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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUME XHI NO. 8

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

APRIL 1991

Council Hears of Lone Pine Landfill Liability Danger New Garbage Disposal Ordinance Goes into Effect

by Michael Ticktin

At the regular April meeting of the borough council, attorney John Ross, representing Borough Attorney Donald Lomurro, reported to the council and the community on the status of the Lone Pine Landfill litigation.

The Lone Pine Landfill, located in Freehold Township, is a Superfund hazardous waste site that is #15 on the national priorities list—meaning that there are only 14 worse sites in the entire country! It was in operation from 1959 to 1979. It is of concern to us now, not only for environmental reasons, but because we, along with other area municipalities, may be held liable for a portion of the clean-up costs.

This liability problem has arisen because the Federal Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) has assessed clean-up costs in excess of \$60 million against the industries that sent toxic waste to the site. EPA has not assessed any charges against municipalities. The industries, however, have argued that the garbage sent to the site by municipalities also contained toxic waste, even though it was less than one percent of the total volume of household garbage. (This "toxic waste" included such things as

nail polish, household paints and disinfectants.) The industries claim that the cost of closing the landfill is as high as it is because of the volume of waste, as well as its toxicity. The industries do not deny that they supplied most of the toxicity, but they argue that the municipalities, whom they claim were still toxic waste generators and therefore liable, supplied most of the volume. Consequently, they are expected to sue the municipalities for contribution of their "fair share."

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Kaufman, Allen to Contest Mayoralty in November

Counterman, Warren and Murphy Unopposed for Council No Local Primary Races

by Michael Ticktin

In a development that Borough Clerk Krystyna Bieracka characterized as "very surprising," only one candidate, Councilman Stuart Kaufman, filed a petition with her in order to appear on the June Democratic primary ballot. He is running for mayor.

Mr. Kaufman will not be unopposed in the general election in November, however, because Councilman Lee Allen filed his petition for mayor, as an Independent candidate, with the Monmouth County Clerk. Filing as Independents along with Mr. Allen were Councilman Bill Counterman, for the one-year council term, and Councilman Peter Warren and Councilwoman Rose Murphy, for the two full terms.

There were no Republican filings.

The Borough Bulletin is mailed free of charge to Roosevelt residents. Out-of-town subscriptions are \$5.00 per year.

From the Editor

Recently, a statement was distributed around town criticizing certain people who have been expressing their opinions at public meetings. Part of the criticism was directed at the *Bulletin's* coverage of council meetings and thus, indirectly, at editorial policy.

As editor, I have tried to follow a policy of not interfering with the right of each person who submits articles to report events as he or she perceives them. If other people wish to attend the same meetings and report what they see and hear, they are welcome to do so. I think that is fairer than any attempt on my part to "correct" any perceived bias by editing out certain people's reported remarks.

Without expressing any opinion as to the validity of the comments made by the author of the statement, I would like to take issue with him or her for having issued them anonymously. As we make clear in every issue, the **Bulletin** does not print anonymous letters. Aside from the fundamental unfairness of forcing someone to deal

with a hidden adversary, we follow this policy because we seek to encourage informed dialogue, and there can be no dialogue when one party is unknown to the other. Comments are more meaningful, and more likely to be accepted by more people, when their source is known and readers can evaluate them in light of their perceptions of the author.

I very much hope that our level of civic discourse has not been reduced to the point where we have to fear harassment for making our opinions known and where we do not distinguish between taking issue with what people say or do and attacking them personally. If it has indeed reached this level, though, it is in the interest of everyone to make a determined effort to correct the situation, by exercising such self-restraint as may be necessary, before it degenerates further. Our commitment to maintaining a sense of community demands no less.

-Michael Ticktin

Big Garbage Day, May 18

On Saturday, May 18, 1991, Freehold Cartage will collect all items not normally picked up on their regular run:

Washers, dryers, water heaters, and other large appliances, and furniture.

Please remember:

1. Doors must be removed from refrigerators that are intended for pick

up as a safety precaution.

2. Tree clippings, tree limbs, etc. must be bundled and tied or placed in containers, so that they can be easily picked up. Nothing should be over 4 feet long.

3. Tires will not be accepted! Please do not place tires on the curb.

4. Car batteries will not be accepted!

Rabies Clinic, May 11

A free rabies clinic for dogs and cats will be held at the Borough Hall garage on Saturday, May 11 between 11:00 AM and 12:00 noon.

5. No hazardous waste materials will be picked up. Examples: oil cans, oil paint cans, materials having oil or other hazardous waste on them or contained inside.

 No recyclable materials will be picked up, including leaves.

Please do not place your trash on the curb prior to three (3) days before pick up.

Please make sure that your trash is out early in the morning on Saturday; pick up will start at 6:00 a.m.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the borough office.

—Nancy L. Warnick, R.M.C. Borough Deputy Clerk

Save Your Pennies

The Roosevelt First Aid Auxiliary annual penny pick-up will be held Saturday, June 8 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 noon.

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

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Board of Trustees

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Bob Mueller,
Rose Murphy, Susan Oxford,
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Michael Ticktin, Peter Warren, Adeline Weiner, Helga Wisowaty, Mark Zuckerman

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Robin Carroll, Dolores Chasan, Donna Kaufman, Jeanette Koffler, Bob Mueller, Hortense Socholitzky, Dara Ticktin, Joshua Ticktin, Rachel Ticktin, Bess Tremper, Lillian Warren,

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Please send all articles and letters in **clean typescript** (typewriter or daisy-wheel printer), or as files on IBM-compatible 51/4" or 31/2" diskettes. We can accept ASCII files and output from most word processors.

Planning Board Amends Master Plan

by Susan R. Oxford

The Planning Board, in a unanimous action, amended the Master Plan at its April 10th meeting to provide for limited development in the northern 500 acres of Roosevelt provided it is combined with permanent preservation of open space. The amendment adopted by the Board describes the land located along North Rochdale Avenue and Nurko Road and north of Oscar Drive as representing "a vitally important element in establishing and maintaining the visual, historic, environmental, economic and social character of the community." The amendment states that in evaluating the planning options for this area, "limited development should be considered, provided that it is balanced with land that is legally restricted from development in order to insure its permanent preservation as farmland or publicly-accessible open space, thereby preserving and enhancing this community character."

According to the amendment, limited development should be undertaken in this area only in accordance with a comprehensive plan for the entire northern agricultural area of the Borough. The new provision lists the specific elements that such a comprehensive plan should address. This revision of the Master Plan does not itself alter the Borough's zoning in any way; zoning can be changed only by the action of the Council. The Master Plan is important, however, because under the Municipal Land Use Law a governing body must adopt zoning laws that are consistent with the municipality's Master Plan, or provide specific reasons for any zoning laws that are inconsistent.

The amendment was originally introduced at the Planning Board's March meeting. At that time, a number of residents were present and engaged the Planning Board in a vigorous discussion of the merits of the amendment and the need or desirability of changing the Master Plan at this time. Action on the amendment was postponed in March because the Board had not submitted a copy of the proposed amendment to the County Planning Board as required. Board Chair Gail Hunton reported at the

April meeting that the County Board has now received a copy and the Supervising Planner for the County considered the amendment "very interesting."

