

Bulletin

Volume 29 Number 14

March 2006

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Battel Elected With 81% of the Vote; Calls for Community Harmony

By Michael Ticktin

On February 7, the recall election that had been the subject of three petitions and a court case since last summer was finally held. Mayor Neil Marko was removed from office by a vote of 292 to 68, and Council President Beth Battel was elected to succeed him by defeating Mr. Marko by a nearly identical vote of 291 to 67. At her swearing in after the vote was certified, Ms. Battel called for harmony and mutual respect among all members of the community, based on fairness and assurance to all that their concerns will be heard. (See page 4 for the full text of the address.)

At the Council meeting on February 13, Councilwoman Pat Moser was elected to succeed Ms. Battel as Council president. Councilman Michael Hamilton was elected to succeed her as the class 3 (Council) member of the planning board. Since the Democratic committee, which consists of Ann Baker and Kirk Rothfuss, had not yet presented a list of three nominees for the now-vacant Council seat, the Council was not able to elect a new member. By statute, the party committee of the party to which the former holder of a Council seat belonged must present a list

with three nominees to the Council within 15 days of the occurrence of the vacancy. After that, the Council has 15 days to choose among them. Should it fail to do the party committee then has authority to make the choice. The council has scheduled a special meeting for March 6, the same evening as the agenda meeting, to elect a new council member, by which time the Democratic committee is expected to have submitted its list.

Borough Administrator Bob Clark reported that he was sending a letter to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) advising that the borough is in the process of obtaining quotes from three contractors for the clean-up of the former gas station property, which has been the subject of repeated studies for the past decade. Councilwoman Moser reported that DEP has threatened to penalize the borough if nothing is done to actually remediate the property. Mr. Clark said that the objective will be to “get a clean bill of health” so that the property can finally be sold and put to productive use.

On the same topic, Councilman Hamilton reported

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please report any bear sightings to:
State Bureau of Wildlife Management
Kim Tinnes
Wildlife Control
609-259-7955



As happens every year, this is the time we begin to realize that even though there have been, for the most part, very generous contributions, not enough residents have contributed at all.

We ask now for those who have not done so yet, or those who can give more, please do so. WE ARE BEGINNING TO RUN SHORT!

If you have a child who will be ready for kindergarten in September, be sure to read the enclosed insert which will tell you what you need to do.

Parents: It has come to our attention that many children as well as teenagers have been playing in the streets. Before there is an accident because of on-coming cars, please make sure that this practice is stopped.

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

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

During the winter months, the library will not be open on Wednesday evenings. But it may be visited from 3 to 4 p.m. most days when the staff is available to help check out books.

Senior Citizens, think about becoming a member of the Roosevelt Community Shares Agriculture. See page 15.

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Calendar & Breaking Bread Art
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Roosevelt Preservation Association Appeal Postponed; Stormwater Management Plan Approved

At its February 14 meeting, the planning board was scheduled to resume hearing the appeal of the Roosevelt Preservation Association, which is headed by former mayor Bert Ellentuck, against the decision by Zoning Officer Bob Francis not to issue any violation notice to Yeshiva Me'on Hatorah, which is operating a day school for 12 ninth grade students at the synagogue of Congregation Anshei Roosevelt. The hearing was postponed until the March 14 meeting, however, due to the lack of an official signed copy of ordinance #97, the current zoning ordinance, in the municipal ordinance book Borough Administrator Bob Clark advised the planning board that he had contacted the Monmouth County Planning Board, with which all land use ordinances are required to be filed in order to be effective, and would be obtaining a copy of ordinance #97 from them presently.

Carmela Roberts, the borough's municipal engineer, presented to the board the Stormwater Management

Plan that she had prepared in compliance with Department of Environmental Protection requirements. The plan outlines the measures that must be taken to protect streams, including measures to prevent runoff when there is new construction and notification to the public not to allow anything but water to go into storm drains, since they drain directly into streams.

The board adopted resolutions memorializing the approval granted to Kenneth and Carolyn LeCompte for construction of a house on the Pine Valley Swim Club property and dismissing, without prejudice, the application of Manuela McCusker to have sheds in the side yard at 23 Pine Drive. The McCusker dismissal was made effective April 11, 2006 in order to allow time to relocate the sheds in warm weather.

Michael Ticktin, chairman of the planning board committee on redevelopment and affordable housing, reported that representatives of Lutheran Social Ministries had visited the town and were interested in the possibility of building, on leased

public property, a group home for as many as nine residents, which would fully satisfy Roosevelt's affordable housing obligation without need for any regional contribution agreement (which would cost \$35,000 per unit transferred). Possible sites include municipal utility properties, the gas station property and the area behind the municipal building. Mr. Ticktin also reported that he had been in contact with the holders of the liens on the two houses on South Rochdale Avenue that have been designated as redevelopment properties and that both are now in the process of foreclosure. The presence of multiple lienholders has been a source of considerable delay in both cases. If the borough does not wish to wait for the completion of the foreclosure process, it would have the option of acquiring the properties through eminent domain, since they are redevelopment properties, but that would require the appropriation of funds for legal and appraisal costs and for the actual acquisition price set by the court. ■

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?

From the Mayor

The following is the text of the address given by Mayor Battel when she took office following certification of her victory in the special election.

It is my great honor, twice within a period of a little over a month, to take the oath of office in service to the people of the Borough of Roosevelt. I think it only fitting that I take this opportunity to share with you my thoughts as to where we are and where we should go from here.

The events leading up to this unprecedented transfer of office have been trying for all of us. Harsh accusations have been made. Divisions within the community have been exacerbated. It is my sincere hope that we can put all of this behind us, and move on to restore the harmony and mutual respect that have traditionally characterized the community that we all love.

I ask you all to join me in exerting our best efforts to make sure that community decisions are made in a calm, consensual manner, based on sound information thoughtfully discussed, and with the public good as the highest goal. We welcome the participation of all who are willing to be good neighbors and citizens and to be respectful of the rights of others. No person who shows respect for others should ever be made to feel unwelcome in this community. I wish to assure all members of this community, regardless of who they

are or how long they have been here, that their concerns will always be listened to with understanding and be addressed fairly.

In 1630, John Winthrop, the first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, spoke to the citizens of the newly-founded community in these words: "We must consider that we shall be as a City upon a Hill, the eyes of all people are upon us." Jersey Homesteads was also founded as a model community, and Roosevelt has continued to receive far more attention over the years than would generally be given to a town with fewer than 1,000 people. Recent events have once again directed the "eyes of all people" upon Roosevelt, and it is most unfortunate that there are some who, in the heat of conflict, saw fit to advance their cause by making slanderous statements about our community. It is my sincere hope that by the common efforts of our public officials and of all of our citizens, we shall succeed in demonstrating to the world that our community model still works, and that Roosevelt is, and will remain, a good community worthy of its great heritage. ■

Dear Good People of Roosevelt,

Thank you for your expression of support for me in the recent special election. I promise you that I will endeavor to do my best to live up to your expression of confidence in me.

My aim for the immediate future is to encourage everyone, both on the Council and planning board and in the community at large, to work together to resolve the many issues facing our borough. The Council and I welcome the constructive input of all residents and wish to bring an end to the adversarial tone of the last several months.

Volunteers are especially needed, and I encourage everyone to bring their talents and interests forward so that we can work together to make our community one of which we can continue to be proud.

I would like to express particular gratitude to the outstanding team that we are fortunate to have in our borough offices, all of whom have been so helpful to me in getting started facing this new challenge.

Sincerely,

Beth Battel ■



To have a good neighbor is to find something precious.--Chinese proverb

Correction to the December Bulletin

The below statement made in the Bulletin is not in the zoning or any ordinance of the borough. It was a general statement of zoning. I apologize for this misunderstanding and will try to be more careful in the future.

