

Bulletin

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Industrial Zone Reduced to Three Existing Factories and Water Plant; New Treatment to Prevent “Red Water” to be Used

By Michael Ticktin

At its March meeting, the Borough Council passed, without any public opposition, an ordinance to eliminate the Planned Community Development designation from the former Notterman tract, now owned by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, and to make the land north of Oscar Drive that had been zoned for industrial use part of the ten-acre residential/agricultural zone. In the early 1970s, there were approximately 80 acres on both sides of Oscar Drive zoned for industrial use. However, by a series of changes to the zoning ordinance over the years, the industrially zoned acreage has been reduced to the approximately five acres now used by the three existing industrial buildings and the two-acre water treatment plant.

Mayor Neil Marko reported on his discussions with the Board of Education concerning the purchase of a bus that could be used both to transport students and for the joint recreational program and transportation of seniors. According to Mr. Marko, though the most the Board has

offered is that there might be a feasibility study in the near future, this will remain a priority of his. He also announced that he had met with Chief Finance Officer George Lang, Treasurer Anna Debevec and a software vender to discuss installation of an automated financial system that would eliminate a great deal of paperwork.

Councilman Michael Hamilton, reporting for the Finance Committee, stated that the Borough began last year with a surplus of \$608,000 and ended it with a surplus of \$523,000. The Borough had a 97.55% tax collection rate. This is important, because the Borough must budget enough funds to pay itself, the Board of Education and Monmouth County for any shortfall in collection, and this can be a major part of the municipal share of the tax bill. Mr. Hamilton said that the utility budget was “challenged,” due to repairs and maintenance costs that had been incurred in 2003, but that the added \$21,000 received from AT&T Wireless for use of the water tower as a

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the past month we have received some contributions for which we are very grateful as we are beginning to be concerned about our financial status.

We are at that point in the year when we have to ask that if those who have not yet contributed or can make an additional contribution, that they be good enough to do so NOW. This will insure that our non-profit, totally staffed by volunteers newspaper can continue. WE NEED YOU!

Don't forget to vote in the School Board Election and Budget on April 20 at the Borough Hall from 2:30 to 9 p.m.

Be a good citizen and attend the Borough Council Meetings on the first three Mondays in the month at 7 p.m.

From now on, each month we will be listing the films being shown every Saturday night at the school at 7:30 p.m. There is no charge. (See page 16)

Are you using our library at the school? It is open every Wednesday evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

PLEASE REMEMBER: Thoughtful neighbors pick up after their dogs. Are you a thoughtful neighbor?

The Roosevelt Borough *Bulletin* is published monthly except August, September, and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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FULL BOARD SOON TO FOCUS ON PARKING

The Planning Board's Parking Committee has nearly completed its consideration of alternative parking restrictions in Roosevelt. Deliberation of possible ordinance alternatives will soon shift to the full Board.

At the Board's March 9 meeting, Vice Chairwoman Jane Rothfuss, head of the Parking Committee, said Committee members agreed on most, but not all, suggestions for improvement of the parking situation in the Borough. Other members of the Committee are Board Chairman Ralph Seligman, and members David Ticktin, Ed Moser and Timothy Hartley.

Ms. Rothfuss reported that she met recently with Mr. Ticktin and Mr. Moser to respond to some questions raised by Board members and the public. They considered whether parking in side yards should be permitted, allowing boats in side or rear yards, and letting recreational vehicles park in side yards. She said the Committee had not achieved a consensus recommendation on whether residents should be permitted to keep in driveways or parking areas unregistered cars that they are in the process of repairing or restoring. In order to enable those living in duplexes to park boats or recreational vehicles in the side yard on the opposite side of the house from the regular double driveway shared with the adjacent neighbor, the Committee proposed permitting a second drive accessing the side yard. The second driveway could not exceed eight feet in width and could be used only for access to the side yard parking area, according to Ms. Rothfuss.

Mr. Moser said the Board would need to decide limitations on the size of boats, recreational vehicles or trailers permitted in side or rear yards. Ms. Rothfuss said parking on Borough-owned right-of-ways should be a police matter for the Borough Council to decide. Mr. Seligman noted his preference for parking on the right-of-way over parking on the carriageway — the paved portion of the road.

Mr. Seligman praised the Committee for doing "a terrific job." He cautioned that, as the full Board entered its parking deliberations, it will have to think through some issues and should "deal with the most severe problems." He added, "We don't want to set up more possibilities for a disorderly town than people have already taken upon themselves to create." He stressed the need to put effective regulations in place promptly, declaring, "At some point, the appearance of the town is going to suffer because of too much permissiveness."

Mr. Moser noted that until new requirements are recommended by the Board and approved by the Council, "the Borough has the power to enforce what is currently unlawful." Ms. Rothfuss said the Committee "can't do much more" before turning over consideration of parking issues to the full Board.

One option is to incorporate parking restrictions on private property into Roosevelt's zoning ordinance. A separate committee, chaired by Jessica Hecht, has been working on proposed revisions to the zoning requirements. Ms. Hecht reported that the Committee has reviewed the entire ordinance. She said she will meet

with Mr. Seligman to prepare an electronic version, complete with proposed changes, for review by Planning Consultant Tom Thomas and Board Attorney Michele Donato. She concluded that the Board was a "couple of months away from being able to make a report to the Council." In addition to Ms. Hecht and Mr. Seligman, Mr. Moser and Michael Ticktin serve on the Zoning Committee.

Michael Ticktin, who heads the Redevelopment Committee, reported that he had met with the Monmouth Housing Alliance, which had expressed an interest in arranging for the construction of a structure with six rental units on property adjacent to the abandoned service station. This would enable Roosevelt to satisfy its affordable housing obligation with a single property. Mr. Ticktin noted that the Alliance had not yet submitted a proposal. He added that organizations running non-profit group homes do not seem to be interested in the tract. Mercer County ARC once indicated a desire to consider the site, but it pulled away when Monmouth County ARC contended Roosevelt lay in its operational area.

Robert Petrilla forwarded a letter resigning from the Planning Board after several years of service.

The Board passed a formal resolution favoring Ordinance 97-30, which had been introduced by the Borough Council. When passed by the Council, the ordinance repealed the planned community development portions of the zoning ordinance. It also redesignated the portion of the light industrial zoning district north of Oscar Drive as part of the residential-agricultural district. ■

From the Mayor

Your Borough Council has indeed been busy the past month on some big activities. One item that has caused quite a bit of consternation amongst some of our water/sewer rate payers is the well known Roosevelt brown water problem. Some of us have no problem at all with brown water, while for some of us it is a constant source of aggravation and headaches. The past few months have been particularly bad since all the activity of installing water meters has the very deleterious effect of stirring up anything inside the water mains. This makes the situation worse.

When we pump water from our wells, it has quite a bit of dissolved iron in it. Our normal processing of water removes almost all of the dissolved iron. A little bit remains. After we treat the water, we pump it to the water tower and finally out to the mains and to your house. On its way from the water plant, to the tower, through the mains and to your house, this tiny bit of dissolved iron sometimes comes out of the water. Usually this is not a problem, but when your water systems is 50 years old, there is a build up of this iron inside the pipes. Also, sometimes, when water demand is sky high, the water plant is less efficient at treating water and removing the iron. When this happens, or when those pipes are banged around, the result is brown water.

To combat this, we will be implementing an additional water treatment step. This step will alter the water to keep more of that dissolved iron from coming out while the water is on its way from the plant to the tower, through the mains and finally to your house. This additional pro-

cessing step will also serve to prevent the existing iron that is caked onto the inside of the water mains, from flaking off and ending up coming out of your faucet. Will this eliminate brown water? Probably not, but we expect that combined with our regular conservation efforts, we hope to see better quality water in the months to come.

The second item related to water quality that we are working on again deals with the iron that is on the inside of our water mains. The obvious question is how can we get it out of there? The most obvious way is also the most impractical - change the mains. This would cost too much and eventually, the new mains would also get coated inside. Another way is to clean them. We clean mains by opening up our fire hydrants at designated places and allowing the water to rush out at high volume. This "flushing" action removes much of the built up iron inside the mains. It also disturbs the water inside, as many of you know that the day after a night of flushing, you can expect brown water. But flushing is an important part of removing iron from the inside of the mains. The problem is that we must do this flushing in the middle of the night. What we are investigating are some devices that can be attached to the fire hydrants, and automatically flush the water main, thus allowing us to flush more frequently and without having to have a worker up all night flushing. The only problem is that these automatic flushing devices are not cheap. We will be considering them later this year and I will keep you informed if and when we get them.