The April meeting was much quieter than the prior month. Very few members of the public attended, and those present posed only informational questions rather than objections to the action. The revision constitutes a significant change in the Master Plan, which previously rejected the need for any changes in zoning with respect to this land. Most of the land addressed by the amendment is currently zoned R/Ag-400, permitting agricultural uses or residential development of single family homes on 10 acre lots. A portion is zoned I-80, which permits light industrial uses.

Following action on the Master Plan, the Board briefly reviewed a document prepared by Board member Michael Ticktin addressing the conceptual legal framework for the proposed limited development. The Board agreed to continue further debate on this subject at a later date. In other business, the Board postponed until its May meeting hearing an application for a use variance to permit parking with a fenced area at a residential property located on the corner of Farm Lane and Rochdale Avenue. The Board also reserved action on proposed changes in the zoning code to allow greater flexibility in the areas in which parking is allowed.

Peter Warren noted two items arising out of actions of the Borough Council that relate to the Planning board's work or require the Planning Board's involvement. First, an ordinance creating a Historic District Advisory Council is pending before the Council following a first reading. The Board agreed that creation of such a Council would not conflict in any way with the Planning Board's responsibilities to insure that the Board takes into account the Borough's historic character in performing its planning duties. Second, Mr. Warren noted that the Council has established an Emergency Management Council comprised of representatives of a number of Borough agencies and organizations. Board

Chair Hunton agreed to serve as Planning Board advisor to this new body.

Finally, Mr. Warren informed the Planning Board that the Borough's engineer, DeMuro Associates, Inc., has completed a preliminary analysis of the sewer plant improvements needed to provide utility expansion to "underdeveloped" areas of the Borough. In a letter dated March 18, 1991, DeMuro Associates offered for a set fee to provide a detailed written analysis once the Planning Board has determined the intensity of development to be allowed. The Board quickly agreed that such an offer is premature at this stage, since the Board has only just begun to discuss the conceptual framework for any limited development, and has not yet begun considering the amount or density of development to be permitted pursuant to the new Master Plan amendment.

The April meeting was the first for newly-appointed alternate member Jeffrey Hunt. Mr. Hunt fills the vacancy created when Harry Parker was appointed to full membership earlier this year.

First Aid Auxiliary Invites New Members

We are a group of concerned citizens who got together because we felt that there was a need to help ease the burden of our squad members. Our squad members give not only their time going on calls but must spend time on maintaining their EMT training, attending meetings, and fundraising. We felt that perhaps we could help them with their fund-raising. This not only helps the squad but helps them run without our tax dollars.

Our meetings are short, informal, and friendly. We would like to get more people involved. So if you want to help the squad but perhaps don't have the time or don't feel comfortable riding with them, come join us. Our meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month. For more information call Judy Nahmias 443-5290. We look forward to meeting you and sharing any ideas or resources you may have.

—Teri Nachtman

School Board Approves Budget

by Bob Clark

On April 16, the Roosevelt School Board approved the District's 1991-92 budget calling for a school tax increase of \$23,858, about 3%. The effect of this increase will be more than eliminated when the State rebates approximately \$37,000 to the town under the amended Quality Education Act of 1990.

A few of the 14 members of the public present at the April 16 public hearing on the budget briefly commented or asked questions of the Board and Chief School Administrator (CSA) Harry Groveman, who summarized each item of expenditures and revenues. Referring to the cover letter sent to residents with the budget, Henry John-Alder said he agreed that the school "runs well and should focus on the positive." He also agreed with the decision to add a teacher in order to separate the expanding third and fourth grades and said he personally felt there was a need for a second additional teacher to split the combined fifth and sixth grades. Nonetheless, Mr. John-Alder cautioned the Board to "present more rounded information," listing weaknesses as well as strengths. He referred to "problems with math" at the Middle School in Hightstown and the need for improvement in that area. School Board President Edward Grossman maintained that the Board had "addressed positives and negatives."

Mr. John-Alder also asked the Board to consider eliminating administrative salary increases from the budget. Money earmarked in the present budget for the predecessor to Board Secretary Debra Allen had not been spent because Mrs. Allen's salary has not been as high. Although the administrative salary item increased a small percentage over that for the present year, the total amount allows larger percentage salary increases because of the unspent amounts in the present budget.

On April 16, after a closed session to discuss personnel matters, the Board approved an increase in Mr. Groveman's salary from \$60,740 to \$64,384. The Board increased Mrs. Allen's salary from \$26,500 to \$28,090. Her predecessor, Roseann

Lozinski, made \$30,000 prior to resigning in October 1990 to take a job as Assistant School Business Administrator in Englishtown. Meanwhile, the Board approved pay increases in keeping with a salary schedule incorporating a six percent increase called for in the second year of the Board's contract with its teaching staff.

At its April 10 meeting the Board approved the use of the school facility during the 1991-92 school year for a community child care program involving preschoolers and grammar school children. [See opposite, Ed.] Only Edward Goetzmann voted against the proposal, objecting to the fact that the program for preschoolers and kindergarteners would operate while classes for older children were in session elsewhere in the building.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Grossman thanked Dr. Goetzmann for his many years of service on the School Board. Dr. Goetzmann, who is stepping down when his current term ends, said it was a "delight" to work with the administrators and Board members encountered during his latest terms. He added, "If ever there should be a movement again to close the school, I'll be back."

After lengthy discussion about insurance coverage, the Board approved allowing the Roosevelt Arts Project to use the school building for a dance to be held on June 1. The letter of authorization to RAP will recommend that it obtain its own insurance coverage as an extra precaution. Saying more information about insurance coverage was needed, Board member Robert Petrilla abstained. Michael Hamilton, also expressing concerns about insurance, cast the only no vote.

The Board renewed its contract with Anderson Bus Company at a nine percent increase over last year's cost. The Board entered a tuition contract with East Windsor Regional School District for the 1991-92 school year. The new tuition for high school students will be \$6,986, less than a 1% increase. A 9.5% increase in middle school tuition will raise the amount per pupil to \$6,585.

The Board approved dissemination to the community of an informational flyer on the 1991-92 proposed school budget, which becomes official only if approved by the voters at the April 30 school district election. Board candidate Patricia Moser complained that another flyer regarding a feasibility study for long and short-term facility needs did not reveal that it came from the Board. Dr. Grossman responded that the Board had intended to include a logo, but an error occurred in the printing process.

Jan Plumb will chair an ad hoc committee to work with the architectural firm recently hired to develop a renovation and addition plan for the school building. Members of the committee will include Margaret Schlinski, Harry Parker (also a member of the Planning Board), John Ord, Dr. Grossman, Mr. Groveman, the Mayor or his designee and representatives from the Council and Planning Board. The committee will arrange for presentation of the plan to the Council, Planning Board and community-at-large before finalizing it. The electorate will have to approve any capital improvements during a referendum.

