between the 12th and the 19th according to my records, is when I've usually started to clean up the vegetable garden and turn over the areas where I'll plant the early things. Will I make it this year? Everything is ready to pop when the rains stop--the maple trees, pussy willows, daffodils, buds fattening, too on dogwood--I must bring some in to the house. April weather this is being. It's necessary to remind oneself that it's still only early March.

So far this year we've escaped any real cold and March snows. In 1978 it snowed on March 9th and 16th, in '80 on the 2nd and 14th, and in '81 we had a big one on March 5th. Those years I couldn't begin to get at the ground till April, though I have got peas and onions in as early as March 17, St. Patrick's Day, the traditional date for planting peas. But there's no hurry. Better to delay a little than risk their rotting in the ground if this April turns out cold and soggy. Only impatience pushes me on.

But in my bones I feel this will be an early spring (I hope the Fates aren't listening). And as I plan to do it all differently this year, I can hardly wait to turn over that first fresh-smelling spadeful of rich loose loam. Instead of the old long straight single-variety rows, I'm going to try deep-dug raised beds, also known as French intensive gardening. According to this method, you dig only the plots where you will plant leaving a space 1' wide between them. Thus the planted areas will never be compacted by being walked on, the soil in the beds will remain loose and free for the roots to develop in. Another bonus: you don't waste lime and fertilizers by spreading them where nothing will be planted. Those nutriment go into the beds 6" to 1' below the surface where the roots can get at them readily. This makes it possible to plant more

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Singing along

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closely, eliminating the need for mulches as the leafy tops spread out to nearly touching, shading the ground between the plants to discourage weeds and aid moisture retention.

I've got it all planned out on paper--the product of a hopeful few hours on some dismal January days. Lettuce and sweet peppers in one bed here, beans and beets together there, over there cucs planted closely but alone--the book says they do better by themselves. And tomatoes in two rows staggered 18" apart. Zucchini, melon, Chinese radishes, all have their places in my plan. But first, before any of those things, peas and dill will go in along the fence, and potatoes in one long bed flanked by onions.

I can see it all now, almost smell and taste it. My nose twitches like

a rabbit's, my fingers itch to be crumbling the soil. A March syndrome this, prevalent among incorrigible gardeners. Those of you reading this will recognize the symptoms. I've been at it long enough to know about those "best laid plans"! And I know well this spirit straining at the leash. But the flesh, the back, the knees? They don't figure in this March impatience. Only after those first few headlong days will they speak up, reproachfully complaining: Take it easy, there's plenty of time, things won't grow anyway till the season is right...geese and crocuses to the contrary. But I don't think of them as I stand at the window, watching the rain fall, tapping my foot. I know they'll have me aching, dragging in at the end of a long day, but I know too I'll feel great! I'll be singing along with the birds.

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Fire Co. news**False alarms costly in more ways than one**

by Adeenah Yeger

Unfortunately there were three false alarms recently, one January 21, one February 18 and one March 1, all as house fires. This is both dangerous and costly. Any emergency vehicle, by its nature, causes disruptions to traffic patterns and is, therefore, a potential threat to motorists and pedestrians. Although no cost estimate for Roosevelt is available, the cost for a false alarm in Hightstown has been determined to be \$1,000.00. This figure may seem high at first but consider that the false alarm of March 1 had the following equipment respond:

*The Roosevelt fire truck and four people

*The Roosevelt ambulance and three people

*Two Clarksburg pumpers and eight people

*The Clarksburg tanker and its driver


*The Clarksburg Ambulance and three people

This amount of equipment and related personnel are obviously very costly and dangerous. Consider six emergency vehicles and two state troopers all enroute to Pine Drive fully believing they were responding to a house fire. The police and fire company are investigating the false alarms and anyone caught will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

In addition, there were three fires: two brush fires, one on Oscar Drive and one on Homestead Lane, were extinguished without incident, and a car fire which totaled the car but resulted in no other damage and, luckily no injuries.

In order to provide fire protection for the Senior Citizens complex and to be able to better serve other remote areas in town, it is necessary for the Fire Company to acquire 500' of additional hose. Fire hose normally costs about \$2.00 per foot, or about \$1,000.00 for the needed hose. Through negotiations with the Millstone Township Fire Company, the Roosevelt Fire Company is able to obtain the needed hose for \$200.00, saving the town \$800.00 while increasing our ability to serve the town.

We are happy to announce that four of our firemen, Pat Archambo and Steve Yeger, second year, and Art Unger and Kim Dexheimer, first year, received their certificates from Monmouth County Fire College.



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117 MAIN HIGHTSTOWN

Council decision on denial of liquor license for proposed local restaurant explained

by A. Weiner

At its March meeting, the Borough Council was asked by applicant Peter Rossi to reveal the reasons for its decision to deny a liquor license for a proposed "eating and drinking" facility in Roosevelt. In response, the three Council members who voted "no" (Chasan, Counterman and Esakoff) and the two who abstained (Terry and Nahmias) offered to explain their failure to make the award at this time. Mr. Counterman said he was not in favor of an alcohol consumption license at present and would like to see more of a "restaurant atmosphere" proposed. Mr. Chasan stated that such a facility is not necessary in this small, "bedroom" community and could see no present advantage to its citizens. Council member Esakoff said his opposition was also based on his belief that this proposal was inappropriate for the community at this time.

Mr. Nahmias abstained, in part, because he failed to see what financial advantage would accrue to the town. Because there was not "enough input" to clarify the proposal and because the feelings of the community were not sufficiently known to council members, Ms. Terry also felt unready to make a decision in the matter. Mr. Datz, who was absent at the time of the vote, supported the "no" position partially on the grounds that he felt a "bar situation" would need more police protection than the borough could supply.

