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January 1985

Mayor's Column

By Freda Hepner

It's an old saw that as you get older, time passes more quickly. Well, I must be older than I think I am, because 1984 certainly flew by for me. I have learned a lot about government, about time and about people in this first year as Mayor.

Some of the things I have learned are things I really knew all along. For instance, despite all those who bad-mouth changes time has brought to Roosevelt, we still have an active community spirit without which we could not function. Many, many of our neighbors quietly go about efficiently attending to the needs of the municipality with little or no reward beyond knowing that they have "contributed their share". It's an old fashioned notion, but so is the whole idea of community. I'm very impressed with how this old fashioned notion makes Roosevelt work!

We have had a busy year in the Borough. Council people, new and experienced, have worked hard to cope with problems and to plan for the future. We have celebrated Eleanor Roosevelt's Centennial and have honored our original settlers. In 1986, we will celebrate our own golden an-

niversary as a municipality,... but, we have our immediate problems to deal with as well.

The Borough Council has begun to solve the urgent needs of our water/sewer systems. We've had to raise the utility fees to finance the work that needs to be done, as you all know. In 1985 we will address the most urgent of these problems. Our plan is to "pay as we go" as much as we can. Fees may have to be raised again; but they are unlikely to take such a big jump. We will, in the next years, bring the neglected plants up to acceptable standards and institute a maintenance program that should, with good fortune, preclude such large jumps in rates for a long time.

We have, in 1984, begun the same kind of program for our roads. It will take three or four years to make all the necessary structural repairs. After that, a continued maintenance plan will keep our streets sensibly safe for traffic. The key seems to be planning ahead.

As we all know from our personal budgeting, all of these basic needs are more expensive each year. It is simple arith-

metic to take the cost of each project and apportion it to approximately 300 taxpayers. However, I have also learned that the political climate of the country does not favor small municipalities. The Roosevelt spirit of pitching-in to help one another does not seem to prevail in our nation right now.

This means we must be realistic about what will be available to us from large government. The State of New Jersey has declared a huge surplus, but there are no published plans to substantially use that money to resolve the state's problems. In a gubernatorial election year, homeowners' rebates will be the order of the day, I suspect.

We can only hope that those rebates will pay for the increases in local taxes that will needed to make up for this lack of initiative by the state. instance, our 1985 garbage lection contract is about 25% higher than the 1984 contract. Our Council has publiclly called upon County Freeholders to ahead for waste disposal facilities that meet the legal stan-We have also asked them to negotiate a county-wide bage collection contract to provide more efficient and economical service to all the small towns in Monmouth County. upon each of the have called County's municipalities to join us in this Resolution; but we are realistic about how long this will take to implement.

In addition to these kinds of political efforts, we have been exploring the pragmatic aspects of acquiring state funding. In 1985, we hope that our historical designation will give us an

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THE ENTIRE STAFF..COLLATION

Borough Editorial policy of the Bulletin is to welcome open ideas and opinions pression of articles either in the form of publication submitted for Letters to the Editors. A11 terial should be typed, double--spaced with margins of no than 1 1/2", on standard It is requestypewriter paper. ted they be held to 3 double--spaced typewriter pages. Editors reserve the right to reject any material they deem appropriate.

edge in the rather fierce competition for the limited number of municipal grants that are still available.

So, what I have learned this year is that democracy is a slow process and it works in Roosevelt. We have problems but we also have talents and energies to work on solutions. Council meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 P.M. at the Borough Hall. Please come to the meetings and tell us your ideas for how the Borough should progress and how you will contribute to making it work.

Happy New Year!

Freda Hepner

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was delighted to read the feature about George Levinson in the last issue of the Bulletin. He's most deserving of such attention and I was pleased to see his good deeds noticed and praised. But, as Paul Harvey would say, there's "The rest of the story" that must be told: Clara.

When my husband and I moved next door to them in 1975, we were treated as welcomed refugees from another culture—which we were. Clara hardly let the dust settle before she was at our door delivering her specialties: a cheerful smile, a word of encouragement—and an armful of food. But Clara could never stay long. She was always on her way somewhere else—to deliver more of her gifts.

She comforted us when we worried, fed us day and night, and, when questioned about her own problems and pains, waved them away like pestering gnats. She has known the agony of broken heart and broken body. I know that, but no details. Clara shares her joy—and keeps her suffering to herself.

She has taught mentally retarded students to cook. She has made jam from the tiniest of wild strawberries. Her house is not large. But she fills it with friends and relatives until the walls are as near to bursting as the guest's stomachs. She pushes her friends and her community to be accomplishers. She loves her husband and children with fierce loyalty and when it comes to her friends—her generosity and thoughtfulness know no limits.

