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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUME XVII NO. 2

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

OCT.-NOV., 1992

Borough Council Report

XVI

Senior Citizens Speak Up. New Ordinance Amended Old Ordinance Proposal For Repeal

by Adeline Weiner

Although Roosevelt is perched on the northwest border of Monmouth County and thus often overlooked by county officials, a new awareness may be in the offing. On Friday October 9, a group of some forty senior citizens met with State Senator John Dimon and Assemblyman Robert Singer who arranged to bring with them the director of the County Department of Transportation, Steve Fittante and the Director of County Human Services, Louis Paparozzi. Also present were representatives from Millstone and Upper Freehold townships. Members of the audience took turns to report on the dozens of hassles they have experienced with county transport services such as SCAT buses breaking down, waiting for hours for rescue, uncomfortable seats, freakish temperatures, inadequate seat belts, all too short shopping time and that available only once a week. Outstanding was the story told by Millie Di Georgio, giving chapter and verse, of the dismal treatment by the county when Harry had to

be taken to radiation therapy for his cancer. The need was finally fulfilled, as Harry himself related at the meeting, only when ten of his neighbors pitched in to get him to the Princeton Hospital and back for his treatments.

There is, in addition to neglect by the county, the problem of coordination with transportation programs be-

tween counties. Many Roosevelt residents use doctors in Hightstown who, in turn, are connected to Princeton Hospital, which puts them out of Monmouth County jurisdiction. Our county officials maintain that the financial structure in each county fails to allow for cross-country services; the furthest they can stretch things beyond the county border is to Hightstown, which means the trip to Princeton must be made in two parts, with a stop in Hightstown and the rest of the way by Shared Ride Taxi. These vehicles are under contract to the county, with a cost to the passenger of \$1.00 each way. Mr. Fittante insisted that the rule was to set up the transfer so that there would be a vehicle-to-vehicle contact with no waiting at the stopover. Many present testified that they had never heard of this rule: that they had been told to call the taxi from Hightstown, and sometimes in the bitter cold, to wait for the car to show up.

Although the county people present were receptive to the criticism and expressed sympathy with the prob-

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Bulletin Board

FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR:

Having put out our first issue of the new season's Bulletin with some difficulty and unavoidable delay, we feel we must share some of our problems with our readers.

For a number of years, thanks to Mark Zuckerman, the Bulletin was published using the facilities of MIRA, Inc. It seemed to appear with magical alacrity at the beginning of each month nine times a year. As with most apparently magic phenomena, however, behind the scenes, lots of work and money were supplied through the generosity of Mark who provided financial support and allowed his employees to work on the paper during their work hours. As a result, the Bulletin took on an enviable professional appearance.

Now, even though these advantages are no longer available we are still determined to continue to produce a quality paper, despite being in the position of having to depend upon the generous voluntary support of people who must contribute their valuable help which, sandwiched in between their family and/or work obligations, does not always fall within the desired time frames.

We therefore appeal to our readers to please bear with us when we encounter delays. Also, for those who have not already done so, we ask your generous support to insure our ability to continue to publish.

Our staff takes pride in producing our paper. PLEASE SUPPORT THE BULLETIN.

Response to a Utility Bill Complaint

Recently, the Borough Council received a letter from a resident who complained about having to pay the monthly fee while he was away for the winter. The Council's response, which may be of interest to others as well, was as follows:

The Mayor and Council are in receipt of your September letter and understand your request to be spared utility fees during your absence from Roosevelt. Unfortunately this is not possible.

The major portion of the water/sewer fee is to cover fixed expenses for the utilities, including the 3.2 million dollars for the rebuilt sewer plant. This is a hardship for us all.

The Council is in the process of reinstating the use of water meters. Once the meter system is in place, water use charges will be more equitable. However, actual water use is a minor portion of the bill.

We regret that more cannot be done at this time, but are working hard to minimize all the expenses of living in Roosevelt.

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School Board News

Roosevelt's Youth Need Recreational Activities

by Robert Alan Silverstein

There were nearly as many public visitors at the October 15 regular meeting of the Roosevelt Board of Education as there were board members. Most of the visitors had come to present a request for the use of the gym at the Roosevelt Public School. A good portion of the meeting entailed presenting and discussing this request, which was the first order of business for the evening.

Rick Crane of the Hightstown-East Windsor Athletic Association (HEWAA) eloquently presented his organization's request. Due to scheduling conflicts with the East Windsor PAL, the newly organized HEWAA basketball league was only allocated limited court time for the 181 five to thirteen year-olds enrolled in the program. In addition, many of the allocated basketball courts provided inferior conditions. Seeking additional quality playing areas, the HEWAA requested the use of the Roosevelt Public School gym. In return, the league would be open to Roosevelt's students as well.

The school board was enthusiastic about the opportunity of providing recreational activities for Roosevelt's youth. However, during the discussion it became apparent that there were many obstacles that would need to be overcome in order to pursue this proposal.

First, the request was for use of the gym weeknight evenings, and weekend days. Since the school is not usually open at these times, a custodian would have to be present due to fire regulations. Finding a person to fill this position may prove difficult.

The board also noted that the gym would have to be closed at some point, due to the ongoing construction project to redo the school's heating system. There may also be scheduling conflicts with other programs for the use of the facilities. The question of liability will also have to be explored further.

The most daunting obstacle, however, is the magnitude of the program. (The proposal involved the possibility of about 80 students using the facilities each night.) The Roosevelt Public School gym is not very big, with very little room for spectators. As school board President John Ord pointed out, there would be more people in the building for this activity than there are students during the day! Not only that, but the limited parking and the dramatically increased traffic could cause serious safety problems.