In reply, Mr. Rossi observed that the plan specified a restaurant-service arrangement only. There would be no bar, only orders for wine and alcoholic beverage served

in conjunction with meals. Business hours would be restricted to the period from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. for family-style dining. The decor might include local arts and crafts available for sale to patrons as is often the custom in this area, thus serving to attract desirable visitors from neighboring communities. The Happy Apple (Imlaystown) was mentioned as an example of a place where alcoholic beverages are obtainable without creating a "bar atmosphere", in contrast to a Clarksburg Bar and Restaurant type setting which he agreed would be highly undesirable. Rossi announced his intention to re-submit his application which will be accompanied by a more detailed description of the organizational and physical layout of the proposed facility. In addition, there will be an attempt to ascertain the extent of community support in further hope of favorable reconsideration by the council.

Other business conducted at this meeting included:

*Adoption of Ordinance 109 to raise the "cap" to 7½%.
Adoption of the 1983 budget awaits State review.

*Acceptance of a proposal and contract to install emergency lighting in the community room of the Borough Hall.

*Defeat (4 to 3) of a resolution to restrict use of the small conference room in Borough Hall to "official"

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bodies of the council.

*A first reading of an ordinance amending Cemetery Ordinance #52. The amendment reads: No interment shall be permitted without the use of a "lowering machine"; cost to be borne by the family of the deceased.

*A resolution to accept a proposal for Tax Map revision at a cost not to exceed \$400.00.

*In response to a negative report by Schoor, De Palma and Gillen on phosphorus testing of the borough water supply, agreement was expressed to proceed with the citizen participation requirement before further action is taken.

*Ordinance 105A was introduced which must annually be considered and passed to permit local government to be eligible to receive funds from the Community Block Development Program.

Reports by Committee heads included the following:

*A warning by council member Counterman (Public Safety Comm.) regarding two false fire alarms received recently. Such actions were described as "flirting with dynamite" and were declared to constitute serious offenses which will be prosecuted to the full.

*Senior citizens may now receive free transportation to Princeton medical facilities if the Monmouth County Board of Social Services is notified a day or two in advance.

*Council member Terry (Recreation and Culture Comm.) announced the donation of a wood sculpture by M. Chasan to the Borough Council in appreciation of its support and assistance. Augusta Chasan made the presentation. Another gift, a print of a drawing of FDR, was received from Mrs. Jennie Altman, of 5 Farm Lane.

*In response to a request during the public discussion period, Mr. Counterman offered an "interim" statement on the incidence of crime in the locality. Based on the last annual state report, the rate for

Roosevelt is 3.6 per 1000 population for non-violent crimes and zero for violent crimes. The record shows a rate of 20 times this figure (non-violent crimes) for Monmouth County. For the community which is closest geographically and among the lowest in the state, as well, (Plumstead Township) the rate is 5 times more than the borough's. Mr. Counterman reported that according to these figures, Roosevelt, though not entirely crime-free, can be said to be a very safe community. This condition was attributed to the character of the town and to the policing arrangements in force. Council member Esakoff requested a more detailed budgetary analysis of costs and expenditures for police work in the borough.

*There will be a public hearing on whether to engage County services for Gipsy Moth spraying this spring.

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Gaining leverage among those whose concern is the next election

by David Herrstrom

We are all lobbyists in a democracy. All of us are obliged to know what's going on and, once known, to apply pressure on our legislative representatives. Fair enough, but what of those professional lobbyists from Exxon, the Moral Majority, or the N.R.A. who stalk the halls of Congress devouring whatever legislation they can find? Such is the popular image of lobbyists, unscrupulous mercenaries in the service of single ideas that would rule the world.

Talk to Ms. Ann Baker, a registered state lobbyist living in Roosevelt, however, and the image of the single-minded legislator's scourge crumbles. This doesn't mean that she is not gripped by political issues. She is. Though passionate about her work as lobbyist in Trenton for the National Organization of Women (N.O.W.), she speaks with method, making sure I follow. She is a born teacher, fervent, determined, and undiscouraged by simple-mindedness. As she talks, it becomes apparent that her job is an extension of every citizen's.

Power, that's the question. How does the lobbyist exert leverage for a particular point of view? There are several hundred registered lobbyists in New Jersey, about 70 or 80 at any given time in the State House, representing a host of points of view. And each lobbyist attempts to influence key legislators for a particular position. To be successful, the lobbyist must somehow get leverage.

Leverage begins with the fact that every legislator is always thinking about the next election. Combined with the fact that legislators, because they are concerned about reelection, respond to a constituency, the lobbyist can get a handhold. Ms. Baker must convince key legislators, in short, that, as she says, "I'm not speaking just for little ol' Ann Baker."

Armed with a knowledge of the workings of the State House, she influences legislators through talk and organization. Both require careful homework, keeping track of bills pertinent to the concerns of N.O.W., identifying pressure points in the political process, that is, pivotal committees, and writing memos to distribute to legislators. Effective talking and organizing also require following the lobbyists' cardinal rule: "never alienate a legislator." Political life is complicated, and there is a lot of legislation.

Talk begins with pinpointing the crucial people and ends with everybody. Because the real business takes place in committee, sometimes the chair of a committee is the crucial person to talk to. Often, given the workings of the legislative process, however, the lobbyist must get to the Speaker of the Assembly. The list of bills to be considered in a given legislative session, called the Consent List, is drawn up and controlled by the Speaker. He or she is not obliged to take up

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bills in any order and controls when a bill will come up for debate, if at all. As a result, sometimes the lobbyist must get to the Speaker to stop a bill that, if it comes to a vote, will be unsatisfactorily voted on in the lobbyist's view.

Most often talk is more laborious. Ms. Baker must talk to everyone--80 Assemblypeople and 40 Senators--at least casually, and develop a head count of votes. Since legislators don't have offices in Trenton, she has to be persistent to see everyone. And this means standing on the chamber floor, waiting for them to drift in to a session. Using a hook from each person's biography, found in earlier research, she engages them in conversation, then quickly gets to her agenda and strikes: "Do you think abortion should be legal or illegal?"

