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# ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



# BULLETIN

Published by Roosevelt P.T.A.

Vol. III, No. 9

Roosevelt, New Jersey

May 1980

## Council's issues: hot rods, drinking, litter, dogs

By Bob Clark

The perennial warm-weather problem of idle suburban teens nettled the Borough Council at its May 14 regular monthly meeting. The council received a letter from 16 residents of the Pine Drive area concerning the antics of what Council member Bill Counterman dubbed "concocted hot rods" and their youthful jockeys. The letter complained that a growing number of teenagers--many from outside of town--are using borough streets as a "testing ground for souped-up, go cart type, unlicensed vehicles."

Possible solutions listed in the letter ranged from building

a dirt track on an idle piece of property to placing asphalt bumps on borough roads to an enforcement crackdown. The letter warned of the increasing risk of tragedy for playing children.

Mayor Leon Barth said that he notified the State Police about the problem and related violations of the borough's ordinance prohibiting drinking of alcoholic beverages on public property. He said he asked the State Police, who share borough patrol responsibilities with the town's own part-time officer, to issue summonses instead of warnings and to patrol the troubled areas more often.

(Cont'd. on p. 2 )

## School Board to appeal budget cuts

By Hortense Sochowitzky  
and Bruce Lakin, special  
correspondent

On April 22 the Board of Education met briefly in special session to take public action on the Borough Council's prior ruling on the education budget.

Cynthia Horowitz, chairperson of the board's finance committee, moved a resolution stating that the board still supported its

original budget and did not accept the changes made by the council, but would proceed with the budget appeal procedure as outlined in the statute. This was unanimously approved by the board members.

This procedure has just been changed. Instead of a conference at the county level, an appeal is filed directly with the Commissioner, who will turn it over

(Cont'd. on p.4 )

## Council's issues

(Cont'd. from p. 1)

Counterman, the Public Safety Committee Chairman, urged citizens to take a more active role in reporting violations. Anyone who witnesses a violation can sign a complaint requiring known offenders to answer for their conduct in the municipal court which convenes in Millstone Township.

The council scheduled a special meeting with State Police representatives concerning borough coverage for May 28 at 8:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall. The public was invited to observe.

Turning to ordinances, the council passed a salary ordinance on final reading after a public hearing in which the increases of approximately 7% were granted the borough clerk, treasurer, tax collector, assessor, building inspector, zoning officer, and laborer.

Anti-litter and dog control ordinances were introduced and scheduled for public hearing at the council's June 11 meeting. The dog ordinance consolidates other dog measures already on the books and increases penalties for violations to a fine of up to \$500 and 90 days imprisonment. Under its terms dogs over seven months old must be licensed and wear a registration tag. The borough must conduct an annual dog canvass. If someone complains about a "vicious dog" (one that has attacked or bitten any person or which habitually attacks other dogs or domestic animals), and the municipal judge agrees after a hearing, the owner may not allow the dog off his property without a muzzle.

Other forbidden conduct answerable in municipal court includes:

1. Permitting a dog to run at large on public streets or

parks or in public buildings. (A dog may appear in such places if controlled by a leash not longer than 8 feet and accompanied by a person over 12 years old.)

2. Permitting a dog to damage lawns, shrubbery, flowers or property.

3. Harboring a dog that habitually barks or cries.

Unlicensed dogs, strays, female dogs in season off their owners' premises and uncontrolled vicious dogs may be impounded and destroyed in a humane manner if not claimed within seven days after notice to the owner. To claim a dog a person must pay maintenance fees of \$5 for the first day and \$1 per day for each additional day. Only licensed dogs will be released.

If a physician decides that a person has been bitten by a dog, the owner must have the dog examined by a veterinarian within 12 hours, quarantine the dog for 10 days and have the dog re-examined after the 10 days by a veterinarian who must report its health status to the Board of Health.

The anti-littering ordinance would forbid littering or throwing junk on public streets or lands, or on private property if not by the owner, or into streams. It would violate the ordinance to distribute any handbill on private property if the property is posted with a notice rejecting handbills or if requested by the occupant not to do so. In addition, litter or junk could not be left by the owner on occupied private property unless contained so that it could not be carried to public land by the weather and so as not to be visible. Even an owner would not be able to leave litter or junk on vacant private property.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) notified the council that Roosevelt's request for

## Council's issues

state aid funds to repave Nurko Road had been denied during the first phase of the program as not providing "maximum and immediate benefits to the driving public." The application will be retained for the second phase.

Water and Sewer Operator Bill Kowalski forwarded a letter from the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) exempting the borough from expensive sewerage sludge sampling for heavy metals and organics such as pesticides. The monthly inspections for volatile sewerage sludge solids and other inspections, plus water reports, will still be conducted.

J. Patrick McMorrow of Freehold resigned as borough attorney to take a position with the attorney general. The council approved Barth's appointment of Donald Lomurro of Freehold to fill the unexpired term.

The council approved a grant of one-half of the expenses of this year's 4th of July picnic, up to \$800, and gave a special permit for consumption of beer in the park that day. A fireworks display was approved, with Esakoff casting the lone nay vote.

Esakoff said that several plantings at the cemetery violate the cemetery ordinance and hinder maintenance of the cemetery. He urged people tending graves to check the ordinance at the Borough Hall. Esakoff said that the Cemetery Committee will meet soon and "will take serious action."

Esakoff said that he had learned that a surcharge that had been added to the borough insurance bill, and which had caused him some concern when he first saw it, was the routine result of adding employees to the payroll.

Mrs. Narod thanked Mayor Barth for constructing signs

designating the Borough Hall, First Aid and Fire, and thus improving the image of the town.

Borough Clerk Liz Johnson noted that borough employees were improving the cemetery road in trouble spots by widening, pouring gravel, removing slushy sand and cutting weeds.

Faith Penalver asked the council to look into widening the path from Tamara Drive to the school grounds so that children could bicycle to school on it.

Barth proclaimed June to be First Aid Month and asked all residents to support the local squad.

Weiner noted the purchase of nine new chairs for the library with state funds.

### STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Helen Barth...administration, First Aid, school news

Peter Berlinrut...Issues & Debates

Bob Clark...borough news

Dave Cooper...art, headlines, ad layout

Jim Dulicai...editor

Lynn Frank...business/ad manager

Lynn Friedman...circulation manager, social/calendar news

Freda Hepner...culture news, features

David Herrstrom...features

Beth Johnson...food column, P.T.A. news

Norma Kushner...treasurer, ad sales

Andrea Lakin...layout, headlines, art

Merle Rose...features, headlines, paste-up

Arthur Shapiro...features, Minutes Ago

Elly Shapiro...features

Hortense Socholitzky...copy editing, administration, Board of Education news

Helga Wisowaty...senior news

Adeenah Yeger...features, typing

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## School Board

(Cont'd. from p.1)

to the Office of Administrative Law. A judge will conduct a hearing and will file a written decision. All the parties, including the Commissioner, have 45 days to comment, after which the Commissioner issues his final decision. Either party may appeal his decision to the State Board of Education, and that board's decision may be appealed to the Appellate Division of the state. These last two steps are rare.

