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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUME XVII NO. 4

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY, 1993

^{XVI} Half-Million dollar Penalty Waived Consent Order Terminated Council Reorganized for 1993

By Adeline Weiner

In December, the Department of Environmental Protection and Energy sent Mayor Lee Allen the announcement that "Roosevelt has complied with the terms of the Amended Administrative Consent Order of October 1988...and therefore this letter is to officially state that the AACO has been satisfied and is thus terminated...The department will not seek payment of \$512,000 stipulated penalties held in abeyance pending Roosevelt's compliance with the November 1, 1992 deadline." The letter also terminates the set of effluent limitations in the AACO and "obligates Roosevelt to meet the more stringent limits of the new permit."

High Cost of Clean Water

At the January 4 annual reorganization meeting, the end of the AACO was announced when Mayor Allen delivered a "State of the Borough" report. In his address, he referred to the high price residents are paying to meet the tough clean-water goals achieved so far. He pledged himself and the council to finding ways to

reduce the onerous utility rates in the period ahead.

A New Plant Needs Tending

The new wastewater treatment plant presents a new set of demands in supervision and management, according to Utility Chairwoman, Rose Murphy. She reported that the two-month assist from the Applied Waste-

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Annual Report on the State of the Borough

By Lee Allen

After completing a year as your Mayor, it is a good time to reflect on some accomplishments and recognize some of the challenges of the future. While some of the issues that we, as a community, will face together are complicated and formidable, we will be forging forward with commitment and confidence for very good reasons.

Our sanitary sewer system is in the best shape it has ever been in the history of the town. The infiltration of ground water into the system has been reduced by nearly two-thirds and the treatment process made more thorough than ever. Numerous backup systems now exist to protect the environment from possible and probable interruptions. Great care has been taken to invest in modifications and rehabilitations that will serve this community today and into the twenty-first century.

Now that we have final approval from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy, attention will be focused on reducing the onerous cost of the system. The

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Bulletin Board

From the Editors:

Those of us who devote time and effort to producing each issue of **THE BULLETIN** do so in the belief that our paper performs a vital community service. It reports on our town's life - its government, school board, zoning board, PTA, cultural events. To serve our readers fully, we want to include articles as well about their lives, their activities and their interests which project the quality of our community. As well, we want letters voicing opinions. Not only do we want to hear from current residents, but also from the more than one hundred out-of-town subscribers to whom our town continues to be special.

In short, it's a matter of reading and writing - and finally, arithmetic - your dollars which are urgently needed. After publication of this month's issue, we will have only enough money on hand to bring you one more issue - provided it is short.

We really do not want to suspend publication. Please do your part to keep **THE BULLETIN** going. Your tax-deductible contribution will be most welcome.

Borough of Roosevelt Public Notice

Licensing/Renewal of DOG LICENSES is required through January 31 of each year.

A license can be obtained through the mail or at the Borough office. Please make your check payable to Roosevelt Borough.

If your dog has recently been spayed or neutered, please send or bring a copy of the certificate with your payment. Should you not have a copy, one will be made and the original returned to you. If your dog has been recently vaccinated for rabies, please send this as well.

Throughout the year, any dog reaching the age of 7 months must be licensed.

As of February 1, 1993, a penalty will be issued for late licenses.

Fees through February 28: \$9.20 - Spayed/Neutered; \$12.20 - Others.

Additional penalty for each successive month.

Krystyna Bieracka-Olejniak, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk

To the Boro Bulletin:

Herewith a letter I am sending to Bill Clinton:

To Bill Clinton from Hope, Arkansas:

Welcome and good wishes for a successful term as leader of our beloved country to you and to your administration.

I am a citizen of Roosevelt, New Jersey, 08555 and I mean F.D. Roosevelt. This is a town built by its citizens with the help of the federal government under the Roosevelt administration to stem the erosion of our society during the 30's depression. I feel it is especially fitting that we who live here note this occasion.

While I wasn't here at its beginning in '36, I have lived here since '47 with my family. I for one am happy to have been associated with this experiment in solving some of our social ills by government participation which resulted in a unique town that was both neighborly and caring. We have raised many successful citizens - educators, writers, business people, lawyers, artists, composers, many of whom "come home again" because this unusual place is "in their blood."

So, to the man from Hope - in the last words of Maya Angelou's beautiful inaugural poem, "very simply, with hope - good morning."

Sol Libsohn

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School Board News

Notes on the December School Board Meeting

By Frances Duckett

The December 17 School Board Meeting was attended by Debra Allen, Lauralynne Cokeley, Maureen Clark, Dr. Lobman, John Ord, Alan Neurath, Jim Hatzfeld, Harry Parker, Mike Hamilton, and two members of the public.

Motions approved include the appointment of George Vasseur as a substitute custodian on an as needed basis, approval of the \$14,789.05 payment register for September, approval of the Board Secretary's report, and agreement to allow the Roosevelt Community Nursery School to use the building in April if construction does not make this unsafe. Also approved were three separate motions to fund special transport arrangements, including \$68

per day for one student to High Road School via CNR of Mercerville, a contract to return one student to Roosevelt from Cytech Vocational School, and the allocation for one private school student going to Lawrence.

All the motions were passed without much discussion or opposition.

The board postponed voting on approval for a new teacher program for teachers with provisional certificates.

There is some disagreement between the School Board and Consolidated as to whether the specifications of the boiler contract have been met. The contractor has done no work since October 16. The architect received the

invoice November 4 -- 60 days after that, according to Consolidated, if the Board has not paid, it will be in default. However, the motor, blower and firing unit do not precisely match specs and while the whole thing works it has to be put on manual override if energy is to be saved on weekends. The architect and Dr. Lobman wanted several areas upgraded, although Dr. Lobman pointed out that it might be necessary to pay a little extra, as the problems had not been precisely spelled out.

Ms. Allen reported that the storm of December 13 tore flashing off the school's roof and that the school would be making a claim for an estimated \$3-

(Continued on Page 4)

Report on the January 7 Meeting of the Roosevelt School Board

By Frances Duckett

Besides the members of the School Board, the meeting was attended by Dr. Lobman, School Principal, Mrs. Allen BS/SBA, and myself.

The Board began by discussing a word-for-word draft of revisions of policy and regulation for the handicapped and for pupil records, soon to be sent to the county.

Dr. Lobman explained the Beginning Teacher Induction Law. Since its inception October 23, 1992, no permanent certificates are awarded to teachers' college graduates. The beginning teachers go into school where the law provides nine visits, including three official observations by mentor teachers, who should give needed support. Dr. Lobman mentioned a fee of \$350 for the supervision - a fee which is to be the provisional teacher's responsibility. The board has not actually voted on this yet.

Ms. Allen updated the architect/heating contractor controversy impasse

by saying that the architect will be the one to decide when Mr. Kennedy will be paid.

Dr. Lobman plans to attend a free NJSBA meeting: "Gaining a Basic Understanding of the New Budget Format," and also the January 25-26 Executive Leadership Seminar. She asked for \$50 to be allocated for a course in System 7 on the updated MAC computer.

Dr. Lobman reported that at their December meeting, the RPS staff viewed and discussed a required video, entitled "Bullying, Sex Stereotyping and Prejudice."

Bernarda Shahn donated a word processor to the school, and Dr. Brad Garton an Apple II computer with Epson F80 dot matrix printer.