Imagine a new legislator, freshly arrived in Trenton. Ms. Baker disarmingly addresses the Senator by name, having memorized it from the "Picture Book," a kind of Legislature Yearbook and then says--"Hi, I'm Ann Baker. I'm an ex-nun. I lobby for N.O.W." The Senator is bound to be taken aback. Perhaps so much so that she manages to get an unrehearsed answer. Bluntness and surprise are tools of the lobbyist, as well as the journalist.

These verbal tactics, while designed to discover a legislator's true position and develop a head count, are insufficient for persuading. This is hard, slogging work, requiring tact and a mastery of fact. Often her objective is not to change a legislator's mind at all, but to make both sides of an issue so explosive that any vote on the bill seems unpalatable. The bill, consequently, gets killed in committee and never comes up for debate, let alone for a vote, which

could go against the interests of the lobbyist's constituency.

Talk can go only so far, however, because constituency pressure is what really counts. To mount this pressure requires organization. While talking to everyone concerned, Ms. Baker mobilizes N.O.W. She gets accurate information on the bill in question to its members, encourages letters and visits to members' legislators, and often coordinates a lobbying day or rally in which members are asked to make a showing at the State House in support of or against a particular bill. Meanwhile, Ms. Baker is busy contacting other organizations that may join forces with N.O.W.

It might seem unlikely that an ex-nun would get caught up in this business, yet Ms. Baker's pilgrimage to the State House is a natural one. As a college student, majoring in history and political science, she was involved in the civil rights and anti-war movements. Here she realized for the first time that the ordinary citizen could do something. Angry about the anti-abortion stand of the Roman Catholic Church, she joined N.O.W. in 1975, thinking that it was a well-established political machine and that all she had to do was "plug in." The facts of life were not so. Hoping to make it more effective politically, she became Chapter Coordinator in Pennington, which put her on the State Board, and she soon found herself Task Force leader for Reproductive Freedom.

In 1978 an anti-abortion bill was introduced in the Legislature. Living only 15 minutes from the State House, Ms. Baker decided to go and see what was happening. She had been somewhat prepared by a pamphlet entitled "Successful

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Advocacy." But she was not prepared, being at the State House on her first visit a mere fifteen minutes, for the question that Barbara McConnell, whom she had met as Task Force Leader, put to her after the anti-abortion bill was introduced in the Assembly: "Ann, what are we going to do?"

That day she began her education. She spoke to the Planned Parenthood and American Civil Liberties Union lobbyists, and her unique course was set. Yet in some ways, for us who would like to preserve a pluralistic democracy from a monolithic demagoguery, it should be no different from our own course as citizens. We should know what bills are pending that affect our lives (made easier by the toll-free legislative information number: 800-792-8630). Also, we should find out who else is concerned with this proposed legislation and make contact with them. Then, as Ms. Baker says, write or visit your legislators, who are, we must remember, always concerned about the next election.



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Finding the Hut in the Woods

Ed note: The following poem was written for Edward Schlinski and Keith Cleary when they were working for David Kellerman and Dina Coe (December 1982).

Even trees with the brightest
leaves stand
hunched and still as a man and
woman
so they won't get wet waiting
for the bus.
From the yard one of the build-
ers sings
a child's tv commercial for hot
chocolate.
His voice is unselfconscious
as a bird's. They are here
adding a new room,
like boys making a treehouse or
fort.
Through the bare plywood and
studs they sing
to each other. It has taken
them weeks
of patient work to get to this.
The older man mutters to himself
through missing teeth. A
checkered career,
he calls his life, thirty years
in this town.
He tells us because we are new.
Already I think of the room
as warmer than outside. It if
rains
I shall sit there and look out
to the yard.
They have not put in the windows
yet. The floor
is covered with broken doorframes,
bits of wood scattered like
arguments.
My mother calls to ask how things
are moving,
as if motion were everything.
She has no fear of winter, leaves
falling
like the last friends. She re-
members
nothing, on purpose.

I regret I didn't build more
things in school
as if that were a kind of piano
lesson
I might have become expert at.
Soon the two men will pack up
and take their careers to the
next place.
They will stop coming in for
early coffee
and to chat, and then I will stop.
Making extra coffee in the
mornings.
I pretend that the men will retire
and the younger will find some
other work.
This will be the last job of their
summer,
and we can begin to call this
place home.
We will pick up the things they've
dropped,
plant bushes and flowers next
spring
to replace the ones that got
killed.

My mother worries about us
eating the wild mushrooms under
the trees.
She mentions this out of concern.
I refuse to admit
to her that I, also worry.
This is love, too, like the room
smelling of pine, of a woman's
hair, of wood,
nails and tar paper. It is still
a part
of the outside like a garden. In
winter
we sit alone, the woman who has
married me
and myself. On cold nights we
will read
and sleep as if love were a new
room in the house,
a town we've moved to across the
light
from each other. Outside, the
stars hang,
the irregular nails sticking
through the sky.

Roosevelt Community and School CalendarAPRIL 1983

1	Friday	Good Friday
3	Sunday	Easter
4	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Deborah meeting - Borough Hall
5	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	10-12 a.m.	Blood Pressure - Borough Hall
6	Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.	Gypsy moth concerned citizens meeting - Borough Hall
7	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	2:00 p.m.	Senior citizens meeting - Borough Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Fire company meeting - Borough Hall
11	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Council agenda meeting - Borough Hall
		Bd. of Ed agenda meeting - R.P.S.
12	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
13	Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.	Council meeting - Borough Hall
14	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Bd. of Ed meeting - R.P.S.
17	Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Park Commission meeting - Borough Hall
19	Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
		Food Co-op - Borough Hall
		MCOSS - Borough Hall
20	Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.	Bd. of Ed Finance Committee - R.P.S.
	7-10 p.m.	First Aid - Borough Hall
21	Thursday, 10-11 a.m.	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	7-11 p.m.	Boy Scouts - Borough Hall


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- 25 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Planning Board - Borough Hall
- 26 Tuesday, 10-11 a.m. Exercise class - Borough Hall
- 8:00 p.m. Senior Citizen - Borough Hall
- 7:00-10:30 p.m. First Aid - Borough Hall
- 28 Thursday, 10-11 a.m. Exercise class - Borough Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Petition deadline


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Who's minding the store?

by A. Weiner

"Nuclear arms control is a common sense issue", claimed Robert Scheer, author of "With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War". Mr. Scheer, a reporter for The Los Angeles Times, was the featured speaker at a meeting of the Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament held at the Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, February 24th. The audience of 400 members and friends of the CND in the Princeton area enthusiastically applauded the author's rapid-fire, witty talk on the peculiar dangers of President Reagan's nuclear arms policies.