The Board approved a summer stipend of \$300 to Health/Physical Education teacher Pamela Toth to develop a new physical education curriculum in compliance with state standards. The Board also approved Ms. Toth receiving up to \$1,000 for tuition reimbursement for job-related advanced graduate studies.

Remember the School Election April 30 Vote at RPS 2:30 PM-9:00 PM

New Community Day Care Program Planned

by Joan Grossman

The Roosevelt Community Nursery School, Inc., will pilot a new community day care program in September to serve preschoolers ages 2 1/2 to 6 and school-aged children in kindergarten through 6th grade.

The program will run from 11:30 a.m. (when the morning nursery school session at RCNS ends) until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, exclusive of federal holidays, for the 10-month school year. It will be located at Roosevelt Public School.

Transportation will be provided from the nursery school site at Congregation Anshei Roosevelt on Homestead to RPS on School Lane for those preschoolers who are also enrolled in

the day care program.

Registration information will be distributed to parents of children at Roosevelt Community Nursery School and at Roosevelt Public School. Registration forms may be requested in writing to RCNS, Inc., P.O. Box 506. Roosevelt, NJ 08555 or by calling (609) 426-9523.

Programs of RCNS are made possible, in part, by a grant from MIRA.

Scholarships Offered

by Peter Warren

A \$1,000 scholarship is offered to residents of Monmouth County who will be college Juniors and Seniors this fall and who are majoring in forestry, conservation, soil science, resource management, environmental studies, environmental science or environmental education.

Applications for the scholarship may be obtained at Borough Hall and must be submitted by June 14th.

A View From the School Board

by Michael B. Hamilton

It has recently been brought to my attention that there is a great deal of misinformation currently being spread concerning the cost of education in Roosevelt as compared to the cost of sending all students to East Windsor. The following is a factual summary of the results of the Ad Hoc Committee formed to investigate this issue.

In 1989 the Roosevelt Board of Education formed the Ad Hoc Committee to investigate future alternatives for Roosevelt School. Present at the April 27, 1989 meeting were: Debra Allen, Bob Petrilla, Gail Hunton, Howard Chasan, Margaret Schlinski, Ed Grossman, Mary Alfare, Jan Plum, Leon Barth, Marilyn Magnes, Sue Raufer and Steve Yeger. Also present were: Harry Groveman C.S.A., and Bud Martin, special consultant to the Board of Education.

The Ad Hoc Committee concluded:

- That the children in Roosevelt receive a quality education at the present time.
- K-12 sending/receiving at this time would cost more money than maintaining the present K-6 organization.
- That the school building can be maintained at a reasonable cost during the next 5 years.
- That the Roosevelt community needs, and the Board of Education should make available, the school as a community center, a library and a cultural center.

A full transcript of the Ad Hoc Committee report can be obtained from the Roosevelt Board of Education upon request.

Gourmet Dinner Club Being Formed

by Debbie Fischer and Ellen Silverman

Would you and your family like to meet once a month to enjoy a meal and the company of interesting people?

Would you like to learn more about food while sharing some of your own cooking knowledge with other epicurean cooks?

Are you a vegetarian who is always eager to expand your repertoire?

Well, these are some of our interests and we would like to find like minded Rooseveltians to form a Gourmet Dinner Club.

The first meeting will be at Ellen Silverman's house on May 31 at 8:00 p.m.

For more information please call Ellen Silverman at 490-0557, or Debbie Fischer at 448-1051.

Senior Citizens Meeting, April 2, 1991

Jeanette presided at this meeting. Ear exams were given to members requesting them.

We owe Stu Kaufman a vote of thanks for picking up the food for distribution to seniors at the Solar Village.

The Garden State Arts Center sent brochures to Jeanette inviting us to attend the performance of "South Pacific" on May 29 and 30. Our going depends on how many members sign up to go.

Gus Chasan and Faye Libove were our hostesses and everything was delicious.

Until next month.

—Helga Wisowaty

Recycling News

by David Donnelly

A round of applause is in order for all those who participated in the litter pick-up on April 14th. From the garbage that was cleared away, we were able to recycle 400-500 pounds of glass and aluminum.

By the time you read this, the magazine recycling program will be in full swing. Here are the details:

- All magazines, catalogs, junk mail and other similar materials can now be recycled.
- The way to accomplish this is to drop these materials off in the shed in Borough Hall parking lot—(the same little shed where we used to drop off our newspapers).
- These materials must be bundled and tied—please do not put this stuff in bags or leave it loose.
 - This is a program that supplements our curbside program.
 Glass, tin cans, aluminum, and newspaper will still be picked up at your curbside every other Thursday.

We will need full adherence to this program to reach our state mandated goals. Call me at 426-1315 if you have any questions.

Upcoming curbside pickup dates are April 25, May 16 and Friday, May

Parks Commission Plants Cherry Trees

by Susan R. Oxford

Undeterred by a slight drizzle and a distinct chill in the air, a dozen members and friends of the Roosevelt Parks Commission planted twenty-seven cherry trees in the triangle between North Valley Road and Homestead Lane on a Saturday morning last month. The trees are of the variety Prunus yedoensis, the same kind of cherry tree that makes springtime in Washington, D.C., so famous. Although resembling little more than bare sticks when planted, the trees promise to provide years of beautiful blossoms in the coming springs.

The Parks Commission purchased the trees with funds raised by cleaning up a portion of Pine Drive that the Borough Council had otherwise planned to put out to bid, according to Commission President Gayle Donnelly. The Borough was planning to pay a private firm \$500 to do the clean-up work in preparation for expansion/renovation of the sewer plant. Instead, Donnelly explained, about twenty volunteers chipped in and accomplished the job, making it possible for the Parks Commission to purchase the trees. Special thanks to Louise Rosskam for taking photos.

The trees were planted in a pattern designed by landscape architect Kate John-Alder, a member of the Commission. Eventually, the Commission hopes to design and install park benches in the middle of the triangle so that residents and visitors can fully enjoy the newly created grove. John-Alder said that the trees should grow to be about 25 feet tall and should continue to flower each

spring for the next 40 years. Reporting on the trees' progress a few weeks after planting, Commission member Ann Goldman explained that all but two of the trees had budded as expected.

The Parks Commission rounded out its spring activities with a community trash pick-up and an Earth Day Celebration. 25 volunteers participated on Sunday, April 14th to collect trash along the roadsides and footpaths throughout the Borough. Altogether, the volunteers collected approximately 1000 pounds of trash and recyclables which were carted away by the Monmouth County Clean Community Coordinator, John Minton. Afterwards, everyone met for great food and conversation at Lenny and Michele Hillis. Thank you Jasper Shahn for the photographs, John Shahn for the poster and the rest of the crew for participating. This event was funded by the Clean Community grant from DEP. This is a semi-annual event so if you missed it this time around, you'll have another chance in the fall.

The Earth Day Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, April 28th. (Since the **Bulletin** went to press before this event took place, we will fill you in on the details next month.)