With these considerations in mind, and taking into account the urgency of the request (the facilities would be needed as soon as possible), the board voted to authorize Dr. Frances Lobman, the Chief School Administrator, to negotiate the facilities request with the HEWAA and to report back to the Board on November 5 with the results.

The question of providing activities for Roosevelt's youth also came up later in the board meeting, when board President John Ord discussed the increased incidence of vandalism on Roosevelt Public School Property, as well as in the rest of the borough. The school board has received complaints about delinquent behavior, including unsafe use of firecrackers and pellet guns. A fire was set on school

grounds, and evidence of another fire in the borough was also discovered. Another incident involving the Post Office has made this growing problem even more serious, as Federal laws may have now been violated. President Ord urged the board and community to present any information concerning vandalism, stating that information would be forwarded to authorities and that charges will be pressed against students who perpetrate these violations. However, Mr. Ord also stressed the need for the school board to assist in finding recreational activities that would provide a positive outlet for Roosevelt's youth.

Other business presented at the meeting was the approval of a letter to Senator John Dimon regarding the loss of educational funds. The board also decided to enclose with the letter a copy of the September 1992 Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, which contained a commentary about this letter by Henry John-Alder.

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Act Entitlement of \$190.00 was accepted by the Board.

Waterloo Village was approved as a new field trip site for Roosevelt Public School Students.

Elizabeth Johnson was approved as substitute teacher for the 1992-1993 school term.

Phase I of the Roosevelt Public school building project has come to a close, the furnace has been approved by the insurance company, and as Chief School Administrator Dr. Lobman noted, "We have heat."

Finally, in the Board Secretary's report, it was noted that the school's insurance company is requiring that a soft surface be provided in the playground areas under the climbing apparatus and under the swings. The safety of other gymnasium equipment will also need to be certified. Board members plan to remove the slide, and further specifications regarding the

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Borough Council Report

(Continued from Cover)

lems of seniors, they were unable to provide solutions other than the purchase already made of 19 new buses by January; a promise that everyone in county government will know that Roosevelt is on their map; and that they may be able to improve service if complaints are called in immediately, giving names, times and circumstances, the better to challenge the contractors. The number is (908) 780-1121.

As for cross-county services, Mr. Singer conceded the point that logic does not prevail when cooperation between county governments is at issue. Jeanette Koffler and Rose Murphy, who had argued for intercounty arrangements agreed later that something important may have been accomplished; more attention will likely be paid in the future.

Ring out the Old

At the October Borough Council meeting, an ordinance was introduced stemming from the codification-of-laws project to repeal six ordinances on the books dating from 1939 to 1988. Three conditions determined their deletion: They were redundant due to already existing state legislation, or unenforceable by municipal authority, or simply no longer applicable because of changed circumstances or laws.

For instance, the ordinance prohibiting smoking in the Borough Hall is covered by state law. The one declaring Roosevelt to be a nuclear free zone was deemed unenforceable by the Borough. Another regulates flood fringe areas, of which there are none in Roosevelt. The regulation of milk and cream and its products fits the repeal criteria on all three counts. A second reading and hearing of this ordinance will take place at the next Council meeting.

The Case of the Leaking Valves

Stewart Kaufman, head of the Public Works Committee, reported on the emergency repair to a fire hydrant on Homestead Lane, a move that exposed the problem of the many old valves that can be turned off but because of age reveal leakage when turned on again. Water was turned off everywhere in town on October 7 and to repair the new leaks, will have to be shut off again for several hours on October 23, a day when children will not be in school, since water cannot be turned off otherwise. Because the 50 or so valves all over town may present the same conditions, at a cost of \$2,000 each, as well as the inconveniences of water stoppages, a plan will have to be devised to meet this situation in the near future, said Mr. Kaufman.

Amendment Needed to Start on Time

An ordinance amending the capital improvement ordinance passed last month was given a second reading and adopted. The amendment increased appropriation for roadway work on Eleanor Lane from \$7,000 to \$10,000. It eliminates funds for repair of Spruce Lane and provides road and storm drainage work by the Borough on Farm Lane at a cost of \$49,000.

These changes were made to allow for acceptance of a low bid on Farm Lane reconstruction, even though it was higher than the engineers' estimates. The urgency was due to the need to move rapidly instead of issuing a new call for bids and the attendant procedures since the major DOT grant of \$125,000 for Farm Lane repair has a December deadline. By eliminating some items and increasing others, the Council was able to contract for the Farm Lane work to begin on schedule. A special meeting on September 21 resolved to accept

the bid from Mario's Concrete Company of Sayreville in the amount of \$175,617.

New Wood Turtle Honor

David Donnelly, chairman of Environment, Safety and Health, reported still another instance of the Borough's fame in defense of the wood turtle. He and Nestor Sabogal received the newly created David W. Morris award from the County Planning Committee at a gala dinner. Mr. Donnelly is preparing an official vote of thanks to the Marvec Construction Company for their flexibility and cooperation in this action.

Miscellaneous Matters

Mr. Donnelly also requested that, in addition to the present crossing guards, who are Pam Hague and Margaret Schlinski, Lorraine Reimbold be accepted for emergency duty. The Council agreed. He also urged that, if and when hunters improperly appear on private property, residents be sure to call State Police.

The Roosevelt Historic District Advisory Council will be able to start the work of organizing the archives stored at Rutgers Library, announced Peter Warren. Due to State budget cuts, he explained, the Rutgers people will not have personnel available for this task.

PTA News

By Alison Edwards Petrilla

The Welcome Back Lunch for RPS staff, the PTA Membership Tea, a refreshment-rich Back-to-School Night, a Fall Fundraising sale--the PTA's fall calendar has been full to bursting! Three PTA-sponsored events, though, deserve special mention.