The title of his book is a quote from an interview with T.K. Jones, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces. Jones' statement reads: "Dig a hole, cover it with a couple of doors and then throw three feet of dirt on top.....It's the dirt that does it....if there are enough shovels to go around, everybody's going to make it."

Scheer's book is based on a series of interviews he held with leading figures in the 1980 election campaign many of whom are now in top government jobs. He realized then that Reagan and Bush were promoting the notion that nuclear war is winnable and arms control is considered a liberal, "pinko" plot to weaken U.S. military strength.

No One Here But Hawks

Until recently most people felt that "someone responsible was minding the store; you figured these were adults with grandchildren and summer homes" so you didn't worry too much about an actual outbreak of nuclear war. In his

book, Scheer explained, he documents the change in U.S. policy and describes the steps taken by the Reagan administration to escalate the arms race and obstruct serious arms control. These positions, he emphasized, taken in the face of a preponderance of objective fact, derive from an ideology formulated back in the 1950's which says that nuclear war is simply an extension of conventional war and we, the "good guys" must knock out the "bad guy" Russians in World War III. Scheer pointed out that this administration, unlike other recent ones, lacks the usual spectrum of opinion ranging from doves to hawks. Reagan's men are all nuclear war fighters with very narrow differences among them. Scheer regards their viewpoint as representing the far right fringe in the political spectrum and entertains little hope of a shift toward the center: public outcry may force Reagan to modify his actions, but not his convictions.

Blurring the Difference

According to Scheer, Reagan's appointees, few of whom have credentials as experts, believe that we must prepare to fight a protracted nuclear war which can last as long as six months, although every reputable expert, he claims, has agreed that any nuclear exchange can have at most a duration of 15 to 20 minutes. Men such as Eugene Rostow, recent head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency,

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and Richard Perle, Asst. Secretary of Defense, express the belief that a loss of from 10 million to 100 million population is acceptable and can be recovered from, for which they cite World War II experience. Thus they blur the distinction between nuclear and conventional war. Hiroshima and Nagasaki become, in their view, examples of cities that successfully overcame nuclear attack, but only if you ignore the difference in size, number and type of bombs used then and now and the world-wide support available to the victims. Every study of responsible physicians and scientists contradicts the belief of the Reagan wing that nuclear war is just another war writ large, Scheer observed.

Low "Combat" Level

What powers this headlong lurch toward nuclear war, said Scheer, is the administrations' cold war obsession against the Soviets. They see themselves as locked in combat with the Soviet monster who lacks respect for human life. Scheer feels that this is a serious misreading of the Soviet people and their deepest feelings about war and peace. The cold-warriors' belligerent stand holds the Russians responsible for all the hot spots in the world, again defying all we know about human history. Said the speaker. "It is as if nothing ever happened until the Soviet Union appeared on the scene of world history."

Touching again on the central theme of his book, Scheer declared that any genuine civilian defense against nuclear war is impossible and therefore a hoax. Further, any attempt at mass evacuation from urban centers is so easily detectable as to give the show away were a first strike planned by either side. Without the surprise element, a policy of first strike attack is futile, thus contradicting the rationale for more and better weaponry for defense. The T.K. Jones program of distributing shovels and digging holes reflects

the primitive level of thinking which characterizes this government's overall approach to world affairs, suggested Scheer.

What Use Nuclear Arms?

The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, Scheer reminded the meeting, was created by Congress to lobby for arms control as a counterforce to the Pentagon and other armament boosters. Reagan has packed this agency with people who qualify only by virtue of their long-term hostility to Salt II and arms limitation in general. This personnel policy is like Democrats appointing the head of Women's Strike for Peace to be chief of the Pentagon," he said. Laughter greeted his comment that all of our sophisticated nuclear power couldn't get the hostages out of Iran..."all you needed there were a few working helicopters." And neither will nuclear might solve any other world problems, he maintained, such as hunger, insurgency and human suffering. Nuclear muscle is irrelevant to these problems because "nuclear arms are lousy weapons, not usable for anything but mass suicide."

Peace Can Be Very Big

In truth, said Scheer, Ronald Reagan is the real father of the Freeze Campaign. When he changed the government's nuclear policy, everyone became alarmed. Former government officials like William Colby, Stansfield Turner, Cyrus Vance, Robert McNamara have all spoken out because they are in a position to know we are not and never have been number two. They also know that sound military policy requires a cap on nuclear weapons production; that we cannot have military security without some kind of arms control agreement.

Scheer thought that the Soviet's recent moves were in a positive direction although he

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granted that "they might be trying to play tricks". The fact is however that they have proposed reduction of their missiles to the sum of the French and British weapons. To say that the latter cannot be included in NATO's count is irresponsible, he believes. We should ask ourselves, if the Warsaw Pact nations had missiles and demanded that they not be counted for the Soviet side, would we agree? The Russian proposal should be carefully checked out, he concluded.

Scheer wound up his acerbic and mirth-provoking speech with the message that this is a rare period; there is pressure on the U.S. from abroad and "the peace issue can be very big in the coming election". Popular action now can mean real progress or the moment can be frittered away in unproductive talk. He ended by saying let's get some "adults back to mind the store" because the question of survival is "not some kind of right-left issue, but simply one of common sense."

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Letter to the Bulletin

For a restaurant in Roosevelt

Change, whether joyous or in sorrow, is always disconcerting. It seems we've had our share in Roosevelt, a place my wife and I have come to love.

