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ROOSEVELT BOROUGH



BULLETIN

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Vol. V., No. 8

Roosevelt, New Jersey

March 1982

## Company desires to build 40,000 sq. ft. plastic-leaf alternative fuel plant in town

by Bob Clark

Announcing a pressing timetable and harkening Roosevelt to its "pioneer® days, a light manufacturing industry would like to come to town. Several representatives of Redmar Corporation astounded the sparsely attended February 22 regular Planning Board meeting by announcing their desire to build a 40,000 sq. ft. plant on industrial land bordered by Oscar Drive to the south and Route 571 (Rochdale Avenue) to the west.

If the Planning Board approves the proposal and the federal government grants a certain amount of the financing, Roosevelt could host the first P-L (plastic-leaf) alternative fuel plant in existence. In informal presentations to the Planning Board, and later to the council at its March 10 regular meeting, Phillip Forgione, owner of the patented technology, provided the following details of plans for the 10-acre site.

1. Total project cost: \$10,000,000 (a near doubling of the town's assessed valuations);

2. Financing: \$8,000,000 from private sources; \$2,000,000 from federal Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) funds;

3. Product: pelletized P-L fuel composed of ground leaves and industrial scrap plastic;

4. Process: 100,000 tons of baled leaves shipped annually to the site from North Jersey and possibly Pennsylvania, primarily from October through December (trucks to be owned by the company); leaves stored under tarps outside the plant and screened by existing and planned greenery; leaves mixed inside the plant with molten industrial waste plastic bonding agent (P-L fuel itself to be used for the manufacturing process); pelletized fuel shipped to utility and commercial customers;

5. Benefits to customers: one half the cost of coal; no sulfur or other pollutants when burned ("sweet fuel"); burns as well as or better than coal;

#### fuel plant

(Cont'd, from previous page)

6. Truck traffic: 56
trucks entering the town daily
from Turnpike Exit 8 during
the peak season; 20 trucks
per day shipping product during
remaining 9 months;

7. Pollutants: none

(mixing process);

8. Odors: leaf odor only (plastic bonding agent becomes molten when heated for the mixing process and does not burn);

9. Dust: will have collection system inside plant as required by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration);

10. Parking: off-street and screened; sufficient for

100 cars;

- 11. Noise: from trucks entering town from the north and exiting toward the north and from forklifts moving leaf bales (baling of leaves done at depots near North Jersey municipalities where the leaves are collected);
- 12. Wastes: little generated by the process (some runoff water routed to storm drains); primary water and sewer system use resulting from employee rest room use; and
- 13. Employment: 35-100 people, including engineering staff, office personnel, drivers, equipment operators, and laborers; some summer employment of students; seasonal work for adults and youth; all jobs open to male or female workers; hiring within Roosevelt preferred.

Forgione said that the proposed operation had "three things going for it" in

(Cont'd. on next page)

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The policy of the Bulletin is open expression of ideas and opinions. The authors have sole responsibility for content. The Bulletin is open to discussion, disagreement and commentary through letters to the Editor, or interested persons may submit articles to be considered for publication.

#### fuel plant

(Cont'd. from previous page)

today's marketplace: improved environmental quality resulting from use of a clean alternative fuel, an energy conservation business and a recycling aspect. He noted that the Franklin Institute had successfully tested the P-L fuel in a small pilot facility in Elberon, Pa., and concluded a favorable environmental impact study. Forgione also stated that the process was reviewed by the Alternate Fuels Division of the federal Department of Energy (DOE) and was selected as a viable alternative fuel method entitling it to a \$550,000 feasibility grant and an \$8,200,000 loan guarantee from the Synthetic Fuels Administration. He added that this funding had been rescinded by the Reagan administration as a result of

program cutbacks.