Pizza Day was fun, and an LRC van brings useful manipulatives, which are loaned to RPS.

Debra Allen mentioned that the teachers' supply and administrative

accounts were "maxed out" and that eight budget transfers would be necessary. She reported that the budget disc had come from the county and that the RPS budget will be submitted to the county on disc.

Plans for an "emergency management" meeting were mentioned. Research is being done on whether to get rid of the siren atop the school.

Nominations for candidates who wish to run for the School Board must be submitted by 4:00 P.M. February 25th. Completing their three-year terms are Dr. Grossman, Mr. Hatzfeld, and Mr. Ord.

Under New Business, congratulations to the RPS graduates from the board to be printed in the yearbook were arranged for, a conference Scanticon is giving on salary guidelines (\$95) was placed on the agenda for approval, and negotiations and transport committee meetings were scheduled.

Notes on the December School Board Meeting*(Continued from Page 3)*

4 thousand. It was observed that the school's policy has a \$1,000 deductible, and that making a claim will not raise premiums, because these are determined for a group of schools. During the storm the school also experienced a power cut.

Ms. Allen quoted the insurer as having said that it would not be to the Board's advantage to insure the after-school program under a rider; it should get bids for its own policy.

Mr. Ord mentioned a number of options for replacing the trailer which is now blocking the handball court, after construction, which should get under way by April, is completed.

Dr. Lobman presented her "wish list" for the 1993-94 budget. She hoped the school could get funding for books, especially "big book, little book," and paperback novels. The school needs social studies and science project funds, updated maps and globes, magazines and newspapers, calculators, computers and math manipulatives, a computer video disc for drawing, an

overhead projector for the computer, and an opaque projector. Music stands need repair and sheet music to be replaced. Dr. Lobman would like the school to continue to fund such projects as African/Japan, Monarch Butterfly, and Maple Sugar, plus have the ability to run field days, field trips, and activities.

Dr. Lobman pointed out that the new regulations for special education call for a resource center approach. There has been heavy pressure on the basic skills and resource room teacher, since more students have been classed as needing this attention.

Dr. Lobman reported that the gift shop was a success and that Friday the 18 "Pizza Day" was anticipated with excitement.

Dolores Chasan offered the school a free Tolerance Education Program from the Southern Poverty Law Center, and took issue with the fact that additional personnel might be needed to teach reading.

Tupperware Bingo at The Roosevelt Synagogue on February 16 at 8:00 p.m. All Are Welcome!

The Roosevelt Community Nursery School and After School program are sponsoring a Tupperware Bingo party at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 16 at the synagogue. Bingo winners will receive tupperware prizes. Refreshments will be served.

There will be tupperware merchandise on display and catalogs will be on hand for orders. All proceeds from tupperware orders will go towards the Nursery School's insurance. Funds are desperately needed!

Anyone with any damaged tupperware products are encouraged to bring them for a free replacement. All tupperware products have a lifetime guarantee.

June Counterman Honored Blood Drive Scheduled

By Marilyn Magnes

June Counterman was honored by the Central Jersey Blood Bank. Kate Holsey, Donor Resources Representative, presented June with a plaque for her dedication and commitment to the Blood Program. For the past fifteen years June has coordinated the blood drive in Roosevelt which contributed close to 575 units of blood to the Central Jersey Blood Bank. She also helped establish the policy for blood use which allows all Roosevelt residents to receive blood when needed and advocated for the extension of the policy to also include parents of Rooseveltians living in any part of the United States.

On February 4, the Roosevelt First Aid Squad will be sponsoring its twice yearly blood drive at the Borough Hall from 6-9 p.m. If you have not given blood before and would like information about the process, call Marilyn Magnes at 448-6402. It's easy, safe and greatly needed.

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
FIRE DEPARTMENT
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED
TO HELP PROTECT
YOUR FAMILIES,
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS**

**CONTACT
KIM DEXHEIMER
OR ANY VOUNTEER
FIREMAN**

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT IS
TOO LATE**

Art Auction Set for Spring

by Gail Ticktin & Dianna Moore

Need that perfect print to brighten up the hallway or cheer up that blank wall in your office? The Roosevelt Community Nursery School and the RCNS-administered After School Care Program at RPS are co-sponsoring an art auction that should solve these decorating dilemmas--and also provide customers and non-buyers alike with an exciting evening's entertainment.

The action will start at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, when attendees can savor our toothsome refreshments while they examine the over 100 artworks to be sold. At 8 p.m., the fast-paced fun of the auction begins and everyone will have an equal opportunity to bring home "that special picture." Details on location (either RPS or the Borough Hall) will be posted at a later date.

Tickets for the entire evening are priced at \$10 and can be purchased from Gail Ticktin or any RCNS or After School Program parent. For

information, please call Gail at 443-8007 or leave a message at RCNS (426-9523).

Since fundraising provides a vital source of income for the two community organizations sponsoring the auction, RCNS and After School Program parents also would like to ask you to consider placing an ad for your business in the printed program that will be distributed to all those attending the function. Donations from individuals will receive recognition in a special "patrons" section of the program. Please call Gail Ticktin for details on ad rates (443-8007).

To set any uneasyminds at rest, we would like to reassure Rooseveltians that this art auction will in no way conflict with the PTA's proposed Roosevelt Art Fair in 1994. While our April event will feature works provided by the Heisman Fine Arts Gallery (Ardmore, PA) that will be auctioned off to the highest bidders, the later Art Fair would showcase work by local artists offered at fixed prices.

PTA News

By Alison Edwards Petrilla

Back in the saddle again! The PTA sprang into action for 1993 with a January 13 meeting that put February's Winter Carnival at the top of our busy agenda. The annual treat for children features game booths, arts and crafts, refreshments, a Chinese Auction, and prizes for everyone, and is set this time around for February 27, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Come one, come all, and share this fun-filled day with Roosevelt's youngsters!

In addition to the Carnival, February also means it's time for our Valentine's Day Flower Sale. This annual event kicks off on February 1, and allows RPS students to surprise their Moms, Grandmas, aunts and other important people with a lovely carnation delivered at school in time for the Big Day.

On a more serious note, the PTA sponsored an AIDS Information Meeting for all interested parents and community members on January 27. RPS Physical Education/Health instructor Pam Toth updated us on the school's AIDS curriculum, answered questions, and provided us with the latest information on this worldwide crisis.

As we close the books on 1992, we'd like to say a special "thank you" to Lorraine Reibold and her dedicated co-workers at December's Holiday Gift Fair; to Kathy Vasseur for all her work on the Avon fund-raiser; and to our "pizza people": Dr. Lobman, Jane Freedman, Sheila Jaeger, and Adeenah Yeger, who made the first of the Student Council's monthly Pizza Days such a success. Thank you all! Dates: February 10 - PTA Meeting at RPS - 8:00 p.m.

February 27 - PTA Winter Carnival at RPS - 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



I've got to
get home in
time for my

Roosevelt Community Television

Tuesday, 6-6:30 PM, on Storer Cable Channel 8

Borough Council Report

(Continued from Page 1)

water Services specialist served to reveal the need for sustained help in sampling, analysis, permit compliance, operation, maintenance and repair of equipment and training of personnel. An examination of the water treatment plant also resulted, after a month's trial, in a decision to obtain similar professional support to bring operations up to par efficiency and thus limit future problems.

