



# Bulletin



Volume 39 Number 8

May 2016

**BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS**

By SharonWalz

## Primary Candidates Announced, Water/Sewer Needs Assessment Available

The following Roosevelt residents have filed for the Primary Election on June 7:

Democratic Committeewoman: Ann Baker, Peggy Malkin

Democratic Committeeman: Robert Atwood, Michael Hamilton

Democratic Council (1 year, unexpired): Alana Porter (unopposed)

Democratic Council (2 years, unexpired): Michael Ticktin, Judith Mathis

Democratic Council (3 years full term, 2 seats): Peggy Malkin, Michael Hamilton, Jessica Hanley

No Republican candidates filed. John Impellizzeri has filed as an Independent candidate and will appear on the November ballot regardless of the primary outcome.

At the March 28th Council meeting, Councilman John Impellizzeri announced that there would be a branch pick up during the week of April 25th, and that he is working with Hightstown to coordinate a leaf pickup in the fall. KTK Contracting will be making repairs to the parking lot next to Borough Hall. Councilman Impellizzeri is also in touch with Monmouth County in order to install a guard-rail along Route 571 near the deli as there is a large hole near the road that presents a safety hazard. At the April 11th meeting, Councilman Impellizzeri reiterated the concern about the failing HVAC in Borough Hall. A new tarp was purchased to cover the roof of the dilapidated firehouse as the old one was torn during a recent windstorm.

Councilman Ticktin reported that the Environmental

Commission has received a \$2,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey and has two events planned in April: an “Attack on Autumn Olive” to remove an area of invasive species near Route 571 and Spruce Lane; and a stream monitoring event to examine macroinvertebrates to gauge the relative health of Empty Box Brook.

John McGrath, the Borough Zoning Officer, has been working on a comprehensive list of abandoned properties to help Borough officials properly address the issue. Letters were sent to owners and lienholders of the properties, which provides them with 30 days to appeal their “abandoned” status. Taxes can be collected on truly abandoned properties and the law provides an expedited process for the Borough to become involved in selling the properties as they are a nuisance and potential fire hazard. In addition, several fines were issued to owners of a renovated property where unwanted construction materials and waste were thrown into the woods.

Councilwoman Lipoti advised that there may be a part-time employment opportunity soon available at the Water/Sewer Utility. There is a group in Toms River that lists resumes of qualified applicants. Councilwoman Lipoti has been in contact with both East Windsor and Hightstown utilities to continue the discussion around shared services. Councilwoman Malkin noted that our Water/Sewer Utility had a surplus in 2015 for the first time in many years. This surplus can be used to cover some funding that was disallowed by NJEIT. An Open House will be scheduled at the

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 39th edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from September through July. We will not publish in January and August.

We welcome your emailed submissions for articles, letters, poems, artwork, and other items of interest. Please send your submissions and inquiries to Rick Pressler (rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com). Non-digital submissions will be accommodated to the best of our ability, but we cannot guarantee publication. Inclusion of all items is subject to the availability of space and the editorial judgment of our Editor. Items must be received by the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue.

We will do our best to make the Bulletin both informative and interesting with the help of our devoted writers and production people.

If you want to CONTACT THE BULLETIN, please look at our masthead to the right with our address as shown.



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

The MEALS ON WHEELS program delivers prepared meals to Roosevelt seniors who need this assistance. Though meals are provided free of charge to recipients, the cost to the program is \$2.50 per meal. Donations to help cover these costs may be sent to Interfaith Neighbors, 810 Fourth Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

**SENIOR CITIZENS:** There is a S.C.A.T. bus provided by Monmouth County Division of Transportation that comes to Roosevelt on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. The bus will pick you up at your home, you spend 1 ½ hours shopping, and the bus will take you home and leave your groceries at your door. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus Tuesday no later than 3:00 p.m. at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and your interest in going on Wednesday, the next day.

An archive of all past issues of the Bulletin can be found online at [www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm](http://www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm), courtesy of Mark Zuckerman. Current and recent issues can also be found online at [www.boroughbulletin.org](http://www.boroughbulletin.org), the official website of the Borough Bulletin that is maintained by Bulletin Trustee Bob Francis. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please go to [www.boroughbulletin.org](http://www.boroughbulletin.org) and press the "Push Here to Sign Up for Bulletin" button.

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

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## From the Mayor

By Jeff Ellentuck

Dear Neighbors,

At a recent public meeting, a longtime resident asked why the Borough does not actively seek grants for municipal expenses. The question surprised me in light of our municipal finances and it became obvious to me that we need to better communicate the necessary financial work done by the governing body, our staff, and our professionals.

Looking back over my last ten years of service on the Borough's governing body (has it really been that long?), I am proud to say that our municipal taxes have remained relatively stable for the entire period. This is in sharp contrast to many municipalities in New Jersey. While we only have a small municipal budget, we have been able to complete a substantial amount of work over the last several years without impacting our taxes as a result of frugality and actively pursuing grant funds.

