

Bulletin

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B O R O U G H C O U N C I L N E W S

VICTORY!!!! US Home Withdraws Lawsuit; No Concessions by Borough

By Michael Ticktin

The David-and-Goliath legal battle between the Borough of Roosevelt and US Home Corporation, a major national development company, came to a sudden end on March 14, and David won. The Borough Council had its first indication that this was happening when it received a letter, included in the correspondence portion of the March meeting, from Paul Ross, attorney for Murray Beer, the owner of the 131+ acre tract in the northeastern part of Roosevelt that US Home had proposed as the site of its 260-unit development, stating that US Home had terminated its contract with Mr. Beer, and that Mr. Beer was therefore interested in selling the property to someone else and in talking with the Council to discuss the

uses preferred by the Borough “within the scope of current ordinances.” The Fund for Roosevelt, which has already succeeded in securing State funds for the preservation of four farms on the western side of Rochdale Avenue with a total area of 230 acres, and last year acquired the 29-acre Hoffman farm on the eastern side of the road (a property that had been included in the original US Home plan), has indicated its interest in working with Mr. Beer to secure funds for preservation of his land and to assist in its transfer to a new owner who would continue to farm it.

Mr. Ross’s letter was confirmed later in the week when the Council received a letter from US Home’s attorney stating that his client was no longer

interested in pursuing the lawsuit. The end of the lawsuit at this point, prior to going to trial, means that the Borough will save tens, or even hundreds, of thousands of dollars that would have had to be spent on legal defense, and will not have to enter into any compromise settlement or face the risk of a loss that would most likely have imposed significant financial and environmental costs upon the community and changed its scale and character.

The March meeting was the first meeting at which newly appointed Administrator Harold Klein was in attendance. Mr. Klein expressed his pleasure at joining the municipal government.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are three Roosevelt residents who are currently active in the Lions Club: David Zaleski, Carol Zaleski, and Paul Cousineau. The Hightstown/East Windsor Lions Club is a volunteer community service organization and all proceeds of fundraisers are allocated to service projects for Sight programs and other community service programs: Camp Marcella for sight impaired children, The Delaware Valley Eye Bank and Recording for the Blind to name a few.

The Lions will be holding their 2003 Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m. at the Grant Street Park in Hightstown. All children from Roosevelt are invited to participate. The rain date will be April 19, 9 a.m.

Kindergarten registration is scheduled for April 7 and 8. If you know of any child who will be turning 5 before October 1, please get the word out to parents.

On April 9 the PTA is sponsoring a book swap. For the next two weeks students will be bringing books in good condition that they are willing to swap. If you have children's books that you would care to donate for this event, feel free to bring them in before April 4.

PLEASE REMEMBER: Thoughtful neighbors pick up after their dogs. Are you a thoughtful neighbor?

As our publishing year continues, our funds diminish!

If you haven't as yet made a contribution or would be able to add to your original one, now is the time to help us.

Thank you for your support.

WE REALLY MEAN IT! BY NEXT MONTH WE WILL BE IN TROUBLE!

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Redevelopment Plan Advances

In February and March, Roosevelt moved forward with its program to put five blighted properties back into habitable condition. On February 18, the Borough Council placed the five in redevelopment areas and directed the Planning Board to prepare a Redevelopment Plan in accordance with State law. On March 2, a committee appointed by Board Chairman Ralph Seligman met with Planning Consultant Tom Thomas about the four residential properties and one non-residential property designated for redevelopment. Mr. Seligman, Mayor Michael Hamilton, and Tax Assessor Michael Ticktin, all members of the Planning Board, are the members of the committee. Chairman Seligman thanked Mr. Ticktin and Mr. Thomas for preparing a progress report summarizing the committee's findings and recommendations. Among other things, the report concludes that some of the properties could be used to help the Borough meet its State-mandated affordable housing obligation.

The report points out that the Borough may eventually be able to remove a derelict farmhouse and outbuilding at 9 Nurko Road from the list of properties in need of redevelopment. In February, a person claiming to be in the process of buying the property with her husband told Mr. Ticktin that they planned to demolish the existing buildings and to construct a new house.

More than a decade ago, according to the report, the owners of 23 Pine Drive abandoned their house. The mortgage holder, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), never foreclosed and continued to pay taxes and utility bills.

Recently, HUD sold the mortgage to Salomon Brothers, which began a foreclosure action. The lien for unpaid taxes, utility fees and interest exceeds \$165,000. Therefore, the committee recommended that the Borough await the outcome of the foreclosure proceeding and subsequent sheriff's sale. The committee suggested that if a purchaser does not make the property habitable, the Borough should use its redevelopment powers to acquire the property by eminent domain.

The report noted that two and a half years ago the house at 20 South Rochdale Avenue was gutted by fire. The owner indicated that she intended to restore the property but needed to wait for the outcome of court proceedings. The committee recommended that the Borough determine if there will be a court determination in the near future. If so, and if it results in a decision in favor of the owner, the committee recommended giving the owner a reasonable amount of time to restore the property. If not, then the town should begin the eminent domain process. In the discussion of this portion of the report, Board member Jane Rothfuss expressed concern that the process might lead to the demolition of an original, Bauhaus style house. Mr. Ticktin said the Borough must first acquire the house and then determine whether a prospective purchaser might consider performing the expensive renovations that would be necessary to restore it. He called it "a nuisance to the neighborhood the way it is."

A house at 19 South Rochdale was abandoned when the former owner died, according to the report. Her son,

the executor of her estate, permitted the property to deteriorate without any attempt to sell or rent it. The committee recommended eminent domain if the son continues to fail to respond to notices.

The non-residential property on the redevelopment list is the former service station property at 40 North Rochdale Avenue. The Borough brought an action to foreclose the tax lien that it holds on the property and should obtain title in the near future. The report notes that some of the land was contaminated with hydrocarbons that will have to be removed before it may be returned to productive use. The committee recommended that after taking title the Borough subdivide the property into three lots. One, including the former service station building, could be cleaned up with State and County "brownfields" funds. The Borough, or a subsequent owner, might either demolish the service station building or rehabilitate it to serve a productive purpose.

A second lot, containing some buildable land, could be reserved for affordable housing should the U.S. Home lawsuit be dismissed. The Borough could retain a third lot as open space. It could acquire an easement over an adjacent lot for pedestrians and bicyclists traveling to School Lane from the new residential lots. The feasibility of such an easement would depend on the cost of bridging intervening wetlands and would require a permit from the State Department of Environmental Protection.

In other action, the Borough formed a parking committee at the urging of Zoning Officer Ed Goetzmann,

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FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

New Jersey Law (N.J.S. A.

40A:60-5), states that “the mayor shall be the head of the municipal government” and “shall recommend to the Council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the borough.”

In the 60's, our citizens banded together and fought against a plan to site an airport in Roosevelt. In the 90's, we opposed a 'low-level' nuclear waste facility in the farmland in our northern-500 acres. In the late 90's we opposed the push for disproportionately large-scale residential development.

