

Boxholder Roosevelt, N.J. 08555

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

VOLUMEX NO.4

ROOSEVELT, NEW JERSEY

APRIL 1988

Planning Board Examines Development Ordinance

by Bob Clark

At its monthly meeting on April 6, the Planning Board discussed a proposed ordinance that would specifically designate the type and location of permitted residential growth for the Notterman tract. The 106-acre parcel borders the rear yards of existing homes along North Valley Road and Eleanor Lane. Although the owner has not sought to develop the property, which presently lies in an agricultural zone, the area has been designated for future residential growth since the founding of the town.

Planning Board chair Alan Mallach, who prepared the first draft of the "planned community development" ordinance from concepts prepared by a group of volunteer experts, said that there would be at least one public discussion of the ordinance at a Planning Board meeting before it would be sent to the Borough Council for final passage. The ordinance would not become law until approved by the Council after it, too, held a public hearing.

The ordinance would allow approximately 80 housing units to be built along an extension of Farm Lane ending in a cul-de-sac north of Eleanor Lane. The majority of the structures would be single family dwellings, but there would also be a few attached houses and two groups of townhouses

or apartments (flats). Consistent with the historic site plan of the community, three quarters of the tract would remain as open space. Three open plots would preserve the field below the cemetery, a field and buffer strip behind existing buildings on Eleanor Lane and North Valley Road, and a wooded and hilly area along the Empty Box Brook stream corridor.

The development could not be built without sufficient capacity in the town's water and sewer systems, even if a developer has to pay for necessary improvements. The ordinance would require architecture compatible with the architectural character of the Roosevelt historic district. Although peaked roofs would be allowed, they could not have a pitch greater than 1 in 4

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Get Set for Big Garbage Day, May 21

see page 4

School Budget Oked

by Mary Alfare

45% of Roosevelt's 555 voters turned out for the School Board elections on April 5, approving the proposed expense budget of \$649,040 by a vote of 158 to 75.

Board elections were decided as follows, with winners in boldface:

	TOHOWS,	WILLI WILLIETS III DOI	urace
3 yr.	3 yr.	DeCocco	194
		Allen	179
		Goetzmann	146
		Yeger	.101
	2 yr.	Schlinski	203
	uly oims	Esakoff	119
		Keller	.102
	1 yr.	Katz	196

Candidates File for Primary

Three candidates for Borough Council file petitions with the Borough Clerk for the Democratic primary on June 7. At stake are the two seats currently held by Jill Lipoti and Ralph Seligman.

Filing were William Counterman, Stuart Kaufman, and Jill Lipoti. Lipoti, who was chosen by the Council to fill the unexpired term of Lee Selden, is seeking her first full term.

Also on the June ballot will be three candidates for party committees, all running unopposed. They are Democrats Ann Baker and Lou Esakoff and Republican Shirley Eichler.

Bulletin Reorganizes

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, which operated under the wing of the Roosevelt P. T. A. until this year, has organized as a non-profit corporation.

David Brahinsky, Editor of the **Bulletin** for the past five years, sees this as an important positive step. "The time has come for the **Bulletin** to adopt a formal structure. We can now look forward to the continued growth of the paper."

The *Bulletin's* financial survival was made possible by a generous response to its recent appeals for contributions. The *Bulletin* received significant financial help from the recent production of *Scuba Duba* by the Roosevelt Players and from a concert by the Roosevelt String Band, as well as contributions from the public. Because of this support, the *Bulletin* is in the black for the first time in over a year.

"The response of the community to our situation has been wonderful," says Brahinsky. "Roosevelt really came through for us. We all owe these supporters a debt of thanks."

The *Bulletin* Editorial Committee met on April 5 to approve a certificate of incorporation and by-laws. The corporation will be known as Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., and its fundamental purposes, as set forth in the incorporating documents, are:

- To provide a vehicle for informing the citizens of Roosevelt, New Jersey about facts, events, issues, and other items of interest to the community;
- To provide an avenue of expression for citizens of Roosevelt,
 New Jersey and others interested in the welfare of Roosevelt;
- To publish the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin and other publications consonant with the above, to be distributed free of charge to residents of Roosevelt, New Jersey, and at nominal cost to people living outside of Roosevelt.

In addition, the corporation will operate in compliance with the sections of the Internal Revenue Code pertaining to tax-exempt organizations. This will allow a tax deduction for contributions to the *Bulletin*.

A Board of five trustees will manage the corporation. Three are officers; the other two are members of the Editorial Committee, which consists of the staff listed on the masthead. Board members are elected annually, and take office in July. Since the *Bulletin* is published from September through June, each new Board's term coincides with the publication of one volume.

The first Board, elected by the Editorial Committee, consists of David Brahinsky, Gloria Hazell, Lillian Warren, Adeline Weiner, and Mark Zuckerman. This Board will serve until the first annual meeting in June.

The *Bulletin's* reorganization was accomplished with the help of the Center for Non-Profit Corporations in Trenton. Judith Trachtenberg, Esq., CNPC Vice President for Services, assisted in the drafting of the *Bulletin's* organizational documents.

Change of Editors

At the April 5 Editorial Committee meeting, David Brahinsky announced that personal commitments prevented his continuing as Editor. Brahinsky nominated Mark Zuckerman to succeed him, and his choice was approved unanimously by the Editorial Committee. Brahinsky will continue with the *Bulletin* as Consulting Editor, and as a member of the Board.

"Dave did an extraordinary job during his tenure as Editor," says incoming Editor Zuckerman. "He saw the paper through some difficult times. Roosevelt can be proud of the *Bulletin*, and proud of the job Dave did. I hope I can do as well."

Brahinsky's five-year service is the longest of any *Bulletin* Editor. The *Bulletin* began publication ten years ago as the *Roosevelt Tabloid*.

see Letter from the Editor, page 12

ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

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Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. is a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation

Submissions

The *Bulletin* is published nine times a year, in September, October, November, January, February, March, April, May, and June. Each issue is distributed at the end of the month.

The deadline for public notices and hand-written articles and letters is the 10th of the month.

Articles and letters in clean, doublespaced typescript (produced on a typewriter or daisy-wheel printer) will be accepted until the 20th.

The deadline for submissions in the form of files on IBM-compatible 5-1/4" diskettes is the 20th. We can accept ASCII files and output from the following programs: Microsoft Word; Displaywrite 2, 3, & 4; Multimate; Samna Word III; WordPerfect; and WordStar. Please identify program and version.