The sentimental favorite of these was undoubtedly the Farewell Assembly for first-grade teacher Lila Mayberg, who retired from teaching on September 25. Mrs. Mayberg has been inspiring RPS children to read and "make peace" with each other since 1981, so it was a special moment when Dustin Warnick, one of her first pupils here, presented her with a ceramic model of the Roosevelt Dragon, our school mascot. School Board member Margaret Schlinski read from a framed plaque containing the Board of Education's resolution honoring

Mrs. Mayberg, and Dr. Lobman then presented Mrs. Mayberg with a booklet containing signatures and special messages from every current student. The program concluded with the children singing, "I Think You're Wonderful", and reliable witnesses report that there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Credit and thanks for the whole production go to Lorraine Reimbold and her committee.

The next PTA "biggie" was the Planetarium Assembly on October 12. Students crawled through a tunnel to enter a huge inflatable dome set up in the school lobby, and enjoyed an awe-inspiring show on the planets and constellations under this darkened "sky."

Finally, on October 21-22, students and community members had the opportunity to attend the Scholastic Book Fair, a sale of new children's books and related items. The fair was open during both these school days, plus evening hours to accommodate

working parents. Thanks for this event go to chairperson JoAnne Parker and her hardworking crew.

Coming up in November are the regular PTA meetings on the 18, and the now-traditional Thanksgiving Assembly on the 25th. You're all invited, and the children are looking forward to presenting their Thanksgiving shows to Rooseveltians of all ages and sharing refreshments with their guests afterwards. The program is set for late morning, and you may call the school for the exact time.

Again, thanks to all our dedicated PTA Committees. And Rooseveltians--mark your calendars for our wonderful Wilderness Trails Assembly coming up on December 1, featuring entertainer/naturalist Ozzie Tollefson; and for our gala Holiday Gift Fair on December 2 and 3. Details appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.

Senior Citizens News

by Helga Wisowaty

Senior Citizen's Meeting, October 13, 1992

We had much to discuss at this meeting as we have had many celebrations honoring members (FUN). Jeanette invited Senator Dimon and Assemblyman Robert singer to come to Roosevelt (October 9, Boro Hall) to listen to our complaints about buses, etc. They informed us that there are many new vehicles on order that will eliminate breakdowns, etc. Mr. Fittante was there also.

Several residents told of their difficulty with transportation, about some bad experiences involving arrangements, and the time elements. Transportation to Princeton Hospital remains a problem, but we appreciate

their coming and taking an interest in us.

Good news from Diane Klein, who told us of her granddaughter's birth. Congratulations also to the Soifers on their son's marriage and to Faye Libove's on her granddaughter's wedding.

We welcomed Jean Ryan (Solar Village resident) and Vivian Crozier (25 year resident) to our club.

Our "SCAT" bus on Wednesday, October 14 was a new and comfortable one. Their word is good in our book.

We are planning our holiday play and dinner at "Lily Langtree" on December 5.

Lily Weisenfeld and Thelma Thompson were our hostesses. We enjoyed everything and Marguerite and I are especially appreciative of the beautiful birthday cake made in our honor!

Until next month!

Arts Events

Art Exhibit

November 12 - December 9

Robin Middleman - Recent Work
WPA Gallery

The Arts Council of Princeton
102 Witherspoon Street Princeton
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday
10 - 6

Christmas - Chanukah Celebration

December 19, 1992

Featuring David Brahinski,
Alan Mallach, Sue Gregory
and a musical playlet by
Neil Selden

Suydam Street Reformed Church
New Brunswick 8:00PM

All proceeds go for food and clothing for the homeless. Suggested contribution:

\$10 (students/seniors \$5)

For further information,
call Neil Selden at 908-937-5741

Joint Planning Board

Environmental Commission Meeting Highlights Study

By Bob Clark

In a joint meeting on October 14 of the Planning Board and Environmental Commission, a Rutgers Professor held the two groups and members of the public in rapt attention as she described a nearly-completed Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) for Roosevelt. Using enlarged aerial photographs, maps and colorful overlays, Dr. Jean-Marie Hartman, a consultant to the Environmental Commission, pointed out the locations of streams, rare animal and plant habitats and various types of wetlands, vegetation and soils. She said a report to accompany the demonstrative aids would be completed in a few weeks.

A \$2,500 Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (DEPE) grant, matched by the Borough, supported the NRI undertaking. Several of those present had helped to collect field data to supplement information from national and state wetlands inventories, the Soil Conservation Service and other sources. Dr. Hartman, who was assisted during the project and the presentation by Ariane Delafosse, a landscape designer with a degree in landscape architecture, noted that a follow-up effort would gauge the suitability of the studied areas for de-

velopment. The borough has obtained a second \$2,500 DEPE matching grant for this purpose. Dr. Hartman said the second phase would also be done as a class project, with the potential to receive additional funding from the Center for Land Planning and Design at Cook College. She added that the second study would also include a "cultural analysis."

The two projects will impact on planning and building for 500 undeveloped acres in the northern portion of Roosevelt. Overlays showed large swaths of the northern tracts designated as either confirmed wetlands, agricultural wetlands or potential wetlands -- much of it located in the vista west of Route 571 and south of Nurko Road. The Borough could prohibit construction in those areas, or severely limit it, by insisting that developers meet strict permitting standards.

Dr. Hartman called Roosevelt an "ecologically rich area" with a "wide diversity of plants and, potentially, animals." She said the delineation of wetlands was "environmentally conservative." If she was not sure of a line, she would put "a little too much in" so that there would be a "warning flag" telling planners where they

would "have to look carefully." At the request of Planning Board member Michael Ticktin, Dr. Hartman said she would estimate the acreage included in various categories.

