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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUME IX NO. 11

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 1988

WE'RE ON OUR OWN

Borough Council Report

By Adeline Weiner

New Council and Mayor: Off and Running

The first regular meeting of the new year, on January 13th, was conducted by Mayor Leon Barth, who along with Marilyn Magnes and Jim Alt had been officially installed in office at a special meeting on January 4th. (See below).

The major topic dominating the Council business was consideration of a source of funding for the water/sewer project loan. However, a report by a resident of a massive robbery at her home on Pine Drive created a storm of discussion during the public portion of the meeting.

FHA Presents

On the first issue, a representative from the Farmers Home Administration, Michael P. Kelsey, spoke at length about the borrowing procedures for the DEP-ordered water/sewer reconstruction. He explained that the median income level in Roosevelt (\$23,000, 1980 census) is in the market rate category of 7-3/4%, above poverty (5%) and intermediate (6 3/8% levels, which also makes us ineligible for grants from FHA funds from the State Waste Water Trust.

An advantage in borrowing from FHA would be their offer of a 40-year term, whereas commercial lenders generally offer 20-year terms. But long-term borrowing, he reminds us, entails considerably higher interest rates, thus multiplying the overall cost of the project. For shorter term loans, FHA interest rates are comparable to

those of the general bond market and once set would remain fixed through the period of the loan. Since they are not a "for-profit" institution, they are not as concerned with "risk" (the ability to repay) as commercial lenders would be, although it was pointed out by Councilmember Seligman that Roosevelt has a good track record on debt repayment and will not show up as a poor risk in any case.

Another advantage noted by Mr. Kelsey is that as a government agency they are required to keep a close watch on all aspects of construction and would thus serve as another party to monitor the project. He warned, however, that FHA has sometimes faced the circumstance of running out of funds and has had to hold up proceedings for as much as a year to await new sources of financing.

Replies to questions made it clear that if a community were unable to meet given time restraints that postponements and waivers were customarily available from the courts, sometimes even with the assistance of the DEP itself. In the event that the Borough chooses the FHA route for financing, preapplication proceedings have already been started by the previous Council. Councilmember Moser stated that in fact 30% of reconstruction has already been completed with financing that will be repaid when bond arrangements are made final. In the meantime, he said, we have three years to sell bond anticipation notes that can be resold every year during the three years.

The Roosevelt P.T.A., which has sponsored and published the *Bulletin* since its inception in July, 1977, has officially withdrawn its support and mailer stamp. Notice was given via a letter and a copy of the P.T.A. Bylaws.

Where We Stand Now

The *Bulletin* is thus forced to purchase its own mailer stamp and do without the formerly much appreciated financial support of the P.T.A. This means that, to survive and continue to furnish the community with the only place where all ideas and opinions can be openly and publicly exchanged, we need an even greater continued commitment from those individuals who value free and open communication, a Roosevelt tradition. Please send your contributions (in the amount of \$100, \$50, \$25, etc.) to: Roosevelt Borough Bulletin; P.O. Box 265; Roosevelt, New Jersey 08555.

All Options To Be Made Public

His committee, he assured the meeting, would make known to the community the comparative advantages and disadvantages of various lending and repayment options that will be arrived at in consultation with the team of bond-lawyers engaged by the Borough for that purpose. The varying cost schedules for individual residents will be made public before any final contract is closed. Apparently, the main problem to be balanced out will be the length of term of the loan as against the rate of interest and the overall cost as against the size of the user-fee charged to residents.

Openness is Best

The meeting proceeded with committee reports, in the course of which Mayor Barth announced that he had decided to accept all committees and their designated chairpersons as previously proposed. Carol Watchler, reporting for the Administrative Committee, urged that members of municipal government be obliged to pursue all initiatives openly and in coordination with the appropriate bodies and personnel. Private consultations and meeting with Borough consultants and other professionals whose services incur extra expense are not in keeping with the proper functioning of a cooperative municipal system.

Her committee announced its intention of issuing written memoranda on policy decisions, methods of financing etc., for purposes of public information. A new ordinance (#128) was introduced for a first reading, designating that the State undertake, in place of a Borough professional, the function of building inspection. Construction fees will go to the State official with not change in rate and at no cost to the Borough. Change-of-occupancy inspection (no training required) will remain under Borough control with Mr. Haught in charge until a new person can be hired.

Regarding streets and roads, Ms. Magnes, Committee Chair, reported that pot holes will not be reported until they are clear of snow and thoroughly dry. In the new budget, unpaved roads on Brown St., Spruce Lane and Eleanor Lane will get the best attention affordable.

New Safety Problems

Ms. Jill Lipoti, Public Safety Chair, announced that a new "livestock" ordinance will be introduced; that a serious issue of vandalism has arisen in regard to the unlawful use of motorized equipment (snowmobiles, mini-bikes, three wheelers) on private and public grounds. Her committee plans a public meeting alerting the community to these problems. After the report on the burglary mentioned above, this projected rally assumed even greater importance.

A request by the PTA for the Borough Council to sponsor the 15th year of the Summer Program was

presented. The PTA, due to a legal ban, must relinquish this activity. Such sponsorship will be considered by the Cultural and Recreation Committee, Mr. Ralph Seligman, Chair, in consultation with the PTA leaders.

Overzealous or Sloppy?

"Recycling in Roosevelt is a success," announced coordinator Lou Esakoff, but "over-compliance has become a problem." Unacceptable household garbage is being dropped into the bins: cat-food cans, discarded window frames, plastic bottles, even soiled diapers. Bottles are thrown in unwashed and soon begin to stink. Newspapers—not magazines—must be tied up or put in paper bags. Mr. Esakoff reminded us that we pay a hefty price for garbage pick-up which fully provides all the collection services we need. He asked the Council to express thanks to Joe Gale for his consistently generous offer of free barrels.

