

Bulletin

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

State Police Station Commander and Detective Sergeant Discuss Safety Concerns; Post Office Supervisor Seeks to Resolve Limited Hours Problem

By Michael Ticktin

At its October 15 meeting, the Borough Council listened to Lt. Annemarie Grant, the new station commander of the Hightstown State Police barracks, and Detective Sgt. James South, the officer in charge of criminal investigations, as they discussed public safety issues affecting the residents of Roosevelt. In response to concerns about a recent increase in the incidence of thefts, the officers emphasized the importance of keeping homes and cars locked at all times. Roosevelt has become a thoroughfare for thieves going to Millstone to burglarize houses and, while passing through, they take advantage of any opportunities that may present themselves. Valuables should never be kept in plain view. In addition to burglaries, there have been two car thefts in Roosevelt recently. Detective Sgt. South made it clear that the State Police need the cooperation of the citizens in order to control crime and solve cases. He asked that any persons wishing to provide any information about a crime, whether anonymously or not, call him at 448-3850.

Lt. Grant expressed her support for the concept of community policing. However, the State Police are not able to do all that they would like to do at present because of the need to assign troopers to security duties at Port Authority

facilities in Northern New Jersey. The Hightstown barracks is scheduled to receive new troopers over the next few months, so it will be possible for normal operations to resume. In any event, the State Police are continuing their efforts to catch speeders, and tickets will be given to local residents who speed, just as they are given to any other violator. Mayor Hamilton expressed the appreciation of the community for the fine work done by the State Police, both here and in dealing with the threat now facing our state and country.

Included in the correspondence received by the Council was a letter from Philip Hall, the area manager of post office operations. Mr. Hall said that he is awaiting information on the cost of the security system that was recommended by the Borough and that he appreciates the concerns of our residents and would like to find a solution that allows greater access to boxes while still ensuring security of the mails.

In his report, Mayor Hamilton announced that the financial and demographic components of the report on school regionalization being prepared for the Panhandle mayors' group had been completed and that the findings would be

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU!

We are most gratified by the response we have received from our usual fund raising drive in October. We are reassured by your generosity that you are approving of our efforts to bring you a publication that is of interest and importance to our community. We will continue to our best.

However, from the list, it is clear that there are many residents who have not yet contributed. We hope we can expect those who have not done so, will be heard from soon.

In years gone by, we had been fortunate to receive a substantial grant from an organization of which former resident Paul Bauman had been chairman. While we still required contributions from our readers, the grant made it possible for us to be financially secure. But since his death a few years ago, we no longer receive this bonanza and despite many attempts to replace it, we have not been successful. As it is now, by the end of each publishing year, our coffers are completely empty. If anyone knows of some person or organization who could be approached to give us a grant, please let us know.

October Blood Drive

By Marilyn Magnes

The October 11th blood drive was very successful. Of the forty-three people who went through the screening process, thirty-six were able to give a unit of blood. The Central Jersey Blood Bank commends the people of Roosevelt for their overwhelming response. It should be noted that residents of the surrounding area also participate in our drives. We even had a walk-in that was driving from Princeton to Toms River and saw our sign.

This October Blood Drive is made possible by the efforts of our wonderful team of volunteers, Dolores Chasan, Lois Hunt and Nancy Warnick who man the registration tables and serve refreshments to donors. In addition to organizing the refreshments, Kelly Mitchell and son, Brandan, cleaned up and put the Borough Hall back in order. The delicious baked goods were provided by Deb Curry, Florence Johnson, Alice McBride, Kelly Mitchell, Diana Moore and Joann Parker.

Please Help!

Helen Kleinman (448-2538) is urgently in need of someone to cut her hair. She cannot get to a beauty shop and she is wondering if anyone knows of a hairdresser who would come to her house or maybe just an amateur from among us who would be able to help her. She would appreciate a call.

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Breaking Bread & Calendar art by
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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.”

I would like to thank Councilman Jeff Hunt for initiating a Roosevelt World Trade Center relief drive in the wake of the tragedy that continues to affect our lives. We were able to collect two truckloads of materials that Jeff delivered to the Clarksburg School in Millstone, where their volunteers filled a larger truck for repeated deliveries to New York City. I would also like to thank the many Roosevelt citizens who donated money or items for the relief effort, and those who pitched in just to help out. Roosevelt citizens always step up to volunteer when needed.

Meeting with our municipal employees over the past month, I organized meetings with our Public Works Director, Mike Farr, and our

Water and Sewer Plant Operator, Toby Moore. The purpose of these informal meetings was to have an open and frank discussion of the needs and challenges of our borough employees and determine how the Mayor and Council can best support them in their efforts.

Water and Sewer Services...Toby Moore, our Water and Sewer Plant Operator, worked for several years as an employee of the private company that a previous administration contracted with to run our water and sewer operations. When the private company's contract expired at the end of last year, Toby was hired as a Borough employee to run our utilities. The change from paying a company to run our utilities to having a professional operator in our employ is saving our utility rate-payers thousands of dollars annually. For example, currently we are saving as much as \$10,000 annually by pumping out sludge from our holding tanks. Councilman George Vasseur has been working closely with Toby to find more ways to improve our systems.

Toby Moore is innovative and believes in a systems approach to the management of our water and sewer systems. Under past administrations most of our data was paper based, now almost all important utility records are on Toby's computerized database. Toby is able to complete State reports, monitor utility budget spending, and record the date new equipment was put into service. Routine maintenance schedules and the replacement of water and sewer system components can be planned before they fail by uti-

lizing this database. Over the long run we hope that running a more efficient utility will translate into rate savings.

Tour of the water treatment plant...During the summer I met with Toby Moore to discuss our recurring brown water condition, as well as to review the general condition of our water and sewer plants. Toby has given the Mayor and Council members a complete tour of the water treatment plant and noted the components of the plant that are in need of repair.

Management of our water treatment system...Several months ago the Borough began to institute new procedures to address the brown water conditions that we experience during periods of high usage, usually in the summer. Councilman Vasseur assisted with an extensive flushing of hydrants throughout the town to purge the rusty sediment that has accumulated in our supply lines. He noted that there was an incredible amount of brown sediment that had accumulated since the hydrants were last flushed, and he recommended that the hydrants be flushed four times a year to remove the sediment. It is hoped that these new maintenance procedures will help to improve the water quality during peak usage. If these actions do not help, we will investigate other methods of addressing our brown water difficulties.

Public Works...Michael Farr is our Director of Public Works. Mike does everything from plowing our roads in the winter to keeping our

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FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

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town beautiful in the summer. Mike is also responsible for repairing and maintaining our Borough equipment and facilities and he is our recycling coordinator.

Let's Give Mike a hand ...There is a lot to do when you are a one man show. You can help Mike by picking up after your dog when you walk it. One of the reasons the town looks so good is because Mike maintains and mows the edges of the woods surrounding our green belt areas, the triangles and the cemetery as well as other areas in town. Mike can get much more done if he doesn't have to clean up after dogs before mowing. Also, please try to refrain from putting your grass clippings and other yard waste in these areas because he has to remove them before he mows.