Understanding Zoning Laws: 5 Tips: Get the zoning laws on your side

You may have big dreams of adding on to your home, planting a tree in the yard or even painting your door an unusual color. But you'll want to make a pit stop before you actually put your plans into action: your local zoning ordinance.

The following is taken verbatim from the "Borough of Roosevelt Anti-Litter Ordinance" #99.

Section 15: No person shall throw, leave, deposit or abandon litter or junk on any private property within the Borough, whether owned by such person or not, except that the owner or person in control of private property may deposit or leave litter and junk in any building, structure, container or receptacle in such a manner that which is so left or deposited will be prevented from being carried or deposited by the elements upon the street, sidewalk or other public place or upon any private property, and so that such litter and junk will not be visible.

Section 16: The owner or person in control of any private property shall at all times maintain the prem-

ises free of litter and junk, except as provided in Section 17.

Section 17: No person shall throw, deposit, leave or abandon litter or junk upon any open or vacant private property within the Borough of Roosevelt whether owned by such person or not.

Section 18: The Borough Zoning Officer or any police officer is hereby authorized and empowered to notify the owner of any private property within the Borough, or the agent of such owner, to properly dispose of litter or junk located on such owner's property which is dangerous to public health, safety or welfare. Upon the failure, neglect or refusal of any owner or agent so notified to properly dispose of litter dangerous to the public health, safety or welfare within 10 days after such notice, the Borough Health Inspector, Borough Administrator or the Borough Clerk are hereby authorized and empowered to pay for the disposing of such litter or junk or to order its disposal by the Borough.

- a) When the Borough has effected the removal of such litter or junk, or has paid for its removal, the cost thereof plus accrued interest at the rate of six (6%) percent per annum from the date of the completion of the work, if not paid by such owner prior thereto, shall be charged to the owner of such property on the next regular tax bill forwarded to such owner by the Borough, and said charge shall be due and payable, and if not paid shall be collectible in the same manner as unpaid tax bills.

Section 19: Any person violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine of not more than One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars, or imprisonment not to exceed 90 days, or both. Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such hereunder.

The above ordinance has been enforced by past zoning officers and needs to be consistent with future zoning officers. The zoning officer does not make the ordinances, he is hired by the Council to see that the rules are followed and the residents are informed. Inconstancy is what gives the position a bad repute.

Job description of the Zoning Officer...

Section C-8: Make monthly visual inspections of the borough to detect violation of any Borough Zoning Ordinance.

Inspections are done to help residents to be in compliance and informed of the Borough Zoning Ordinance.

Your Taxes Are At Work for Health, Safety, & Welfare of all Roosevelt residents.

"A good neighbor is a welcome blessing!" ■

From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

On February 15th we celebrated our 100th day of school! This annual event was organized by our kindergarten and first grade teachers, Ms. Bondy and Mrs. Gazzani. All students had an opportunity to participate in the activities which were run by the students in kindergarten and first grade. It's amazing how many activities can be created using the number 100. Whole school activities are worthwhile so that the students can help each other and learn from their peers.

Our sixth graders had their annual Valentines dance on February 13th. The money that was raised helps defray the cost of their trip. On February 14th, the students had a visit from Abraham Lincoln, a.k.a. Herb Johnson. Mr. Johnson delighted the students with tales of Abe Lincoln. Our "Pennies for Patients"

fundraiser continues through March. Thank you for your very generous donations. Mr. Kaufman sponsored a very successful Target A-thon on February 23rd. Thank you to everyone that helped out during all of our school events. Your dedication is an example of the strong connection among parents, community and the school that has helped to ensure that Roosevelt Public School is an outstanding place to teach and learn.

Our PTA is working hard for the school's annual Winter Carnival. There will be games, prizes, refreshments, and a Chinese auction. This is a wonderful time to bring youngsters of all ages to participate in the games, and take a chance to win something special at the Chinese auction. The carnival takes place on Saturday, March 4th and will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Kindergarten registration is scheduled for March 13th & 14th. If you have a child that will be five by October 1, 2006, they are eligible for kindergarten. See the insert for detailed information.

RPS NEEDS YOU!

"What our children become, that which our community becomes."--- Anonymous

Educating children takes an entire community. With that said, RPS is seeking to enhance the educational programs in the school by offering before and/or after school activities to our students. We would like to utilize the talents and expertise of our community members to help facilitate activities for our students. Activities can range in length from a one day seminar to those that last a

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March 2006 School Dates

March 2Read Across America PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Board of Ed Meeting, 7:30 p.m.	March 14Ice Cream
March 4Winter Carnival	March 17Green and Yellow Day
March 7 & 912:30 Dismissal - Parent/ Teacher Conferences	March 20-24 State Tests administered this week
March 10Pizza	March 23Board of Ed Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
March 13 & 14Kindergarten Registration	March 24Pizza
	March 28Ice Cream
	March 29Wonderful Wednesday

FROM OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, SHARI PAYSON

Continued from Page 6

few weeks. If you are interested in sharing your skills, please call the school to obtain additional information.

As in the past, RPS would like to offer computer classes to the senior citizens of Roosevelt. The fifth graders, in concert with Mr. Gershman, classroom teacher, Mr. Grayson, technology director, and Ms. Goldfond, learning consultant, will be facilitating the classes. Classes will begin on March 17, 2006, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m., every other Friday through the end of May. Please call the school at 448-2798 if you are interested in attending.

Budget time is upon us. The board finance committee meets diligently to go over the school budget item by item, line by line. This painstaking effort is what enables us to keep our budget well balanced and consistent from year to year. This is facilitated by Mrs. Minutolo, our Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Thank you Mrs. Minutolo.

Our school building and grounds serve the community on a regular basis. I hope that everyone will be involved in helping us preserve the school. We can do this by teaching our graduates, neighbors and friends to treat the school and the grounds with respect. That way we can all enjoy the facility. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT

Continued from Page 1

that it will be necessary to remove the tanks and that this might cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000, and that money for this purpose will have to be included in this year's budget. He asked for public participation in the budget process, including input as to what the borough's priorities should be. Budget meetings were scheduled for February 21 and February 27. Mr. Hamilton also said that he wanted to find out if there was any possibility of combining refinancing of municipal debt with the proposed refinancing of the State debt.

Councilman Bob Silverstein reported that the pump at well #4 had been repaired. He said that he had toured the water plant with the operator, Toby Moore, who had shown him the problem areas and explained his plans for rebuilding and updating the equipment, much of which dates to the original construction in 1936. Mr. Silverstein called for the creation of a citizen's advisory committee on utility infrastructure. He also reported on the organizational meeting of the environmental commission, in which Dave Schwendemann was elected as chairman, Ed Moser as vice chairman and Ann Kassahun as secretary. Mr. Schwendemann, he reported, had met with DEP officials concerning beavers being relocated from the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area because their dams are blocking the stream and causing water to back up towards the sewer plant.

Councilman Dan Hoffman thanked the borough's public works supervisor, George Vasseur, for his good work in keeping the streets clear in the Lincoln's Birthday

weekend blizzard. Councilwoman Peggy Malkin called for taking steps to improve the appearance of public buildings, including plantings on the gas station site and painting of the exterior of the municipal building. Dolores Chasan said that the Roosevelt Arts Project is planning to present a new sign for the municipal building. Councilwoman Moser reported that the prison inmates who had provided free labor to the borough had done an "incredible job" of scraping tanks at the water plant, with resulting "significant savings" to the borough.

Zoning Officer Bob Francis commented that, in general, the borough looks good because most residents take pride in the appearance of their property. He regards consistency and communication as the key elements in the enforcement program. He asked that the Council include information about property maintenance requirements along with the utility bills and that ordinance #99, which prohibits the exterior storage of junk, be made more specific.