In recognition of the savvy of Jersey Homesteads' original planners, Dr. Hartman pointed out that "as expected, the best buildable soils underly the original town." She also noted rare and endangered species habitat for the eastern barred owl and wood turtle.

During the regular Planning Board meeting, Chairwoman Gail Hunton noted that she had received a copy of a DEPE notice of violation, dated September 29, ordering the Gerlings to cease and desist from completing a driveway exiting onto Route 571 across from the Municipal Building. Ms. Hunton added that the notice informed the Gerlings that a freshwater wetlands permit would be required before driveway construction could resume in the area, which is near a stream corridor.

School Board News

(Continued from page 3)

other corrective actions have been requested from the insurance carrier.

On a personal note, I'd like to add that, having recently moved to Roosevelt, I found attending this School Board Meeting an enriching experience. Although our daughter will not be old enough to enter the Roosevelt Public School for a couple more years, after observing the dynamics of the behind-the-scenes administration of Roosevelt's educational system, I am greatly reassured that my daughter's education will be supervised under capable hands.

Save The Future.

RECYCLE !

Recycling Dates for Nov. & Dec. are

Nov. 18th

Dec. 2^{ed}, 16th and 30th

Thanksgiving Assembly

Nov. 25th

Call school for time

Lead Alert

by Kevin McNally

In recent years, homeowners have become aware of a number of previously unsuspected dangers in their homes, such as radon and toxic chemicals in ordinary household products. Through a national public relations campaign scheduled to be conducted this fall under the sponsorship of the federal government, homeowners will learn about another hazard in our homes that may be the most dangerous of all, particularly to young children - lead.

Lead is a soft, easily-worked metal. Humans have found it a valuable ingredient in industrial processes since the very beginning of civilization. Lead is still commonly used in many industries, and was, until recent years, commonly added to paints and gasoline. Unfortunately, we have known for almost as long that lead is a poison when it gets into the human body. The books of the earliest Greek physicians described lead poisoning in workers who used it. Historians have speculated that the decline and fall of the Roman Empire was a result of widespread lead poisoning in the urban populations of Roman cities due to the contamination of their food and drinking water.

Lead is toxic to human beings at all ages, but it is particularly dangerous to children under six years of age, especially toddlers. This is true for three reasons:

* The basic structure of most organs and body systems develops in the womb. However, the brain and the nervous system are relatively unformed at birth. They develop most rapidly between birth and six years of age. Lead in the body interferes with the development of the brain and the nervous system. If this development is interrupted at key times, the brain and

nervous system never catch up, so the result is permanent, irreversible (although often subtle) brain and nerve damage.

* Young children absorb lead into their systems much more efficiently than older children and adults.

* Lead is not absorbed through the skin by touching it. To get into the body, it must be eaten or breathed in. Most adults do not put their fingers and other objects in their mouths, or chew on such things as furniture, walls, windowsills, etc. However, these are normal behaviors in toddlers. Young children are also frequently crawling on the floor or ground. These are the places where lead is most likely to be found.

Where Lead Comes From

There are many places where lead can be found in our homes. The most common and most dangerous is lead-based paint. It can also be found in interior dust, exterior soil, water, and some household objects, and can be brought home by people who work in industries that use lead.

Lead-based paint is the largest contributor to the presence of lead in our homes. Lead makes paint more durable, so it was a common additive to paint, especially high quality paint. Lead as a paint additive was banned in 1971. However, any house built before then is likely to still have lead-based paint on its walls. Houses built before 1960 (including all the original houses in Roosevelt) could have old layers of paint that is as much as 50% lead.

When old paint deteriorates, it can chip or peel off. Lead in paint tastes sweet, so young children will often eat paint chips. Old paint can also come off as a fine chalk. This chalk, combined with ground-up paint can chips,

creates a fine dust that can settle on the floor, furniture, upholstery, toys and other objects. Children will crawl in this dust, inhaling it, or taking it in when they put their fingers or these objects in their mouths.

While deteriorated paint is a hazard, improper removal of old paint, particularly paint that has not deteriorated, may only make the problem worse. Removing lead-based paint without proper precautions and clean-up will only coat the house with a layer of lead-contaminated dust. Some paint removal methods that use flame or heat will vaporize the lead, poisoning the persons doing the removal. In some cases, it is safer to replace windows, doors, and mouldings covered with lead-based paint rather than to strip them. It can also be safer in some cases to cover lead-based paint with a solid surface (not just more paint).

Outside soil can be contaminated by lead from paint on the outside of buildings, from industrial emissions, and from gasoline. Lead is now banned as a gasoline additive, but it was used in gasoline for more than fifty years. Lead was used in gasoline as a catalyst, so it was not burned in combustion, but passed out through the tailpipe as a fine dust. All the lead that was ever added to gasoline (millions of tons) has now settled on the ground. Roosevelt is some distance from an industry or major highways, so it is likely to have a relatively low amount of lead in the soil. However, soil immediately around older homes may be contaminated from the lead-based paint used on their exteriors. As a precaution, children should not play in the soil close to these buildings. The Roosevelt school playground is some distance from the school building, so it is in a good location.

Lead can also be found in drinking water. Until recent years, the solder used to connect plumbing contained high levels of lead. Some older cities also have lead pipes in their water systems. If water is soft or acidic, this

Lead Alert

lead can be released into the water. Councilmember Rose Murphy reports that Roosevelt has hard water. This is good because hard water will lay a coating of minerals on the inside of pipe and joints, preventing any lead in them from being released.