While we lived in Roosevelt, we were blessed to have many wonderful friends: Mel and Friedman, who patiently guided us through a transition from incredible naivete to New Jersey-Smarts; Bob and Maureen Clark, who became our favorite companions; Norma Kushner, who introduced us to a glimpse of Russian foods and traditions; and all the dedicated friends who worked with me on the Bulletin. We think of them all often, and miss their friendship. And especially, we miss Clara.

Sincerely,

Sue Ann Jones Newark, Ohio



GREGORIO PRESTOPINO

By Bernarda Shahn

The death of Gregorio Presopino is a grievous loss to his friends, and is equally a loss to the town of Roosevelt, Presto's life, his generous participation in all the town projects, the luminosity that his name and his art imparted, added greatly to the interest and the respect which have accumulated around the name of our town. those who knew Presto well, it is hardly necessary to recount those personal qualities which so distinguished him from other people. I have been asking myself how to give some notion to others--to people who did not know him so well--just what Presto was like, and why his loss means so much to us all.

One thinks of the kind life--the quality of life that was so characteristic of him. An environment, surrounded by objects that only the sharpest and most discriminating eye would discern and assemble, is one such characteristic; in his house, a rare folk painting hangs alongside a sophisticated abstraction; Sicilian amulets--legs, arms, breasts, eyes that once celebrated mystical recovery from death disaster, look out upon a surrealist mezzotint and upon art fragments from every known past period. Conversation in Prestopino house has always been equally varied and eclectic--now in Italian, now in English, the talk varies from the latest triumph (or atrocity) in art, to food, to wine, and always back to the Rome that both Presto and Liz loved so much.

I first knew Presto long ago in the early Thirties when we were all just setting up Artists' Union, when we were involved in the New Deal art projects, and when we were all of us immersed in the circumstances, the tragedy of Depression--the bread lines, the soup kitchens, the evictions--families out on the sidewalk with nowhere practically to go-- and when every artist in New York was painting some version of tragic situation. Presto painting the those days was City--in sombre tones, perhaps and in strong design, but without either pathos or anger; he painted the market places, the food stalls, people, details--loaves of Italian bread floating, probably over East 14th Street where he was born, the tram, the El, someone holding a live chicken--I believe that he looked upon the whole; organic City as an people, buildings, streets, carts, animals, all one thing mutually interwoven; the --Harlem of the lower East Side, poverty-stricken, but vital not sordid.

years When, many Presto's style of art changed, bursting almost suddenly into vibrating color, and into woodland scenes, I believe brating color, that his point of view changed less than one might surmise. For, as he had seen people as the very essence of the city, he now saw the nude bathers in all their super-feminine opulence, as essential part of nature; and he painted the woods, the rushing water, the rocks and the figures with that same sense of unity, of one-ness between figures and place.

It would be superfluous in this place to enumerate all the honors, the awards, the exhibitions, the museums and the notable collections in which Presto's work has appeared or by which it has been honored: the Modern Museum, the Whitney, the Corcoran and the Hirshhorn in Washington, the Chicago Art Institute, the Rochester Museum and the Walker Art Center, and of course the New Jersey State Museum at Trenton are only a few of the places where his work may be seen. The most recent of several retrospective exhibitions was in the Fort Lauderdale Museum in Florida, and other recent awards have been The Altman Prize at the National Academy of Design in 1981, the Watercolor Society awards in 1980 and 1982 and the Altman figure painting award in 1983.

Presto's pictures remain; and so, in a sense he remains with us. That is perhaps the crowning gift that any artist bequeaths to his public, that he does still live on and that he continues to radiate color and spirit and personality among us.



Obituaries

Gregorio Prestopino

By Hortense Socholitzky

Presto's work as Bernada Shahn has said, "remains... and so in a sense he remains with us... He does still live on and ...[his work] continues to radiate color and spirit among us."

What I remember is Presto the man-the warm, friendly, rare, enthusiastic and energetic human being--who really cared about people and what happens to them.

I remember Presto, who always fought against injustice and hypocrisy, and never shrank from criticizing individuals or governments that practised them. I remember Presto, who was generous in friendship and "who was not ashamed to show love and affection to another human being.

I remember Presto, who never pretended to espouse a cause or support an issue he did not really believe in, no matter how popular the issue.

I remember Presto who respected people he did not agree with, if he knew they were honest in their beliefs.

I remember Presto, who was knowledgeable in many areas, but never talked down to those who knew much less than he; Presto, who was always ready to devote his eneries to guiding and helping young artists develop their talents.

He was a friend to many young people, artist or not, who

were drawn to his generous spirit and sense of commitment.