Efficiency Insurance Plus

The council acted to award two contracts to Applied Wastewater Services for one year, one for three days a week coverage at the sewer treatment plant (\$29,470/year) and one for one day a week coverage at the water tower (\$12,894). Discussion by council members pointed to the problems that a new facility like the reconstructed STP present, such as the "shakedown" process that requires expert supervision which, it was reported, has already saved the borough much expense. As regards the water plant, past neglect and a recent series of costly repairs have convinced council members to adopt the same pattern here in order to reduce the difficulties that have necessitated constant expenditures. Mayor Allen expressed the hope that well-functioning utilities will not only avoid unnecessary expense but with the guidance of the AWS people, even provide the basis in the near future for additional revenues. Separate manuals on the operation and maintenance of each plant will be produced by the end of the year.

New Appointments

At the annual reorganization meeting, the council elected Howard Prezant its president and approved a long list of appointments by the Mayor of various firms and specialists who service the Borough. Among new appointments of residents to Borough

committees and other bodies are Mary Alfari, alternate representative to the County Development Council; Mark Czeresnia, to the Board of Park Commissioners; Charlene Miller for a three-year term and Bill Mateyka for one year. Peggy Malkin was appointed Welfare Director for a one-year unexpired term, June Ord for a four-year term and David Donnelly, council representative for one year. To the Environmental commission: Gale Donnelly for three years; Susan Buck, alternate for two years. Arthur Shapiro, was named Borough Historian.

Tribute

The council took this occasion to award William Counterman a commemorative plaque "for his many years of unselfish contributions" as a 10-year council member, for 20 years as a Roosevelt First Aid Squad leader, as the organizer of many a July Fourth celebration, and numerous other volunteer services.

Expenditures and Other Matters

At the December and January meetings, among the decisions passed, were appropriations such as:

\$4,200 for the purchase of a dehumidifier system for the water plant.

\$7,500 for repairs to Well #3.

\$1,400 per month for the purchase of chemicals for the STP.

\$5,501 for AWT engineering services.

\$2,000 to AWT for preparing bids for hauling liquid sludge (one member opposed).

Ed Miller was assigned to find a new placement for the siren that is now at the school. January is the deadline for removal under a new law. The council agreed to the 1993 Municipal Shopping Contract for senior citizens that will provide a bus for one half-day a week on Wednesdays @ \$325/year and one full day once a month on Tuesday (except in July and August) @ \$200/year, totaling \$525/year.

The Roosevelt half-hour TV program on Channel 8 will be shown four times a month on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. Peter Warren, Community Relations Chairman, is devising a way to do a "Nielsen rating" on how many people are watching the Roosevelt Hour!

Synagogue News

By Michael Ticktin, President

On February 7, our Educational & Activities Director, Rebbetzin Tova Chasanow, will introduce us to a sofer (scribe), who will give a demonstration of Hebrew calligraphy and the art of writing a Torah scroll. All are invited.

Support the *Bulletin*

*Please send your
Tax Deductible Contribution to:*

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin

Box 221

Roosevelt, NJ

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Environmentally Speaking...

By Gloria Hazell

If you saw me with two policemen and their cars on Nurko Road recently, fear not, I was not being arrested. I had been looking for a deer's remains which I had been keeping an eye on for a couple of weeks, so that I could give the bones to a friend of mine who makes bone earrings, when I came across a brown bag, which looked like it had human hair and some bones in it. Needless to say I didn't touch it but came home and called the State Police. They promptly came over to look at the bag, which looked like it had been there for quite a while, and after poking it about with their sticks found it to be a cat or dog. The hair fooled them for a second too, it did look human. I felt a bit of a fool, but also know that it's a crazy world out there, where nasty things happen. The cops were O.K. and said better safe than sorry. Guess it was a break from their otherwise boring day....NOT!

Another unusual happening - a young male deer is in our garden, along with "Baby" the young female I have been watching this year. He slumped down on the ground, and put his head on his shoulder and went to sleep. I can see that he is unwell, I hope that he hasn't been shot by hunters. Baby has gone into the longer grass and is sitting there keeping an eye out for enemies. I will let him sleep and maybe it will help him. If he is still there in the morning maybe I'll see if he will allow me to look at him. I think Baby trusts me, and I know that they feel secure in our backyard. They left and went back into the woods, so I went down to check where he had been sitting. I could find no sign of blood so it looks like if he has been wounded the bleeding has stopped. I will keep an eye out for him.

Lately you may have seen me wearing a fur vest. People are sometimes shocked that I would wear fur, so I feel I should explain my reason. One thing that I swore I would never buy was of course a fur coat. The one I wear is Raccoon, and was being thrown away by the person who originally bought it. I felt that this was very dishonorable to the more than one brother or sister that had given their lives to make this person feel like a million dollars while they were wearing it new. (These were no road kill!) My daughter and I needless to say rescued it and I now wear it mainly when I am in ceremony with Native Americans or in situations where it will be honored. It is a little bit tatty but the energy of the animals is still there. Many people

come up and touch the fur, some will stroke it, and by doing that they are acknowledging the spirit of the Raccoons, and the Raccoons are once more being admired and honored for their beauty. Their lives were wastefully given up for cosmetic reasons, but I hope that now their spirits can move on peacefully.

I have a Lakota friend who is going to be teaching a beginners Lakota language course at the Center for Understanding, in Cranbury, on Saturday afternoons, beginning February 6. I know that some people have expressed to me a wish to learn this very musical language, so if you are interested in joining the class, please call me for further details at (609) 443-2869. The teacher comes from Pine Ridge in South Dakota, and has used Lakota as his first language all of his life. He has recently finished a course in North Jersey, and will shortly be starting another at one of the local colleges. Again, call me if you want to participate in this unconventional language course.

Natives of the Earth are at present giving awards to people that we know, who are working to help the planet, (either with a large project or at a smaller local level) in her time of need. So far we have included Jim Spina, who is the founder and director of Children Respecting Our World, (CROW) in Bogota, and Jon Young, founder and director of the Wilderness Awareness School in Lincroft. Both Jim and Jon are teaching young people how to respect and care for the Earth. Also included is Robert P. Spiegel, the head of the Edison Wetlands Association, who has been fighting developers' big money and stupidity to save the Dismal Swamp, which is a 230 acre wetland area where endangered species live. The Swamp is also an ancient Indian site which dates back 10,000 years. Our fourth recipient is the Roosevelt Borough Council for their innovative decision to postpone sewer work because of the endangered wood turtle. If you know of any one that you feel is working wonders out there for the environment, please tell us about them. The award is a certificate (recycled paper of course,) stating the work that the recipient has been involved in. It's not a lot but it is an acknowledgment of their concern and action. Till next time...

Senior Citizen News

Senior Citizens' Meetings - Jan. 5, 1993

By Helga Wisowaty, Secretary

Here we are again--starting a New Year. Our wishes go to everyone for a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. Our club has enjoyed many happy times together.

Our holiday trip to Pennsylvania to see the production "Babes on Broadway" was excellent- beautiful costumes and dancing and the comedians were good. The food was delicious. This was at "Lily Langtree" in the Sheraton Hotel.