The County Shade Tree Commission has completed their spring planting, trimming and brush cutting in Roosevelt. Fourteen trees were planted along 571. They are oaks, pear, cherry and crabapple trees.

The Parks Commission wants to thank all the volunteers who made these events successful.

Borough Council (continued from page 1)

Nor surprisingly, the industries have proposed a formula for determining that "fair share" that would pass most of the costs on to the municipalities. Using that formula, Roosevelt's share would be \$1,069,000. As Mr. Ross pointed out, there are 15 to 20 other municipalities that are likely to be sued for contribution, but "no other would feel the impact more devastatingly than Roosevelt."

While Mr. Ross said it might harm our case for him to go into details of the defense that will be used by the municipalities, he did express his belief that Roosevelt would not be required by a court to pay so large an amount. Nonetheless, we are up against big, wealthy companies, the stakes are high, and we and the other municipalities, of which the Lomurro firm represents four, must be prepared to defend our interests, even if that

means paying high fees for expert witnesses and special environmental counsel. The cost of not defending properly is far higher.

"If it seems like I'm trying to scare you," said Mr. Ross, "I really am. I want to get you to do something about this." What he wants us to do, in addition to being prepared to fight the impending legal battle, is to write to our State and Federal representatives to get legisla-

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First Aid Squad Members Honored by Hightstown

by Susan R. Oxford

Two members of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad, who are also members of the Hightstown First Aid Squad, were awarded Emergency Medical Technicians of the Year by the Hightstown Squad, as well as EMT of the Year from the Knights of Columbus. The awards acknowledge the dedicated volunteer work that Jack and Peggy Guyette performed last year on Hightstown's behalf, answering over 500 calls in the course of the year.

The Guyettes have been members of the Roosevelt Squad since 1985, and joined the Hightstown Squad in 1990 along with several other Roosevelt members to help Hightstown through a critical period. They have since become an integral part of both volunteer organizations. Jack Guyette serves as Training Officer for both squads, and Peggy serves as First Lieutenant in Roosevelt and Second Lieutenant in Hightstown.

Jack explained that, when they first joined the Roosevelt Squad, they were looking for a way to become involved in the community, and first aid work sounded interesting. They have stayed on for several reasons: the opportunity to work with a nice group of people, the constant process of learning that riding on an ambulance offers, and the rewarding feeling of being part of the town.

When asked how he feels about having his daily routine interrupted when a first aid call comes in, Jack responds by proudly displaying his "I made CPR count" pin, signifying a life saved through the use of CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). A number of other members of the Roosevelt Squad received "I made CPR count" pins this year as well. Jack also described how last summer they received eight calls for babies who had stopped breathing. Jack explained the indescribable feeling of being approached months later in a local restaurant by the grateful parents of one young child, asking if Jack and Peggy remembered the youngster. It was very sobering to realize that the child might not have been there if the members of

the First Aid Squad were not available to answer the call for help when it came.

The practice of first aid and emergency transport has gradually changed over the years. Originally, first aiders did little more than put patients in the ambulance and drive them to the closest medical center. Now, the volunteer members of the First Aid Squad are Emergency Medical Technicians trained to diagnose the severity of a patient's injuries and to determine the appropriate facility to which the patient should be transported. For instance, an EMT faced with a severely injured victim of an automobile accident can call for a helicopter and have the patient transported to a trauma center in minutes, increasing the patient's chances for recovery tremendously. EMTs are also trained in more sophisticated means of providing interim emergency medical care during transport, and can call medics to assist with possible heart attacks and other severe injuries while the ambulance is on route to the hospital.

Jack and Peggy both emphasize that serving on a volunteer first aid squad is a real team endeavor, and they are quick to acknowledge the importance of the support they receive from their colleagues. Peach Przychocki, the newly-elected Captain of the Roosevelt Squad, answered over 300 first aid calls in 1990. Her husband, Michael, completed his EMT training this past fall and graduated second in his EMT class. Together with Marion Gelber, these five Roosevelt members form one of the teams of EMTs answering calls in Hightstown. They reiterate the Guyette's enthusiasm for first aid volunteering, stating that the friendship and camaraderie is second to none.

In addition to these relatively new members, Roosevelt also has a significant number of members who served ten years or more, and are therefore eligible for "life membership." These members provide valuable experience for the squad as a whole. Unfortunately, in recent months the Squad has begun to experience a critical shortage of volunteers available to answer calls in Roosevelt. New members are urgently needed at this time. Anyone interested in finding out more about volunteering can contact Jack and Peggy Guyette at 448-0198 (days) or 448-2347 (evenings), Peach Przychocki at 448-2180, or any other member of the Squad.

The activities of the First Aid Squad are made possible, in part, through a grant from MIRA.

Synagogue News

By Michael Ticktin, President

On May 2, we observe the minor festival of Lag Ba'omer, which marks certain events that took place during the Jewish revolt against Rome that was led by Shimon Bar-Kochba. The restrictions of the weeks between Passover and Shavuot, including the prohibition on celebrating marriages, are suspended for that one day. In Israel, it is celebrated with picnics during the day and bonfires at night.

On May 5, at 5:00 p.m.., we will have our delayed observance of Israel Independence Day. Israeli foods will be served and musical entertainment provided. There will also be a "bazaar" at which foods, gift items, and other products made in Israel may be purchased. Buying Israeli products is a good and practical way of showing your support for Israel. Please come.

On May 19 and 20, at 9:00 a.m., we will hold Shavuot services. Shavuot, which comes seven weeks after Passover—the word means "weeks"—is the second of the pilgrimage festivals. It commemorates the giving of the Torah and also marks the time of the barley harvest in ancient Israel. On the second day of the holiday, we will read the Book of Ruth and hold Yizkor memorial services.

Omnia Mutantur... Everything Changes...

by Peter Warren

New Kid on the Block... Nicholas Andrew Rossi.

Moving Out... Charles and Eugenia Chapman, after 30 years, to Florida; Joyce Orlen, after 50 years; Donald and Robin McLaughlin, after six years, to Vermont; John and Annmarie Aldea, after a year or two.

Switching... After renting on School Lane, George and Kathy Vasseur to the Orlen house on Pine Drive; from Tamara Drive, Michael and Ann DeCocco to the Aldea house for a couple of months before moving to Millstone.

Moving In... Tom and Geryl Hickey to the DeCocco house on Tamara; Mark Rossi (temporarily) to the Loyer house on North Rochdale; Joseph and Luci Caruso to the Warner house on Lake Drive.

On the Market... As of April 10, 13 houses.

On the Ballot... Anita Ashkinazy, running for State Assembly on the Independent ticket in November, in our new 30th District.

On the Boards... Cheri Katz, singing Love Makes the World Go Round as Lili in Hightstown High's production of Carnival.

On the Phone... Buyers, (from Margaret Schlinski) of more than 120 copies of the 1991 edition Roosevelt phone book; the 250 printing will benefit the summer camp program.

On General Delivery... Eight families; on rural delivery, four families.

Selected... Traci Connaughton, HHS Junior, for the National Honor Society.