He was a teacher, naturally as well as formally. He was for many years on the board of directors of the MacDowell Colony in New Hampshire; he taught at the Modern Museum, the Brooklyn Museum Art School, the New School, the University of Michigan, and was artist in residence at the American Academy in Rome.

Presto's art will be admired, respected and enjoyed by many people in the future, but many people, like me, will remember Presto the human being for his personal and human qualities.

Lillian Irwin

Lillian Irwin died in Florida in December 1984, at the age
of 69. She taught in the Roosevelt Public School for over 25
years, specializing in mathematics. For many years she planned
and supervised the graduation
ceremonies, and frequently served
as Assistant Principal.

In addition to her husband David, she is survived by a son Paul, of Philadelphia:

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Arts and Crafts Fair

The Roosevelt Arts and Crafts Fair was a success. The weeks of preparation produced rich fruition not only in financial returns but in appreciation of the diverse and gifted talents of our community coupled with the appearance of others from outside Roosevelt.

Success also came about because of the sacrifices of many
people who not only showed their
talents, but with others, contributed enormous periods of time
and everthing else from food to
substance, and the very pedestrian tasks of setting up and
cleaning up.

The main contribution came from those who have a sense of community, good fellowship, and responsibility. The list of those who should be thanked is long but there is content that those who know that they did their best is summed up in both group and personal pride.

The important end result is that the Roosevelt First Aid Squad has more wherewithal to continue to serve the community. What better summing up than thanks.

Martin Schwartz, D.D.S., P.A. Lydia Kernitsky, D.M.D.

> One Mile Road Ext East Windsor, New Jersey 08520 (609) 448-6300

Neighbors

"And Gladly Wolde He Lerne, and Gladly Teche"

night in my class at Princeton High School, the instructor asked us to say what we do and where we live. When it was my turn to struggle with the words for "retired" "small town called Roosevelt", she smiled with pleasure, only because she had a friend who also lived in Roosevelt. I know a medievalist, on the faculty of Rutgers, whose hobby is building old musical instruments? I was abashed to find that I had not only never heard the name but that he resided on street.

The night I went to Robert and Lonny Boenig was and cold. To enter their house was to step into a quiet, orderly place, cozy, calm and warm that night, redolent freshly baked bread. Their Roosevelt-bauhaus livingroom softened at one end by a colorful, recessed window seat and at the other by a handsome glass-enclosed fireplace that I learned was the first of many renovations undertaken since they moved Householding, inside 1976. and out, is clearly a serious enterprise for the Boenigs, with important flower and etable gardens that flourish in season; with canning and preserving rites observed every summer (particularly pickles and raspberries); with providing a home for four cats (fortuitously acquired); as well as throngs of birds the year round (more or less safe from the cats, they think).

These activities pale, ever, beside the professional concerns of both Boenigs. Lonny, who merits a column all her own, is engaged in parttime work with a management-consulting firm with which Roosvelt residents Connie Herrstrom and George Loyer also connected and which is parent of the company that prints our Bulletin. Lonny also pursues a PHD program that entails teaching chores. And there are interests in photography, quilting and choir-singing, not to speak of the breadmaking and flower-gardening duties.

Robert is the director Freshman Composition for the Rutgers College campus, which supervising a program of freshman and 53 faculty every semester (Bob teaches one section himself). He sometimes gets to teach a literature course but the exigencies of academic economics being what they are, he agreed to take on, by turns, two jumbo college-wide courses: Detective and His Fiction. Science interests remain research, ting, translation from the Latin of medieval literature and special interest in Old and Middle English.

"Chaucer", he says, "is as great a writer as Shakespeare and one can enjoy him endlessly." He is important "because he has many things to say about the world and has an interesting way to say them." He goes on: "Chaucer, at first, reflected the traditional views of his time. His early

writing consisted in adapting others' work. But as he matured he abandoned tradition and wrote, as in The Canterbury Tales, about people as individuals rather than types, real people caught and preserved in the text of his great work." Chaucer, it seems, left what many consider to be "fragments" of poems, but Boenia contends in a journal article that Chaucer deliberately chose write in the form half-poems, "leaving the rest silence."

Another paper for the <u>Journ-</u> al of English and German Philology traces a unique imagery Andrew, thus concerning St. identifying one of four English manuscripts of the 11th century that made its way into the artown in norchives of a small Boenig, who rethern Italy. ceived a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a PhD from Rutgers, is the author of some 35 to 40 published papers.

In his youth Bob played guitar...folk rock mostly, but because of his studies in medieval music he undertook serious ancestral inquiry into such instruments as the lute, woodwind recorders, crumhorns (from the German "krumm" for "bent"), psalteries and harps. He has built some of these himself from kits he orders from England at what he feels, these days, are highly favorable exchange rates. An array of these lovely objects is neatly displayed around the walls of the "music room" at the back of his house. Bob played several of them for me and both he and Lonny sang a song or two in charming style, explaining that they both perform in group

recitals from time to time.