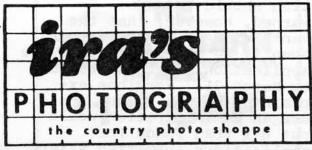
Forgione noted that the New Jersey Recycling Office had approved the technology and cited it as an exemplary alternative fuel program. said that PSE&G had studied the operation and would likely become the firm's largest customer. PSE&G would generate energy by burning a mixture of 60% coal and 40% P-L fuel, thus reducing air pollution at its New Jersey plants. Various commercial operations, such as Johnson & Johnson and Nabisco, could also become customers, according to Forgione. They would convert plants from oil to solid fuel. PSE&G, which buys anthracite coal at vast quantity discounts, would pay half as much for the P-L fuel. Other companies would achieve even greater fuel savings. Finally,

Forgione said that the company believes it can compete with firms supplying wood and coal for Franklin stoves used in residences.

In answer to the question, "why Roosevelt," Forgione replied that Roosevelt is one of four conveniently located communities in New Jersey that qualify for federal UDAG money. In addition, principals in the venture know an owner of the tract on which the plant would be built. UDAG money is attractive to the firm's financial backers, Forgione explained, because it provides a measure of government review, a 6% interest rate for the UDAG portion and a diversified financial package.

The pressing timetable results from the UDAG funding aspect. Forgione said that he has "worked on this project for seven years" and hopes to have the plant in operation by October 1982 when the leaf season starts. The application for UDAG funds must be submitted by the borough council. If the funds are approved, the town would receive a grant of \$1,000,000 to use for off-site utility and road improvements, plus on-site paving, fencing, landscaping, concrete and utility work. Another

(Cont'd. on next page)



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#### fuel plant

(Cont'd. from previous page)

\$1,000,000 grant would be loaned by Roosevelt to the company at 6% interest. The interest and principal would be repaid in annual payments and would be secured by a priority lien on the land and

building.

The borough would not have to repay this money to the federal government, according to Forgione. His calculations showed that the community would receive \$325,000 worth of off-site improvements, \$1,000,000 in principal repayment over 20 years and \$600,000 in interest payments over the same period. addition, Forgione reckoned that the town would benefit from real estate tax revenue, utility revenue and additional income to residents finding employment and to businesses, such as the service station and deli, finding additional customers.

Council member Leslie Weiner said he would not rush his decision on the UDAG application and would need adequate time to study the matter. Forgione promised to provide sufficient "nonproprietary" information to the council to satisfy its members that the UDAG application should be made. He warned, however, that the venture might go to another town if he determined that the application might not be made by March 31. Forgione explained that he feared the Reagan administration would cut off UDAG funds for applications submitted after that date. The current \$10,000,000 financial package is contingent upon UDAG approval.

Satisfied that a gesture of goodwill would not bind the borough to any particular course of action, the ccuncil gave unanimous approval (Louis Esakoff absent) to a motion to support preparation of the UDAG application. was expected that this application would be ready for final approval in time for a March 22 special council meeting. Meanwhile, Forgione said he intended to submit a formal application for site plan approval to the planning board at its next regular meeting on March 29.



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## Council appoints Laura Giordano Borough Clerk

by Peter Warren

Laura Giordano was appointed Borough Clerk, replacing Linda Slafer who has resigned to take another position. Ms. Giordanc has been a resident of Roosevelt for the past six years, living on North Valley Road with her husband and two children. Jim Manzi has been appointed to maintain the water and sewer plants when the regular maintenance man is on vacation or sick.

Leslie Weiner expressed optimism that the Landmark Commission might rule on Roosevelt's application for landmark status in May, which would permit a public announcement to be made during the celebrations marking the 2eth anniversary of Eleanor Roosevelt's dedication of the Roosevelt Memorial the following month.

Reporting for the committee of Public Safety, Bill Counterman announced the purchase of a firetruck to replace the vehicle presently operated. The replacement will be bought from Freehold next month. The purchase will be made from revenue sharing funds and will not affect the tax rate. He also announced that the "First Aid Follies" are in rehearsel and will be presented to Roosevelt's theater-going public in April.

During the public portion of the meeting, Peter Berlinrut, Borough Building Inspector, provided the following information:

## 1981 Roosevelt Building Statistics

Construction Value \$117,900 Number of Permits 42

Total Revenue \$1,023
Of which:
Permits 853
Certificates of 170
Occupancy (17)

The borough budget for 1982 appears in the Messenger Press on March 18. It will have a public hearing at the next

Council meeting.