Ilsa Reisenfeld, Ann Brook and Ruth Carbel entertained us on December 8. Ilse played piano, Ann played violin and Ruth sang. We enjoyed their performance and appreciated their coming.

Our sympathy goes to Josephine Maley and their family whose husband and father, Thomas Maley, died in December.

After the meeting our "Newest" members, Ana and Gonzalo Quijano and Jean Ryan served refreshments. Everyone enjoyed it.

Till next month...

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month, except by prior arrangement with the Editor.

Please send all articles and letters in clean typescript, or as ASCII files on 3 1/2 or 5 1/4 inch diskettes to
P.O. Box 221
Roosevelt.N.J.
08555

Augusta Chasan Honored

By Gloria Hazell

On December 9, 1993 our own Augusta Chasan was once again honored as the first female firefighter in the nation. Educational Equity Concepts, (EEC) invited Augusta to be one of ten honorees at their 10th Anniversary Celebration. Included in the groundbreaking list of honorees along with Augusta, was Rosa Parks, the Civil Rights movement pioneer, Pat Eng, who was the originator of the first project which addresses abuse of women in Asian communities, and Carol Ann Roberson, a lifelong crusader for the Civil Rights of people with disabilities. The Anniversary Reception was held in St. Peter's Church in New York, and was hosted by yet another groundbreaker: Gloria Steinem.

EEC is based in New York City, and it's mission is to promote equal educational opportunity through programs which counteract bias due to sex, race, disability and low income.

One of the women who runs this unique organization is Ellen Rubin who grew up in Roosevelt. She remembered Augusta Chasan's achievement and put her name forward to be included as part of this grand event.

Augusta sounded thrilled when she related to me how she spoke to everyone from the stage, and how they were all so pleased with her story, and how it took ages to get out because people wanted to speak to her and ask questions. She often relates to me anecdotes about the days when she was a fire fighter, yet every time I hear her speak I get drawn up into the excitement which still exists within her.

I spoke to Honey Sochowitzky, who attended the event and she said that Augusta was wonderful, and that the whole program was moving. Congratulations Augusta, yet another group of people have recognized you as someone who stands out from the crowd. You deserve it.

BLOOD DRIVE

FEBRUARY 4, 1993

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH HALL.

CONTACT MARILYN MAGNES

FOR INFORMATION.

448-6402

Omnia Mutantur... Everything Changes...

By Peter Warren

New Kids on the Block... David Rothfuss; Cristian Simon.

Married... No one.

Celebrating... 23rd wedding anniversary, Stuart & Grace Kaufman

Moving In... to the Krane house on Cedar Court, Bill & Cissie Porter; to their own house on Homestead Lane, Dave & Sharon Savage.

Moving Out... Clifford and Stephanie Chester to Atlanta; Jim Steele, to North Carolina.

Return of the Native... Bill & Cissie Porter, Dave & Sharon Savage.

On the Market... As of January 15, 16 houses for sale, 1 for rent.

Showing... At Peddie School January 15 - February 26, paintings and photographs by Sol Libsohn.

Passed Comprehensives... For Rutgers Ph.D. in Psychology, Nancy Hamilton.

Transferring... From MCCC to Rutgers, Helena List as Junior, Tina Kaufman as Sophomore.

Honor Roll... At HHS, Victoria Estok, Alemayhu Kassahun, Evelyn Schlinski, Dara Ticktin, Bryan Unger, Dustin Warnick, Christine Wojnicki; at Krep School, Lisa Miller, Avery Cayne, Rebecca Horowitz, Jessica Hague, Kristen Yarber, Meira Yeger.

On Safari... To Rome, Robin Gould & Alan Mallach; to Mexico, Dr. Frances Lobman; to Copenhagen, Wiska Radkiewicz.

Honored... By joint State Senate and Assembly resolution, to citizens and officials of the Borough of Roosevelt for environmental caring; Bill Counterman, by the Mayor and Council, for more than nine years service on the Borough Council.

Community Open House... At Borough Hall on January 3rd, attended by about 50 members of organizations and residents in general.

Emergency Management... In 1992, Roosevelt became one of 30 of Monmouth County's 53 municipalities to operate with a State-approved emergency management plan.

Storm Cost... Weekend of December 11, requested for reimbursement from FEMA by Roosevelt Emergency Management Coordinator, \$2,100 (overtime pay and sewage cartage).

Storm Drainage Replacement... Aspect of Farm Lane reconstruction project carried out January 11-25.

Licensed... By January 15, 45 dogs.

New Year's Resolution... To not smoke, kept so far, by Peter Warren.

Cancelled... \$500,000 fine on the community, following Council's satisfactory compliance with DEPE's Administrative Consent Order imposed in 1988 and held in abeyance until construction deadline.

Flowing... Sewerage November 134,000 gpd (DEPE ceiling 250,000 gpd), December 205,000 gpd (DEPE ceiling 250,000 gpd); water November 101,000 gpd, December 100,000 gpd (conservation goal 90,000 gpd).

State of the Borough

(continued from page 1)

Council is already exploring a wide range of options available to find the right opportunity to best utilize our state-of-the-art sewer plant. The need to more thoroughly manage the sewer plant to comply with growing restrictions and the continued shakedown of the new plant will be focus of major work in the coming year.

The Trust for Public Land initiative, which has enjoyed wide spread support throughout the community, looms ever important as we search for the best way to deal with the external pressures surrounding us. It is easy to understand why this important planning process is supported. It is the right thing to do; to preserve as much open space as possible, for the right reasons; a thoughtful, reasonable and proactive approach is necessary to succeed in the world today.

Environmental issues continue to command statewide and national attention and Roosevelt is standing in the front lines of major development in this arena. State Spill Act and Federal Superfund remedial legislation is gathering momentum as a grass roots coalition, which Roosevelt has played a key role in organizing, gains bipartisan support. The loophole which is diverting necessary cleanup funds from cleanup activity to lawyers by the big chemical companies must and will be closed to fulfill the original intent of those acts. Roosevelt has taken the type of initiative that is being recognized and supported throughout the state.

Last September the Monmouth County Planning Board conveyed upon Roosevelt the first David W. Morris Award for preserving the threatened Wood Turtle habitat. Among the reasons leading to Roosevelt receiving this award, they cited our decision making process. This process has been, and is today, a significant aspect of governmental decisions made in Roosevelt.

To place informed and concerned citizens in advisory capabilities, to allow the initiative and observations of these people provide thoughtful and reasoned recommendations, to integrate the long and short term goals of the community with those recommendations and arrive at decisions that reflect, to the extent possible, all of the concerns of the community is a process that is succeeding.

In 1991, the cost of resurfacing the roads, where sewer line replacement was scheduled to occur, was eliminated from the contract to provide more funds for sewer line rehabilitation. This was done because the objective of the project was to remove infiltration and money for road repairs were available in other places than water/sewer user fees. An appeal for funds was submitted and in November, 1991 the New Jersey Department of Transportation awarded Roosevelt \$125,000 in Discretionary Funds as a grant to rebuild Farm Lane, a site of major sewer line rehabilitation and severe drainage problems.

When concern was expressed over certain aspects of the project, dialogue and recommendations were exchanged with citizens, as well as environmental, planning and engineering experts to better address all concerns. Bids were received and reviewed in a manner that was lauded by the press as prudent and dedicated to the taxpayers of both Roosevelt and the State who contributed to the funds that were being spent. Adjustments of the specifications were made to enable the Council to award a contract in keeping with the original intent of the grant application. An appeal was made and last October the NJDOT awarded Roosevelt an additional \$37,000 so that a total of \$162,000 of State funds were available for the project.