Fire Chief Kim Dexheimer asked that the Council amend the fire department ordinance in order to allow non-residents to be members of the fire company. He and the Council members discussed various options for purchasing fuel for the fire trucks. Dom's Getty in Hightstown is used for most borough vehicles, but it does not have diesel fuel. Councilwoman Malkin said that she would check with various credit card companies.

Melissa Branco asked how the fire department can find the hydrants when they are covered with snow.

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NATURE NEWS OF NOTE

While taking a mid-day walk on January 8th, Angel Cloughly and Linda Silverstein were nearly run over by about 40 wild turkeys! They were exploring the Roosevelt Woodland Trail section 'A' by the water treatment plant when the flock crossed their path quite close and quite unafraid. A wonderful sight! They also reported finding a dead box turtle on the trail. This poor animal may have been fooled by mild temperatures and emerged from hibernation too soon. They also noticed extensive flooding near the Tamara Drive trail end as well as an open manhole cover and I thank them both for this news.

Also, about the time this edition of the *Bulletin* is published is the time we should be hearing a chorus of wood frogs calling all of their species to gather for their annual mating orgy. I hope these words are ok to print, but the event is real and spectacular to witness. You should hear the calls start (in the middle of the day) sporadically at first for a day or two then very loud and trailing off the next couple of days. Three to seven days and it's all over for another year. Check out the swamp ponds at the end of Pine Drive on sunny days and just listen. If you hear a weed wacker, lawn mower or chain saw in the pond it's probably them. Then go to the board walk trail near the pond's edge to see them and then call me! Thanks.

The last bear sighting reported to me was January 14. The Dave

Parson family actually saw the bear at the bird feeders in their backyard and the family dog chased it to a tree near the back of the yard. Dave said it paused a bit but instead of climbing the tree it ran back into the Assunpink. It being a young male and a mild winter means a deep lengthy hibernation unlikely so keep "BEAR AWARE" this winter.

DAMN BEAVER DAMS

I was dismayed to hear about a problem at the water treatment plant of a rising water table this winter. George Vasseur encountered some hunters who told him of beaver dams below the Pine drive facility. I saw signs of beaver in the Assunpink for many years but I never thought they would become a problem for the town.

Well, to avoid significant fines from the State utility people, the Assunpink biologists were notified and they said they would have the beavers removed and the dams destroyed. This was done but the dams were rebuilt and the problem of improper water flow continues. It's a shame we can't coexist because I like beavers. Just think about it – we have beaver, black bear, coyotes, fox, deer, turkey, wood turtles and many more species. Is this a great place to live or what! Oh, back to the beaver problem, if anyone has an idea as to how we can coexist and rectify our water flow, please let me know.

ROOSEVELT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CLUB

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission needs help with some of its more fun projects. Our new Council liaison, Bob Silverstein has volunteered to start an Environmental Action club to bring together people of all ages with similar feelings for our environment who are willing to help make it better.

Please contact me or Bob or come to our next meeting to help get this club started. (We are applying for pizza and soda money in our budget for this program but don't tell anyone.)

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meeting will be Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. on March 15, 2006. Everyone is welcomed to attend and if anyone has a newsworthy nature note or comment of environmental concern, please give me a call at 609-443-6204. Thank you for reading this column. ■

Walkers!

Be visible on the
road at night.
Wear reflective
clothing.

Yoga

The Recreation Department is continuing its very popular yoga program this Winter at Roosevelt Borough Hall. On occasion, classes will be held at the Roosevelt School. Classes will be instructed by Kym Kulp, a certified Yoga Instructor who teaches at The Peddie School and throughout the area. While yoga mats will be provided, participants are welcomed to bring their own. Classes will be offered on Tuesday nights from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The cost of the program is \$80.00 per person. Program dates are January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7. Walk-ins are welcomed! A Spring program will begin in late March.

Community Dance Night - "Dancing with the Stars"

Residents are invited to a Community Dance Night on March 25th at the Roosevelt School, from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.. This special event will be led and DJ'd by Candace Woodward-Clough. Candace has extensive training in Ballroom Dance, Jazz, Tap, Acting and Singing. She has acted, danced in or choreographed several Off-Broadway and summer stock productions, as well as movies, soap operas and videos.

The night will start with an hour of brief instruction of various types of dances, based upon the interest of those in attendance. The remaining two hours will be devoted to an open dance party! No dance experience is required – adults and children are welcomed. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

Movie Night

The Recreation Department invites all area residents to the Roosevelt Public School gymnasium to enjoy the following movies on the "big screen":

Saturday, March 11th, 7:00 p.m. "CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY"

This whimsical comedy is based on the book by Roald Dahl, as was the 1971 movie *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*, which starred Gene Wilder. This time around, Willy Wonka is played by Johnny Depp, and young Charlie Bucket is played by Freddie Highmore. Charlie is one of five lucky kids who are taken by the quirky Wonka on a tour of his visually stunning chocolate factory, where they have wonderful adventures.

Bus Trip

Gunmetal Blues at George Street Playhouse

When: Tuesday, April 4th

Where: Bus will leave the Roosevelt School

Depart: 6:30 p.m.

Return: Approximately 10:45 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00

In the moody piano bar of an airport hotel, a mysterious blonde catches the eye of a ruggedly handsome gumshoe. A film noir musical parody of the hard-boiled detective story - complete with a deliciously bluesy jazzy score.

George Street Playhouse is delighted to welcome back two-time Tony Award nominee Alison Fraser (*Lend Me A Tenor; Lips Together, Teeth Apart*) to reprise her role as "The Blonde" which won her the Barrymore Award in Philadelphia in 1995.

Join us on a Coach Tours chartered bus to the George Street Playhouse. Registration deadline is March 22nd.

Summer Camp

The Recreation Department is now making plans for our 2006 Summer Camp program. Further information regarding the program will be available in the April *Roosevelt Bulletin* and at the Roosevelt School.

For further information on any Recreation Department programs, please contact (609) 448-0539, x3. The Recreation Department is also looking for ideas for new programs, activities, and trips. Please let us know what you would like to see offered to our community! ■

(Editor's Note: In case anyone is wondering about the benefit that we get from having a municipal administrator, here is our administrator's report to the Council of his activities in the first three weeks of January.)

Worked with Walt Reibrich of Commerce Risk Control on the 4th Quarter 2005 Safety Incentive Program Report (SIP) for the Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund.

Working with Toby Moore on the 2004 Right to Know Survey Update for inventory of hazardous chemicals at the sewer plant, water plant and municipal complex.

Borough Engineer, Carmela Roberts, and I met with the owner of Diamond Machine Co., his lawyer and two engineers regarding issues they may need to address when they apply to the Planning Board for approval to expand the company's facilities on North Valley Road.

Obtained a copy of the internal procedures of the Monmouth County Community Development Office for its Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Bruce Reibold is proceeding with the file review for the remediation of the environmentally challenged service station property. We should spend \$205 to send him to a Feb. 14th DEP seminar at Cook College on site remediation work plans, methods and reports.

Ron Kostar or an Environmental Commission member will try to

attend a Monmouth County Clean Communities Meeting on January 25th in Freehold.

Pat Moser, Councilwoman and I met with Hightstown representatives [Mayor Bob Patten, a councilman, Borough Administrator Candace Gallagher, and Public Works Director Larry Blake] at 3:00 on January 25th regarding possible collection of Roosevelt's trash by an in-house operation in Hightstown after our contract with Waste Management expires.

Councilman Bob Silverstein and I met with Verizon representatives at 1:30 on January 25th regarding the process for them to obtain a franchise to provide cable service in the Borough in competition with Comcast.