The Borough Council received a notice of the School Board's appeal from the budget changes made by the council after the recent voter rejection of the school budget. A prehearing conference is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4, at 9:30 a.m. in the office of the County School Superintendent, Campbell Court and Route 9, Freehold. Council members Louis Esakoff and Leslie Weiner decried the time set for the conference, which will require council members to take time off from work, and said they would ask that a more convenient evening meeting be scheduled.\*

A regular meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education was held at R.P.S. on May 13, 1980. In attendance were Dave Cooper, David Herrstrom, Lew Gantwerk, Sandra Orlando, Ann Rector and David Zaleski.

Mel Adlerman and John Cinkay, representatives of Adlerman and Click, the Board's insurance company, were present. They discussed the board's insurance coverage and answered questions. Bond limits and liability coverage were reviewed. Adlerman noted that coverage was adequate in all areas but a serious gap existed in the valuation of the building. This figure had not been updated since 1976 at least.

He doubted whether the current value of \$462,500 is accurate due to inflation. He recommended that a professional appraise the true replacement cost of the building.

Adlerman also reported that premiums were likely to rise 20-25% in the next year and advised the board to budget for the increase. Zaleski inquired about the board's liability should an accident occur during one of the many extracurricular activities conducted in the R.P.S. building and on its grounds. The board was assured that its insurance coverage was adequate.

Gantwerk asked if in the event of an accident the board would have to be sued to recover medical expenses. Adlerman explained that the school need only report the accident and the insurance company would pay the medical bills directly.

Under visitor's requests, Nancy Warnick, representing the P.T.A. presented this organization's concept for a new school playground. The playground would be constructed from tires, telephone poles, sand, the existing usable equipment and local labor. The site layout, structure design, training and supervision would be provided by Tire Playground, Inc. from South Orange, N.J. Tire Playground, Inc. has individually designed and constructed over 170 similar playgrounds in the U.S.A. and Canada, including the one at the Walter C. Black school in Hightstown. The P.T.A. would present a gift of \$800 for the purchase of playground equipment and the board would pay the remainder. Discussion of the proposal followed.

Orlando reported on the P.T.A. meeting at which representatives of Tire Playground, Inc. gave a presenta-

(Cont'd. on p. 6)

## What's up at Boro Hall? Radio Roosevelt

By Helen Barth

If you've wondered about that metal structure lying alongside the Borough Hall, it's a transmission tower, soon to be an important part of Roosevelt's emergency communications system for both the First Aid Squad and the Fire Company.

Two years ago, the Roosevelt First Aid Squad heard that it should consider an alternative to the present emergency communications system. The Federal Communications Commission doesn't allow first aid squads to operate on a frequency licensed to a fire company if the first aid squad isn't associated with it. This is the situation in Roosevelt, where the license is held and the transmitter owned by the Hightstown Fire Company. The Hightstown Police Department, which operates and maintains this equipment, dispatches both the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and Fire Company.

In addition to complying with the FCC ruling, the squad hopes to provide a better and more effective means of communication. The transmission, operation and maintenance of services will be centralized. At present these responsibilities are fragmented. Because of the division of responsibility, the number of people involved, the different manufacturers of equipment with different maintenance contracts, and the different locations of equipment, the system has many problems. The result, too often, is to leave Roosevelt unable to receive the dispatched signal to the home alert receivers or the siren.

The new system will be activated by calling a new emergency

telephone number. (This number will be announced when the system is completed and ready to be put into operation.) The person taking the call will use a special telephone code to dispatch the First Aid Squad through the home alert receivers now in use as well as the siren. This will be done by activating a radio base station located in the municipal building. When the squad responds to an emergency, one member will maintain the radio base unit to receive additional emergency calls as well as to communicate with the ambulance, hospital, police or others necessary to assist in the emergency.

As a preliminary step toward this system, the First Aid Squad purchased and is already using a radio for the ambulance that provides communication with the hospitals, fire company and the base station. The squad also had emergency telephones installed in those members' homes who will be responsible for receiving emergency calls. The borough purchased the base radio unit and the squad purchased the transmission tower and accessories that are needed to control this base radio to provide the many features necessary for the operation of the emergency communications system. The First Aid Squad is also providing the continuing operational expenses necessary in maintaining this new system.

The First Aid Squad has already spent about \$4,000 on this emergency communications system and anticipates that operational expenses will run over \$100 per month over the present operating expenses of the squad. Continued support is necessary.

## School Board

(Cont'd. from p.4)

tion. Tire Playground encourages creative play, is impervious to weather conditions and is resistant to vandalism. Of the twenty-four attendees of that meeting only two were opposed. The audience at the board meeting made several interesting observations. Gantwerk stated that the school was in "dire need of a playground." Herrstrom noted that although the tire construction was not pretty, a complete playground was much more reasonably priced than the more aesthetic alternatives. Warnick pointed out that the site would not be visible from the main road. Orlando noted that the wood and metal alternatives with exposed bolts were hardly very safe.

Herrstrom put a motion before the floor to approve the Tire Playground concept and proceed with the appointment of a volunteer to coordinate the project. The motion was passed unanimously. Herrstrom put a motion before the floor to provide an amount not to exceed \$3000 for the construction of the Tire Playground. This motion was approved unanimously as well.

The board passed on several other items of new business. The board tentatively approved the 1980-81 school calendar, subject to approval of the Roosevelt Teacher's Association. Final approval is scheduled for a June meeting.

A 6:00 p.m. time for graduation was approved. The speech therapist's time per week was decreased from two days to one effective April 1, 1980, and also for the 1980-81 school year.

In the area of personnel, a new person was added to the current substitute list and Gantwerk was given the approval to offer an appointment of a

new English and Social Studies teacher.

\* The change in procedure was made after this meeting was held.

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## MCOSS spells good health for the county

By Elly Shapiro

If you've read the roster board outside Boro Hall and wondered what "MCOSS" stands for, this is for you.

Did you guess "Monmouth County Office of Something...?" Wrong. It's not an arm of the county government, but rather is a private, non-profit organization that offers health care to everyone, regardless of economic circumstances. People pay on a sliding scale or through third-party insurance. Freeholders of the various municipalities--including Roosevelt--contract with the organization for the services, which include health screenings and health fairs.

MCOSS Nursing Services is the largest home health-care agency in the state and the 10th largest in the nation. It has served the people of Monmouth County for 68 years. On some Tuesdays, a member of their Senior Citizen Counseling Team comes to Roosevelt to monitor blood pressures and to assist our Senior Citizens with any health problem they might have.