During 1992, a Citizens Participation Group met to decide why we should request funds from the federally funded Community Development

Block Grant program. They decided that, Since Tamara Drive, Elm Court, South Rochdale Avenue and Brown Street were within the appropriate designated areas and were in need of reconstruction after the sewer line rehabilitation, to repair those roads would be our grant application. Last November, the Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant Steering Committee awarded Roosevelt \$190,067 towards the project.

Also during 1992, concerned citizens from Eleanor Lane in response to the Farm lane Improvement Ordinance questioned what was being done about their street. At the time, the Council was concerned with the growing cost of maintaining that road especially after a couple of intense rain storms. An appeal for funds was submitted and in November, 1992 the New Jersey Department of Transportation awarded Roosevelt \$146,630 for Eleanor Lane in Discretionary Funds to pave the roadway and address severe drainage problems.

Last summer, contained in the Capital Improvement Ordinance was an item to construct a waterproof roof over the utility building at the Memorial. The first memorial in the United States dedicated to the memory of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, our namesake, has suffered vandalism and deterioration. The lights are all broken and the electrical system in a dangerous condition. Accordingly, an appeal for Transportation Enhancement funds was submitted for \$150,000 to refurbish the entire memorial. In November we were notified by Monmouth County of their approval of the forwarding of our application to the State for consideration.

In just thirteen months the Borough of Roosevelt has received almost \$500,000 in grant monies towards infrastructure rehabilitation and construction. More people than ever are involved in the decision making pro-

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A Wannabe's New Year's Resolution

by Robert Alan Silverstein

Inside every person is a creative flame that makes us unique. It lights our secret dreams and aspirations, and when we're young it fills us with wonder and hope. But all too often that light is forgotten as we struggle to "make a living." The lucky ones get to express their creative spirit and are paid for sharing their own personal view of the world. The rest of us are wannabes. Some of us have given up and no longer pursue our wannabe-dreams. But others are happy wannabes. We haven't "made it" but we haven't given up trying. This seems to be a lesson that many in Roosevelt have learned quite well, and the ongoing success of this town's creative energies is inspiring.

As a child I longed to be a writer when I grew up. Now that I'm grown up, I'm a "professional writer" but I'm still a wannabe. Writing children's science books full-time sure beats shuffling papers at a 9 to 5 office job, but it's not as much fun as being a best-selling novelist.

It's not easy to be a happy wannabe, but I'm learning. If you're looking for fame and fortune, you're bound to be disappointed. But, if you want to write (or be an artist, or a musician or a dancer or craftsperson or whatever that creative desire may be) because it helps you explore who you are, or you love the feeling of accomplishment that comes when you've created something of your very own -- even if only a few close friends will ever share it -- well, the magical key is JUST DO IT.

Of course that's easier said than done. We're only human, after all, and it's hard to get motivated, and even easier to get discouraged. A dedicated wannabe has to have patience and discipline. These are the virtues I struggle with as I continue to try to pursue my dreams of becoming a fic-

tion writer. These are the same two demons that I must battle daily to maintain my role as a professional children's science book writer.

When I finally get that big break and get one of my novels published, it will be because I made myself make the time to write, and I made myself keep trying to find a publisher who wanted it, but it mostly will be luck. Luck also had a lot to do with my "breaking in" to the children's science writing field -- my parents have been doing it for the past 30 years. I joined their writing team a few years ago with mixed emotions. With fifteen books now under my belt, those same reservations still surface with each new project. Research and re-writing is a far cry from delving into the creative fountain. But it's fun to become an "expert" on a science topic for a couple of months. And it's a great feeling to have a finished product that sits on the bookshelf when we're done.

Patience

The most important publishing lesson I've learned is that everything takes a long time. You have to keep trying and trying to break in. But even when you do, you'll still have a lot of waiting to do. Typically, months go by before you hear anything about a book proposal. Even when you get a positive response, the idea has to pass through an editorial committee and is then subjected to a grueling marketing analysis. Contracts can take another few months to be drawn up. Meanwhile, there are months of research and writing and rewriting. Patience, patience... After we deliver a completed manuscript, our job isn't over yet. A month or two later the manuscript will return with comments from an expert reader, and we must now

face the wonderful task of determining which scribbled-hieroglyphics warrant attention and which are simply the expert reader's coffee-stains. Of course, the editor has paper-clipped a little note saying that we should incorporate as much as we feel is necessary, as soon as possible, if not sooner. In publishing, everything is hurry up and wait.

Two new clean copies of the manuscript are sent back to the publisher. Another month goes by and the manuscript returns with the copy-editor's changes. Of course, the book has already started to become a little hazy in our minds as we're well into our next project. In the months that follow we will see the book set in type in the form of galleys, and later in proofs, and each time we have to check it over carefully. Finally, in another six months or so we receive our ten author's copies in the mail and we have another "finished" book for our shelves.

It's getting harder and harder for a writer to survive in the publishing industry. Out of the dozens of publishers that my folks have worked with over the years, only a handful haven't been bought up by big conglomerates, and many have cut back so much that they are booked up for years. This, of course, comes at a time when more and more people are trying to be writers.

It's no wonder that each year thousands decide to publish their own books. In the age of desk-top publishing, almost anyone can become a "published writer." There are several great "How to Self-publish" books, and there is a whole industry of printers and distributors eager to help out venturing wannabe-authors.

However, don't go into self-publishing thinking you'll make a profit!

A few years back we set up our own publishing company. We thought we had a book idea that just couldn't miss, and we wanted to try it ourselves. (Most authors don't really make that much money from books --10% royalties is extremely good for a book, and with an average print run of 5000 copies you can see that months of work don't really pay that much!) We were going to write a whole series of books about the most personal thing each of us has -- our names. The first book was called **JOHN, Your Name Is Famous**. It was all about the name John -- its origin, its variations around the world (Sean, Ian, Ivan, Juan, Jean...), its use as a word in language, highlights of the lives of famous people with the name, as well as trivia, quotes and games. The 240 page book turned out great, and it was a lot of fun to write, but our project was abandoned when we learned how competitive it is out there. We decided it's better just to write for publishers...but then again, our experiences gave me the seeds for a wacky (but of course, still unpublished) novel.

Discipline

For the full time writer, and the part-time I-want-to-be-a-writer, discipline is one of the biggest obstacles to be faced each and every day. One of the hazards of not having a structured 9 to 5 job is that without imposing your own structure, it's too easy to procrastinate and let the day's million and one distractions lead you astray, so that time goes by and suddenly your months-away deadline is now breathing down your neck.

The part-time I-want-to-be-a-writer faces an even more difficult discipline demon. For most, there aren't enough hours in the day as it is, and to make yourself find time to write is an overwhelming imposition.

But if you don't make the time, you'll never do it. Even the best-known writers were "undiscovered"

for years. But they pursued their wannabe- desires, and pushed aside the discouraging rejections that tattered their egos, and eventually they "made it."