On February 2nd, Bob Petrilla and I attended a meeting of the Friends of the Capital to Coast Trail at Allaire State Park. Currently, Millstone Township is scheduled to apply by April 1 for grant funds on behalf of itself, Roosevelt, Assunpink Wildlife Management Area and Upper Freehold. We will be working on ordinances regarding history and recreation.

Carmela Roberts is working on revisions to our Wastewater Management Plan and Wastewater Management Ordinance.

We will watch for applications arriving in March to apply, along with the County and Roosevelt School District for a grant from

the Federal or State Safe Routes to School programs for a sidewalk on the east side of Rochdale from Oscar Dr. to Clarksburg Rd.

Carmela Roberts and I will be looking into grants for solar power installations at the water and sewer plants and municipal building.

I spent half a day last week talking to a consultant for the federal government about flood zones in Roosevelt so that the data could be reported to FEMA. It will influence flood insurance rates in Roosevelt.

It will cost us \$1,600 to cut down and remove two trees on Borough property adjacent to, and threatening to topple onto, the first house on Rochdale north of RPS.

A good deal of time was spent trying to locate all zoning ordinances in the Borough so that they could be provided to the parties in the appeal pending before the Planning Board.

Activities of the Ad Hoc Phosphorus Reduction Advisory Committee and attendance by Ed Moser and me at a meeting to acquire Federal Building Livable Communities grants from the Municipal Land Use Center at the College of New Jersey (most likely to be used to construct wetlands for use in phosphorus reduction). ■

The Not Quite Forgotten Tale of the Rodham Witch, with Diverse Notes on, & Curious Facts Concerning Ancient Scotland, the Old & New Worlds, & with Special Attention Paid to Colonial Virginia

Note: These are stories as I remember them. I acknowledge corrections and extensions made by my brother, Dr. Thomas Carroll Tulloss.

The men, seven of them as the law required, waited in the late afternoon near a small farm house. They had picked a spot providing a clear view of steps leading to the door through which the woman of the house would enter. She was away from home now. They knew this. She had taken a covered container of soup to the home of a woman who had been quite ill of late and was now in recovery. The seven stirred uneasily. They were nervous and only spoke occasionally in low voices. They knew what they hoped, and they knew what they feared. They knew the consequences were serious if their hopes (or convictions) proved false.

The sun was low in the sky. There were many chores still to be done; the woman would have to return soon. Perhaps, the figure walking up the road now would prove to be her.

The woman's name was Anne Neal (born Anne Rodham) wife of Captain Neal of the Virginia colonial militia. A respected member of the community...at least until recently. The family's history was, at the moment, in a rough spot.

Anne had fallen into a disagree-

ment with a neighbor woman. The argument had become heated. Finally, Anne, who apparently had a colorful vocabulary not usu-



My Aunt Anne Holdsworth Cresap, 2003, finder of Rodham & Tulloss stories in Virginia Colonial records

ally reported in descriptions of the colonists of Virginia, had cursed the woman.

To Anne's great discomfort (or so one would suppose), the woman shortly fell ill and her cow died.

Naturally, the woman's husband took this as evidence that Anne could cast a potent curse. He reported her to the local government—as a witch. Colonial Virginia does not

have the reputation for prosecuting many witches; but being a witch was against the law; and it was a serious matter. Undoubtedly, the Neal and Rodham families were beside themselves with concern for Anne's future.

On the other hand, once she had vented her anger, Anne did what a good churchgoing woman of the time would do. She visited the sick woman with hot soup and prayed by her bedside. Since this sort of behavior was inconsistent with the public understanding of witchery, it was not soon before the sick woman's husband was back before the court with a request that the witchcraft charges be set aside, as the accusation had obviously been made in error. He was informed that setting aside the charges was beyond the power of the court...at least on his word alone.

According to the then-current law, seven men had to make witness to some fact that would prove without doubt that Anne Neal was no witch. And so the seven men waited to observe the necessary. In preparation, they had placed a horseshoe under the steps. Perhaps everyone knew that a witch cannot possibly pass unharmed over a horseshoe. My brother Tom has the impression that the judge, partial to letting the charges drop, offered the horseshoe

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TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 11

idea as a graceful and legally acceptable exit strategy.

When Anne Neal appeared and walked up the steps and into her house, the men came to the door and were welcomed into the home. There stood Anne unharmed. The men duly reported what they had seen in court. The accusations against Anne were dropped...and we know all this because the facts are preserved to this day in the records of the Virginia Colony. The story was not unknown to the occasional genealogist or historian, but the Tulloss family and its relations were delighted to have my mother's sister, Anne Hutchins Cresap rediscover the tale. At the time, she was a retired librarian hired by the University of Richmond (Virginia) to create a card catalogue. The catalogue now serves to access data preserved on notes cards in shoeboxes by researchers hired as part of a New Deal effort to record the contents of the Virginia colonial records. She was allowed 100 index tabs in the card catalogue. One is "Tulloss"—Anne's act of pride, if not prejudice.

Anne [Rodham] Neal's father, Mathew Rodham, came to the New World as a teenager. He was not the then Rodham's firstborn and, therefore, not likely to inherit the Rodham lands in Northumbria south of the Scottish border. The Rodham family was very old even then. Today, all that remains of Roddam at the original site is the name on a red letterbox set into a stone wall.

Hundreds of years earlier a certain Castle Roddam had been granted to an ancestor of Matthew. The original declaration states the castle is Roddam's "forevermair," "as long as



My parents, J. Caroll Tulloss and Estelle Kennedy Hutchins wedding on June 11, 1943 in Baltimore County, Maryland

meadow grows grass and nose grows hair." From this we can see the importance of consistent and fundamental bodily functions in measuring indefinitely long periods of time. "Roddam" is a very old word. I believe I have read that it predates the language of the ferocious Picts who fought the Romans and were walled out of Roman England by Hadrian. The word "roddam" is a plural and in the prepositional case. It could have been a description of a home location before it was taken as a family name – "in the clearings," might be a translation of it.

We know that Matthew Rodham maintained relations with both sides in the English Civil War as it played out in the colonies and preserved properties both in Catholic Maryland and Protestant Virginia.

We also know that he was recalled to England to testify in a case of official malfeasance in the Admiralty Court. Next to his name in the court records is written the word "eloquent." My family takes this to mean that he could read and write. He finally settled on 100 acres of land on the northern peninsula of Virginia where he eventually had a neighbor named Cloud (or Claude or Claudius) Tulloss (or Tullos or Tullis), who also had been granted 100 acres of land, in this case, because he had sponsored the travel of two indentured servants from England to the colonies.

Cloud, the first Tulloss of whom the north Virginia Tullosses are descendants, came to the colonies in about 1630. As an aside, if you recall the old TV series "McCloud," that name means "son of Cloud." The name "Tulloss" is derived from "Tulloch," and both versions co-exist in Scotland today. "Tulloch" is believed to have been spelled "Tullaigh" at one time, which was derived in turn from "pit" tullaigh—"piece or part of a small hill." Unfortunately, "pit" was so widely used as a euphemism for the human genitals (translate as "piece or part"), that it became an embarrassment to have it attached to your name (or so says my brother, Tom, with his grand memory full of Scots, Irish, English, and American history, literature, etc....and his sense of humor). At any rate, the "pit" was removed or lost, and the history of the Scots-American surname continued from there. (Again according to Tom, the prefatory part of the old name is not entirely lost; and "Patullo" is a relatively common

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TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 12

modern form of the old name still existing in Scotland.)

The Tullosses were long ago related by marriage to Clan Ross and could claim the protection of that clan as a "sept." [Note: Once, I received a presentation from Bell Laboratories President, Dr. Ian Ross. For the occasion, I wore a tie having the pattern of an ancient, Ross hunting tartan. Dr. Ross, with his marvelous Scots accent, said he liked the tie. I told him it was an ancient, Ross hunting tartan. He replied without hesitation, "I hope ye're not huntin' ancient Rosses!"]