Over the last two years Roosevelt waged a legal battle against one of the largest housing development corporations in America. U.S. Home Corp. is one of the ten “Lennar Family of Builders” that has built more than 500,000 homes in fifteen states and in more than 250 communities since 1954. According to information on its company website, U.S. Home Corp. alone has built more than 300,000 of these homes. In their lawsuit against the Borough they asked for a court order to build 266 single family homes in our northern farmland.

U.S. Home Corp. has dropped its lawsuit against the Borough. On Friday March 14, 2003 we received the good news that we had been eagerly

anticipating, that U.S. Home Corp. decided to give up its lawsuit against the Borough. As of the writing of this column (March 18) a stipulation of dismissal was signed by the attorney for U.S. Home and the Borough's attorney in this matter. It is now in the hands of our Planning Board attorney, who is to sign the order and return it to the court.

*Our affordable housing plan...*The only matter left to be decided is the status of our application before COAH (the Council On Affordable Housing.) Since we have a status conference scheduled with the judge at the end of March, we plan to ask the court to rule on our application. In this matter the judge has the power to approve our affordable housing plan, insulating us from further affordable housing litigation while the certification is in effect.

Ten-acre zoning is in effect in our northern 500 acres. A maximum of 10 homes can be built in the land that was the object of the U.S. Home litigation. There are approximately 80 acres of buildable land in this tract, the rest is agricultural wetlands or farmland preserved by the Fund for Roosevelt. In the latter half of the 90's, the Allen administration crafted ordinances to allow more than 100 single-family homes or a 350-unit senior citizen community to be built on this land despite the extensive wetlands and other natural limitations. Little or no research or mapping was commissioned before the push to develop this land with high-density housing. After taking office in 2000, I commissioned G.I.S. (Geological Information Survey) maps of the farmland in this part of town. The

maps clearly show the sensitive environmental limitations of the land. Preservation efforts continue: The Fund For Roosevelt is currently working with a landowner who has expressed interest in preserving land in the northern 500 acres as farmland.

Application for a state grant... Recently, we applied for \$60,000 in State money to be used for tax relief for our homeowners due to the extraordinary nature of the U.S. Home litigation. The following are excerpts from Roosevelt's State grant application: they provide a concise rationale for the defense of the Borough in this matter.

Excerpts from Roosevelt's State Grant Application

“In Governor McGreevey's State of the State address on January 14, 2003, he highlighted our current fiscal plight when he said *wealthy developers use their deep pockets and expensive legal talent to take towns to court if those towns dare oppose their development efforts. They can effectively bully unwilling taxpayers into submission. For too long towns across this state with limited resources have been on their own.*

“In 2001, U.S. Home Corporation, one of the largest housing development corporations in America filed suit against the Borough of Roosevelt under the pretense of demanding compliance with the Fair Housing Act. Since that time, Roosevelt Borough has been facing off against one of the largest housing development corporations in America.

“Roosevelt Borough is one of the smallest municipalities in the State,

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From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

By the time you read this *Bulletin*, you will have received the Board of Education Budget Summary for the 2003-4 school year. The Roosevelt board members should be commended for once again constructing a fiscally sound budget that supports the educational goals of the district and maintains an optimal learning environment. The increase of two cents in the tax rate represents an increase of approximately \$52 in annual taxes for a house valued at \$100,000. The budget hearing was open to the public for discussion and reviewed on March 27. Should you have any further questions regarding the budget, please feel free to call me or Karen Minutolo, the board secretary. You are urged to vote for the school budget on April 15.

Kindergarten registration is scheduled for April 7 and 8. If you know of any child who will be turning 5 before October 1, please get the word out to parents.

This year the State tests for third and fourth graders are being constructed by Educational Testing Service in Princeton. The ASK 3 and ASK 4 (assessment of skills and knowledge)

replace the fourth grade ESPA test. Third and fourth graders will be testing in math and language arts this year, and the testing is planned for the week of May 20. At this time students of other grade levels will be taking the Terra Nova tests. Test scores help us in our curriculum planning. By analyzing test scores we are able to note any patterns in learning that may emerge, and correct our teaching accordingly.

Every year I complete a document known as the QAAR (Quality Assurance Annual Report) that is submitted to the Department of Education. As part of this plan, a committee is formed to recommend two school district objectives. Language Arts Literacy is in the second year of a two-year objective to raise student achievement. The second objective is to improve geographical concepts across the grade levels. As we prepare to develop our objectives for next year, I invite input from the community. Should you have an academic area that you think needs focus, please contact me at school.

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RCNS April Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

In March, our class went on an enjoyable trip to visit the Hamilton Dental Associates as part of our community helpers week. They learned that regular visits to the dentists are as important as brushing and flossing.

We are continuing to participate in Book-It to promote reading at home.

Spring has finally arrived and we are looking forward to the warmer weather. We will learn about April showers and the water cycle. The students will also find out about the importance of rain to our environment and us. To celebrate Earth Day, our class will learn how everyone can participate in keeping our neighborhood clean.

April is a wonderful time to learn that some animals are born and some are hatched from eggs. The children will learn about baby animals and about different animal habitats.

It's hard to believe that it's time to plan for our next school year. We had a wonderful open house on March 30th. If anyone is interested in learning about our school, please contact me at 609-426-9523. We welcome visitors!

On April 5th, our parents will host a very successful fundraiser – a Mardi Gras dinner dance. A great time will be had by all! We hope to see you there next year! ■

April School Dates

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| April 7 & 8 | Kindergarten registration |
| April 9 | PTA Book Swap |
| April 10 | Board of Education Meeting |
| April 11 | Pizza Day |
| April 12 | Talent Show |
| April 17-24 | School Closed for Spring Break |

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar by phone 448-5191, 18 Pine Drive, or e-mail at ronkostar@cs.com.

The following Rooseveltians made the Hightstown High School Honor Roll for the second marking period:

High Honors:

Lian Garton, 11th grade
Jesse Parsons, 11th

Regular Honors:

Avery Axel, 11th
Leah Howse, 12th
Anthony Grasso, 10th
Wesley John-Adler, 12th
Nathaniel Kostar, 12th
Danielle Petrics, 10th
Jeff Possiel, 12th
Lindsay Possiel, 11th
Kelsey Reimbold, 9th
Christina Septak, 12th
Tina Vasseur, 11th
Chris Won, 12th
Shiri Yeger, 12th

Tenth grader Ina Clark earned High Honors for the Winter Term at the Peddie School.

And from the colleges, Kari Barkley was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. Kari, a freshman majoring in mathematics, is the daughter of Dan and Dahni Barkley, formerly of Lake Drive.

In addition, Shoshanna Grunwald, daughter of Eitan and Karyn Grunwald was named to the Dean's List at Rutgers University.

In the sports world, HHS junior Brandon Tyers took second place in the Districts and fourth in the Regionals of the recent high school state wrestling tournament. Brandon, who wrestles at 119 pounds, had a season record of 24-7.

And last but hardly least, on March 7th Bernarda Shahn celebrated her 100th birthday with a retrospective exhibit in New York City. ■

By Clare Sacharoff

At the March 4th meeting, Pat Moser, representing the Council took a poll to determine how many seniors who no longer drive might need emergency transportation to doctors, etc. The Council is trying to work out some arrangement to solve this constant problem.