As many of you are aware, we have recently had a series of serious prob-

lems with our water treatment facility. This resulted in a water emergency one prior Sunday. What happened and why is quite complex and we are working hard to prevent any further problems. I would like to comment however, on the remarkable efforts that the entire Roosevelt community made during the emergency. What could have been a really serious problem for all, was rendered into just a big inconvenience for most. This is due in no small part to the efforts of Toby Moore, our Water/Sewer Operator who was ably assisted by George Vasseur. While Toby and George managed the situation at the plant, carefully managing our water supply, they also engaged our contractor to deal with the problem. But the contractor was not able get a complete repair until the following Thursday. Between Sunday and Thursday, Toby and George managed the water plant manually. Finally on Thursday, we went back on fully automatic operation. A job well done by Toby and George.

Behind the scene, there were additional efforts going on. Ed Miller is our Emergency Management Coordinator. Thankfully, our Water Emergency did not turn into a full blown crisis. But Ed had that covered too. We had plans in place just in case we could not get our water system running by Sunday afternoon. The First Aid Squad turned out to help also. Several times during the day, for a total of several hours, members of the First Aid Squad drove through the Borough, letting us all know that there was an emergency and what steps to take. If not for the First Aid Squad, many of us

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From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

Mrs. Flores, our fourth grade teacher, and I had the privilege of going to Trenton to the awards ceremony sponsored by the NJ Poison Prevention agency. Shannon Towle, a fourth grader, won a statewide poster competition outlining poison prevention procedures in the home. Shannon won second prize out of over 1300 competing fourth grade students. Congratulations, Shannon!

During the week of March 15, standardized tests were administered to students in grades 1 - 6. The State tests, ASK 3 & 4 (Assessment of Skills and Knowledge) were administered in grades 3 and 4. The results of the State tests are used to measure how well a district is meeting State curriculum standards. In addition, tests are used diagnostically to help with individual student instruction. A group test is one measure of how a student is doing, but should never be the only measure of student performance in school. The State report card for every school district has been issued. The report cards can be found on line at: www.state.nj.us/education. Hard copies are available in the office upon request.

I received official word from the

Department of Education that as the result of the county evaluation process (monitoring), we are being recommended to the Commissioner of Education for certification for a period of seven years. District evaluation includes a review of several areas: instruction and program, school operation, school finances, facility and safety, quality assurance compliance, and governance. This forty page document is available in the office for review.

Annual school elections will be held April 20th this year, in the Borough Hall. Three candidates are running for three seats on the Board of Education. Two of the candidates are incumbent board members Linda Grayson and Lauralynne Cokely. Mark Aakhus is running for the seat being vacated by Linda Silverstein. Members of the Board of Education give a great deal of their time and expertise in making sure the school system runs smoothly in a fiscally sound operation. Please give them your support. The school budget for which you will be voting once again contains no tax increase. Your Board deserves credit for that!

With the improving weather our

students are able to go outside each day for recess and physical education. They have already run into dog feces on the playground. Please be reminded that the playground is not a public park for dog walking. Kindly respect our children by walking your dog elsewhere, and picking up after your dog.

Our library volunteers continue to make it possible for the library to be open one evening a week. Our volunteers came faithfully all winter long. Please take advantage of the library. We are in the process of creating an electronic inventory of the books available. Is there anyone available to volunteer for the library next school year? It entails one night a month. Please contact me. We really need more volunteers.

This March we held our first March Math Madness. The purpose of this activity was to have an interactive evening to highlight some of the many math concepts the students are learning. Many events and activities are coming up along with the hopefully warmer weather. I look forward to seeing residents join us for some of these events. ■

April School Dates

April 2	Pizza Day
April 5 - 12	School Closed, Spring Break
April 20	School Board Elections & School Budget Vote
April 21	Community Health Night, 7:00 p.m.
April 22	Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
April 26, 27	Kindergarten registration
April 30	Pizza Day

You can also check the school calendar on the school web site: www.rps1.org

If this is April, why won't it stop snowing! Despite the weather, we are saying goodbye to winter. We had a humdinger (someone tell me when a word like that became part of my vocabulary) of a Winter Carnival this year, with volunteers ranging from the newest RPS graduates to a few Seniors (not High School Seniors). And a few of the seniors weren't even related to me. Between the food, the Chinese Auction and the games, the carnival used 73 volunteers, truly a community activity! And, as a bonus, we even managed to raise some money, which we can now turn into more fun.

We just sponsored an assembly at the end of March about hot air ballooning and science of weather, complete with an inflation demo in the gym.

We are running another fundraiser this Spring, selling T-shirts and beach towels along with our May plant sale. And the end of April will be our second annual "Book Swap". This is when we ask students to bring in their used books and swap. It doesn't cost a thing but all the students go home with at least one book in hand!

And (sigh), we are working on the phone book. We collected over 70 entries from our insert in the last *Bulletin*. In addition, we have put out a request for artwork from the students to cover and decorate the book. I'd like to say it will be available the end of the month, but, why commit now?

I would like to thank all our room parents for all their continued support throughout the year. The baking, the snow calls, the party organizing, the snow calls, the baking, the water usage calls...what next? As spring approaches, we start to take offers for next year's room parents – sounds inviting, doesn't it? Also, if there is anyone interested in the Presidential position, do let me know, I know an excellent campaign manager!

Otherwise, we hope to see you at our next meeting! Our turnout has been great lately and it really does lift morale to see interested parents attending. The next meeting is on **WEDNESDAY, April 14th** at 7:30 p.m.. Hope to see you there...(Kathleen Towle is baking, in case you need more enticement than watching the democratic process at work.) ■

Are you taking advantage of the Roosevelt Library in our school?

To keep it alive, it needs to be used.

As CSA Weinbach has said:

"A town library would be a terrible thing to lose!"

Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

RCNS April Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

Everyone knows April showers bring May flowers. Our students will learn how rain helps us and about the water cycle. We will also talk about water conservation.

Machines and technology are part of our everyday life. The children will learn about simple and complex machines and how they affect us. How would we live without modern technology?

Since Earth Day is on April 22nd, our children will make litter bags to throw trash in instead of littering. We will learn how we can take care of our earth by keeping our air, water and land clean. We will also discuss the earth's shape and make our own Earth collages.

The class is participating in our second month of Book-It. The children receive a pizza certificate for reading books at home. Let's keep up the good reading!

Our annual Open House was held on March 28th. We will be starting our second year of full-time care for our children. In addition, Little Hearts Day Camp will be held at our school for a ten week period from June 21st until August 27th for children ages 2 to 5. We are already planning many activities and trips so that the children have a memorable summer. Please call the school at 609-426-9523 for any information regarding our summer or fall enrollment.

RCNS parents are planning a wonderful evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment at our "Midnight On the Orient Express" dinner dance and comedy show on Saturday, April 24th. Steve Trevelese is our host, and "Sudsy" and Alan Marx will provide entertainment. Call RCNS for tickets and information. ■

A Busy Time in the Utilities Department!

As many of you know, on Sunday March 13th we experienced a water emergency.

The reasons are as follows. On Wednesday March 10, Well #3 finally gave out. Although the diagnostic process is not complete at this time, it is a fair guess that this was due, at least in part, to damage the well sustained last winter. A new turbine motor had been placed atop the well on an emergency basis last year but the fatal damage that had been done was located below it, deep underground. This failure necessitated Well #4 to be placed back into service. Well #4 had recently had a new submersible pump installed which apparently had had something improperly handled in the installation process; this caused an electrical malfunction to burn the motor out. Thus, on the morning of Sunday March 13th Well #4 went down also leaving us with no capability to pump water for the town! This submersible motor, unlike the turbine type, is located 275 feet below ground which involves a considerable retrieval effort. An emergency crew from Unitech Drilling, our well installer, was dispatched and was on site by 3:00 p.m.. Over the next several hours the well was pulled out, a new motor was installed on the pump, and by 11:00 p.m. water was again being pumped to the tower. Water service was never interrupted during this crisis as we were able to refill the tower from the reserves in our settling tank. Some of you may have experienced a dip in pressure or some discoloration

but these effects passed quickly. Well #4 is operating properly at this time and Well #3 will now be outfitted with a new submersible pump and we should be in good condition for the foreseeable future.