The School Regionalization Committee...We have finalized the financial component of the regionalization study for the Roosevelt, Allentown, Upper Freehold and Millstone schools. The study was conducted by the Western Monmouth County Mayors Association mainly underwritten by a \$75,000 State grant. The study has three components: a demographics study, a financial analysis, and a telephone survey. The only part left to be done is the telephone survey. At its next meeting, the Regionalization Committee will present the findings of the study to the Mayors involved. After this, the results will be presented to school boards, municipal officials and the public.

Roadwork...The Mayor and Council resumed their discussions of road work on Oscar Drive, the upper sections of Lake Drive (from the horse farm to the path leading to Solar Village) and Spruce Lane (the dirt road near the horse farm). The Mayor and some Council members disagreed

over the extent of repairs required, when the work should be performed, and how it should be paid for. The costs of repaving roads are high - the paving of Spruce Lane alone was estimated at \$39,000; repaving the upper part of Lake Drive was estimated at \$109,000.

The main disagreement regarding roadwork was whether to spend most of our budget surplus on road repairs, or to continue to apply for State grants. Using taxpayer dollars to repair roads could entirely deplete our cash reserves, making tax increases likely.

Paying for road repairs with State grant money...During the last five years we utilized state grants to pay for the lion's share of the cost of road repair. This year we will be able to reconstruct and pave the industrial section of North Valley Road with more than \$100,000 of State grant money. Our municipal share consists of paying only for engineering costs and fees not covered under the grant. Although this is the most cost effective approach, obtaining grants is uncertain and roads are repaired slowly over time. Nevertheless, in my opinion this is the most cost-effective approach.

Governor DiFrancesco warns of decreased revenue...On October 16th, Acting Governor DiFrancesco warned that the State may have to reconsider many projects and programs due to the souring of the State economy and unanticipated expenses associated with the events of September 11. State aid to schools and municipalities could be cut. That is why in my opinion spending \$150,000 of our Borough budget in one year to pave roads is too great a financial risk to take considering the current economic situation facing the State and

Country. I believe roadwork should be done incrementally and staged over several years.

The U.S. Home Lawsuit ...Some of you have requested that I give them a clarification of the lawsuit against the Borough filed by U.S. Home. The following is a brief summary of the suit against the Borough.

The lawsuit asks the court to grant approval to build 266 units of housing, a portion of which will be affordable to people with low incomes in compliance with the State Council on Affordable Housing. It is important to note that the U.S. Home lawsuit makes no mention of senior housing. In fact there has never been a formal proposal by U.S. Home before our Planning Board to build senior housing in Roosevelt. A development of 266 units of family housing could result in an increase of as many as 400 children to our school system. In addition, a development of this magnitude would require many other costly services.

U.S. Home is also asking the court to provide 'relief' from "cost increasing requirements". This means that they want you to pay for all of the costs for their development. Among the things they want us to pay for are a new water tower, \$5,500 per house to hook-up to our utilities, and the expensive relining of our sewers to free up capacity. It should be obvious that the cost of such a development would be an onerous burden on our taxpayers. That is why it is important to vigorously defend ourselves from this litigation.

Sincerely

Michael B. Hamilton, Mayor

Phone: 443-5227 or

E-mail: mham82@home.com ■

From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

In the weeks since the September 11 attack on Americans, we have been careful at school to constantly monitor student feelings and emotions for any signs of related stress. We joined the rest of the 52 million students who recited the pledge of allegiance at 2:00 on October 12, as a sign of solidarity. Our students also participated in a project called "Flags Across the Jersey Shore". On small index cards, students drew flags and wrote a few words to rescue workers. These cards were sent to New York City. We want students to feel comfortable expressing themselves, and these activities provide an outlet for them. In other respects, our school program is back to normal, and all field trips will be taken as scheduled.

The student council is gearing up for elections to coincide with regular elections on November 6. Parents, as role models, please be certain TO vote. Mayor Hamilton has proclaimed November 6 as Bring Your Child to Vote DAY, and this is an excellent way to demonstrate our voting privilege. Your actions always speak louder than your words, so by bringing your students to vote, you are showing them the part that each person can play in our democracy. Also on November 6, our students will be viewing a show produced by the McCarter theater, entitled, "In the Mimmelight". The PTA is sponsoring this exciting show, and a workshop in mime for fifth and sixth

graders will follow.

The Board of Education looks forward to continuing communication with the Borough Council on the topic of shared services. State and local grants are available for combining and sharing services, and together we should carefully investigate mutual interests and possibilities.

It's getting close to one of our favorite sixth grade fund-raising activities. Soon you will be able to order fabulous pies from A & M farms. The students will be coming around with the order sheets, and money will have to be collected at the time of placing an order. The pies are delicious, there are many varieties, and the proceeds help sponsor the sixth grade trip in the late spring. Residents who are Target shoppers can also help the school by registering to have 1% of your target purchases designated to Roosevelt School. We are all grateful for your support. ■

RCNS October Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

This month the children will learn about America and why our country is so wonderful. Our projects will include the eagle, our flag and Uncle Sam. We will discuss freedom and democracy as well. The children will vote for their favorite snack on Election Day.

Many of the month's activities center on Thanksgiving. The students will make buffalo hides and teepees decorated with Indian pictographs. The children always enjoy making Indian headbands and necklaces to wear. They will also learn how the Pilgrims came to America on the Mayflower and how the Indians helped them to survive. Imagine how cute they will look in their Pilgrim hats that they made at school!

During Thanksgiving week, our class will talk about why we are thankful. Our projects will include a cornucopia and one of our favorites, the turkey.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! ■

November School Dates

November 6	"In the Mimmelight" 10:00 a.m.
November 8 & 9	School closing, NJEA
Conference	
November 21	Early dismissal, Thanksgiving
November 22 & 23	School Closing, Thanksgiving

Dear Editor,

Seven months ago I was appointed by the Democratic Committee to fill the seat for Borough Councilperson vacated by Judith Trachtenberg. My term expires on Election Day, November 6, 2001. Therefore, I am asking for your vote in this election so that I may continue as Councilperson for the remainder of 2001 and for the following year. If elected for this term, my priorities will be:

The Water and Sewer Systems: The Council has begun an assessment of the current condition and future needs of these two systems. Therefore, my primary responsibility will be to work with Mayor Hamilton, the Council and professionals to develop both short and long range plans and budgets for the maintenance, repair and improvement of these systems. A well thought-out plan will enable us to minimize crises and approach the operation of the water and sewer plants in a more systematic manner that can lead to a reduction of our fees.

Debt Service Reduction: Approximately one half of our water and sewer bill is attributable to the interest we currently pay on money we have borrowed. Just as one would refinance a home mortgage when interest rates fall, we on Council may have an opportunity to reduce our bill by transferring our debt into lower interest financing. I will actively participate in the exploration and selection of the most advantageous refinancing option.

Resident Concerns: Of course for many, our taxes and water and sewer rates are of major concern. However, for the 2000 tax year, 75% of our taxes financed our children's education. The members of the Board of Education have been working to obtain more aid from the state that will lower our share of school costs.

The municipal share of the tax dollar is 14%. This portion of your bill has

been reduced for the past two years and we now receive the state's highest rebate. The remaining 11% financed the services we received from the county.

Other concerns expressed to me by my neighbors which call for action are: brown water, the unsightly gas station, unkempt properties, retaining open spaces, emergency medical assistance and transportation for senior citizens. As I work toward solutions with my fellow members of Council, I will keep you informed and seek your suggestions.