The MCOSS nurse also can work with recuperating patients in their own homes to assess family situations and their effect on the recovering patient. The nurse may refer to community agencies, perhaps involving physical therapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, as well as diet counselors and home health aides to assist in the rehabilitation. An enterostomal therapist and a psychiatric nurse are also on the staff.

Referrals for home health care can be made in many ways. A physician, social worker or family member may call the Red Bank office to inquire about eligibility (201-747-1204).

A maternity team rotates among the five health centers in Monmouth County, enabling pregnant women to avail themselves of low-cost prenatal care. Pre-school children can be immunized and receive routine health care at the monthly Well Child Clinics held at each of the health centers. Recently, a hospice program has been implemented for the terminally ill.

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or Edith Ernstein 448-0064

### BERMOWITZ TAPESTRIES

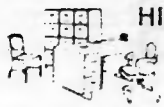
New Jersey National Bank in Hightstown is currently displaying five large tapestries that Ellie Bermowitz of Valley Road made. Ellie says that this has become an exciting new interest for her and she is pleased to be able to share it with her neighbors. Some of the designs were conceived by Bob Mueller. Ellie's own designs, she says, are greatly influenced by the work of the painter Henri Matisse. The exhibit will be at the bank until the middle of June.

# June fire inspections

## June fire inspections

Roosevelt's volunteer Fire Company, in cooperation with the Borough Council's safety committee, will be doing house-to-house fire inspections to make the borough safer.

On June 1, homes on the east side of Rochdale Avenue will be checked for fire-code compliances, and on June 8, all homes on the west side of Rochdale will be done. If you have questions, please call Joe Maldera, fire chief, at 448-2248, or Jim Manzi, assistant fire chief, at 448-3709. They ask residents to cooperate.



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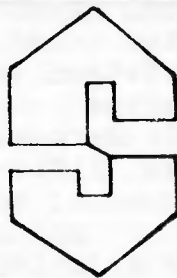
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# 'Old-fashioned' July 4 celebration planned

By Elly Shapiro

"An Old Fashioned Fourth of July" is promised by the groups responsible for the town's annual celebration.

Festivities include an early morning one-mile run for those 12 years and under and a 4.4 mile-run for anyone older than that.

Afternoon festivities begin at 3 p.m. with a parade being arranged by the Pioneer Women.

Youngsters of all ages are urged to participate in the bike decorating contest. Winners in several categories, including smallest bike, largest bike, prettiest bike, etc. will be selected. In a break with tradition, no prizes will be awarded this year.

At 4 p.m. refreshments will be served. Under the direction of the First Aid Squad, those attending can partake of hot dogs and condiments. The Fire Company is in charge of the liquid refreshments.

For those who wish to participate, there will be volleyball and softball.

Rooseveltians and guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and/or blankets on which they can enjoy the afternoon. Bring instruments too, for some good, old-fashioned "jamming." Those perennial favorites, the 50-50 and the Art Raffle will also take place. The former is being handled by the P.T.A. and the latter by the Senior Citizens.

There will be fireworks at dusk, with the expertise of Ted Marton and his assistant George Loyer.

Besides all the organizations pooling their efforts to make this the best Fourth yet, there's a need for public participation: Ample trash recept-

acles will be placed on the school grounds. Use them, and you'll make clean-up less back-breaking for others.

Volunteers also are sought from the community for set-up, games, cooking, and clean-up. Please call any P.T.A. officer, or First Aid Member for further information.

## INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

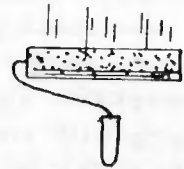


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# PTA SUMMER PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Please register your child (children) for the Roosevelt Summer Vacation Program by filling out the attached form and returning it with the \$5.00 registration fee per family and the first week's tuition to Carol Zaleski, 29 Lake Drive, Roosevelt, N.J. by June 20. Camp will run from July 7 through Aug. 8, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The tuition is \$8.00 per week for the first child in the family, \$7.00 per week for the second child, \$6.00 per week for the third child.

Please make payments for the second and third weeks by July 11 and for the final two weeks by July 25. Do not send money to camp with your child. Make all payments to the PTA Treasurer, Carol Zaleski. Provision can be made for those seeking financial assistance.

Additional forms may be obtained by calling Sheila Jaeger, 443-3185

Check Weeks	Dates	Cost
#1	7/7-7/11	
#2	7/14-7/18	
#3	7/21-7/25	
#4	7/28-8/1	
#5	8/4-8/8	

Total Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reg. Fee \$5.00 per family

Total amt. due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## ROOSEVELT SCHOOL VACATION PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Child's last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade as of Sept. '80 \_\_\_\_\_ Physician's name and telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_ Home address \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name and telephone of person to be called when neither parent can be reached \_\_\_\_\_

Please note allergies or physical limitations of the camper \_\_\_\_\_

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## PTA busy gearing up for summer program

By Elly Shapiro

The P.T.A. is gearing up for a busy season ahead, especially the approaching Summer Program. This is scheduled to begin July 7 and run through Aug. 8. Elsewhere in this issue is a self-explanatory form. Call Sheila Jaeger at 443-3185 or Elly Shapiro at 443-3575 for more information.

On June 3, the P.T.A. will host a Welcome reception when the Arts in Education Foundation holds its annual dinner meeting in Roosevelt Public School. We also will provide refreshments for the Poetry and Jazz performance that evening.

New members are welcome, and Membership costs only \$1.00 for an adult. Volunteers also are needed for many projects.

## Deadline: young writers

There is still time for young writers to submit poems, stories, sketches, and artwork for the June supplement of the Bulletin. This first literary supplement is for works by Roosevelt's elementary, high school and college students. If you have a friend away at school, tell him/her about this chance to get published.

Deadline is May 31. If you are interested in contributing work, or would like to help in another way, contact David Herrstrom at 443-4421 or Freda Hepner at 448-4344.

*June 13, 1980*

*Happy Birthday*

*Abigail*

*With much love,*

*Daddy, Mommy, Amanda*

## PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

**3 R's and an F—Family/sex education to start**

Dear Friends,

In recent months two pieces of legislation have been passed which might interest you. The first one is the "Family Life/Sex Education Mandate." Despite great opposition from state citizens, the State Board of Education has mandated this program from kindergarten through Grade 12. The curriculum for this program must be developed by 1982 and implemented by all districts by September 1983.

Family life education is defined as "instruction to develop an understanding of interpersonal relationships between persons of various ages." The State Board mandate further orders all school districts to conduct programs which, in grades K-8, cover the following units of instruction: Family units, responsibilities, duties, and roles of family members; the role of the family in society; plant, animal and human reproduction; human growth and development; differences in the growth of boys and girls; dating; heredity, social and emotional growth; the danger of talking to strangers; child abuse; sexual assault and incest; the prevention of venereal disease; and prenatal care. In grades 9-12 the following units of instruction are mandated: Sexuality, personality development, parenting and child rearing, psychosocial development, the physical changes of adolescence, the birth of a baby, preparation for marriage, and family planning.