"A technical knowledge of early music and its instrumentation helps me understand important passages of medieval authors' works," says Robert. In the <u>Proloque</u> to <u>The Canterbury</u> <u>Tales</u>, one of Chaucer's pilgrims, the miller, plays the bagpipe, an instrument that in paintings by Breughel for instance is often played by loud and boorish peasants and sometimes even by pigs. But there is another type of bagpipe shown in old pictures and tapestries that is sweetly elegant and usually associated with kings and knights or with Christ in scenes of the Nativity. Boenig has made the argument that the miller's bagpipe in Chaucer is of the kind attendant Christ and kings and that this makes the passage in the poem a characteristic piece of Chaucerian humor...an amusing juxtaposition of aristocratic music-making with a coarse and jolly player.

As he talked with quiet ardor about these rare and learned matters, Robert himself appeared to be a perfect stand-in for an early Christian cleric

deep in scholarly pursuits. was hard to imagine this recondite figure giving hour-long lectures twice a week to 407 college students on the detective fiction of Edgar Allen Poe, Conan Doyle, Dorothy Sayers, Agatha Christie, John Le Carre and, at last a connecting link, Umberto Eco whose book <u>The Name of the Rose</u> is an elaborate tale of murder based on 14th century ecclesiastical history. But Robert says that on the whole he enjoys the course and succeeds in holding crowd's attention by a simple strategy: he continues to talk (without notes) as he walks around the room and over to any would-be disrupters whom he calm-ly stares down whenever necessary.

On departing, I was loath to mention such wordly matters as budget deficits or election results but I did mumble something about civic concerns. Boenigs frankly admitted faint interest in public affairs and even less in party politics. where we were all in sudden agreement was on the issue of the rising threat of nuclear war. "The best thing I feel I can do at the moment," Bob said, "is reach my students with the right kind of book." And then came one of those gratifying moments when you find that someone shares your special feeling for an uncommon song, movie, novel. In this case it was an old favorite, a remarkable book with a powerful parable for our time, called A Canticle for Leibowitz, By Walter Miller, Jr.

By Adeline Weiner

(The headline is a quotation from the Prologue of Canterbury Tales-Editors)

Dog census taker needed immediately.

Interestèd???

Please contact the Borough Clerk:

448-0539

Altman Concert

By David Brahinsky

Out of the ashes rises the Phoenix; out of a Phillip Glass concert that Laurie Altman says was not the greatest, comes a new composition: "Pieces of Glass," by Mr. Altman, a response - originally intended as a kind of sarcastic spoof but turned into a more serious composition- to that concert. It was performed by the composer with Lauren Sarno and Susan Tenney, sopranos, Mack Goldsboro, on saxophone, and Ed Schuller, on acoustic bass, at Westminster Conservatory on December 15, as part of the Faculty Recital Series. Also performed were arrangements of the Rogers and Hart tune "It Never Entered my Mind," Lerner and "Come to Me, Bend to Me," as well as a number of other original Altman compositions such "Trivial Pursuit"- which us how the trivial can beautiful-"Maybe Tomorrow", "L.A. Accordingly", "J.B. Accordingly", and, to Altman officionados, the now familiar "For Now at Least." The audience, which included many Rooseveltians, seemed enthralled by the music. In terms of performers, particularly impressive was Mr. Schuller's bass playing nearly every note clear, crisp and on pitch.

A reception for Mr. Altman was held in the Student Union after the concert at which two versions of "Happy Birthday" were sung in celebration of his birthday.

In My View

The Unending Arab-Israeli Conflict

By Stavro Danilov

The Arab-Israeli conflict remains impassible. Except for some "breakthroughs" for peace in Egyption-Israeli relations, and the addition of such issues as the Lebanese crisis, conditions today are not substantively preferable to those which existed in June, 1967 or October, 1973.

In many respects, these conditions are even worse. First, Israel on the one hand, and Jordan and Syria including Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) on the other, are better armed than ever before. Syria augments its economic military dependence on the Soviet Union, Israel continues to rely on the United States' tutelary powers despite occasional Israeli public statements to the contrary or disagreements between the two countries. Second, the Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank the Gaza Strip are still under occupation. The ever inof creasing spread Israeli settlements, the inertial attitude of the PLO, and Jordan's King Hussein's indecisiveness, cautiousness, or outright fear in jumping on the peace bandwagon of Sadat or Reagan place the autonomy talks in limbo. Third and last, the question of Jerusalem, if not postponed indefinitely, is ignored completely. Claims and counter-claims, quite hardened over the last few years, city's legal status make a workable solution improbable, if not totally impossible in the foreseeable tuture.