I previously served two terms on Council, one year as President and was Chair of Utilities and Administration. In addition, I have served on the Zoning Board and the Planning board. For six years, I was a member of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad as an EMT. I recently retired from my work as a developer of housing for persons with disabilities.

My Democratic running mates are Pat Moser and Elly Shapiro. Please support us on November 6th.

Marilyn Magnes

To the Editor:

I want to again thank those who voted for me in the primary. I had many old friends who supported me, and friends I have not yet met. I certainly do not presume that those who voted for me did so for my charismatic personality, but were supporting the platform and policies that I believe will keep Roosevelt strong in our resolve not to permit radical and sudden changes in our community and our lives.

I spent 23 years working for the Department of Corrections, rising from a teaching assistant eventually to a manager. As supervisor of minimum security, I was accountable for funds spent by my units. The job was responsible and complicated. I filled various union positions such as Branch Vice-president and Branch President, member of the bargaining committee, and Shop Steward

for CWA Local 1040 before I went into management.

I believe that the water-sewer bonded debt can and should be refinanced at a lower cost. This would allow the lowering of Roosevelt's water-sewer rates, relieving some of the financial pressure on Roosevelt's citizens. I hope that by the end of my term, brown water may be largely a bad memory. But the chief issue is maintaining our open space, greenery and nature, rejecting irresponsible development the likes of which is foreign to Roosevelt's citizens. These are the main reasons I am asking for your votes.

I want to serve on the same team as Marilyn Magnes and Elly Shapiro, as well as Mayor Hamilton and other members of the Council. With our three votes, I believe the Council will be as receptive to your thoughts and needs as I will be.

*Very truly yours,
Pat Moser*

Dear Editor

This year as always, two 3-year Council terms are up for election. Councilmen Harry Parker and John Towle have decided not to run for reelection. Democrats Elly Shapiro and Pat Moser are opposed by Republicans Joe Zahora and Stu Kaufman. Councilwoman Marilyn Magnes, a Democrat is running unopposed for the remaining year of the 3-year seat held by Judy Trachtenberg. I am writing this letter to endorse Pat Moser, Elly Shapiro, and Marilyn Magnes for Roosevelt Borough Council.

By now you should have noticed that by working together toward a common goal our school and municipal taxes have gone down considerably over the last few years. We cannot afford to return to the lack of oversight that has cost Roosevelt taxpayers countless thousands of dollars over the years. We need

My Mother

THIS IS A PICTURE OF MY MOTHER, ESTHER, IN HER 8TH GRADE GRADUATION DRESS AT THE AGE OF 12 OR 13. IN THOSE DAYS, CHILDREN, NOT ADULTS, HAD BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS SO I NEVER DID KNOW HER EXACT BIRTHDAY, THOUGH I KNOW IT WAS 1893 WHEN THE PICTURE WAS TAKEN.

She had arrived in the U.S. from Russia in the fall of 1890 with her parents and three sisters and was entered in P.S. 1 in New York where she was placed in her age related class, although she knew little or no English.

She was an exemplary student as evidenced by the medals strewn across her chest in the picture.

One of her sisters, when she gave me this picture, boasted that the medals indicate that Esther had the highest average in tests taken by all 8th graders in the city that year.

She wanted to continue her studies and become a teacher. There were no high schools as we now know them in New York at that time. Only the Normal Training School, which became Hunter College after the death of its president, Thomas Hunter, was available to 8th grade graduates.

My grandmother, her mother, considered that Esther's health was too precarious (she had headaches as a child) and vetoed the idea of more study.

A younger sister, less exceptional as a student, was also hoping to be a teacher. She subsequently graduated from the Normal School, and taught for several years in the New York public schools.

My mother, disappointed but an obedient daughter, worked in a dry goods store, and in 1902, married the boss, who became my father. They had three children. Esther enjoyed



motherhood, but it was noticeable that she was becoming less energetic as time went by.

Unable to teach, Esther wanted to “make some contribution to the world.”

She joined the suffragettes, fighting for the extension of voting rights to women. She was, indeed, not in good health and would return home from a meeting or a march, elated, though exhausted. My father supported this activity knowing that it was meaningful and satisfying to her.

Was Grandma right? Esther did not live to see the success of her fight for the vote, but she had, indeed, made her contribution. She died in 1918 in her thirties.

My two brothers and I, aged 3, 8 and 13 at the time of her death, grew up always proud of her achievements and always remembered how she managed to work around her illness and make her “contribution to the world” just the same.

It is sad that had she lived another year, she would have seen the women's vote granted, and had she lived another 5 years, she could have been treated successfully for her diabetes with insulin, first introduced in 1923.

She was always an inspiration to the three of us, in spite of the sadness of her illness and early death.

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:

Robin Gould	448-4616
Marilyn Magnes	448-6402
Pearl Seligman	448-2340

LETTERS cont.

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to do the hard work of finding ways to continue to lower taxes and to apply the same energy to looking to find ways to lower our water and sewer rates for our homeowners.

We need Council members who will listen to you to find out what concerns you have, not ones who will tell you what the real issues are. Roosevelt needs Council representatives who will stand up for your rights and who will act in your best interest. We need Democrats Marilyn Magnes, Pat Moser, and Elly Shapiro on the Borough Council.

The Democratic Candidates for Council Pat, Elly and Marilyn support the preservation of open space and the woodland that surrounds us. They know that our natural surroundings have contributed immeasurably to the high quality of life that our families enjoy. They have a deep and abiding respect for the character of this town and they do not support the kind of development that would change the spirit of place that our unique planning has fostered. Pat, Elly and Marilyn want to explore ways to continue to lower taxes and water & sewer rates while trying to find responsible ways to improve water quality and the quality of life for everyone. They care about the needs of our young adults and our seniors.

Marilyn Magnes, Pat Moser and Elly Shapiro are the right choices for Council. We need Council members who will represent you and who know what the real issues are. I have had many conversations with Elly Shapiro, Pat Moser and Marilyn Magnes and I can assure you that they will help manage the town effectively with a very 'hands on' approach to running the town.

When you come to the polls on November 6, 2001, vote for Roosevelt Democrats Elly Shapiro, Pat Moser and Marilyn Magnes.

*Sincerely,
Michael B. Hamilton*

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

To seek your vote, to ask to represent you on Borough Council, was something I originally undertook in order to bring support for two ideas to the Council: the first was to encourage the expansion of our town, in order to grow the extraordinary sense of community that we share, as well as a belief that a larger number of households would spread our tax payments over a broader base, lowering our individual burdens by bringing more income to the equation; the second is to support an assessment of our antiquated infrastructure and, from that, to develop a capital improvement plan that would prevent the kind of financial shock we experienced when the upgrades to the sewer treatment plant hit.

Sadly, I believe that any hope for increased revenues is beyond the control of Borough Council for many years into the future, until such time as the lawsuit affecting the development in the northern part of town is resolved. No matter what the outcome, though, I believe that some sort of ratable should be encouraged there. Personally, I think an institutional use along the lines of a long-term care facility would be beneficial.

In the meantime, how long has it been since we've had a summer without water restrictions? Or a year without multiple Brown Water episodes? Our water system has problems that need to be defined and addressed, in a way that minimizes rate shocks. The same can be said of our sewer treatment plant; although it has plenty of capacity to treat the town's waste, it ends up exceeding the discharge limits because the nearly 70 year old pipes have "infiltration problems." It leaks like a sieve, and we end up treating rainwater.