Water meters, as required by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, have all been installed with the exception of the one at the school. We expect this last meter to have been installed by the time this issue of the *Bulletin* has been distributed. Discussions are now under way to establish a method and schedule for



reading the new meters and an equitable billing method. Our mandated goal is to convert to consumption-based billing before the end of 2004; however, residents should anticipate no change in their billing until the fall. In the interim, we will be taking frequent readings to establish water usage data to be used to establish rate schedules. Since consumption-based billing is imminent, it is strongly

advised that homeowners with known leaks in their residences take proactive measures to remediate them now. This will lessen the impact of bills based on actual consumption, and will assist in the ultimate goal of water conservation.

In an effort to control discoloration of the water supply (red water events), a new chemical, Klenphos or Zinc polyphosphate has recently been added to the water treatment process at our water plant. The benefits we are hoping for are twofold: First, this agent keeps the residual iron that gets through our system in solution rather than precipitating out. Since the red you see sometimes is precipitated iron, this means that red water events, and discoloration in general, should be reduced. Second, Klenphos will coat the insides of our water delivery pipes with Zinc which will arrest the rusting of the interior of our pipes. This should further reduce the discoloration of our water and protect our old pipes from further deterioration by the corrosive effects or rust oxidation. Klenphos is used around the state by numerous municipalities with similar iron-laden water problems, and there are no known health risks.

We have many other projects planned for 2004 to improve our Water/Sewer infrastructure. We will give you an update in the next installment of Water Works!

That's all for this edition. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. ■

Wood Frogs Hear Calling!

Once again, the wood frogs of Pine Drive were heard heralding by song the coming of Spring. A big Thank You to Mike Hamilton and Charlie Harding who notified me that this seasonal event had started. Several spring peepers joined the chorus of wood frogs Saturday, March 7th and Sunday, March 8th. Let's hope the population remains strong and viable for many years to come. Let's also remember to watch for wood turtles, our favorite locally threatened species and notify the Roosevelt

Environmental Commission of any sightings.

There is always considerable discussion about our town's deer problem.

Several years ago I tried to do a deer/auto collision survey with very little response. I still keep a personal record and tallied my 'road kill' data for 2003. There were 12 dead deer along Route 571 from the center of town to the north (that is, my commuting direction twice a day at least 5 times a week). What the 'actual' count is is anybody's guess but it is

probably a lot more than twelve. I hope no one was hurt.

Lastly, the Boy Scouts are still expected to help with Roosevelt Woodland Trail maintenance on Saturday March 27th. Come out, cheer them on and try the trails for yourselves. In addition, the public is welcome to attend our meetings at the Borough Hall at 7:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month.

Thanks for reading the *Bulletin!* ■

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

By Ron Kostar

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar by phone 443-4179, 18 Pine Drive, or e-mail at ronkostar@cs.com.

Bernarda Shahn celebrated her 101st birthday on March 7th! As if that weren't amazing enough, Bernarda continues to be more active than many folks half her age, walking around the streets of Roosevelt and gracing roadside spots of sand with impromptu stick drawings whenever she feels inspired. There are hundreds of her drawings along Pine Drive between her house and the school that you can see if you walk slowly and are observant and lucky enough to get to them before the rain does.

Joanna E. Giordano, a Dartmouth College student in the class of 2004, studied French in Toulouse, France during the Winter 2004 term as part of the College's Language Study

Abroad program. Joanna is the daughter of Gary and Laura Zuckerman of Roosevelt.

Ina Clark received High Honors for the Winter Term at the Peddie School. Ina is a sophomore at Peddie.

The Roosevelt Drumming Circle will perform sometime in the spring at the Crosswicks Cosmic Cafe. The Cafe, located in Crosswicks just beyond Allentown, is a small performance spot featuring bi-monthly performances of alternative music and poetry. Check the bulletin board for a more specific date.

If you want your dog showered with care and attention while you go on vacation, call Lois Stein at 426-4209. I talked to her recently, and while we

didn't leave our Lovable Barking Menace with her during a recent weekend trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, Mrs. Stein convinced me to do so next time. The Steins of 28 Steeplechase Road (just off Nurko Road) run what sounds like a legal and bonded bread-and-breakfast for pets, with dogs coming and going in the house and running outside, while enjoying the same petting and stroking they'd receive at home. I told our LBM and she said it sounded much more relaxing to her than a kennel, a place where a dog can feel at home, at prices comparable to or even lower than those charged by most kennels.

Please send your news to ronkostar@cs.com ■

Report from the Bauhaus

By Michael Ticktin

The Borough of Roosevelt, as all residents know or should know, is the only municipality in New Jersey that is, in its entirety, a historic district listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The Jersey Homesteads Historic District—which bears the original name of the municipality—represented the convergence of Benjamin Brown’s vision of a cooperative community of Jewish garment workers and farmers, the town design principles of Sir Ebenezer Howard and the English Garden City movement, and the building design principles developed by the Bauhaus (“house of building”), an architectural, cultural, social and educational movement that flourished in Germany during the period of the Weimar Republic, between the end of the First World War and the beginning of the Nazi dictatorship.

This February, I had the opportuni-



Haus am Horn, Weimar

ty to travel to Germany to visit my son-in-law’s parents. While there, I went with them to the city of Dessau in Eastern Germany to visit the Bauhaus building and, while there, to present a copy of the Roosevelt 50th anniversary commemorative book to the Research Director of the Bauhaus-Dessau Foundation, to be part of their documentation of the worldwide influence of the Bauhaus.

The Bauhaus was founded in the city of Weimar in 1919 under the leadership of Walter Gropius. Its declared purpose was to bring together all artis-



Homes in Törten Estates, Dessau

tic disciplines, crafts and manual trades in order to create a new “art of building” that would be of benefit to society as a whole and improve the lives of working people.

In 1923, the flat-roofed experimental “Haus am Horn,” designed by the artist Georg Muche, was constructed in Weimar. This house, which is listed along with the other Bauhaus buildings, on the UNESCO World Heritage List, has the block construction and flat, overhanging roofs that give our Jersey Homestead houses their distinctive appearance.

In 1925, it was necessary for political reasons for the Bauhaus to leave Weimar, and Gropius accepted the offer of a new home in the industrial city of Dessau. The city of Dessau, then under Social Democratic control, provided a site and financial support for the construction of the Bauhaus building. This building, with its glass walls and other unconventional design features, became a symbol of the modernist movement in architecture. In Dessau, the Bauhaus came to focus on mass production of housing and of furniture and home furnishings and implements incorporating modern design principles. Its educational programs included such features,

unheard of in Germany at the time, as equal educational opportunity for women, not only allowing, but requiring, them to wear pants when engaged in construction, and dormitories and physical education for all students. Between 1926 and 1928, Gropius designed and built the Törten Estates, a 314 unit development of houses for working people that were built with pre-cast concrete walls and roofs. This project clearly foreshadowed the Jersey Homesteads project that was designed by a German-educated architect, Alfred Kastner, and built here ten years later.

The existence of the Bauhaus in Dessau came to an end in 1932 when the Nazis came to power in Dessau and in the State of Anhalt, of which it was then the capital. The Nazis opposed all modernism in art as



More homes in Törten Estates

“decadent” and therefore hated the Bauhaus. They wanted to destroy the building, but decided instead to use it for their own purposes after destroying the glass walls. They wanted to destroy the flat-roofed Törten dwellings as well but, the housing shortage being what it was, they settled for building their own housing project with steeply pitched “German” roofs on nearby blocks.

During World War II, Dessau, the site of the Junkers aircraft factory, was

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Letter to Residents,

I would like to share with you my dissatisfaction with our water/sewer department. If you walk past my house, you will see a mark-out on the street. That mark out, done approximately three years ago, indicates the location of where our sewer lateral is improperly connected to the main and needs to be repaired. Will it ever be? Probably when I'm six feet under.