Plunder on Pine Drive

In the public portion of the Council meeting, Barbara Dalin, of 76 Pine Drive, reported the daytime robbery of her home on January 12, during which thieves climbed a ladder and hammered in a large second-floor thermopane glass, ransacked the house taking a large TV set, a VCR, electrical appliances, money, jewelry, and clothing, which they hauled away in a truck that had been backed into a "locked" garage. She shocked her listeners further when she said it took an hour and a half for the State Police to respond to her call, made on her return from work. Apparently, there was an earlier theft by a crew of men working in the home when she and her husband were away at work, also reported to the police.

Discussion was lively: there were suggestions for the Borough to inquire of the State Police about the delay, for more frequent surveillance during daylight hours, about their assistance in organizing a citizens watch. Some thought we might alert our many walkers to look for strange automobiles cruising around, and involve our neighbors in keeping an eye on houses of working couples. The general feeling was we are vulnerable; all we can really do is help each other; we must alert the whole community

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

Box 265, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

Editor

David Brahinsky

Contributing Writers

Peter Berlinrut, Bob Clark, Aaron Datz, Gloria Hazell, Albert Hepner, Florie Johnson, Herb Johnson, Becky Russell, Helga Wisowaty, Arthur Shapiro, Joe Solomon, Peter Warren, Adeline Weiner

Production

Lynn Friedman, Gloria Hazell, Hortense Socholitsky, Mark Zuckerman

Business

Lynn Friedman, Adeline Weiner, Lillian Warren

Typesetting facilities donated by MIRA

and get everyone's ideas. As mentioned earlier, a town meeting on the subject and on vandalization of property will be called by the Public Safety Committee.

Salute to E.P.

The Council passed a motion to acknowledge Martin Luther King's birthday as a legal holiday for Borough employees. At the Mayor's request the Council agreed to send a letter of commendation and regret that Esther Pogrebin is leaving Roosevelt to move to New York. "After such a long record of devoted service to the town in so many capacities, Esther's leaving will be a real loss to us," said Mr. Barth.

A resume of actions taken by the Council at meetings on Dec. 9th, 28th and Jan. 4th follows:

1. Appreciation, gratitude and thanks were extended to Mayor Freda Hepner for an outstanding term of service by members of the Council and the public.

2. The term of Kraft and McManimon, of Newark, was engaged for specialized legal services to assist the Borough in authorization and issuance of bonds and notes.

3. Edward Pineda was hired as water/sewer trainee.

4. Hutchinson Company was hired as contractor for pothole repair.

5. At the Jan 4th meeting, Leon Barth was installed as Mayor, attended by many friends, relatives and well-wishers who offered greetings, best wishes, awards and refreshments.

6. Carol Watchler was elected president of the Council.

7. Committee and new appointments were approved and appointed as follows:

- **Accountant** Joseph Faccone & Jerome Fein
- **Engineer** William Birdsall
- **Insurance** Agency Allen & Stults
- **Attorney** Richard McManus
- **Municipal Court** Millstone Municipal Court
- **Municipal Court Judge** Leslie B. Tinkler
- **Court Clerk** Teena Bock
- **Water/Sewer Plant Operator** Ron Suto
- **Water/Sewer Plant Trainee** Edward Pineda
- **W/S Plant Consultant/Trainer** Thomas Karpick
- **Water/Sewer Utility Collector** Geraldine Millar
- **Building Inspector** Harold Haught
- **Zoning Officer** Paul Eichler
- **Recycling Coordinator** Louis Esakoff
- **Borough Clerk** Krystyna Bieracka
- **Deputy Borough Clerk** Nancy L. Warnick

The Chairman is the first Designated:

- Administration: **Watchler, Moser, Seligman**
- Public Utilities: **Moser, Magnes, Lipoti**
- Public Safety: **Lipoti, Watchler, Moser**
- Public Property/Cemetery: **Alt, Seligman, Magnes**
- Streets and Roads: **Magnes, Lipoti, Alt**
- Culture and Recreation: **Seligman, Watchler, Alt**
- Gail Hunton to the Planning Board (Alt.1, exp. 1989)
- Marilyn Magnes to the Planning Board (Cl.3, Council Rep.)
- Frieda Anish to the Zoning Board (exp. 1990)
- Jonathan Shahn to the Zoning Board (exp 1990).
- Edwin Schmalzbach to the Welfare Board (exp. 1990).

- Ann Goldman to the Board of Park Commissioners (exp 1990).
- Edith Ernstein to the Cable Advisory Committee (exp 1990).

Thanks

The Friedman/Scherr family would like to convey our appreciation to our many friends and neighbors for your support, cards and phone calls during our time of grief. The loss of our father/husband, Arthur Scherr, was a little less traumatic because each of you was there when we needed you.

Sincerely Lynn and Frieda

Rossis Host Visit From Santa

Most of the children appeared a little tentative at first as they entered the back room at Rossi's on December 14th. But Santa's ready smile and twinkling eyes soon put them at ease. Parents and children alike beamed as Santa listened to Christmas wishes and gave each child a gift.

Many thanks to the Rossi family for their generous hospitality towards Santa's eighty young visitors.



Ambulance Dedication

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The brand new, custom designed Ambulance will be dedicated on February 7, 1988 between 2 and 4 PM at the First Aid Building. Refreshments will be served, there will be door prizes and, most importantly, demonstrations of the new equipment. A 50/50 will also be sold.

Please show your support for our fabulous First Aid Squad and come out for the dedication.

The Way We Were

[The Bulletin would like to introduce a new feature, *The Way We Were*, which will include articles and reports from the archives. The following appeared in our first issue—When we were called the *Roosevelt Tabloid*—July 12, 1977.]

Agenda Item Causes Concern

Some residents who attended the June 14 meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education were concerned that the board might pass a policy allowing the principal a sabbatical leave. Board President Marcia Sheinberg said the idea of a sabbatical had come up at negotiations and should not have been included on the agenda for the board's public meeting. She said matters of negotiations must, by law, be discussed closed meetings.

Board members assured the audience that the introduction of a new policy would require two policy readings at two separate public meetings. Gantwerk said he is "acutely aware of the budget" in Roosevelt and was "looking for benefits other than salary that could be negotiated." He said he would consider any public discussion of his negotiations as a violation of his rights under the laws governing public employees in New Jersey.