Just over the past several years, we have obtained grants for the water tower project (\$437,200 saved), water plant and emergency piping projects (\$1,345,250 saved), and the maintenance and repair of Homestead Lane, Oscar Drive, Nurko Road and South Valley (\$800,000 saved). Grants fund 50% to 100% of our stick and leaf pickups, the Autumn Olive Invasive Species cleanup, and the Environmental Commission's Recreational Trails Program. We currently have applications pending for \$625,000 in grants for additional repairs to Homestead Lane, Nurko Road, and Cedar Court. We are applying for grants for flashing lights and sidewalks on Rochdale Avenue under the Safe Routes to School Program and expect to reapply for the bike trail grant. Other than small annual stipends from the Borough, our Fire Department and our independent First Aid Squad are funded entirely by grants and donations, including the purchase of vehicles, equipment, and supplies. Of course, all the grant funds the Borough receives must be used to pay for the specific projects for which we applied and cannot be used for other purposes.

As many of you know, Jack Rindt has announced that he will be moving from Roosevelt. Jack has been instrumental in molding the First Aid Squad into a formidable and effective organization serving Roosevelt and surrounding towns. Over the past years, Jack and his team have provided much needed emergency medical care with skill and compassion and have saved many lives. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his unselfish service. Thank you, Jack.

Lastly, regarding the Council itself, I am glad to report that our newest Council members, John Impellizzeri, Stacy Bonna, and Jill Lipoti have dedicated themselves to the work required to maintain the Borough and its utilities. Unlike prior years, several Council seats are being contested in this year's primary election. The contenders include both 'old guard' Roosevelt politicians (Mike Hamilton, Peggy Malkin and Michael Ticktin), as well as enthusiastic newcomers (Jess Hanley, Judith Mathius and Alana 'Sissy' Porter). Additionally, John Impellizzeri will be running in the general election to continue after his first year of service. It is always heartening when more residents are interested in serving on the Council. Please make your voices heard by exercising your right to vote.

### THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are very much 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.

In order to save on postage, we would encourage non-residents who have computers to subscribe to the *Bulletin* online at [www.boroughbulletin.org](http://www.boroughbulletin.org) in lieu of receiving a paper copy. Donations from readers, wherever they may be, and regardless of the medium in which they read the *Bulletin*, are still very much welcome, since we could not publish without your support.

PLEASE SEND IN A CONTRIBUTION TODAY. ***WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.***

Please send contributions to:  
Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555



## Stream Monitoring Team Gets Feet Wet

One of the recommendations from the recent Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) completed for the Borough of Roosevelt, was that an evaluation be made of Empty Box Brook to determine the health and characteristics of the stream. We know that many changes have occurred within the past 10 to 20 years, including significant loss of tree canopy, erosion, flooding, creation of new channels, etc. We are currently starting to gather data to create a baseline of the stream; going forward, we will look at what changes may be occurring and determine whether any restoration is possible or desirable.

The Watershed Ambassador program, part of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and AmeriCorps, provides scientists who train volunteers to collect data about their streams. In April, twelve community members took part in two days of training in habitat and biological assessments.

The first part of the training was in the classroom; we then went into the field in our boots and waders, armed with clipboards, tape measures, thermometers, collecting nets, and a rubber duck to measure stream velocity. After collecting about 20 water samples by jabbing our nets under logs and along stream banks, we took our buckets back to the Borough Hall where we practiced searching for tiny macroinvertebrates that we separated into ice cube trays. Altogether, we found about 70 individual specimens. We had a lot of fun and were pleased to be helping our town evaluate one of its very important resources.

Many thanks to our volunteers, Beth Battel, Stacey and Ulrich Bonna, Eitan Grunwald, John Impellizzeri, Jill Lipoti, Jane Rothfuss, Joe Trammell, Sharyn Walz, Steve Yeger,

and Rod and Mary Tulloss. If you would like to participate in this work, please contact Eitan Grunwald, 609 426-4636, eitan@eitangrunwald.com.

We would especially like to have some middle school/high school/college student volunteers.



### Volunteers Needed for Environmental Projects

The 2015 Environmental Resources Inventory recommended further action in three priority areas:

- Managing the health of our forest, including consideration of fire hazards.
- Managing the control of invasive plant species.
- Managing the health of our streams, including monitoring and the possibility of restoration.

The Environmental Commission is developing projects to address each of these priority areas. If you'd like to learn more and get involved, contact Eitan Grunwald at [eitan@eitangrunwald.com](mailto:eitan@eitangrunwald.com) or (609) 426-4636.

### NJ Department of Environmental Protection 24-Hour Hotline

1-877-WARNDEP or 1-877-927-6337

For reporting spills, hazardous discharges, and other environmental emergencies.