Council Defeats Animal Ordinance, Passes Budget

by Adeline Weiner

Animal Ordinance Defeated

At a hearing of the April 13th meeting of the Borough Council on the Animal Control Ordinance, manysided criticisms of the amendment were presented. Among them, it was held to be discriminatory (Jim Maley); failed to include the more common pets, dogs and cats (Maryanne Henderson); and omitted to provide limits on number of animals allowed (Lenore Mogin). Borough Zoning Officer Paul Eichler said that in his opinion, the proposed ordinance, to effect its purpose, would have to ban all livestock as household pets. The motion to adopt was defeated by three "no" votes (Alt, Magnes, Seligman) and the Mayor's vote to break the tie.

Budget Queried

At a specially held hearing from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, a series of questions was directed at the Council regarding such items as the \$38,000 surplus, appropriations for snow removal, fees for insurance and legal services, salaries, accounts receivable and the \$50,000 item for capital improvement. Much of the inquiry appeared to this reporter to be rather more challenging than constructive. Among the most active discussants were David Zaleski, Mary Alfare and Bob Eisner. The budget was adopted 6-0 in a roll-call vote.

Salaries, 1988 et al

During a long session of numerous items of business, some major decisions were taken on the following matters: A salary ordinance was adopted fixing maximum salaries for Borough personnel and for the Water/Sewer crew. Separate motions were required for wage increases to \$7.00/hour for Water/Sewer Trainee Harris, Borough Deputy Clerk Warnick, and Planning/Zoning Board Secretary Kassahun. Leon Lawson's bid for grass mowing was accepted for the same amount as last year (\$700). He has offered to mow more often than the stipulated twice a month. A draft letter to Millstone Auto Service, drawn by the Borough Attorney, regarding their holding of the old

truck, was accepted. The new truck has arrived and will be put to its various uses promptly. A budget item appropriation of \$750 for the Summer Program was voted, for use when and if insurance requirements are met.

The Council discussed several other issues as well:

Apology Received

A letter from David Brahinsky was read which apologized for an unauthorized last-minute appearance of an insert into the *Borough Bulletin*. The letter was an attack on the Borough Council's handling of the first Budget Hearing. The timing of the insert precluded the exercise of the paper's policy of allowing a response within the same issue, if possible, explained Brahinsky.

Cool to RAP Offer?

Jacob Landau, head of the Roosevelt Arts Project, through a letter and again in person described a plan to re-design Borough Hall walls, to better accommodate art exhibits, such as the approaching Print Show. He has obtained a contribution of materials from former mayor Irving Flicker of Homosote, Inc. and the Project has offered \$2,000 of its funding award for the year, to pay labor costs. The Council, without discussion, postponed consideration of the proposal until its next meeting which falls too late to affect the upcoming Print Show on May 7th.

Radon

Jill Lipoti announced that Roosevelt homes fall in the Class 2 section for radon testing (testing recommended but not considered urgent). She suggested that if several homeowners contract for tests, enough to provide a representative sample, it may not be necessary to do all the houses in town. Her home shows a level of radon below the limit of 3.1 picocuries. She used Radiation Data in Princeton at a cost of \$25.00, but if you call 1-800-648-0394, you will receive information on other qualified testing companies at possibly lower rates.

Democrats to Hold Forum

The Roosevelt Democratic Committee will sponsor a public forum for candidates running for Council seats in the June 7 Democratic primary. The forum will take place on Tuesday, May 24 at 8:00 PM at the Borough Hall.

Candidates William Counterman, Stuart Kaufman, and Jill Lipoti will be invited to meet the public and express their views. These three are competing for the two Borough Council spots in the Democratic column on the November ballot.

Bulletin to Profile Council Candidates

The **Borough Bulletin** has invited the three candidates running in the Council primary to respond to a survey of their backgrounds and views. The surveys will be abstracted into articles on the candidates to appear in the May **Bulletin**.

The surveys ask the candidates for their age, address, length of residence in Roosevelt, the names of others in their household, their education, military service, occupation, involvement in community and work-related organizations, and prior experience in local government.

In addition, the surveys ask the aspirants five questions concerning their candidacy:

- Why are you running for Borough Council?
- What is most important to you about living in Roosevelt?
- Please list in order of importance what you see as the most significant issues facing Roosevelt, and your position.
- In what areas do you think local government can be improved, and how?
- What do you feel you offer as a candidate?

The *Bulletin* invites letters from residents describing how they would like to see these questions answered. Please have your letter in by May 10.

Big Garbage Day set for May 21

The spring pickup of large waste items will occur on Saturday, May 21. Since collection will start at 6:00 AM, residents are advised to bring their unwanted articles to the curb the night before.

People discarding refrigerators and freezers are reminded to remove the doors for safety.

Some articles, such as rubber tires, will not be picked up. Recycleable material should be deposited at the recycling center near the Borough Hall.

A notice detailing the collection schedule and disallowed items is usually displayed at the post office.

Senior Citizens Meeting March 5

by Helga Wisowaty (Secretary)

Betty Perrine served as chairman at this meeting with Jeanette Koffler assisting. A few trips are planned—one on April 18th to the Monmouth Mall and Tinton Falls. The bus will leave the post office at 9am. On May 23rd or 24th we will go to the Garden State Art Center to see "Showboat."

A Chinese Auction is being sponsored by the First Aid Squad on May 21 at the school. The things to be auctioned have to be picked up. Anyone who is able to help can contact June and Bill Counterman.

Jocelyn Jelm of the Princeton Resource Center teaches an exercise program. Transportation is a problem so we'll try to get Ms. Helm to come to Roosevelt for one session. We feel that we can take over after that. We may use the Solar Village Community Room and follow the "Book."

Patricia Bennett (Monmouth County Surrogate) sent booklets to us with information about procedures to follow when death occurs.

Lil Weisenfeld will chair the next meeting.

Thelma and Anne were our Hostes-

Citizens' Group Conducts Poll

by Peter Warren

On March 14-15, Citizens Group members Peter Warren, Christopher Suk, and Keith Suk went door to door to distribute a questionnaire asking residents to indicate their attitudes toward residential growth in Roosevelt.

The survey was prompted by Planning Board member Mel Friedman. Debbie Metzger, another member of the Planning Board, assisted in the tabulation.