This mandate is interesting for a number of reasons. First, it breaks a long-standing precedent that the instructional programs of schools have been and ought to be developed by the

communities served by those schools. There are no other course outlines prescribed by the State Board. Until now, only broad, general guidelines were offered: the amount of physical education; New Jersey history; health education (in high school). Recently, high school graduation requirements have been established but these only list course titles--nowhere is the content prescribed. Many people in education have responded strongly to this aspect of the State Board's action. They feel that it is the first step toward the erosion of local control of education.

Another objection to this particular curriculum is in the controversial nature of the material. The areas of family living and sex education are heavily laden with values which may conflict within a given community. What are the prerogatives of the family in light of this mandate? The mandate provides for parents to request that their children be excused from all or any part of this curriculum. This could upset the schools. There are a number of districts throughout the state which already have programs in place. These will not necessarily be permitted to continue.

Over the next two years the Roosevelt Board of Education will be working on the development of these courses. I'm sure that input from the community will be part of that development. In thinking about this whole area, I must confess to ambivalent feelings. On one hand, I see the material as in strong need of presentation to all children so that

Letter to the Bulletin**Co-ordinator asks help  
for playground project**To the Bulletin:

Yours truly has been appointed Co-ordinator (I would have preferred Secretary General to match my acumen) of the project duly approved by the School Board and supported \$800 worth by the P.T.A. I am aware that the projection has been received in some areas as nothing short of artistic disaster. To use discarded Auto, etc. tires to create playgrounds for children appears almost squalid but I hasten to point out, with or without pride, and certainly not with scorn that such frivolous approaches have met the approval of over a hundred municipalities from Australia to Colts Neck, N.J., to Canada, obviously in that order of importance.

However, the truth cries out that the designer is a noted Israeli artist who argues utilitarian art with ecological, redemptive intent. Willy Weiss, said artist has, like myself, been trapped by a continuing juvenescence so that there is an understanding of the minds of children who don't need a world of chrome and fancy ultra-expensive facilities to entertain their innocent and imaginative minds. In short, the project is a darn good idea. It will be built to include present limited pieces.

So to the point--a committee will be appointed and enlarged. When the historic day dawns, probably in August, we need tires, muscle and enthusiasm backed by box lunches, soft drinks provided and an outpouring of Roosevelt support. In short, I'll be contacting you, with my modest charm to help in a dozen ways.

So, anticipate!

--John Grauel

**education**

they can be better informed and able to make knowledgeable and intelligent decisions about their lives. On the other hand, the school cannot take the place of the family. If the breakdown in the family we read about is in fact a reality, can the school be expected to take its place? I think not. The expectations that the school now must fulfill are beyond its scope in many aspects. To add this kind of mandate seems, in some ways, to be adding straws to an already straining "camel's back."

The other piece of legislation is Senate Bill No. 650, 1978, approved Jan. 18, 1980. This bill amends the statute providing for the liability of a parent, guardian, or other person having custody of an infant (person under 18) who willfully, maliciously, or unlawfully destroys or injures the property of another. The bill does two things. It raises from 16 years of age to 18 years of age the age limits of liability for the child. It also raises from \$250 to \$2,000 the monetary limit for the child. It says, in essence, parents are responsible for damages caused by their children to the amount of \$2,000.

Just thought you'd like to know.

Lew Gantwerk

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is printed courtesy of  
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## Ticktin spotlights obscure legalities

By Hortense Sochowitzky

Michael Ticktin of Farm Lane is a lawyer with a keen eye for oddities in the law, and a determination to change, eliminate or modify them.

Take the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It was originally approved by the New Jersey State Legislature in 1866, but in March 1868 the legislature withdrew this approval. In spite of New Jersey's action, of course, the amendment was ratified by the necessary number of states, and became part of the U.S. Constitution in 1868.

The withdrawal of approval bothered Ticktin. He proposed that the state Assembly and Senate pass a joint resolution rescinding the 1868 vote as a symbol. The Assembly did so last April. The Senate Committee on State Government and Federal and Interstate Relations has the resolution before it at present, and may well act on it soon.

In 1973, when he was a law student, Ticktin discovered that there were anachronisms in the Roosevelt Borough ordinances still on the books. For one, there was a 1937 ordinance prohibiting any person over 12 years of age from appearing in the streets wearing shorts, halters, bathing suits or "jerseys." The penalty for this undress, or for operating a brothel (which actually was already banned by state law) was a fine up to \$200. At Ticktin's suggestion, the council voted, 3 to 2, to repeal this ordinance.

Ticktin says his message to lawmakers is, "If you don't mean them, don't put them on the books. If you stop meaning them, take them off the books."



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FOOD**Like a fish out of water – into the wine sauce**

By Beth Johnson

Fish can be utterly delicious but it is, and must be handled as, a delicate food.

Fish are classified as lean or fat. In general, the white-fleshed fish such as halibut, sole, and cod are lean; fish with colored flesh such as salmon and mackerel are fat. More butter or oil may be used to baste or prepare lean fish than fat. It is best to serve fish immediately after cooking. Otherwise it becomes dry and less flavorful. The following recipe takes some time to put together but is well worth the effort.

Fillet of Flounder Florentine

3 lbs. fresh spinach  
 1½ tsps. salt  
 2¼ fillet of flounder  
 Salt and pepper  
 Egg stuffing (recipe follows)  
 Wine sauce (recipe follows)

Heat oven to 375° F. Wash spinach in several changes of water; without drying leaves, place them in a large kettle. Sprinkle with the 1½ tsps. salt. Cover and cook over moderately low heat (about 225° F.) 12 to 15 minutes or until tender. Drain thoroughly and chop coarsely. Place in bottom of a shallow 3-quart dish. Sprinkle fillets with salt and pepper. Place a spoonful of the Egg Stuffing at one end of each fillet and roll up jelly-roll fashion. Arrange fillets in rows on spinach. Cover with the Wine sauce. Bake 25 to 30 minutes. Serves 6 to 8.

Egg Stuffing

¼ cup butter	1 tsp. dried parsley flakes
½ cup finely chopped onion	¼ tsp. dried marjoram
1 cup soft bread crumbs	½ tsp. salt
3 hard-cooked eggs, coarsely chopped	

Heat butter in a skillet over moderately low heat (about 225° F.) Add onion and cook until tender, stirring frequently. Add remaining ingredients and mix. Makes about 1½ cups.

Wine Sauce

¼ cup butter	1 ¾ cups milk, scalded
¼ cup flour	¼ cup dry white wine
1 tsp. salt	¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
Few grains pepper	

Place butter in a saucepan directly over moderately low heat (about 225° F.). Remove from heat and blend in flour, salt, and pepper. Return to heat and cook for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and gradually add scalded milk, stirring constantly until all liquid has been added and sauce is smooth. Cook over low heat (about 200° F.) for 20 minutes, stirring very frequently. Remove from heat and gradually stir in wine and Parmesan cheese. Makes about 1 ¾ cups sauce.