## A Successful “Attack Autumn Olive” – April 16th 2016

After a delay due to inclement weather, the Roosevelt Environmental Commission’s Invasive Species Committee’s first event, “Attack on Autumn Olive,” took place on April 16th. The target area was a strip of Borough property between Lake Drive and Route 571. The committee (Kim Felong, Diane Lowrie, Sharyn Walz, Bob Clark, and Steve Taylor) selected the area to demonstrate what could be done to combat invasive plants and to restore an area to a more natural condition. This tract of Borough property had been infested with autumn olive for many years. The plants averaged about 3-inches in diameter. A few other invaders including multiflora rose, honeysuckle, and bittersweet, had also colonized the area.

The photos below were taken before and after the “Attack.”

The original plan was to have members of the Roosevelt Fire Department bring chainsaws to cut the really large plants off at the base; however with the rain date rescheduling they were not available, so some preliminary work was done on April 14th by Sharyn Walz, Beth Battel, April and Chris Suk, and Jacob Barrett.

Before the area was attacked, the understory was almost completely occupied by autumn olive. The volunteers (Stacey Bonna, Bob Clark, Kim and Bill Felong, Eitan Grunwald, Ben Johnson, Steve Taylor, and Sharyn Walz) cut off the invaders at the base and dragged them to the street for chipping by the branch pickup contractor in a few weeks.

During the Attack, we had identified a number of seedlings of our native holly (Ilex opaca) struggling in the shade. After the attack, we found

even more, along with viburnum and beech seedlings. Given their new-found sunshine, they should grow quickly. After some additional clean-up of the area and perhaps stump removal, the team will be planting some native trees to accompany those seedlings that had been struggling in the shadow of the invaders.

In total, the team cleared about 10,000 square feet, which comes to about 250 square feet per person per hour. So in a couple of weekends, even a single individual could reclaim a significant amount of territory from alien invaders. If you suspect you have autumn olive or another invasive species on your property and need help with identification, please contact [rooseveltinvasive@outlook.com](mailto:rooseveltinvasive@outlook.com) for assistance.

### Before



### After



## Butterflies Flutter

It's early April and the hardy Spicebush butterflies (*Papilio troilus*) have awakened from their winter rest and the little Spring Azures (*Celastrina ladon*) seek the year's first blooms. The Monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*) are nowhere to be found, but they have started their northward migration from their winter resting places in the mountains of Mexico. Actually, their annual migration is more like the settling of the American West; each generation moves a little further north. There are up to five generations each year; each moving further north before the year's last generation makes the long flight south in the Fall. Some Monarchs travel as much as 3000 miles. If you like useless facts, that means that for a creature of about 5 grams, that trip is equivalent to a 160-pound person walking around the earth 5500 times.

Each generation needs to find host plants to feed their offspring before they fly a little further north. For the Monarchs this is usually milkweed—or, more correctly, milkweeds. There are about 100 milkweed species in North America. Unfortunately, many of the milkweed patches that once nourished previous generations have been destroyed by development and herbicides. Milkweed is critical to the Monarchs' survival, since they depend on the milkweed toxins they absorb when feeding to make themselves toxic to predators.

The good news is you can help. Monarchs like all the various milkweeds species native to New Jersey,



and these milkweeds have evolved to fit a range of environments.

If you have a typical yard, you could plant Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*). Plant this one with some caution; it can be aggressive with its spreading underground runners.

Or, you could plant its less aggressive and more colorful cousin, Purple Milkweed (*Asclepias purpurascens*). *Purpurascens* is similar in appearance to common milkweed, but the blooms are a deeper purple color and this species won't take over your garden with aggressive rhizomes and seedlings.

If you have a swampy area, you could plant Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnate*). There are number of different colored varieties available.

If you have woods, you could plant Poke Milkweed (*Asclepias exaltata*).

If you have a drier area, you could plant Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*). This is such a good plant (relatively short and non-spreading) that plant breeders have developed varieties in a range of colors: gold, orange, and red.

A good thing about milkweeds is the toxic substances in these plants that protect the butterflies also protect the plants from deer. The bad thing is that a bumper crop of caterpillars may kill the plant.

If you don't have a place for perennial milkweeds and you would like to raise some butterflies, you might plant some parsley, fennel, or dill in a sunny spot. These carrot relatives will serve as replacements for their native cousin, Queen Anne's Lace, aka wild carrot. If you plant it, they will come—Eastern Black Swallowtails (*Papilio polyxenes*), that is.

Other butterflies that visit Roosevelt include the alien invader, the cabbage butterfly (*Pieris rapae*), whose little green caterpillars munch the cabbage and broccoli in our gardens, as well as their cruciferous wild relatives. You can distinguish these white butterflies from others by the little dark spots on all four wings and the dark tips of their front wings. If you have seen yellow jackets or paper wasps on your property, give them a wide birth, and cut them some slack. They eat the little green caterpillars of this butterfly.