The block grant program was approved. The council also approved comprehensive insurance coverage for the water treatment plant, water tower and sewerage plant. Coverage is mandatory under the terms of the \$310,000 loan to finance rehabilitation of the borough water system. The council also approved payment of \$570 for additional expenses connected with the already approved repair of the water pump.

A resolution was passed by roll call authorizing Jan Terry, Chairman of the Recreation Committee, to prepare an expression of interest form which could lead to obtaining matching funds for improving recreational areas

in the borough.

The rest of the meeting concerned a proposal for a new factory in Roosevelt, the details of which are covered in Bob\_Clark's article.

#### Board approves budget despite possible cuts

by Joe Solomon

At a special meeting held March 15, the Roosevelt Board of Education unanimously approved its proposed school budget for the 1982-83 academic year. The action was not as routine as it may sound. The board was deliberating in the shadow of threatened cuts in state aid to education. These cuts, if implemented by the legislature, would mean a shortfall for Roosevelt of approximately \$9500 (out of the previously anticipated total of \$309,445.80 in state

The board considered three possible responses to the cuts: absorb the loss, by cutting programs; amend the budget, by decreasing the line-item for anticipated state aid and increasing the amount to be raised by local taxes; "ignore" the cuts, by refusing to amend the budget to reflect them.

While it might at first glance appear that either of the first two responses is preferable to the third, the New Jersey School Boards Association points out that modifying either the budget or the programs to reflect the cuts would send a clear signal to the legislature that we approved of the cuts. It would be hard to argue to the legislature that we could not stand the cuts, if we had already shown that we can. The NJSBA recommends that local boards make no modifications for the cuts, but to act as if the legislature will fund the previously anticipated

amounts. After some discussion, that is what the board did. (Technically, the procedure was to un-table the motion, tabled at the regular meeting March 9, that would have increased the tax levy. The motion was then defeated by a unanimous vote of all members present.)

Although the meeting had been advertised as special to explain the budget to the citizens of Roosevelt, the spectators (five) were outnumbered by the board.

In other action taken at the meeting, the board voted to conduct classes April 12 (Easter Monday ) as a normal school day; voted not to give Lynn Friedman extra comp-time for traveling to a workshop (for fear of the consequences of setting such a precedent if they did); the chairman appointed an ad hoc committee to meet with the Princeton School Board, to explore the sending-receiving relationship offered by Princeton. The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

On March 9, the board discussed the question of which high school Roosevelt graduates will attend. It is an issue now because the court ruling directing Roosevelt graduates to Hightstown expired in January of this year. Princeton, suffering from a decline in enrollment, has expressed an interest in establishing such a relationship. David Herrstrom moved to investi-

#### **Board**

(Cont.d. from previous page)

gate the present relationship with Hightstown; the motion was amended to read "with high schools," and to include finding out how Roosevelt students would fit in with Princeton students. The motion was passed unanimously.

The board passed on first reading an amended motion that would change the present policy of presenting diplomas to graduates, by deleting the section allowing present or past members of the board to present diplomas to their own graduating children.

The change would mean that all diplomas will be presented by the board president or by the Administrative Principal of the school. In order for this change to become effective, it must be passed again at another meeting. The second reading is scheduled for the April meeting.



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#### Post this list

by Carol Watchler

When the Trenton Times, covering the FDR festivities in Roosevelt, identified us as a town of artists and social activists, I had no difficulty knowing which of the titles fit me. But it did lead me to check back on my first steps into political activism. know that I was irrevocably headed in that direction when I reacted indignantly to the following loss. The local paper I was reading at the time out in an Ohio town abruptly stopped printing a regular listing of state and federal representatives for its readership. It was outrageous to me that this information was not as easily accessible as it had formerly been. never did find out the real reason for wiping out this column. Nevertheless, the loss made me aware of how valuable the knowledge of who represents me actually is.

More recently I have stumbled onto lots of folks, right here in Roosevelt, who need information about state legislators now that the redistricting has settled us all into the '80s and a new state legislative district. I also confronted my own ignorance about the dramatis personae of the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders when I wanted to comment about their recent actions.