In other action, board members hired Ms. Ilene Levine to teach in the primary unit. Jane Fremon, an aid in the school for the past two years, was hired as a teacher. Dr. Suresh Shah of East Windsor was named school physician at a fee of \$550 per year. He will be a member of the district's child study team and will give physical examinations to members of the school's four athletic teams. Mrs. Helen Barth was hired as a substitute secretary. Board member George Katz said he would have signs installed restricting motorcycles from using the school property.

Editor's note

The last we heard, Lew Gantwerk now Dr. Gantwerk, is teaching at Rutgers, is in private practice, and is a consultant to schools; Jane Fremon is Director of the Princeton Friends School; and Ilene and Helen are still manning (womaning) the fort at R.P.S.

Letters

To the Editor:

I was quite upset with Mr. Warren's claims of accomplishments. Let me inform you from my point of view.

It appears to me that Mr. Warren is the sole member of the citizens' group. You heard of the boy who cried wolf? He surely did contact the Board of Health concerning our recyclables. A representative did come out and stated to me, Ron Suto, and Nina Burghardt that we, the Borough of Roosevelt, are in much better shape than most municipalities starting out with this program, and wondered why Mr. Warren was so concerned. Yes, he stated he would be back as part of normal procedures.

Previous attempts were made to transport our materials to Millstone; but, their arrangement was over flowing. How did we know this? Mr. Suto, our water/sewer operator, had made trips to evaluate the conceivability of making a drop and logic in renting a truck. A request from Millstone was made, to me, that the Borough be patient until a regular schedule of pick up was finalized with Freehold Cartage. Once informed, a reservation was made for a truck rental days in advance as requested by Avis Rental at the Coach and Four, which was the cheapest supplier of this service. It was purely coincidental, but to our advantage, that a health representative came out the day we were loading.

Mrs. Burghardt, a volunteer, Ron and I carted 4 (four) tons of paper that day: four loading and four unloading. When I asked Mr. Warren to help us, he ran away so fast that the health inspector asked what happened to him. At 7:00 A.M. the next day, Mr. Esakoff, also a volunteer, Krystyna, our clerk, and Ron began loading glass and aluminum. Why so early? We had to have the truck back within 24 hours or be charged for another day. \$114.00 including insurance per day.

That Wednesday, in the rain, Krystyna and I carted the refuse from the recyclables to the curb and physically loaded them into the Intra City Waste truck in fear that the wet boxes would break from the enormous loads if

proper care were not taken to lift them. All along we dealt with bees and even dirty diapers: not one rodent was detected.

Since then, there have been four trips made to Millstone in similar fashion. Millstone's situation is improving as is ours—no thanks to the citizens' group. Words of gratitude are due to Nina Burghardt, Mr. Esakoff, Krystyna, Ron and our local government for their support.

How is that for action? I resent any claim made for success toward positive actions taken by our local employees, volunteers and government.

As for the child who wandered into the sewer plant, what parent is so irresponsible as to allow a child to play outside unchaperoned? That hints of child neglect to me: yet no one called the child abuse center. We even leash our dogs.

What happened to civic duties, Mr. Warren? The community is aware that most positions are filled on a volunteer basis or a minimal amount paid: there are only two full time employees available on a regular basis. By the way, each household contributes an approximate amount of a mere \$50.00 per year toward the clerk's salary to which she and I also contribute. Residents pay more for cable TV.

Civic duty: If I found an exposed manhole and the cover were near, I'd put it back on as obligated as a citizen. I would call the office and offer to lock the sewer plant gate. Of course none of that would get my name in the paper.

Mr. Warren's article is a personal insult because I feel my town and its process of administration to be an extension of myself and care about people I have known all or most of my life. I would not continue on as deputy clerk and/or keep quiet if a wrong existed.

I am angry that I feel a need to publicize my points of view in rebuttal to a man who, years ago, I knew as Alex's father, and more recently on a somewhat social basis and grew to respect. This article will disappoint

him, I'm sure, and I am sorry for it. However, as much as I appreciate his concerns, I find his articles based upon misconceptions and emotions. Now that I am working for our borough, I feel he has hit too close to home for me not to respond—as a concerned citizen, as a sister resident.

Thank you
Nancy L. Warnick

To the Editor:

In an article that appeared in the November *Bulletin*, Mr. Burghardt, President of the School Board, informed us that there are necessary repairs to make in the school.

Instead of looking for possible savings in a budget that is already bloated, for a school with a registration if less than 100 pupils, we are told that it will again be necessary to increase the budget, and naturally, to raise taxes.

In my opinion, it is high time that the Board and the Administrator are told, in no uncertain terms, that their prodigious appetite for ever higher spiralling budgets, that can only be paid for with soaring taxes, must be curbed.

We can do this in the only way open to us. Namely, in the defeat at the polls, with a large majority, of any budget presented to us, that we see as exorbitant.

When the last budget was defeated, we were informed by the Board, that they would start to gather information that would lead to possible regionalization. Since then I have heard nothing regarding this matter.

Perhaps the reason for this is a feeling on the part of the Board, egged on by the Administrator, that as long as they are getting their way, despite defeat, with the budget they submit, why bother.

Jack Bermowitz

School Board Report

After School Use of Building an Issue

By Albert Hepner

Proposals to ratify the Use of School Facilities Policy were discussed at the December Board of Education meeting. State requirements that a Black Seal operator be present whenever the school is used would be enforced. The Board debated whether the Chief School Administrator (C.S.A.) or the Board of Education would have to give a reason to refuse use of the school building. Despite Dr. Sussman's objections, the consensus was that a reason to refuse should be given. Ed Goetzman proposed that the Board investigate the insurance policy regarding after school hours use of the building. Final decision on the Policy was tabled pending legal clarification.

Debbie Allen, who attended a N.J. State workshop on the maintenance of policy books, reported that policies could be approved without the reading of the entire contents, but that the policy book must be made available to the public *anytime* during school hours.

The Board directed the C.S.A. to deal with the potential danger of bicycle riding around school grounds during school hours. Dr. Sussman issued a directive forbidding bicycle riding.