To be a writer, you have to learn to force yourself to write a certain amount each day. You can't just wait for the creative juices to flow. Creativity is only half the battle; the other half is developing the craft of being a writer. A true writer will write no matter what. Just do it, even if it doesn't seem to be going the way you want at all. Once you get into the habit of writing, and you keep practicing, you find that even the "uninspired" parts sound just fine, too. And besides, you can always re-write later.

Don't put off starting because you can't think where to start. Start anywhere, but just start. You can always "rearrange" your scattered thoughts and make them into a masterpiece later. But you've got to think them first! And remember, there's nothing new out there that hasn't been said, but each writer sheds a new and exciting light that is colored by his or her own unique vision.

A Balance

Of course, the biggest struggle a wannabe has to overcome is that once you dip into your creative reservoir, you might want to forget about everything else so that you can "do what you were meant to do." Sometimes that works, but for many it results in a painful collision with reality. The key is to find that perfect balance -- where you create enough to satisfy that inner longing, and yet are able to do what you have to do to make a living. It is this delicate balance that many here in Roosevelt seem to have mastered. As a new year begins, I salute those who have found that balance, and I urge all the disillusioned wannabes to join me in a New Year's resolution to become happy wannabes this year.

State of the Borough

(continued from page 10)

cess. As a community, we are learning to work together. Our differences are making us stronger as we seek out the common threads that knit us together.

Representing the people of Roosevelt as your elected officials is an honor that each and every person on this Council takes seriously. In today's world, no one can simply ascend to this job and perform without years of interest, dedication and participation. There is no time better than right now to start thinking about lending a hand in the governing of your community. Believe me, no experience can prepare you for what you will learn and the feeling of satisfaction you will experience when you make the right decisions for your neighbors and friends.

There are always openings from time to time on various civic and governmental agencies. Speak up and you will be found. All this town needs is a continual pool of dedicated and eager to learn adults, willing to leave their egos at the door, and treat everyone with the kind of respect that you yourself would like to receive.

I wish to finish by conveying my sincere thanks to the members of this Council for your hard work, for your commitment to the people of Roosevelt, and for your honesty, consideration, and sense of fair play. As a body, many people are looking to you for the kind of wisdom and foresight people deserve and I believe in Roosevelt get from their elected officials. The past year has been kind to us. Let's hope that our hard earned good luck continues to benefit us all in the coming year.

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Review of FROM THE JERSEY HOMESTEADS TO ROOSEVELT: COMMUNITY AND IDENTITY IN A NEW DEAL SETTLEMENT

By Art Shapiro

As Roosevelt's designated Historian, I've been asked to review the work named above by Kimberly Brodtkin, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, who captured much of Roosevelt's story in her American History Senior Honors Thesis. Her seventy-eight page well-documented work contains over one hundred and fifty bibliographical sources, including citations from the Roosevelt Collection (located in the Special Collections and Archives at Rutgers), newspaper accounts, journal and magazine articles, government publications, Ed Roskam's book, and interviews with long time Roosevelt citizens. Much has been written on our town, and Kimberly's work provides an excellent summary. But, more than providing just a summarization of our history, she comes to some very enlightening conclusions which I hope to address in future columns. Because of the size of her undertaking, it would be difficult for me to do it justice in one review article.

Ms. Brodtkin's work presents an excellent chronology of our town, including its struggles to come into existence and its effect on surrounding communities whose people viewed it as a "Communitistic development." She also captures our town's early and current town life, its failed economic goals, and, more than anything else, its sense of community and collective identity. She states,

"The story of the creation of the Jersey Homesteads contains all of the elements of a good tale. It is complete with hardship and conflict, with good guys and bad guys, and with a fairly happy ending that leaves the reader in suspense about the future."

Ms. Brodtkin asserts that the twin goals for the Jersey Homesteads were

economic relief and a solid sense of community for the homesteaders. She states, "Although the project's economy failed within the first few years of settlement, the communal and social element features exceeded the founders' expectations." More than just capturing the town's unique history, she also writes of the social and physical changes that have taken place as the old Jersey Homesteads developed into modern Roosevelt.

Having lived most of my life in this town, I enjoy reading about its history and origins as it relates to my own life. Ms. Brodtkin, for example, stresses the early feelings of community solidarity. She states: "Isolated as a group of liberal Jews in a sea of conservative Protestants, the homesteaders joined together to weather anti-Semitism and charges of a Communist conspiracy." She continues:

"The homesteaders also experienced anti-Semitism when they shopped in Hightstown... These experiences with anti-Semitism and general criticism led to homesteaders to rely on each other for support and increased their attachment to each other and the community. They avoided dealing with their anti-Semitic neighbors by providing services in their own community so homesteaders would not need to seek them elsewhere. The homesteaders would go into local towns together so that they would not have to deal with the hostilities alone."

As part of a book I hope to write on my experience of being raised in Roosevelt, I interviewed several friends and neighbors who grew up in Hightstown and asked, "What were your impressions of the Roosevelt kids who went to Hightstown High with you?" Besides the answers I expected

to get, e.g., "they were funny and creative," or "they knew a lot about art and music," the response I consistently received was, "they were clanish and always in groups." My next door neighbor Donald Lugannani once told me, "If you went to a school dance or the Teen-Canteen it was easy to notice that kids from Hightstown or Cranbury came in one at a time, while kids from Roosevelt always entered in groups of four or five." (I'm not sure if that was not really a result of the necessity of car pooling.) I also remember that, without a car available, we had to hitch back to Roosevelt from the corner of Route 571 by Peddie School. Many times the boys from Peddie would yell at us in anti-Semitic "Jewish" accents from their dorm windows as we waited for a ride. Being in a group gave us the courage to yell back, things like, "What's the matter little rich boy? Mommy and Daddy don't love you any more? Is that why they sent you away?" Ms. Brodtkin's thesis provides the historical backdrop to many such experiences.

I thoroughly enjoyed Kimberly's thesis. However, it does contain a few inaccurate statements. For example she states, "Although their synagogue was not completed until 1956, the homesteaders met for services in a temporary community building." Not so. There was a permanent synagogue in a wooden frame building near "the triangle." She also states that Jersey Homestead houses were built on one acre lots. They were actually one half acre lots with a greenbelt strip of land behind each house. Kimberly also mistakenly gives the year, 1945, as the time when Roosevelt students began to attend Hightstown High School - it was 1950. Her thesis also states that

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Roosevelt Arts Project 1992 - 1993

January 15 - February 26

Photographs and Paintings by Sol Libsohn

(exhibits are held at the Mariboe Gallery of the Richard L. Swig Auditorium. The Peddie School).

Saturday, February 6, 8:00 p.m.

Robert Mueller: "Progress Report"

Bob will present an exhibit of work completed in 1992. Paintings, drawings, prints. A stop-action video will show the evolution of a large oil painting. Issues of abstract art and social art-both styles which Bob embraces-will be discussed. Bob's prints are in the permanent collections of MOMA, MMFA, and other museums. He was one of six artists from New Jersey invited to the then-Soviet Union in 1990.

Saturday, March 6, 8:00 p.m.