As a result I am offering the following summary of information about our elected representatives and their addresses -- Congress, state legislature, county free-holders and local council members. I hope this will

be useful to readers who may want to clip and post it for frequent reference. It will in all likelihood be outdated by the time of printing and readers will have to fill in the appointee who fills the Senate vacancy that exists at this moment.

United States Senators from
New Jersey
1. Senator Bill Bradley,
 Senate Office Building,
 Washington, D.C. 20510 (Dem)
2. vacancy

Congressperson, fourth congressional district Christopher H. Smith, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 (Rep)

State Senator, 12th district
S. Thomas Gagliano,
1090 Broadway,
West Long Branch, N.J.07764
201-870-6611 (Rep)

State Assemblypersons, 12th
district
John O. Bennett
31 West Main St.
Freehold, N.J. 07728
201-462-9721 (Rep)

Marie S. Muhler 2 E. Main St. Box 838 Freehold, N.J. 07728 201-462-9009 (Rep)

Monmouth County Board of Freeholders
Harry Larrison, Jr.,
Director

77 Broadway Ocean Grove, N.J. 07756 201-774-2590 (Rep)

Clement V. Sommers,
Deputy Director
41 Seneca Place
Oceanport, N.J. 07757
201-870-1211 (Rep)

#### Post this list

(Cont'd. from previous page)

Thomas J. Powers 6 Beaner Place Aberdeen, N.J. 201-566-7912 (Rep)

Frank A. Self 21 Independence Rd. Middletown, N.J. 07748 201-741-8075 (Rep)

Frank A. Campione 209 Stonehurst Blvd. Freehold, N.J. 07728 201-462-3096 (Rep)

Office of the Board of Freeholders: 201-431-7387

mayor? - Buth

Roosevelt Borough Council

Norman Nahmias, President

443-5290

William Counterman - President

448-3182

Aaron Datz 448-1811

Louis Esakoff

448-3166

Jan Terry

448-6741

Leslie Weiner 448-2358

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### What we can do to promote weapons freeze

by Gladys Nadler Special Correspondent

Letters, phone calls, and petitions urging a bilateral freeze on nuclear weapons are starting to bring results.

In Congress on March 10
Senators Kennedy and Hatfield
introduced the Joint Resolution for Nuclear Weapons
Freeze and Reduction. The
Joint Resolution was also
introduced on the same day
in the House of Representatives.

At this writing, A-799, a bill to place a nuclear freeze referendum on the ballot in New Jersey, is expected to be voted out of committee soon for a vote in the State Assembly. A number of state legislators have already committed themselves to vote in favor of the referendum. Several other states are coming forward with similar resolutions.

Since President Reagan proposed his "guns not butter" budget in February, even some Republicans have questioned whether we really need to spend more than a third of federal appropriations on the military. The 1983 budget deficit, estimated in the neighborhood of 100 billion dollars, equals what was the total military budget a few short years ago.

As time passes and the economy worsens, it becomes increasingly clear that a policy that throws all the country's resources into instruments for war while cutting or eliminating programs that would benefit children, elderly people, students, the unemployed, the poor, and everybody who likes to breathe clean air, is doomed.

Locally, the Roosevelt
Nuclear Disarmament Committee
continues to participate in
the job of changing our
national priorities so as to
put human beings first.
These are some ways in which
I urge you to help:

1. Write to or telephone our State Assemblypeople urging them to support A-799, the proposed referendum to freeze nuclear arms bilaterally. Those representing Roosevelt in the New Jersey Assembly are:

John O. Bennett 31 W. Main St. Freehold, N.J. 07728 201-462-9721

Marie Muhler 2 E. Main St. Freehold, N.J. 07728 201-462-9009

2. Urge support for the Kennedy-Hatfield Joint Resolu-

(Cont'd. from previous page)

tion for Nuclear Weapons Freeze and Reduction by writing to Senator Bill Bradley, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Address letters for the House version of the Joint Resolution to Representative Chris Smith, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