Overall, 79 surveys, representing the opinions of 121 residents, were returned. Of these, 27% favor development, 42% oppose it, and 29% feel they need more information before they decide. Two surveys took no position.

Respondents on 32 surveys described their points of view in detail. Here is a representative sampling of opinion on four common issues:

Taxes, Infrastructure, and Services

One resident wrote: "[Development] would mean: (1) better school, (2) lower taxes, (3) something done with water/sewer bill and maintenance."

Another said, "Maybe we can get a supermarket without going so far."

"Until the complete survey of our sewer system is accomplished by skilled people, we will be at health risk if we proceed to build," was one belief.

One resident recommended the consideration of "what type of people will be drawn to these developments. For example, city dwellers are going to expect more services."

Another claimed, "The school issue is a false issue. Those that are so concerned about the school should get involved to make it cost-effective and improve quality. Even people who live here already are taking their kids out."

Another: "I would prefer higher taxes to over-development."

Type of Buildings

Most of the survey respondents were against the construction of con-

dominiums and multiple-family dwellings

One resident said, "If I must see development, I would prefer to see single family residences rather than any high density. [Owners of] single residences in \$300,000 range are more prone to take care of property."

Another: "Townhouse type units [should be] for older citizens only."

"I think we must have some more homes in town and also some commercial type buildings, like offices," was the opinion of another.

Quality of Life

This was the issue which evoked the strongest responses.

Almost all felt strongly about conserving the environment and preserving open space and the green belt plan.

Many were concerned about preserving the character of Roosevelt:

"We don't want Roosevelt to become just another bedroom commuter community. Roosevelt has a unique and distinct character, and we like thinking that those who settle here are doing so because they want to *share* in that character, *not* because they want a residence close to a Turnpike entrance," said one resident.

Another wrote: "Roosevelt is a very special place and its size is part of what makes it unique."

A third said, "We chose to live in Roosevelt because it is a country town, and with full understanding of the disadvantages that come with it: high taxes, bad school, etc. If we wanted to live in suburban heaven among wall-to-wall housing, we would move to East Windsor."

On the other hand, one resident wrote: "You can only be unique if you can afford it!"

Process of Discussion and Decision-Making

"Development is inevitable. It is essential that the Planning Board, Mayor and Council, and citizens of Roosevelt work together in determining the kind of development we all prefer. Then we

continued on page 6

Planning Board

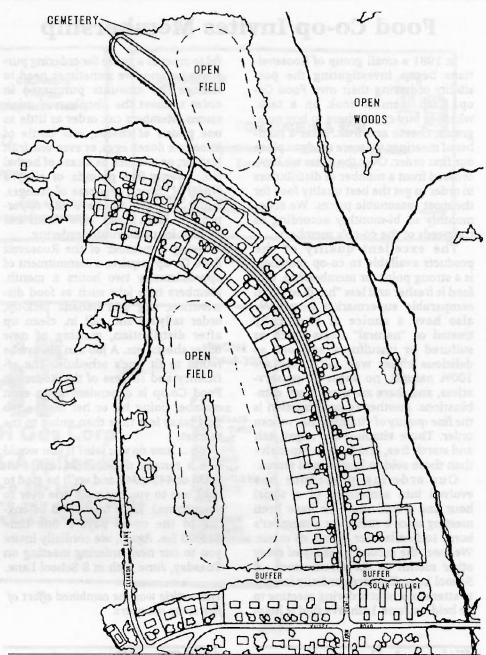
(continued from page 1)

Board member Gail Hunton hailed the proposal as a preservation plan rather than a development plan. Mallach noted that Roosevelt is in the path of growth and may not simply shut its doors to any additional development. He said the specificity in the draft ordinance would ensure that any future development "extends the rhythm of existing development in the town."

In other business, the Board discussed how to deal with development pressures on the northern agricultural lands on either side of Route 571, including a recent proposal submitted by an option holder to construct 139 residences on a 135-acre parcel set back a few hundred yards from Route 571 and bordering the northern side of Oscar Drive. Planning Board member Marilyn Magnes, also a member of the Borough Council, expressed concern that board discussion of plans for the area might be seen as an invitation to developers. She urged the Board to concentrate on the Notterman tract and called "premature" planning for growth in those areas designated agricultural on the recent Master Plan revision.

Board member Anita Cervantes said she felt "safer with the control offered by a plan" that would emphasize preservation rather than growth. Hunton encouraged the Board to "grapple with a plan to preserve as much of the land as possible in open space." Mallach cautioned that if Roosevelt simply relies on its historic designation and the present agricultural zoning-permitting dwellings on lots with a minimum of 10 acres-the town might "wind up with no farming and a legal challenge." He said the Borough should explore options for preservation rather than risking the alternatives of losing a lawsuit or "crying uncle because we can't afford to litigate."

Board attorney John Bennett noted that 10-acre zoning has been upheld for Colts Neck. He pointed out, however, that the courts treat each town as a unique case. He cautioned that "on its face 10-acre zoning per se is suspect."



Site Plan of Proposed Planned Community Development Ordinance

On another matter, the Board declined to hear an application by Mr. and Mrs. Gerling seeking a subdivision and dimensional variance for their 24.6-acre lot bordering the stream corridor near the houses on School Lane and the north side of Pine Drive. The Board cited lack of jurisdiction as a result of a failure to notify adjacent property owners in Millstone Township. In the past the Board approved a single dimensional variance allowing one house to be built on the property, which lies in the agricultural zone. The Gerlings are now requesting a subdivision which would create a 2-

1/2 acre lot northeast of the end of School Lane, with the remainder of the land comprising a second lot.

Finally, the Board approved a site plan submitted by Harry Parker for two houses on the south side of Oscar Drive to the west of the water plant. The houses must be set back at least 100 feet from the road. The Board also imposed conditions that would minimize the amount of tree and other vegetation removal. Since a stream bed traverses the property, several acres adjacent to Rochdale Avenue will remain in their natural state.

Food Co-op Invites Membership

In 1981 a small group of Rooseveltians began investigating the possibility of having their own Food Coop. Each member took on a task: where to buy eggs, where to buy nuts, grains, cheese and fruit. After a number of meetings we were ready to place our first order. Over the years we have ordered from a number of distributors in order to get the best quality food for the most reasonable prices. We order monthly or bi-monthly according to the needs of the co-op's members.

