

Bulletin

Volume 27 Number 2

November 2002

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

Council to Interview Candidates for Administrator

By Michael Ticktin

As the Planning Board prepares to comply with the request of the Council that it investigate whether five vacant and deteriorated properties qualify for designation as redevelopment areas, and as the Borough approaches an election in which two incumbent Council members and a former Council member contend for two seats during a lull in the U.S. Home litigation, the Council held a meeting in October that was probably one of the less eventful on record.

Councilwoman Elly Shapiro announced that about ten people had submitted applications for the position of Administrator, and that Councilwoman Marilyn Magnes, who chairs the Administrative committee, would be conducting interviews in the near future.

Councilwoman Pat Moser, chairwoman of the Public Works committee, declared her satisfaction with the work being done by Abe Schlinski, the new Superintendent of Public Works, and also reported that the speed bumps that have been installed have received a generally favorable response and that she is working on getting more speed bumps installed. Councilman George Vasseur recommended the use of 12-foot speed bumps such as those used in Princeton, since they eliminate the problem of sudden surges. He also noted that asphalt plants would soon be

closing for the winter, so work would have to be done soon if it were to be done before next spring.

Reporting for the Utilities committee, Councilman Vasseur said that he was trying to get quotes on prices for installation of the water meters that are required to be installed by the end of next year. He anticipates that it will be necessary to have formal bids. He also recommended the hiring of Steve Troma to serve as weekend utilities operator. Mr. Troma previously worked for the Borough for nine years. Mr. Vasseur also reported that he had gotten changes made in plans for a storage area for chlorine cylinders at the sewage disposal plant, resulting in a reduction of the cost from \$22,000 to \$6,000.

Councilwoman Shapiro, reporting as chairwoman of the Environmental, Health and Safety committee, said that the committee was awaiting information that it had requested from the Fire Chief concerning the activities of the Fire Department during the past year. She also reported that the Borough would be working with an animal welfare group to reduce the cat population at the factory by neutering the cats and exploring ways of encouraging adoption and otherwise relocating them.

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JUST RECEIVED!

When you read this, it will already have happened but certainly everyone in Roosevelt will want to know about it. The following notice from longtime resident Dave Schwendeman's Taxidermy Studio and Museum Services reads:

Recently, we received a call from the producers of the Martha Stewart Living Television show. They felt we had a unique business and a unique story appropriate for their show. Within several days they were at our studio filming. Hours of video will be edited down to about six minutes of air time.

The air date is Thursday, October 24, 2002 between 9-10 a.m. on CBS, Channel 2. I hope the show portrays the art and science of taxidermy in a positive light.

Dave appended the following note: It's not every day that one is recognized for his/her art and appears on national television!

PLEASE REMEMBER, GOOD NEIGHBORS PICK UP AFTER THEIR DOGS.

**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:

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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.

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Scattered Site Redevelopment Program Proceeding

At its October meeting, the Planning Board authorized its chairman, Ralph Seligman, to schedule a hearing at either of its next two meetings, in the manner required by statute, in order to determine whether five vacant, deteriorated properties referred to the Board by the Borough Council meet the statutory definition of "redevelopment areas." Documentation necessary in conjunction with the hearing is being prepared by the Board's planning consultant, Tom Thomas. [Editor's note: We have been advised by the Planning Board Secretary that the hearing will be on November 12 at 8:00 p.m.]

The five properties under consideration for designation as redevelopment areas include the site of the former gas station and houses located at 9 Nurko

Road, 23 Pine Drive, 19 South Rochdale Avenue and 20 South Rochdale Avenue.

If a property is located in a redevelopment area, the municipality is in a position to acquire it through eminent domain, meaning that the owner can be required to sell the property at a price that is either mutually agreed upon or set by a court. The property can then be sold to someone who enters into an agreement with the municipality to improve it and restore it to a useful condition. Where necessary in order to facilitate redevelopment, the municipality can enter into agreements with new owners for payments to be made in lieu of taxes. It is in order to have this last option that the site of the former gas station, which the Borough is in the process of

acquiring through tax lien foreclosure, was included in the list of proposed redevelopment areas.

Any houses that are within designated redevelopment areas would be available for acquisition by the Borough for transfer to an affordable housing sponsor that would be able to implement the Borough's fair share affordable housing plan. Whether this plan is implemented, however, will depend on the outcome of the U.S. Home litigation. If U.S. Home were to win, they would be obligated to provide the eight required affordable housing units as part of their development and the houses in the redevelopment areas would not be needed for that purpose. ■

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

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In new business, the Council adopted a resolution authorizing execution of a grant agreement for \$106,000 from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to the Roosevelt Environmental Commission. The funds are to be used over a period of three and a half years for planting of indigenous grasses and other plants and removal of invasive species in the portion of the Assunpink Wildlife

Management Area that was formerly known as the Notterman tract and for clearance of Empty Box Creek in the area between Valley Road and Rochdale Avenue. A resolution was also passed to hire Steve Torma as a part-time water/sewer operator. Also, a motion was passed to authorize Treasurer Ana Debevec to substitute for the Clerk in the office in her absence.