## First food co-op order totals more than \$600

By Andrea Lakin

The 25-family-member Roosevelt Food Co-op placed its first order April 7--over \$600 of foods including dried fruits, nuts, eggs and nine varieties of cheeses.

The co-op's directors are Rose Murphy, Naomi Brahinsky, Nina Burghardt, Sara Prestopino and Carol Watchler. Anyone with input on proposed bylaws please call Naomi Brahinsky at 443-1898.

The first Monday of each month is the final day for placing orders. Order sheets should be delivered to Ann Baker, 2 Elm Court. A change in the order form indicated a 10% markup instead of the original 3% markup which did not cover gas and travel expenses. These prices are still considerably less than supermarket prices.

Volunteers are needed for the next food distribution (the third Thursday of the month) to weigh nuts, cut cheeses, process check out, and cooperatively care for children. Call Sara Prestopino at 448-4697 to volunteer. Distribution is between the hours of 1 and 4. Pick up is only between the hours of 5:00 and 7. If you cannot pick up your order, make arrangements for someone else to pick it up during those hours.

Excess items will be available for purchase by the general public at a slightly higher markup. Call Rose Murphy at 448-5802. Anyone with extra lunch bags to donate, should deliver them to Bobbi Feldman at 41 Tamara Dr.

## Senior Citizens Will Air their Needs

By Helga Wisowaty

The Monmouth County Office on Aging is preparing material on the needs of senior citizens for presentation at a conference to be held in Washington in November 1981. The next meeting of the Roosevelt Senior Club on June 7 will concern itself with local seniors and their evaluation of their needs. This will then be sifted through county and state officials, and thence to the national conference. If you are over 60, please come to that meeting and make your needs known.

At the May 7 meeting Andrew Smith, Jr., surrogate of Monmouth County, was guest speaker. He gave members valuable information about the importance of making a will, and filled in gaps in the seniors' knowledge of wills, inheritance, etc.

Members who went to Club Bene in April for lunch and a show gave an enthusiastic report. It was expected that the performance of "The Barber of Seville" on May 10 would be as well received.

The chairperson, Esther Pogrebin, reported on her attendance at the first New Jersey Consumer Conference. The literature she brought from the conference was to be shared with the members of the Roosevelt food co-op.

Announcement was made of the convention of the New Jersey Federation of Senior Citizens to be held in Wildwood May 29. Dues for the Senior Power newspaper, published by the federation, are due in June.



## Two Rooseveltians, aided by many, back ERA

By Ann Baker and Carol Watchler  
Special Correspondents

With the financial help of many Rooseveltians, we two borough residents journeyed to Chicago for a giant march for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment on May 10. We joined 85,000 others in a "Sea of White" to demonstrate support for the ERA and to urge the Illinois State Legislature to approve the amendment.

The journey began with the hope that friends would come through where the budget of a newly-owned home fell short--with the fares. So we wrote a letter and began to visit new neighbors.

We were overwhelmed with the interest and generosity of Rooseveltians and colleagues at school. And as the departure date drew near, we had gathered a longer and longer list of ERA supporters to carry in the march.

When the train arrived in Trenton, it had already made two stops to pick up spirited members of the New Jersey delegation. In Philadelphia we gathered more passengers and added two cars of participants from Washington, Maryland, and Delaware. The enthusiastic dedication to the ERA cause showed in many ways; mutual reflection that happens so easily with hours of train-riding had a common thread of the struggle for equal rights; and there was vigorous activity in buying and selling of buttons (the favorite of which is shown below) and writing and practicing songs and cheers.

By Saturday morning marchers were ready to detrain, dressed in white. Even this much gearing up hadn't prepared us for the enormous sea of white of

the 85,000 participants that we came upon as we walked to the point on the lake side of the art museum in Chicago. As much as we were amazed, so were the local participants encouraged that this outpouring would have a positive effect on legislators. For more than two hours delegations lined up 20 abreast to begin the march down Columbus Avenue. The New Jersey delegation, 200 strong, boasted two Rooseveltians, one carrying a sign stating "Roosevelt, NJ, says YES ERA!" and bearing the signatures of the many generous supporters.

Over 250 national organizations are on record as supporting the Equal Rights Amendment, and most of the organizations were part of the massive mobilization in Grant Park. The banners of labor, professional, human rights, religious and women's organizations waved in the strong breeze off Lake Michigan as speaker after speaker exhorted the assembly to make one further, gigantic effort to pry ratification out of the members of the Illinois Legislature.

Sunday morning's Chicago papers cited one positive and heartening effect of the rally. Representative Eugene Schlickman had publically committed his support to the amendment. In the past he had been a "no" vote. With the vote margin having always been 2-4 against in the past, a public turnaround was hopeful.

The Illinois House was expected to vote on ratification as early as May 14. The Senate vote will not be scheduled until after the lower house votes. There are no predictions of the outcome from those who support the amendment, but the intensity of the year-long effort behind

(Cont'd. on p. 18)

## ERA

(Cont'd. from p.17)

the Illinois Ratification Project and the political sophistication of those who have made the strategy decisions suggests a more promising result than in the past.

Illinois requires a 60% majority rather than a 50% vote for ratification of any constitutional amendment. This makes it extremely difficult, and in 11 previous votes in both house, Illinois has always provided well over the typical 50% votes but not quite the 60% required. Never before, however, has there been such an all-out effort made to secure the 60% vote.

If Illinois ratifies the Equal Rights Amendment, becoming the 36th state to do so, two more states will be required to bring about ratification by the required 75% of the states. At this point, none of the states of the solid south has ratified. Neither have the three southwestern states with large Mormon populations: Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. In addition, Missouri and Oklahoma have refused to move into the "yes" column for the legal equality. Proponents of the ERA have until June 30, 1982, to win the 38 states required for ratification.

If any Roosevelt organization would care to hear more about the Equal Rights Amendment or any other aspect of the movement for women's rights, contact us, please.



## Salute to the graduates

### Roosevelt Public School

Bryan Counterman  
Rachel DiTursi  
Debra Friedman  
Stacy Johnson  
Courtney Loyer  
James Millar  
Mical Moser  
Kevin O'Brien  
Amanda Rose  
Terri Sajgo  
Andrew Schwinger  
Mindy Shapiro  
Valerie Skillman  
David Terry  
Yvonne Williams

### Hightstown High School

Alecia Ashkinazy  
Kim Dulicai  
Jonathan Farnell  
Cory Feigenbaum  
Andrew Jaeger  
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## NOTES AND PASSAGES

### Primary process — the electoral imperative

By Freda Hepner

When I was growing up in the Bronx, we always knew it was time to vote because the local party men came to visit. My parents were registered in different parties, and the opportunity to bait the representatives of the other party was a great occasion in our home. I listened avidly and grew up knowing that it was imperative to vote whenever there was an opportunity.