The excellent quality of the products available to co-op members is a strong point for membership. Our food is fresher and less "handled" than comparable supermarket items. We also have a choice of chemically treated or "natural" items—such as sulfured or unsulfured apricots, so delicious either way. All juices are 100% natural, no sugar or preservatives, and there are many tasty combinations. Another co-op attraction is the fine quality of vitamins that we can order. These vitamins are sugar, salt and starch free, and far less expensive than those sold in health food stores.

Our ordering procedure has evolved into something of a social hour and a half since we have been meeting once a month at a member's home to finalize our orders en masse. We meet the second Tuesday of every other month at the Goetzmanns—8 School Lane. You are cordially invited to attend our next ordering meeting to be held on June 14th. We find it help-

Citizens' Group

(continued from page 4)

need to work with developers so that we get what we want rather than having developers, backed by the courts, imposing development on Roosevelt," was one opinion.

Another resident called for "a well-advertised public meeting in early future to let present residents voice added requirements and general opinions."

Finally, one resident wrote: "We would appreciate some names of those people who comprise the 'Citizens' Group'—who are you?"

ful to meet as a group for ordering purposes because we sometimes need to change the amounts purchased in order to meet the distributors' minimums. Members can order as little as one pound of cheese, one bottle of juice, one dozen eggs, or even one fruit leather; or as much as a case of herbal tea, twenty-five pounds of rice, a wheel of cheese, or a case of oranges. Being together we have the opportunity to learn about "new" foods and to offer input for future ordering.

Being a member of the Roosevelt Food Co-op requires a commitment of approximately two hours a month. Members take jobs such as food distribution, egg and banana pick-up, order tallying and call in, clean up after distribution, mailing of new order sheets, etc. A job can always be found to fit one's schedule. The efficiency and success of the Roosevelt Food Co-op is dependent upon each member doing his or her task, a job that takes less time than going to the market.

So ... how do you join? If you would like a sample order sheet, call 448-5036 or 443-4948 and we'll be glad to mail one to you (or walk one over to your house). Each household belonging to the co-op pays a one time \$15.00 fee. Again, we cordially invite you to our next ordering meeting on Tuesday, June 14th at 8 School Lane.

This article was the combined effort of five co-op members.

And The Winners Are...

By Mary Alfare

...35 children who hunted down 120 eggs at Rossi's first annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 2. All the children were rewarded with special chocolate goodies. Lauren and Jill Byrne, and Anthony Rich found specially marked eggs, winning large chocolate rabbits. Parents and children were delighted with the return of this tradition to Roosevelt.

Summer Camp Accepting Registrations

The Roosevelt Community Summer Camp (RCSC) will begin its five-week program on July 5. Hours for the camp program are weekdays, 9:00 AM to 12 noon.

Parents may register their children according to the following cost schedule: \$30.00 per week for the first child, \$20.00 per week for the second, and \$10.00 per week for additional children. There is a 10% discount for five-week payment.

RCSC will also be running a nursery program Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9:00 AM to noon, for the same five-week period. Toilet-trained children ages 3-4 are welcome to enroll. The cost is \$20.00 per week.

Each family enrolling children in either program will be charged a \$5.00 registration fee.

RCSC offers financial aid to those who qualify. Interested parents should call Margaret Schlinski (443-5180). General information about RCSC is available from Margaret Schlinski or Howard Kaufman (448-4282).

First Aid Squad to Give CPR Course

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad will conduct a training course in "one-man" cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in May. The course is being given again due to the large interest generated by the previous offering in April.

RFAS Captain June Counterman, a certified CPR instructor, is teaching the course, which is completed in two 3-4 hour sessions: May 23 and 25 at the Borough Hall. Starting time for both nights is 7:00 PM. There is a \$5.00 registration fee, which covers the cost of the teaching materials. The course is limited to 15 people.

Prospective students are asked to register at least two weeks in advance, so that they may have time to study the materials before the first class.

Interested parties should call June Counterman (448-3182).

Exercise!

There's a free exercise class that's open to all residents on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 10 & 11am at the Borough Hall.

Wear loose comfortable clothes and bring a large towel.

Set your own pace.

Confucius said: "You don't have to be healthy to exercise. You exercise for good health."

On School Board Candidates' Night

by Irv Rose

How to deal with increased taxa-

Rising costs, poor communication, Regionalize—send or receive? "Keep our kids here."

"Let them leave."

"We have no control. Our outlays are fixed."

Costs will rise, this I predict. You may have felt all this is new, But I have terminal déja vu.

Irv Rose is a former member of the Roosevelt School Board.

IN MEMORIAM, TILLIE WISHNEFSKI (1893-1988)

by Peter Warren

When Tillie Wishnevsky came to Jersey Homesteads in 1937, she was no longer a young woman. This early seniority made it natural many years later for her to criticize her young neighbors at the end of Pine Drive. "What do you want to do that for?" she would ask with a slight Minsk accent. Then she would reward their efforts at improvement with excellent sorrel soup and apple pie which, exemplary wives as they became under her tutelage, they could never quite match.

When a very old lady dies, it is easy to forget that she was once a young girl, her heart full of hopes and dreams. As a young girl, Tillie left her childhood home in Minsk to escape the restrictions and pogroms of Tsarist Russia. She came to the New World in a journey into the unknown, a voyage as fraught with apprehensions as the Middle Passage. Here, she found love and marriage with a young tailor, her husband Louis. To the end of his days, Louis took pride in the mending and sewing he did for his neighbors.

It was a marriage that lasted 69 years and brought into the world two sons. Tillie and Louis didn't become rich and famous. They didn't play a large role in Roosevelt, but they embodied the American Dream. Their monument was their sons, examples among many of the boys who grew up in Jersey Homesteads to make their way in the world.

It was a world where employers said to young Jewish applicants, "We don't think you would be happy with us." But it is the nature of America that Tillie's young men succeeded anyway. America has changed so much that now young people don't know the pain and grief that shaped those transformations: a pain that Tillie Wishnevsky knew when she said good-bye forever to Minsk, a pain that will continue as long as America continues to face and overcome new challenges.

At the memorial service, the Rabbi recited the beautiful psalms that are the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition. It was as if all of Roosevelt, past and present, were there.

For a few moments, we were part of all that our town has meant since its beginning, perhaps all that the Jewish experience has meant since the Diaspora. *Verweile doch! Du bist so schön!* Faust cried in wonderment at the passing beauty of life. Yiddish is close to German: Mrs. Wishnevsky would have understood.