Finally Officially Discharged...
From the US military, Peter Warren,
WWII AFS ambulance driver with allied armies, joining the 64 veterans
whose names appear on the memorial
on the school grounds.

Finally Officially Licensed... As of April 10, 135 of our 144 dogs.

Landlords... Of rental housing in Roosevelt, twenty-two, of whom 18 absentee.

Unemployed... In 1990, 4.8% of Roosevelt's labor force (labor force 585, employed 557, unemployed 28).

Repiped... By April 30, about 4,900 linear feet of sewer line by Marvec, with De Muro Associates as inspecting engineers, exceeding the 4,000 feet originally contracted for.

Flowing... In March, water for domestic usage 122,000 gpd (goal: reduction to 90,000 gpd); sewage 331,000 gpd (goal: reduction to 250,000 gpd).

Bettie Witherspoon Honored

Bettie Witherspoon, Executive Director of the Better Beginnings Child Care Center, was selected as a 1991 Woman of Achievement by the N.J. Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. Witherspoon has worked in child care for 22 years and been a leader in children and human service advocacy for many years. Among her many activities, she has chaired the N.J. Division of youth and Family Service Child Care Policy Development Board, chaired the Mercer County Human Services Task Force on Children, and written and published, through a grant from the State, Substance Abuse Prevention Curriculum for children in school-age programs. Better Beginnings is a not-for-profit, subsidized child care program, providing care for 51 preschoolers, 19 After-Kindergarteners, 30 school-age summer campers, as well as a non-funded substance abuse prevention program for 30 children ages 6-12 resident in or near the Hightstown Public Housing that is supported by private contributions.

—From a Press Release

In Memoriam:

Aviva Weisman Fefer

On March 25th, 1991, Aviva Weisman Fefer died. Aviva was the daughter of Yona and Israel Weisman who came to the Jersey Homesteads in the 1930s and lived here until Yona died and Israel moved to Florida. Israel wished to have Aviva's memory noted in the **Roosevelt Bulletin** and much of what he wrote follows:

Aviva Weisman was born in October 1936 and was brought to Jersey Homesteads in July of 1937. She was stricken with spinal-meningitis in April 1940 and became a guinea-pig for the sulfa drug. After 5 days in a coma, she was discharged from Long Branch Hospital totally undamaged. (Her brother, Ezra was born 3 weeks later in the same hospital).

Aviva graduated from the Roosevelt Public School and Allentown High School and was the Valedictorian that year. She received a scholarship from Oberlin College in Ohio and was graduated 4 years later with honors. She then took her Masters' Degree at New York University in psychology, and taught school for 2 years in Harlem in New York. She met Alan Graham, married him, and left New York and Roosevelt to join a group of friends to establish the first Waldentype school in Berkeley, California. She stayed to shepherd this school for 24 years. After 8 years of marriage, Alan died and Aviva met and married Tom Fefer and moved to Denver Colorado.

After living with Tom for 16 years, dreaming, someday, to go back and get her doctorate degree, she was stricken with cancer and died on March 25th, 1991. She leaves not only her husband, father, brother and family but hundreds of devoted students and friends. She always said "I am a good product of Jersey Homesteads".

—Frieda Anish

Leafletting in Roosevelt

by Judith McNally

Leaving a flyer in a doorway, I hear familiar Saturday morning sounds—a washing machine humming and its warm smell coming through the walls. A TV sound track comes from inside. Behind doors, children argue that they don't want to go to a place name muffled by the walls between us.

Occasionally a resident is passing by the door as I arrive, and we have a pleasant chat about the invitation I'm distributing. Other times I hear the opening of a door as I'm walking away, but by the time I look back, the person's not in sight. At one house I renew an old acquaintance, neither of us having known for two years that we'd both moved from the same town, to Roosevelt!

Screen doors with firm latches are the easiest of all for leaving the flyer. An open inner door means having to scrunch up the flyer in the screen door handle, so as not to intrude. Most challenging of all are wooden doors that require wedging the flyer between doorknob and door's edge, and hoping the flyer stays put until the resident finds it.

Some doors evade all measures, and then I knock, delivering an invitation in

person and accounting for the interruption. But hesitation precedes each knocking. Will the resident be a senior citizen who has difficulty walking to the door? Or a parent with his or her hands already full with several children? Will I interrupt a phone call, or find a person near tears in a private crisis?

I get to see many lovely front lawns, a stone terrace decked with redwood chaise lounges, an Oriental stone temple in a carefully tended garden. I see many yellow ribbons, decals for the Policeman's Benevolent Association, Volkswagons in one drive, a Cadillac in the next. I see toys, bikes, and newly seeded lawns. With each For Sale sign, I wonder if the owners will be here long enough to attend the event.

There are many stairs to climb and I am grateful I'm not a door-to-door U.S. Postal Service delivery person, doing this daily. Sometimes I need to rest, so I sit on the curb and write a few handwritten notes on the front of the invitations. The second or third time I do this, I start signing my name. on some, randomly, I simply say, "Hope to meet you!"

RAP to Present One-Act Play Readings

Two staged readings of works by prize-winning playwright Richard Arthur Lloyd and Judith McNally wrap up the 1990-91 non-profit Roosevelt Arts Project series at 8 p.m., May 4, in the Roosevelt Borough Hall. The Last Confinement, by Judith McNally, features Joel McGuire and Steven Davison as two reporters reveling in their freedom after imprisonment for refusing to reveal a source. On a more somber note, Richard Arthur Lloyd's dramatic adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's unfinished story, The Lighthouse depicts a tale of madness within confining walls. John Pietrowski will direct.

Mr. Lloyd is a 1990-91 recipient of a New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship - Literature/Playwriting, and has enjoyed 25 stagings of his work. He holds an M.F.A. from Mason Gross School of the Arts.

Ms. McNally's play The Bonsai Tree, was published in Lamia Ink! in 1990. She has taught creative writing at City University of New York, and is a member of Playmarket.

Donations are \$5 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens. For further information call 448-4580.

-From a Press Release

Borough Council (continued from page 6)

tion passed that will keep industrial polluters from passing on their cleanup costs to municipalities. Our ultimate goal," he said, "is to close the loophole that has let municipalities face liability." He is sure that Congress never intended to allow this cost sharing scheme, which he characterized as "a distortion bordering on the immoral." Legislation to make the necessary corrections to the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act has been introduced by Assemblywomen Farragher and Mullen. The bill number is A-4675. Similar legislation to amend the Federal Superfund law will be needed. Lots of letters to State and Federal legislators are needed because, as Mr. Ross put it, "corporations have more money to throw at elected officials than we do."

In other business, the council held its budget hearing, postponing final action pending approval of the budget by the Local Finance Board of the Department of Community Affairs, and adopted ordinances establishing salaries for the year, establishing an emergency management council, and establishing rules concerning the times and places in which garbage and recyclables may be put out for collection.