The Council will now await the outcome of the November 5 election, in which Council members Magnes, who is a Democrat, and Vasseur, who is a Republican, vie for re-election with former Councilman Stuart Kaufman, who is also a Republican. [Editor's note: In a letter that appears in this issue of the *Bulletin*, Beth Battel has announced her write-in candidacy for a Council seat.] ■

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.”

On Tuesday November 5th, Roosevelt voters will once again have the opportunity to choose who will represent them on federal, state, county and municipal levels. In Roosevelt, each year two of the six council seats are up for election. Council members serve for three-year terms and the mayor's term is four years.

We have a vibrant participatory democracy where your voice and opinion matters. We can be proud of our traditionally high voter turnout in Roosevelt that is almost always among the highest in the State. Join me on November 5th as we determine who will best represent us in government.

Development That Makes ‘Cents’

Residential Development... Many people believe that residential development results in lower taxes. Unfortunately, as most of our neighboring communities have discovered, all kinds of residential development, including senior, require a high level

of municipal services. That is why many studies show that residential development often does not even pay for itself. Residential development should be incremental and carefully scaled so that it is beneficial to the existing community.

- Different types of residential development require a different basketful of services. Senior developments require more in the way of emergency and police services, and families with young children require more school services. The cost of the services needed to support residential development of any kind often exceeds the tax benefits.
- Among the services we provide to our homeowners are: water and sewer systems, maintenance of roads, public buildings and land, staffing Roosevelt's municipal offices, and the services provided by Borough professionals (building inspector and zoning officer, tax assessor and tax collector, water/sewer billing-collector, legal, financial, planning and engineering consultants, etc.) There are many unforeseen costs related to the services that municipalities provide to their homeowners.
- In some towns, additional residential development can piggyback on the excess capacity in a town's existing public services at a marginal incremental cost. In our situation however, because much of our infrastructure is already close to capacity, it seems that a great deal of that infrastructure would have to be rebuilt to handle a large increase in

demand. It is important to remember — for taxes to go down there must be a *net benefit* (revenue exceeding costs) not just an increase in ratables.

Economic Development...

- *Cell phone antennas...* On October 15th, after many months of research, we had a bid opening for proposals to site a cell tower in Roosevelt. The bid opening was the result of our work to find forms of economic development that would be beneficial to our town. AT&T bid \$30,000 per year to lease space adjacent to our water treatment plant on Oscar Drive for their cellular communications antenna. We are sure that other carriers will soon follow suit. We anticipate accepting the bid from AT&T at our November Council action meeting. AT&T plans to construct the tower and have it switched on by the end of the year. The additional revenue from the leasing of Borough land will also be ‘switched-on’ in the beginning of the new year. Cellular antennas do not need to go to school and they do not require emergency services, so there is little if any cost to the Borough. The addition of revenue from the five cellular service providers currently in our area to our water and sewer budget could be used to lower monthly water and sewer bills or to pay for other expenses such as legal fees. This is one form of ‘development’ that I can fully endorse.

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From the Office of the CSA, Dr. Dale Weinbach

I just received word from the Monmouth County Arts Council that Roosevelt Public School has been named the Art school of the year in Monmouth County. Mrs. Randi Brauner, our art teacher, was responsible for completing the application process. Needless to say, art is an integral part of our education program, and we are fully supported by the Board of Education, staff and community. I will be accepting our award in Red Bank, and hope to be accompanied by representatives of the Board and staff.

We enjoyed our first Fabulous Friday of this current school year. It was really fun to have some lovely Roosevelt seniors join us. They parti-

icipated in the event of their choice. We are grateful that they came out in really rainy, dreary weather. We hope to see them again on our next Fabulous Friday, November 22.

We have about \$200.00 in our penny collection! We should be able to plant a beautiful tree with this money. Please be reminded that the tree planting ceremony is scheduled for November 11, Veteran's Day.

It's Thanksgiving Pie sale time again! The sixth graders will be selling delicious pies from A & M Orchards. There is a large variety of pies to fit all tastes. If our sixth graders miss you, you can order pies by calling the school at 609-448-2798.

Here's a pretty little message I

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RCNS November Newsletter

By Ginny Weber

This month our class is going on a field trip to the Clarksburg Fire House. It will be so much fun to see what happens at a fire house and all the equipment – especially the fire truck! We will also learn about fire safety and how to call 911 for emergencies.

On Election Day, the children will learn about the voting process by casting their ballots for their favorite snack for the day. We will also find out about "Uncle Sam", our flag and other things that represent our country.

To get a better understanding of the Thanksgiving holiday, the children will see how the Pilgrims and Indians lived and helped each other. It's a wonderful time to show how people could be very different and yet get along so well. We will make buffalo hides and teepees with Indian pictographs as decorations. Other projects include Indian headbands and tom-toms.

The children will learn how the Pilgrims came to America on the Mayflower and how the Indians taught them many things for them to survive over the long winter. They will make Pilgrim hats to wear as well.