The last week in February Ralph and I noticed a hissing sound in our water meter. I called and left a message on our operator's voice mail requesting that it be investigated. I received no response. Monday, March 1, I called again and asked that it be investigated and requested that a piece of paper be left in our door to indicate that someone looked inside the meter. I even gave my work telephone number. No one responded.

The sounds could be CLEARLY heard from the front door of our house. Wednesday, March 3, the sound had increased to a GUSH. The lid was not secured; therefore we concluded that someone had looked inside. We drove down to the sewer plant, drove inside the gate, knocked, opened and looked into each of the rooms under the office - no one there; the doors to the chemical storage rooms - no one there; the sulfur dioxide room - no one there; the upstairs office - no one there. SO MUCH FOR HOMELAND SECURITY. Anyway, I left a message on the desk for the operator, inside that office, stating that I wanted to know when the line to the meter would be repaired.

We then took a chance and drove through the open gate at the water plant where we saw the operator's vehicle. We knocked and opened all the doors and finally located him working in the sub-level area. Rev. Moore is a very hard working person,

a gentleman and a gentle-person. I have no complaints about him. He has a job to protect and follows orders. He informed us that he had looked at the meter and determined that the connecting gasket was broken. **We were told that the residents have to call the contractor for a repair.** WHAT IS THAT ALL ABOUT????!! We were told that a response would be better made if an irate resident called rather than a Borough representative. What a HOOT! Obviously, I thought, no maintenance bond was required of this job!

A Maintenance Bond is a bond that can be required as part of the contract, from the contractor. It is for a given period of time, usually one or two years, and ensures that repairs and credibility of the work are monetarily covered by the contractor. If the contractor's work is quality, then what is to be feared? Another contractor could also be called upon to correct a problem should the original contractor not comply. That contractor would be paid with funds from the Maintenance Bond. Furthermore, it does not substantially alter the bid on the project.

We were told that the Muellers, also on Homestead, had a similar problem with water coming into their basement due to a fault in the water meter, and that they too had to take care of it themselves. Later we were told that Bruce and Irene Block had the same experience. Oh well, what is a resident to do these days.

Rev. Moore said that he would get the telephone number for us. Then we were told that Mr. Vasseur had called the contractor. GREAT! I did notify Council member Hunt, our Water/Sewer Chairperson, and he stated that he was aware of the problem. Not having heard what was to be done and when, I contacted Toby

(Rev. Moore) and requested that he phone me at work with the number of the contractor so I could call myself. In the meantime water had been GUSHING out for a few days. I asked Rev. Moore to secure the lid again - it was left unlocked - because I was afraid someone, perhaps a young person, might be curious and perhaps walk off with the lid leaving a hole for someone to trip over.

So, I called Mr. Bill Castle, president of the company, who stated that it is municipal property, therefore, why is the Borough not taking care of this? So, I explained that I am an irate resident. He asked if it was installed over 30 days ago - that's all the warranty is for. HA! I don't know, I believe so. "NO MAINTENANCE BOND FOR A CONTRACT OF THIS MAGNITUDE?" I thought silently to myself. Well, he had to make a few phone calls and would get back to me at work. He did, he responded in a most timely duration and was very nice as was Emily, the secretary. He said they would be out tomorrow morning, Saturday, March 6th. YEAH!! YEAH!! SO..... we waited until 10 a.m. I called National Metering Services. They are closed on Saturdays but they gave an emergency telephone number (toll call). I started to call and stopped.

I asked myself why am I doing this? Why is this my problem? I have water. If not, I'll call the Monmouth County Board of Health, 732-431-7456, ask for our health officer, Christopher Lumberto, and report that I have no water. I will not be metered or charged for this HUGE WASTE OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES that is being permitted - an ENVIRONMENTAL WASTE OF A PRECIOUS SOURCE OF LIFE. Why should I worry if the tree on the Borough's

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BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 1

cell tower was an important plus. He thanked Utility Operator Toby Moore for a comprehensive list of needed improvements.

Reporting for the Utilities Committee, Councilman Jeff Hunt announced that the Borough would be adding a zinc polyphosphate compound called Klenphos to the water supply in order to stop corrosion and the precipitation of iron oxides. The result should be an end to the chronic problem of "red water" that has been the bane of the Roosevelt water system for decades.

Borough Administrator Harold Klein reported that a work plan for the environmental study at the former gas station site had been submitted to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection by Schoor-DePalma, the engineering firm that the Borough has hired, using State grant funds, to perform the study.

Councilwoman Elly Shapiro reported, on behalf of the Recreation Coalition, that advertisements had been placed in the local newspapers for employees for the Roosevelt summer camp.

Councilwoman Pat Moser protested the "disrespectful" attitude of Monmouth County authorities with regard to scheduling of the Senior Citizen bus and promised to "nail someone's feet to the floor" in her effort to get the problem resolved.

Councilman Dan Hoffman reported, on behalf of the Environment, Health and Safety committee, that he was seeking to meet with County officials to discuss dealing with traffic on Route 571.

Councilwoman Beth Battel reported, on behalf of the Community Development committee, that she had attended a meeting with County community development officials.

In other action, the Council intro-

duced an ordinance providing for the reconstruction of a portion of Pine Drive at a cost of \$150,000, mostly State grant funds, and adopted resolutions approving contributions of \$8,000 to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and \$6,000 to the Millstone First Aid Squad; authorizing payment of \$560 to Ed Goetzmann for housing inspections performed in 2003; authorizing application for a State grant for the Fire Department; authorizing the Monmouth County Mosquito Extermination Commission to spray portions of Roosevelt; establishing policies, procedures, fees and charges for the summer camp; approving an application for, and accepting additional funding in the amount of, \$30,000 from the State Department of Transportation for Pine Drive reconstruction; directing the Fire Department to advertise for its annual reorganization meeting, elect a fire chief, and provide a report to the Council, within two weeks, on the members of the Fire Department and their qualifications; awarding a contract in the amount of \$1,360 to Key Tech of Keyport, NJ for asphalt testing on Pine Drive; hiring Bill Leech as a part-time Water/Sewer Maintenance employee at a wage of \$20.00 per hour for the purpose of doing painting at the utility plants; and making temporary appropriations pending adoption of the annual budget. Mayor Marko also issued a proclamation honoring Rod Tulloss for his many contributions to the welfare of the Borough through his work on the Environmental Commission and as the guiding force behind the Fund for Roosevelt, which has been responsible for the preservation of 240 acres thus far and is currently working on the preservation of an additional 131 acres. ■

FROM THE MAYOR

Continued from Page 4

would not have known that there was even a problem. Their efforts were invaluable.

Last and most important, there are the residents of the Borough. Only in a community like Roosevelt, would the reaction of the residents be as supportive as it was. Only in a community like Roosevelt, would the residents keep their cool like they did. Nobody panicked, nobody called and became irate. As much as we can appreciate the good work of Toby, George and Ed: it is the residents of the Borough of Roosevelt that prevented this emergency from becoming a crisis. I thank you.

In closing, I would like to remind all of you that your Borough Council and I would like to hear from you. We have meetings the first three Mondays of each month. The first Monday is a committee meeting at 7 pm followed by an Agenda meeting at 8. The next Monday is our Action meeting at 7 pm. The third Monday is another committee meeting at 7 pm. You are all welcome and encouraged to come to all. If you can't make a meeting, perhaps you want to email us. My email is mayor@borough.roosevelt.nj.us or you can reach the council by emailing council@borough.roosevelt.nj.us. If you want, you can call me at the Borough Hall (448-0539) and press 1.