3. Save the date,
Saturday, June 12th, to
attend a mass demonstration
at the United Nations in
New York City, during the
U.N. Special Session on
disarmament. Watch for
further publicity about this
joint action by many organizations to stop and reverse
the arms race and to transfer
funds from military budgets
to programs that meet human
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## BOROUGH BULLETIN

#### Roosevelt Community and School Calendar

	Roosevert Commentity and	Scrioor Carcilaar
March	1982	lidays the light by
21	Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Park Commission - Borcugh Hall
23	Tuesday, 11-12	Exercise class - Borough Hall
25	Thursday, 11-12	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Bulletin meeting - Arlene Rashkin's house
29	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Planning Board meeting - Borough Hall
30	Tuesday, 11-12	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	First Aid meeting - Borough Hall
Apri:	1982	
1	Thursday, 7:30 p.m.	Fire company meeting - Borough Hall
6	Tuesday, 11-12	Exercise class - Borough Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Board of Ed Agenda meeting - RPS
7	Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.	Eleanor Roosevelt NOW planning meeting - home of Delores Chasan 448-2062
		Passover begins - first Seder
8	Thursday, 11-12	Exercise class - Borough Hall
		School closed - spring vacation
9	Friday	Good Friday
		School closed - spring vacation
11	Sunday	Easter
12	Monday, 8:00 p.m.	Council Agenda meeting - Borough Hall
	Lines Cont	School closed - spring vacation
		(Cont'd. on next page)

(Cont'd. from previous page)

13 Tuesday, 11-12 8:00 p.m. Exercise class - Borough Hall Board of Ed meeting - RPS

meeting - contact Carol Watchler 443-6540 for

location

#### April 1982 14 Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Council meeting - Borough Hall 15 Thursday, 11-12 Exercise class - Borough Hall Boy Scouts - Borough Hall 7-11 p.m. 18 Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Park Commission - Borough Hall 19 Monday, 8:00 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting -Congregation Anshei Roosevelt 20 Tuesday, 11-12 Exercise class - Borough Hall 12:30 Early closing - RPS 8:00 p.m. Food Co-op distribution . Borough Hall 21 Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. First Aid - Borough Hall 8:00 p.m. Eleanor Roosevelt NOW program

22 Thursday, 11-12 Exercise class - Borough Hall

8:00 p.m. Bulletin meeting - Peter
Berlinrut's house

Monday, 8:00 p.m. Planning Board meeting - Borough Hall

27 Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. First Aid meeting - Borough Hall

11-12 Exercise class - Borough Hall

29 Thursday, 11-12 Exercise class - Borough Hall

#### Culinary delights

## Passover and Easter: holidays to eat by

by Barbara Halpern

Passover is an eight day festival which commemorates the deliverance of the Jews from Egypt. Whether one celebrates Passover in the strictest sense or as an informal family get together, the Seder dinner is always focused on traditional foods.

I am presenting a few of my family's most treasured dishes. Recipes for Knaidlach, Haroseth and Potato Kugel are included.

Knaidlach (Matzo Balls) These matzo balls are as light as air. Serve them in your favorite chicken soup.

2 large eggs, lightly beaten

2 Tablespoons fat or oil

b cup matzo meal

2 Tablespoons chicken soup

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. minced parsley

Combine eggs and fat together in a bowl. Add the remaining ingredients and stir the mixture until well blended. Chill the

mixture, covered, for at least 2 hours.

In a large saucepan, bring 2 quarts of water to a boil. Form rounded tablespoons of the matzo mixture into balls and add them, one at a time to boiling water. Simmer, covered, for 50 minutes. Remove knaidlach with slotted spoon.

Yield: 8-10 balls.

Haroseth (Apple and Nut Paste)

2 large apples, peeled, cored and coarsely chopped

cup raisins
cup chopped walnuts
cup chopped almonds
cup chopped pitted dates

1 teaspoon cinnamon 1/3 cup sweet red wine

Combine the first five ingredients in a bowl. Sprinkle the cinnamon over the mixture. Stir in wine. Depending on your taste adjust the amount of wine you add. Makes 4 cups. Spread Haroseth on matzo as a snack.