Trooper Danielle Porachi came to speak to our group about specific needs and problems. Some members complained about speeding vehicles at the end of Pine Drive as well as motorcycle clubs zooming down Route 571. In addition, we concluded it was vital for all of our members to check on each other on a regular basis. The trouper said this was a close-knit community and we seem to keep close contact with each other.

Our regular, monthly trip was to the Freehold Mall since our last planned trip there had to be cancelled due to hazardous weather conditions. The members lunched at the Chinese Buffet in Freehold following the trip.

On April 6th, the senior citizens will enjoy a production of *Damn Yankees* at the Kelsey Theater. We will enjoy brunch before the show. Most of our tickets are downstairs, which makes it more convenient for several members. Diana Klein provided delicious, healthy refreshment. Ann Gornham will be the host for April. ■

SCHOOL NEWS

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I am proud to announce that four of our students have been chosen as finalists for their entries to the Monmouth Planning Board Earth Day competition. Students in kindergarten and third grade, Hailey Joyce and Gabe Fennerty, are finalists in the poster contest. Two students in fifth grade, Jacob Marko and Casey Ward, are finalists for the essays and

mobiles they submitted. These students' work will be on display in the main branch of the Monmouth County library, and the winners will be judged on April 11 at the Earth Day Fair housed at the library.

On April 9 the PTA is sponsoring a book swap. For the next two weeks students will be bringing books in good condition that they are willing to

swap. If you have children's books that you would care to donate for this event, feel free to bring them in before April 4.

We are thinking spring, and looking forward to the many events being planned for nice weather. Saturday, June 21 has been designated for graduation day. Please mark your calendars now. ■

Truth And Lies: An Evening of Poetry at the Borough Hall – Review

By Robert Smith

At its heart, poetry is the expression of our human experience. It exposes and lays bare all the truths and lies we tell each other, and ourselves, everyday. On Saturday, March 18th, a packed crowd at the Borough Hall participated in an evening of Truth and Lies with the Roosevelt poets. The poets shared their own works and gave new life to the words of an old friend, Emily Dickinson, by including a randomly chosen piece of hers in their readings. Weaving in and around the poets' verse were the sonic offerings generated by Brad Garton's computer.

Rod Tulloss began with several Dickinson poems and moved to a series of works from poets who are major influences for him. The most interesting of these pieces were by Bruce Hawkins whom Rod knew from his days in Berkeley. Next up was Scott Carpenter whose eclectic poems included a humorous tale of naming a spider that had spun a web on his pickup truck and a poem inspired from his day job as a dry stone mason.

Judith McNally gave us our first taste of audience participation for the night when she passed out a sheet to everyone with a drawing of a fence and a sign that read "Keep Out! Because if you cross this line, and we get to know each other, we might find out we have something in common, and then where would we be?" Upon reading this we were to write down the first thought that popped into our heads. Once everyone was finished, Judith went around the room and had us read our answer out loud. Wes Czyzewski anchored the first half of the evening with a fine group of poems that ranged from his usual

sharp wit to moments of strong insight. Wes' lines have a way of drawing you close then holding you in a freeze frame so you may savor their effect. Most notable among his works was a reflection on his mother's residence at a nursing home.

The evening's second half opened with Roberta Heck reading from her new book, *After the Storm is Over*, a collection of her devout, religious works. Her offerings spoke of a need for hope, a need all the more important given the uncertainty we face in these days. Robert Axel followed her with a second take to Dickinson's poem, "I heard a fly buzz – when I died..." Standing with his back to the crowd, Robert delivered a superb reading, providing a great counterpoint to Rod's earlier reading of the same poem. He continued with several of his own poems, including a piece he co-wrote with his son.

David Herrstrom wrapped things up for the Roosevelt poets. In particular, his poem *Apologizing for the Weather* gave form to the thoughts of air travelers leaving their fates in the hands of a disembodied voiceover while also serving exquisite imagery of the curiosities and wonders for which we have an equal lack of control. David enlisted the help of the other poets for his final poem, a longer piece designed for the hypertext medium of the Internet. Each of the poets took turns reading a series of poetic analogies, such as "Face is to Rembrandt as Sun is to van Gogh." Individually, each analogy formed a tight, pithy package. We look forward to seeing them published in their electronic form.

Throughout the evening, Brad Garton cooked up an interesting twist on the "truth" we heard as each poet read. Using his computer, Brad took their voices and liberally amplified

and distorted the samples to ultimately create new sounds that were played back to the audience between each reading. It was interesting trying to guess why the computer-generated sounds seemed so familiar, perhaps only the truly observant among us picked up on the origins of Brad's music.

For the second year in a row, the evening ended with an open reading. This year an inviting range of poets was heard and all that did read are encouraged to treat us with their works next year. David Brahinsky performed a musical piece he wrote to a poem by David Herrstrom, written in memory of Judith Trachtenberg. David's guitar and voice added another dimension to the moving words of the poem. Also of note, Megan, a young woman who is a student of Wes', read in public for the first time. Her poem of a child's struggle amid deeper family problems was a pleasant surprise; one hopes this poem will be the harbinger of more works to come.

Once again, it was another wonderful evening of March madness with the Roosevelt poets. Their poetry shows us that all of the world is contained in both our truths and lies and that fact alone can be cause for celebration, a call to arms as well as everything in between.

On The Last Day Of The Heat Wave

The soundtrack is mostly birdcalls
 Insect hum, jets tearing at air molecules
 Then the wind in the leaves – verbless
 Three ants are dragging a moth carcass
 Across pine needles
 One is strong enough to do the job itself
 So the others are just fouling things up
 They get tangled and have to keep

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To the Editor

Some people in my town are opposed to what I did about President Bush's plan to invade Iraq, or at least opposed to what the Roosevelt Borough Council did in response to my proposal. At the Agenda Meeting of the Council, I requested consideration of a resolution supporting peaceful means of dealing with Iraq's failure to comply fully with the United Nation's mandates to ensure that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction.

At the Regular Meeting on March 10, I described to the Council how my family and some others in Roosevelt felt deeply concerned about the prospects of attacking a nation without the United Nations' Security Council approval. The Council also listened to objections to the resolution from Michael Ticktin. It then was passed, thanks to two "yes" votes and two abstentions, versus one "no" vote. Just before adjournment, a reporter from *The Examiner* asked about some details of the vote. Then a Council member who had abstained said he would like to change his vote to a "no". The Mayor allowed the resolution to be reconsidered and both abstentions were changed to "no" votes. Later, the Mayor determined that according to Robert's Rules of Order, a matter may not be reconsidered at the same meeting it was approved. Meanwhile at the close of the meeting at which I thought the resolution was defeated, I shook hands warmly with the Council member who had changed his vote, saying that I understood some people were opposed to my position, even though I thought most citizens in Roosevelt favored it. Since the September 11, 2001 horrific attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., many people were deeply fearful of terrorism and they

felt attacking Iraq would reduce it. I am also deeply fearful but I believe such an attack will increase terrorism. History has shown that "an eye for an eye" methods do not solve problems. However, although many people and many mainstream Protestant, Roman Catholic, Judaic and other religious national groups agree with my position, there are still many people who want tons of bombs dropped on Iraq.