Federal EPA regulations will require Roosevelt to test its water for lead and copper in 1993. But the Borough is not waiting until the requirement takes effect before it begins testing. The Borough was preparing to begin testing the water by mid-September, according to Ms. Murphy, who is the Councilmember responsible for the water utility, and will do continuous testing from now on. The Borough will only be required to test the water in ten houses, said Ms. Murphy, but "we want to do more than that. We want to test as many homes as possible, depending on the cost." She said that the Council has kept the Environmental Commission informed, and has asked them to help select the homes to be tested. "If any problems are found," she said, "we want to apply for grant funds to correct them, rather than put the burden on the homeowner."

Ms. Murphy said that a few homeowners have had their water tested on their own initiative over the past year, and that none of these tests showed any lead or copper in the water.

Lead can also be found on some common household objects. Particularly dangerous are eating utensils, such as ceramic dishware and crystal glass. All ceramic glazes contain lead. Proper firing of the glaze seals in the lead. However, some imported ceramics (especially those bought from local merchants while traveling abroad) may not have been fired hot enough to seal the glaze. Crystal glass also contains lead. The better the quality of the crystal, the higher the lead content. To be safe, food and drink, especially

acidic foods and drinks like wine and fruit juice, should never be stored in ceramic or crystal. Lead is also used in some popular hobbies, like pottery and stained glass.

Workers employed in industries that use lead can bring home lead on their clothes if they are not careful, and thus endanger their children. One occupation where workers may be exposed to lead and not know it is construction, particularly those who work in the construction, repair, and painting of metal structures, such as bridges and ships. Leaded paint is still permitted for use on outdoor metal structures.

Lead Poisoning In Children

Lead poisoning used to be thought of as a problem only among poor children who lived in deteriorated housing in older cities. This is because these were the only children who were found to have the obvious symptoms of severe lead poisoning. Severe lead poisoning can cause stomach pains, vomiting, lethargy and seizures. Unless treated immediately, it causes severe mental retardation, and can cause coma and death.

However, in recent years, many affluent young couples with children have purchased and restored older homes in older communities instead of buying brand new houses. These "do-it-yourself" renovations were done without knowledge of the amount of lead-based paint commonly found in these homes, and without an appreciation of the dangers of carelessly removing this old paint. As a result, many children in these families have become seriously lead-poisoned.

In addition, recent research has found that levels of lead in children's blood that once were thought to be "safe", can lead to more subtle problems, including lower IQ, attention deficits, and hyperactivity. As a result of this research, a federal agency, the

U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has greatly reduced the level of exposure to lead at which a child is considered to be in danger.

Children usually have symptoms only when the amount of lead in their blood is greater than 80 micrograms per deciliter of whole blood (abbreviated ug/dl). However, research showed that children with high levels of blood lead but no symptoms were becoming mentally retarded. As a result, CDC set the definition of lead poisoning at 40 ug/dl in 1971, and reduced it to 25 ug/dl in 1985. As more research found subtle effects at even lower levels, CDC in 1991 issued a statement that said that blood lead as low as 10 ug/dl could harm children younger than six.

Under the old standards, about 1,200 children a year in New Jersey were found to have lead poisoning. However, a national survey in 1984 found that 17% of all children had blood lead greater than 15 ug/dl. Thus, lead poisoning is a problem that can affect children in families at any economic level.

CDC does not say that a child with a blood lead level of 10 ug/dl is lead poisoned. Rather than set a single definition, CDC's 1991 statement set a series of levels of increasing concern and action. Any child with a blood lead of 40 ug/dl or more needs immediate medical treatment. A child with a blood lead between 25 and 39 ug/dl should have a medical examination and an inspection of the home to identify and remove the source of lead exposure. If the blood lead does not decrease, medical treatment may be needed. A child with a blood lead between 15 and 19 ug/dl should be retested frequently. If the blood lead does not go down, or increases, then an inspection to identify and remove the source of lead should be done. CDC recommends that children with blood lead between 10 and 14 ug/dl be periodically retested to be sure that the level does not rise,

Lead Alert

but no interventions are recommended for these children. However, if it is found that a large number of children in a community have blood leads greater than 10 ug/dl, then a community-wide exposure to lead exists, and actions should be taken to identify and remove the source of the problem.

New Jersey state law requires all laboratories to report to the state Health Department any blood lead test that is 25 ug/dl or more. This requirement will soon be lowered to 20 ug/dl if the child tested is less than six years old. When a report is received, the state Health Department will notify the town or county health department covering the town where the child lives. The local health department will send an inspector to the child's home to do an inspection to determine the source of the lead poisoning. If a lead hazard is found, the local health department can order the homeowner or landlord to remove the hazard.

What You Can Do.

Both the federal Centers for Disease Control and the New Jersey State Department of Health recommend that all children younger than six be tested for lead. Ideally, a child should be tested twice, once between six months and 12 months of age, and again close to their second birthday. However, any child between two and six who has not previously been tested for lead should be tested. Your pediatrician or family doctor should be able to do the test. The lead test is also available from the Monmouth County Health Department. For information about lead screening, contact Ms. Jeryl Krautle, coordinator, Monmouth County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, at 908-431-7456.

Nancy Murphy, Nurse Consultant with the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at the state Health Department, recommends a simple step that parents can take to prevent lead poisoning or reduce lead levels in

their children. She calls it "wash and iron". Wash means to make sure children wash their hands before eating anything, or whenever they come inside from playing outside. It is also a good idea to frequently wash pacifiers, toys, and anything else toddlers put in their mouths. Iron means to make sure your child has an adequate intake of iron, including iron supplements if needed. An adequate amount of iron in the blood reduces the amount of lead absorbed. If you have any questions about medical treatment of a child with an elevated blood lead, call Ms. Murphy at 609-292-5666.