Besides butterflies, we also have moths. In general, most butterflies have thin antennae, and most moths have feathery antennae. And butterflies emerge from a chrysalis, while moths emerge from cocoons spun from silk. As caterpillars, they both molt several times as they grow, sometimes



changing their appearance. Moths tend to be less colorful than butterflies and many are most active at night.

As caterpillars, moths are easier to spot. One of special interest is



the saddleback caterpillar (*Acharia stimulea*). It is about an inch long, green with a white-ringed brown 'saddle' in the top of its back and clusters of bristles at the front and back and around the bottom. This diminutive critter packs an incredible punch. I once brushed my hand against one while I was picking grapes. Instantly, I felt an intense pain shoot up my arm, many times worse than a wasp sting. I later learned that the saddleback bristles are venomous. Beware! You can look, but DO NOT TOUCH.

The tobacco hornworm caterpillar is the Sphinx Moth (*Manduca sexta*). It is the bane of all tomato growers. It is not unusual to suddenly find half of your vine reduced to a skeleton, with little brown balls scattered on the ground underneath it. It usually takes a while to find the big green eating machine hidden within the remaining foliage. I have no

qualms about dispatching this voracious creature. But if it is covered with little white oval eggs, I relocate it to live out its short life. The eggs are from a small parasitic wasp. When they hatch, lunch is ready; the caterpillar.

Of all the caterpillars I have seen around town, perhaps the most impressive is the Hickory Horned Devil, the caterpillar of the Regal Moth (*Citheronia regalis*). It is bright green, almost 6 inches long, with huge, black-tipped red horns. As the name suggests hickory trees are host plants, but they also feed on walnuts and sweet gums (no shortage of food here).

So give a bug a break; plant some host plants.

References:

Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)

<http://monarchwatch.org/>

<http://monarchbutterflygarden.net/milkweed-plant-seed-resources/>

Cabbage Butterfly (*Pieris rapae*)

[http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/veg/leaf/imported\\_cabbageworm.htm](http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/veg/leaf/imported_cabbageworm.htm)

Saddleback Caterpillar (*Acharia stimulea*)

[http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/medical/saddleback\\_caterpillar.htm](http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/medical/saddleback_caterpillar.htm)

Hickory Horned Devil - Regal Moth (*Citheronia regalis*)

[http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/bfly/regal\\_moth.htm](http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/bfly/regal_moth.htm)

Butterfly Gardening

<http://www.butterflywebsite.com/butterflygardening.cfm>

<http://www.gardenswithwings.com/what-is-a-butterfly-garden/host-plants.html>



Hickory Horned Devil, the caterpillar of the Regal Moth (*Citheronia regalis*)  
Photo: Emily Taylor

Roosevelt Public School is rich with lessons that provide foundations in all STEM/STEAM disciplines.

All students have technology class once a week as part of our curriculum. They learn to use computers safely and responsibly in class. They also become well-versed in a variety of computer applications, which enhances classroom learning. Programs range from simple word processing to more advanced presentation software. The class also teaches students basic coding through an age-appropriate program, which leads to their success in understanding simple coding structures.

In our elementary school, educators are weaving STEM and STEAM concepts into their classrooms on a daily basis. Through these lessons, our students are being challenged and enriched. They are gaining real-world experiences and an understanding of science, technology, engineering, art, and math disciplines, which is helping to ensure their future success.



These are pictures from our Earth Day Celebration on April 22. Roosevelt resident Diane Lowrie helped to coordinate our activities. In the picture below, Ms. Lowrie dresses up a student to illustrate the inner and outer parts and systems of trees!

## Roosevelt among 32 Municipalities to Receive Grants to Implement Sustainability Projects

Sustainable Jersey has announced the 32 New Jersey municipalities selected to receive a Sustainable Jersey small grant funded by the PSEG Foundation. Four \$20,000 grants, eight \$10,000 grants and twenty \$2,000 grants were distributed to fund a variety of projects including reclaiming paved surfaces for community gardens, protecting community tree cover, water conservation, green infrastructure, natural resources protection, park revitalization, promoting healthy lifestyles and green team capacity building.

Roosevelt Borough received a \$2000 grant for general operating support. The grant will help the

Borough continue to pursue goal towards achieving Sustainable Jersey certification by following up on recommendations from the 2015 Environmental Resources Inventory and increasing public outreach efforts.