A few friends I have spoken with are not restrained about civilians in Iraq being killed or mutilated by bombing. They said there are a lot of bad people in that country. It seems similar to the way many immigrants to this country, or their descendants, felt that the indigenous peoples were terrible savages, although they were struggling to maintain their lands. "The best Indian is a dead Indian" was a popular feeling.

Now I hope President Bush will see a way to avoid bombing Iraq, strengthen U.N. inspection teams so that they can search for and destroy all weapons of mass destruction, and quickly bring home at least 90% of our servicemen and women.

We need to find ways to enable people in our country and all countries to develop perspectives that prevent demonizing any people. One step in that direction is to support a peaceful resolution of the challenges in Iraq, support having respect for the men, women and children of Iraq while we stand firmly opposed to the brutal despots who threaten the lives of citizens in their own nation as well as people in other nations. I am glad the Roosevelt Borough Council passed that kind of resolution to send to our President and Congress.

Herb Johnson

To The Editor:

One Man's Opinion!

On Thursday morning I came home after doing my 24-hour shift in the

firehouse. I saw *The Examiner* on the table and what caught my eye was on the front page, **Anti-War Resolution Prompts Debate**. I started to read the article and I should have known it was from Roosevelt.

I have no problem with people having their own opinions. That's what makes America GREAT. In part, the resolution that was in the article reads, "In the country of Iraq and surrounding region where the lives of hundreds of Americans and millions of Iraqi's civilians including women and children will be endangered by a devastatingly modern war." It goes on "Whereas, the people of Roosevelt (please do not include me in this) believe that we must exhaust every possible diplomatic and political alternative in order to prevent the first war of the twenty-first century." What do you think the U.N. has been doing for the past 10 years?

Well, just to let some of the good people of Roosevelt know, we have been at war since September 11, 2001 when the World Trade Center was attacked. I don't know where the authors of this resolution were on that day, but at 10:30 a.m. myself and eight other firefighters from Fort Monmouth were deployed to Highlands, NJ because of the terrorists' attack on the Trade Center. By that night we decontaminated and TRIAGED over 5,000 victims. If you could have only seen their faces. The Council seems to be worried about the Iraqi people. What about the people of Middletown, Marlboro and Manalapan, to name just a few towns, that lost husbands and wives, and the children that lost their loved ones that day, for just going to work? What about the over 350 firefighters that died trying to save others, once again just doing their job?

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BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

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Mayor Hamilton announced that the Borough would be hosting a 100th birthday party for Bernarda Shahn on April 6. Mrs. Shahn is the widow of the internationally renowned artist Ben Shahn, who died in Roosevelt in 1969, and is a prominent artist in her own right. She came here with her husband in 1936 to work on the mural in the school. They were so attracted by the community that they stayed. The party, according to Mayor Hamilton, will be to celebrate Mrs. Shahn's "first hundred years."

On a more mundane note, Councilman Jeff Hunt announced that the Borough was going to bid for the installation of water meters, but that the process had to be delayed because not all of the existing water meters that are under various lawns have been located. Information concerning these missing meters is required for the bid documents. He also announced that a damaged fire hydrant on Pine Drive was replaced.

Councilwoman Beth Battel reported that the project to revive the First Aid Squad was progressing well, but that it needed to be followed up by a similar effort to add a few new members to the Fire Company, so that it too may become fully functional once again. Having equipment is of little value if there are not enough volunteers available to use it.

Mayor Hamilton announced that the foreclosure of the former gas station property was proceeding, but that it was delayed because, as a consequence of bank mergers, not all lien-holders had been properly served. He was not able to provide specific information as to when the foreclosure might be expected to be completed. Once the Borough has ownership of the property, it will be able to proceed with redevelopment

plans now being prepared by the Planning Board.

Councilwoman Pat Moser reported that there had been a power outage at the Solar Village and that some residents there had been quite distressed by that. Mrs. Moser pointed out that the Borough Hall is available as a shelter in emergency situations.

The Council introduced two ordinances, one allowing spending in excess of the 1% cap and another authorizing capital improvements for the reconstruction of Pine Drive. Resolutions introducing the municipal budget, canceling general improvement appropriation balances and transferring appropriation reserves were approved.

There was, however, another resolution introduced that gave rise both to spirited discussion and a bit of parliamentary maneuvering. This resolution, which was introduced by Councilwoman Moser at the request of Herb Johnson and other residents, declared the opposition of the people of Roosevelt to an American attack on Iraq. In response to a specific objection by Michael Ticktin to language stating that the United States should only use force in the event of an attack on American soil, the point being that this was the sort of thinking that had prevented earlier United States entry into the Second World War. Mr. Johnson stated that that language was not supposed to have been included in the text before the Council. The vote on the resolution was two in favor (Moser and Hoffman), one opposed (Battel) and two abstaining (Hunt and Shapiro). The resolution was therefore declared passed. However, right before adjournment, Councilman Hunt made a motion to reconsider the resolution. No objection was made to

that motion and it passed unanimously. The Council then proceeded to reconsider the resolution. The two members who had abstained then voted "no," and the vote was therefore two in favor and three opposed. Mayor Hamilton declared the resolution defeated, without objection from any Council member.

Subsequent to the meeting, however, Mayor Hamilton was contacted by Councilwoman Moser's husband, Planning Board member Ed Moser, who advised him that Robert's Rules of Order, which has been adopted by the Council as its parliamentary guide, only allows a motion for reconsideration to be made by one who votes on the prevailing side. Since Councilman Hunt had not voted on the prevailing side in the initial vote, this rule would have rendered his motion to consider out-of-order. The Mayor thereupon notified Council members and representatives of the press that only the initial vote counted and the resolution therefore should be deemed to have passed. However, since this notification was not in the form of a ruling made at the meeting, and since there are other provisions in Robert's rules that might have been invoked had such a ruling been made, it is fair to say that it is unclear whether the resolution passed or not, thus leaving the Borough between Iraq and a hard place. ■



Aussie Battlers

My grandmother, Minnie Pearl Wilson, nee Thomas, was one of ten children born in Australia to Scottish immigrant parents. She met my grandfather, Alex Wilson, also the son of Scottish immigrants, in the mining town of Newcastle, which is north of Sydney on the East coast of Australia. My cousins and I had always encouraged our grandparents to write down some of their stories. We thought they never got around to it but, after her death, we found this fragment in my grandmother's effects. For me, this is a fascinating glimpse into the world of this proud, hardworking couple during that difficult time.

I had my first baby in the crash of the depression. We lived in a small country town, dependent on one industry (it had been a "boom" town when the industry was first established). When the bottom fell out of the world markets and millionaires were throwing themselves out of the windows of skyscrapers, our industry closed and within a week all the people, who hadn't already cleared out owing money all over the place, were on the "dole".

Some had built their homes and had all their life's savings in the place – they stayed, and those who had money in the bank couldn't get it out because there was such a rush, the banks closed for a time. (These were unlucky people because unlike everybody else, they had to pay their debts later when their money became available in the bank.)

We had a small business in clothing and many of our creditors skipped town. Others, who wanted to pay, couldn't. So, we were soon in the

same position as everyone else.