The state Health Department has free literature describing lead poisoning in children, how it can be prevented, and how to do home renovation safely. To obtain copies of this information, write to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, New Jersey State Department of Health, CN 364, Trenton, NJ 08625-0364.



**I've got to
get home in
time for my**

Roosevelt Community Television

*Last two Tuesdays of the month, 6-6:30 PM, on Storer Cable
Channel 8*

Environmentally Speaking ...

by Gloria Hazell

I want to tell you a story, this is a true story, and those who believe, will believe, those who don't, won't.

On the way to the Sundance, in Minnesota, in August, Red Fox had a vision. He says he knows it was a vision and not a dream, because at the time he was driving the car along Route 90, so his eyes had to have been open! He saw himself lift his arm up and a Hawk landed on it. That was it, just that. Wait. Let me add something that may enhance this story for you. When Andy (Red Fox, also known as Jersey, and Red, or Rhun in ancient British) was born, his father, who was not a man who believed in the unusual, wanted to call him "Hawk", now as Andy says "Hawk Hazell" sounds a bit like "Pork Pie" or Sue, and his Mum put her foot down and said, "On yer bike" or some other Cockney saying, and called him Andrew. Now we live in the U.S. and the name may just have been accepted, maybe... Anyway, lately thoughts of this unusual "almost" have been coming to Andy regularly, for no particular reason, or so we thought...

When we arrived at the Sundance grounds we said our "Hello's" and went off to set up our camp. I put my hand up to reach the top of the tent, and a butterfly landed on it. Now butterflies are usually pretty timid, and fly off at the move of the hand; not this one, no sirree. It stayed, on my hand, my arm, my leg, my head, you name it, and it alighted there... Eventually, we put the tent up, with great difficulty on my part, because not only did I have the butterfly on me, but I had good old Andy telling me to hold this, and move that, which is no easy task when you are trying not to harm so fragile an insect. Andy, of course, thought that this was hilarious. After about 10 minutes, and without a goodbye, the creature took it's leave of me. I didn't even see it go, it just wasn't there anymore.

A couple of days later, we were walking back into camp, when our son (also named Andrew), called us to show what he had. This I did not believe. A Dragonfly had crawled onto his hand and stayed there. He had been walking around for at least five minutes with this wonderful insect on his hand. There was nothing wrong with it, no injuries, at least that we could see, so why did it stay? In case you don't know, one of my native names is "Dragonfly", and one of my familiars is this creature. I think my son was in danger, and so my friend looked after him in our absence, to ensure that he stayed safe, because as soon as we arrived I put my hand next to his, and it put

one foot onto my hand, wiggled it's head, and flew off. It circled us a couple of times and then this turquoise beauty disappeared into the Minnesota sky. After these two happenings, Andy was joking, saying, "It was me that was supposed to have a Hawk on my arm, yet you two have each had a wonder of nature on yours." Poor Andy!

The next day we had a tremendous storm, we showered, half clothed, and washed our hair in it, it was great. After the storm clouds had passed, Andy and I were watching clouds for patterns, and at one point, we both noticed the same thing. I thought it was an eagle in flight, he thought it was an owl. We watched until it had made its way out of the area.

After the Sundance, we decided to go to South Dakota to see where "Dances with Wolves" was made, so we headed for Pierre, but we were pulled over for speeding. Because of our treatment by the cops, I no longer wanted to stay in that red-neck state, so we headed north to Bismarck. Along the road I saw what I thought was an eagle, sitting on a bale of hay by the side of the road. We stopped. Andy thought it was an owl, so I went over to it taking pictures all the time, and waiting for it to take flight. Hadn't I learned by this time! I realized that there was something completely wrong with this bird, so I kept edging towards it, until both Andy and I were sitting next to it, talking to it. It looked like it had an injured wing, which is why we thought it hadn't flown away. I told it that it needed help and if it would allow us we would take it to get that help. It didn't say, "No way" so I picked it up in a towel, and off we went. Now at this time I felt as if I was dreaming, here I was sitting on the front seat of our car with a bird of prey on my lap, and it was so contented that it fell asleep as were travelling. No kidding!

We arrived at our friend's house in Bismarck, which by the way is in North Dakota, and who was a Sundancer in Pipestone both last year and this year. We hoped that he would know of somewhere that we could take "Birdie", but he didn't. So after staying with him and his family for a couple of days, we set off back to Jersey, with Birdie firmly placed between us on the front seat again, enjoying the view. By this time we had realized that this was no ordinary wild bird, he was tame.

Back in New Jersey, we looked into where we could take our friend, and were directed to the Raptor Center in North Jersey. We took him there, where we were told that he was the sorriest looking bird they have ever seen in their 30 years of dealing with raptors. Other than being malnourished, and having feather mites, and hardly any

feathers, they said that he was fine, and they would care for him. He was around eighteen months old, and of course, tame. We felt better at that point, because they will try to rehabilitate him to be wild, and if they can't do that they will use him in their education program.

Is that the end of the story you may ask? Well, not quite. I forgot to tell you that in North Dakota, Andy's vision came true, Birdie landed on his arm, because that was the only place he would eat food from, and in case you hadn't guessed, our friend was a Red Tailed Hawk, and the weird part of the story is that the day he came to us was Andy's birthday! Maybe his name should have been Hawk after all...