“Sustainable Jersey has been a valuable resource to the Borough of Roosevelt, helping our community focus on ambitious yet achievable goals for improved sustainability. We are grateful for all the support we have received, including a Sustainable Jersey Small Grant award this year, which will help us further advance our projects and progress towards Bronze Certification.” – Eitan Grunwald, Chair, Roosevelt

Environmental Commission, Borough of Roosevelt

“These grants support green teams and municipalities working to bring innovative sustainability projects forward that will shape the future of their residents for years to come,” said Donna Drewes, who co-directs Sustainable Jersey with Randall Solomon. She extended her congratulations to all of the towns that received grants. “The grants we’re awarding today will also help build capacity as municipalities move sustainability programs forward,” Drewes said.

The PSEG Foundation has contributed over one million dollars in funding to

Continued on Page 9





**MISSION**

To educate and inspire all students to excel academically\*, to become independent and creative thinkers, skillful communicators and lifelong learners. Roosevelt Public School nurtures and challenges the unique potential of each student so that our children will develop individual, social and civic responsibility as well as respect for themselves, each other, and the environment.

\*to achieve or exceed N.J. CCCS at all grade levels

**Board of Education to Initiate Strategic Planning Process**

Over the past several years, the Roosevelt Board of Education has addressed many issues of great significance to the life of the school: finding a permanent Chief School Administrator/Principal; re-align-

ing the school’s program with the Common Core and revised State standards; and completing a substantial renovation of the school facility’s exterior and roof to ensure its long term viability.

Having completed these essential projects, the Board has now initiated the development of a new strategic plan, to be facilitated by a field representative from the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Strategic plans are undertaken by all types of organizations—schools, businesses, cultural institutions, social service non-profits, and so on—and typically encompass a five-year period. Most plans include an assessment of the organization’s current circumstances, a review of the organizational mission and vision, and the identification of three to five strategic goals, along with the measured outcomes, activities, and resources that support implementation. Strategic plans also typically include input from all stakeholders—in the case of a school,

this includes community members, families of students, faculty members, school staff, school leadership, and the board of education.

The power of a strategic plan is in its ability to build consensus around a set of well defined goals, based on a shared vision of the future. Strategic plans also help communicate those goals to the broader community, while providing a roadmap to implementation. For the Roosevelt Board of Education, working with a consultant from the New Jersey School Boards Association ensures the plan will be well informed by what is unique about public education and public schools in New Jersey.

Roosevelt is a unique community, and the Roosevelt Public School is one of our most precious assets. It is the Board’s job to do the planning necessary to ensure that our school survives and flourishes for generations to come. Stay tuned for more information as the planning process gets underway.

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the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program. “Environmental, social and economic issues are the cornerstone to the PSEG Foundation’s support and we are committed to leading the communities in which we serve towards a more sustainable future,” said Ellen Lambert, president of the PSEG Foundation. “These projects will have a lasting impact to neighborhoods throughout New Jersey.”

Proposals were evaluated by an independent Blue Ribbon Selection Committee. The Sustainable Jersey grants are intended to help municipalities make progress toward a sustainable future in general, and specifically toward Sustainable Jersey certification. Currently, 77 percent, or 434 of New Jersey’s 565 municipalities are participating in the municipal certification program.

- Website: [www.SustainableJersey.com](http://www.SustainableJersey.com); [www.SustainableJerseySchools.com](http://www.SustainableJerseySchools.com)
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/SJ\\_Program](http://www.twitter.com/SJ_Program); [www.twitter.com/SJ\\_Schools](http://www.twitter.com/SJ_Schools)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SustainableJersey](http://www.facebook.com/SustainableJersey)
- Instagram: [https://instagram.com/sustainable\\_jersey/](https://instagram.com/sustainable_jersey/)
- Linked In: [www.linkedin.com/company/sustainable-jersey](http://www.linkedin.com/company/sustainable-jersey)

**RECYCLING DATES**  
 May 4, 18  
 June 1, 15

**STATE PERMITS**  
 Wednesdays 1 – 3

**ZONING PERMITS**  
 Tuesdays 4 – 6 PM

**BOROUGH HOUSING INSPECTIONS**  
 Tuesdays 5 – 6 PM  
 Borough Hall

This will be my final year-end report as Roosevelt Fire Chief. Overall, the year was really good and productive. We finally raised enough money to purchase the additional pumper we needed from Wall Twp., a 1993 KME, which was a great acquisition for us and the town as that gave us our third piece of updated apparatus. All three pieces were acquired by the Fire Company at no cost to the town's operating budget. The other two updated trucks are a 1991 E-One pumper that was donated by Tinton Falls and a 1989 Ford brush truck that was donated by Morganville, both were key in the growth and operation of the Fire Company.

The events we ran were a huge

success for both the Fire Company and the town. All of the fundraisers were successful and would help us offset the modest yearly budget that we have to update equipment and upgrade some of our events. The 4th of July parade and picnic was a giant success as far as participation in bringing the town together for a lot of fun. The outside departments and squads that took part were greatly appreciated, not only for coming to the parade, but each department has helped us grow and assisted us in any way they could. We owe a lot to our brothers from Hightstown, Millstone, Allentown, Tinton Falls, Morganville, Mercerville, East Windsor, and the State Forestry Division for being there to lend assistance while we were growing.