I also grew up believing that somehow you were born a Democrat or a Republican or whatever and you died that way. The penalty for changing party affiliation was a loss of your right to vote in a primary election for two years. This was obviously too high a price for a family totally committed to the electoral process, so we remained with one party our whole lives.

Now that I am older and live in Roosevelt, I still feel compelled to vote. In fact, general elections in this borough have often been less vital than primary elections. Our local candidates may run in a primary election with one party designation, lose to a challenger, be nominated by members of the other political party, and win the general election as a representative of the party they originally opposed. It can get confusing, but it is legal.

Primary elections were first held in New Jersey in 1903 and were devised as a means of giving the voters direct political control. It is a "closed" election, which means that a voter must declare a political affilia-

tion and then vote for a candidate in that party only. In 1976, the New Jersey legislature decided to make it easier for voters to change their party affiliation. The law now reads that an affidavit of change filed no later than fifty days prior to the primary will enable you to vote in your new party's primary without skipping two years. In 1977, they added a proviso permitting independents to affiliate with a party and vote on primary election day. In a presidential year we elect delegates and alternates to the national conventions. The delegates we will elect on June 3 are pledged to specific candidates.

In other states, the "beauty contest" primary is rather common. That means the convention delegates elected in those states have indicated presidential preferences, but aren't pledged to any one candidate and might be persuaded to change their minds. Our delegates in New Jersey are bound to carry out our instructions. Only Republican and Democratic parties participate in the primary. Other parties or independents can have their candidates appear on the general election ballot if they file the appropriate petitions.

I often hear people express the view that there are no real choices--and after all "what difference does my vote make anyway?" I often feel the same way, but I vote anyway. Naively, I feel there never will be a real choice if ordinary people don't try to make one. I think it has to make a difference if we all instruct our delegates.

Of course, to be honest about it, I would feel very guilty if

(Cont'd. on p.20)

### Primary (Cont'd. from p.19)

I didn't vote. My parents programmed me that way. They knew how important it was as immigrants who had not been permitted to participate in the governments where they were born. They believed strongly in the election process even when their candidates lost. I must admit my family's record of electing candidates remains poor to this day. But not voting is giving up on the whole process and I hope not too many of us are ready for that.

### FIRST AID SQUAD

The squad will be calling on the residents of Roosevelt during their annual fund drive in June and asks you to keep this in mind when making your contributions.

### Photographer seeks portrait volunteers

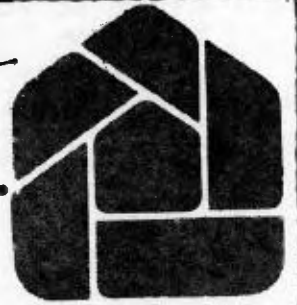
Fran Orlando, professional photographer and frequent exhibitor in local art shows, has been awarded a fellowship by the New Jersey Council of Fine Arts.

She is to do photographic portraits of local persons in a way that reflects the character of this town, and has already done a number of studies.

If you would like to pose for and be photographed by this photography instructor (last semester in the East Windsor Adult School), call Fran Orlando mornings or evenings at 448-1525. You'll get an 8" x 10" glossy print for volunteering.

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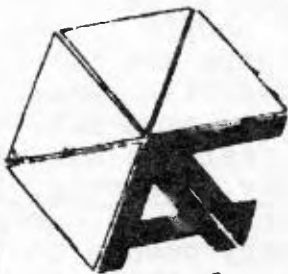
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# Some Rooseveltians join anti-nuke march

By Carol Watchler  
Special Correspondent

A rainy April 26 saw several Roosevelt residents making the trek from the Capitol Building to the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., joining in the march for a non-nuclear future. Ann Baker, Bonnie Brooks, Ben List, Ed Schlinski, and I were among the 50,000 people there.

An attempt by Pearl Seligman and Ann Baker to organize a bus from Roosevelt didn't work out. Residents said the bus proposal was planned late, while buses from the Princeton area were available. Still, the trip to Washington was the same confluence of well-labeled buses and cars that heartened many protesters in past anti-nuke, anti-war, and ERA demonstrations.

Signs, singers, chants, and speakers showed that the anti-nuclear agenda has broadened to include opposition to nuclear weapons proliferation and support of protecting native-American lands, often the site of uranium mining.

Despite the steady rain, poor sound amplification at the Monument, and disappointing press coverage, high points of the afternoon included colorful banners and graphic displays opposing nuclear proliferation. A woman who had farmed for many years in the area of Three Mile Island, recited a history of radiation damage to her livestock dating back to 1976 and the opening of that nuclear power plant. Soon after came an inflated whale balloon labeled "Save the humans."

The Saturday rally came in the midst of several days of congressional lobbying and a

non-violent action at the Pentagon on April 28 to reinforce the message of opposition to nuclear weapons stockpiling.

Updated information regarding the status of legislation and anti-nuclear actions can be obtained by contacting SEA (Safe Energy Alternatives) Alliance, 324 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair, N.J. 07042.

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## Rock review: Ricardos and Crabs at H.H.S.

By Steve Steinberg and  
Jim McKernan  
Special Correspondents

If you're a fan of old-time or contemporary rock 'n' roll, or both, you missed something if you skipped the Rock Dance Concert at Hightstown High School April 26. The event was highlighted by a two-hour show performed by a new group that calls itself the Ricardos.

The Ricardos, with H.H.S. math teacher John T. Bates as lead vocalist, also includes two Roosevelt residents, Matteo Parisi on rhythm guitar and vocals and David Steinberg on drums and vocals, and two East Windsor residents, Jim Caggiano on lead guitar and John McClellen on bass and vocals.

Moe Parisi, the rhythm guitarist and back up vocalist, started learning to play instruments 12 years ago with drum lessons. He took guitar lessons and did two solo acts, which went over big, one at the Tin Lizzy Garage and the other at the Nassau Inn. He moved to Arizona and played bass for The Bob Croce Band, then returned to New Jersey and played with friends for awhile before forming "Ambush."

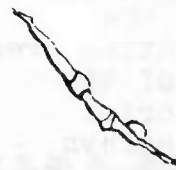
Dave Steinberg, drummer and back up vocalist for The Ricardos, has been working with music for 11 years. He started playing trombone when he was nine at Roosevelt School. Later he took piano and drum lessons and became the drummer for The Reflections. After that he was with a group called Ozone. From there he went into "Nobody's Basement" and "Ambush." Between these two bands, he played drums for "Hey Crash, Your Mom," which was a one-show deal at Hightstown.

The Ricardos demonstrated energy, personality, originality and taste through choice of music and different types of audio and visual effects. The band was more entertaining than some shows costing much more. The Ricardos plan to audition at Central Jersey and Valley clubs.