At issue is the question of an Italian restaurant to be built next to the town liquor store. The Rossi clan, unbelievably successful in such a short period, in my opinion have given Roosevelt much in the way of good friendship and good food. It seems they would like to construct an Italian restaurant with a capacity of fifty to sixty patrons. The problem seems to be the issuing of a consumption license (it sounds like a disease). Several objections have been raised by concerned councilmembers:

- 1- The town is not ready for a restaurant because of a lack of police protection.
- 2- Outsiders may frequent the premises and cause trouble.
- 3- The council is also concerned it will turn out to be a down and out type bar.

We believe that a restaurant doesn't need police protection and with the good management and excellent skills Pete Rossi Jr. has shown in managing his own liquor store we don't foresee a problem. I don't think we should really have too much concern about outsiders; after all most of us have at one time or another been outsiders to Roosevelt. Finally as far as the restaurant's becoming a bar - the remedy seems apparent. By stating clearly that that is not acceptable, I think the Rossis would agree to keep it a restaurant.

I urge all townspeople interested in having a quality Italian Restaurant to attend the next council meeting in early April to discuss this situation. We can fantasize the wonderful aromas and good tastes of Italian food.

--Neil & Arlene Rashkin

MEETING ON GYPSY MOTHS

There will be a public meeting on gypsy moths on Wednesday, April 6, at 8 p.m. at the Borough Hall. There will be guest speakers, and a question and answer period.

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Love of words

A dash of hyphenation

by Josef G. Solomon

Maybe it's just a quirk, but I like hyphens. As is also true of commas (the subject of a separate diatribe), they can help mightily to clear up confusion. For example, my favorite computer-programming language is called APL. It is usually described as a "high level language". Although I do like APL, I'm not at all sure that it's a level language. In fact, I don't even know what that means. APL is not a language that is both level and high; (I also like semicolons) it's a language that is at a high level: APL is a high-level language. When you use an adjective before a noun, no punctuation need separate (or join) them. However, when you use the adjective-noun combination to modify another noun, as in the above example, a judiciously placed hyphen makes the text easier to understand. Notice that the adverb ("judiciously") does not need a hyphen, because the adverbial ending "ly" tells you what's happening. There is a noticeable difference between a high-level floor and a highly level floor. If you're having a tall office-building (not a "tall-office building") constructed, you would want to have the high-level floors highly level. If you're willing to provoke the contractor's wrath, you might go so far as to say that you want highly level high-level floors. Don't say this to him while you're standing on one.

Heart Patience

If you like that sort of thing, you can have fun with hyphens when you precede a noun with a word that could be used as either a noun or an adjective. For example, we've been hearing quite a bit about Dr. Barney Clark, lately.

He is, of course, the world's first artificial heart patient. Well, maybe--it depends on how you pronounce it. Usually, the newscasters say it as if it were "artificial heart-patient." He is not an artificial patient. He is a heart-patient, but he is a real heart-patient. He is also an artificial-heart patient. You could correctly call him an artificial-heart heart-patient, but that's overdoing it--even for me.

A friend of mine was talking about someone for whom she formerly worked. (One of these days, I'm gonna come right out and use a preposition to end a sentence with: "...someone she used to work for.") She said he was an invertebrate paleontologist. "Really?", I said. "How does he sit at his desk?" When the words are that long, there is no help for spoken dialogue; in print, however, a hyphen would have avoided the ambiguity--and the smart-aleck remark, as well.

More and More-

Recently, a newscaster was talking about "more expensive government programs." The syntax (is there a tax on that, too?) is correct, but the semantics is wrong. He wasn't talking about more programs that are expensive, but about programs that are more expensive--that is, more-expensive programs. There's a difference. It even makes sense to talk about "more more-expensive programs."

What is a "temporary employee badge"? Is it a badge for a

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temporary employee? or is it a temporary badge for an employee? If it doesn't make a difference, then it doesn't. But if it does make a difference, then make the distinction: either "temporary-employee badge" or "temporary employee-badge".

Say what you mean, "The cars they buy are often used." Does that mean the same as "The cars they buy are often-used"? No. The first one means that the cars they buy are often not new. The second means that, once they buy a car, it gets used often. Both versions are correct syntax, but only one says what you meant to say. (You're not anti-semantic, are you?)

Spaced Out

One can talk about abstract spaces of four or even higher dimension. Except it isn't clear whether you mean to exclude higher dimensions that are not even. If you mean higher dimensions that are even, ok. If you mean dimensions that are higher, even, than four, you should say, "even-higher dimension", thus removing the ambiguity. The subject is tough enough when it isn't ambiguous. A similar comment can be made about high-energy physics. Recently, an article mentioned "light particles". That's ok: There is a whole zoo of particles that are not very heavy. But that isn't what the author meant. He was talking about photons, which are "particles" of light, and have no mass at all. They aren't light particles (light particles), they're light-particles (light particles). In speech, the emphasis makes the difference, because we don't use hyphens when we speak (except, of course, Victor Borge). As another example, people keep pronouncing the name of the president's nuclear plan for Europe as the "zero-option".

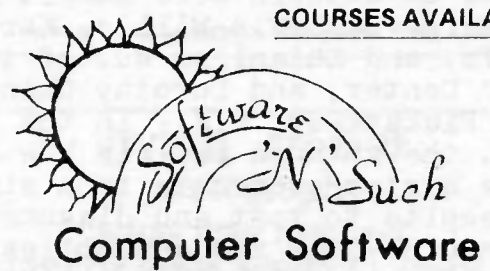
Technically, they should be calling it the "zero-option". A "zero-option plan" is a plan to have an option of zero--that is, no missiles. A "zero-option plan" is a plan to have no option. Come to think of it, they may be pronouncing it correctly after all.

It Matters

Most of the examples I have given here are deliberately light-hearted, but the subject is quite serious--and can be deadly serious. The name of Beate Klarsfeld has been in newspapers lately. She is either French or German, depending on which paper you read, and a Christian. She has made it her life's work to track down those leading Nazis who were never even brought to trial, and are thus living, in their place of sanctuary, the normal lives they denied to their victims. She is therefore described in the newspapers as a "Nazi hunter". Please, don't do that to her. There is a world of difference between a "Nazi hunter" and a "Nazi-hunter".