Revision re: Schedule for 1992-93

By David Btahinsky

Due to casting difficulties, Neil Selden's new play, A LONG WAY FROM HOME, will be replaced on the March 6 R.A.P. program at the borough Hall by his recently revised version of SOMEONE'S COMIN' HUNGRY, which was originally produced Off-Broadway in 1968 to critical acclaim. Written by Neil and the late McCrea (Bob) Imbrie of Roosevelt, SOMEONE'S COMIN' HUNGRY is the comedy-drama of a black Vietnam veteran and his activist white wife about to have their first child and battling to keep their marriage afloat during the stormy anti-war and civil rights struggles of 1968. The Village Voice acclaimed the play's "warmth, veracity, and magnetic suspensefulness." It was called "Engrossing, passionate, profound... brilliant dialogue" (Emory Lewis); "superior, witty, serious, effective" (John Simon); "a parable for our times" (Clive Barnes); Harold Clurman in the Nation thought it "one of the better entries of the season"; and the Amsterdam News wrote: "SOMEONE'S COMIN' HUNGRY is a warm human story about life as it is really lived."

Sunday, April 4, 3:00 p.m.(at The Peddie School)

Piano/Poetry Fest

Pianists Laurie Altman, Anita Cervantes and Alan Mallach offer a spring afternoon of performances featuring piano works ranging from the classics to the contemporary. In addition, several Roosevelt poets, including Dina Coe, Wes Czyzewski, David Herrstrom, Judith McNally and Rod Tulloss will join them for readings and a variety of collaborations. Poets and musicians will lift sounds up, in composition and improvisation, in metaphor and memory.

Saturday, April 24, 8:00 p.m.(at The Peddie School)

The Roosevelt String Band: Songs of Work and Play

Ever since life on earth began, women and men have been working. From the very beginning, they probably sang while they worked, and afterward. These enduring aspects of life will form the season's final events as the Roosevelt String Band performs a selection of songs from over the years, composed by such writers and singers as Tom Paxton, The Incredible String Band, Arlo Guthrie, Bill Staines, Stan Rogers, Steve Goodman, David Bromberg and many, many others.

David Brahinsky and Warren Craig, vocals and guitar; Ed Cedar on bass, guitar and (watch out!) fiddle; Sue Cedar on vocals; Alan Neiderland on mandolin; Judith Trachtenberg on vocals; and Paul Prestopino on everything-in-the-world except vocals.

(All events are held at the Roosevelt Borough Hall except where otherwise noted.)

Review/Theater, Art, Books & Music

Leslie Weiner's Play-Reading A Triumph

by Robert Mueller

Houselights dim. An expectant audience quiets. Spots illumine. On stage a group of people--Equity actors and neighbors we all thought we knew--begin the magical transformation. The first presentation of the season by the Roosevelt Arts Project was a reading of a play by Leslie Weiner.

This play was written many years ago--but is nevertheless timely...shall I write timeless? *IN THE COUNTING HOUSE* played on Broadway in 1962, directed by Arthur Penn and starred Sidney Chaplin, Howard Da Silva, Barbara Murray, Lou Gilbert and others. The experience in the Roosevelt Borough Hall, through the medium of Leslie Wiener's play, provided a shared experience, which is the unique quality of live theater--we tend to forget this fact, saturated as we are with the TV/movie world of second-hand entertainment.

For those who missed this outstanding Roosevelt event, the play takes place in a garment factory owned by Max Hartman. He manages it with his son Woody--setting up inevitable differences of how to run the place. They are at a critical point; an offer to sell them another factory run by Vera Stern could transform the business. Max, who had begun the negotiations, tells Woody that his father-in-law, Jack Gabriel, is willing to invest. Woody balks--he is having difficulties with his wife and does not want to be beholden to his father-in-law. He is sexually harrasing his secretary Madeline Hanes, although his intentions are unclear even to himself. When she responds, he falls in love and seriously considers divorce. When Max discovers his son's intentions, knowing it would blow the deal, he

counsels him just to have an affair with Madeline. Quite unexpectedly Max proposes marriage to Madeline, half in jest, but half serious. Madeline, of course, is not interested. Woody finally decides to divorce his wife. Woody wants to leave the highly competitive and notoriously corrupt garment industry. We learn that Woody finally tells his wife his intentions when his father-in-law Jack Gabriel comes to his office, upset for his daughter; he tries to convince Woody to wait a year so his daughter can save face--he will put up the money for the buyout. The dilemma for Woody has reached the breaking point. Max has a mild stroke; Madeline declines his offer of marriage. The play fades with Woody taking an important business call, his voice falsely animated.

The three principals, expert New York actors, were superb. Salem Ludwig, Max, plays a curmudgeon, his characterization peppered with a wise mischievousness; he transcended the problems of play reading, and brought to life a person of stature, but with human weaknesses. Phil Clark was perfect as Woody, a pivotal character: urbane and attractive; relaxed in his love scenes and free with his humor. Evelyn Tuths caught all our hearts as Madeline, preserving the strength of her character through many emotional travails.

Leslie directed the local talent to perfection. I particularly liked Herb Johnson's portrayal of Sam Bader, who is his antithesis: a bigoted, corrupt union official. Rod Tulloss gave life to the father-in-law, Jack Gabriel, his powerful, gruff rendition making the character's powerlessness and humiliation manifest. Judith Goetzmann played Vera with authority and under-

In The Counting House

By Leslie Weiner; directed by the author. Presented by the Roosevelt Arts Project, December 5, 1992

Professional Cast:

Max Hartman.....Salem Ludwig
Woody Hartman.....Phil Clark
Madeline Hanes.....Evelyn Tuths

Local Cast:

Mary Buckley.....Gale Hunton
Vera Stern.....Judith Goetzmann
Jack Gabriel.....Rod Tulloss
John Bell.....Chris Kassahun
Sam Bader.....Herb Johnson
Harry Stein.....David Brahinsky

standing, a woman tired of the rat-race, ready to move to Florida. Arnold, one of Max's sons-in-law, is played insouciantly by Paul Freedman, adding a touch of occasional pathetic humor. Chris Kassahun is the young clerk John Bell striving to move up in the firm; he was relaxed and convincing in his role. Mary Buckley, an office clerk, is played by Gale Hunton, who provides an office factotum and breathes life into a small but important part. David Brahinsky rounds out the case, pleasantly playing Harry Stein (he told me when I met him in the post office that he only one line, but I counted them: eight!)

Leslie Weiner's play is an intelligent and passionate study of substance, worthy of Broadway; the tragedy is that it was cut down before it had a chance to play because it opened during a New York newspaper strike and consequently received no publicity. We look forward to the next work from this prolific and important American playwright, and to a reading prior to Broadway here in our own miniature off-off preview theater.

RAP Concert-December 12, 1992

Brahinsky and Co. Beguiling

By Leslie Weiner

On Saturday night of the great sleet storm which blew the power out of Borough Hall, Brahinsky's appreciative audience slogged its way through the slush to fill up his hospitable living room and hear him do justice to the best of his songs, David and his guitar, aided by Alan Neiderland's wizardry on the mandolin. Added to that were words sung so modestly and precisely by Judith Trachtenberg and David:

I have heard what the talkers are talking
 The talk of the beginning and the end.
 But I do not talk of the beginning and I do not talk of the end.
 There was never any more inception that there is now
 Nor any more youth or age than there is now.
 And will never be any more perfection than there is now.
 Nor any more heaven or hell, than there is now.

(Words contributed by Walt Whitman and Neil Selden)

When was the last time you heard "inception" fit a lyric with such certainty and tenderness?
 Picking up the tempo David and Alan found a kind of looney joy in caroling:

It's a sin, it's a sin, it's a very very great sin, our garbage has no place to go...