I remember my husband going along to the grocer's one day to collect some food with our first "dole"



Alex Wilson and his new wife, Minnie Pearl

docket. The grocer came up with a smile expecting a cash customer and passing all the others with their dockets said, "Yes, Mr. Wilson, what can I do for you?" It was a shock to him and an embarrassment to my husband to say, "Just another of these pink papers, Bill."

Our local doctor, a kindly man with a family of his own, not only gave his services free but loaned money and bought medicine for his patients. He later lost his car because of his generosity. In better times the towns-

people bought him a new one.

During this early period of the depression, my first baby was born. The first words I heard as I came out of the anaesthetic were, "He's a skinnamarink, isn't he, Nurse?" Like many young mothers of that period, I hadn't had all the right things to eat to nourish myself and the baby.

Our dole was the equivalent of 10 pounds, 4 shillings as far as I can remember. It consisted of 1 loaf of bread a day (a lot for two people), 1 tin of jam (plum) a week and two pounds of porridge, which was mostly husks. I think the ration was 3 pounds, 4 shillings worth of meat. On the back of the dole docket was a list of items we were allowed to collect including the types of meat cuts. The reason for this was no doubt to prove that the people could have a balanced diet if they kept to the rations and the ration was supposed to be compulsory. However, our grocers and butchers allowed a certain amount of flexibility.

We were at first terribly ashamed of our poverty and anxious to hide it. We used to go for a walk at night so that if any of our friends called, we wouldn't be there because we couldn't offer any hospitality and we were ashamed to let anyone know.

While I was pregnant, the old lady next door (who was also on the dole) told me there was a special allowance for expectant mothers but I wouldn't apply for it. I do not know what the allowance was, but it would have only

Continued on Page 11

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 10

been a few shillings.

Where we lived in this small country town, the soil was particularly barren and it was almost impossible to grow any vegetables. The only greens we had were packet peas, which had to be soaked overnight in water and carb soda. We did have one small patch of turnips, which we proudly watched over and used carefully. The tops were green vegetable and the root parts a second vegetable or good for soups and stew.

When my baby was three months old, we were asked to leave our house because we couldn't pay the rent.

I remember telling a girl friend who became terribly upset and ran all the way home to tell her mother who was a kind Irish woman. They insisted on taking us in although the mother was a widow with four other children, living on the earnings of the oldest girl and the compensation paid at the death of her husband who was killed in a terrible accident at the works.

How they tried to make us welcome! The house was filled with red roses they had brought in from the little garden at the back. How it grieved us to have to take the hospitality of these friends who were so hard up themselves!

At this time, the papers were all talk about the gold standard (which is one of the inner mysteries as far as I am concerned) and it was said that if only we could make another gold discovery, we would have prosperity again.

Many people were leaving the cities and the towns and going "outback" to seek for gold. The old "diggings" were invaded again. We went too with hopes of restoring our fortunes.

All around Sofala, Windeyer, Hill End and many other places evidence of the "gold fever" sprang up. You could meet people from all walks of life there: doctors, lawyers, dentist, business men, all down on their luck

and trying their hand at digging for gold. I think the only people who did much good were the old "fossiders" and the locals who made a few old shillings washing for alluvial gold in the creek.

The "gold rush" was encouraged by the government, which paid so much per foot for sinking a shaft. I don't know how much the alluvial gold prospectors were paid, probably rations.

We were interested in an old shaft, which was supposed to have been abandoned because the water beat the previous prospectors. We had a machine to pump the water out and were paid a pound a foot.

We lived in a hut made of sacks with a tin roof over one room and bark over the other. A leaky roof has always since seemed the outward expression of poverty, more than any other thing. Our belongings were of the simplest: a bed, a few boxes (used as cupboards, tables and chairs), 2 kerosene tins, 1 tub (for bathing and washing), 1 dish (enamel) and a camp oven. A couple of suitcases of cloths, and reading matter (comprising the Bible and a book of Robert Burns' poems) completed the inventory.

Our staple diet was rabbit and pumpkin, and I learned to cook those two items in more ways than you could believe possible. The locals called the rabbit "underground mutton", and it was plentiful! Occasionally a nearby farmer would call and leave a huge bag of turnips and pumpkin and cabbage and in this way, we eked out our meager rations, bought at the local village 13 miles away once a fortnight. The farmers would also give us some of their meat when they killed. It would be a feast day when a large piece of veal came our way!

And then there was a time a party of policemen and friends on holiday came up for a kangaroo hunt. We had

kangaroo steak and kangaroo soup. Another time a shooting party gave us a wild duck. But, these were exceptional events and mostly the rations were plain.

Although we did actually strike a vein of gold in our shaft, we became embroiled in a dispute over ownership. A suspension of operations was declared for six months by the courts, and after attempting to wait it out for a while, we left. We never found out whether they eventually got anything out of that mine.

We then returned to my friend's home for a few days and then on to Newcastle, leaving behind in the town all of our worldly goods in the shape of three roomful of furniture half paid off on the installment plan. We later wrote to the Company to whom we owed the money offering to finish off the installments if they would forward the goods to us and add cost of freight. They refused and reclaimed the goods! It was only our innocence and honesty which lost us our "home" because we afterwards learned that the manager of the firm had embezzled the funds and the books were in such a mess, they didn't know who owed money and who didn't. So, if we'd had the money for the freight, we could have moved the things and no one would have been any the wiser. Still, we were brought up honest!

In Newcastle the columns of the papers were filled with ads for jobs wanted, very few for jobs offering. Men went to work daily to the Steel Works in hope of getting a job, and if a man was needed, they were all sized up to choose the best one. They were asked to show their hands, and if they didn't bear the imprint of hard work on the hands, there was no hope.

A man with a job was a kind of aristocrat among the workers, while

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FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

Continued from Page 4

with only 1.96 square miles in land area and only 337 households (2000 Census). In 2002, the Borough spent almost \$100,000 to defend itself against the U.S. Home Corporation *Builder's Remedy* lawsuit. U.S. Home Corporation vs. Roosevelt is a clear case of a major corporation with 'deep pockets and expensive legal talent attempting to bully unwilling taxpayers into submission.

"Roosevelt has been working since its formation in 1936 to achieve smart growth goals. The undeveloped agricultural portions of Roosevelt Borough are designated as *Red Light* areas on the New Jersey Smart Growth Conceptual *Big Map* dated January 16, 2003. These areas were previously designated as Planning Area 4b *Rural/Environmentally Sensitive* and Planning Area 5 *Environmentally Sensitive* in the New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plans of 1992 and 2001. The Borough is centrally located within a regional area of prime agricultural lands with historic and currently successful farming, nursery and equestrian operations. The Roosevelt Borough Master Plan and Borough land development policies are consistent with the SDRP and with the New Jersey Smart Growth Council objectives of 2002 and the *Big Map* of 2003.

"The SDGP placed the entire Borough in an *Agricultural Planning Area*. The current SDRP designation of Roosevelt Borough as a 4b *Rural/Environmentally Sensitive* Planning Area and the designation of the Borough as a *Red Light* area provide ample evidence that Roosevelt's Master Plan and Housing Plan Element is consistent with the long-term planning goals and recommended land uses for the northern agricultural area of the Borough. It is this area in which U.S. Home

Corporation has filed a *Builder's Remedy* lawsuit to construct 266 housing units.