Have the heavy costs defense and the wars themselves accomplished really anything? Irrespective of its military prowess, Israeli security is no more assured today than sixteen years ago. Israel's not so benign occupation of Arab lands, and the moral questions raised by the latest venture in Lebanon have put into question Israel's principal ues and Jewish identity not only in Israel but elsewhere in world. The same applies to Palestinians who, while united in the fight against Israel, are uncertain about their exact destination or real destiny. Their die is cast. Like passengers on a rudderless ship, they feel doned to the elements without Their leaderlandfall in sight. ship whose legitimacy is often challenged seems unable to adjust its internal differences and furnish a rational solution to Palestinian question, one will be acceptable to all Palestinian leadership cerned. continues to be swayed by Arab ignoring promises, forgetting or that the Arabization of the problem of Palestine is to blame partly for their people's present the Is Palestinian plight. leadership seriously interested in a negotiated settlement, while being conscious that settlement could erode its reason for existence?

The share of blame goes beyond the Israelis and the Pale-

stinians. It includes the Arab states and the superpowers. Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia, for example, fail to appreciate fully the extent of Palestinian and wants. Providing needs financial and military support to the Pale stinians only to appease them or keep them in amounts not only to blackmail payment but postpones and exacerbates present conditions. does not guarantee self-determination.

Similarly, the United States' and the Soviet Union's tendency to discuss peace plans while simultaneously overstocking the region with arms can lead only to false impressions and Moreover, expectations. superpowers' overwhelming reliance on quantitative rather than of qualitative instruments providing assurances to their respective client states can precipitate further crises destabilizing the region and antagonism. encouraging local Lavish outlays of dollars or rubles hardly get to the core the situation.

One cannot lay the blame one party's shoulders, for all A11 are equally culpable. parties must realize that the achievement of peace is harder than the desire for it. Preoccupation with the "whys" of how the problem came to be in terms of past history as an argument for right or wrong as many Palestinians believe, or the reof land to absolute security as the Israelis do can result only in a series of continuing affronts. If people are to fall back on history, they must understand the implications, namely "the past is prologue," and the present can be something far different.

The Arab-Israeli experience has shown that the costs of

defense and war are more waste than investment. Solutions rest in a new rational approach to the problem unclouded by ages of prejudice, hatred, and rewriting of history. The alternative is continued conflict that, in this more dangerous period of history, could be the small fuse to an enormous explosion, perhaps global in its effect.



NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We have received a short anonymous article about vandalism. We would like to print it, but it is our policy to reject all anonymous contributions. We are willing to withold the author's name, but we must know who he or she is. We would appreciate this author's notifying one of us. We will keep this information confidential and will print the article in our next issue.

School Board News

By Herb Johnson

Climaxing six months of careful investigations and a series of prudent measures to prevent damage to the school library and its mural, the Board of Education awarded the contract for repair of the school roof over the library and gymnasium.

Three companies submitted The repair included replacement of all wet insulating board, damaged decking boards, and covering the 8,400 square foot upper level roof with the Rhoflex Roofing System, a cold application which is guaranteed 10 years by the manufacturer. The work was begun December 1984. The school roof rafters were not weakened by moisture, as inaccurately reported last month. appraisal revealed the moisture had affected only the insulation and possibly the decking.

Due to Jack McLaughlin's resignation, the Board appointed Jay Cavalluzzo as our new Board Secretary, to perform secretarial and accounting functions for the Board at an annual salary of \$11,500.

A temporary replacement for kindergarten teacher Kathy Haw-thorne, who recently had a baby girl (Lauren Ashley), Elizabeth Johnson was appointed as three-fifths time permanent substitute teacher at \$6,232 for six months. Sheila Jaeger was appointed Classroom Aide at \$4,200 for seven months in the 3 to 5 grade unit.

Irene Block resigned from

the Board in December after serving two months. Her letter explained that she was unable to put in the time needed. David Keller took the oath of office as her replacement on December 20, 1984.

Our Physical Education teacher Mrs. Debbie Smith described to the Board and public present at the December 6 meeting the nature of the Family Life program she teaches to 4th through 8th graders once a week

Board member Gary Edelstein expressed the hope that more time be given to problems of relationships related to Family Life, and less time to teaching anatomical nomenclature. Mrs. Smith mentioned students had difficulty learning the names of bones.

Education Committee Chair Jeb Shahn reported that a proposal for "Artists in Residence" program is being developed now that music and art teachers were hired. The Board directed the committee to present proposals for teaching Spanish. The logistics seem very complicated.