Tidbit of information: Every Saturday evening around 7 pm there is a test of the siren and alert system for the Fire Department. Fire Alerts consist of several off and on blasts of siren. Every Sunday evening around 7 pm, there is a test of the siren and alert system for the First Aid Squad. First Aid Squad Alerts consist of one long blast. Don't be alarmed if it is not exactly on time or even if you don't hear it. Sometimes when the dispatchers are busy, they don't do the test. ■

Recollections

While the evening (I presume) of my conception was undoubtedly planned and pleasurable, I doubt that anybody who knew them as children would have predicted the marriage of my parents. My dad (Kenneth John) was the inquisitive and ambitious son of an erstwhile coal miner and itinerant shepherd who had scratched out a living in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming, and my mother (Elizabeth Kaltenthaler) was an independent-minded Main Line debutante. They met the summer of '49. My mother was in Laramie on assignment with the U. S. Geological Survey, and my dad was studying biology on the GI Bill. Six weeks later they were engaged, and by the end of the year they were married. Theirs was a Catholic service, in deference to my maternal grandmother and my dad's Navy chaplain in the Philippines, who happened to have been Catholic. (This foray into Catholicism ended long before I was born. I was christened Presbyterian and was later aligned with the Unitarian so-called Church due to an inspirational minister who marched with Martin Luther King, but for the most part my spirituality has always been personal and informal.) The wedding nearly scandalized my mother's parents. My grandfather, a Lutheran, and my grandmother, an Episcopalian, had decided through rational deliberations to compromise on Presbyterianism during their wedded years. My father's family, including his Catholic mother, could not afford to come east for the society wedding. ... Anyway, I was conceived on or about my dad's



Young Henry (second from the left) in Wyoming

birthday in 1952 above a firehouse in Madison, Wisconsin, a stone's throw from the Badger's stadium. From there we moved to Tenafly while my dad held an ichthyology appointment in the American Museum of Natural History, and then to De Kalb where he had his first faculty position at Northern Illinois University. Summers in those days were spent in Grand Teton National Park, where Dad studied fish ecology in Two Ocean Lake (so named because it straddles the continental divide and drains into the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans). By the time I was 3, we had settled in Lancaster, PA. Dad taught biology at Franklin & Marshall College, Mom taught chemistry at McCaskey High School, and we three brothers began to grow up.

Childhood memories reflect the contrasting backgrounds of my parents. My Republican maternal grandfather wouldn't spend a Roosevelt dime, while my paternal grandfather had hardly a dime to spend. My maternal grandparents lived comfortably on Cool Valley (from Kaltenthaler) Farm, which

they had built (and named) at about the time of my birth. My dad's surplus Willys Jeep had come east from Wyoming to retire on the farm with my grandfather, and it was a legendary treat for us to ride in the back, bouncing to the post office in Paoli or to the "crick" at the bottom of the property, stopping along the way to sip honeysuckle nectar or to collect wild cherries and wineberries. It was a long drive (about 50 miles)

between Lancaster and Cool Valley Farm, so we brothers never got our fill of the place. (Now, I drive 50 miles round-trip commuting to work each day. My wife drives 100!)

An even greater treat was the summer trip to the Poconos. My brothers and I were the fourth generation to spend summers on Lake Naomi, which had been constructed as an ice supply for Philadelphia and New York City. My mother's grandfather had built one of the first summer homes in Pocono Pines. Only a handful of homes had been built on the lake, all clustered on one shore. Days were spent swimming, playing tennis, and fishing coins out of the sofa after my grandfather's afternoon nap. Many evenings were given to chasing bats out of the sleeping porch. Once in a great while we would venture to the other side of the lake, either by boat or by foot, usually to collect blueberries in the empty house paint cans that my grandfather kept on hand. (I have often wondered how much lead might have leached out of the paint and into the berries.) By the time I finished high school, the

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TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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Poconos had been irrevocably changed by rampant development, and it was not until we moved to New Jersey in 1985 that I understood how the congested Poconos could still be considered a desirable destination.

My father's interests imposed themselves on eastern family life in two notable ways. First, as a carry-over from his days at the American Museum, each spring we met the family of one of the herpetology curators for a week of camping and audio documentation of the breeding choruses of local frogs and toads in the Pine Barrens. Those days are immortalized on recordings still available from the Museum store. Second, native ring-necked pheasants were abundant in eastern Pennsylvania, and my grandparent's 60 acres of field, forest, and hedgerow became our personal small game reserve.

Childhood on my mother's turf was safe and comfortable, but the real adventures came on the semi-annual trips to Wyoming to visit my dad's family. They lived in Frontier, a suburb of Kemmerer in southwestern Wyoming where my grandfather had retired from the Sublette coal mines. Frontier was dirt-poor. The houses were shacks, really, sided with powder tins and other gleanings from the mines. There was a golf course, but the main hazards were innumerable ground squirrel burrows and the greens themselves, which consisted not of manicured grass but of oiled sand. Driving from Lancaster to Frontier was quite an adventure, as the interstate highway system was little more than a gleam in Ike's eye and dual-lane roads were rare west of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Being from the east and having been steeped in Main Line tradition, we boys felt like pioneers as soon as we crossed the Susquehanna River. (This spirit of

adventure was still evident in my family when they crossed the Alleghenies for my wedding in Pittsburgh.)

When I was very young, Great-Grandma Machetta was still alive, stirring thick polenta on her coal stove in her summer kitchen. We were scared to death of her – she spoke no English, her skin was rough, and her clothes were coarse. And she kept poking us and pinching our cheeks. I don't know if she thought we were cute, or just strange. This world was foreign to us eastern boys, but we developed a certain respect and admiration for Dad's side of the family based on the stories they exchanged. Who knows what was true, ... but it didn't really matter. We developed a weirdly perverted and romanticized understanding of Leavenworth, where a great uncle had been imprisoned for being a bootlegger during Prohibition years. (I cannot attest to the veracity of his reputed mob connections. However, he must have had a fairly big operation to attract federal attention, and the fact that his brother moved to New Jersey is corroborating evidence.)

The high point of each trip to Wyoming was an extended camping trip into the high country, usually either to Fontenelle north of Kemmerer or to Ten Sleep Canyon in the Big Horn Mountains. (Dad's brother lived in Thermopolis, from which Ten Sleep was a natural extension.) My grandfather's old pick-up would be loaded with camping gear (the photograph was taken in 1959 or 1960), including thick planks for the numerous fords along the way, and we would set out for the adventure. When we got off the main roads, my brothers and I were allowed to ride in the back of the pick-up, but only with one suffering adult. Invariably, at least one of the vehicles would lose its exhaust system if not its oil pan on the

“roads” that led to the camp. My brothers and I played. My mother cleaned and sterilized diapers over the campfire. And my dad and uncle stalked elk in the alpine meadows – just admiring them then, but recalling days when they had to hunt for food.

My grandparents and uncle were still living in Wyoming when Kate and I drove through on our way to southern California as newlyweds. My uncle, ever the sportsman, tied two flies on his line and routinely caught two native trout at a time where we had just come up empty, and in contrast to the cacophony from errant projectiles in Assunpink, he bagged his entire limit of three prairie chickens with a single shot.

So, how did Kate and I end up in Roosevelt? Suffice it to say that to me, our moving to Roosevelt was nearly as unlikely and unpredictable as birth itself. When Kate was a student of landscape architecture at Rutgers, we drove out here one afternoon just to have a look. Against all (of my rational) expectation, one thing led to another, and before long we were here. That was in 1989. ■

About Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project – find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Marilyn Magnes 448-6402

Pearl Seligman 448-2340

In Memoriam

By Hortense Socholitzky

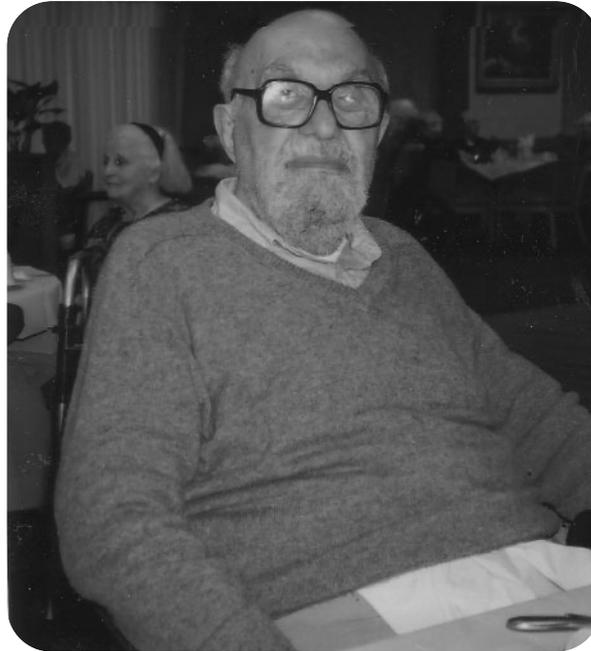
Sidney Socholitzky, known to everyone as Soch, died on January 28 in Oakland, California, where he had lived with his wife, Hortense, or Honey, for the last two years. He was 91. Before moving to California, Honey and Soch had lived in Roosevelt for 51 years.