Potato Kugel (Potato Pudding)

1 cup minced onions

1/3 cup light oil

4 large potatoes, coarsely grated

2 large eggs, lightly beaten

d cup potato starch

pinch of cinnamon and pepper

1 teaspoon salt

Saute minced onions in oil over medium heat, stirring for about

5 minutes. Cool

In a large bowl combine potatoes, eggs, onion mixture, potato

(Cont'd. from previous page)

starch, cinnamon, pepper and salt.

Transfer mixture to an oiled 1½ quart baking dish and bake in a preheated oven (400 F) for about 1 hour or until it is golden.

Serves 6

Mustard and Brown Sugar Sauce for Baked Ham
Baked Ham makes a most delicious entree for Easter Sunday dinner.
Serve the following sauce with your ham for extra flavoring.

1 onion minced trick butter

2 Tbs. flour

2½ cups beef broth

1 clove

1 small bay leaf

1 Tbs. Dijon Mustard

1 Tbs. brown sugar

1 tsp. cider vinegar

Cook the onions in the butter over medium heat. Stir until onions are golden. Add the flour and stir for about ½ minute. Pour in the broth slowly, stirring, and add the clove and bay leaf. Bring to a boil and let the mixture simmer gently for 15 minutes. While stirring occasionally add the remaining ingredients and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer the sauce for three more minutes over medium heat. Strain the sauce through a fine sieve into a small saucepan. Keep it warm until ready to serve. Transfer the sauce to a sauceboat and serve it separately.

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#### PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

#### At the heart is the curriculum

Children come to our school to learn. What it is that they learn has been a focus of much work at our school this year. Work on curriculum and program development is not highly visible when you walk into the school so I thought I would take a few minutes to explain the work done this past year by the RPS staff and Board of Education.

First some history. The evolution of the public school in the United States has been debated for years. Everyone from Thomas Jefferson, to Ben Franklin to Horace Mann to John Dewey has had a say. Changes through the years have affected not only what is to be learned, but how it should be learned. In New Jersey several years ago, State Educational Goals were adopted for the entire state. Each district was then asked to add any local priorities or goals. The State Department of Education now monitors the implementation of these goals through a complicated process of evaluation which includes planning, evaluation and budget. The school's curriculum and program are the heart of the process.

My metaphor of "curriculum is heart" is not an understatement. The curriculum is the very center of all decisions about what and how our students will learn.

This year the Education Committee has composed a philosophy of education statement which helps us develop the state's goals into curriculum. It is not enough to present students with a list of skills to be mastered. The Education Committee has tried to set the standards for how skills are to be taught and mastered. The dialogue and editing of this statement has been an arduous process for the board, staff and community members. Besides the final statement we have all gained a heightened awareness -- raised consciousness, if you will -- about what we are to be doing in our school.

The philosophy statement emphasizes that the acquisition of skills is important. But equally important is that these skills be taught in context. That is to say students must realize that all of learning is interrelated. We must also prepare students for the future they will inhabit. Critical thinking, reading, writing, speaking and computing are all vital. The processes of science as well as the facts must be learned. The learning in schools must be holistic. not fragmented.

be holistic, not fragmented. The staff members of the school have been spending long hours writing the programs for the curriculum. Guided by the state's goals and the board's philosophy, the what and how of schooling is emerging. A scope and sequence of skills has been developed for grades K-8 in the areas of language arts, math, social studies, science, physical education, fine arts, and career education. As the skills are presented the teachers are recording and documenting the terms, concepts, objective materials, activities and methods of evaluation. We

(Cont'd. from previous page)

have had to develop methods of diagnosing and recording student needs and mastery. The process is complex. Inservice and planning time has been spent developing staff skills in student assessment and evaluation. Dialogue among staff members to smooth the gaps and overlaps in our program is vital. In addition to the main subject areas, we have had to develop state mandated programs for Family Life Education and Gifted and Talented students.

One important point is to think of curriculum as a process rather than a product. We must continue to breathe and grow. En-

tropy, a term from the physical sciences, refers to the burning out process of static systems. Curriculum should not be chipped in stone. Curriculum is a living, cyclic process. This year we have made great strides in developing these programs bringing curriculum up to date. Next time you come to school see what the staff and board members have to say about our emerging curriculum. Out of the tediousness of this process has emerged a refreshing renaissance. Curriculum development is alive at RPS.