"What do you want to read Goethe for?" she would have asked. But she knew.

ROOSEVELT COOPERATIVE NURSEY SCHOOL Now Accepting Applications for 1988-89

Morning Sessions, Monday-Friday for Children 2-1/2 to 5

Call Arlene Stinson, Director 426-9523

School Board Report:

by Ed Grossman

The Board of Education for the Roosevelt Public School (RPS) has been actively investigating and evaluating reorganizational options. Members of the Board and others from the community have expressed a sincere interest in pursuing reorganization to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of our educational programs for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Others have requested a change based on financial considerations.

The Board is following the recommendations of the New Jersey School Board's Association by approaching reorganization with educational program improvement as our primary concern. While we consider the educational benefits of a particular option, the impact on Roosevelt's financial and social structure are taken into account.

We have been focusing on a relationship between Roosevelt and East Windsor, where we currently send our 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders with much success. Dr. Stanley Sussman, Roosevelt's Chief School Administrator (CSA), has indicated that he has been discussing options with Millstone as well. We feel it is important for the community to know, in a timely fashion, the significant details of our endeavors.

During the evening of March 15th members of the Education/Personnel Committee of the RPS Board met with the CSA, board members, administrators, and educators from East Windsor Regional (EWR) in Hightstown. The original theme for the meeting was to investigate the possibility of sending our 6th, 7th and 8th graders to EWR. We were given a tour of the facilities of the Grace Rogers Middle School, followed by a comprehensive presentation on programs, educational philosophy, and administrative structure. During the tour we observed a concert in the totally renovated auditorium, a science fair, a science lab, the gymnasium, the staff development room, general classrooms, and the media center. The presentation was well organized and most enlightening.

At the end of the meeting, the EWR board members expressed their interest in establishing a relationship with Roosevelt. They said that they would entertain a broad range of reorganizational options, beyond sending our upper grades, including regionalization

On March 29 the RPS Education/Personnel and Finance Committees held a joint public meeting to discuss some of the options available to us. The committees considered the educational, financial, demographic, and social impact of exercising each option.

Since RPS is in need of substantial maintenance and upkeep and has been cited for building violations, substandard facilities, and program deficiencies by the State, the cost of mandatory remediation and compliance was considered. The implications of possible future growth and increased or static enrollment were taken into account.

The committees examined six options with the following "guestimate" cost factors:

1. Keep RPS the Same with Minimal State Compliance

Under this option, RPS would remain K-8 and programs for the children would increase over the next five years to include a few more computers and an additional 1.5 instructional staff members. The remaining two-thirds of the roof would be repaired, safety code violations remedied, the boiler maintained, fire rated carpets installed, and the building would be painted.

This option assumes that we can convince the State to waive most of the major costly items on their deficiencies list, such as relocating the mandatory library to a 2400 sq.ft. space, building a 700 sq.ft. health suite for the nurse, changing the substandard classrooms and lunch room, and building facilities for art, music, science, home economics, and industrial arts. Although the likelihood of State approval for this option is remote, it is the least costly. A thirty year bond for between \$200-\$300,000

would be put to the voters. The state reimbursement would be approximately 40%. Our students would be getting minimal program and educational improvement under this plan.

2. Keep RPS the Same, Comply with the State, and Try to Provide Many of the Programs Available at EWR

Under this option RPS would develop more comprehensive programs with approximately 2.5 additional staff. Although we do not have the student population to provide subject area certified teachers, sports programs, sophisticated facilities for science, music and industrial arts found in EWR, we would be substantially upgrading our current programs. All State violations would be corrected and RPS would be in compliance with State guidelines. This would mean the construction of two new classrooms, so that the library could be relocated to the current primary wing, as well as remediation of the other 45 items on the State

The cost to the community would range from \$700-\$800,000. 40% state reimbursement would apply here as well for a thirty year debt. Several architects have examined RPS and agree that facility related issues for state compliance could exceed \$500,000.

3. Send RPS's 6th, 7th, and 8th Grades to EWR

This option, after debits for increased tuition and transportation and credits for reduction in staff and materials were calculated, would cost approximately \$60,000 additional per year. However, if the upper grades were not in RPS, we could use our current space without incurring the \$500,000 expense for construction of new classrooms and other space related items. The voters would still be facing a \$200-\$300,000 bond issue to remedy items listed under Option (1). EWR would provide programmatic, educational, and social benefits for our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Some of these benefits include a foreign lan-

Reorganization Options

guage program, comprehensive instrumental and choral instruction, intramural sports, science labs, certified math and science teachers, curriculum and content specialists, support services, and broader based socialization. The EWR Middle School Committee stated that they would be happy to come to Roosevelt to present the details of their program at a public meeting.

4. Send All Students, K-8 to EWR

This option was considered for financial and political reasons. We would still maintain control of our school, so that we can use the facility for the taxpayers' purposes. We would retain the option of reestablishing a student population and ending our sending relationship if Roosevelt demographics changed. Our initial "guestimate" was that there would be substantial savings.

5. Keep RPS K-5 and Regionalize with EWR 6th-12th

The feasibility of the option was not determined at the meeting.

6. Regionalize with East Windsor Regional

This option would save the taxpayers approximately \$150,000 with great variation depending upon East Windsor's development and increases in incurred debt. The committee did not determine the impact on the education for our primary grades, however the upper grade benefits, cited under Option (3), apply.

The major drawback of this option was seen as the loss of control of students' education and the undesirability of our town without a school, especially for families or potential residents with young children. Roosevelt would also lose control of the school building and grounds. The regional board would decide its fate. It appeared unlikely that the EW board would vote to repair the building and operate programs there with empty space in their own facilities. However, this was never discussed with them.

At the end of the meeting, the joint committees agreed that they would recommend to the Board, on April 14th, that it support Option (3) and begin the process of negotiating with EWR to receive our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. The committee also agreed to recommend to the RPS board that we continue to discuss the option of regionalization with EWR during future meetings.

Another suggestion of the joint committees was to establish contact with the Planning and Zoning Boards to assist RPS in determining the potential for substantial increases in student population. If the Board passes motions to pursue these ends, it will develop a format for comprehensive community input.

The Board intends to continue to keep the community informed and encourages participation at our meetings.

Ed Grossman chairs the Education Committee of the Roosevelt Board of Education.