Returning for a moment to Matthew Rodham, we learn from various records, that the only survivors among his children were four, strong-willed women who were determined to preserve their father's name. One of the four married a son of Cloud Tulloss. By the time the Rodham women were becoming grandmothers, they decided that the name "Rodham" should be preserved by becoming the given name of some of the male grandchildren. Of course, it was made so. Now "Rodham" is a given name in families with at least 60 different surnames including "Smith" and "Jones."

As time passed in the seventeenth and eighteenth century, the Virginia Tullosses (with other family surnames occasionally being added as newly-created given names as time passed) proved to have a sort of conservative wanderlust. It was the case, that you could buy a certain acreage for a penny if you cleared the land, farmed it, and (in some cases) built a school. The Tullosses took advantage of a good land deal, and many

times over the generations, they'd move a little bit beyond the well-established area of Virginia, claim land, pay a penny, do the necessary, and sell the land for a considerable gain. Then they moved again. This process continued until the family was well-established in what is now western Virginia, West Virginia, and Ohio. One of the early land claims was surveyed by a young fellow named Thomas Jefferson whose signature remains on the survey document. One of the existing surveys notes a point on a property that is a certain distance from the building in which the Tulloss owner "kept school." Whether this Tulloss was a teacher in addition to farming and other things is unknown.

Some of the Tulloss family were certainly slave owners prior to the Emancipation Proclamation. Some fought for the Confederacy (my father remembers seeing seventy-year-old, gray uniforms in closets in the 1930s when his family lived with relatives in northwestern Virginia). Even with the knowledge of current times, it is hard to imagine the suffering to which these Tullosses contributed from some time in the Colonial period down to the Twentieth Century. Some day I may write about my father's memories relating to that part of the family. Just let me say here that the children of my father's mother, Helen Grafflin Tulloss, surely received a remarkable, Depression Era, education-by-example in living among, and caring for, their fellow human beings. If you want to see someone who is genuinely comfortable, congenial, honest, and forthright with any person he meets, you should

meet my father.

I hope in the future to tell the stories of a two-pistol-toting builder of Baltimore Clipper ships named William Skinner; a distinguished surgeon from Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University, my maternal grandfather, Elliott Holdsworth Hutchins (who played every minute of every JHU football game during his medical school days, was sometimes mistaken for a Catholic priest because of his conservative collars, and, for his mental well-being, lived on the wonderful farm I loved in childhood); my great aunt, Edith Grafflin, who attended the circus (in her later years, always for free) every year from childhood until her final hospitalization in her 90s and, when Tom and I received chemistry sets for Christmas declared with gusto that she would drink the fake "blood" we had immediately learned to make; incidents from the childhoods of my parents and my three siblings; and other, much-loved, family remembrances and related curiosities preserved by accident of history. ■

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:

Pearl Seligman 448-2340

Bess Tremper 448-2701

To the Mayor and Borough Council of Roosevelt:

By Arthur Shapiro

This will serve as my resignation as Town Historian and Chair of the Jersey Homestead Historic District Advisory Council, a position I've held since its establishment on May 13, 1991. ORDINANCE #149 establishing the Historic District, Advisory Council and position of Town Historian states,

The Advisory Council shall conduct such programs and take such measures as may deem feasible and appropriate to educate the public including both residents and non-residents of the Borough of Roosevelt, concerning the history of the Borough and its significance the history of New Jersey and of the United States and to publicize and commemorate the Jersey Homestead Historic District, which is included in both the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places.

I would like to summarize some of the accomplishments of the Council and myself in fulfilling that mandate:

Presented over 80 lectures on the history of Roosevelt/Jersey Homesteads to historical societies, organizations and schools.

Presented six lectures to Roosevelt Public School 3rd Graders on the History of Roosevelt

Conducted over twenty historical tours of Roosevelt

Wrote Brief History of Roosevelt for the Roosevelt website

Created new website for Roosevelt Public School Alumni

Wrote Brief History of Roosevelt

for the Encyclopedia of New Jersey

Presented plaque to Roosevelt Public School containing names of the original town settlers

Presented lecture on History of Roosevelt to the Roosevelt Arts Project

Presented 10 awards at Roosevelt Public School graduations for best student project on the History of Roosevelt

Provided copies of historic documents, film and photographs on the history of the Jersey Homesteads to the Rutgers University Special Collections & University Archives, Roosevelt Collection, New Brunswick, NJ.

Provided Copies of Materials on Roosevelt to the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, FDR Library & Museum, Hyde Park, New York

Provided copies of historic documents and photographs of Albert Einstein's involvement in the establishment of the Jersey Homesteads to the Jewish National & University Library, Department of Manuscripts & Archives, Albert Einstein Archives, Jerusalem, Israel

Provided photograph display and conducted lecture on the History of Roosevelt for the Hopkins House Gallery, Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission, Camden County Library

Provided photograph display and conducted lecture on the History of Roosevelt for the Jewish Museum of New Jersey

I will continue to lecture on the History of the Jersey Homesteads,

but not as the Town Historian. Please advise me regarding appointment of the new historian so that I can turn over materials that are in my possession. Thank you.

Selling or Renting or Fixing Up Your House? Read On!

By Ed Goetzmann

Read on to understand the differences between Borough Ordinances and N.J. State Requirements.

1. **Construction:** All structural changes and improvements (not usual maintenance and upkeep) including additions, redefining the exterior of the house, electrical or plumbing changes and improvements require a Certificate of Occupancy (C.O.) issued by the State Construction Official. contact Robert Ward (609-633-2423) who is at the Borough Hall every Monday from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. to answer questions and to issue building permits before the work begins and a C.O. when the work is completed. Take the State C.O. to the Borough Housing Inspector, who does general inspection and will issue a Permit for Permissible Occupancy.
2. **Selling or Renting When Construction is Not Involved:** A Borough of Roosevelt Permit for Permissible Occupancy is issued by the Borough Housing Inspector (\$75.00 fee). The current Borough Housing Inspector is Ed Goetzmann (443-4948).

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NEWS FROM CSA

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The purpose of these dual processes is to have the State of N.J. ensure standards of sound construction and the Borough of Roosevelt ensure standards of safety, compatibility and attractiveness throughout our community.

News from our CSA

By Carol Watchler

Roosevelt Community Shares Agriculture is signing up members for the 2006 growing season. Our new young farmer David Burlew brings organic farming experience and boundless enthusiasm to the task of generating our best season ever. David has recently moved into Roosevelt and will be spending many hours each week on the Nurko Road farm owned by Ed and Jackie Goldstein that has been the site of our CSA from its start in 2002.

The CSA is now accepting memberships at \$200 for a small share, good for one or two persons, and \$350 for a large share, good for a family of three + or “two avid veggie lovers.” Deadline for sign-up is March 15. Make your check payable to “Lloyd David Burlew” and send it to Bobbi Teich, P.O. Box 246, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Please include your name, phone, e-mail if available, and mailing address.

Bobbi Teich and Carol Watchler will continue coordinating the Community Shares project this year and are joined by Maria Del Piano. With her love for vegetarian cooking, Maria looks forward to publicizing recipes for the group along with the news of the weekly harvest. She is also eager to coordinate group pot-lucks and other efforts to strengthen

the “community” in Community Shares Agriculture.

If you have questions, you can contact Bobbi at 609-448-5036 before 9 p.m. or by e-mail at bbobbiteich@comcast.net. All Rooseveltians are welcome to join in this community venture. The group also accepts members from among your friends and interested folks from the area surrounding Roosevelt as long as shares are available.