In Roosevelt Soch was active in the planning and building of the Senior Village and was a trustee of the completed project. He was involved in tutoring children who needed help in school, a program organized by Rhoda and Gene Kaelis.

He also worked at getting people to write to the U.S. Postal Service to issue a postage stamp celebrating Paul Robeson, a project initialed by the Rutgers Alumni Magazine, and finally achieved just this year.

Soch was very much interested in politics. Talk was not enough; his letters to the Trenton Times (yes, they printed them) indicated his participation in many important campaigns to educate the voters. He fought for civil rights and for the improvement of the conditions of working men and women throughout his life. And he lived his political beliefs in daily life, too. Going to a restaurant with Soch, for example, was instructive. There was no overly long sitting and talking after the meal because you'd keep the server too long. He or she might then lose tips by serving fewer patrons.

Soch loved sports and enjoyed managing and coaching our adult



Soch Socholitzky

slow-pitch softball team which was very successful and won a majority of its games.

He loved kids and adopted as grandchildren all his neighbors' children – the Gartons', the Vuoles' and the Silversteins'.

As for adult friends, there were many, including the retired ones with whom he regularly shared daily morning discussions at Rossi's solving "the problems of the world."

Spoken by David Socholitzky at Soch's Memorial in Oakland

Most of you have known Soch for only a few years, so I'd like to tell you some about his life and who he was.

Soch was born in Brooklyn in 1912. His parents both came from Poland. Like his father, Soch loved the Brooklyn Dodgers and took me to Ebbets Field a number of times. Like his father also, Soch enjoyed poker

and was a crack player; before he and Honey moved to Oakland I'd get late night calls from him: I'd answer the phone and hear his voice saying: I just won \$300. I never did hear about the losses. It was a very sad day for Soch when, at 85 he had to leave the weekly card game he played for 30 years because he could no longer figure odds or strategy.

Soch studied history at Brooklyn College and graduated in 1932. His love of history became mine, too. I'll tell you more about his serious interest in history in a moment; for now let

me just say that for some reason both of us were fascinated by the fact that a hot dog and orange drink cost 8 cents in 1933. So I never minded hearing that fact as often as he felt like telling it to me.

One of the stories Soch liked to tell about himself was about how he ended up working for the NYC Welfare Department as a case investigator instead of teaching history in High School. After passing a written exam with flying colors, he'd say, he had to take an oral exam. Then he'd start to laugh and laugh, and we'd have to wait a few minutes; before he could recover his composure and return to the punch line. After a few minutes of listening to his Brooklyn accent, the examiner said, "I'm sorry Mr. Socholitzky, we only want teachers who are native English speakers."

So Soch went to work for the welfare department where he and my mother met because both helped organize the

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IN MEMORIAM

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welfare workers union. Soch would talk with great passion about his clients – unemployed single men – and about how he'd go out of his way to bend rules to help them out. He never said why this was so important to him, but my guess is that he felt his good fortune in graduating from college and having a job didn't give him the right to deny others what they might need to help them stay afloat.

Eventually my father decided to leave the department because he felt he'd never be promoted because of his political activism. He and a friend bought a record store in Princeton, New Jersey, in 1951, which, over time became the best classical and jazz record store between New York and Philadelphia. Now that the remainder of Soch's inventory is in my basement I can attest to the fact that he probably had at least one copy of every classical record ever pressed. I've also found jazz from obscure Norwegian record labels, soundtracks of Broadway shows that aren't even in record collectors' catalogues, Audubon bird call records and five different stereo recordings of drag races, each recording focusing on a specific Ford or Chevy engine.

Soch's store, The Princeton Music Center, survived competition with discount chains until 1982, when a developer bought an entire square block of stores, of which Soch's was one, and planned to put a clothing store into Soch's spot on Palmer Square. Many Princetonians wrote to their local paper to protest the closing of The Music Center, but Soch was forced to retire prematurely at age 70. I used to work in the store

at Christmastime and I found myself, when I had my psychotherapy office at home for a period of time, finishing my breakfast and telling Sandy I was on my way downstairs to "open the store."

Soch got to know just about everyone who came into his store more than once, actually just about everyone he ever met, and he found something to talk about with each one of them. He got me autographs of the Princeton University basketball team and an autographed copy of a book by the critic George Steiner. He schmoozed with cabbies and bus drivers, and laughed about how my brief career as a NYC cab driver cost him a fortune because he learned from me how much cabbies and waiters needed big tips to get by. When I worked with him at Christmastime we'd lunch at Harry's luncheonette, where he and Harry would talk business and politics throughout lunch. Until his death he corresponded regularly with a former Princeton student who had become a New York Times columnist and editor. Soch was often either asking of his friend an explanation of some outrageous behavior in Washington or suggesting topics he thought ought to appear in his friend's columns.

When he retired Soch returned to his passion for politics. He served on the Board of Directors of a low-cost senior housing project in Roosevelt where he and Honey lived, and he spent his mornings having coffee with his fellow retirees at the local deli.

He could be extremely stubborn, about just about everything, but it was possible to appreciate that aspect of him when it came to politics and his

insistence that people in public life behave in a principled way. I'd say "Hello, Dad," and he'd reply, "You know, those goddamn trade unionists are selling out their members and they don't care at all about the unorganized workers!" A few months later his conversational opening would be about gun control. It was a rather unsettling way to begin a conversation, but he was usually right. During the 1999 Presidential primary campaign he supported Bill Bradley over Al Gore. And because he called so often to give Bradley advice on what issues, facts, and quotes he ought to run in his TV commercials, he was on a first name basis with the people who answered the phone in Bradley's New Jersey office.

Soch was equally passionate about baseball. He was personally offended every time the Mets' John Franca blew a save.

Soch died on January 28, the day after Mozart's birthday. He loved Mozart, and the music we played for you as you arrived here today we played for him many times during his last few days in the hospital. Soch said he wanted to see his granddaughter, Sophie, graduate from her pre-school, and he won't, but all of us, including Sophie, (and probably all of you who talked with him for a few minutes) know how special she was to him.

So Dad, I thank you for your passions – your passion for politics, for justice, for baseball; for your love of music and your belief that everyone deserved to be treated with respect, and for letting me see how important it is to say just what it is that you think. ■

REPORT FROM THE BAUHAUS

Continued from Page 9

heavily bombed by the British and American air forces and 86% of the buildings were destroyed. The Bauhaus building was severely damaged; however, only 25 of the 314 Törten homes were destroyed. In the 1970s, the government of the former German Democratic Republic, with American financial assistance, began



Bauhaus Building, Dessau

the reconstruction of the Bauhaus building. In 1976, on the 50th anniversary of its opening, the building was rededicated and, in 1994, following the reunification of Germany, it was placed under the control of the new Bauhaus-Dessau Foundation. In 1999, the foundation inaugurated a new college, which is intended to be a continuation of the progressive educational tradition of the original school. The Bauhaus also sponsors programs on planning and urban design in Europe and is playing a significant role in the redevelopment of the cities of Eastern Germany.

Seeing the Bauhaus building and the Törten dwellings, the influence on Jersey Homesteads was immediately apparent. Once again, I was amused at the thought that anyone would ever make up the preposterous story that the Jersey Homesteads houses were designed for a desert climate like Arizona, rather than for a climate such as ours, which is very similar to that of Germany.

I would also like to mention that

one of the Törten houses has been retained in its original form and is used as the headquarters of the Moses Mendelsohn Society. (Though most of the houses have been added to or otherwise modified, the one change that is not permitted is alteration of the roofs.) Moses Mendelsohn, who was born in Dessau in 1728, was a philosopher who began the process of bringing German Jews into full participation in German life. He was the grandfather of the composer Felix Mendelsohn. The work of the society is part of Dessau's commemoration of its destroyed Jewish community. One member of that community was the composer Kurt Weill, who is best known for his collaboration with Berthold Brecht in such works as "The Three Penny Opera," the most famous song of which is "Mack the Knife."

Roosevelt Community Education and Recreation Coalition

Film Series

The Roosevelt Community Education and Recreation Coalition (RCERC) is pleased to announce the following film schedule for April:

April 3: Sandlot

We celebrate Opening Day by following Scotty Smalls and his baseball buddies. Featuring the legendary baseball-eating dog known as "The Beast."