So, absent the ability to address our unpleasant financial situation with increased income, I believe that the strategy that will best position our town for the future will be one of wrestling with our infrastructure issues to pro-

duce a plan for improvement that will be gradual, constant and have the lowest level of expense "shocks" that can be achieved. I support investing in our infrastructure NOW as the best way to avoid the inevitable, onerous burdens of wholesale system refurbishment that comes from an unwillingness to take care of basic maintenance in the name of saving a few pennies today.

As you consider your own position in town and what the future direction ought to be, please vote to support my position.

*Sincerely,
Joe Zahora*

Dear Editor,

In past editions of *The Bulletin*, I have read letters comparing the "old" Roosevelt to the "new" Roosevelt. Since those letters have stated that the Roosevelt that is today does not have the same spirit of the one that was, I thought that this would be the appropriate forum in which to say thank you to my neighbors for everything they have done for my family during this past month when my daughter was ill.

Beth, for never making me have to ask for help. You just took the reigns and made sure Anthony was taken care of.

May, to you for filling in the gap when Beth couldn't.

Karen, for the incredible spinach lasagna so I didn't have to cook the night Sydney came home.

Geryl, for the bag full of goodies to keep Sydney entertained.

Patty and Deb, for the calls with doctor's names and concern you both displayed, and Patty, an extra thanks to you for picking up those pictures that I could never get to.

Deidre, Pete and Tori, for the get well card and the stickers.

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Elsbeth Battel, ROOSEVELTIAN

By Gladys Nadler

Lured by open lands and her lifelong love of animals, Elsbeth Battel bought the horse farm in the southern part of town in 1979. It is no accident that the property is called Footlight Farm or that her animals have names like Cotton Blossom, after a character in "Showboat." For ten years before coming here, Beth did theatrical work in New York, Palm Beach and Ohio, traveling from place to place with a horse trailer hitched to her car.

She grew up in Oradell, a small (but not as small as Roosevelt) town in Bergen County where as a child, she played in the woods and hung around a nearby horse farm. While in high school, she worked on a horse farm and put aside money for riding lessons. When she got a little older, she also worked as a camp counselor.

"I saved up my money and bought myself a horse," she said.

After she earned a degree in theater at Kent State University, she started to work in her specialty, lighting and set design, always traveling with her horse. But in 1978, "I was headed toward the city, and suddenly it looked so gray! I decided to give up the theater and move out here," she said. She was already familiar with the Assunpink area because she had come here to ride in a Hunter Pace, a Monmouth County horse competition that involves a cross-county ride at the ideal pace of a fox hunt.

At first, Beth combined her work on the horse farm with work on the Macy's Parade, which she had been doing for years. She continued to

combine the two jobs until 1999, when she gave up the parade.

Beth now lives in a beautiful, spacious log house in the woods that she had built a few years ago. She has four dogs, three Jack Russells who scampered about playfully during our interview, and a big Labrador who showed up later.

"Almost half the horses here were born here," Beth said. Twenty-two horses, eight of which are hers, are on the farm at present. She explained that other owners bring their horses there to stay. Two of the owners live in Roosevelt. Most of the horses on the farm are show horses trained by Beth. Her horses won prizes at the Freehold Fairgrounds, the New Jersey Horse Park in Allentown, and at the biggest show in the country, the National Horse Show in Madison Square Garden.

Beth works until 9 o'clock every night. She said that when you work with horses, you can't leave any time you like. The stalls have to be cleaned. You have to turn the horses out to pasture in good weather, feed, groom and train every day. "The work ties you down," she said, "but the best part is that you don't have to worry about a traffic jam." She has three people working with her on the farm, a woman who is the barn manager, and two men. "She and I do the riding," she said with a twinkle in her eye, "and the fellows do most of the hard work."

Asked about recreation, she said that she goes to New York City about once a month and gets together with old

friends from the theater. Sometimes they see a play. She also enjoys skiing, and likes to read and listen to classical music and to opera. But in order to get away, she explained, she has to bring in somebody to take her place. It's difficult to plan outings, she explained, because things are always happening on the farm. "There's foaling time and the times you have to call the vet," among other crises when she has to be there.

Despite her long hours of work, Beth manages also to be active in the community. She is a trustee of the Fund for Roosevelt, and is transferring some of her land to the town for open land preservation. She also provided fun activities on the farm at the September 8 Celebration of Open Space. For example, she had people guessing the height of her horse designated as "The Burro of Roosevelt."

Beth has also been on the First Aid Squad, and served from 1988 to 2000. She gave up the Squad last year when she underwent surgery on her legs after she injured her right knee and left ankle in a riding accident, which is one of the hazards of the occupation.

Somehow, Beth also manages to keep in touch with her family. Her mother, who is 91 years old, now lives in Mahwah with her brother and his wife nearby. Beth said she had another brother who was killed in Vietnam. Her father died in 1999.

About her activity and support for the Fund for Roosevelt and the cause of open land preservation, she said, "It's something I believe in...I'd like to see it preserved." ■

LETTERS cont.

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The entire Daisy Troop for the beautiful cards.

Jamie Cvecich, for keeping in touch with us even when we didn't remember we were supposed to, and for the schoolwork sent home so that Sydney didn't come back lost.

Joy Marko, your call of concern, which turned into a call filled with advice, much of it taken.

Kelly, for stopping me every morning to ask how Sydney was and to offer help.

Nancy, for the daily phone calls asking how she was, and of course, the haircuts.

And, the countless others that have stopped us and asked if there was anything they could do. I apologize if I missed anyone by name, but please know that your kindness has not gone overlooked.

While sitting in the hospital waiting to admit my daughter, I looked at my husband and said, "If it takes a village, then I just thank God for the one I live in." I have felt an unbelievable sense of community from this little town. Rather than selling my little house and buying one where the taxes and the water are at reasonable rates, we chose to build on and stay here. We chose to stay not just because we love our backyard, but because no amount of money would ever give us the lifestyle that we find in Roosevelt. I don't doubt that Roosevelt has changed, but change is not always bad. I have found that some of the long time residents have wished for time to stand still in Roosevelt. That just can't happen, but it is still a unique and wonderful place to live. It saddens me to think that there are people in town who haven't been graced by kindness and generosity, but I for one certainly have.

Thank you again to all my neighbors.

Michelle Murano

To the Editor:

Making sense

Yesterday I read an article explaining steps to take in a situation where anthrax powder is found in office mail. It said to wrap up the piece of mail, quarantine the area and write a list of everyone who was present at the time of discovery. Don't contact any medical personnel. Instead, call the police and give them the list.

This morning I was discussing with my husband how we would handle such a situation at home. Normally, we bring in the mail and put it on the kitchen counter next to the butcher block. This will have to change. It's where we prepare all of our food. Not a good area to have to quarantine.

Maybe we should bring the mail into the laundry room. I'd be in trouble right away. I can just see me telling five kids that I can't do laundry. "Go into your dirty laundry basket and find some underwear and socks. We have bigger problems."

How about the garage? Oh no, all of my husband's tools for his carpentry business are in there. If he doesn't work, we don't eat. If we don't eat, we will perish – anthrax or no anthrax.