"The Roosevelt Borough 2001 Master Plan is consistent with major smart growth objectives in as much as: It seeks to prevent over-development of environmentally sensitive areas of the Borough designated as Planning Areas 4(b) and 5 in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, and it seeks to preserve the developed portion of the Borough precisely as the sort of *community of place* that the State Plan seeks to encourage and promote. This is of particular significance in light of Roosevelt's designation, in its entirety, as a historic district on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places and its unique position as the only *Subsistence Homestead* community intact, as planned, by the Federal government in the 1930's.

"A court-ordered *Builder's Remedy* within the agricultural area of Roosevelt Historic District would be inconsistent with the planning efforts of the Federal government in 1936 when it created *Jersey Homesteads* and the current recognition of the historical significance of the Borough in accordance with designation of the Borough in its entirety on both State and National Historic Registers. Roosevelt has a unique national status as the last remaining *homestead community* that exists as designed by the Resettlement Administration.

"The Borough of Roosevelt is comprised of three broad categories of land use. Forty-three percent of the Borough is zoned and used for agricultural use. Thirty-five percent of the Borough is State-owned properties that comprise the headwaters of the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. The remaining twenty-two percent is developed for residential,

non-residential and community service uses in accordance with the *Jersey Homesteads Master Plan of 1936*. Of the 508 acres classified as agricultural land in the northern portion of the Borough, 231 are permanently preserved for farmland in 2001 under the New Jersey and Monmouth County Farmland Preservation Programs in conjunction with contributions from the Fund for Roosevelt (a non-profit organization), thirty percent of the Borough's residents, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, and grants from the New Jersey Agricultural Development Board and the New Jersey Office of Green Acres. In addition 109 acres are preserved through Green Acres funding for extension of the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area.

"Preservation of the existing agricultural land in the northern portion of the Borough was integral to the designation of Roosevelt in its entirety for Historic Register designation by the State of New Jersey and the Federal government. The Borough Master Plan in 2001 recognized this condition and the Borough Council amended its zoning map and regulations to implement agricultural uses for the area. These actions were undertaken for consistency with County and State Planning objectives including those of the State Planning Commission, which designated the entire municipality as Planning Area 4.b.

"Granting the Borough's one-time request for extraordinary aid would be of benefit to the residents of Roosevelt in its defense of its housing plan, its Master Plan and its defense of the SDRP and Smart Growth principles. It would also establish recognition, on a statewide basis, that multi-million dollar, multi-state development corporations cannot bully small com-

Continued on Page 14

TOWN TOPICS

Continued from Page 7

Turning around trying new holds
Then it comes to me like a revelation
That there must be Laurel & Hardy ants!
Why not?
Why assume that the rest of creation
Is doing a perfect job and that
We're the only ones who mess up?
Maybe the whole program's bugged
Whoa!

When I look back again I see that one ant
Moving efficiently with its heavy load
While five feet away the other two
Are still stuck behind a pine cone
Probably arguing
W.Z. Czyzewski

Chestnut Hill

My senile mother asks me if I have
a girlfriend
No I tell her I have a wife
What else does she know that I don't?
She rolls her wheelchair down every hall
in her facility
Past the painted whore who guards
the lobby
Past nurses' aides snacking on donuts
Past men in tee shirts and neckties
Through clouds of sprayed disinfectant
and piss-soaked sheets
Past Spanish-speaking cleaning ladies in
pastel frocks
Past rooms full of casualties from some
secret war
The one no president acknowledges
Past gray shapes on freshly made beds
And a common room filled with dazed
survivors
W.Z. Czyzewski

Sonnet Number Seven at the Symphony

Romanian Folk Dances by Bartok begin,
A sweet one is played on one violin.
They said he collected 6,000 folk songs
And noted to which national group
each belongs.

Now Chopin's Piano Concerto joins the
exhibitions,
The piano is being played by Alicia Martinez.
She won this year's Young Artists Auditions.
She is seventeen and looks like my
daughter Lez.

September and October were filled with
busy weeks,
Clouded but with hope and some joyful
peaks.
For one week I daily had the flag unfurled,
But every week I still build a better world.

I stay in groups that work for peace.
Hate and violence must be made to cease.
By Herb Johnson

News From the Roosevelt First Aid Squad

By Carol Watcher

The month of February was a busy one for your First Aid Squad. We made it through the fiercest snows and the mid-month melt with chilly flooding to provide emergency medical services to a total of six emergency calls.

At the February meeting, the squad consulted with Seth Kurs, former president and chief of the East Windsor Township District 1 First Aid Squad, to examine procedures and preparation for emergencies to which we respond. As a result of this meeting, the Roosevelt squad members will be able to participate in drills hosted by East Windsor.

Jack Rindt, the squad training officer, provided the re-certification course for CPR skills at the Borough Hall on February 23. In addition to several squad members a number of community members also took advantage of this opportunity to practice this critical rescue skill and earn certification.

Although March has seen quieter days, the squad attended to various repairs and restocking of necessary equipment and materials, such as the recent maintenance of the ambulance stretcher and stair chair. Plans are underway to purchase a new automated external defibrillator (AED) which incorporates the most recent technological improvements.

During the March meeting, the squad held elections for operations officers and administrative officers resulting in the following: Neil Marko, Captain; Elise Cousineau, Lieutenant; Jack Rindt, Training Officer; Carol Watchler, President; Reenah Petrics, Secretary; Beth Battel, Treasurer. All were elected by popular acclaim of the membership. John Rindt, III, declined any position because of plans to leave for school in the fall, but will continue in his unofficial position as assistant training officer.

Roosevelt First Aid Squad offers thanks to Herb Johnson who served as a member and held the office of president for several years.

Vial of Life materials, which residents can use to make medical information readily accessible in an emergency, continue to be available from Carol Watchler, 609-448-5215. ■

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

Continued from Page 11

the unemployed told each other tales of the selfishness or spinelessness of those who had a job. The unemployed used to walk along the railway lines picking up lumps of coal dropped accidentally (or on purpose by sympathetic workers) from the trains. A look-out would be posted to warn of the approach of police, and men with bags of coal on their backs would run for it or hide until the chase was over. The unlucky ones would be caught and sent to jail for a few days.

At that time, there were thousands out of work in Newcastle and Sydney. My first child was six years old before his father had a regular job to go to. Before that, there had been the dole or relief work (two weeks in six, I think we got). This was always road work. There were some good roads built in the depression!

According to my Uncle Don (the skinamarink referred to in Granny's story – now perfectly robust and well-fed!) he was actually nine years old, not six as Granny had written, before Grandpa found full-time employment. Among the many things I remember about my Grandpa was his life-long habit of throwing his newspaper out the train window for the rail workers – a small repayment for those lumps of coal. ■

About Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project – find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Marilyn Magnes 448-6402
Pearl Seligman 448-2340

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

Continued from Page 12

munities with impunity. The addition of a relatively small amount of extraordinary aid to our budget would help the residents of Roosevelt continue their stewardship of one of the historically unique communities in our State and in the country.”