Also performing at the April 26 H.H.S. show was The Crabs, led by lead guitarist and vocalist Mike Moriarti of New York City. Singing and playing rhythm guitar was Roosevelt resident Corey Feigenbaum. Other members of the band were Eric Burch on bass and George Nicola on drums, both residents of East Windsor.

Corey has been working with bands for three years. The first band he was with was Nobody's Basement, in which he was lead vocalist. After that group broke up, he became the lead singer for Ambush. Corey also writes his own songs, one of which was performed with The Crabs, a song called "I can't take it no more."

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MINUTES AGO**To Sunny Heights Lodge: Looking good, kids!**

By Arthur Shapiro

It's always sad losing a good neighbor and it just happened to Roosevelt. Sunny Heights Lodge, our next-door nudist colony, 110 acres of woodland, has been sold to developers.

Although Sunny Heights wasn't in Roosevelt proper, its history was closely linked to ours. For years, a Roosevelt tour wasn't complete unless it included viewing the Shahn mural, pondering the Roosevelt Memorial, touring through a model dome house, and making a trip to the nudist camp. It was a definite part of our local color, especially after the first strong sun.

As a kid, I remember the excitement when my friends and I found out they were building a nudist colony close enough for us to get to by bike. First established in 1955, Sunny Heights was later bought by Manny Steinlauf, affectionately known to us as "Kelly." At that time, approximately 200 families paid \$100.00 per year for a membership.

We used to watch the cars come through town from all over New England and the South, particularly on nice week-ends in the spring and summer. One lodge brochure printed in the '50's warned potential guests to "Be careful and obey the traffic rules in Roosevelt as they are strictly enforced!" They were too nice to print the words "speed trap."

As teen-agers, we always loved going up to Sunny Heights. The idea was to talk your way in as a potential member without laughing. Four or five

guys would pile in a car and go up Clarksburg Road, which in those days was made of dirt. After making a left at the pole marked "S.H.L.", your heart would pound as you drove 150 yards past the sign which glared "STOP--PRIVATE-MEMBERS ONLY!" You then drove up to the intercom box and said with a sincere-as-possible voice, "We're interested in joining." It was here that we would warn each other in whispers, "Nobody laughs or they'll call the troopers!"

If no one in the car snickered you were generally then permitted to go up to the gate with the combination lock on it and park your car. (The secret combination was 1-1-1, and known by just about everyone in Roosevelt.) If it was not too busy and Kelly recognized us we were sometimes allowed to stay.

Once inside, you could follow roads in all directions to cabins, trailers, and campsites. In the recreation compound, was a complete sauna, attached to a clubhouse with sleeping quarters. Approximately 50 yards farther was a filtered pool complete with slide. On one side of the pool was a sloping sand beach dotted with multi-colored chairs and sun decks filled with an array of nude bodies soaking up the sun. Next to the pool was a snack bar, which Kelly once offered me the job of managing during my High School years. Turning down that job is still one of my regrets in life.

Swimming and playing volleyball at Sunny Heights was always different. You were never allowed to "talk dirty." In addition you were always

(Cont'd. on p. 24)

## Sunny Heights Lodge

(Cont'd. from p.23)

required to keep a straight face. Those people took their nudism seriously and were not to be laughed at. However, in town it was another matter. The jokes were in abundance. We used to say that Sol Berg sold the nudists Saran Wrap to wear in the fall and winter. We also joked about the nudist at Sunny Heights who had a long beard down to the ground: "He was the one they sent to Sol's for the groceries."

I've got a lot of fond teenage memories growing up in a town which bordered on a nudist colony. But, Kelly--now in his '70's, has retired. The 110 wooded acres where all this once stood will soon be filled by a housing development. I guess that's better than its original purpose before Sunny Heights, a site for a factory. But, it will never be the same.

Good-bye, good neighbor, I can hardly bear it!

(P.S. No picture this month)

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## New Jersey museum shows 'New Deal' art

By Andrea Lakin

During the 1930's and early 40's the federal government supported almost 5,000 visual artists under the Works Progress Administration and the Public Works Administration. The result was the creation of some of America's most significant artwork.

"New Deal Art: New Jersey", which opened on May 3 at The New Jersey State Museum in Trenton, will continue through July 20. It is one of the largest exhibits of New Deal art ever assembled. In addition to the fine artwork, the show explores the image and role of the artist in relation to the Depression Era. The exhibition consists of paintings, graphics, sculptures, crafts and photo-documentations of murals. Included in the show is Ben Shahn's "Years of Dust" poster and a photograph of the Roosevelt Public School mural.

The museum will conduct a series of lectures on "New Deal Art" beginning June 5. Of particular interest is a discussion on the architectural development of the Roosevelt community by Prof. C. Richard Hatch. This will take place on Thursday, June 26, at 6 p.m. at the museum.



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## Prestopino paintings: 'social genre' to 'maverick'

By David Herrstrom

Standing in front of "Bread and the City" at a recent retrospective exhibition of Gregorio Prestopino's paintings at the New Jersey State Museum, I'm struck by the mysterious power of mere images to stir the emotions. Simply paint smeared on a canvas, the everyday images of an urban scene and loaves of bread, yet they hold me as if I had been grabbed by the arm. And after I leave the painting, the bread haunts me, as if it was something I had always known but had to be reminded of, some true thing about the way the world is which I hadn't allowed to penetrate my consciousness.

How is it that these images make me want to move about inside them, to hold them as if

they were objects of love? How is it that there are no people pictured in the painting, yet a human presence informs every part of the work to such a degree that one is moved by the evident compassion of the painter for the invisible people on those streets, the workers in that factory, the builders of that bridge?

The loaves, in fact, make the rather bleak cityscape human. Imagine this urban scene without the bread, the bread without its setting, and the picture fails, because the loaves of bread work like actors in a theatre. The actor without a scene only postures; the scene without the actor is empty, sterile. The antic actions of these crazy loaves, at once dancing us out of the cityscape and contained



BREAD AND THE CITY

Gregorio Prestopino

## Prestopino

by it, dwarfing the buildings and held by them, make the background seem real. Yet the stylized bridge and factory whistle, the brooding bridge tower and the perfectly straight bridge cable that ties down the sky are no more real than the bread. And we accept this as we do the theatre, suspending our disbelief and allowing ourselves to be informed by a reality of another sort, the emotional truth of the actions within this scene.

It's this drama enacted between the city, which with its factories and impersonal structures threatens to make us all less than human, and the irrepressible bread, which with its associations as the "staff of life" compels us to connect it with the essentially human, that moves me. The action of the loaves transforms the scene. We're made to realize that the factory whistle resembles a toy, and the bridge is, after all, a work of art, fashioned by people. Similarly, the scene transforms the bread. It is more than a witty pictorial representation of a pun on bread "rising," though this humor is an essential part of the delight that the picture gives. It becomes an image of hope.