> What do you think? Write the **Bulletin**

Nursery School Update

by Alison Edwards Petrilla

Our school year doesn't end until June, but the Roosevelt Cooperative Nursery School is already making plans for our September reopening. Current committee chair responsibilities, which will continue into the fall, are:

- Fund Raising/Finance: Dianna Moore
- Personnel: Joan Grossman
- Outreach (recruitment/public relations): Alison Petrilla
- Operations (physical plant): Diane Rocchia
- Curriculum: Audrey Ferraro
- Special Projects: Vicki Siegel
- Administrative Duties: Joan Grossman, Alison Petrilla

As always, we welcome community input and assistance.

We are now accepting applications for September enrollment. Any interested parents of preschoolers are invited to observe the program and speak with our personnel. Call 426-9523 for information.

We'd like to express our gratitude to the generous Rooseveltians who responded this month to our fundraising letter: Lee and Debra Allen, Irv and Sarah Goldberg, Toby Goldstein, Mark and Karen Kangas, Norma Kushner, Norman and Judy Nahmias, Liz Prestopino, Ken and Lynn Symons, Peter and Lillian Warren, and Adeline Weiner.

We also say a hearty thanks to Congregation Anshei, whose board graciously agreed to renew our contract for use of their building for 1988-89; to Dennis Rike of Benton Fibre Drum, who donated the collection barrels for

our upcoming used book sale; to Donna Kaufman and the Prusiks for their contributions of classroom materials; to Chris Dooley, who entertained our nursery schoolers with his trumpet-playing; and to all those who supported our recent Tupperware sale.

The RCNS will take part in the synagogue Sisterhood's upcoming Flea Market on May 15, and we're now accepting donations of goods to sell.

We are also continuing to collect clean used books of all types for our own Used Book Sale this fall. Just give us a call at 426-9523 and we'll be glad to come to your house to pick up any donations. You can also use the collection barrel at the Borough Hall.

Happy Spring—and we hope we'll be seeing some of you parents of preschoolers soon!

New Book by Roosevelt Author

I Can Remember Tomorrow by Mary Jane Gray [Berlinrut], Spectrum Press, Roosevelt, NJ, vi+199 pp. \$10 (paper).

by Mary King

I Can Remember Tomorrow, a moving and beautifully written book by Mary Jane Gray Berlinrut, has just been published by Spectrum Press. Through Mary Jane's eyes, we watch the deterioration of her active and intelligent first husband's life as he is overtaken by Alzheimer's disease.

I am sure that many Roosevelt residents would feel a kinship with Matt as a person who delighted in the company of others and appreciated the woods and brooks among which he lived. As a young man, Matt purchased, with a friend, sixty-five acres on a mountainside. He hoped to start a cooperative community filled with people like himself who were not interested in the material things in life, but who wanted to simply work and live on the land. Like many of his other dreams, this one never materialized; but he did derive immense satisfaction from building a cabin and then a house for his family on his beloved mountainside.

Singing as he worked he exemplified Thoreau's observation: Who knows but if men constructed their dwellings with their own hands,...the poetic faculty would be universally developed, as birds universally sing when they are so engaged? Over the years Matt often cited this observation and affirmed its truth. Nothing, he said, ever made him feel so rich, so fulfilled as when he was building a house. By that he didn't mean just the acts of hammering and sawing, though he enjoyed the work, enjoyed using his muscles and developing his skills. More than that what spoke to him was the atavistic aura surrounding these acts—the construction of shelter against the elements—and the fact that he was doing this himself with his own hands.

The decline of this fiercely independent man is described in honest detail by his wife as she observes her husband gradually losing the ability to work and function on his own. Mary Jane's distrust of her own observations as her husband goes through periods in which he can't remember anything that is said to him and then seems perfectly normal, strikes a responsive chord in all of us who confront life's tragedies and think and hope that we must be wrong; this can't really be happening to us.

Even after complete and thorough certification as to the fact and nature of his illness I still couldn't believe it. And then, on the way to that train, it was even more impossible to believe this desperate, distracted, fumbling person was the Matt I knew, the same Matt who, confident and debonair, had set out upon this work all those years before undaunted by his lack of knowledge of it. Surely it must be me that had gone mad, me that was trapped in some incredible nightmare from which I must assuredly wake soon.

Later she writes,

Another time we had been talking about something he had forgotten, joking lightly about his forgetfulness. I remember lots of thing, he boasted, better than I used to...What, for instance, I had asked...Tomorrow, he replied, I can remember tomorrow and that's better than a lot of people can do...This kind of thing which was to crop up often was fearfully unnerving.

Those of us who know Mary Jane certainly would agree with Irvin Stock (Professor, University of Massachusetts) when he says "Though the author's attention is always on the battle, the wife emerges as one of those precious human types whose nature it is to fix what's broken, to make order out of chaos, and to assist—and delight in—life's good possibilities until, and even after, her apparent defeat. This book makes you feel you have lived through something."

We are much in debt to Connie Herrstrom's initiative and labor of love in seeing this book into publication. Recognition should be given to Mark Zuckerman for typesetting and David Keller for assistance with the cover layout. One of Mary Jane's delicate, Chinese-style paintings of bamboo appears on the cover.

I Can Remember Tomorrow can be purchased from Peter Berlinrut, 18 N. Valley Rd., Connie Herrstrom, 15 Farm Lane, or Mary King, 21 Lake Dr., Roosevelt, NJ.

Landau Exhibit

From May 7th to June 4th, 1988, Martin Sumers Graphics will host an exhibition of major new drawings (1985-1988) by Roosevelt artist Jacob Landau. A nationally renowned draftsman, printmaker and watercolorist, Landau has been called a "humanist," but he is stylistically and philosophically an expressionist—linked with the northern European tradition of inner and outer conflict.

Two cycles of drawings are exhibited: one represents a critical commentary on the Revelation of St. John, the last book of the New Testament; the second is an extended meditation on the heroic/tragic axis in human affairs. They are titled, respectively, Revelation and Heroes.

The

Landau was born in Philadelphia in 1917. He has won numerous honors, including a National Arts Council Grant (1966); a Guggenheim Fellowship (1968); a Childe Hassam Purchase at the American Academy of Arts and Letters (1974); and a Ford Foundation Travel and Study Grant (1974).

His work is represented in collections of The Whitney Museum, MOMA and the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Joseph J. Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton among many others. He has taught at Pratt Institute for 31 years, where he is now Professor Emeritus.