John Burghardt, Finance Committee chair, presented a School Budget for '85-86', at a Special Meeting on January 10,1985. It was for \$810,152 for Current Expenses and \$36,000 for Capital Outlay.

All Special Meetings, as well as Regular first and third Thursday 8 p.m. meetings, of the Board of Education are publicized in advance, in accord with New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law, by being posted just inside the Post Office entrance, and by mailings to the Asbury Park Press

and the Trenton Times. All meetings have times for citizen contributions. Hope to see you there.

Nuclear Disarmament Committee

"Building on our victories," is the direction the Roosevelt Committee for Nuclear Disarmament and othe nuclear disarmament groups across the nation are taking. Our group has been a vital part of the change taking place to stop development of more nuclear weapons and greatly reduce nuclear forces.

A national plan for moving toward the abolition of nuclear arms in 10 major stages has been drafted. The goal for 1985 is a comprehensive test ban, with the slogan, "Start the Freeze, Stop the Testing."

We invite people to join us on Friday, March 1, leaving here at 6:30p.m., to join other Monmouth County residents in a Candlelight Vigil at the gates of Earle Naval Weapons Base in Leonardo from 8 to 9 p.m. The "First Friday Vigils," began 4 months ago, are sponsored by Monmouth County Pax Christi. Call Herb Johnson 443-1947 to carpool.

The Roosevelt Committee has begun planning for a Hiroshima Day commemoration event August 6. Carol Watchler and Jacob Landau are working on it. The creation of posters or a calendar of artists' works is being pursued by Mr. Landau and Jonathan Shahn.

Townspeople are urged to go

with our group the to Reguiem" in NYC on Sunday May 12. David Arnold will perform there. Save the date. More details will be in the next Boro Bulletin. suggest you invite relatives friends in N.Y.C. to meet you at the concert for this peace--celebrating event, but get all tickets from the Roosevelt mittee for Nuclear Disarmament.



Roosevelt Artists at City Museum of Trenton

A number of Roosevelt artists have been invited to show their work at Ellarslie, the City Museum of Trenton, in an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and drawings that will be dedicated to the memory of Gregorio Prestopino. The exhibition will open on February 2nd, and will remain through the month of February.

<u>Issues and Debate</u>

When Is What Happens "News"?

by David Brahinsky, Co-editor

A good question, one perhaps worthy of a seminar within the Ivy walls up route 571 taught by Mr. Cronkite, but, alas, not the issue to be discussed here. Here the question is more pointed: When is what happens in Roosevelt 'news'? Why do I ask, you ask?

The question arises because often when the Bulletin publishes anything other than the latest marriages, births, deaths, which Mrs. made scrumptious latkes for Chanukah or how many Cabbage Patch Dolls little Miss got for Christmas, etc., we are criticized. Not always in print, course. But we have ears.

Is it news when the Council fires a citizen as Dog Census Taker, or is the story behind the firing news? Is it news when another citizen is quietly but effectively led to resign Building Inspector? Is it news when the First Aid Squad becomes embroiled in an internal dispute with ramifications of great philosophical significance?

When the school secretary resigns and rumors abound concerning the reasons for it, when a student is reported to have been suspended in-house and the parents not informed this news? Should we continue to publish a Police Blotter should we include the names listed in the barracks adults files?

Should we have dug into the story of the resignation of a former Borough Clerk? Is this -are any of the above-mentionedany of our business? Do Rooseveltians want to know what goes

in their town, behind the scenes, as it were? Or do prefer to remain in the dark allowing the 'tsimis' to be matter of rumor, gossip, innuendo and speculation?

The fact is, it is hard impossible to obtain such news in our town. We have feature writers but few reporters--those who would delve into things and reach beneath the surface. citizens refuse to speak to us, at least not on the record. "This is a private matter." "It's covered by the Sunshine Law," "It's an internal affair."

Poor Socrates. He was condemned for 'delving into things beneath the Earth and in Heaven' and thought that his might free others to overcome fear of the truth.

Hmmmm. Well, it is One shouldn't be so surprised, no?

It seems that many Rooseveltians prefer ignorance truth, rumor and gossip to open revelation, speculation to researched opinion.

Yet the earth teaches that we reap what we sow: lack of knowledge leads to action that is blind. And what happens to such things as good government, sponsible action, genuine lightened concern?

I believe that happens in this town that domain is tains to the public news. Because of this continue to seek reporters, untimid souls willing to do some genuine research even if incurring the wrath and enmity of those who would prefer to hide.

Still, should individuals and groups prefer to have recourse to such authoritarian devices as the Sunshine Law or "this is an internal matter", then we will be stymied, for we cannot responsibly publish rumors or half-stories.