The garbage collection ordinance, which was adopted in response to a recommendation from Zoning Officer Paul Eichler, provides that garbage and recyclables may be placed out for collection only after 4:00 p.m. of the day prior to collection and that all receptacles must be taken back in not later than 8:00 a.m. of the day following collection. Garbage, recyclables and receptacles may be placed only where they do not obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic. All occupants of a property are jointly responsible for complying with the ordinance. If a property is unoccupied, the owner is responsible. Fines for violation range from a maximum of \$50.00 for a first violation to a maximum of \$500.00 for subsequent violations.

Other actions taken by the council included the introduction of an ordinance establishing the Jersey Homesteads Historic District Advisory Council and the position of local historian and the approval of a motion authorizing repairs to Spruce Lane and Eleanor Lane, the repairs to include subgrading, laying stone and elevating the road, at a cost not to exceed \$1,844.00. The municipal engineer was authorized to expend up to \$117,200 in excess of the \$560,000 contract price for sewer line rehabilitation in order to take advantage of favorable labor and material costs and upgrade additional sewer lines. (This money is already set aside in the

continued on following page

New Legislative Map Detaches Western Monmouth from District 12 Anita Ashkinazy is an Assembly Candidate

by Michael Ticktin

On March 28, the New Jersey State Apportionment Commission approved a new legislative district map. Roosevelt, together with the other Western Monmouth municipalities of Millstone, Upper Freehold and Allentown, is being taken from the 12th District and made part of a new 30th District, which also includes the Ocean county municipalities of Lakewood, Jackson and Plumstead and the Burlington County municipalities of Bordentown City, Bordentown Township, Chesterfield, Easthampton, Fieldsboro, Florence, Mansfield, New Hanover, North Hanover, Pemberton Borough, Pemberton Township, Springfield and Wrightstown.

In the new district, Roosevelt, though not the smallest municipality—Fieldsboro has a population of 579—will have the distinct disadvantage of being the smallest municipality in the smallest county segment. Fully 50% of the population of the district is in Burlington County, while another 44% is in Ocean. The largest municipality, Lakewood, ac-

counts for nearly 24% of the total population, while the three largest, Lakewood, Jackson and Pemberton Township, account for 57%.

A notable first for Roosevelt in this election is the candidacy of a local resident, Anita Ashkinazy, who is running for the Assembly as an Independent supported by the Communications Workers of America (CWA), a union that represents many State employees. Her Assembly running mate is Gary Rhodes of Bordentown City. Their Republican opponents are former Assemblyman Robert Singer of Lakewood and Melvin Cotrell of Jackson, while their Democratic opponents are Ralph Adinolfe of Jackson and Michael G. Tamm of Pemberton Township. The Senate candidates are Republican John Dimon of Florence, Democrat Neil O'Connell of Jackson, and CWA Independent Bernice Zickwolf of Bordentown Township.

The 30th District was created in this part of the State because of population shifts from the northeastern urban

areas. It is the only district that has no incumbent legislators in it. Of the 20 towns in the new district, 14 voted for all three Republican legislative candidates in 1987, four split their vote, and only two, Roosevelt and Wrightstown, voted for all three Democratic candidates. Consequently, it is generally expected that the new 30th will be a Republican district, though less solidly so than the 12th.

Roosevelt will, however, have one distinction in the 30th district that we were far from having in the 12th—that of being the municipality with the highest per capita income (based on 1985 figures). In the 12th district, we ranked 12th out of 22, with a per capita income 9% below the district average. In the new district, however, our 1985 per capita income of \$14,066 is 26% above the district average of \$11,124. In other words, as Rumson is to the 12th, so Roosevelt is to the 30th. I hope that has everyone feeling more prosperous already!

Borough Council (continued from previous page)

budget under "capital outlay.") Partial payment to Marvec Construction in the amount of \$230,279.08 for sewer line work was approved.

Approval was also given for the municipal engineer to prepare plans and specifications for the reconstruction of all streets that were opened for sewer line work. Councilman Lee Allen explained that this reconstruction would not all be done at once, but that the current project only included funding for the repair of the trenches, not for the entire roadway and we have not found that the condition of the roads is such that they must be redone properly so that they will last.

The council also appointed Jane Friedman as a crossing guard and Peter Warren as an alternate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) representative. Mayor Barth stated that he would make appointments to fill the vacant Class IV seat and two alternate

seats on the planning board after the next board meeting. It was also announced that work has begun on the sewage treatment plant and pilings are being driven for new structures, that magazines and junk mail will soon be recycled at the shed in the borough hall parking lot, and that residents should be alert to increased traffic, particularly on Pine Drive, due to the work at the sewage treatment plant. A \$1,000 scholarship is being offered for a college junior or senior living in Monmouth County who is majoring in a field related to conservation; call the borough hall for details.

Thanks were given to those who helped during two recent water line breaks: to John and Maureen Parrott for providing electricity to light the repair work, to Lou Toto for providing a back-hoe, and to the East Windsor Municipal Utilities Authority for providing equipment. The borough has

now gotten equipment for locating underground water lines, so anyone who is digging in front of his or her house can use this equipment and thereby avoid hitting a line. (The gas company should always be called before digging so that it can mark gas lines.)

In the public comment period, former Mayor Bert Ellentuck expressed his concern about the manner in which trenches were being filled and about damage being done to the roads by the contractor's heavy equipment. Democratic Committeeman Sol Libsohn asked whether the specifications for the repair work were being followed and was told that they were. Anita Rosskam asked what was going to be done about trees that were knocked down by the contractor near Tamara Drive. Councilman Allen said that some of the wood could be removed if residents would take it for their fireplaces and that the removal of

Borough Council

the rest would be discussed with the contractor. Former Councilman Kirk Rothfuss asked if money was available for street repairs. Mr. Allen replied that over \$200,000 was available in the budget. Mr. Rothfuss asked why some of the money that had been allocated for road work was being used for line replacement. Mr. Allen said that serious defects in the lines had been found on Rochdale Avenue at the creek and at other locations and that these had to be corrected by continually directing the contractor to the "next worse case."

In response to other questions, Mr. Allen also said that, although 4,500 feet of pipe have already been replaced, it is still too soon to tell if the flow has been significantly reduced. A 1280 foot segment that goes through the woods will be lined once DEP grants a variance for pipe width, and this segment may be contributing enough infiltration to "mask" gains elsewhere.

Democratic Committeewoman Ann Baker complained that the council had not included in its correspondence a letter that she had written protesting the selection of a new council member who was not on the Democratic committee's list and the council's failure to give the Democratic committee either prior or subsequent notice of its action. She questioned the validity of the action, but Mayor Barth responded that the council had acted with the advice of the borough attorney and that he was satisfied that the law had been followed. He also stated that he had not seen her letter.

Henry John-Alder cited an anonymous paper that was recently circulated in the community, which severely criticized various people, as evidence that "political relations have gone downhill." He asked that the council, particularly Community Relations Chairman Peter Warren, do something to deal with this situation. Responding for the council, Mayor Barth said that he has also received many unpleasant anonymous letters, but he does not know what can be done to get people to stop writing them. Scott Hartman responded by calling for a "calm, legitimate approach" by everyone, a sentiment with which both Mayor Barth and Mr. John-Alder agreed.