RAP Review: “Open Mic” Night at Borough Hall

By Brad Garton

I approached the first (annual!?) Roosevelt Arts Project “Open Mic” event held at Borough Hall on January 21 with some degree of apprehension. Who would appear? What would we experience? Just how bad could it get? I was totally unprepared for the wonderful, magical evening that unfolded. I guess I should have been — this is Roosevelt, after all — and the crisp January walk down to Borough Hall, Orion and the Pleiades beaming overhead, certainly established a context of pleasant anticipation.

Now I am approaching the writing of this review with some degree of apprehension. How can I communicate the impressive array of

performances? What can I say about the terrific feeling of community that infused the hall? What I have is a set of semi-legible notes I scribbled in the candlelight darkness of the ‘Borough Hall Open Mic Cafe’, and maybe the best I can do is simply to transcribe my handwritten impressions. So, here is my filtered/text version of that amazing night:

Tables. Fairy lights. A cafe! Gladys Nadler, Bess Tremper, kids running around... I have to move, very crowded. I can’t see as well, but it won’t matter. Not what I expected. People still coming; standing room only. Overheard: “The last time I played in front of a Roosevelt crowd was at my 8th grade graduation.”

Jim Hayden announces the welcome. The first “annual” [*note: most definitely after this success!*] RAP Open Mic evening. Aliyah Goldman starts. Such confidence! Again, the weird disconnect between the words she sings and the person she is. I hope she knows she can have life on her own terms. What a talent.

Lenny Sacharoff! Mo mic, a heartfelt delivery of music. The crowd sings along to Gilbert and Sullivan. “Don’t Steal Daddy’s Medal” — really moving. And then Tom Powers (Puck from *Midsummer Night’s Dream*). Poetry written in Iraq, what a follow-up for Lenny. Good lord, this is powerful stuff. The title of one poem: “Threadbare Soldier”. Strange applause for a shattered life.

Next singer Jennifer Sherry, David Brahinksy on guitar. Very ‘present’. Upfront. Juxtaposition of Baez and our present world. David sings

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RAP REVIEW: "OPEN MIC" NIGHT AT BOROUGH HALL

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along during Bette Midler's (actually a medieval piece) "The Rose."

Piano ragtime music from Alan Mallach. I keep trying to draw tragic connections (ragtime music does that to me) in the playing, but Alan's such a happy guy. His last rag is an original Mallach: "Roosevelt Rag." Those slipping chromaticisms, go Alan!

INTERMISSION. I actually hear this quote: "This is better than on TV!"

A band after intermission, 'Biscuits for Breakfast'. Oh they are so young. I am so old. They claim inspiration from the same bands I did way back when. Melding acoustic and electric, multi-talented kids. Can I divine their future?

Carol Watchler announces a minor parking problem. A stunning performance! I laughed! I cried! Much applause from the audience.

Nate Kostar. A real performer, seriously. Slamming, powerful poetry. Who knew? I'm sitting next to Ron (Nate's dad). What a feeling, life. Followed by Ron Kostar playing drums with Amir Wittagher, a very talented guitarist playing with backing tracks from a laptop. Ron's drums — I work hard to parse the playing, makes it really interesting. It seems at the edge of something, some controlled chaos.

Now Judith McNally, with Ron Kostar reading the second part of several of Judith's "Micrologues". I love these. Boy her stuff is amazing. Usually the last line really kicks... yeah, it did. "There was a barricade."

Michael Brett, acoustic guitar + voice (with Shelley Arden, percussion). A tangled guitar cord; he untangled it. A real singer/songwriter, very polished and passionate performance. There was a strange thing on a chair [*why did I write that?*]. Claudia Longo follows with a dramatic reading. A disturbing reading. Almost excruciatingly human (I also get this from the nearby audience reaction). Poetry and a cappella singing. What courage, what connection. I'm too much a reserved midwesterner, could never do this.

Ron Sachowitz, blues guitar and singing. Old-time Rooseveltian, just recently retired from teaching. Old-time songs. People singing along, one big living room in old-time Roosevelt. It's perfect. Janelle Shimko finishes with a very nice voice (one no-show at the very end). [*It was late in the evening, I wrote some notes about Janelle, but all I can make out is:*] Among. My culture, different. Audience applause. Cat street w/ Ron.[?]

Fragmented notes, then, from a fragmented evening. But not fragmented in a negative way, as each shard had an uncommon beauty that contributed paradoxically to the communal unity we shared attending the remarkable performances in Borough Hall. I walked back from the concert, with the streetlights along Pine Drive making my shadow fall behind me and in front of me. Deirdre Sheean, Judy Nahmias, Jim Hayden and all of the participants deserve much credit for putting together such a marvelous evening.

Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training & Response News

By Jack Rindt, Roosevelt First Aid Squad Training Officer

For the month of January, the Roosevelt First Aid Squad handled 10 first aid calls. Six were medical emergencies, two were fire stand-bys and two were mutual aid calls to Millstone Twp.

The training for January was the new New Jersey medical reporting system.

If anyone or group is in need of any kind of first aid training, contact a squad member and we can schedule that training.

The First Aid Squad is now looking to buy a pulse oximeter which is used to measure the amount of oxygen in one's system and can also monitor one's pulse. This would be a great aid in helping us with cardiac and respiratory emergencies. The cost of this machine is \$700.00.

The squad has started to put away funds for the new ambulance. Any contributions for the new ambulance would be greatly appreciated. Please indicate that your contribution is for the new ambulance fund. Please make out checks to Roosevelt First Aid Squad and send them to P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. The First Aid Squad is always thankful when anything can be contributed. A second ambulance in town will help insure that one will always be around.

Do you want to be challenged, help your community, maybe start a career or just help people? Join the Roosevelt First Aid Squad: **We Need Members!**

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BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT

Continued from Page 7

Mr. Dexheimer said that the public works staff uncovers them, but that Mr. Moore is looking into flag markers designed to be placed on fire hydrants to make them visible in high snow.

After extended discussion, the Council introduced an ordinance, previously tabled, to create a position of code enforcement officer, who can be the same person as the zoning officer. The intention of the ordinance is to provide a means of enforcing ordinances that are not currently enforced by the zoning officer, because they are not zoning, by the housing inspector, because they are not housing, or by the State Police. Adoption of the ordinance would not impose any new compliance requirements on anyone. The Council also introduced an ordinance to implement the new Stormwater Management Plan that is required by DEP, adopted a resolution authorizing temporary emergency appropriations, which must be done at the beginning of each year in order to allow the borough to operate pending adoption of the annual budget, motions to allow the use of the municipal building by Celeste Zimmerman for her daughter's birthday party and by the Roosevelt Arts Project for a board meeting, and a motion to hold a public hearing on an application by Verizon to construct and operate a cable TV system in the Borough of Roosevelt. ■

ROOSEVELT FIRST AID SQUAD TRAINING & RESPONSE NEWS

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The squad has two new members in EMT schools who are doing well.

If you would like to join the First Aid Squad, you can contact any squad member, stop in during our business meeting on the third Tuesday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall, or the second Sunday of each month when we hold our monthly training, which starts at 10:00 a.m.

The squad only has six Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) at this time. We are always looking for new members to join and **we pay for all training**. New members can join at the age of 16 and become New Jersey Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Becoming an Emergency Medical Technician with the Roosevelt First Aid Squad could lead to a paying position with a career ambulance company.

In case of an emergency dial 911.

Thank you. ■

By Clare Sacharoff

At our February 6th meeting President Millar told us she will arrange to have a speaker from the Office on Aging to give an overview of various topics pertaining to seniors.

In mid February, several members attended a production of *Urinetown* performed by Peddie students at the Peddie School. Volunteer drivers picked up interested participants.

On April 2nd at 2:00 p.m., many senior citizens plan to attend a production of *Cats* to be put on at Kelsey Theater at Mercer County College. This will be preceded by brunch at Little Szechuan Restaurant.

On Feb. 24th the seniors enjoyed a chicken luncheon at the borough hall.