No; when we describe a situation we want to be able to provide a picture of the entire "elephant," We do not want to think of it as the trunk of a tree, the leaf of a Palm, a fire hose, a rope, etc., as did the wise but blind men of antiquity who managed only to 'see' one part of the beast.

Are there others in town who feel this way or do you have a contrary or different outlook? Response in print or via the "earwaves" would be most appreciated.



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References available

SUBSCRIPTIONS

January is the time to renew all out of town subscriptions to the Roosevelt Bulletin. One year of the Bulletin mailed anywhere in the U.S. costs \$3.00. Give your money and an updated address to Lynn Friedman or Norma Kushner.

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Etiquette for the Motorist

By Josef G. Solomon

There are, let us say, two classes of motorist: There is the person who drives his car, and there is the person who merely aims it. Your answers to the following questions will speedily allow you to realize which you are.

- 1. You are driving in heavy traffic. The car immediately ahead of you suddenly stops. What do you do?
- 2. It is a dark but clear night. The driver coming toward you refuses to lower his brights. What do you do?
- 3. A car has broken down ahead, in the lane adjacent to yours. A car in that lane would like to move into your lane ahead of you. What do you do?

Answers

- 1. If your answer was you would swerve into the lane, you're an aimer. swerve into the next lane, what happens to the car you just cut in front of? What is he supposed Why, he's supposed to stop, of course--and that's exactly what you're supposed to do. When something like this happens, Then, if first think Stop. consider changing have room, important thing is The not avoiding a stop, but avoiding an accident.
 - 2. If your answer to this

was that you'd put brights on him, you're an aimer. Why are you angry at him keeping his brights on? Because they blind you. Then why are you blinding hem? Do you really want both of you to be driving at each If someone keeps other blind? his brights on you, flick your brights on him--several times, if necessary--but don't keep them If he still keeps brights on, aim your gaze at the right shoulder of the road; this will minimize the blinding effect of his brights.

3. Obviously, the answer that I want for this one is that you would let him in. However, it's ok not to—after all, the correct action depends on other circumstances. What makes you an aimer is saying that you would never even consider letting him in. Why not?

A Flash of Insight

The problem, I think, is that we let our egos get involved with driving a car, One thing that helped me dig out of that was hearing Mort Sahl at the hungrry i in San Francisco. a placedropper.) He remarked in his act that he had a Shelby Cobra and, whenever anyone passed him on the road, he always figured that they did it embarrass him in front of all the traffic. That made me think, and made me realize that it really doesn't matter if I'm not first in line: It's not a race. other event that helped me was having someone cut in front of me one day--which made me angry, of course. Then, as he roared ahead, he gave me a cheery wave, I had a flash of rage. Then I had a flash of insight: Why do I get so angry? Couldn't think of a reason, so now I don't. Like Yossarian, in "Catch 22", I get angry when someone tries to kill me, but mere discourtesy doesn't bother me as much as it used to.

And that word is the key, I think. If some action by a motorist is discourteous, it's probably dangerous. Think about it. So drive not only safely, but also courteously. We'll all live longer.

A Topical Reference

The weather lately has reminded me of another problem many of us have: Driving on ice. What do you do if you start to skid? Why, you put the gas pedal to the floor, of course—that's the American way, but it's wrong. The reason you're skidding is that you're applying too much torque to the driving wheels. If you're you race the engine, applying even more torque, so you're guaranteed to keep skidding unless you hit something, of course, in which case you might stop. Similary, when people get stuck in ice or snow, they usually gun the engine in hopes of getting out. Wrong. The way to get out is to provide <u>less</u> torque to the wheels. That means shifting into a higher gear (if you have a manual transmission), and easing your way out, It's harder with an automatic transmission, because it won't shift into a higher gear when the engine is running slowly, but it can still be done. The idea is, Don't try to overpower the situation; try to sneak away from it.

Miss Me If You Can

Here are some more suggestions. Suppose you are driving at night, and you see a pedestrian or a jogger coming you. What do you do? From my experience, what you do is put your brights,so you can see better. Swell, but now I'm blinded by your brights--as blinded as an oncoming driver would be. Now that you know I'm there, drop your lights, and slow down. miss me. I find that drivers prefer to stay as close to the shoulder as they can when they pass me, even when there are not other cars on the road. Why? Move over. I'm running on the shoulder, as far away from the road as I can get. (Sometimes. that's only a few feet.)

You're the only one who can move away. Suppose you insist on passing me at 60 miles an hour, as close as you can, and (of course) with your brights on. I'm blinded by your lights, and I can't see the place where I'm going to put my foot. What happens if I stumble? Personally, I always wear something fluorescent when I run at night, or I carry a flashlight. If you can't see me with your low-beams, you shouldn't be driving at night.