Letters

To the Editor:

I've witnessed a disturbing change in the way the Mayor and Council conduct the business of running our town and in providing for public participation in that business.

An interview with Mayor Leon Barth that appeared in the June 1988 edition of the *Bulletin* quoted Barth as saying, "I'd like to see the place (Borough Hall) overflowing. The community owes it to the Council. Everyone has a point of view, and I'd like to hear it expressed. The more the merrier." The interviewer summarized Barth by saying he would like to see more public participation at Council meetings.

In 1990, the Mayor and Council allowed for much public comment and debate, both friendly and not so friendly, before making decisions or voting on motions. The public was treated respectfully and answered thoroughly, by both Council members and our paid professionals. For example, one of the meetings with the most potential to get heated was that at which the Council had to vote to increase the sewer/water rates to raise funds for the sewer project so that we could secure financing. The room was packed, with members of the public even standing along the wall. The meeting stayed surprisingly calm and mutually respectful, because past Utility Chair Kirk Rothfuss and Administration Chair Marilyn Magnes directly and competently answered every question from the public. Mayor Barth allowed the public portion of the meeting to go on at length until every question was asked and the public was satisfied. This mode of operation continued through 1990, through many public discussions of the merits of alternatives such as Insituform and various financing strategies.

While there were differences among the Council itself and with segments of the public in attendance, all who wanted to be were heard. Mayor Barth played an important part in this. On two separate occasions, I complimented Mayor Barth for his skill in helping controversial meetings to run smoothly. He did this by letting everyone know they would be heard. He let people know he saw their hand up, and he let those who would inter-

rupt others know they would get their chance. And they did.

Now, in 1991, Mayor Barth lets everyone know they won't be heard by announcing 10 minute warnings before cutting off public questions and by moving the public portion to the end of Council meetings, after all decisions have been made. Council members are asked direct questions and some, such as Mr. Warren and Mr. Prezant, do not answer. The public is ridiculed by Councilmember Allen in his recent "Viewpoint" in the Bulletin, and summarily dismissed by being referred to as "one group", "you people" and "supporters" of a particular view. This is the same Mayor who said the more the merrier? These are the same Council members who said "we will continue to exchange viewpoints and ideas" (Mr. Warren) and who pledged to "work with (us) in the upcoming year" (Mr. Allen)? What's wrong with this picture?

I don't mean to be fussy, but I like the old way better.

Sincerely, Jane Darden Rothfuss

To the Editor:

While many in town were still pondering Councilman Allen's attack on his constituents for yelling when the Mayor and Council were considering an additional 3/4 million dollar expenditure, at its last meeting the Council moved quietly to spend an additional \$117,000 on the sewer pipe replacement project.

On another note, Mr. Allen explained that road repair was removed from the sewer pipe contract by the new Council. The Council hopes to pay for repaving out of annual operating funds in the future. The savings from removing the road repair item will allow us to replace more pipe than DEP approved last year, while we're left with patched together roads. I guess this is called "prudent planning."

Sincerely, Kirk "Fussy" Rothfuss

What's on your mind?
Write the Bulletin

Letters

Page 12

To the Editor:

I am a write-in candidate for the one year term on the Board of Education.

Admittedly, it was a last minute decision that was made so that the community can have an alternative point of view to the future of our school and our students.

My position is clear. I am concerned about the three hundred thousand plus dollars we will need to spend to bring the school up to state standards, and am strongly in favor of a referendum on this matter.

I have calculated the cost savings in tax dollars if we send our children to East Windsor, where many of our students currently attend. I am in favor of a serious discussion on this issue.

And last, but certainly not least, the educational and social opportunities our students can receive by going to a larger and richer district. I am anxious to review this matter.

Below are calculations of the differences in expenditures between retaining the school and sending our students to East Windsor.

Let's talk about it openly. Vote for me and we will.

—Lou Esakoff

Budget Year 1990-91	1991-92
Total Budget\$1,236,406.00	\$1,296,991.00
Transportation	64,000.00
Tuition Regular	266,439.00
Tuition Special	96,293.00
Total Contracted Services	426,732.00
Total Budget	1,296,991.00
Contracted Services436,442.00	-426,732.00
Total Spent in Roosevelt	870,259.00
Students in Roosevelt	90*
Total Spent per Student in Roosevelt	9,670.00
Send All Students To East Windsor	
Number of Students85	90*
85 @ \$6014.00 511,190.00	
90 @ \$6585.00	592,650
Total Spent in Roosevelt	870,259.00
Total to EW511,190.00	-592,650.00
Total Saved	277,690.00
Extra Bus20,000.00	-20,000.00
Incidental Expenses25,000.00	-25,000.00
Total Saved	232,609.00
Tax Savings	
Saved	232,609.00
Number of Dwellings	320
Savings per Dwelling	727.00
Average Percentage Saved	22

*projected

Source of Numbers: Roosevelt Board of Education Printed Budget Available at the school.

—Lou Esakoff

To the Editor:

Having lived in Roosevelt for close to eighteen years, you'd think that I'd have a fair idea of how things work in this place. For the most part, I think I do, but there is one thing in particular that escapes my understanding.

First, let's look at where we are today, in the year 1991.

- In seven years, real estate taxes have doubled.
- Since 1979, utility rates have increased by 700%
- The total School budget for 1991 breaks down to an average expenditure of \$9607.00 per pupil, with \$6219.00 coming from local levy.
- There is really no way of knowing how much more money is going to be needed for the sewer line/plant project, to meet state mandated objectives.

 There is now the potential of the Borough being involved in a lawsuitto share in the cost of clean-up of the Lone Pine landfill.

Looks to me like this little rural community is in a real bind and the existing 332 tax paying units can no longer be expected to dig deeper than they already are.

This brings me to the very thing that's been puzzling me for so many years. Can anyone give me a logical reason why this community has consistently refused to allow for reasonable, progressive growth to expand the tax base? Even if Roosevelt were to be double its present size, it would still be a small village and quite manageable.

Take for instance, the proposal made in September of 1988 by Switchel, Inc. for the construction of 140 units, including an offer of \$775,000.00 for sewer construction. Can anyone tell me the real reason for the rejection of this proposal?

Could it be that after having spent \$1,381,000.00 on the sewer/water utilities in the years 1983 to 1988, the sewer treatment plant could still not accommodate additional housing? That is a likely scenario and it is also obvious that the decision was made to sit back and do nothing.

As I see it, money is the only thing that's going to solve the problems we face and that can only come from more taxpayers on the rolls. Freebies from other jurisdictions, the so-called grants, are a thing of the past and history, nostalgia, sentiment or a historic designation aren't going to keep this "Unique community" afloat. The only reality is cold, hard cash.

Very truly yours, G.C. de Malvilain

Letters

To the Editor:

I wish to thank the dozens of people who have approached me in support of my candidacy for the school board. They have responded to my call for a referendum for any future major construction at the school.