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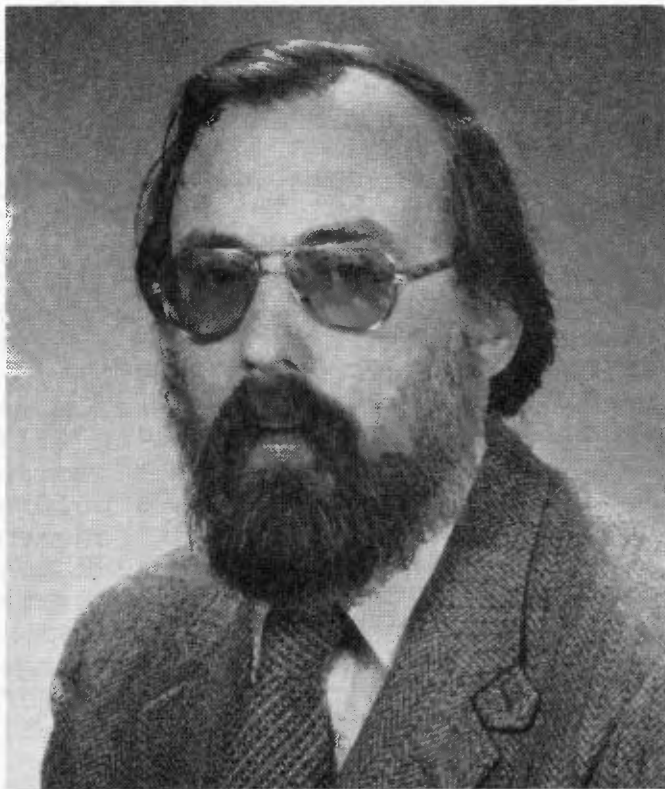
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Rod Tulloss receives award

Rodham E. Tulloss of Roosevelt has been named a recipient of Western Electric's Excellence in Technical Writing Awards. He works at the company's Engineering Research Center located near Princeton.



Tulloss shares his award with five others for the paper they co-authored, "The Diagnostic Organization and Retrieval Algorithm System." The work appeared in the summer 1982 issue of The Western Electric Engineer. The co-authors were Robert E. Allen, Margaret Ervin-Willis, Kurt A. Rahlfs, and Shianling Wu, of the Research Center, and Dorothy Chen of AT&T in Piscataway, N.J. In the article, the authors explain how a software system uses data from simulated results to test and diagnose electronic devices and assemblies used in telecommunications equipment.

Western Electric presents the awards annually to employees who published outstanding articles in the technical press. The winning articles are chosen on the basis of the signi-

ficance of the work to Western Electric, the importance of the work to telecommunications technology, the article's innovativeness and clarity of exposition.

Tulloss is research leader of the Test Development Information Systems group at the center. He has a doctorate in logic and the methodology of science from the University of California at Berkeley.

He joined Western Electric in 1971. His work with the company has included automatic test system design, test language design, research in automatic diagnostics and test generation aids. He was promoted to his current position in 1979.

Tulloss is co-editor of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' Test Technology Newsletter.

He lives in Roosevelt with his wife, Mary A. King, and son, Mark. A younger son, David, lives in Princeton. Tulloss' interests include poetry and mycology. He has written three slim volumes of poetry, and several articles on the science of taxonomy (naming and identifying mushrooms). He also enjoys music of the Baroque and earlier periods, camping and canoeing.



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Book talk**How to care for your books**

by Bob & Alison Petrilla

(The authors, trading as R. & A. Petrilla, Booksellers, are engaged in the purchase, sale and appraisal of complete libraries as well as fine individual manuscripts and books. Their business was established in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 1970. They now live and work in Roosevelt.)

People who buy new books today are quick to notice--and just as quick to decry--the shoddy materials and lack of craftsmanship in the products of most publishers. Here and there in the U.S. can be found a printer and a binder who combine their efforts and talents to produce books that will, if cared for, still be around fifty years in the future. They are not typical. The ordinary new book is printed on highly acidic paper which can be expected to self-destruct in 20 to 30 years. The signatures, or gatherings, of a modern book are attached to the backstrip with an elastic glue instead of being sewn together in the traditional manner. This is known in the publishing industry as "perfect binding," as severe a misnomer as one is likely to encounter. Take a close look at a new book on your shelf and you'll see what we mean.

Most older books, on the other hand, were designed to endure long enough to give pleasure to many generations--if the books were cared for along the way. It's that "if" that we will deal with here.

Many otherwise sound books have been ruined by mildew. Moulds tend to form under dark, damp conditions, such as those caused when books are shelved against an uninsulated outside wall of your house. Books do well in the same environment where people are comfortable--about 50% humidity and an average temperature of 70 degrees. Too much

heat will dry out the fibers of paper and binding, and is as much a threat to the book's long life as too much dampness. Temperature and humidity control also will help prevent foxing (brown spots on paper caused by excessive dampness).

Direct sunlight shining on your books day after day will, over the years, bleach the spines and turn them brown. Indirect light is best.

When shelving your library, don't try to see how many books you can pack onto a shelf. Books, like people, need room to breathe. Tight packing also makes it difficult to take books off the shelf, resulting in torn backstrips. A book should be lifted from a shelf with your thumb and forefinger pinching the covers, not pulled off by yanking the crown.

To remove dust from the tops of your books, use the brush attachment on your vacuum cleaner and barely graze the edges of the pages. As you do this, hold the book tightly shut so that dirt is not pushed down into the book. Books should also be "aired" at least twice a year by moving them about and allowing them to breathe.

Do not exhibit handsome bindings by storing books on a table with their spines to the ceiling, flea-market style. This strains the hinges and will eventually result in the separation of text and binding.

Silverfish and bookworms can be discouraged by making sure that books are stored in a dry place with some available light.