The New Jersey Stare Museum published a Catalogue Raisonne of Landau's graphic work in 1983, in conjunction with a retrospective showing of his work in the print media. Some of Landau's watercolors were included in the show titled *Dreams and Nightmares* at the Hirshhorn Museum in 1983. He has had over 60 one-person shows here and abroad, and participated in over 200 group shows.

The Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 to 5 PM.

Mary King proofread the typeset galleys.

Arts Project

The Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) will close its 1987-88 season with a print exhibition/slide presentation and panel discussion at the Borough Hall on Saturday evening, May 7, at 8:00 PM.

There is no admission charge, but contributions of \$2.00 (\$1.00 for seniors and students) are welcomed. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibition of Roosevelt prints is RAP's seventh event of the season, which began last November 14 with a lecture/program of New Wave Music presented by Roosevelt composer Brad Garton. A new event was presented every month, touching on the worlds of music, theater, poetry, and the

Alan Mallach Triumphs

Chamber Music in Borough Hall

by Bob Mueller

April 10—There is something special about live music; there is no substitute for the immediate effect of live music. Watching people making music is as much of a pleasure as hearing them play—you can feel their challenges, sense their frustrations, grasp their triumphs. Last night Rooseveltians had an opportunity to hear-see an evening of chamber music, and it was a treat indeed.

It was definitely Alan Mallach's triumph. The centerpiece of the event was a trio he recently completed that had many exquisite passages and consummate compositional intricacies. But most of all Alan's pianistic skills and sensitivities held the work together—as it did most of the other pieces of the evening.

The concert was very ambitious. It began with a trio for oboe, horn and piano by Carl Reinecke, a 19th century German composer whom Mendelssohn and Schumann admired. The adagio had a particularly appealing horn solo beautifully realized by Richard Scott. The finale saw the oboe, played by the Rooseveltian Robert Cayne, ripen into a lilting line of great strength.

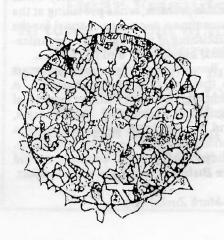
Arts

visual arts.

Last month, RAP sponsored a concert of chamber music featuring the world premiere of a new work by Alan Mallach (see review at right).

Proceeds from RAP's folk music concert in February, organized by David Brahinsky, helped the **Borough Bulletin** to remain solvent

Other RAP events were a reading of An Evening with the Poet-Senator, by Roosevelt playwright Leslie Weiner; a lecture on the work of William Carlos Williams by A. Walton Litz of Princeton University; and a reading by several Roosevelt poets of poems of protest.



in Roosevelt

Next was Alan's new trio for clarinet, horn and piano. It is an easily-appropriated work that makes inordinate demands on the musicians. Frequently they soar above the crowd and continue in soloistic isolation. Difficult high passages for the clarinet were reached with clarity by Robert Meyer, and Richard Scott sustained the climax at the end with all the necessary power. Along with the solos, duos punctuate the predominant trio passages to add to the charm and versatility of this piece. Some of Elliot Carter's single-instrument restlessness pervades the piece. The concluding movement was a Bach-like fugue that wandered from his century into ours, and sometimes left the musicians seemingly confused with its diversity.

After an intermission Richard Scott directed the Caprice on Danish and Russian Airs by Camille Saint-Saëns. This is a showy concert piece that Saint-Saëns took on a Russian tour with great success. Alan's wonderful hand was equal to this exceedingly difficult piano work that Saint-Saëns used to show off his skills. Robert Meyer's flute was quite mellifluous, especially in the low register; and Dominic Ferrara brought to Saint-Saëns' difficult clarinet writing the necessary concentration.

The concert ended with Ludwig von Beethoven's familiar early Quintet for oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon and piano. Again, Robert Cayne's oboe conducted the instruments through this Mozart-like work with alacrity. Dominic Ferrara plied a bassoon well, the second musician of the evening to work on two instruments. Alan provided the necessary support, even when the musicians began to lose their intonation after this long and difficult evening of playing.

We must give thanks to the Roosevelt Arts Project for bringing us live chamber music, and look forward to future events of this genre.

The **Bulletin** is proud to publish news of the work of Roosevelt artists. Please let us know well beforehand so you don't miss our deadline.

Letters

To the Editor:

One of the many good things in Roosevelt is our *Borough Bulletin*. Through this publication all of us in Roosevelt have the right to express their viewpoints. Unfortunately many of us don't and so we never get to hear alternative viewpoints.

I agree with Mr. Brahinsky (Viewpoint: On the Coming Development, March Bulletin) when he says that Roosevelt has been sick, but that sickness has nothing to do with sewers. It's about attitudes, intolerance and insensitivity, towards others.

Roosevelt is not dead. In fact there is a rebirth in this town. Just look around at the people who have in the past and those in the present who have involved themselves in Roosevelt. It is people who give life to a town, and when there are no longer any people, then the town is dead.

Mr. Brahinsky is more than being nasty when he expresses his opinion that those who don't feel the way he does, have narrow vision. That's not nasty, that's insensitivity.

We in Roosevelt are faced with difficult decisions. What we don't need is a funeral nor holier than thou attitudes. It's time for all of us to keep our minds open, expand our vision and plan for the future. We must remember this is not Plainsboro, this is Roosevelt and we can control what happens to this town.

Sincerely, Stuart Kaufman

To the Editor:

This is just a short note thanking all who've supported me for a seat on the school board. A special thanks to the kids who stuck it out with me from helping distribute fliers to giving me moral support and staying while the vote was counted. I'll still be involved, only difference will be from the audience. There is much to do.

I congratulate all the winners. It was an interesting election....let's do it again soon.

Respectfully, Steve Yeger

Letter from the Editor

At its meeting of April 19, the Board of Trustees of Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. unanimously adopted a set of policy statements which will govern the operation of the *Bulletin* in several important areas.

The policy issues addressed were the treatment of political issues, printing of editorials, exercise of Board power, and acceptance of public notices. A copy of the complete text of the policy resolution is printed in the sidebar on the opposite page.

The statement regarding public notices represents a significant change from previous *Bulletin* policy. To be consistent with its non-profit status, the *Bulletin* will stop accepting commercial advertising with the last number in the current volume (June). Instead, the *Bulletin* will publish three categories of public messages: recognitions of support, non-commercial public notices, and classified listings. The new policy will take effect with the first issue in the fall.