--Beverly Hetrick

#### Romantic Candlelight Dinner

Saturday Evenings

\$9.95

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday Brunch

\$6.95 Buffet, (\$3.75 Children under 12)

11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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#### Notes and Passages

## Some thought it would work

by Freda Hepner

American historical movies have always seemed phony to me. The issues are always between good guys and bad guys and we know that within 2 hours the good guys will win.

Unexpectedly, a comparatively recent movie Reds, made by Warren Beatty, offers a more complex picture of a volatile era. Beatty portrays John Reed, a poet, whom Spiro Agnew would surely have dubbed a Harvard radical "effete intellectual." Well, he was a Harvard graduate and he was a poet and he was a romantic, idealistic radical The movie, in portraying Reed's life also tries to chronicle the development of the Communist party in America. The early struggles for unions and the various intellectual dialectics are given equal time in an heroic attempt to show how a mass movement grows and falters and changes. Striving to present the historical moment in its "wholeness," Beatty, and Diane Keaton who plays Reed's wife Louise Bryant, includes excerpted interviews with a host of famous people who were part of the era. Others, like Eugene O'Neil, Emma Goldman and Max Eastman are an integral part of the film.

It was a time, before World War I, when many believed that if people cared enough and struggled enough it was possible to make the world a happier, more egalitarian place. John Reed was a firm believer. His Ten Days That Shook the World is a brilliant report of the Russian revolution. The images in the book are vivid in the movie. Reed and Bryant were there and were exhilarated and committed to the Soviet "New World."

Sadly, it didn't take much time for Reed (on another visit) to realize that the dream was being distorted and destroyed by a megalomaniac bureaucracy. His conversations, in the movie, with the already disenchanted Emma Goldman, during that bitter, cold, hungry first winter would disabuse anyone still harboring romantic notions of "what might have been if only..." These movie conversations might have been taken straight from Goldman's autobiography Living My Life.

Reds is a long, well acted, beautiful movie that teases the audience. It's good history because it tells us what happened and how it affected many people. It teases because in trying to give the "whole" picture, it touches on many things we want to know more

(Cont'd. from previous page) about.

I wanted, for instance, to see more about the various factions and dissonant voices in the American radical movements of the time. I wanted to see more than one dimension of Eugene O'Neil. I wanted to know more about Reed's conflict between himself as writer and himself as revolutionary. It whets the appetite, and that's probably why it's a good movie.

My daughter, an American Literature student, tells me that films are our new literature. If she's right, this is a good beginning. It may even bring us full circle to the old literature. I read that Reed's book and some of Goldman's works have been reissued because of new interest.

Reds is being shown locally and is an interesting "really good show."



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#### THE PEOPLE TALK

The People Talk: American Voices from the Great Depression by the late Benjamin Appel, long time Roosevelt resident, has just been published in paperback. In 1939-40, Mr. Appel traveled by automobile back and forth across the country, recording what ordinary people told him about their lives. The New York Times called this a "moving record of mingled hardship and hope during an era that is again very much on our minds."

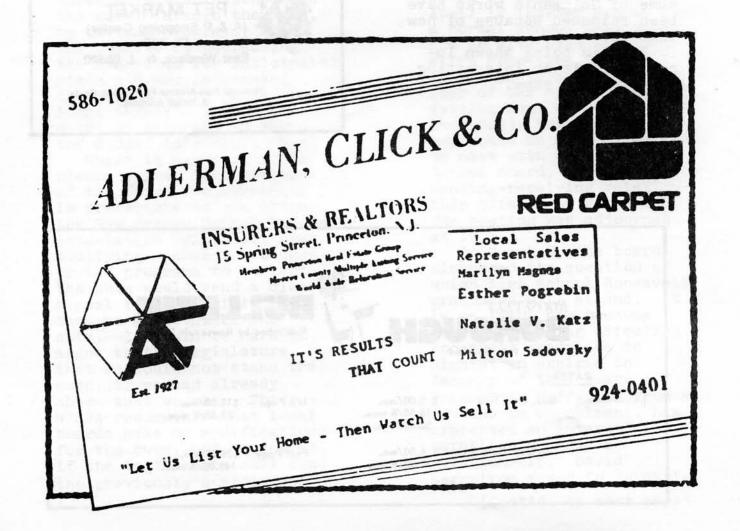




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#### SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

by Helga Wisowaty

The March meeting was a particularly enjoyable one. We accomplished a great deal and enjoyed every part of the afternoon.