I want to especially thank all of our members for working very hard and putting in tons of time to make all of the events happen as well as handle all of the training and calls that were required of them. It takes a lot of volunteer hours to make all of this work. Balancing family and work plus the fire company is a huge commitment and everyone did a great job!

I want to thank everyone in the town who has believed in and supported us over years. Without you, none of this would have been possible. Your participation in our events and donations is what continued our growth and accomplishments and that is greatly appreciated!

## Dan Archer receives plaque of Appreciation



Top row: Left to Right: Brian Erxleben, Stuart Faunce, Dan Archer, Sam Lopez, Matt Lawson  
 Bottom row: Left to Right: Brendan Powers, John Archer, Shannon Archer (Secretary 2013-2015) Tim Curry  
 Missing from photo: James and Grayson Asprocolas

On March 11, 2016 the former members of the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company, presented Dan with a beautiful plaque of appreciation for all his hard work and dedication. Thank you Chief, for all you have done in the past 3 years. You are one of the best.





# The Roosevelt Arts Project

The Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) is a collaborative venture of friends and neighbors in and around Roosevelt, New Jersey. Bringing together artists in a variety of media, our mission is to foster collaboration and present their work to the public.

Founded in 1986 by the nationally known artists, Bernarda Bryson Shahn and Jacob Landau, and others including writers and musicians, the Roosevelt Arts Project presents a series of annual programs. This varied series premieres new works by Roosevelt playwrights, painters and potters, folk singers, poets, and composers, as well as experimental collaborations.

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7 8:00 PM \$10 suggested contribution (\$5 students and seniors)	Borough Hall	<b>“The Roosevelt String Band in Concert”</b> David, Paul, Ed, Sam, Kai, Joe and Howie will present an evening of folk music guaranteed to stimulate great thoughts, mighty feelings, sweet sensations and a whole lot of fun
Saturday June 4 12:00-5:00 PM	Assifa Space	<b>Nature Art Show</b> Photographs, paintings and drawings of nature will be displayed. Sounds of nature fill the environment as the viewer contemplates the theme.

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://www.rooseveltartsproject.org>

Be sure to join our mailing list at [http://www.rooseveltartsproject.org/mail\\_form.php](http://www.rooseveltartsproject.org/mail_form.php) so that you get the brochure sent to you via email each season and timely reminders of each upcoming event.

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

## Call for Art/Music/Poetry/Pottery/Photography/Digital Media or Any Other Creative Ideas!

On May 15, 2016, the Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) Board will hold a public meeting in the lobby of Roosevelt Public School to gather any and all ideas for RAP events for next year. The public portion of the meeting is from 10 to 11am, with the RAP Board meeting beginning at 11am. RAP welcomes suggestions for all kinds of events in all kinds of venues in Roosevelt. Would you like to share your music with your neighbors? What about a nature or landscape show with art presented in silence except for the sounds of nature? Would you like to read a poem? Do you have photographs you would like to show? We’ve been working on woodland trails in town – how about art along a trail?

Every year there are new events. This year, we had a wonderful evening full of readings of funny stories. We always strive to bring in the young people in town to give them a chance to showcase their art and music and they never disappoint! RAP also has some events that are held year after year, like the String Band. Everyone marks their calendar and looks forward to participating.

Do not be shy. Bring your ideas and let RAP know about your talent. Let’s make next year’s RAP events the most creative yet.

### Former Fire Chief Speaks Out about Emergency Services Building and Fire Company Support

The Roosevelt Fire Company needs a safe and efficient Emergency Services Building. The denial of the referendum to support its construction back in December does not eliminate that need. We worked hard to do our duties as firemen, as well as bring joy to the community by running events and fundraisers. This is my definition of what a Fire Company is supposed to do. The proposed building represented what was minimally necessary for the safety of the firefighters and EMS to efficiently perform their duties. The current facilities are not adequate to sustain an operational department/squad safely, and that is the ultimate bottom line.

Regarding opposition to the new facility, it seemed like there was a large divide drawn in the town between those who supported the new building and those who didn't. I believe that many opponents did not understand all the issues clearly or were misinformed. I wish more people had asked questions so that they had a better understanding about the building and me for that matter. I believe that would have eased the division of sides, but hindsight is 20/20; too late now.

Once the building was declined, I found myself in a very difficult position. As Chief, I had to make a decision: Do I continue to try to operate out of the current facility and jeopardize the safety of our members, or cease operations until we had a commitment from the town to supply an adequate facility for both the Fire Company and the First Aid Squad. I chose to get a commitment from the town before I would commit to continue as Chief. Although the Fire Company itself voted me as Chief for 2016, the Borough Council denied it, three times. The Borough then

decided to appoint a member they deemed qualified to be my successor, which caused the majority of the Fire Company members to resign, because they were not comfortable with that choice or that member's experience. In the April edition of the Bulletin and on the Fire Company website, it stated that there are 12 active members and a total of 16 members. The current membership is four active members and one probationary member.