My friend, Terry Nail, is at present participating in the Sacred Run, from Alaska to Santa Fe. This is a dream of hers that she is making come true. The next thing that she wants to do is go to Mexico. I guess I should have said that she wants to bike to Mexico, shouldn't I? It makes quite a difference. Anyway, what she needs is someone who would like to go with her, Sounds like fun, so how about it? If you are raring to go, slightly crazy (it helps), and have an urge for wide open spaces, contact me and I'll put you in touch with her. This ride would be for charity reasons, she has already completed a 4,200 mile cross country cycling trip to raise money for Mobility International U.S.A., in 1985. Terry says, "We need to unite people from all over the world to work together to honor and respect life." Truly an inspiring young woman.

There's a place in New Jersey where sick birds of prey; Raptors, can be taken to be doctored. It is a 15 acre sanctuary, which is the home of Leonard J. Soucy, Jr., D.Sc. a man who cares about his friends, the birds. He built the huge redwood cages, where the birds recuperate, himself. Some of the cages are almost completely covered around the sides, so that the birds cannot see the humans who visit the hospital. These are the lucky ones who have been rehabilitated to the wild and will shortly be set free to soar among the clouds. Others who are tame, or not 100% fit, can see and be seen by the visitors.

Often the birds that are brought in to the "Raptor Trust" are found by the side of the road, they were the losers, the car usually got off scot free! Sometimes they have been shot, as in the case of the Bald Eagle, and emergency surgery has to be performed on them. Every so often a rare bird such as the Hawk we took there arrives; a tame one. These are also given the same treatment as all the rest, and if they cannot be made to fend for themselves, they will be used in one of the educational programs, which the "Raptor Trust" takes to universities, festivals, and conservation groups.

What struck me when we visited was the way birds are cared for and respected. The one-winged eagle has even been given his own lady eagle to share his cage, they looked quite close, with her busily preening him. These birds are given their pride back at this hospital, by Len Soucy and his staff of four and his forty volunteers.

They accept any distressed wild birds, almost 3,000 in 1991, (123 hawks, 101 owls, plus some 92 different varieties of wild birds). If you ever have a need for such a wonderful place, it is located in Millington, New Jersey, (908) 647-2353. It also accepts donations from the public, so if you are wondering who you can give some money to, this is truly a humane non-profit corporation which needs your help.

I feel very honored that "Birdie" allowed us to care for him a few days. And, I feel good about the place we took him to so that he could recover. I would like to end this column with something that Len Soucy wrote: "We also give thanks that we have so many friends who continue to find value in what we do and who share our humane philosophy that all living things are important and if, because of humans and human activities, injuries and injustices befall wild creatures, then humans have a responsibility to help heal the injuries and attempt to correct the injustices. And if, through education and understanding, many of the injuries and injustices can be prevented, so much the better for us all."

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Ticks

By Adam Axel
Grade 4
August 9, 1992

My brother Avery, Adam Jenny, Andrew Jenny and I were playing in our base yesterday, August 8th. Our base is under a White Pine tree and is big enough for more than a couple of people. To get sticks for the base we had to go into the woods where there were lots of trees and leaves all around our feet.

We found a turtle when we were in the woods. The turtle was on the ground, cuddled up in the leaves. We called my dad, who came running out with socks on, and he ran into the woods and said it was a box turtle. We put the turtle, who we named "Boxer", in a rabbit hutch and we put leaves in it and fed it tomatoes. But there was no rabbit in the hutch.

I was happy telling my dad about the turtle and, then, he found a tick on me. It was on my neck, my right neck. So, he tried to get it out. He got most of it with tweezers, but not a leg. Then, he had to use a needle and it hurt. But, he couldn't get it out, so he called MET, a place where you go when you get hurt. While in the car going, I told my mom that I saw another tick on my leg.

So, when I got there, the doctor, who was nice, took iodine and put it on the tick. Then he took a spray which was freezing and he sprayed it on me. It stung and it was cold, but it helps so that you don't feel pain. The doctor took a knife, which is called a scalpel, and he got the tick out. I was squirming and then the doctor told me to hold still. He said that if I moved, he would cut my neck by accident.

My mom let me squeeze her hand when they were doing it. The pain hurt, and after they removed both ticks they found two more on both of my feet. But they only had to use tweezers to remove these two.

Before I went home, we found a tick on dad and after we got home we found four ticks on Avery. He didn't have to go to the doctor because dad used tweezers to get them out.

The whole experience was scary and, now as I sit here writing this story, I found a rash on me which may be Lyme Disease. Lyme Disease may cause your legs and body to hurt, you can get a rash, and fever. You get Lyme Disease from infected ticks which are carried by deer and other animals. Avery had Lyme Disease last year, but he's better now because we treated him soon.

I want to tell other children to try not to get Lyme Disease. Be careful when you go into the woods! Wear long pants and white socks over your pants. You can spray your shoes and clothing with tick spray, but not your skin. Have your parents check you every day for ticks, and take showers, and wash your hair. If you get a rash, tell your parents.

Now, I am going to play with my turtle, and let it go someday soon. But, I am going to be more careful about playing in the woods.

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**Roosevelt Borough Bulletin
Box 221
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Omnia Mutantur... Everything Changes...

By Peter Warren

New Kids on the Block... Benjamin Adlerman, born Oct. 9; Naom Littman, born Oct. 17; Orlando Vargas, Age 9

Moving In... Moty & Cynthia Lavon to the Lachman house on Pine Drive.

Switching... Pete Jr. & Colleen Rossi, to the Cianfranco house on North Valley.

Return of the Native... Frances Duckett, to the Kushner house on Homestead.

Moving Out... Kimberley Cianfranco.

On the Market... As of October 15, 17 houses.

Submitting... To Governor Florio in 121-page report on Local Government Corruption, Bob Clark, Deputy director, State Commission of Investigation.

Interning... As teacher trainee at RPS, Trenton State student Debbie Nahmias, RPS '80.