April 10: Uptown Girls

A deceased rock legend's daughter learns what it means to be an adult while teaching a neglected kid how to be a child. A non-saccharin modern fable.

April 17: A League of Their Own

Tom Hanks, Rosie O'Donnell and Madonna form the world's first

Women's Professional baseball League. Crying (and Laughing) comes to baseball.

April 24: An Evening with Wallace & Gromit

Featuring the inventive duo in "A Grand Day Out", "The Wrong Trousers", "A Close Shave" and "Cracking Contraptions."

Show time is 7:30 on Saturday nights at the Roosevelt Public School. There is no charge!

If you have any suggestions, films you have not seen in years or have yet to see, please let us know by calling Paul Freedman at 609-448-0304, or emailing him at paul@freedmania.com. We look forward to seeing you at the movies!

Katz and Mallach Shine!

By Judith McNally

You didn't have to be an opera lover to appreciate the beautiful voice of Cheri Rose Katz, mezzo soprano, accompanied on piano by Alan Mallach. They presented an evening of operatic song and discourse at the well-attended Roosevelt Arts Project event, Saturday, March 20 at the Borough Hall.

Ms. Katz sang with depth and passion, presenting songs of "The Unknown Mascagni," an Italian opera composer. She was attired in a stylish long black skirt and white blouse.

Mr. Mallach, who played with delicacy and authority, opened the program with the piano solo, "Intermezzo." 100 years ago, he explained, it was the western world's most popular piece of music. He played two additional piano solos later in the evening.

Mr. Mallach said Mascagni was the son of a baker, with "not the slightest

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 10

right of way drowns and/or falls over? Let's see how far the department and governing officials will allow this to go on, whether out of ignorance or just not giving a darn. Hey, I'm sure some raw sewage is seeping out into the soil down there by the sewer main and no one gives a darn.

Oh, well, that's life here. Since we still have water, I guess there is no hurry. However, since my first call in February, the break in the line has gotten worse. Rather than fix it now, I guess we shouldn't worry until we actually have no water! We'll see, it's now March 3rd. These things do not repair themselves, they only get worse..... All the awareness in the world will not make it better.

Someone did show up and it appears it's not just the gasket as was determined by our operators. It's the setting? It is also/maybe the meter and a new one appears to be necessary? There goes another couple of days of waste. Perhaps Monday, March 8, but it's suppose to snow. We'll see. I'll keep you updated until the time of *The Borough Bulletin's* April publication.

March 16th – No word, no nothing.

March 17th – Got a call from our

Borough Administrator, Mr. Klein. The contractor will do the work for FREE!!.....However..... we don't know when.

Well, I'm not holding my breath. My sanity may go as I have to listen to a VERY similar sound of a commode running CONTINUOUSLY, ALL NIGHT LONG!!!!!! Last time, regarding our sewer line, we had to wait for our governing body members to investigate in order to make an intelligent determination. The fault was marked out on the street and, three years later, we're still waiting.....

In conclusion, if you have a problem with your meter, I would like to take this opportunity to inform my fellow residents that the toll free number is 1-888-448-0009. The emergency number is 201-394-4749. Why weren't the residents informed of this by now? From experience, don't waste your time calling anyone of authority 'cause they won't do anything about it except give lip service. Unlike our employees, they do not get paid; therefore, don't bother them unless you see a developer coming.

Nancy Warnick ■

By Clare Sacharoff

There was a guest speaker at the March 2nd meeting. Regina Sach, a qualified therapist, spoke about the possibility of starting an exercise program for seniors. Most exercises will be chair exercises and will be geared to individual needs. People were encouraged to bring water and wear comfortable clothing. These will run in six-week sessions, the first, March 11th through April 15th. Each session will be held at the Borough Hall on Thursdays, beginning at 11:00 a.m. for forty-five minutes. Many people expressed interest.

On the 3rd Tuesday of March, some members went to the Freehold Mall.

Our regular box lunch was held on March 26th at the Borough Hall at 12:30 p.m.

If a member is absent during our regular meeting, it is his or her responsibility to inquire about any upcoming trips or monthly lunch. Our regular trip is held the third Tuesday of each month. Our regular luncheons are held on the last Friday of each month.

We are looking into the possibility of a play either at the McCarter Theater in Princeton or the State Theater in New Brunswick.

Our hostess was Gerry Millar. Thank you, Gerry! ■

RESIDENTS!

This is your newspaper. We would be happy to hear from you either in the form of letters or articles which we would be pleased to include in our publication each month.

That's what this paper is for — to help us to get to know one another as well as to let you know what is happening in the town.

Let us know what you think, what you do.

How about it?

KATZ AND MALLACH SHINE

Continued from Page 16

glimmer” of musical talent elsewhere in the family. Mascagni’s father had wanted him to be a lawyer. The son would sneak out of the house to go to music school, for which he received beatings from his father. Eventually Mascagni was helped by an understanding uncle.

The songs presented by Ms. Katz and Mr. Mallach were written between the composer’s 17th and 21st birthdays. “Serenata” (1894), Mascagni’s most popular song, was written in a single afternoon.

Mr. Mallach, who travelled to Italy to research Mascagni’s life, said that in the composer’s mid-forties, he met and fell in love with a 20 year-old woman, Anna. Surviving are 4,243 letters Mascagni, married, wrote to her. The letters have been deemed a national cultural treasure in Italy. Mascagni is best known today for his opera “Cavalleria Rusticana.”

Mr. Mallach also did English translations of the songs’ lyrics, included in the program notes.

The RAP event ended with a deeply felt encore by Ms. Katz, and met with prolonged applause. One can only ask when will she sing at the Met?

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

By Nancy Rhodes

There are three Roosevelt residents who are currently active in the Lions Club: David Zaleski, Carol Zaleski and Paul Cousineau. The Hightstown/East Windsor Lions Club is a volunteer community service organization, and all proceeds of fundraisers are allocated to service projects for Sight programs and other community service programs: Camp Marcella for sight impaired children, The Delaware Valley Eye Bank, and Recording for the Blind, to name a few.

The Lions will be holding their 2004

annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3, at 9:00 a.m. at the Grant Street Park in Hightstown. All children from Roosevelt are invited to participate. The rain date is April 10th at 9:00 a.m.

THE DISSIDENT

By Wes Czyzewski

I haven’t lost teeth to a torturer
Just the normal wear and tear
Of reaching middle age
With a mediocre dental plan

Being a political prisoner
Would be too much of a stretch
Men like me are jailed on morals
charges

Not for crimes of conscience
Or against the State
Usually we’re left alone

Occasionally audited
And Marginalized

Since Nixon the empire has picked
More likely suspects for surveillance
Those with fiercer eyes and ties
to easy money

I’ve become a kind of lackadaisical
rebel

Content with a diet of sour grapes
Told-you-sos and Internet conspiracies

POWER OUTAGE

By Abby Shahn

5 A.M., wake up to go pee...
everything’s dark, total blackness...
a velvet blindfold covers my eyes.

Have I gone blind, or has the
Whole world turned dark?

Is this a power outage,
or a premonition?

Only half an inch of candle left,
everything else burned up in the old
grasshopper days...

And I’m thinking,
What if it all really did stop?

no more toilet flush,
This is the last tank of water.
no night reading,
old eyes not good enough in
this faint light...
no more early breakfast in town....
no more Canadian truckers in
the greasy spoon
no more greasy spoon...
no more Bunomatic...
no more Fryolator...
no more zapped apple pie.

Hell, you can’t even get there.
no more gas pump...
no more highway...
no more information highway.

You won’t even know what hit you,
But you’ll feel it hit.

Stern priests and priestesses
will be telling you what happened
but you (I) won’t believe a word
they say...

....vestigial beings that we are... ■





This is a very traditional Portuguese dessert. Every Portuguese restaurant I've ever eaten at, whether here in the United States or in Portugal, has it on their menu. One of the reasons I love to make it, in addition to the fact that it's delicious, is that it is so easy.

Ingredients:

1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In small saucepan over low heat, melt the sugar, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon. When the sugar has melted and is a golden honey color, remove pan from stove and *carefully* add 2 tablespoons water. Place pan back on stove over low heat and stir constantly until water is incorporated into sugar and sugar has a golden caramel color. Pour melted sugar into metal form pan and using the wooden spoon, quickly spread the sugar up the sides of the form pan (the sugar quickly becomes hard, hence the need for speed; it also makes the form pan very hot, so use caution).