Ed Grossman reported that the Education Committee agreed to alter the kindergarten schedule to accommodate the requirements of the pre-school program. A five page Lunch Committee Report was presented by J. Plumb, M. Schlinski, D. Allen and D. Keller. It defines costs and describes a variety of cooked, nutritious meals which the Board tended to endorse.

Engineer Cavaluso mapped out the proposed state mandated bathroom requirements for handicapped preschoolers and kindergartners. He estimated the cost to be \$5000.00. Mr. Cavaluso also presented the Board with a proposal to divide the primary room into three rooms. Costs were not discussed. Dr. Sussman said this was for the purpose of moving the library into a classroom.

Pat Antosky's query about her son no longer being in the art program prompted the principal's explanation that there was no art program because he was unable to find an instructor. When the C.S.A. was asked by Ed Goetzman why the Board had not been informed that there was no art

program and that he was unable to find an instructor, Dr. Sussman said that the Board should go into closed session to discuss this matter.

The Board went into closed session after announcing that the regular meeting would be concluded on December 21st at 7:30 P.M. However, that evening, John Burkhardt said that he had been unable to get a quorum to continue the meeting.

Senior Citizens News

By Helga Wisowaty

The meeting of January 5 was particularly enjoyable due to the kindness of Faye and Leo Libove's granddaughter Susan and her friend Ginger. The two young ladies played guitar (Ginger) and sang (Susan). Both girls are very talented and possess great senses of humor which we appreciated.

There is a trip planned to the Asbury Park Convention Hall on February 3. Transportation will be available if enough people sign up to go.

All of us are saddened by the resignation loss of Esther Pogrebin as our President. She has presided over the Senior Citizen's meetings from the club's inception. We are happy for Esther because she has a loving family in New York who want her to be closer to them. We can understand these feelings and wish her happiness in her new home but we'll miss her and look forward to her return to visit us (as she has promised).

School Board News

Parents Seek to Improve Lunches

By Anne DeCocco

Congratulations to the Lunch Committee! Chair Jan Plum and Margaret Schlinski have worked long and hard, along with David Keller and Debra Allen providing Board support, to research a way of setting up a better lunch program in our school, and it will finally become a reality soon!

It all started when Jan Plum, the mother of four boys, decided that she could no longer tolerate the low quality lunches currently being served to the students. It is true that they are "Class A" lunches (mandated by the State), but that doesn't make them appetizing and delicious. So Ms. Plum set about collecting an impressive

amount of information on alternatives to the program. She then came before the Board with a presentation and the committee was formed to continue her work. The result of that committee was a comprehensive report that answered just about every question the Board could possibly have, from costs to delivery to menus. The menus, of course, are the best part—appetizing, well-balanced meals made up of foods that kids will eat. The committee has recommended that the price of these high quality, freshly prepared lunches be raised by 25 cents over the cost of the present lunches to cover all costs, but no decision has been made on that issue yet.

This is a terrific program and shows what can happen in our school when parents become involved! The Board extends its thanks to Ms. Plum and her committee.

Wishes For 1988

- I Wish that I'd join the exercise group.
- I Wish that it would be in the evening.
- I Wish that the days were changed.
- I Wish that they would change the time.
- I Wish that I'd get up and GO to the free class at the Boro Hall. (Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am and out by 11.)
- Bring a large towel.
- Wishing won't help. DO IT !!

Issues and Debate

The Roosevelt Fire Department, Truth and Consequences

By Andrew Hazell

In England, as a child, we often played a game which I believe is also played here in America—Truth and Consequences. The game was simple enough: you told the truth and somebody else told you what would happen as a result of that truth. As far as the fire service goes in England, the truth is that we have a nationwide paid and professional fire service. As a consequence of that, a house holder or community need not worry about whether a fire truck will come, or from where it will come—it just comes. The truth for us here is that no such nationwide service exists, nor a statewide service, nor even a countywide service. The consequence for us is that we do need to worry. It is our taxes that need to pay for some kind of service, and our home insurance rates that are affected by the service (or lack of service) provided within our town. So, enough of the preamble and on with the game ...

The Truth about the Roosevelt Fire Department:

1. The Department is ill equipped to adequately and effectively fight a serious structure fire, or even a not so serious one. The Fire Truck is old, and in constant need of repair, and at best it is a hit or miss chance as to whether it can adequately supply water when not connected to a hydrant.

2. The Department is inadequately manned to enable an effective fire fighting unit to be put together. Even if such a team could be put together, the personnel on that team are not sufficiently trained to properly carry out the job they are attempting to do.

3. The Department has a debatable amount of support from the town, and little or no support from the townspeople.

The consequences for the Roosevelt Fire Department if things remain unchanged are simple. It will cease to be a fire department. The consequences for us, the residents of Roosevelt are also simple, our taxes will increase to cover the cost of having a fire service provided from a neighboring community. Our home insurance will be increased to cover the additional likelihood of losing our property, and, of course, we will lose property. It will take more time for a fire fighting crew to reach **your house**. Because the fire will then be larger, it will take **longer** to put out, resulting in far more damage. Of course, if you are truly convinced that these Roosevelt houses won't burn, then you can, of course, cancel your fire insurance. That money you save will help to pay the additional taxes that you can't cancel.

Well, that's the truth, and that's the consequence. The real question however, is this—need this be the truth?

It would seem to me that we have 3 basic options regarding the type of fire service we wish to protect our homes:

1. We can accept what we have, for as long as the inadequately trained personnel will be prepared to risk their lives using out-dated and sometimes dangerous equipment. When they, or the equipment, finally do give up, then we

will have little choice but to accept option 2, if only for as long as it takes to organize option 3.

2. Close down the fire department, sell or give away what equipment is serviceable and attempt to get coverage from a neighboring community. We could allow them to keep some of their equipment within our town, and we could allow them to recruit and train volunteers from within town to man the equipment. If insufficient volunteers can be raised (or if those volunteers lack the training to work the equipment), then we will have to await the arrival of personnel from the neighboring community.