If we live, next month there will be some more tips on how not to kill yourself or anybody else. In the meantime, consider the following words of wisdom: Strive, when you drive, to arrive alive; survive and thrive till one hundred and five.



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Fire Company News

By Steve Yeger

The Roosevelt Fire Company responded to two fires this month. Luckily, neither calls was serious and no damage was evident. On 1/1/85 at 12:00 pm an alarm sounded for an investigation of fumes from a single family dwelling at 14 Farm Lane. Upon arrival at the scene, nothing was evident. A thorough search was conducted, and the situation was found to be safe. 1/2/85 an alarm sounded for a smoke condition on North Valley Road. This turned out to be a false alarm.

A review of the fire calls for the year shows the following statistics. These are listed in order from the most numerous to the least numerous.

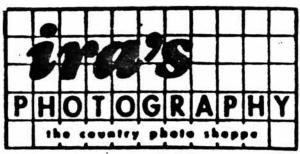
False alarms	8
Motor vehicle accidents	4
Dumpster fires	3
Chimney fires	2
Brush fires	2
Structural fires	2
Downed electrical lines	1

In addition there were four calls for mutual aid.

A most interesting statistic is that the department averaged 4 to 5 men per call. Paid companies have crews of 3.5. We can be pleased that in 1984 our community had good fire coverage.

The new officers for 1985 are as follows:

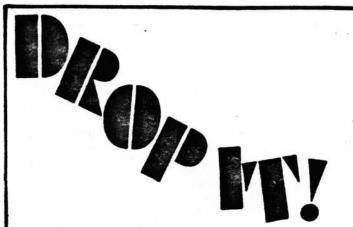
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PUBLIC NOTICE

(27-7) AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED " AN ORDI-NANCE REGULATING PARKING AND TRAFFIC IN THE BOROUGH OF ROOS-EVELT" ADOPTED OCTOBER 12, 1949.

(116) "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTENDING FARM LANE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND ACCEPTING GIFTS AND GRANTS THEREOF."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roosevelt on November 14, 1984 and passed on first reading. Said Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law, and that said Ordinance was adopted after public hearing at a regular meeting held at the Borough Hall, Roosevelt, N.J. on December 12, 1984.

Patricia Antosky, R.M.C. Municipal Clerk

(97-6) "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED (97) 'ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROOS-EVELT, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY'"

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roosevelt, in the County of Mon-mouth and State of New Jersey.

DRDINANCE: DISH ANTENNAE

An ordinance regulating the placement of a satellite earth station or dish antenna and

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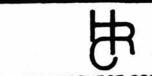
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46 ESSEX STREET MLLBURNL N.L 07040 '2011 467-5566 70 PINE CRIVE ROOSEVELT, NJ. 08555 18081 443 5810 Senior Citizen's Meeting January 3, 1985

By Helga Wisowaty

The Rev. John Grauel attended this meeting and spoke to us about subjects close to him many of us. He talked of the vandalism against synogogues and how many nations are in violation of international laws. He talked of the terrorism all over world, of the Ayatollah Khomeini at the head of Iran, of so many countries at war, and posed the question: "What is the answer for the future?"

Rev. Grauel talked about "Operation Moses." Thousands of Black Jews from Ethiopia have been airlifted to Israel in past few months. Details of the airlift were kept secret in order not to jeopardize Israel's relations with nations with which it has no formal ties. The secret was out when the New York Times published the story of "Operation Moses" and the airlift.

\$124,000 has been raised in Monmouth County for Ethiopia. Thousands of dollars of this has to be paid in bribes. Russian trucks charge \$165 to bring the food to the starving Ethiopians. Rev. Grauel made us aware of many more incidents from the past—too many to list here.

Thanks to Gov. Kean's making it a law-the holocaust will be among the subjects taught in the N.J. elementary schools. It was announced that a scholarship in Sev. Grauel's name has been established at Brookdale College in Monmouth County.

We appreciate Rev. Grauel's

taking the time to be with us. His knowledge and intense interest in his work for others is combined with a sense of humor that surfaces frequently when he speaks. We hope he'll join us more often.

The year 1984 is behind us and it saw the loss of many beloved Roosevelt people. Gregorio Prestopino (Presto) and Lillian Irwin were among them. Mrs. Irwin taught in the Roosevelt School for many years. "Presto" as everyone knows was one of the great talents of our time. To me-this man's character, consideration, and generosity made him twice as great. We'll miss you, "Presto".

Esther Frucht and Mary Berlinrut are in Princeton Hospital.
We hope they'll be home soon. It
was reported that the New Year's
Eve party at the Senior Village
was a smash hit.

The Jan. 3 meeting was also enjoyed by all.

Congratulations were tendered to Gus and Morris Chasan on their 63rd wedding anniversary in January.



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