They have told me how refreshing it is that someone is expressing a view that has broken a "Roosevelt taboo." They tell me that they are feeling the pressure of our high taxes and they are concerned about the quality of education that our children are getting. They also tell me they are frustrated by not having their concerns addressed by the school board.

I have been asked why I am pushing so hard for a referendum. This is because the last time major renovations were needed to improve the school, we did not hear mention of a referendum. Instead, money was taken out of the operating budget and our taxes increased significantly. Now the school board is considering a lease-purchase arrangement for the express purpose of avoiding a referendum.

As a result of our campaign, I am happy to report that some members of the school board now say they are in favor of a referendum. I hope that I will be able to continue to move forward the concerns of the taxpayers and the children and I ask you to vote for me on Tuesday, April 30, from 2:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Roosevelt School.

—Pat Moser

To the Editor:

Some errors were printed in last month's **Borough Bulletin** which must be corrected:

Lee Allen's "Viewpoint" article

1. I did not threaten physical violence nor did I threaten Howard Prezant by using physical intimidation (unless he finds the mere presence of people who question his "wisdon" physically threatening). To suggest otherwise is ridiculous and untrue.

2. Lee states that the barely advertised, just-this-side-of-legal meeting—the type the current Council seems fond of holding—was planned so that there would be an opportunity provided for the public to discuss the \$600,000 "development" upgrade to the sewage treatment plant. Go back

and check the agenda, Lee. Where was the public portion? After noticing the large number of citizens present at the meeting, the Council decided to allow a time-limited public comment segment. Gee, thanks.

3. Lee also states that the purpose of the meeting was to consider all sewer rehabilitation options open to the Council. Why not consider allowing Roosevelt to accept a low-level radioactive waste site? Why not consider building a waste incinerator? Why not ask our engineers to prepare an environmental impact study of a domed stadium? Think of the economic benefits! You have to draw the line somewhere. Paying \$600,000 to make some developer's life easier is where many of us draw our line, and we did our best to let the Council know it at that wonderfully advertised "open" meeting.

4. I could rebut more of Lee's rewriting of history, but what the heck.

Abbie Hoffman is spelled with an "ie", not a "y".

Rose Murphy's Letter to the Editor

1. Contrary to what Rose said, the Council did not vote unanimously "no" to the \$600,000 development upgrade to the sewage treatment plant at the tremendously advertised "open" meeting. Instead, they asked the Borough engineer to study it further. Fortunately the Council realized that a significant part of Roosevelt would not or could not pay more that \$140/month for unnecessary water/sewer work several weeks later (after further, costly study). Frankly, I'm glad we all were at the meeting to make our feelings known.

2. Rose quotes me at great length under point number two of her letter. I challenge Rose to locate in any of my writings the words she attributes to me. It's a bit difficult to defend myself when it isn't even me I'm defending! I wonder what else I've said and done? Hmmmmm, perhaps I'm "anti-school". I really hope Rose does a better job with facts during her tenure on the Council.

3. Rose also quotes me as saying "We must stop the internal feuding if we are ever to address any crisis." This quote is actually something I said, but the crucial missing context is in the next line from the quoted article: "The best way to prevent accusations of

"factionalism" or "political motivations" is to be absolutely sure that everyone has total access to the decision-making process. The conversational innuendoes, the secret meetings, the phone calls to a select "ingroup" is not acting in the public trust." This is still true.

Some General Comments

I am saddened that the Borough Bulletin seems to have adopted an editorial policy of printing wild accusations and personal attacks without allowing the "attackee" a chance to respond to the article at the time it was printed. Most journals I write for provide an opportunity for rebuttal to ad hominem attacks before articles go to print (and wasn't this Bulletin policy in the past?). Most of this nonsense is pretty ludicrous by now, but the accusation of violence matters to me. I have worked hard in my personal and professional life to promote the ideals of pacifism; I condemn the use of force as a tool for human change. During the past month, I have felt compelled to greet people by saying "no, I don't hit!" because my commitment to nonviolence runs deep.

I am also saddened that members of the Council choose to respond to criticisms of their actions by character assassination and personal ridicule. Having grown up in a political family, this level of human exchange only bothers me a little bit (and in fact I rather enjoy the label "professor of doom", as one anonymous letter has tagged me), but I do wish that Council members would answer the questions we ask instead of trying hard to ignore that there might be disagreements with the expensive plans they are formulating for our town. I also wish that the Council would stop pretending that our dislike for the closed methodology they have adopted as their operating procedure doesn't matter.

I believe it does matter, and there can be no excuse for the undermining of the principles designed into our republic. To complete the paragraph of the single, out-of-context quote of mine Rose Murphy got correct: "I fear for the future of open political discourse—in our town, our state, and in our country. Honesty has to begin at home." Where do you draw the line?

—Brad Garton

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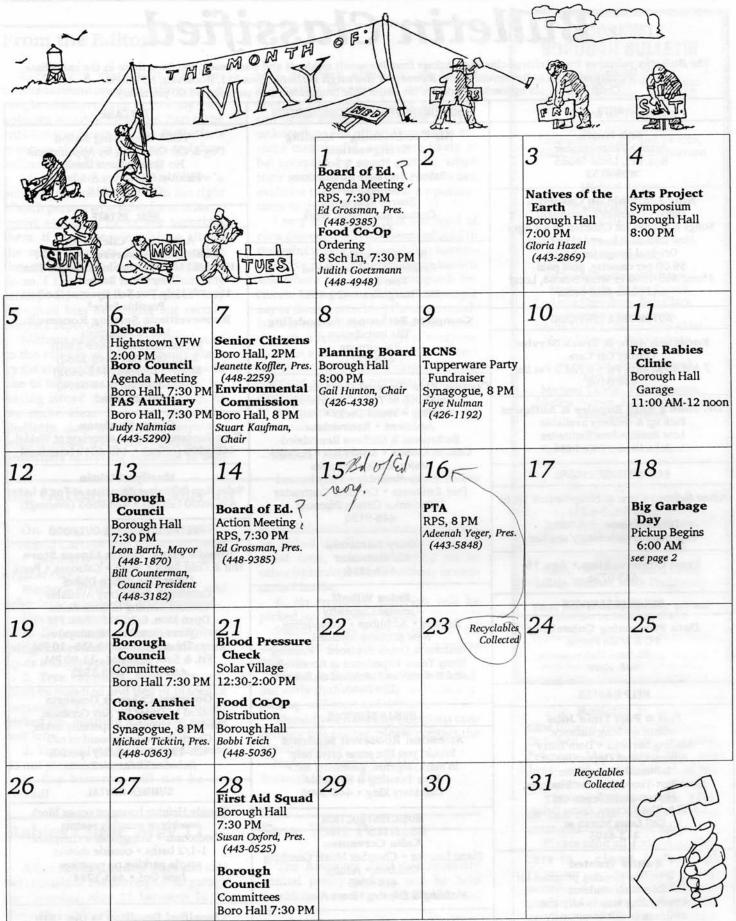
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Is your organization having a meeting or event? Write the Bulletin (Box 221, Local) or call Helga Wisowaty (448-0049)