Okay, so basically the house is off limits. Not a good place to bring the mail. The logically minded man I married said, "We could just sort it at the post office before we bring it home." Oh. Yeah. Well that makes a lot of sense. I know why I married him. Without him, I might actually die. It's a scary thought.

So now the post office needs a new bin. Recyclable paper, tax forms and rubber gloves. I can just see my neighbors trying to open envelopes with rubber gloves. We may never get out of there. It's nice that our post office is a social meeting place. But it's not exactly where I'd choose to spend my final days.

Linda Schuster

To the Editor:

I attended a Memorial Service for a young man named Nick Bogdan, who was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11. Nick worked on the 98th floor in Tower One, the first hit by the plane.

Our daughter and son-in-law have been best friends for many years with Nick and Dorothy Bogdan. They have enjoyed many interests together, such as being members of the SCA, Society for Creative Anachronism. This is an International organization dedicated to researching and recreating pre-17th century European history. They would go to many events together, Pete and Nick would join together on the battlefield, dressed in their armor and fight, while their ladies looked on. Each man would carry a favor from his lady for good luck. This story is Dorothy's favor to her great warrior, Nick.

At Nick's memorial, his sister-in-law read this story, written by Dorothy in honor of her husband, Nick. We all thought that it was a beautiful tribute to her husband, and we would like to share it with others.

Sincerely,

Przychocki and Pizzerelli families

There once was a great warrior, whose honor and might were unmatched. He lived in the east in the barony of Kourillian in a modest homestead, with his beloved wife, his young son, and infant daughter. In time the warrior was sent north to the garrison of the Twin Towers in the great City of York. Over two years he served there.

Across the sea, in the lands of the great deserts, there lived a ruler of no land. Many were the people who followed him. Like a rabid animal he infected his men with his hatred of honor and freedom. He ordered his men to ride a beast of fire to the Towers. They were to destroy them at any cost. He promised

Continued on Page 12

Items for this column can be submitted to Ron Kostar
by phone 448-5191, 18 Pine Drive.

Hello, my name is Ron Kostar and I am your new Neighborhood Notes liaison. These are your Notes, so please send me your news as it unfolds. Given the recent national developments, we could use all the good news we can muster.

We're particularly interested in publicizing our children's accomplishments – academic, athletic, artistic, musical and otherwise - but since life doesn't end with high school graduation, the community needs to know when adults shine too. In this column, I would like to offer Rooseveltians an opportunity to redefine and share our news.

So if anyone has anything to be shared with the community, please drop a note to P.O. Box 620 or e-mail me at ronkostar@cs.com. I look forward to filling up this column in the coming months with news of many sparkling achievements.

School News

Roosevelt Public School Dr. Weinbach reports that it is too early in the school year to note individual achievements, but that the kids are working hard, having fun and getting along with each other better than most adults. (See her column for more details.)

Hightstown High School Merdith Lawson is playing on the JV Girls soccer team.

Brandon Lugannani is captain of the varsity Boys' team, which is currently 7-6 and anticipating making the state tournament. Juniors Jamison Parker and Dave Kichula play halfback for the squad.

Colleges Kathleen Alfare achieved High Honors during the past spring semester. Kathleen attends Franklin and Marshall College. She is a junior biology major.

Jessica Hamilton has been accepted into a semester abroad program and will spend this winter-spring semester in Melbourne, Australia. Jessica is a genetics major at Rutgers University. She too is a junior.

Artists in the Community On Saturday, October 13, David Brahinsky and David Herrstrom participated in a program entitled "Healing and Hope" at the Peddie School. The program offered a night of poetry and music in response to the recent national tragedy and emergency.

On Sunday, October 14, a portrait

of Bernarda Shahn painted by Mel Leipsig was shown at his house for the first time to her and her family and a few friends. As you can see from the accompanying photo, Bernarda, herself an artist, is shown in her studio, surrounded by "the tools of her trade."

Mr. Leipsig is the Chairman of the Mercer County Community College Art Department. He often lectures and exhibits in the area and is represented by the Henoch Gallery in Chelsea, NYC.

A new founded Rooseveltian Drumming Circle has been meeting on Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Roosevelt Public School gym. The group drums, chats, chants, tells stories and laughs. Anyone with a pulse is welcome. ■



LETTERS cont.

Continued from page 10

them the joys of paradise should they succeed. They were deceived by his honeyed words. Heaven is not for those who take pleasure in such horror.

On the eleventh day of the ninth month in the year two thousand one, the men attacked the great Towers. They drove their beast into the thick walls, and perished. The Towers still stood. Fire and debris rained down from the sky. Many gathered to aid the injured and comfort the dying. At the gates of the Tower the chiregeons, guards, and people gathered when the towers collapsed. The dead numbered in the thousands.

When news of the battle reached the beloved of the warrior, she fell to her knees and prayed for the protection of her lord. Loud were her cries. After a time, she swallowed her grief and went forth to seek her husband. She gathered her son from his tutors and told him of what had happened. She sent messengers to the healers and the garrison of York. She sent forth his friends to search on her behalf. She spoke to his kin and shared what news she could find. For three days she searched.

On the fourth day, her lord's closest companions came before her. These were the men who shared everything with the great warrior. Friends of his youth, who stood by his side through fierce battles and glorious celebrations. The barbarian, the sage, and the wise dispenser of enlightenment all gathered at her side to plan the quest. They would travel to York and find the answers to their questions. It was decided to send the barbarian and the sage as honor guard with the lady. At the rising of the sun the three gathered to the appointed place and traveled north. When they arrived at York, the people met them with great compassion. All did what they could to help and grieved when they could do no more. The three traveled to the main armory of York. From one side to another, as far as a man

could reach the walls of the armory were covered with pleas and petitions to find missing loved ones. The heart of the lady broke at seeing such a sight. It saddens her to see how many families were destroyed by the evil ruler. Anger and rage filled her as she entered the armory. She knew she was not alone in her sorrow. The three were escorted to the chronicler who kept the record of those injured in the attack. The great warrior was not found among the wounded. With broken hopes the three left. They next found the commander of her husband's garrison. He spoke kindly to the widow, reassuring her that he would do all within his power to care for her and her children. And so the widow and her honor guard returned home. Throughout the trip, each in their turn, spoke praises of the warrior's honor and the times they had shared. When the widow spoke, she told of the great love her lord had for her and their children.

After a time, the leaders of the land called a gathering of those who were left behind. They held a memorial at the Field of Freedom, which overlooked the battle site. Songs of great beauty were sung. Officials from afar traveled to offer what comfort they could. The champion of all the land came to offer his condolences. The Blind Bard, most beloved of all the songsters, graced the proceedings. Throughout the field people from everywhere came to offer their support and comfort. The love and compassion was awe-inspiring. The lady pondered perhaps this was the reason her beloved had died. To give all the land a reason to show and to share the love each had for another. To display to us poor mortals a glimpse of heaven. To show us what the world was supposed to be and what it, someday, shall become.

Dear Editor:

There are untrue rumors begin spread

about the Synagogue and The Roosevelt Community Nursery School (RCNS).

The rumors are divisive and shameful. It has been said that the synagogue will be evicting the nursery school and keep non-Jewish children out. This is absurd and most distressing! Sadly, there are a few people in our community that wish to create bad feelings between neighbors.