3. Rebuild the Fire Department, from top to bottom, either as a functioning department of the council, or as a truly independent company (like the Roosevelt First Aid Squad). There are trained firefighters in town who could help train other personnel, who could advise on what equipment is needed, who may even be able to assist in getting that equipment. These professional firefighters could become the central core of a new and revitalized fire department. We also have people in town who remember, with pride, the fire department of old. There is no pride in being a member of the present department. But that can change. We need equipment, and the equipment needs to be paid for. When Roosevelt was built, the townspeople as a whole made the fire department—men and women. We need the townspeople to make the department again—some as volunteer firefighters, some as an auxiliary to help in any way that may be needed, and some to supply the money to get the equipment that we need.

I can't tell you what you want in our town. I know only what I want, and what I hope. What I want is a functioning fire department adequately manned and equipped. What I hope is that we as a town can get together to give us what I want. This is not a plea for volunteers. Those days are long past. This is a plea to try to save what once was a powerful and useful part of our community—our fire department. May it not have to rest in peace. I welcome responses to this article. You tell me what you want and what you are prepared to do to get it. I will assume that no response is just your way of saying "raise my taxes and insurance, and place my home and family at risk."

Mr. Hazell is President of the Roosevelt Fire Company, telephone 448-5146.

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Recycling: Violations Continue

by Lou Esakoff, Recycling Coordinator

The recycling program is proceeding very well and can, at this time, be considered a success.

Unfortunately, for all of our success, we continue to have serious violations of the ordinance and rules.

Tin Cans, tin cans *with food*, jars and bottles *not rinsed*, jars and bottles *with food*, jars and bottles with lids, paper and plastic bags in the recycling barrels, household garbage, magazines, loose paper (not tied or bagged).

Our borough staff is small and does not have the time nor should they have to sort through the recyclables for the above violations.

Residents identified as violators of the recycling ordinance will on first violation receive a warning and on second violation a summons.

In view of the Roosevelt Citizens Committee's activity in seeking out violations and violators and calling the authorities; would they like to monitor the recycling center and help stop the violators?

Recycling is the law and compliance is expected and appreciated.

Nursery School News

Hey, Moms, Dads, and sitters—got those Winter Blahs? Cabin Fever rearing its ugly head? Then bring your preschooler to the Roosevelt Cooperative Nursery School any **Tuesday morning** and both of you can take **advantage** of our new Community Drop-in program! Let your 2 1/2 to 5 year old join the fun with our nursery schoolers, while you take a breather, watch the action, and chat with some real live grownups! Call Arlene Stinson, director, (426-9523), for details.

This holiday month, our ten "regulars" learned about families and sharing. They collected cans of food for the needy, shared songs with some of Roosevelt's senior citizens, and

"wrote" books (complete with photos) about their own families, teacher Karyn Grunwald reports. Just before winter break, the youngsters also invited their parents and siblings to share their special homemade soup at an early luncheon.

Moms and Dads have been busy, too, planning more fundraising projects. These include baking and selling refreshments at the Roosevelt Players' January production, and implementing a gala luncheon/benefit for ALL Roosevelt Community Nursery School alumni. This means you! If you are an alumnus or know someone who is, please contact us (426-9523) so we can add your name to our guest list.

This month's thank yous go to: Universal Process Equipment, Inc., and Ron Gale—once again, you've been a lifesaver, and we're so grateful! Also many thanks to R. & A. Petrilla, Booksellers, for their generous contribution; to Merle and Irving Rose for their timely gift of school equipment; and to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad for allowing us to sell our Stefan Martin prints at the November Art Fair. Thank you all!

And a big welcome to our new permanent teacher's assistant Doris Stinson, who helps out in the nursery school three days a week.

Nursery School Update

Thanks to the financial support of MIRA, a Roosevelt-based company located at the Factory on Oscar Drive, the Roosevelt Cooperative Nursery School will be open for Friday morning sessions beginning in February. Currently, the program runs Monday through Thursday.

MIRA proprietors Mark Zuckerman and Anita Cervantes hope mothers of preschoolers will take advantage of the many part-time job opportunities the company offers while their children are in nursery school. Arrangements have been made to accommodate morning work schedules. For more information, contact Anita Cervantes or Luisa Moran at MIRA, 443-4495.

On other fronts, all RCNS parents, children, and staffers would like to extend our heartiest thanks to Honey Socholitzy ("Miss Honey") for volunteering to be our teacher's aide every Tuesday. It's wonderful to have you aboard!

We'd also like to thank Manny and Jeanette Koffler for their donation of "Frosty the Snowman"—he's a classroom hit!

The nursery school still needs outdoor toys for all seasons—climbing toys, crawling tunnels and especially sleds and other winter equipment. (We're well supplied with riding toys at this point.) If any reader has toys of this type to donate, please call 426-9523 and we'll arrange for pick-up. (No rusty or sharp-edged items, please.)

Thank you!



Citizens' Group Activities, November-January

By Peter Warren

Between November 10 and January 10, individual members of the Citizens' Group made the following contributions to the community:

- Attended the annual meeting of the League of Municipalities in Atlantic City and returned with useful information for borough administration;
- Arranged a modest public ceremony for the installation on January 4 of the incoming Mayor and Borough Council;
- Made preliminary arrangements so that an official invitation could be made so that the Director of Farmers Home Administration could describe the proposed financing of the DEP-mandated sewer investments;
- Began detailed reporting on the monthly agenda, regular and special Council meetings. Copies are available at the Deli and Roosevelt Auto, and posted on the public bulletin board.

New Council Member

Jill Lipoti Replaces Lee Selden

By Peter Warren

Lian—her name means *Willow or Water Lily or Bright and Shining* in Chinese—was born about a year ago, which in turn was about a year after her parents moved to Pine Drive from Hightstown.

They were delighted with the reasonable price of the Phillips house—which they spent several months renovating—and with the quiet, wooded charm of Roosevelt. When they moved in, one of their first experiences was buying records at Sidney Sochowitzky's garage sale.

Lian's father, Bradford Garton, grew up in Indiana, where he studied pharmacology at Purdue, and then directed the noise program of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns—the counterpart of the League of Municipalities in New Jersey.