Tax rate to go down... While I am delighted that the lawsuit has been withdrawn, I am even more pleased that this means that we will be able to reduce the municipal budget and with it the municipal tax rate.

I believe we were correct to take a hard-line approach during our negotiations with U.S. Home Corp. This approach eventually led to the lawsuit being dismissed without any settlement costs to our taxpayers. If we are successful in recouping a portion of the litigation expenses from the state through our state aid application, the tax rate could be reduced even more.

As always, I depend upon your advice and support.

Sincerely,
Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor
Borough Hall: 609-448-0539
E-mail: mham82@comcast.net ■

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

Continued from Page 3

who said he had requested a review of parking ordinances as long ago as November 2001. Members of the committee are Chairman Seligman, Jane Rothfuss, David Ticktin and Ed Moser. Meanwhile, Mr. Goetzmann said he would continue the process of enforcing existing ordinances to prevent parking on lawns without appropriately prepared surfaces. Mr. Goetzmann noted 34 violations, 13 of them on Pine Drive alone. Eventually, violators may be summoned to municipal court.

Mr. Seligman said that he would draft a letter for Mayor Hamilton's signature that would ask residents to comply with parking requirements and, in general, to act with more appreciation for their historically significant community. The letter would be published in *The Bulletin*. Mr. Seligman decried the town's appearance, saying some areas look "like Appalachia."

Mr. Moser, the Environmental Commission's representative on the Planning Board, said the Commission had considered various ways to protect the Cemetery from damage caused by all-terrain vehicles. The Commission decided to block access ways from Millstone Township with locust posts, available free of charge. Mr. Seligman said free seedlings are available from the State and could be used to augment the posts.

Board member Jessica Hecht complained that some residents had failed to complete home construction projects, leaving the premises in various states of disrepair. The Board discussed whether a property maintenance ordinance is needed. Michael Ticktin said State law deals with situations where construction projects are not completed. He noted that the Construction Code Official could cite violators. ■

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 8

I would like to know how many of the Council members have served on active duty in the military and have sons of age that may have to go one day? Right now I have convinced my son to go to college, not to enlist. The college, which he will be attending, is Norwich University, an ROTC school. Then in four years when he graduates, he will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. I am very proud of that. No one in their right mind wants to go to war, but I would rather see us fight over there than on the street of America again. I see other veterans that live in town who had served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Lebanon and Desert storm. I wonder what they think? Down on the corner of North Rochdale and Farm there is a monument of names of soldiers from Roosevelt that fought in World War II. The names with the stars next to them, they did not come home. But they gave their lives to keep America free. The Borough Council should be supporting the American Troops not the Iraqis'.

There are more important issues that the Borough Council should be pursuing than making resolutions that are meaningless, just to feel good.

Being a veteran of the Vietnam era, I would like to see the Borough Council make a resolution in support of the American Troops that are stationed in the Middle East Theater.

Jack Rindt ■

By Robin Middleman & Ron Filepp

Goat Fable

“Goats?”

“No goats.” Or “Goats!”

That is a daily dialogue we have on our way to work each morning as we pass the grey house and penned yard and shed where two black, grey and white goats reside. As we turn onto 571 Windsor Road, we try to catch a glimpse of the goats through the evergreens that line the roadside.

Through the fall, we would see them out in the yard – standing on an old picnic table or next to the fence chewing on something.

We didn't see much of the goats through all of January and February. Too cold for goats at 7:30 a.m. when the temperature was well below freezing and often in the single digits. (Smart goats and silly humans!). Right after the February blizzard it was hard to even see that shed door.

Each day it was “No goats.” Until finally in late February when the temperature went above freezing for the first time in many weeks – there they were standing next to the shed wall facing and soaking up the bright rays of late winter sun.

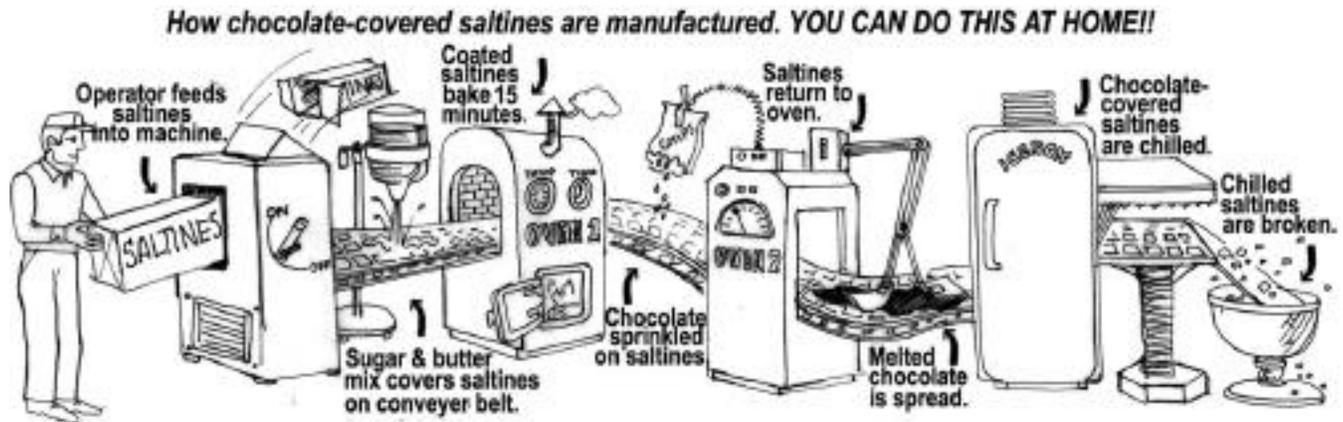
The first true promise of spring for us this year was the budding bunch of snowdrops revealed after the melt-back of the snowdrift in front of our living room window. The return of the goats was a new and welcome harbinger of the longer, warmer days to come after this winter of our discontent.