Presto heightens this drama by the contrast in color between the scene and the bread, and between the predominantly geometric shapes of the city and the rounded, sensual shapes of the loaves. Humor and dramatic tension are, of course, essentially the stuff of all human relations, but this worker's lunch, which offers respite from the factories and streets, rising and meeting the city, not in order to escape but to transform it, offers joy which is the power to change and endure.

"Bread and the City" was done in 1945 during a period of mainly cityscapes, characterized by the humor of "Trolley," with its puppet people, and the pathos of an untitled oil of 1932, with its grotesque skull-faced man and bent, spindly-legged old woman threatened from their right by the open front of a strangely elegant slaughterhouse. Within its graceful arches a black man pushes bright, hanging carcasses, as if he were holding back the devouring flames of a furnace. A decade after "Bread and the City" Presto's people are more individualized, as in the poignant picture of the man in "Miner and Luna Moth" (1952), whose whole body rises out of the coal pits with a magical hand reaching toward us and away from us at the same time in an ambiguous gesture of releasing and grasping the object of his desire. But for some thirty years these urban images dominate Presto's work. Then, while he was finishing a series of Harlem pictures in the late 50's, a tremendous change began to brew as the ferment of New Hampshire scenes bubbled in his psyche.

One can't help but notice from the recent show that as Presto's career progresses his paintings get bigger and brighter. More important, the familiar cityscape gives way to landscape and the nude becomes central to his work. Size and brightness are, of course, closely related, for with the blasts of color, as Presto notes, he had to "spread out." And these are in turn related to the content, because "the subject determines the size of the work"; as the forms become bigger, the field of the painting must grow to accommodate them.

Within the confines of the show, this movement from city to country, from somber to vibrant colors, despite a hint of

## Prestopino

the future in "Sun Flowers" (1949), where a brilliant yellow flower disturbs the bleak cityscape of brown, imposing buildings composed of cage-like grids, is something of a mystery. This shift to a country where great blaring nudes become the landscape and the forms of stones and trees become the unrealistic, unindividualized but quintessentially human, fleshy women seems at first a breathtaking leap in Presto's career.

The mark of a great artist is an ability to change, to have the courage, patience, and skill to explore unknown terrain. It's easy to rely on the already proven techniques and already popularly accepted style, but it's also death. And the nature of this change gives us an insight into what being an artist is, one who has over the courage of almost 70 years, in Presto's words, "never worked seriously at anything but painting." As we might expect, this dramatic shift to landscape was not a sudden leap at all, but a long, sometimes painful incursion into a new country.

It began while Presto was finishing the images for his Harlem series, as a resident at the MacDowell colony in New Hampshire. In between his work on the Harlem pictures he relaxed with walks in the surrounding woods and soon found himself making sketches of the rock and tree "forms." As a consequence, he abandoned his cityscapes and did a tremendous amount of work in the late 50's trying to understand this "sudden onslaught" of forms. His method of investigating trees and rocks and streams was to employ the bare essentials of drawing. This study culminated in 1959 in a wonderful series of pen and ink landscapes drawings, like "Black Rock,"

which I immediately knew, when I saw them after the recent exhibit, to be the tentative explorations of new country missing from the show. "I kept fighting with these images of New Hampshire until they began to work," as Presto admits, but the battle for new country wasn't over. It's taken the last 20 years to get the "landscape to function."

Concurrently, another problem arose, as the "aesthetic meaning of the nude became connected with the landscape." The nude, which in art has traditionally meant life, the Great Mother, the unity of an infinite variety of forms, mysteriously asserted itself, perhaps arising from the deep pool filled by over half a century of looking at paintings. Whatever the reason, the fact was, Presto remarks, that he "had to get some nudes into these paintings."

At first he tried to incorporate realistic nudes into the landscape but failed. The problem: he was "way ahead on rocks and trees" but hadn't yet sufficiently explored the forms of the nude. The crisis of coming into a new country was acute, inasmuch as Presto felt "something drawing" him, but at the same time, feeling as if he "couldn't paint." He has always had faith that "if you're working properly, a painting dictates its needs to you," and finally the crisis passed. The forms of the rocks and trees presented a solution for the forms of the nudes that the painting dictated.

The result is a triumphant unity of actor and scene, as in "Three Bathers" (1974), where human and natural forms interpenetrate in a wonderful profusion of forms and colors. We believe in red and purple nudes, green and yellow skies because the whole painting answers questions we never thought to

## Prestopino

ask and moves us by its very exuberance. The human and the landscape are one, yet unmistakably distinguished.

This is nothing short of miraculous when we consider out of context some of these truncated, strangely humanoid, Fellini women, made of Mannikin parts not always connected and not particularized, the silly arms and mitt hands, the faceless heads, the conventionalized, insignificant breasts and pubes. But the hot against the cool colors, the bulbous shapes against the jagged limbs force us to revel in the profusion of forms and mosaic of colors threatening at any point to explode into meaningless fragments. Flethy thighs, hips and buttocks assert themselves as forcefully as rocks, streams, and trees and vice versa in a rollicking satyr dance.

By being in his words a "painter not of subtraction but addition," that is, a painter not of the minimal but the exuberant (no entire canvases for him consisting of a single tone of white), Presto got the nudes into the landscape and the landscape into the nudes demanded by his painting. Proceeding in his usual manner, fastening on one painting at a time until it's done and destroying innumerable ones that didn't work or stretching a larger canvas and trying the same investigation again, he managed to work out the solution to a problem that only made itself precisely known in the act of painting itself.

This new direction from the more easily classified "social genre" painting of his earlier career makes Presto, as he admits, something of a "maverick." His is not realistic painting, and neither is it abstract. Such is the fate of

an explorer to find himself alone with his courage in a strange country; but also, luckily for us, he has made it back alive, bringing knowledge of a world we've never seen but immediately recognize.



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## ROOSEVELT COMMUNITY & SCHOOL CALENDAR

### May

31 Saturday, 11:00 a.m. Peddie Graduation - Peddie School

### June

1 Sunday Fire Company east side safety fire inspection (see article)

2 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Deborah meeting - Borough Hall

3 Tuesday, 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Primary election - Borough Hall  
Borough Bulletin copy deadline to Jim Dulicai

4 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Senior Citizens meeting  
7:15-8:30 p.m. Bookmobile - store parking lot

8 Sunday Fire Company west side safety fire inspection (see article)

9 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Council agenda meeting - Borough Hall

10 Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. School Board meeting - R.P.S.  
Bulletin late copy deadline to Jim Dulicai

11 Wednesday 8:00 p.m. Council meeting - Borough Hall

14 Saturday, 6:00 p.m. R.P.S. graduation

15 Sunday Fathers Day

17 Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m. MCOSS

18 Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Hightstown High School graduation  
7:15-8:30 p.m. Bookmobile - store parking lot

19 Thursday, 1:00-7:00 p.m. Food co-op pick-up - Borough Hall

24 Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. First Aid meeting - Borough Hall  
8:00 p.m. Special School Board meeting - R.P.S.

30 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Planning Board meeting - Borough Hall