Contrary to the rumor, the synagogue has no plans to evict, or in any way not provide the space for the nursery school. Here is what is true. Over the past decade, the synagogue has spent thousands of dollars renovating the space that the nursery school uses. I personally have labored many hours maintaining and repairing many building problems that the RCNS needed attending to. Indeed, the rent RCNS pays is far, far less than even the cost of the utilities and far, far less than what they would have to pay elsewhere. The synagogue in fact takes a loss every month to provide this community service.

Perhaps, the root of the rumor comes from the fact that the synagogue is currently being revitalized with programs and spiritual activities. I am sorry if that threatens some, but that is what any house of worship is for. The activities have been advertised to the community and even sent home with the public school children welcoming everyone.

If anyone hears talk that is meant to divide and hurt, be it on any subject. I ask the good people of Roosevelt to please rise to the occasion and squash it. In these times and always, it is so important to come together and not allow gossip to escalate.

Neil Marko

President

Congregation Anshei Roosevelt

This month, I've decided to make this less wordy. If a picture can equal some large number of words, let's see what we can do with pictures. Since May, work on an inventory of living things in Roosevelt has been continuing. The combination of beautiful weather and a digital camera resulted in a large number of images of animals, fungi, and plants that were often new to me. On the other hand, circumstances can make a familiar organism take one's attention in a new way. Such was the case with Pokeweed.

As I have mentioned before, being a steward of preserved land means having to know how that land lies and what lives on that land. In many trips on to the farm (which Fund for Roosevelt calls the "northern farm") that is now part of Gold Farms, I had



Eleocharis flavescens

the opportunity to walk almost all of the property. As of this writing, 135 plants were identified on the northern farm in the last six months. Several had not been recorded previously for the borough. One of these is a small essentially leafless plant that consists only of a bright green stem topped by a spiral of tiny flowers in a cone only a few millimeters high. Lying haphazardly in shallow water, a patch of Bright Green Spike-rush (in fact, a

sedge, not a rush, *Eleocharis flavescens* var. *olivacea*) looks like a pile of spears thrown down hastily by a miniscule hunting party retreating from an angry Mammoth.

Another plant (which happens to be illustrated in my "beginner's" book on grass-like plants) is a grass that has three very long, stiff filaments point outward from the top of each flower-containing spikelet on the blooming part of the grass. In this case, each spikelet included only one flower. Three of the protective parts of the flower each have one long filament projecting outward. The filaments are called "awns" (a word that used to be common in crossword puzzles). The grass then is, very reasonably, called Prairie Three-awn (*Aristida oligantha*). Here are some of the spikelets and their three awns (and their shadows). Notice that one of each triplet of awns often has a little curve or wiggle near its attachment to the spikelet.



Aristida oligantha

In the fungal world, the picture of the summer is the picture of what looked like a small, golden tree without leaves bearing an orange-brown hotdog on the end of each branch. This was the spore-bearing part of a fungus that, an inch or more below ground is feeding on



Cordyceps ophioglossoides

a false truffle of the genus *Elaphomyces*. In turn, the false truffle had been symbiotic with some White Pine trees that just recently died. Possibly the weak state of the truffle without its partner-tree was what allowed the "golden tree" fungus to successfully attack it. The golden tree is officially known as

Cordyceps ophioglossoides. While there really is no commonly used English name for the species, one author calls it the "Golden Thread Cordyceps."

Several berries were photogenic this summer and fall: The Red Chokeberry bushes planted in the spring by the Environmental Commission and the Millstone scouts bore beautiful clusters of red berries beside our new trailhead sign on Tamara Drive; Dogwoods and Arrowwoods are bearing fruit as are Elderberry and Pokeweed.

Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*) came to my attention this fall when a local toddler ate a berry from it. From

a collection of books on "edible" plants, I found that the spring shoots of Pokeweed are edible if cooked in two waters (the first water is thrown away). It was sufficiently pleasing to European explorers that they sent it home to Europe where it is still sometimes grown

WILD TURKEY FORECAST

On a hot evening in August, I promised myself to write the November weather column about turkeys, Thanksgiving and weather. The idea came easily enough when I saw a wild mother turkey and nine baby turkeys (chicks?) crossing a dirt road in the Assunpink. Nine full grown turkeys reminded me of my promise twice in September when they arrived in our backyard looking for food.

I searched the Internet for a novel way to blend the intertwined subjects of turkeys and Thanksgiving with weather. What I found is the anonymously written long-range holiday weekend forecast that follows:

“Turkeys will thaw in the morning, then warm in the oven to an afternoon high near 190F. The kitchen will turn hot and humid, and if you bother the cook, be ready for a severe squall or cold shoulder.

During the late afternoon and evening, the cold front of a knife will slice through the turkey, causing an accumulation of one to two inches on plates. Mashed potatoes will drift across one side while cranberry sauce creates slippery spots on the other. Please pass the gravy.

A weight watch and indigestion warning have been issued for the entire area, with increased stuffiness around the beltway. During the evening,

the turkey will diminish and taper off to leftovers, dropping to a low of 34F in the refrigerator.

Looking ahead to Friday and Saturday, high pressure to eat sandwiches will be established. Flurries of leftovers can be expected both days with a 50 percent chance of scattered soup late in the day. We expect a warming trend where soup develops. By early next week, eating pressure will be low; as the only wish left will be the bone.”

The Old Farmer’s Almanac says the days before this Thanksgiving may bring snow. Any snow that falls may be around for Thanksgiving, the almanac forecast indicates partly cloudy and chilly weather through the holiday weekend. Looking ahead to winter 2001-2002, the almanac indicates near-normal snowfall and temperatures one to two degrees above normal. There will be a cold spell in late December. January will be the coldest month of the season and will end with heavy snow.

For the Mid-Atlantic States, the National Weather Service is forecasting “equal chances of above normal, normal, or below-normal temperatures and precipitation. Storm tracks could bring more snow than the winters of the late 1990s.” However, the weather service’s winter forecast map has a line

Sept. 15, - Oct. 15, 2001

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	82.9	61.7	72.3	0.00
16	83.3	54.9	69.1	0.00
17	86.9	68.0	77.5	0.00
18	85.1	61.5	73.3	0.00
19	82.6	66.7	74.7	0.00
20	88.3	70.5	79.4	0.13
21	83.5	63.9	73.7	0.00
22	85.3	59.9	72.6	0.00
23	87.1	63.0	75.1	0.00
24	83.5	63.9	73.7	0.15
25	80.1	60.4	70.3	0.00
26	81.5	54.1	67.8	0.00
27	88.7	66.7	77.7	0.00
28	85.5	66.2	75.9	1.68
29	81.7	61.0	71.4	0.05
30	84.2	61.7	73.0	0.00
31	87.6	70.0	78.8	0.00
1	80.0	62.1	71.1	0.00
2	76.1	50.7	63.4	0.00
3	76.3	50.9	63.6	0.00
4	84.4	59.0	71.7	0.00
5	77.4	57.4	67.4	0.80
6	75.9	50.5	63.2	0.00
7	80.2	55.9	68.1	0.00
8	81.9	60.1	71.0	0.00
9	83.1	61.5	72.3	0.00
10	86.2	66.2	76.2	0.00
11	77.4	57.2	67.3	0.50
12	75.7	51.8	63.8	0.00
13	79.9	55.4	67.7	0.00
14	70.2	50.4	60.3	0.00
15	66.7	43.0	54.9	0.65

Total Precipitation 3.98

separating colder than normal winter temperatures from normal temperatures. It runs west to east right through the center of New Jersey. It looks like Roosevelt is right on the line, thus, supporting the weather service's ambiguous forecast for our area.