But music won out. He played the synthesizer in a rock band when he was younger and then started a music studio at Purdue where he was doing graduate work in psychoacoustic research. He moved to Princeton four years ago to study music with Milton Babbitt, then with Paul Lansky and Jim Randall. His thesis virtually completed, he is now Assistant Professor of Music at Columbia University.

Lian's mother, Jill Lipoti, met Brad when she travelled to a meeting at the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns in 1982. She is a Jersey girl who grew up in Wood-Ridge, and got her BS in Environmental Science at Cook College, studying sewerage and air pollution, and working as chemist in an R&D lab.

When they met, she was director of the Noise Technical Assistance Center at Rutgers, where she was employed while working on her PhD in Environmental Science. Her work on noise pollution took her all over the country. A year later, they married, and two years after that, in 1985, she completed her PhD.

Dr. Jill Lipoti worked first with the Port Authority on hazardous waste. She now works with DEP in the Right To Know Department. The Department uses her knowledge of chemistry to instruct business executives in filling out questionnaires on their hazardous waste storage. So far, the survey covers 33,000 business sites: it will go on to cover as many as 192,000.

DEP sends articles, some of which Dr. Lipoti writes, to citizen action groups so that individuals—professionals like firemen, doctors or lawyers, and residents who wonder if their allergy is caused by exposure to waste at a nearby factory—will know what hazard they are facing. She helps the public use this information.

She admits that she was flabbergasted when she was approached by the Democratic Committee, to replace Lee Selden on the Borough Council, as all she knew about town problems was what she had read in the *Bulletin*. Like many young newcomers to Roosevelt, however, she likes the idea of public service—and looks forward to her Council responsibilities. We will benefit from her scientific training, objectivity and enthusiasm.

RPS

By Ed Goetzmann

The Roosevelt Public School (RPS) is a great place to get an outstanding elementary education! Any graduate of RPS who really wants to excel in high school, to "make honors," has the basic skills to do so. This has been true over all the decades our school has existed. It still applies to RPS students transferring to either public or private schools, to middle schools, high schools or to other school districts. This has always been a source of pride in our community. Just ask any native Rooseveltian.

RPS students adjust to and are prepared for transfer to other schools as well as and probably better than most. One caveat, however, should be remembered when ever this change of schools occurs. All orientation speeches in all schools, public and private, always seem to include one statement. "You may find your child is having difficulty because our standards are high." Don't fall for it! This implies that previous standards were low, an insult to either parents, the previous school, or both. Also, any transfer from one learning environment to another necessitates a period of adjustment so to predict difficulty is inane.

Furthermore, human beings pass developmental milestones about the time most transfers occur (grades 5-6, 8-9). Problems can arise that are not necessarily school generated. Consult any developmental theorist from Plato to Piaget, or a parent who has lived through it.

RPS graduates have one distinct advantage wherever they go. They know themselves extremely well. Anthropologically, small groups are more individually oriented than large ones. When an entire grade level in a school is the size of a family there is no place to hide. Individual weaknesses, strengths and proclivities become known to each student, their peers and teachers. RPS is, first and foremost, in the business of building on strengths, strengthening weaknesses, and encouraging individuality. Children become thoroughly known entities, especially to themselves.

In larger schools where the number of students at each grade level is counted in scores or even hundreds there is an inevitable tendency toward stratification. Students are identified with groups by teachers, peers and themselves. This blurs both individual identity and capability. Perhaps Polonius' "Know thyself" should be placed upon an RPS crest.

The unique sense of individual selfness that is instilled in RPS students is validated at every eighth grade graduation. Each year our pride overflows when we congratulate what might be called "a bunch of real characters" but who are, in truth, distinct individuals each with strong character. They are products of homes, a community and a school that value both individuality and individual education.

Ed Goetzmann is a member of the RPS Board of Education, an administrator in the Bridgewater-Raritan Regional School District, Somerset County, former Administrative Principal of RPS and the proud father of three fiercely individualistic graduates of RPS.

The Folsom Year-End Report for 1987

Editor's Note

The Folsoms are former Roosevelt residents deeply involved in the international peace movement. They often send us reports of their activities, the following of which we are happy to publish this month.

The high point (pun intended) of Mary's year was a visit to Tibet in April. Boulder has a sister city arrangement with Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, and sent a delegation across the world to pay a courtesy call. Mary joined this delegation on short notice and spent a fascinating two weeks visiting schools and homes and temples and sampling yak butter and yak burgers and barley beer. She got VIP treatment because she was gathering material for a book, but the recent disturbances in Lhasa have made publishers cautious about bringing out a kid's book on Tibet. She is still looking for a publisher.

While 81-year-old Mary was off exploring in the Himalayas, Dank was teaching a graduate course in American political literature, 1929-1942, at the University of Colorado. In this course he made use of his personal knowledge of authors gathered when he served as executive secretary of the League of American Writers. He also used 1000 pages from the files of the FBI, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

When the college year ended, Dank set off to join 230 other Americans and 200 Soviet citizens on a walk that would cover much of the distance between Leningrad and Moscow. In Novgorod, the oldest Russian city, Dank, as the oldest walker, was asked to represent the Americans at a huge gathering in the central plaza. This is what he said:

Dear friends of Novgorod:

There are no words to describe how deeply moved we Americans have been by the reception you have given us. We hope we can prove worthy of the trust you have shown in us.

I have been introduced as the oldest American walker. I was ten years old when the workers and peasants in this country overthrew their masters and took charge of their own lives. I was ten years old when the new Soviet government issued its first decree which was an appeal for peace.

When my son was ten years old I was a seaman on a ship that brought supplies to the Red Army. By that time Soviet society had grown strong enough to begin driving the war-making Nazis out of this land.

When I left home to come on this Walk, my ten-year-old grandson asked me to tell Soviet children that American kids want peace.

Now this old man wants to make a prophecy for the future. The peace movement throughout the world is growing the way this peace walk grew today. Four hundred of us started out this morning. At every crossroad people joined us. As we entered the city, first scores then hundreds joined us. Finally thousands came off the sidewalks and became part of the human river that has filled this great square.