“Goats!” ■

Feb. 15 - March 15, 2003

| Day | High | Low | Avg | Precip |
|---------------------|------|------|------|--------|
| 15 | 31.1 | 19.0 | 25.1 | 0.00 |
| 16 | 19.6 | 11.3 | 15.5 | 0.10 |
| 17 | 30.2 | 16.3 | 23.3 | 1.70 |
| 18 | 37.6 | 21.2 | 29.4 | 0.00 |
| 19 | 42.6 | 16.0 | 29.3 | 0.00 |
| 20 | 45.7 | 27.0 | 36.4 | 0.00 |
| 21 | 49.1 | 18.7 | 33.9 | 0.00 |
| 22 | 39.6 | 35.2 | 37.4 | 0.00 |
| 23 | 45.3 | 33.6 | 39.5 | 2.85 |
| 24 | 43.3 | 23.4 | 33.4 | 0.25 |
| 25 | 36.1 | 21.6 | 28.9 | 0.00 |
| 26 | 30.2 | 16.0 | 23.1 | 0.00 |
| 27 | 36.0 | 21.4 | 28.7 | 0.00 |
| 28 | 40.6 | 28.8 | 34.7 | 0.10 |
| 1 | 44.4 | 32.4 | 38.4 | 0.00 |
| 2 | 45.7 | 35.4 | 40.6 | 0.90 |
| 3 | 42.1 | 15.1 | 28.6 | 0.00 |
| 4 | 41.7 | 11.5 | 26.6 | 0.00 |
| 5 | 51.3 | 32.9 | 42.1 | 0.30 |
| 6 | 40.5 | 24.1 | 32.3 | 0.40 |
| 7 | 36.3 | 14.4 | 25.4 | 0.40 |
| 8 | 47.7 | 25.0 | 36.4 | 0.00 |
| 9 | 52.9 | 31.6 | 42.3 | 0.00 |
| 10 | 33.1 | 19.6 | 26.4 | 0.00 |
| 11 | 42.1 | 16.2 | 29.2 | 0.00 |
| 12 | 54.7 | 30.7 | 42.7 | 0.00 |
| 13 | 51.6 | 34.5 | 43.1 | 0.00 |
| 14 | 39.7 | 25.3 | 32.5 | 0.15 |
| 15 | 55.6 | 27.7 | 41.7 | 0.00 |
| Total Precipitation | | | 7.15 | |

Two Great Recipes



Chocolate Crackers

1 sleeve saltine crackers, 1 stick unsalted margarine, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, 12 oz. bag semi-sweet chocolate chips

- Preheat oven 350 degrees.
- Place aluminum foil over cookie sheet.
- Spread saltine crackers over aluminum foil.
- Melt 1 stick unsalted margarine with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar in microwave.
- Mix well and pour over crackers, covering as much as possible.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 15 min.
- Sprinkle 12 oz. package of semi-sweet chocolate chips over crackers.
- Place back into turned off oven for 2 min.
- Take out and spread chocolate chips over crackers.
- Refrigerate, and break up into pieces the next day.
- Eat the crumbs that are too small to serve.

Our family has enjoyed many wonderful dinners and parties at Bill and Jane Jelinek's home. All the Jelineks are wonderful hosts and cooks. This is a recipe that I had to have.

Spinach Salad

- 2 bags spinach
- 4 hard boiled eggs, (chopped)
- 1 can water chestnuts, drained
- $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. crumbled bacon (or Baco Bits)
- 1 can bean sprouts, drained

Dressing:

- 1 cup salad oil
- 1 Tbs. chopped onion
- 1 Tbs. Worcestershire sauce
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup ketchup

Mix dressing ingredients the day before to let flavors blend. Pour over salad just before serving.

June Counterman, who teaches Tai Chi here in Roosevelt on Wednesday afternoons and Friday nights at the Borough Hall, gives a dinner each year for the students and their spouses. It is to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Everyone is invited to bring some food, if the wish. This year, Judy Nahmias' two contributions were so much appreciated, that she was asked to share them with all of us.

My experience as a Physical Therapist has given me the opportunity to meet some wonderful and interesting people. Many of these people try to feed me. Most of the time I say no thank you, but occasionally I am tempted to taste something, especially if it is sweet. Here is the recipe for this delectable and most important, easy dessert. Plan ahead. Prepare dessert the day before you plan to serve it!!!

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

2002-2003 SEASON

Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3, 2003

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

The popular String Band returns with songs from many cultures.



▶▶▶ **PLEASE
NOTE
CHANGE
IN DATES!!!** ◀◀◀

Sunday, May 18, 2003

12:00 noon at the Borough Hall

OPEN BOARD MEETING

The RAP Board of Directors invite community residents to join us in planning next year's program events. We are always looking for possible project initiatives and suggestions for new directions from all interested community members. Your participation will be welcomed.

Voluntary Contribution:

For most events \$5 per adult. For the String Band \$10 per adult, \$5 for seniors and children.

Visit our RAP website: www.music.columbia.edu/roosevelt



MURAL POSTCARDS AVAILABLE THROUGH ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

The Roosevelt Arts Project proudly offers for sale our beautiful three-panel reproduction of the Ben Shahn mural from our school. The postcards are available for \$2.00 each and a small number of flat, unfolded copies, suitable for framing, are available for \$10.00 each. All proceeds go to the Roosevelt Arts Project to cover the cost of these cards, enable us to produce future postcards in our Roosevelt Arts series and to support RAP exhibits and events. Cards are available at the Borough Hall or by calling Robin Middleman at 426-4583. The Roosevelt Arts Project is a tax-exempt cultural organization funded exclusively by admissions and donations. RAP appreciates your support. ■

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2002 - 2003

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April

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | Tues. | 12:30 p.m. | Senior Blood Pressure Check, Borough Hall |
| | | 1:00 p.m. | Senior Meeting, Borough Hall, Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351 |
| 5 | Sat. | 7 p.m. | Roosevelt Community Nursery School Dinner Dance, Mary Watlington, 609-448-8110 |
| 6 | Sun. | | Daylight Saving Time Begins |
| 7 | Mon. | 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Kindergarten Registration, Roosevelt Public School |
| | | 7:30 p.m. | Council Agenda Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227 |
| 8 | Tues. | 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Kindergarten Registration, Roosevelt Public School |
| | | 2:00 p.m. | Project Revive, Borough Hall |
| | | 8 p.m. | Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Chair Ralph Seligman, 609-448-2340 |
| 9 | Wed. | | ♻️ RECYCLE PTA Book Swap, RPS |
| 10 | Thurs. | 7:30 p.m. | Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 609-448-4440 |
| 11 | Fri. | | Pizza Day, RPS |
| 14 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | PTA Meeting, President Larisa Bondy, 609-443-7430 |
| | | 7:30 p.m. | Council Action Meeting, Mayor Mike Hamilton, 609-443-5227 |
| 16 | Wed. | 7:30 p.m. | Passover Begins at Sundown |
| 17 | Thurs. | | RPS Closed, Spring Break (April 17-24) |

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|-----------|--------|-----------|---|
| 17 | Thurs. | 7:30 p.m. | Synagogue Board Meeting, Neil Marko, 609-443-6818 |
| | | 8 p.m. | Environmental Commission Meeting, Borough Hall, Kirk Rothfuss, 609-448-3713 |
| 18 | Fri. | | Good Friday |
| 20 | Sun. | | Easter |
| 21 | Mon. | 7:30 P.M. | Council Committee Meetings, Boro Hall, President Neil Marko, 609-443-6818 |
| 23 | Wed. | | ♻️ RECYCLE |
| 28 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Committee Meetings, Boro Hall, President Neil Marko, 609-443-6818 |

May Preview

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|----------|-------|------------|---|
| 2 | Fri. | | Pizza Day, RPS |
| | | 8 p.m. | RAP, Roosevelt String Band, Borough Hall, Robin Gould, 609-448-4616 |
| 4 | Sat. | 8 p.m. | RAP, Roosevelt String Band, Borough Hall, Robin Gould, 609-448-4616 |
| 6 | Mon. | 7:30 p.m. | Council Agenda Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227 |
| 7 | Tues. | 12:30 p.m. | Senior Blood Pressure Check, Borough Hall |
| | | 1 p.m. | Seniors' Meeting, Borough Hall, Gerry Millar, 609-448-0351 |

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