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 1	Pizza
Nov. 7 & 8	School closing
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day - tree planting ceremony
Nov. 13 & 14	PTA Holiday Fair
Nov. 14	Board of Education Meeting
Nov. 15	Pizza
Nov. 22	Fabulous Friday
Nov. 27	Early dismissal, school performance
Nov. 28 & 29	School closing

The leaves are changing colors, some even dropping, and about every third day the air feels like November. The wild animals are getting hungry, maybe a little panicky. We fill our feeders with sunflower seeds hoping to attract birds like blue jays and cardinals, but squirrels overrun the feeders and monopolize the seeds. Squirrels are one of the few species that can eat while hanging upside down. The deer, at this time of year, are brown. Better to deceive the hunters.

In the absence of receiving any "hard news", I've watched strollers pass by, famous Rooseveltian walkers. Freda and Al Hepner from up the street. Helen Barth and Clare and Delores. Later kids stream by, biking or running or pushing scooters; Kimmy and Allison and Jamie, Hunter and Joe, Jack Currie, Jack L., Devin, Gus and Sam. Henry John-Alder sprints by on the dogleg of his 22nd mile. Bess Tremper walks by slowly but steadily.

Followed by the persistent walkers: Sheila and Ms. Gertzman and the Skillmans whose daughter recently went off to Albright. Tom Hague bikes by and Alan Mallach jogs by and Nancy and Mike walk by and then people whose names I still don't know. There's Virginia Edwards leading her magnificent poodle, Ms. Carpenter and her beloved Lewie. And Sugar barks at each and every one of them. Dogs, like people, may have at least one irreparably bad habit. "That's just the kind of dog she is," our vet told us. "She's a guard dog, a rounder. She's going to bark." Like trees, I guess. "I bark therefore she am." Like the leaves and Rimbaud: "Yesterday I am somebody else. Je suis un autre." Synasthasia: in the absence of any hard facts, you can smell the colors in the air.

Across town or is it down the road, Tom and Elizabeth Majorczyk welcomed their new daughter, Ariel

Majorczyk, into the world on September 10. Ariel has three sisters and a brother, Angelica Majorczyk, and Christine, Jennifer and Christopher Iacono.

Be sure to stop and pull to the shoulder of the road and check out the mum field just east of the park on Etra Road. The lines of colors are magnificent: Pure Pointillism, such that would have made Seurat sigh and sit up in his deathbed, say something profound like, "Que sera, sera." Unlike the walkers who walk and bring the Roosevelt circle to life, Seurat died young. But only after painting a lot of very nice paintings.

Items for this column can be submitted to me by phone 448-5191, 18 Pine Drive, or ronkostar@cs.com. ■

SCHOOL NEWS

Continued from Page 5

received, that I thought you might enjoy reading and thinking about what you would add:

I've learned – that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to him.

I've learned – that no matter how much I care, some people just don't care back.

I've learned – that it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it.

I've learned – that you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After

that, you'd better know something.

I've learned – that it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I've learned – that you can keep going long after you can't.

I've learned – that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I've learned – that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I've learned – that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I've learned – that money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I've learned – that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I've learned – that no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn't stop for your grief.

I've learned – that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I've learned – that credentials on the wall do not make a decent human being. ■

Gail Hunton, of Roosevelt, to be Feted at NJ Archives Day, Oct. 12th

Herewith the press release we have just received about our beloved Gail Hunton. Obviously it came too late for our October issue but we are certain everyone will be interested to learn about Gail's impressive accomplishments as well as the current award she has just received.

Freehold, NJ – County Clerk Claire French announced today the winner of the 2002 Jane Clayton Award is Gail Hunton, a resident of the Borough of Roosevelt. The annual award will be presented to Ms. Hunton as a part of the all-day archives and History day, on Saturday, October 12, 2002, at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters, 125 Symmes Drive, in Manalapan.

Ms. Hunton is the Principal Historic Preservation Specialist for the Monmouth County Parks System, in Lincroft, where she researches and helps preserve historical works, including the Monmouth County Historical sites Inventory and the Monmouth County Historic Preservation Guide. In addition, Ms. Hunton was the project coordinator for "Slavery and Freedom in the Rural North: African-Americans in Monmouth County, NJ 1665-1865." She has served as an historical consultant to numerous municipalities in New Jersey, including Freehold Township, Matawan, Middletown, Ocean Grove and the Monmouth Conservation Foundation.

The Monmouth County Historical Sites Inventory is a 350-page volume, containing a countywide report on 2000 historical sites. It is considered by most to be the definitive work on historical sites in Monmouth County.

Among the many awards received by Ms. Hunton are the 1989 NJ historic

Sites Council's *Historic Preservation award*, for her work in *City of Plainfield – Design Guidelines for Historic Districts and Sites*, and the *1990 Historic Victorian Seaside Resort*. She also received awards from the Monmouth County Planning Board and the NJ Chapter of the American Planning Association for the Ocean Grove Guide.

Ms. Hunton has also served as the Chair of the Roosevelt Borough Planning Board, and has served as a member of the Boards of Directors for Preservation New Jersey and the Lincroft Center for Children. She was raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. "Because of her extraordinary body of work," said County Clerk Claire French, "Gail was selected from a large group of outstanding nominations."

Ms. French is the creator of the Jane Clayton Award and supervises the Monmouth County Archives, located at the Monmouth County Library, in Manalapan.