This whole process caused friction and division inside the Fire Company which really killed any remaining morale of the members. Having the Fire Company divided, as well as the town folks and the Council, made for a perfect storm of bad blood and feelings amongst most.

It is a shame how this has turned out since, we really did the unbelievable. Most volunteer companies in the state are struggling to maintain their current membership and many are opting to go paid or partially paid. Since I became Chief in 2013, we have grown every year, and went from practically non-existent with four members and a 1970 Mack fire truck to 18 members and three newer trucks. This put the little town of Roosevelt on the map with neighboring towns. Many neighboring companies wanted us to respond with them to mutual aid calls, which has been a great way to pay back those who helped us, as well as to gain more experience for the members. We were the talk of the Fire Academy, and we were getting a lot of good attention and interest from all over. That is the key to a successful volunteer organization. Unfortunately, all of that is dead now and Roosevelt Fire is back to what it has been for many year—practically

non-existent. From some of the criticisms I have heard come from the town, I don't think Roosevelt is ready for a fully functioning Fire Company.

I have heard that Roosevelt is a reactive town and not a proactive one, which is why most things are in the condition that they are in town. I was warned that the building would never happen in this town, no matter how many assurances I received. I refused to believe that. I was a member of Hightstown Fire Company for many years, and I wanted to build a similar department in Roosevelt, where we were all like one big family. That happened, and I am very proud of all of our accomplishments and all of the members who helped make this possible, You Will Always Be My Brothers! I could not have done it without you!

Dan Archer

Roosevelt Fire Chief 2013 thru 2015

### Free Food Distribution

To All Roosevelt Residents:

Do we have any needy families in Roosevelt? I'm sure we must; there is nothing to be embarrassed about. Times are hard, people are out of work or on a fixed income. Food is distributed, free of charge, by volunteers one Saturday a month between 10:00 am and noon at the Clarksburg Community Center, Route 571, next to the Clarksburg Fire House. You have to pick it up yourself since there is no delivery. No questions as to eligibility will be asked. The Saturdays do vary, so when I find out which Saturday, I will put a notice on the bulletin board at the Roosevelt Post Office. Call me if you have questions.

Geraldine Millar 609.448.0351



Continued from Page 1

water/sewer utility in May/June.

Manuel Ponte, an engineer, did a full presentation on his firm's assessment of the Water/Sewer Utility. The presentation will be made available on the Borough's website <http://www.rooseveltnj.org/> One surprising finding of the assessment is that the sewer is receiving 394% more water than the water utility is producing, and it is largely unknown where all of the water is coming from. It is illegal to discharge sump pumps into the sewer. Recommendations from the engineering company will be considered for future improvements.

A sewer line blockage on Lake Drive was determined to be the responsibility of the Borough, and a reimbursement will be made to the resident for the costs of repair. Councilwoman Lipoti also requested that the Mayor consider a National Wildlife Federation Butterfly Proclamation for the May meeting to raise awareness of the plight of the Monarch Butterfly. Councilwoman Malkin will reach out to former Roosevelt teacher and butterfly activist Eileen Levine to see if she might be available to attend a May Council meeting. For more information, please see: [http://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Mayors-Monarch-Pledge\\_Action-Items.pdf](http://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Mayors-Monarch-Pledge_Action-Items.pdf).

Several bids for racks to hold Fire Department equipment in the mobile trailer were discussed and the lowest bid was approved. In addition, the Fire Department submitted three new applications for membership. The Borough's landscaping contract was awarded to Acer Landscaping for 2016.

Mayor Ellentuck noted that the Council has previously had discussion regarding the installation of flashing yellow lights and digital speed indicators along Rochdale Ave. While Monmouth County has provided the Borough with permission for the installation, the costs are in the \$8,000 range, and are not covered by the County. This issue has recently been renewed as there was an incident where a distracted driver came close to hitting Kelly and some children as she was crossing them. There is a new grant option available and the Borough will apply for funding. The Borough will also request assistance from the New Jersey State Police to increase their presence in the area, especially during commute times, as many of the drivers cutting through Roosevelt are not residents.

### **Volunteers Needed for 4th of July Celebration**

The Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company has agreed to help with the Roosevelt Fourth of July celebration, but is asking for support and resources from the various organized community groups and individual residents as well. So far, resident Mark Connors has agreed to help cook, and the PTA and Roosevelt Environmental Commission is on board and ready to help. More assistance is needed!! If you would like to assist with the Fourth of July Celebration, please contact the Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company through their Facebook page or by calling (609) 832-3473.