In a mixing bowl, whisk the eggs, sweetened condensed milk and the 2% milk (when the sweetened condensed milk

Whenever I have friends over for dinner, they almost always request this dessert. As with most recipes, there are variations, however this version has never disappointed me. And I have to give credit where credit is due; this version is my mother's recipe.

1 can sweetened condensed milk
and the equivalent of 2 cans of 2% milk

can is empty, fill it twice with the 2% milk - that's how much 2% milk is used). Whisk well. Using a strainer, pour the egg/milk mixture into the form pan. Set form pan inside larger casserole dish. Fill casserole dish half way up the side of the form pan with boiling water (known as a water bath). Bake for 60-75 minutes, until set. Remove from oven and let cool slightly. Remove from water bath and cool. Refrigerate for several hours or overnight. Run knife along the inside of form pan; place serving dish on top of pan and carefully flip over. Pudding will drop onto the serving dish. ENJOY!! ■

It's April when you read this column. I should be trying to write things like: "Spring, the sweet Spring, is the year's pleasant king; Then blooms each thing, then maids dance in a ring, Cold doth not sting, the pretty birds do sing, Cuckoo, jug-jug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!" (from SPRING - Thomas Nashe). But it's mid-March when the column is written and Nashe's ode to that most pleasant season doesn't inspire on this day. I've just come in from clearing the walk and driveway of another coating of snow, three inches. Not enough to stop the wheels of industry. Just enough to slow the drive home from work and make one consider the value of lifting another shovel of snow.

From December through March 16, 2004, we've had about 34 inches of snow in Roosevelt. That's well over the normal snow season average of 24 inches for our area.

Winter precipitation levels were above average in December and February. January had below average precipitation. Overall, winter 2003/2004 was just a bit wetter than average, just 0.65 inches above normal for the three months.

Winter temperatures in Roosevelt ran colder and warmer than normal. December and February both had average temperatures about two degrees above normal. January, to the contrary, had an average temperature

nearly five degrees below normal. You remember those January days with high temperatures that didn't get out of the single digits don't you? The overall average temperature for winter 2003/2004 turned out to be nearly average, just 0.14 degrees below normal average.

Weather Event

The warmest April day on record was April 18, 1896. The high temperature in Paterson that day was 98 degrees. In 1976, there was a four-day heat wave. High temperatures ranged from 91 degrees to 97 degrees from the 17th through the 20th.

Weather Word

Straight Line Winds are thunderstorm winds most often found with the gust front. They originate from downdrafts and can cause damage which occurs in a "straight line," as opposed to tornadic wind damage which has circular characteristics.

A "microburst" is strong localized downdraft less than 2.5 miles in diameter from a thunderstorm. Peak gusts last from 2 to 5 minutes. ■

February 15 - March 15, 2004

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	30.7	22.1	26.4	0.00
16	32.9	13.5	23.2	0.00
17	40.5	16.3	28.4	0.00
18	42.4	28.2	35.3	0.00
19	48.6	27.1	37.9	0.00
20	48.0	26.2	37.1	0.00
21	53.1	35.8	44.5	0.00
22	45.7	30.9	38.3	0.00
23	45.9	25.7	35.8	0.00
24	37.0	33.6	35.3	0.00
25	40.5	19.8	30.2	0.10
26	44.4	22.3	33.4	0.00
27	46.4	27.9	37.2	0.00
28	57.0	23.7	40.4	0.00
29	61.5	28.6	45.1	0.00
1	66.0	32.9	49.5	0.00
2	66.9	42.3	54.6	0.00
3	60.1	37.4	48.8	0.00
4	51.3	43.2	47.3	0.14
5	51.8	41.4	46.6	0.10
6	63.7	45.9	54.8	0.45
7	54.5	39.2	46.9	0.15
8	47.1	33.8	40.5	0.50
9	48.9	33.1	41.0	0.50
10	45.5	36.0	40.8	0.30
11	54.7	31.8	43.3	0.00
12	46.9	35.6	41.3	0.00
13	44.6	30.2	37.4	0.00
14	51.3	23.5	37.4	0.00
15	58.6	36.9	47.8	0.00
Total Precipitation			2.24"	

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 2004 SEASON

Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

The Roosevelt String Band, with David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar, Howie Jacobson, and Sarah Houtz, will perform folk songs of contemporary singer-songwriters and from various folk traditions.

The Roosevelt String Band double CD is available Call 443-1898.

Saturday, May 22, 2004

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

ARTNOLOGY/COMPUTER MUSIC AND INSTALLATIONS

Brad Garton, Wiska Radkiewicz and Wes John-Alder will explore the intersection of technology and creativity, featuring new works of computer music, interactive performance and sculptural installations. They will be joined by researchers and artists from Princeton and Columbia Universities.

Saturday, June 4 and June 5, 2003

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Factory, located at 34 North Valley Road

ART IN THE FACTORY

Art exhibit and opening reception will feature many accomplished artists from town, some of whom have become internationally known.

Voluntary Contribution:

For most events \$5 per adult. For the String Band \$10 per adult, \$5 for seniors and children.

LEAVES, a 28-page collection of poetry by Roosevelt poets is now available at \$5.00 from the Roosevelt Arts Project. To order, call Robin Gould at 448-4616.

MURAL POSTCARDS AVAILABLE THROUGH ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT



The Roosevelt Arts Project proudly offers for sale our beautiful three-panel reproduction of the Ben Shahn mural from our school. The postcards are available for \$2.00 each and a small number of flat, unfolded copies, suitable for framing, are available for \$10.00 each. All proceeds go to the Roosevelt Arts Project to cover the cost of these cards, enable us to produce future postcards in our Roosevelt Arts series and to support RAP exhibits and events. Cards are available at the Borough Hall or by calling Robin Middleman at 426-4583. The Roosevelt Arts Project is a tax-exempt cultural organization funded exclusively by admissions and donations. RAP appreciates your support. ■

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Every Wednesday 7 - 8:30 p.m., Library open at RPS (adults need Monmouth County library card)
Call Delores Chasan, 609-448-2062 for information

Every Saturday at RPS 7:30 p.m., Cartoon Movie;
8:30 p.m. Family Movie Call Rec Commission 448-0539
or check Bulletin Board

April

2	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
4	Sun		Daylight Saving Time Begins
5	Mon		Passover Begins at Sundown
			RPS Closed-Spring Break April 5-12
		7:30 pm	Council Committee Meeting Borough Hall Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting Borough Hall Neil Marko, Mayor 609-443-6818
6	Tues		Passover
		12 noon	Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall Gerry Millar, President 609-448-035
7	Wed		RECYCLE
6	Sun		Easter
12	Mon	7:30 pm	Council Meeting Borough Hall Neil Marko, Mayor 609-443-6818
13	Tues	7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Ralph Seligman, Chairman 609-448-2340
14	Wed	7:30 pm	PTA Meeting RPS Larisa Bondy, President 609-443-7430
15	Thurs	7:30 pm	Synagogue Board Meeting Neil Marko 609-443-6818
16	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
19	Mon	7:30 pm	Council Committee Meeting Borough Hall Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227

20	Tues	2:30 to 9:00 pm	RPS School Board Elections and SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE Borough Hall
21	Wed		RECYCLE
		7 pm	RPS Community Health Fair Joy Marko, RPS School Nurse 609-448-2798
		7:30 pm	Environmental Commission Meeting David Schwendeman, Chairman 609-443-6204
22	Thurs	7:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting at RPS Jill Lipoti, President 609-448-9214
26	Mon		RPS Kindergarten Registration
27	Tues		RPS Kindergarten Registration
30	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
		8 pm	RAP Program Roosevelt String Band Borough Hall Robin Gould 609-448-4616

May Preview

1	Sat	8 pm	RAP Program Roosevelt String Band Borough Hall Robin Gould 609-448-4616
3	Mon		RPS Teacher Appreciation Week
		7:30 pm	Council Committee Meeting Borough Hall Mike Hamilton, President 609-443-5227
6	Tues	12 noon	Blood Pressure Check Borough Hall
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