The Award is given each year to a deserving individual that has, by virtue of his or her deeds, fostered and promoted the history and heritage of Monmouth County.

Each year, Ms. French seeks nominations from all the historical associations in Monmouth County. All nominations are carried over to the next year, so that a nominee does not necessarily have to win the first year they are nominated.

Previous winners of the Jane Clayton award include George Moss, Jr. (1997); Mary Lou Strong (1998); Louise Jost (1999); Wesley Banse (2000); and, Douglas Foulks (2001).

The award is named for Jane G. Clayton, of Rumson, who was Ms. French's predecessor as County Clerk.

"It is most appropriate that this prize is named in honor of Jane Clayton," Ms. French said, "she was the driving force behind the creation of the County Archives. Jane was personally involved in the design of our state-of-the-art archives and the preservation of numerous, priceless documents dating back to the mid-17th century."

"Naming this award in her honor will, hopefully in years to come, inspire others to work as she did to preserve our heritage. It will also serve to remind us of her determined dedication and commitment," Ms. French concluded. ■

**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!"**

**Wednesdays
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

To the voters of Roosevelt,

We have the opportunity on November 5 to elect two people to the Borough Council who have consistently demonstrated thoughtfulness, a sense of responsibility to the people of Roosevelt, and the good judgment required to weigh many considerations and make reasonable decisions for the good of our town.

Incumbent Marilyn Magnes has been invaluable on the Council because of her professional experience and knowledge in the area of affordable housing. She chairs the administrative committee and is currently preparing to interview candidates for the new position of borough administrator/purchasing agent.

When Bob Atwood withdrew as a Council candidate after it was too late to remove his name from the ballot, the Democratic Committee approached Beth Battel of Footlight Farm to run for a Council seat as a write-in candidate. After taking the opportunity to talk with a number of people about the responsibilities she would be undertaking, Beth agreed to be a candidate. She has been on our Rescue Squad for years and is currently a member of the Planning Board. Beth will make a great addition to our Borough Council.

On November 5, I ask you to pull the lever next to Marilyn Magnes' name, and slide the door open next to Bob Atwood's in order to write in Beth Battel. You will receive additional instructions about writing in a candidate's name, and you can ask any of the election officials on Election Day to help you.

Sincerely,

Ann Baker,

Democratic Committeewoman

To the voters of Roosevelt,

First of all, I hope there are many of us voting in Roosevelt on November 5. It takes so little time, and is so important if we want our country and our community to function well. Become a well-informed voter, and exercise your franchise. If you are a woman, remember that many people struggled for decades to force the Congress into granting this essential right. We honor their efforts when we make that stop at the Borough Hall on election days.

Elections are necessary because there are different points of view on almost every subject under the sun, and the way we decide which point of view will prevail in terms of laws, is by voting. That's politics – forming opinions and making sure they count when elected officials act in our name.

When we bought our house in 1979, the burning issue in town for several years had been development and land preservation. This has not changed since the 1970s. There are people whose opinion is that development will lower our taxes and transform Roosevelt into a more "normal" town. There are people who like Roosevelt the way it is, don't believe development will lower our taxes, and want the developers to go away.

Beginning with the election of 1990, those who favored development began to win elections and transform the Borough Council. It only took a couple of elections to gain a majority on the Council and to welcome the approach of developers. They wanted to change the zoning ordinances to accommodate nearly 70 houses in the Notterman tract, and up to 500 houses on both sides of Rt. 571 coming into town from Hightstown.

However, the Planning Board had approved zoning for the northern agricultural lands to provide for no more

than 114 single-family homes, or one house per four acres, (PCD-II) and action was pending before Council on that zoning. Council had placed a non-binding referendum on the November, 1996 ballot.

That fall, the voters of Roosevelt had the opportunity to vote on this referendum regarding possible development. There were five questions on the ballot; 1) Planned Community Development in accordance with the zoning changes that had been approved by the Planning Board (PCD-II), 2) a conventional sewer development, 3) age-restricted development, 4) retention of the current zoning, and 5) conventional non-sewered development.

The outcome was clear. The town supported 114 homes north of town but not an adult community. Those in favor of PCD: 246, opposed: 113, in favor of sewer development: 56, opposed: 245; in favor of age-restricted development: 71, opposed: 238; in favor of the then-current zoning: 115, opposed: 204; in favor of non-sewered development: 82, opposed: 214. People could vote on more than one question, thus accounting for the different totals. In December, 1996, the Council passed PCD II by a vote of 4-2, with Rose Murphy and George Vasseur voting against it.

Because PCD II did not accommodate a developer's plan to build at least 350 age-restricted units, the Council developed an amendment to the PCD II ordinance, and in December, 1998, passed PRCD, despite the recommendation of the Planning Board to delay amending both ordinances to comply with developers' desires.

In a sense of growing desperation to get work underway, U.S. Home requested a meeting with the Mayor and Council to discuss the concessions they needed from our governing body to

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LETTERS

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make their project financially attractive to the corporation. On June 21, 1999, there was a meeting, in violation of the Sunshine Law, involving five people from U.S. Home, Mayor Lee Allen, Council members George Vasseur, Rose Murphy, Harry Parker and John Towle, Council attorney, John Ross, and Planning board Chair, Joe Zahora. Roosevelt public officials who participated in this meeting exhibited extremely poor judgement by attending a meeting that was closed to the public.