### **Annual Meeting of Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation May 5**

**The annual membership meeting of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation will be held at the Solar Village Leon Barth Community Room, 9 North Valley Road, at 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 5, 2016. All members, and all other Roosevelt residents who wish to become members, are invited to attend. Officers and trustees for the next 12 months will be elected at the meeting.**

# Contributors to the Bulletin 2015/2016

Contributions received after the 15th of the month will appear in the next Bulletin.

Mary & Carlo Alfare	Judith & Ed Goetzmann	Lilia and Youri Nazarov
James Alt & Susan Schwartz	Vindhia Gordon	Lian Neeman
Robin & Robert Axel	Robin Gould	Tom Orlando
Helen Barth	Karen & Eitan Grunwald	Bob & Alison Petrilla
Janet & Richard Bernardin	Len & Michelle Guye-Hillis	Gregg and Elizabeth Possiel
Bruce & Irene Block	Al Hepner	Michael Przychocki
Linda Block	Constance & David Herrstrom	Patricia Roberts
Marvin & Karen Block	Louise & David Hoffman	Roosevelt Arts Project
Eric Blumenfeld & Annie Raulerson	Cynthia Imbrie	Merle & Irv Rose
Charlotte Bondy	In memory of Bess Tremper	Marguerite Goldberg Rosenthal
Bondy/Vuolle Family	Michelle & Rick Jaeger	Helen Seitz
Alexandra Bonfante-Warren	Sheila & Phil Jaeger	Jonathan & Jeb Shahn
Ulrich & Stacey Bonna	Henry and Kate John-Alder	David Socholtzky
Jacqueline Anne Carperter	Anna & Ben Johnson	Shirley Sokolow
Susan & Robert Cayne	Bahiru & Ann Kassahun	Cornelia Spoor
Maureen & Bob Clark	Lynn Lawson	Arthur Stinson
Keith & Patricia Clayton	David Leff	Emily & Steve Taylor
William & June Counterman	Karen Leibowitz	Michael & Marilyn Ticktin
Paul & Elise Cousineau	Jill Lipoti & Brad Garton	Mary & Rod Tulloss
M. K. Drury	Steven & Mary Macher	Ralph & Nancy Warnick
Frances Duckett	Julia & James McArdle	Carol Watchler & Ann Baker
Virginia Edwards	Geraldine Millar	Judy & Bob Weinberg
Bertram & Shan Ellentuck	Ed & Rose Murphy	Frank Wiesinger & Theresa Secks
Lou & Irma Esakoff	Murray family	Mark & Judith Zuckerman
Bob Francis	Teri Nachtman	Zahora family

Help us to fill up this page.

Thank you for your generosity!

Send in a contribution today.

Please send contributions to:

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc.

P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

## Help Wanted

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is a fully volunteer effort of its writers, editors, layout artist, and distribution captain. We would like to expand our team:

Roving Reporter – 4 hours a month – Write short features that focus on Roosevelt-specific themes.

Managing Editor in Training – 4 hours a month – Work with current Managing Editor to learn the editorial ropes for eventually assuming this esteemed role. Learn valuable editorial skills from a seasoned, if slightly over the hill, former professional editor who will unreservedly share everything there is to know about the production of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin.



## BUSINESS SPONSORS

The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$50.00/year, \$60.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month

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**M A Y**

3 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
3 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
4 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
<b>6 Sat.</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Roosevelt String Band in Concert, Borough Hall</b>
<b>7 Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Roosevelt String Band in Concert, Borough Hall</b>
8 Sun.	10:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training Jack Rindt, Training Officer
12 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
9 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
17 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, Jeff Klein, President
18 Wed.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
18 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
<b>21 Sat.</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>The Neighbors Jazz Quartet, Roosevelt Public School</b> A benefit hosted by Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation
23 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
26 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061

**J U N E**

1 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
<b>4 Sat.</b>	<b>12:00 – 5:00 pm</b>	<b>Nature Art Show, Assifa Space Roosevelt Arts Project</b>
7 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
7 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
9 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business Meeting, Borough Hall Chris Suk, President 490-0931
12 Sun.	10:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training Jack Rindt, Training Officer
13 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
15 Wed.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
15 Wed.		Recycling Pickup 
16 Thurs.		Roosevelt Public School Early Dismissal
17 Fri.		Roosevelt Public School Early Dismissal
20 Mon.		Roosevelt Public School Early Dismissal - Last Day of School
21 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, Jeff Klein, President
27 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Jeff Ellentuck, Mayor
30 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061

An electronic calendar was installed on the Roosevelt Board of Education's website containing information about state testing, upcoming field trips, events and additional pertinent information. Learn more about all of the happenings in our school, visit RPS website: [www.rps1.org](http://www.rps1.org). Please send notice of your events to Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to [RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com](mailto:RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com).