Ellen and Bob Francis provided excellent refreshments at the February meeting and Doris McIntyre will be hostess for the March meeting. ■

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents.

We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going.

Contributions are tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the BULLETIN. We will be pleased to continue sending them the BULLETIN when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.



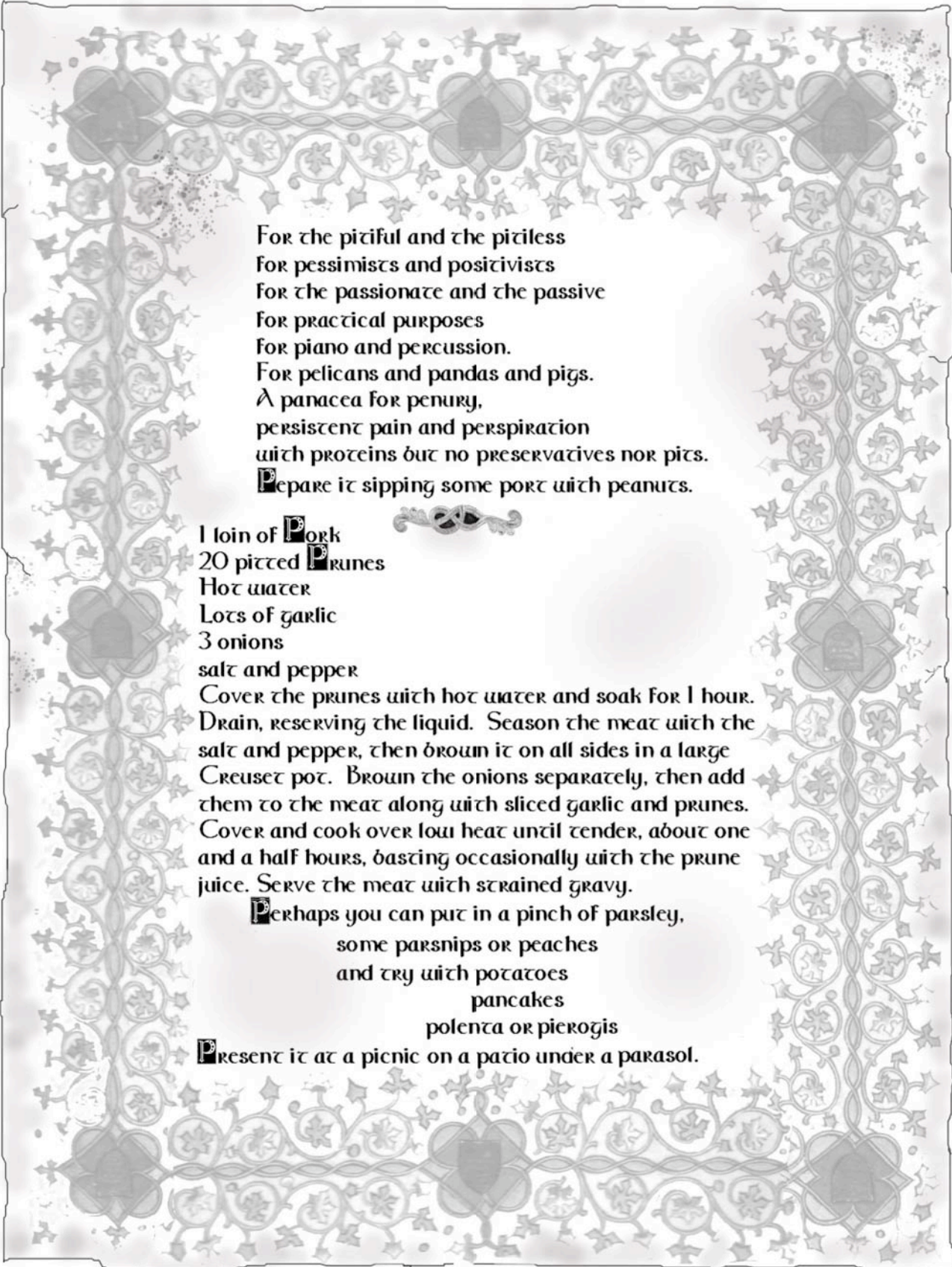
ORK & Prunes from my Polish Past

PERFECT FOR
private parties and public parades
peace and prosperity
the poor and the powerful
for pagans and pantheists,
painters and pacifists
for all postal personnel; the pragmatists
or the poets.

FOR potential presidents who
preach like pompous prophets,
for many precious palates
FROM **P**ORTUGAL TO **P**ARIS,
FROM **P**ITTSBURGH TO **P**ATAGONIA

FOR prospective pilgrims to
paradise or the purgatory,
for all political prisoners, plebeians and
the privileged,
for prospective parents and
pseudo polyglots
and patient patients after
painful procedures.

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A decorative border with a repeating floral and vine pattern surrounds the text. The pattern consists of stylized leaves and flowers connected by a continuous line.

For the pitiful and the pitiless
for pessimists and positivists
for the passionate and the passive
for practical purposes
for piano and percussion.
For pelicans and pandas and pigs.
A panacea for penury,
persistent pain and perspiration
with proteins but no preservatives nor pits.
Prepare it sipping some port with peanuts.

A small, ornate decorative flourish consisting of a central knot with two curved lines extending outwards.

1 loin of **P**ork
20 pitted **P**runes
Hot water
Lots of garlic
3 onions
salt and pepper

Cover the prunes with hot water and soak for 1 hour.
Drain, reserving the liquid. Season the meat with the
salt and pepper, then brown it on all sides in a large
Creuset pot. Brown the onions separately, then add
them to the meat along with sliced garlic and prunes.
Cover and cook over low heat until tender, about one
and a half hours, basting occasionally with the prune
juice. Serve the meat with strained gravy.

Perhaps you can put in a pinch of parsley,
some parsnips or peaches
and try with potatoes
pancakes
polenta or pierogis

Present it at a picnic on a patio under a parasol.

By Ron Filepp

January 15 - February 15, 2006

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	33.1	22.3	27.7	0.60
16	30.4	15.1	22.8	0.00
17	41.9	17.6	29.8	0.00
18	64.7	36.7	50.7	0.15
19	47.3	32.2	39.8	0.60
20	56.8	35.1	46.0	0.00
21	61.9	39.4	50.7	0.00
22	55.6	27.5	41.6	0.00
23	43.0	36.0	39.5	0.75
24	43.5	30.0	36.8	0.35
25	43.0	32.9	38.0	0.10
26	37.8	27.9	32.9	0.00
27	39.7	20.5	30.1	0.00
28	53.2	29.8	41.5	0.00
29	50.9	32.4	41.7	0.00
30	60.6	37.6	49.1	0.13
31	49.5	39.2	44.4	0.15
1	43.3	34.0	38.7	0.30
2	54.1	30.4	42.3	0.00
3	62.4	43.5	53.0	0.19
4	50.7	37.0	43.9	0.18
5	58.5	38.5	48.5	0.41
6	40.8	32.5	36.7	0.00
7	41.5	29.8	35.7	0.00
8	39.9	29.1	34.5	0.00
9	35.1	23.7	29.4	0.00
10	39.7	23.0	31.4	0.00
11	40.6	27.3	34.0	0.00
12	32.0	20.5	26.3	1.50
13	35.8	12.2	24.0	0.00
14	40.5	17.8	29.2	0.00
15	51.6	24.3	38.0	0.00
Total Precipitation	5.41			

The groundhogs that predicted six more weeks of winter on February 2 got a boost in their street credibility (or would it be field credibility) when a February 11 and 12 classic nor'easter dropped 15 inches of snow in Roosevelt. The ballyhooed storm dropped amounts of snow that varied widely throughout the region. In Central Park in New York City 26.9 inches was measured. That was the greatest snow accumulation recorded since record keeping began in 1869. The old record for Central Park was 26.4 inches recorded after the Blizzard of 1947.