Stu Kaufman accuses the current Mayor and Council of bringing about the U.S. Home suit by repealing the PCD II zoning ordinance. But U.S. Home was not interested in building 114 homes on both sides of Rt. 571. U.S. Home was only interested in Roosevelt land if they could put up between 250-370 age-restricted homes possibly on both sides of the highway. U.S. Home filed its suit against the Borough in May, 2001, and the repeal of PCD II occurred in June, 2001. There is no cause and effect.

Furthermore, in the ballot referendum of November, 1996, the voters of Roosevelt clearly indicated that they did not want an age-restricted community developed. They had many reasons for opposing such a development – among them, the number of homes that were proposed, and the fact that such a development would be a self-contained community with little involvement with the affairs of Roosevelt except on election days.

Ten years ago, those in Roosevelt who favor land preservation took a time-out from politics while the proponents of development did the political organizing to gain control of our governing body. We came very close to having bulldozers moving the earth north of town to make us look like the Windsors.

After the Council disregarded the

wishes of voters in 1996 and amended the ordinance to accommodate U.S. Home, the pendulum shifted once again. Since the mayoral election of 1999, supporters of open-space preservation have formed the Fund for Roosevelt and raised money to keep the western side of Rt. 571 forever agricultural. Additionally, they have placed in public office a Mayor and Council who have demonstrated their commitment to restraining developers who seem to have set out to totally alter the once-rural landscape of our state and region.

Many municipalities have realized too late that once sprawl occurs, there is no way to put the genie back in the bottle. Furthermore, the financial gains they expected have not materialized. Roosevelt has the opportunity to swim against the tide of powerful developers who retaliate when they don't get what they want. And that's another part of politics. Support our public officials for standing up to that exercise of power.

Sincerely,
Ann Baker,
Democratic Committeewoman

To the Editor:

My name is Beth Battel. I am running as a Democratic write-in for the Borough Council.

Having lived at Footlight Farm for twenty-three years, I have come to love the Borough of Roosevelt, the people who live here and the open space that surrounds it. To serve the town I have been a member of the First Aid Squad for fifteen years, am currently on the Planning Board and a Board member of the Fund for Roosevelt. In addition, as the owner of a successful farm, I appreciate the necessity for sound planning and budgeting.

These experiences have led me to believe that I can be of further service to the community by becoming a mem-

ber of the Council. My two main concerns are the preservation of the beautiful open spaces that we enjoy and the need to provide increased emergency services to the residents. To further the latter goal I would like to explore regionalization options with first aid squads from nearby towns.

I would appreciate your write-in vote on Nov. 5th and your support for my running mate, Marilyn Magnes.

Beth Battel

To the Editor:

Lions, and Tigers, and Bears, Oh, My!

As a 29-year resident of Roosevelt, I took two crucial articles, one in the 9/26/02 Examiner, and the other, the Planning Board report in the October *Bulletin*, to make me realize that I surely have been deaf, blind and dumb to the Vegas-like condition of our Borough, undoubtedly attributable to "noise pollution", "light pollution", and my inability to recognize farm animals when I see them.

I have obviously been deafened by the "noise pollution, of all those nasty, gas-powered contraptions, such as, lawnmowers, chain saws, garden tillers, weed-whackers, augmented by "loudly crowing roosters", and "barking dogs". The sad part is, that I didn't even hear, or pay any attention to all of those disturbances until these articles brought the problem to my attention. Now, I'm not going to be able to rest until I get myself some earplugs.

I have surely been blinded by the "light pollution" created by people who inconsiderately refuse to draw their curtain at night, by porch and deck lights, by the headlights of cars as they drive about our streets, by useless streetlights when everyone is at home watching television, and by all means, by the glittering Halloween and Christmas decorations during the

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STORY OF A SALAD

Anita lived in Roosevelt for many years and as a well loved person to so many of us, we thought her story would be of great interest to all. Her piano career keeps her in Mexico most of the time, but she has many concert engagements in various American locations as well.

My Aunt Zita Montenegro said to me once with her gentle laugh, "Yes, it is true. We are all a salad." She was speaking of Mexicans, but I think it is true of all of us. My Aunt Zita was born in the central Mexican hill town of Dolores Hidalgo, the cradle of Mexican independence. At eighteen, she came to California to scout out the territory for the rest of the family. The daughter of one of my grandmother's brothers, Zita is not really an aunt, but a second cousin. She was one of my pathways into the history of my Mexican family.

The other pathway, albeit only briefly, was my paternal grandfather, Miguel Cervantes Martinez. He was born in 1895 in Silao, which lies about thirty miles west-northwest of the city of Guanajuato, Mexico, capital of the state with the same name. Some call Guanajuato the heart of Mexico. It is in the Bajío (lowland), a high plateau suspended in the center of Mexico between two great mountain ranges which run like twin spines down the sides of the country.