We are grateful to our current advertisers for the support they have shown in the past, and we hope they will continue to participate in the **Bulletin**. The new policy is designed to make the most effective use of the space devoted to public messages, both for the **Bulletin** and for the public. We will be working with our advertisers over the next few months to find ways they can stay with the **Bulletin** under the new guidelines.

I would like to explain the benefits of this policy.

Tax Exemption

As a tax-exempt organization, the **Bulletin** would gain three important advantages:

1. Contributions to the *Bulletin* would be tax-deductible, enhancing its position to solicit support. In addition, current advertisers, who can deduct their *Bulletin* advertising costs as a business expense, will be able to deduct the same amount as a charitable contribution.

2. The *Bulletin* would be able to apply for government and foundation grants.

3. The *Bulletin* would save approximately 10% of its current operating budget by qualifying for a non-profit mailing permit.

In order for the *Bulletin* to achieve tax-exempt status, it must meet stringent guidelines imposed by the IRS. One of these applies to unrelated business income (UBI). Non-profit publications are advised that advertising revenue is highly susceptible to being ruled as UBI; in some cases, the IRS has gone through a periodical ad by ad. The *Bulletin*, with its staff of volunteers and its small operating budget, does not have the resources to devote to this kind of scrutiny.

Service

Right now, most of the *Bulletin*'s ads come in as business cards or flyers, which do not reproduce well. Frequently, a crucial part of the message (for example, a phone number) is totally obscured. Space restrictions within the *Bulletin* preclude the organization of ads by category.

The new policy should provide better service to both our readers and our business supporters. Individuals and organizations placing notices in the *Bulletin* will be able to select a format which is most appropriate to their message; readers will see these messages in an organized and readable layout.

Cost

The *Bulletin*'s revenue from advertising fails to cover the cost of printing the ads. Adding in the labor required to paste up the ads and to collect from advertisers, the *Bulletin* takes a considerable loss from advertising.

Were the *Bulletin* to be supported totally by advertising, the rates would have to be almost tripled.

It is more practical, as well as more in keeping with the function of the **Bulletin**, to depend on support from contributions. The new policy relies on this premise, while providing at the same time a necessary channel for the publishing of messages from organizations, individuals, and businesses.

Rooseveltians have been generous in their support of the *Bulletin*. A campaign for contributions from local businesses is meeting with success, and the *Bulletin* plans to launch a fundraising drive with the June issue. I hope that you will continue to find the *Bulletin* worthy of your support.

-Mark Zuckerman

Text of Bulletin Policy Adopted by Board

Political Issues

The **Bulletin** shall neither support nor oppose candidates for public office; nor shall it attempt to influence the course of pending legislation; nor shall it take a position on any issue currently under consideration by public agencies.

Opinions on any subject may be published in the *Bulletin*, at the discretion of the Editor, provided that they be signed by the author and clearly labelled as independent viewpoints; and that the *Bulletin* make a reasonable effort to solicit balancing opinions on important issues.

The **Bulletin** may publish political statements by candidates for public office, provided that all candidates for that office be invited with reasonable notice to submit statements on their own behalf. The **Bulletin** shall encourage position statements from candidates running for office in Roosevelt.

Editorials

From time to time, the *Bulletin* may publish editorials, provided they are consistent with the *Bulletin's* purpose and policy, clearly labelled as editorial and signed, and approved unanimously by the Board.

Removal of Officers and Committee Members

The Board shall not exercise its authority to remove officers or committee members because of a difference of opinion on public issues.

Advertising, Announcements, and Notices

Beginning with the first number of Volume XI (September 1988), the **Bulletin** shall no longer accept advertising. In its place, the **Bulletin** may publish similar messages as a public service, provided they fall into one of the following categories:

1. Recognition of Support: an acknowledgement of a significant contribution to the **Bulletin**. Commercial establishments placing these notices may include any message normally found on a business card, but may not include a message predominantly commercial in nature (i.e., clearly designed to attract and solicit business).

2. Public Notice: a non-commercial message.

3. Classified Listing: a message as might normally be found in a newspaper classified section. Classified listings shall be accepted only from Roosevelt residents, organizations, or businesses.

These messages shall be published free of charge; however, the **Bulletin** may suggest a contribution amount for each category.

The *Bulletin* reserves the right to refuse any such message judged to be inappropriate to the demeanor of the *Bulletin*.

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In town and out of town, your thoughtfulness and get well greetings were very much appreciated during my recent illness. It was so comforting to be remembered!

I thank you all and send all good wishes for happiness and good health now and always.

Rose Corman

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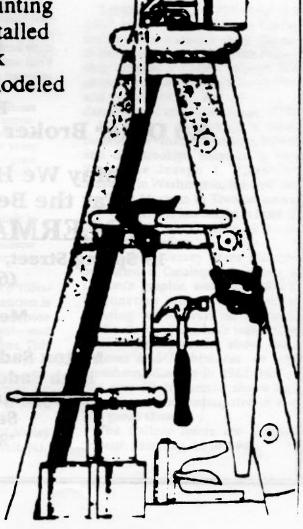
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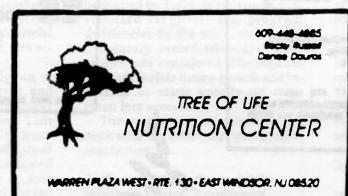
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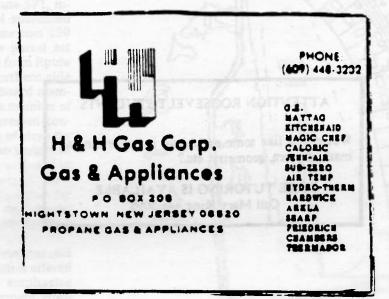
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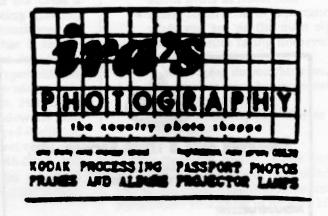
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Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sun.: 6:30a.m.-10:00p.m. Fri. 6 Sat.: 6:30a.m.-11:00o.m.

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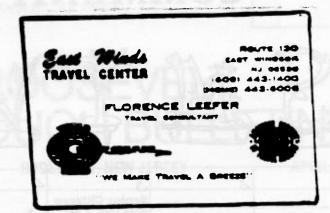
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



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