Weather Event

On November 18, 1924, the temperature dropped to a brisk 1 degree in Middlesex County.

Weather Word

Paroemiology is the study of weather folklore. ■

**THE
ROOSEVELT
BOROUGH
BULLETIN**

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going. Contributions are

tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the BULLETIN.

We will be pleased to continue sending them the BULLETIN when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

At the October 2 Business Meeting of the club, at 1:10 p.m., after President Gerry Millar welcomed members and two Visiting Nurses who had been checking blood pressures since 12:35 p.m., Treasurer Dolores Chasan reported on the club's balance and showed a letter from Womanspace of Mercer County expressing thanks for the donation of \$25 which club members raised for that organization. It shelters and assists women and children in danger of domestic violence.

The problem of the next Business Meeting date being on Election Day, November 6, was settled by the decision to hold it in the Seniors Meeting Room at the Solar Village. Box lunches, usually held at the Solar Village on the last Friday of each month, were cancelled for October and December due to a low balance in the treasury.

Regarding a speaker from the State Division on Insurance, to speak on "Identity Theft" and other insurance frauds, the club president said the date of December 3 had to be changed. The new date is not known yet.

Many club members and other senior citizens in Roosevelt were not able to make their regular third Wednesday trip to ShopRite, for their weekly supply of groceries, because the Monmouth County SCAT dispatcher did not send a bus. The problem was discussed. The club had arranged to have the third Tuesday bus to a mall cancelled to make it possible to have a bus to the Garden

State Arts Center for a free concert for senior citizens. The county agreed to the change without revealing that it would not send a second bus to Roosevelt for grocery shopping. It was decided to never accept tickets to any Wednesday program, which required a bus for transportation. If carpooling would be possible and agreeable to all, going to a Wednesday event may be arranged. Carpooling was arranged to transport twelve members of the club to Rova Farms on the third Tuesday of September for a pleasant day at the flea market followed by lunch at the Rova Farms Restaurant.

On October 16, the third Tuesday, fourteen members of the club were bussed to Delicious Orchards Shopping Center in Colts Neck, and then to the Marco Polo Chinese Buffet for lunch at \$5.99 per person. On the way home, members agreed the experience of shopping at delicious Orchards was exciting. It had been two years since the club went there.

Election of officers and committee chairs took place. They are Gerry Millar for president; Clare Sacharoff for vice-president and recording secretary; Herb Johnson for corresponding secretary; Dolores Chasan for treasurer; Diana Klein for membership and special events; Molly Bulkin for transportation; Florie Johnson for box lunches; Louise Baranowitz for sunshine and mailing get-well cards. ■

Are you taking advantage of the Roosevelt Library in our school?

To keep it alive, it needs to be used.

As CSA Weinbach has said:
"A town library would be a terrible thing to lose!"

Penne with Middle Eastern Eggplant Sauce



The Recipe

Every once in a while I get ambitious in the kitchen and go in search of interesting, new recipes: something to intrigue our tastebuds, something challenging to put together, or something special for guests. In one recipe from the Washington Post I found all three. The food editor acknowledged the source of this fabulous dish and so shall I. It is from *Noodles Express: Fast and Easy Meals in 15 to 45 Minutes* by Dana McCauley (Firefly Books, \$14.50).

After Carol and I had it the first time, we realized that it was the perfect dish for many occasions. We have served it to company as a side dish, as the main offering to our vegetarian and vegan friends, and at the wonderful Roosevelt Forever event on September 8, and it has been a hit every time. We always hand out a photocopy of the recipe so that it can be enjoyed over and over. This is how it is made:

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 gloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 large eggplant, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 28 ounce can tomatoes, with about 1/2 cup of the juice
- 12 ounces penne pasta (may substitute other short pasta)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 2/3 cup coarsely grated Parmigiano-Reggiano or Asiago cheese

In a large skillet over medium heat, add 1 tablespoon of olive oil.

Stir in the onion and cook until slightly softened. Add the garlic, cumin, coriander, paprika and cayenne pepper and cook, stirring occasionally until fragrant. (This is the best part, until you begin to eat it.) Increase the heat to medium-high and add the remaining 3 tablespoons of oil and the cubed eggplant. Cook until the eggplant is browned, about 10 minutes, turning to coat all sides with the flavor of the spices.

Stir in the lemon juice and zest, salt, pepper and tomatoes. Bring the mixture to a boil, reduce the heat to medium-low, cover partially and simmer, stirring occasionally until thickened, about 20 minutes.

Cook the pasta according to directions. Drain well. Stir the pasta and parsley into the eggplant sauce, toss to combine and cook for 1 minute. Sprinkle with the cheese and serve immediately.

Serves 4-6

Roosevelt Reunion 2001

By Carla Appel

We met on September 15 at Joey and Janis Datz's house in Virginia, just south of the Pentagon with its charred, jagged gash in one side. Some of us assumed that the events of September 11 would be the predominate or only topic of conversation at this reunion, especially given Roosevelt's old history of long and vehement political discussion. That didn't happen. We were deflected for a number of reasons. First, we had each other: Joey, Janis and Lauren Datz; Janis' brother Jay Friedenberg and his friend Bernard Mercer; Sara and Paul Prestopino; Abby Shahn; Rachel Folsom; Elinor Tucker; Helen Seitz; Marguerite Rosenthal; Carla Appel and John Nesbitt; and, the Datz's two very sweet dogs. Then, we had the pictures on the walls, as good as an all-Roosevelt gallery show, the artists all relatives or friends, the artwork as familiar as our parents' living rooms: Presto's giant blazing nymphs, Stefan Martin's delicate woodcuts, one of his father David's prints, a drawing by Bernarda Shahn and a serigraph by Ben, a photo by Sol Libsohn. Upstairs in a small, quiet

room, a pen and watercolor drawing that throws itself off the wall at you, Senator Joseph McCarthy and his sidekick Roy Cohn, the essence of their personalities captured perfectly by one of Roosevelt's most modest artists, Aurie Battaglia.

Then of course we had the food,

record the relationships among us. To remember ourselves as we had been, our friends and relatives all changed and some dead, was a pleasure and a sadness. For me the most difficult photo to look at was one of the Lobls, who became my next-door neighbors when I was 6 years old. Anyone who had the luck to know the senior Lobls, Fred, Ilus and Ilus' mother Honi, will remember their constant, informal hospitality. They were always doing something interesting but never too busy to give you a hug. The backyard clay tennis court, which Fred dug and rolled himself, was a gathering place on summer weekends for the entire town. Anyone could play, and everyone else could watch and eat



all afternoon and all evening. Janis must have begun preparing weeks in advance.

But the biggest diversion from our current problems, was Sara's gift to all of us, a chance to look at a box of Sol's photographs. It was no surprise that Sol had been photographing Roosevelt events since he moved into town. The unexpected part was to how great an extent his photos

ears of corn from the perpetually boiling pot. Wherever the Lobls were, the air was somehow brighter and warmer. I loved them more than some of my own relatives. And that, I think, is the way Roosevelt was for many of us.