Born into a family of humble origins, the father of my grandfather was a shoemaker from the Spanish province of Murcia. Aunt Zita says that my grandmother, Maria Eugenia, became enamored of Miguel Cervantes



Guanajuato

on the rebound from having been jilted by a local doctor. For Miguel to contemplate matrimony with Maria Eugenia bravo, also born in 1895 but into the family of a respected accountant in the state capital of Guanajuato, was to dream above his station, something rarely done even during Mexico's early twentieth century revolutionary turbulence. Nevertheless, marry they did in Guanajuato in 1914, when they were nineteen years old. In the sepia wedding picture I have of them, they look solemn, innocent and heartbreakingly young. Their first child, my uncle Miguel Ingel is the only one still living of the four children they were to have. He was born in 1915 in the city of Guanajuato. How was it that my own father, brown baby of unmistakably brown people, was born in Olean, New York, a town of only white people, five years later?

The short answer is that the family, like many families then, left Mexico and came to the United States. The longer and true story is that they had to leave because there was a price on my grandfather's head. It was a time of almost

incessant conflict in Mexico. This was the era of Francisco (Pancho) Villa, of gifted idealists and greedy power seekers, of the tremendous and often bloody ferment of a republic being born. The state of Guanajuato was the scene of a number of pivotal events in these conflicts. As a result, it was one of the most fought-over territories of the still young republic.

My grandfather, Miguel Cervantes Martinez, working hard to support his new family, accepted contracts to transport goods with a mule train which he ran with a few men who worked for him. At some point during this period, he was hauling grain for the federales, when he and his mule train had the bad luck to run into Pancho Villa. Villa's men took the grain and the mules, and were getting ready to hang my grandfather. The men who worked for him interceded on his behalf, saying to Villa that my grandfather was not a bad man, that he had no politics and was just doing what any man would who had a young family to feed. They pleaded eloquently, or Villa was in a magnanimous mood that day. He let Miguel Cervantes go, but he made it plain that if he were to bump into Miguel again, it would most likely be the last encounter Miguel would have with any living soul. During 1919, the family crossed the river at Knave Laredo. My uncle Miguel Ingel was barely five, and the second child, Estelle, was eighteen months of age. Miguel Cervantes had papers only for himself. He had to trust Maria Eugenia and the

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two children to the coyotes, the operators who get people across the border illegally. After various adventures, they wound up in that small town of Olean, New York, where the third child, Guillermo, or William, and the last, my father, Roberto Martinez, were born.

In Nebraska in the spring of 1876, my maternal great-grandfather James Ezekiel Davey married Rosalie Hornung, a twenty-five year old woman from the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen, Germany who had come to the United States at the age of twelve. James's own father had come from Sligo County, Ireland around 1836.

According to the family history which my Nebraska cousin Harold Davey, inexhaustible genealogist of this side of the family, has compiled, Rosalie's mother, Louisa Burckhardt Hornung, single-handedly kept her family alive after the death of her husband in 1877 and after the collapse of their homesteaders' sod house on the plains of Nebraska. She lived to the ripe old age of 80, leaving numerous great-grandchildren, a prosperous farm in Little Salt Precinct, Nebraska, and a reputation as a businesswoman of considerable acumen. Her daughter Rosalie and the Irishman's son James had two sons and five daughters, of whom the youngest was Anna Davey.

In 1915, a year after my Mexican grandparents were married in Guanajuato, Anna Davey married a man named James Leslie Teal, and early in 1916, she gave birth to my mother, Grace Lenore, in Lincoln, Nebraska. I am sure that the indomitable blood of her great-grandmother Louisa ran strong in my mother's veins. Not only was she a gifted pianist but she also earned a Ph.D. in English Literature and was Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Nebraska, a rare achievement for a young woman in the early 1940s. Like many young people with curiosity and a yen for

adventure, she headed for Washington, D.C. at the end of the Second World War. There she found a terrible housing shortage but also a lot of interesting government jobs.

My father's childhood can not have been an idyllic one, and indeed, the few tales he told me were not happy ones. There was a great deal of racism in the little upstate New York town, and it often expressed itself toward the unfamiliar family with a different skin color and very little English. My grandfather held down three jobs: in the railroad repair depot, as janitor in the bank, and at any odd job he could get. More than once, in the depths of those terrible cold winters, he did what many other poor people must have done. He went to the railroad tracks to pick up coal that had fallen from the passing trains in order to feed the stove in the house. Once he was found there and taken to the local lock-up. Someone from the railroad had to come and vouch for him before he could be released. The story does not tell if they let him keep the coal.

As always in such stories, there were people who acted on their nobler instincts. These were the only ones my grandfather, a man of extraordinarily sweet temperament, talked about when he told me this story. The president of the bank where Miguel Cervantes worked was a good man. He helped my grandparents become citizens, and his wife was kind to my grandmother.

Somehow, through all of this, the family Cervantes seems almost always to have managed to keep a piano in the house. That Mexican accountant great-grandfather of mine, although a periodic binge drinker, was a kindly and good father who saw to it that his daughters were educated. Thus my grandmother Maria Eugenia had some musical training and more than a little talent. She played the piano and even

composed songs. My father grew up sometimes hungry for food, but with a great love of music. He enlisted in the military around 1943, the last of the four children to leave that precarious nest. During those war years, Miguel Cervantes Martinez and Maria Eugenia Cervantes Bravo moved to New York City because there was more work in the big city. It was during this time that my grandfather worked for a couple of years in the Steinway factory in Astoria, Queens. Steinway made gliders for the United States military during the war, as they had special expertise in forming wood into these lightweight, maneuverable aircraft.