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your books

(Cont'd. from previous page)

Commercial solutions may be sprinkled on shelves behind books or into storage boxes, and small anti-silverfish packets are available from library supply houses.

Plastic bags and envelopes are not the way to protect treasured books and pamphlets. To keep fragile items free of dust and out of excessive light, wrap them in plain paper (not newsprint). Plastic cuts off the air supply essential to books and paper items.

Leather bindings require special care if they are to remain supple. A good leather preservative should be applied at least once a year. Many products are available and we suggest you consult your local hardware store or shoe repairman. Despite its royal provenance, we recommend that you avoid the widely touted British Museum dressing. It's marvelous for bindings that are treated and then stored behind glass; but it stays tacky and makes books unpleasant to handle.

Light soiling and smudging can be removed from cloth book bindings by use of a product known as "Bookleen," which should be available in any good, full-service bookshop. Unless you are a trained conservator, avoid using water and other liquids to clean your books. An art gum eraser can also be used--gently!--to remove fingerprints, etc. from bindings and dust jackets.

Do not attempt to repair worthwhile books yourself. Never use transparent tape to attach dust jackets to bindings, to "fix" torn pages or to reinsert loose gatherings. The adhesive in the tape will eventually turn the paper brown; and if the tape is removed in the future, a sticky residue will be left. Repairs can be made by an expert using

the proper archival restoration materials and techniques. Unless the book has significant monetary or sentimental value, however, the cost of having it repaired may be more than you would pay for a replacement copy.

Extraneous writing defaces a book and lowers its resale value. Unless you are a President of the U.S. or the book's author, do not sign your name in it. When you give a book as a gift, write your note on a card or separate piece of paper and insert it into the book.

If you or someone else has already written in a book, it's probably better to leave it rather than to try erasure. We've seen many books defaced by well-intentioned erasing that left a hole in the page. The elimination of a previous owner's name by clipping the top of an endpaper, or even tearing it out entirely, is a far-too-common but nonetheless despicable practice.

Dog ears are acceptable on the family pet, but not in books. Do not turn down page corners to mark the place where you stopped reading. That's why the bookmarks came into use.

Do not discard dust jackets. They could account for half of the book's future resale value. The jacket may be removed while you are reading the book, and replaced when you return the book to its shelf.

Don't insert newspaper clippings into your books. Modern newsprint is wood-pulp paper which turns brown with age and it will do the same to the pages of a book that touch it. This is called "off-setting" and can be avoided by putting newsclips into an envelope or scrapbook.

Rebinding a book in buckram (the so-called library binding) should be avoided. It is machine-

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work that makes books look like bricks with gilt letters. If hand-binding in a style contemporary with the book is not warranted (and remember, it's often expensive), then replace the book with a new copy.

Next month: Collecting Books for Fun. Meanwhile, if you have comments on this column or inquiries about your own library, give us a call at 448-5510.

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Board policies reviewed

by Jenifer Nina Burghardt

The Board of Education had its agenda meeting and its monthly board meeting on March 14 and March 17, respectively. Your reporter was the only member of the public present at either meeting.

One of the principal items the board is working on is the renewal and clarification of the policies which govern the working of the school board and the school. The board is concerned about the functions and responsibilities of each committee because the present guidelines are vague. Mr. Zaleski was concerned that committees might be wasting their time on issues that the whole board did not consider important. This issue was raised at the agenda meeting, but was not discussed at the general meeting because the board decided to postpone anything official until the new board takes over in April.

Another item discussed at the agenda meeting was the need to dovetail the R.P.S. calendar with the High School calendar since different holiday schedules make it difficult for families who work or who want to go on holidays.

One of the major votes of the general meeting was the approval of the budget. The budget is higher this year which means our taxes will be higher. Much of this has to do with state mandated programs which local school boards cannot do too much about and to the reduction in state aid. One of these programs is a preschool handicap program. Starting in September, local schools are obligated to provide educational assistance to handicapped children three years old and over. The Child Study Team is going to a meeting to find out about how to set up and run this program.

The principal said in his report that the sixth, seventh

and eighth grade teachers met this past month with the Hightstown High School so as to best prepare our grade school students for high school. The High School was concerned that incoming freshmen lack good work habits and basic skills. Students were criticised for the inability to take notes, do homework, and to concentrate. Students were considered weak in basic computations and fractions. The High School is going to reinstate midterms and finals. Dr. Sussman said that R.P.S. is addressing many of these concerns. This year more emphasis has been placed on the basic skills and homework is assigned on a regular basis.

Dr. Sussman said that parent conferences were being scheduled and the parents would receive their child's report card at this time.

The Child Study team is modifying instructional programs for students who have a hard time keeping up in class. In an experimental program Ms. Pogrebin is taping instructional material and this is being used as another instructional aid.

The Olympics of the Mind program, a competition in which a group of children have to solve a mental problem using limited resources within a prescribed time, was very successful. The Roosevelt teams won first and third place and will be entering the regionals. The teachers and the parents put a great deal of time and effort into this project.

Other programs the teachers are working on are Dungeons

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 and Dragons, a genealogy program,
 Great Books and the computer program.
 The board approved the new
 science and social studies books.
 These books have been in the princi-
 pal's office on public display.
 One of the responsibilities of the

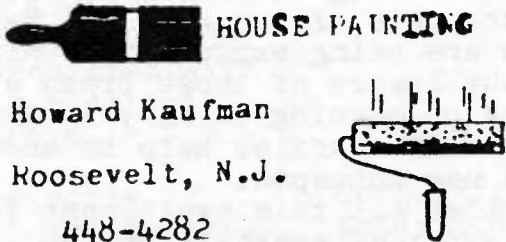
school board is to approve all new
 books.
 The buildings and grounds com-
 mittee is still investigating bids
 for a new chimney and for painting
 the building.
 The meeting was adjourned quite
 late.

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Principal's Letter

TAG program for student enrichment

The halls of RPS have been crawling with buccaneers and the treasures of a kingdom. Homer has sailed across the seas of our library and right behind were an excited group of students participating in these adventures.