And then Deborah Metzger gave us an all-too-brief vocal with David's sweet accompaniment to "Don't Look Back." Apparently this was Metzger's audition for future assignments. If that was the purpose, she's ready.

Househusband's Lament

I'm a run of the mill
 Househusband doing my job
 Don't shirk doing dishes
 Or sweeping the floor
 Just don't ask me to clean up
 in the wake of a slob

So clean up your bowls, kids, please clean up your bowls
 They're only encrusted with...cottage cheese...

Don't mind scouring pots
 It's better than being in traffic
 I smile when I take out the garbage

But when you consistently leave your plates in the sink
 I have to suspect it's the work of a fink...

The audience sat shoulder to shoulder, clearly beguiled throughout the dozen and a half numbers. It's not easy tapping toes sprawled on the floor but it seems each of us found a way to express approval. We didn't forget clapping loud. good show, folks!

The Artist as Photographer and Painter: Wonderful Show of Work by Sol Libsohn in Hightstown

By Robin Middleman Filepp

An exhibition of Sol Libsohn's black and white photographs and recent paintings opened with a reception on Friday, January 15 in the Maribou Gallery at the Peddie School. A large appreciative crowd attended the sparkling reception. Friends and neighbors from Roosevelt, Peddie students and teachers and art lovers from all over greeted the artist and filled the gallery.

Half of the exhibition is devoted to a selection of black and white photographs taken during Libsohn's long and distinguished photographic career. The artist worked as a free-lance photographer and with the WPA Artist Project and the Standard Oil company Photographic Project. Libsohn's photographs appeared regularly in many major publications, including *Life*, *Look* and *Vogue*. His work has been exhibited in many galleries and museums, including the Smithsonian and the Carnegie Museum. One of the artist's photographs was a part of *The Family of Man*, a seminal show of photography at the Museum of Modern Art, which was followed by a famous book of the same name.

Libsohn's subject is the passing American scene, especially the urban

street scene - what the artist calls "street theatre." All the photographs have a marvelous sense of space, scale, composition and light. These qualities are combined with an uncanny sense for the moment and an unerring eye. The photographs don't merely record but transform. In Libsohn's depiction of the man or woman on the street, as in all his work, the ephemeral can evoke the eternal, the mundane the ethereal. Two strangers passing on the street are caught in a pas de deux.. Wall Street types - hurrying to the office are seen moving in a dance of life. There is a stunningly beautiful portrait of Big Bill Broonzy, the blues singer. The one work devoid of human presence - "The Source of the Mississippi" - richly suggests the moment of primeval beginnings.

There is a graceful visual bridge from the photographs into the painting. A photograph of an ironworker amidst a latticework of iron girders leads into "NY, NY," a large abstract painting in which the patterns and rhythms of the girders are echoed. Many of these colorful abstract compositions reflect the artist's love of the New York City urban scene. In "Don Quixote in NYC" a jaunty geometric Quixote tilts at windmills against soar-

ing shapes suggestive of 20th Century Manhattan.

"Jacob's Ladder" is the title of one and the theme of two paintings in the show. The artist with humor and poignancy explores the struggle of a man trying to live his life and get to heaven and symbolizes the human journey. All of Libsohn's paintings give us beautiful spaces for thinking, dreaming and reflecting.

Don't miss this marvelous show! This exhibition - the seventh in The Roosevelt Artists Series - remains on view through February 26. Gallery hours are weekdays (except Wednesday) 9 a.m. - Noon and 1-3 p.m. or by appointment, 490-7550.

Review of FROM THE JERSEY HOMESTEADS TO ROOSEVELT:

(Continued from Page 13)

the town voted for Henry Wallace in the 1948 election. Not so; the town voted for Truman.

Aside from these minor errors, Kimberly Brodtkin is to be commended for the thoroughness and scope of her thesis. I will be writing about it from time to time in *The Bulletin*. As the Chairperson of the Historical Committee, I would like to thank her for a job well done and will make her work part of the Roosevelt permanent collection. Her thesis is available for those who would like to learn more about the origins of our unique town. To get a copy mail a check for \$6.24 (local pickup) or \$9.14 (out of town mailing) made out to "Roosevelt Boro Bulletin," Post Office Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555.

**WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS
OF THE SPRING STUDIO TOUR BY
ROOSEVELT ARTISTS
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BILL LEECH
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Someday, we hope to see everyone who lives in
our community on these pages

Bulletin Classified

The *Bulletin* publishes free of charge classified listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: *Roosevelt Borough Bulletin*, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$40.00 per year, \$5.00 per issue.) Classified Deadline is the 15th.

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Recycling Reminder:

All magazines, catalogs, junk mail, notebook/computer paper, photocopies, fax paper, glossy magazine newspaper inserts, phonebooks (white pages only) and stationery should be bundled and placed in the small shed in the back of the Boro Hall.


The container in front of the Bulletin Board between Rossi's and the Post Office is for throwaway mail. Bundled items should not be placed in this container.

Questions can be referred to Borough Hall at 448-0539.

FEBRUARY

MON TUES WED THUR FRIDAY SAT

<p>1 7:30 PM Council Agenda Meeting-Boro Hall</p> <p>SUN</p>	<p>2 10:30 AM RPS-Music Program,also 7:30pm-Public Invited 1:00 PM Blood Pressure Check-Solar Village 2:00 PM Senior Citizens-Boro Hall-Jeanette Koffler, Pres 6:00 PM Roosevelt Community TV Storer Cable Ch 8</p>	<p>3 7:00 PM Yoga Class, Synagogue Deborah Metzger 443-3759 8:00 PM Environmental Commission-Boro Hall-J. Carnivale</p>	<p>4 7:30 PM Board of Education Agenda-RPS</p>	<p>5 Natives of the Earth-Boro Hall Gloria Hazell 443-2869</p>	<p>6</p>
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<p>7</p>	<p>8 7:30 PM Council Action Meeting-Boro Hall-Lee Allen, Mayor</p>	<p>9 6:00 PM Roosevelt Community TV Storer Cable Ch 8</p>	<p>10 Recyclables  6:30 PM Yoga Class, Synagogue 8:00 PM Planning Board-Boro Hall-Gail Hunton 426-4338 8:00 PM PTA -Adcenah Yaeger, Pres.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Lincoln's Birthday</p>	<p>13</p>
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<p>14 Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15 President's Day 7:30 PM Council Committees-Boro Hall 8:00 PM Congregation Anshei Roosevelt-Synagogue</p>	<p>16 6:00 PM Roosevelt Community TV Storer Cable Ch 8</p>	<p>17 7:00 PM Yoga Class, Synagogue Deborah Metzger 443-3759</p>	<p>18 7:30 PM Board of Education Action-RPS-John Ord 443-1744</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
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<p>21</p>	<p>22 Washington's Birthday 7:30 PM Council Committees-Boro Hall</p>	<p>23 6:00 PM Roosevelt Community TV Storer Cable Ch 8 7:30 PM First Aid-Boro Hall-Susan Oxford 443-0525</p>	<p>24 Recyclables  Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM Yoga Class, Synagogue Deborah Metzger 443-3759</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 PTA-Winter Carnival 10:30-1:30</p>
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