My father's unit was preparing to go to the Pacific when the war ended, so instead of going to war, he headed to Washington, D.C. to go to college on the GI Bill. That was where Robert Martinez Cervantes and Grace Lenore Teal met and married and my younger sister Madolin and I were born and raised. When I was about twelve, my mother bought herself a Steinway grand piano, no doubt built in that same factory in Queens. It is the piano which now graces me with its presence in my life.

I grew up disconnected from both the Nebraska background from which my mother came and the Mexican one of my father. My father shared with many other second generation Americans a ferocious desire to assimilate, to put the past of his parents behind him. In his case, this included separating almost completely from his family. My mother, who had the stable and comfortable childhood my father lacked, nevertheless felt an abiding desire to leave behind the places from whence she came, and to a great extent she too cut herself off from her family.

My father, Roberto Martinez Cervantes, died in 1983 without ever

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FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

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● **Refinancing debt...** As I have outlined in my monthly reports, under the previous administration, the Borough took out several large long-term loans to rebuild our sewer treatment plant. Almost half of your monthly water and sewer bill is applied to pay for the principal and interest on these loans. As with your home mortgage, over the term of the loan you pay more in interest than you do in principal. We are looking into ways to refinance that debt. Just as a homeowner can save on monthly expenses by refinancing a mortgage when rates go down, we can lower your monthly water and sewer rates by refinancing Roosevelt's long-term debt.

● **Interest on our borough accounts...** I am pleased to report that over the last three years the Borough has earned almost \$100,000 in additional revenue from interest on our Borough funds. Under the prior administration our bank accounts held up to 2 million dollars and earned little interest. When I first took office in January of 2000, I examined our books and quickly discovered a simple but effective way to maximize revenue. I directed our financial professionals to place our Borough funds in interest-bearing bank accounts. There were no costs associated with this project.

The PCD-II Ordinance

In the October issue of the *Bulletin*, Stuart Kaufman, a Republican candidate for Borough Council, called for the reinstatement of the PCD-II ordinance so that a large senior community could be built in Roosevelt. Mr Kaufman said that the present

Council did not have a plan when it repealed these ordinances, and he asserted that we did not represent the community when we did so.

Whether or not houses of any size, shape or form will be built in the farmland near our northern borders, will be determined by the court in the U.S. Home litigation, not the reinstatement of an ordinance. If the court rules that Roosevelt did not provide adequate opportunities for affordable housing, it can issue a 'builder's remedy' and allow U.S. Home to build a limited number of houses in the northern part of town.

The PCD-II ordinance and the PCD/PRCD ordinances that were repealed were additional layers added to our underlying zoning during the previous administration in which Stuart Kaufman served as Councilman. They were added at the request of developer Sidney Israel who wanted to build a large senior project in Roosevelt, a project that would not have been allowed under the extant ordinances. The PCD-II ordinances were repealed in 2001 by the current Council. The elimination of the PCD-II ordinances left the original Rural/Agricultural zoning in place. There are many good reasons that the PCD-II ordinances were buried in the graveyard of bad ideas and should not be exhumed.

Many of you may not be aware (just as Mr. Kaufman is possibly unaware) that municipal planning legislation and actions regarding land-use are not subject to the whim and fancy of public officials, as Mr. Kaufman claims. The foundation for our actions resulting in the repeal of the PCD-II (that permitted 114 single family homes) and the PCD/PRCD ordinance (that permitted a 350-unit adult community in lieu of 114 houses) were

well-grounded and were based upon recommendations contained in the *Municipal Master Plan for the Borough of Roosevelt*.

The Municipal Master Plan... is a comprehensive statement of specific objectives, principles, assumptions, policies and standards upon which the physical, economic and social development of the community are based. It is the result of years of hard work and study by professional planners and the input of community received during the public hearings where it was thoroughly discussed.

It is important to note that our rescission of the PCD-II and the PCD/PRCD ordinances was deemed to be consistent with the Master Plan and the wishes of the community. The sweeping changes in the ordinances passed during Mayor Allen's administration, in which Mr. Kaufman served, deviated from the Master Plan. Their changes required a resolution (#53-90 passed in 1990) to explain the inconsistencies of their actions. Resolution #53-90 proposed high-density residential development in an area that was zoned for agricultural use in the Master Plan.

The Master Plan in effect at the time the PCD-II ordinances were added so that a builder could build either 114 single-family houses or a 350-unit senior project, stated that:

"there is no reason to recommend any changes in zoning designation with respect to the agricultural area north of Oscar Drive," that "it is neither appropriate or desirable to take any steps that might encourage removal of this land from agricultural use."