In this same way the peace movement is beginning to grow in the United States. There are more than 5000 peace organizations in my country, and my prophecy is that, before another ten years pass, the peace movement in the world will force the elimination of all nuclear weapons everywhere.

Before the year 2000 there will be universal disarmament. Then there will be no more need to organize walks against war. The Soviet people, the American people—all people everywhere—will be able to walk together in peace.

Mir y druzhba!

Mary spent the summer on various writing projects and Dank did preparatory work for a book on the Great Peace March of 1986. Both Mary and Dank geared up for the fourth revised edition of their *America's Ancient Treasures* which the University of New Mexico Press is preparing to bring out.

At the end of September the two of them joined 12 friends in a backpack trip across the Grand Canyon. After the joys of going down from the North Rim amid the gorgeous fall colors, and after the struggle of climbing up the South Rim, Mary dashed back to Boulder to help with the entertainment of a delegation of Tibetans from Lhasa who had come to get acquainted with their American sister city. This chore done, she flew to Las Vegas and joined Dank who had lingered in the Brand Canyon and come out via the Hermit Trail. Together they went on to Barstow, California, for a reunion of veterans of the Great Peace March. Then it was back to Boulder with stopoffs along the way at archeological sites and the marvelous Anasazi Heritage Museum in Dolores, Colorado, which is scheduled to open next Spring.

Thinking that we had pushed our luck far enough with our 1969 International Travelall and our 1964 Airstream, we traded them in on a 1988 Honda Accord. Lately we've been enjoying driving a new car for only the second time in our 51 years of marriage.

In October Mary spent a few days in Boston with son Michael, whose museum will formally open this Spring. Then she attended a one-person exhibit of daughter Rachel's water colors which the local art critics received very warmly. Still in October, Dank and Mary enjoyed a weekend with the Explorers Club at the splendid old Stanley Hotel in Estes Park. A memorable feature of the weekend was a ride in a beautiful Stanley Steamer of the kind that used to charge up the mountains when Dank and Mary were kids.

In November, Dank was off to the Bay Area in California. There he read a paper on the League of American Writers at the Marxist Scholars Conference at the University of California in Berkeley. Among the 800 at the conference he met several old friends from the Thirties and two new friends from the Great Peace March who have scholarly interests.

As the year closes, Mary is pleased to have received beautifully illustrated copies of her new *Snakes and Other Reptiles* (Simon and Schuster) and *The Look-See Book of Dinosaurs* (Golden Books). She also has on the coffee table for young visitors to see a copy of the new paperback edition of *Dinosaur Mysteries* (Grosset and Dunlap).

Dank closed November by beginning the actual writing, in collaboration with Connie Fledderjohann, of the book about the Great Peace March. Because the book had not found a commercial publisher by year's end, Connie, Mary and Dank raised from friends enough money to make self-publishing possible. If you have not joined in supporting this enterprise and would like to do so, you can order copies of the book, mailing costs included, by sending a check made out to Franklin Folsom at the rate of \$10 per copy.

We wish peace for you in the year ahead.



Theater in Roosevelt

Play Review: A conversation on a Country Path About *Scuba Duba*

After a Book by M. Heidegger

by David Brahinsky

A Scientist, a Scholar and a Teacher are taking a walk on a country path around the town of Roosevelt, New Jersey.

Teacher: I saw a play last night, in town.

Scientist: Really?

T: Uhuh. In the school—the gym, actually.

Scholar: How was it?

T: Oh it was fun, great fun.

Sci: What play was it? How come I didn't know about it?

T: It was Bruce Jay Friedman's *Scuba Duba*, put on by the Roosevelt Players, directed by Margaret Schlinski. You didn't hear about it because you never read the *Bulletin*. Also you are narrow focused and don't talk to anyone in town except me and the Scholar here and never about anything other than your work.

Sci: Speaking of my work ...

T: Not now.

Sci: Oh ...

Scho: I knew about the play but I had to go to the city to look up the word "triglistenestesorangatang." Couldn't find it in any of the local libraries.

T: Uhuh

Scho: So what was it about?

T: Let's see. I guess you'd say it was about a middle aged man whose wife walks out on him, goes out with a black man who the jilted man thinks is a scuba diver. It turns out the actual boyfriend is an intellectual type and the scuba diver is just a friend

Sci: What type of crustacean was the diver seeking out?

T: Who Knows? Anyway, while the guy is fuming and pacing around his apartment in France, a young sexy

woman piano player comes up and tells some weird stories.

Scho: Who played the sexy woman?

T: Tess List

Scho: Ah yes, I've seen her in Roosevelt plays in the past.

T: David Steinberg played the guy. Did a great job—both of them. The whole cast was good, actually. Bob Francis played an American, Texan-like tourist; Mari De Santo a French landlady; Richie Francis, a policeman, also French; Jon Duckett, a thief; Paul Friedman, a psychiatrist; Carty Turner, the guy's wife; Greg Johnson, the diver; and Leon Lawson, the lover. I especially liked Mindy Shapiro's work as the guy's mother and as the English, also sexy, lover of the psychiatrist.

Sci: Sounds like you had a good time. I mean, my scientific ear, my well honed perceptual apparatus, tuned by ...

T: Uhuh

Scho: So how did it come out?

T: You ask me that?

Scho: Oh I may be a scholar, and all that, but I'm really into plots.

T: I see. Okay. So the guy and the woman have a lot of interplay until they finally engage in a long kiss. But the guy is obsessed with his wife—can't get her out of his mind. Eventually she enters and the guy tries to talk her into coming back to him. She refuses and goes off with her lover. The guy ends as he began, fuming and pacing.

Sci: Sounds kind of pointless.

Scho: Don't be so sure. Many a point is made when linear logic is ignored. Wouldn't you say so Teach?

T: Oh sure. But there were a lot of racial undertones. The guy made lots of racial slurs because the wife's lover was black, and so on. So you see the underlying prejudice of the liberal type when personally injured by a black, or so he thought.