Officers were elected for the next year and dues were collected for 1982. President is Esther Pogrebin; vice president, Min Wind; secretary, Helga Wisowaty; treasurer, Fay Libove; and chairpersons of the Hospitality Committee Paul Corman and Gus Chasan.

Plans were made for trips to be taken in the spring.

In response to the suggestion that we participate in the Roosevelt Celebration in June, it was decided that the Senior Citizens will help in any way we can. Our profits will go to the First Aid.

#### USEFUL NUMBERS

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> The Roosevelt Bulletin is printed courtesy of Princeton Research Press

Irving Rose prepared a Chinese Dinner for us. He spoke first about the utensils to use and the ingredients used in this dinner. The best part was "in the eating." After this, our hosts served cake and coffee so we all went home full and happy. Our members all appreciate Mr. Rose's coming and the wonderful treat he provided.

Our April 7 meeting at 7:30 p.m., will be of interest to many people, we feel. Dr. Leroy Hunninghake of Princeton, a specialist in rheumotology, will speak. This meeting will be open to the public and refreshments will be served. We look forward to a large audience.

GARAGE SALE - 48 Pine Drive May 1 (Raindate May 2)

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### Mrs. Strapp's class took a trip

by Karen Johnson and Amy Block Special Correspondents

On Thursday, March 11, Mrs. Strapp's 4th and 5th graders visited Parkway School in Trenton, N.J., to meet with their pen pals.

After meeting their pen pals in the school cafeteria, Mrs. Strapp's class treated them with juice and brownies.

Then Mrs. Strapp's students were given a tour of Parkway School.

After that they all talked and played games with their pen pals.

Then they went to Trenton State College where they ate lunch in the cafeteria and from there walked to the Industrial Arts Building where Dr. Weber and his

students explained how to make a wooden toy called "Ladderman."

Each child was given a certain job. Some of the jobs were drilling, sawing, sanding, hammering, silk-screening and packaging.

Nobody made a whole "Ladderman" by themselves, but each child made a part in an assembly line and then assembled them.

When they were all done with their jobs, they each received a "Ladderman."

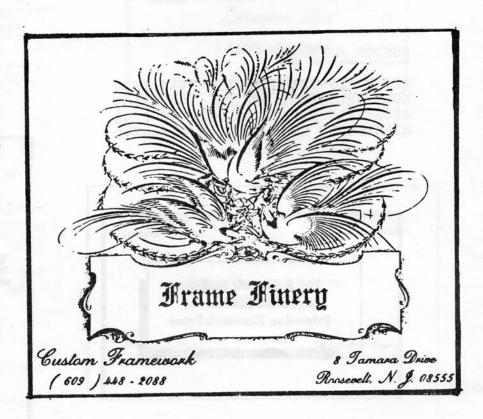
With the helpful instructions of Dr. Weber and his college students, Mrs. Strapp's 4th and 5th grades were able to perform this creative task.

They all enjoyed this fun-filled activity.

## School Board Elections

Elections for the school board will be held on April 6 at R.P.S. from 5-9. The candidates are:

Jeb Shahn
Sandy Orlando
Al Hepner
Diane Dulicai
Pat Archamba
The budget is also to be voted on.



#### LAUREN ESAKOFF

Lauren Beth Esakoff. a Rocsevelt resident and a Goucher College senior, has been recognized as an outstanding campus leader in the 1982 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." Lauren, daughter of Louis and Irma Esakoff, is a graduate of Hightstown High School. She is majoring in sociology at Goucher, where she has served as copresident of her dcrmitory. Goucher is an independent college for women just outside of Baltimore.

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