The pages of 'Great Books' have been opened and the exposure of the author's thoughts have stimulated the thoughts of our pupils. Family trees are being exposed to sunlight and the leaves of those trees are taking on meaning to many in RPS land, while turtles help us understand new concepts.

Amidst all this excitement is the increased emphasis on the skills our pupils will need to grow academically and to be successful in later years. But, wait a minute. I think I am getting ahead of myself. What about those buccaneers and what happened to Homer? Let us start at the beginning.

RPS has put into operation a series of programs that are designed to enrich our children's educational experiences. In this manner we are striving to broaden their scope of knowledge and interests. Rogate, Computers, Dungeons and Dragons, Olympics of the Mind, Great Books, and Genealogy are all elements in what we call our TAG program. TAG is an acronym for Talented and Gifted. The RPS TAG Program curriculum focuses on the development of skills which are beyond the scope of the regular classroom and may be based on the students' areas of interest. Emphasis is placed on the conceptual themes of important ideas rather than as the collection of information. The program utilizes five basic approaches:

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creative thinking; creative writing and hands-on activities.

In programming for the TAG program we have used an approach taken from the Renzulli Revolving door model. In essence, the model provides the mechanism for students to come into and out of a gifted program. It is an approach designed to increase substantially the number of students involved in the program.

Just how the model accomplishes these ends can perhaps best be explained by way of an example. If we assume that there is only one correct way to select a student for the program we would begin selection by determining that specific criterion. Thus for all the elements in the program only the same group of pupils would be eligible. This would severely limit participation, make administration easy and isolate the program from the remaining student population. However, if we utilize a different selection approach to each element of the program we make administration more difficult, but we do not limit participation in the overall program and we do not isolate the total program from the student body. For these reasons we have chosen to vary our selection process. As a result participation in the program is open to all students. Participation in individual elements is limited by different approaches to the selection process. For some elements of the program only pupil interest and parent recommendation is necessary. This is true for computers, Dungeons and Dragons, and Genealogy. For the Great Books Program pupil interest, teacher

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recommendation and parent recommendation are necessary; for the Olympics of the Mind, teacher or parent recommendations, pupil interest and test results in the cognitive skills areas were utilized. In the Rogate Program parent recommendation, student interest and academic achievement test scores were utilized. This variety of approaches has provided us with a broad participation of pupils.

Now what about those buccaners, dragons, trees, turtles and books? How do they relate to the TAG Program? They are activities and events which have, are and will highlight the TAG elements. Next month we will explain the individual elements and describe the activities.

A few weeks ago, Barry Kanczucker wrote his first play. The excitement generated from this creative writing inspired the students in Mrs. Mayberg's/

Mrs. Gagliardi's classes to write, produce and perform their own plays, as well as construct their own sets.

On Friday, March 11, the children invited their parents to view their performances. The plays were: "Mother duck - Baby Duck", performed by Dawn Scalf, Dorshia Pullen, Brian Maltby, and Evelyn Schlinski; "Fox, Dog, Cat Meet Mr. Turtle", performed by Brie Lakin, Lola Cirullo, Chris Morris, Dustin Warnick, and Anya Greenman; "Bowling Fun", performed by Aaron Bookman, Chris Suk, and Chris Morris; "Mr. Tree Helps Mr. Tiger", performed by Barry Kanczucker, Kevin Ruff, Gregory Zaleski, and Keith Suk; and "Three Billy Goats Gruff", performed by Abe Schlinski, Steven Antosky, Sean Fuhr, and Christa Manzi.


Needless to say, the critics gave the performance a high rating.

WELCOME TO NEWCOMER

Joseph F. Dales, Jr. of 9 Homestead Lane moved to New Jersey in 1981 from Birmingham Alabama, where he had lived for over nine years. He is employed by McGraw-Hill in Hightstown. He works there as a Network Control Technician, which means he maintains McGraw-Hill's communication network.

Joseph loves the outdoors. His hobbies are motorcycles, antiques and music (and any other way of spending free time).

He hopes his stay in Roosevelt will be a long and memorable one.




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SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS - MARCH 4, 1983

by Helga Wisowaty

The meeting addressed a variety of things interesting to Seniors in particular but affecting others also. There was discussion about an article in "Modern Maturity" magazine on "Osteoporosis", which can cause many accidents. Calcium is recommended plus a supplement. Exercise should be on our schedules.

Jeannette Koffler has been appointed "Municipal Coordinator to the Office of the Aging." She suggested that we check with her about pharmaceutical assistance to the aged. She was asked to check about education courses available to us. So far, seniors from Monmouth County must pay full price to take courses in Hightstown, and Plainsboro charges half price.

Bill Mathesius, Mercer County Executive, has asked all business people in Mercer County to give seniors a 10% discount. Jeannette Koffler was asked to see if this includes seniors from Monmouth County.

On March 24 handcrafted articles were on display at the Social Services Building on Koslowski Rd. in Freehold. You can sell, "browse" or buy.

The Hightstown Library offers help with income tax forms on Tuesdays from 6-8; Fridays from 3-5; Saturdays from 10-12 until the 12th of April.

We discussed trying to integrate the future residents of the Senior Housing in Roosevelt with our club. It was agreed that we'll make the effort to welcome them to both our organization and to Roosevelt.

A committee was formed to select films to be presented at some meetings. Officers were elected for the year. Those chosen were: President Esther

Pogrebin, Vice President Min Wind, Secretary Helga Wisowaty, and Treasurer Fay Libove.

Five pounds of government surplus butter was given to senior citizens and others eligible in Roosevelt on March 11. Senior club members packaged the butter and helped in the distribution. As usual, because of the cooperation of the members and the chemistry that makes our meetings and affairs happy ones, the meeting was not a dull one, but one in which a service was performed, and those serving enjoyed the companionship that brightens these hours spent together.

Coffee was made by Esther Pogrebin and Gus Chasan's delicious cakes brought the usual compliments.

We extend warm thanks to Nina Burghardt who took the time to go to Freehold to pick up the butter and deliver it to us.

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