Plans were discussed for next year's reunion at Elinor Tuckers' house in Washington D.C. sometime in October, 2002. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Continued from Page 1

presented to the public and the school districts when the mayors meet. The participating municipalities are Roosevelt, Millstone, Upper Freehold and Allentown. The Mayor also reported that he had gone over our emergency management plan with Ed Miller, our emergency management coordinator who is also a professional firefighter, and that we participated successfully in a Monmouth County civil defense test. He also announced that, under a new law, polls will be open beginning at 6:00 a.m., rather than 7:00 a.m., so that people leaving for work early will have a chance to vote.

Councilman Jeff Hunt reported that he had held a meeting on recreation programs at which eight people participated. The recreation program, which is a joint activity of the Borough and the Board of Education, will soon be advertising to hire a recreation director. The person must be someone with experience in starting recreation programs. It will be a seven-hour per week job. Mr. Hunt said that he also recently met with the director of the East Windsor recreation program and was very impressed by the work they are doing to serve all age groups. He hopes to work with East Windsor in the future. Roosevelt has received a \$30,000 grant from the State to help pay the cost of our recreation program.

The Council introduced and placed on first reading an amendment to the salary ordinance to establish a \$60,000/year salary for the water and sewer utility operator. It also passed a resolution proposed by the State League of Municipalities in response to the attack by Arab terrorists on America and a resolution appropriating \$1,000 in Clean Community Grant funds to purchase mulch, restore a bench and celebrate Earth Day at the school. A resolution to award a contract for

the improvement of North Valley Road north of the triangle was tabled, pending Planning Board review. Also tabled, to allow a reading of the actual bill, was a League of Municipalities resolution opposing a legislation that would limit the ability of municipalities to ban home occupations. Michael Tickin, who had been present at a legislative committee when this bill was under consideration, advised the Council that it was strongly supported by women's advocacy groups. He also pointed out that Roosevelt would not be affected by this bill, since we already allow home occupations that do not give external evidence of their presence or generate excessive traffic or cause any other nuisance and recommended that Council members read the actual bill before opposing it.

In the public portion of the meeting, Ann Baker responded to comments previously made by the State Police officers about speeding by saying that she reserved the right to drive as she saw fit, subject to their right to give her tickets if they catch her. Pearl Seligman said that her one concern was that people drive slowly so that children are not endangered. Councilman Jeff Hunt later took strong exception to Ms. Baker's comments, saying that people cannot simply decide which laws they do or do not choose to obey. ■

NATURAL ROOSEVELT

Continued from Page 13

as a vegetable. The full-grown plant and its berries are poisonous. The large root can be deadly. The foliage and berries can have a number of nasty effects including being a "slow acting emetic."



Phytolacca americana

On the other hand, one author remembered his mother making a dilute juice from the pressed berries that was used as a Spring tonic—at least it was believed to be a purgative of the winter's ills. A conversation with my friends at "poison control" (New Jersey Poison Information and Education Systems) produced the information that ingestion of less than 8 berries is not considered to be dangerous to a toddler. So the youngster in question, got off lightly; and never knew why his Dad was talking to that funny-looking old guy with a moustache. Here, you'll find a picture of clusters of Pokeweed berries.

Finally, a picture (I wish you could see this in color) of an October view from the west side of the farm pond off of Windsor-Perrineville Road looking east. I was standing in a spot where the first records of two sedges had been found a few days before and looking out over the pond. I was thinking that Roosevelt had not only preserved a farm, but a beautiful little pond edge ecosystem that very few people, if any, had suspected. Now, when Gold Farms' manager, Bill Phelps, says he wants to get out on the pond in a boat, I have my own selfish reasons for wanting to be there with him. ■



West side of the farm pond

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 2001-2002 SEASON

Saturday, December 8, 2001

8:00 p.m.

CELEBRATING JUDY

A concert for Judy Trachtenberg who was an important member of the Roosevelt Arts Project and a vital Rooseveltian. Her life will be celebrated on this evening with words and music. Songs by David Brahinsky and members of the Roosevelt String Band (to which Judy lent her pure voice). Poems by David Herrstrom and other Roosevelt poets. New music by Alan Mallach. And, an opportunity for all of us to remember Judy in our own words.

Saturday, February 9, 2002

8:00 P.M.

THE ELLARSLIE TRIO

Returning after its appearance last year, the Ellarslie Trio offers a new program of classical masterworks. Cindy Ogulnick violin, Erika Phillips cello, and Roosevelt resident and RAP regular Alan Mallach piano, will present music from the classical piano trio literature. The concert will culminate with Mendelssohn's glorious Trio No. 2 in C minor.

Saturday, March 9

8:00 p.m.

AN EVENING OF POETRY

Join the Roosevelt Poets for an evening of March Madness. Poems accompanied by music.

Friday & Saturday, April 26 & 27

8:00 p.m.

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

Once again, the Roosevelt String Band will perform a new set of songs, some from the folk traditions of different cultures, others from contemporary singer-songwriters. The members of the group are David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar and Howie Jacobson.

Saturday, May 18

8:00 p.m.

"SOUNDS"

Computer music and Roosevelt multimedia artists, Brad Garton and Wiska Radkiewicz, invite you to an informal evening of digitally transformed "Sounds of Roosevelt." Presentation also of works by students from the Roosevelt Public School, the Hightstown High School and the Columbia University Computer Music Center will round out this evening of creative technological exploration.

Admission (Voluntary):

Roosevelt String Band \$10 (\$5 seniors and students) Other events \$6 (\$4 seniors and students)

Visit the 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, Deborah Metzger at 443-3759. The Roosevelt Arts Project is a tax-exempt cultural organization funded exclusively by admissions and donations. RAP appreciates your support. ■

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The Bulletin is pleased to accept articles having to do in any way with the Borough of Roosevelt, including literary works by local residents and others with ties to the community. However, due to the fact that this is a non-profit publication that is dependent upon public contributions, articles designed to promote the sale of products or services for profit cannot be accepted.

BUSINESS SPONSORS

The *Bulletin* publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and business, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$40.00/year, \$50.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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Wednesday 7-8:15 p.m. Roosevelt Branch of the Monmouth County Library open at RPS

RPS Computer Lab Open Wednesday evenings

November

1	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440
2	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day
5	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
6	Tues.	6 a.m.-8 p.m.	ELECTOIN DAY, Borough Hall
7	Wed.		♻️ RECYCLE PTA Frozen Food Sale Begins
8	Thurs.		RPS Closed – NJEA Convention
9	Fri.		RPS Closed – NJEA Convention
11	Sun.		Veterans' Day
12	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
13	Tues.	1:00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting and Blood Pressure Check, Borough Hall
14	Wed.	8:00 p.m.	Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Gayle Hunton, 426-4338
15	Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 448-4440
		7:30 p.m.	Synagogue Board Meeting, Neil Marko 443-6818
16	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day

19	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
20	Tues.	7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting, RPS, President JoAnne Parker 448-5619
21	Wed.		♻️ RECYCLE RPS Four hour Session
		8:00 p.m.	Environmental Commission Meeting, Borough Hall, Chairman Rod Tulloss, 448-5096
22	Thurs.		THANKSGIVING – Post Office, School, Municipal offices CLOSED
23	Fri.		RPS Closed
26	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Committee Meetings, Borough Hall Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
30	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day

December

3	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 443-5227
8	Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Borough Hall – RAP – Celebrating Judy

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