Starring... Shana Burdick, sophomore at Western Maryland State College, as Carol in "North of Providence."

Reciting... Poetry at October Paint Island Poetry Festival in Clarksburg, Dina Coe, Wes Czyzewski, Judith McNally.

Exhibiting... Robin Middleman Filepp, Art Show at the Arts Council of Princeton in the WPA Gallery. Opening Nov. 12-Dec. 9.

Playing... Concerts of Baroque music for flute and harpsichord, Anita Cervantes and Katherine McClure.

Hamming it Up... Mel Friedman has passed his test for his amateur extra class license, the highest given by FCC, for amateur radio operators.

Registered to Vote... On October 5th, 600 voters, 96% of eligible residents.

Received... By Borough, from Monmouth County Planning Board. First David W. Morris Jr. Award of Excellence for preservation of wood turtle habitat in Roosevelt.

Lauded ... By Messenger Press editorial, Borough Council for controlling Farm Lane construction costs.

Pre-Construction Meeting... October 14; tree removal, replacement of 9 laterals in November, road construction in April on \$175,617 contract for reconstructing of Farm Lane, by Mario's Concrete and Paving, financed in part by 1991 DOT \$125,000 discretionary grant.

Moved to Safety... On September 21, three wood turtles found trespassing on Marvec work site along Empty Box Brook.

Completed... By Marvec October 2, final 1,300' between Tamara and South Rochdale, of 7,300' project total, 25% of total sewer line length.

Flowing... Month of September, sewerage 128,000 gpd (DEPE ceiling 250,000 gpd); water 118,000 gpd (conservation goal 90,000 gpd).

The Borough Council asks your advice.....

A few people have been spotted driving their horseless carriages thru town at speeds in excess of 25 mph, raising clouds of dust and frightening the horses.

What can we do to limit their speed to 25 mph? Please send us your suggestion(s).

Supporters & Contributors, Vol. XVII

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Someday, we hope to see everyone who lives in
our community on these pages

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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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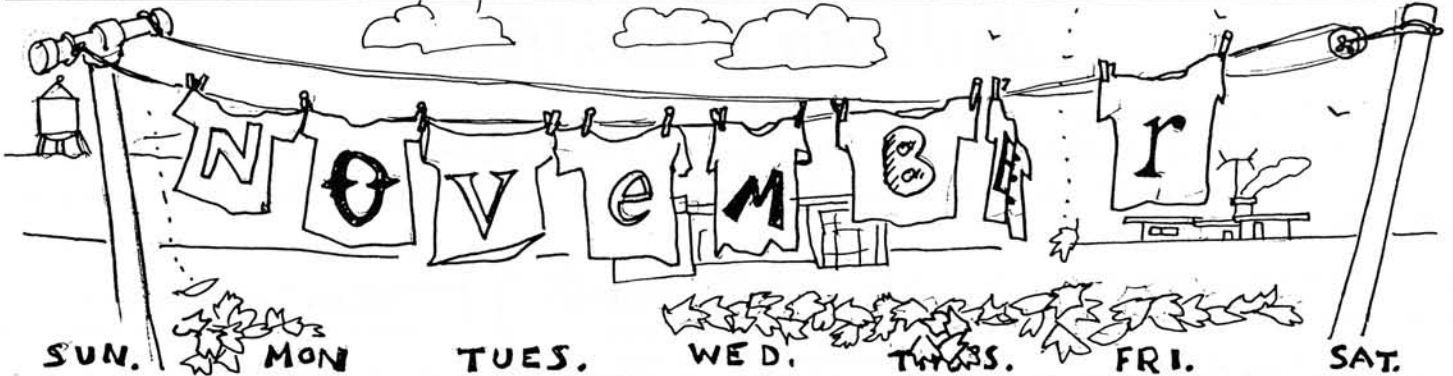
Better Beginnings has a few openings in its After-Kindergarten Class. Fees are based on income and family size, and include full days when the public school is closed. Fees also include meals and snacks.



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Call Althea Lewis at 448-6226 for more information or to begin application procedures.

Better Beginnings is a not-for-profit authorized multicultural child care center.



SUN.	MON	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1	2 7:30 PM Council Agenda Meeting- Boro Hall	3 Election Day 2:00 PM Senior Citizens-Boro Hall- Jeanette Koffler, Pres	4  Recyclables 7:30 PM Roosevelt Co-op Ordering-Judith Goetzman-443-4948 8:00 PM Environmental Commission-Boro Hall-J. Carnivale	5 7:30 PM Board of Education Agenda- RPS	6 Natives of the Earth- Boro Hall Gloria Hazell 443-2869	7
8	9 7:30 PM Council Action Meeting-Boro Hall-Lee Allen, Mayor	10	11 Veterans Day 8:00 PM Planning Board-Boro Hall-Gail Hunton 426-4338	12	13	14
15	16 7:30 PM Council Committees-Boro Hall 8:00 PM Congregation Anshei Roosevelt- Synagogue	17 12:30 PM Blood Pressure Check-Solar Village 6:00 PM Roosevelt Now Channel 8 Storer Cable 8:30 PM Roosevelt Co-op Distribution & Pickup-Boro Hall	18  Recyclables 8:00 PM PTA-RPS Adeens Yeger (Pres.) 8:00 PM Historical Advisory Council- Boro Hall	19 7:00 PM Trustees Solar Village 7:30 PM Board of Education Action- RPS-John Ord 443- 1744	20	21
22	23 7:30 PM Council Committees-Boro Hall	24 6:00 PM Roosevelt Now Channel 8 Storer Cable 7:30 PM First Aid- Boro Hall-Susan Oxford 443-0525	25 RPS-Thanksgiving Assembly (call for info.)	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					