Sci: What about the negatives? Were there things you didn't like about the play?

T: Oh sure, but this is a family publication and we don't publish negatives here.

Scuba Duba was stage managed by Richie Frances, sets, programs and posters by Marcel Franquelin, special help and support was given by Bill and June Counterman, Gary Edelstein, Anita Cervantes, Leon Barth, Marcia Miller of McCarter Theater, Princeton Aqua Sports and Uncle George. The play is much more interesting than this review suggests, but you "had'a been there" to know.

Proceeds from the sale of tickets to *Scuba Duba* have been donated to the *Bulletin*.

Play Review: An Evening With The *Poet-Senator*

By David Herrstrom

As the 2nd event in the Roosevelt Arts Project series presented on December 12 *An Evening With The Poet-Senator*, a play written by Leslie Weiner, was a most absorbing evening. The prospect of listening to a play read, rather than seeing it staged, generally excites as much enthusiasm as the prospect of sex education might compared to sex training. But never underestimate the seductive power of the human voice, with its small inflections, sudden gasps, and slow wheedlings, to keep one spellbound. Professional actors interpreting the living and breathing text of *An Evening*, presented us that evening with words rising up and joining together, like Ezekiel's bones, and putting on khaki and tails and stepping toward us as whole characters in the imagination.



In the News

Coverage of Roosevelt Election

Our election received regional, national and even international coverage. Viewers in California, Florida and Port-au-Prince Haiti reported seeing programs on the election. TV Channels 13, CNN and NBC carried interviews, as did local radio stations WABC, WMCA and WHWH and there were long distance phone interviews with stations in Chicago and Anchorage, Alaska. The larger New Jersey papers also ran articles on the event which made political history.

Romancing the Home

... is the name of Donna Suk's new business, which consists of fabricating custom-made curtains and upholstery. Donna is the person to call if your sofa needs recovering or if new curtains would brighten the living room.

And, gentle reader, tell the *Bulletin* if you are starting a business in town which would interest other readers.

Former Resident Wins Award

Constance Shally, a teacher at Hightstown High and a former resident of Roosevelt, has received the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship award for outstanding teaching. She will

devote the \$15,000 grant to the integrated humanities program which she created six years ago. A number of Roosevelt students are studying in the program. Laurie Altman, David Brahinsky and David Keller are among those who have participated in the teaching.

Artists win Grants

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has awarded grants to Roosevelt artists: Ani Roskam; Diana Coe; Rod Tuloss; Jacob Landau.

Do you have a news item? Have we missed one in the past? (impossible!). Send yours to us so we can tell all.

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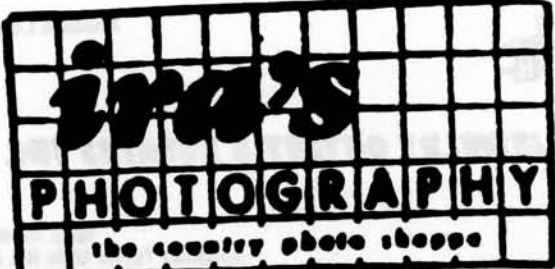
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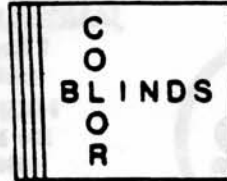
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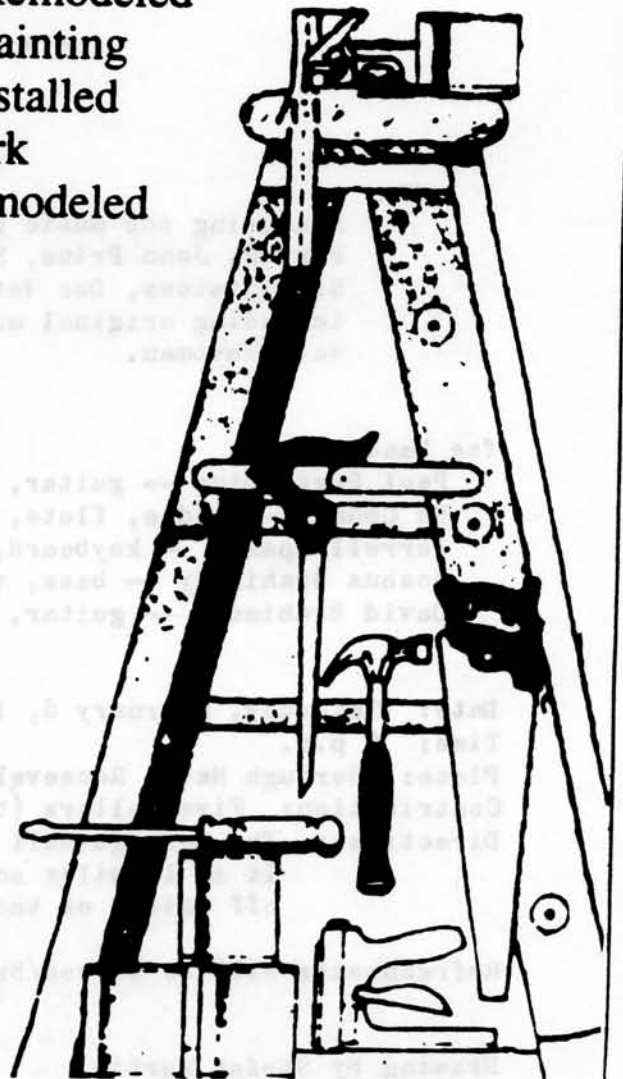
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Date: Saturday, February 6, 1988

Time: 8 p.m.

Place: Borough Hall, Roosevelt, New Jersey

Contribution: Five dollars (two dollars, seniors)

Directions: The Borough Hall is on rt. 571, 5 miles south of Hightstown, N.J.
It is 15 miles south of Princeton, 6 miles north of Great Adventure,
off Exit 8 of the N.J. Turnpike.

Refreshments will be served/Bring pillows for extra seating/Children welcome

Drawing by Stefan Martin

The Roosevelt Arts Project is supported by a grant from the Herman Goldman Foundation.