Snowfall amounts from some other New Jersey towns include: 21.3 inches in Newark, 20 inches in Saddle Brook, 12 inches in Washington Township, 18.7 inches in Lawrence, and 17 inches in Trenton.

The bulk of the snow came late Saturday into Sunday giving homeowners and municipalities a chance to dig out in a more leisurely fashion than an overnight workweek storm would. Roosevelt's Public Works employees were out early to clear the streets. And before the snow stopped falling, kids were sledding on Paradise Hill with wary adults watching for cars. Students from the Yeshiva walked through the woods on South Valley Road throwing snowballs. Enterprising youngsters shoveled for dollars and thrifty adults were digging themselves out. All was quiet in the Borough Cemetery where gravestones wore high hats of snow.

Sunny skies and mild temperatures returned after the storm and most of the snow melted away by the end of the day on Thursday the 16th.

So far, the winter has been warmer

than normal. While December's average temperature in Roosevelt was 1.7 degrees below normal, January's average temperature was 9.4 degrees above normal. The number of degree-days in December was 980. Normal for December is 928. January had 789 degree-days. Normal for January is 1085.

In a short-term economic sense, the warmer than normal season helps keep high home heating costs from being worse than they could be.

Precipitation for December and January was above normal. We saw most of that precipitation in the form of rain. The snow accumulation total for the season through February 16, 2006 in Roosevelt is 21 inches. That's close to the 30-year average winter snowfall of 22.6 inches. And there's plenty of time left for more snow.

Weather Word

Snow squalls are intense, but of limited duration, periods of moderate to heavy snowfall, accompanied by strong, gusty surface winds and possibly lightning (generally moderate to heavy snow showers). Snow accumulation may be significant. Source: National Weather Service Weather Glossary at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/glossarymain.html> ■

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

2005 - 2006 SEASON

NEXT EVENT:

Saturday, March 11, 2006

FATHER-DAUGHTER, SINGING TEAMS

David and Rachel Brahinsky and John and Lily Parrott bring us music and song.

Saturday, April 8, 2006 (This is the rescheduled date from the postponed one on February 11.)

AN EVENING WITH SCHUBERT: SONGS & PIANO MUSIC PERFORMED BY ALAN MALLACH, PIANO & CECELIA TICKTIN, SOPRANO

Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22, 2006

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

The Roosevelt String Band will perform traditional and contemporary folk songs. Regulars Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar, Sarah Houtz, and David Brahinsky will be joined by Joe Pepitone and fiddler Gail Frantz. Howie Jacobson will return from North Carolina for a special guest appearance.

You are invited to an open board meeting
Sunday, April 23rd at 11 a.m. at the Borough Hall
We are now planning events for the 2006-2007 Season.
We welcome your ideas so please join us.

Saturday, May 20, 2006

BITS OF ART- THE LATEST IN DIGITAL MUSIC AND ART, WITH GARTON & RADKIEWICZ

Saturday, June 17th, 2006

ART BY ROOSEVELT ARTISTS SELECTED FROM PRIVATE COLLECTIONS IN ROOSEVELT

The exhibit will be in the Eleanor Gallery in the factory, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

All events are at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building except where otherwise noted.

Voluntary Contribution:

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

Visit RAP's webpage at <http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt>. There is a link at the top of the page to the site where people can sign up to be on our e-mail list.

For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616. ■

SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS 2005 - 2006

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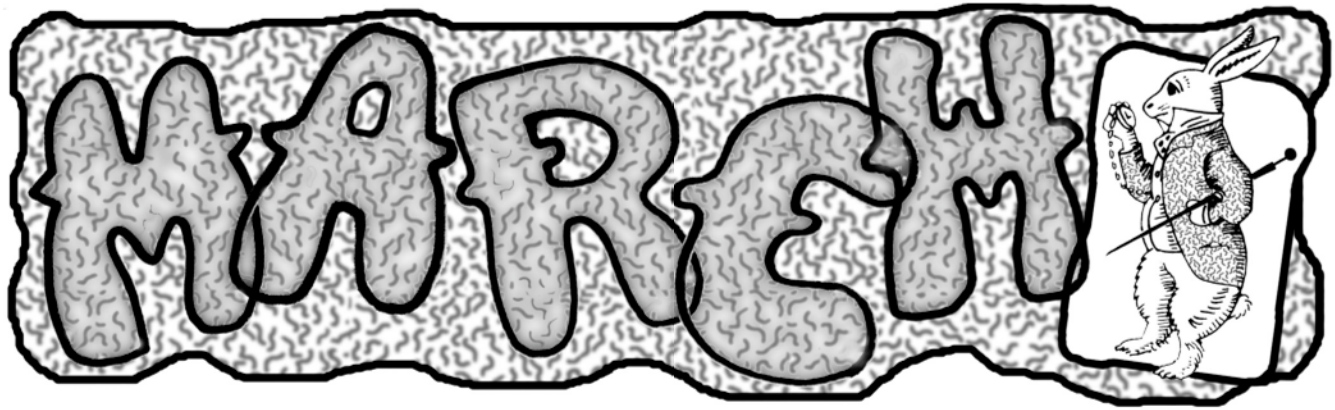
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Please send your events and activities to Jane Rothfuss, Box 122, 448-3713 or email: kirkjane@juno.com

Saturdays – 7:00 p.m. – Movies at RPS- See page 9

March

2	Thurs	7:30 pm	PTA Meeting RPS—Jill Joyce, 443-9423 or Deidre Pizzarelli, 448-2126
3	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
4	Sat	10:30 am	PTA Winter Carnival RPS—Jill Joyce, 443-9423 or Deidre Pizzarelli, 448-2126
6	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Borough Hall Pat Moser, President 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting, Boro Hall Beth Battel, Mayor 448-7701
7	Tues		RPS Early Dismissal - Parent Conferences
		12:30 pm	Senior Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall Gerry Millar, President 448-0351
8	Wed		RECYCLE
9	Thurs		RPS Early Dismissal - Parent Conferences
		7:30 pm	Board of Ed Meeting RPS Linda Grayson, President 443-6462
10	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
11	Sat	8 pm	RAP Program-Father-Daughter Singing Teams (see RAP Page)
12	Sun	10 am	First Aid Squad Training Boro Hall Jack Rindt 448-9475
13	Mon	7 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall Beth Battel, Mayor 443-7701
14	Tues	7:30 pm	Planning Board Meeting Borough Hall Ralph Seligman 448-2340
15	Wed	7:30 pm	Environmtl Com. Mtg Boro Hall Dave Schwendeman, Chair 443-6204
20	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Borough Hall Pat Moser, President 448-4865
21	Tues	7:30 pm	First Aid Squad Business Mtg Boro Hall Jack Rindt 448-9475

21	Tues	7:30 pm	Board of Education Meeting RPS Linda Grayson, President 443-6462
22	Wed		RECYCLE
24	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
27	Mon	7:30 pm	Council Committee Mtg Borough Hall Pat Moser, President 448-4865

April Preview

3	Mon	7 pm	Council Committee Mtg Borough Hall Pat Moser, President 448-4865
		8 pm	Council Agenda Meeting, Boro Hall Beth Battel, Mayor 448-7701
4	Tues	12:30 pm	Senior Blood Pressure Check Boro Hall
		1 pm	Seniors Meeting Borough Hall Gerry Millar, President 448-0351
6	Thurs	7:30 pm	PTA Meeting RPS—Jill Joyce, 443-9423 or Deidre Pizzarelli, 448-2126
7	Fri		RPS Pizza Day
9	Sun	10 am	First Aid Squad Training, Boro Hall Jack Rindt 448-9475

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