Resolution #53/90 states its purpose in a straightforward way, *"These conclusions, set forth in the Master Plan under "Agricultural Land Use," are clearly in conflict with Resolution*

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By Michael Ticktin

Commission Seeks Borough Control of State-Owned Farmland

At its October meeting, the Environmental Commission adopted a resolution to ask the Borough Council to contact the management of the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area to ask that the Borough be allowed to assume stewardship of the fields in the former Notterman tract that were formerly farmed but that have gone unfarmed since the State acquired the property as part of the Assunpink W.M.A.

According to Commission member Rod Tulloss, the Assunpink W.M.A. is severely understaffed and, as a result, no arrangements were made this year for the land to be farmed. If it is allowed to become forested, it will be open to hunting, except for buffer areas within 450 feet of occupied buildings. Conservation practices that had been agreed to by the W.M.A. management were not implemented. The Commission agreed with Mr. Tulloss' recommendation that the Borough ask to be given the authority to arrange to have the land farmed and to implement conservation measures. Mr. Tulloss also expressed the hope that a way might be found to transfer the land to the Farmland Preservation program so that it might be sold, without development rights, to someone who would farm it, thereby achieving the municipal goal of retaining the land as farmland, while also allowing the State to recoup at least some of the money that it spent to acquire the land last year. ■

FROM THE MAYOR'S CHAIR

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#53/90. The current Master Plan must therefore be amended to be consistent with Resolution #53/90 in order that the planning goals of the community may be unequivocally stated."

The previous administration clearly chose to deviate from that plan and it did not represent the wishes of the community as reflected in the Master Plan. In the non-binding public referendum held several years before these sweeping changes were made, the voters clearly expressed their opposition to massive development of the kind proposed by Mr. Kaufman.

The 2001 Master Plan (a public record, available for review at the borough hall) gives a history of the town and its unique design and how it has changed over the years. We are quite fortunate to have a municipal Master Plan that is the result of the expertise and experience of professional planners, affordable housing experts and historic preservation specialists who choose to make Roosevelt their home. The Master Plan looks at where we have been, where we are now, and where we are headed. It is our carefully planned blueprint for the future of Roosevelt.

Michael Hamilton, Mayor ■

TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

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having set foot in Mexico, but not before he started speaking Spanish again, and not before he reconnected with his brother Miguel and with his father.

It was not until some time later that my own salad started to mix itself and the different flavors to emerge. In 1997, my sister died. Later that terrible year, I came to the city of Guanajuato for the first time and found my cousins in San Luis de la Paz, some three hours from there. Late in 1998, my mother, grace Lenore Teal passed away. A few months later, in March of 1999, I was awarded a Fulbright-Gracia Robles grant to come to Guanajuato and develop a repertoire of Mexican contemporary music for subsequent performance in the United States. A scant two weeks before I left for the Fulbright, I received an e-mail message from my cousin Harold whom I'd never known. Harold had just found me through the Internet in the course of his genealogical research. With him, I am part of yet another family. Recently my Aunt Fannie, the wife of my Uncle Miguel, learned to use e-mail, and now we stay in touch that way.

The salad continues to mix itself, and I too savor it and am profoundly grateful for its unexpected sweetness and bitterness, its many flavors and connections. ■

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

LETTERS

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Holiday Season. This last intolerable source of “light pollution” must indeed be abolished, for the sake of the “quality-of-life” of our inhabitants. For my vision’s sake, as well as my desire to contribute to the reduction of “light pollution”, I intend to stay indoors at night, curtains drawn, with the lights turned down real low.

I am particularly upset that up to now, we have not had “an animal density ordinance controlling the number of pets” people can have. The solution for this issue is simple. Like the Communist Chinese solution for their human population control – only one child per family – our citizens must be told that they will be allowed only one pet per household. No more than one of any given species, with canaries and guppies excluded. With the force of such an ordinance, all additional pets will have to be taken to an animal shelter to be humanely put down, thereby, effectively reducing our out-of-control Borough’s pet population.

The other problem I failed to appreciate – through sheer ignorance I suppose – until I was alerted by these articles, was that in the process of winding my way down Farm Lane to the Post Office, my progress has frequently been impeded – not by the speed bumps – but by wandering herds of farm animals – or, what look like farm animals to me – as well as an occasional chipmunk. I could be mistaken, in that they may just be deer taking advantage of the proliferation of farm animals in the borough, to move about as they please, with impunity, not even feeling threatened by “feral cats”. The “hard and fast rules” of an ordinance are definitely in order here, before chickens and rabbits, as well as deer, take over the town, forcing people to move back to the city, where there are no such critters. On the other hand, cities are well known to have rats, cockroaches, bedbugs and

other vermin, so what’s to be gained.

I was certainly surprised by the statement of the alleged presence of horses on residential properties, and the need of a specific ordinance to control the problem. I, personally, have never seen one, but it may be that I haven’t looked in the right places. In my view, if this indeed is a problem, it should come under the purview of the aforementioned, “an animal density ordinance controlling the number of pets” people can have. It should be obvious that in our thoroughly mechanized societies, horses can no longer be seen as farm animals, having been unemployed for several generations – on welfare, so to speak – treated as pets to be coddled and cared for, without any productive demands being placed on them. The only thing horses have to submit to these days, is a brief trot or canter, with a human on their back, enjoying a thorough bottom to top massage. It only remains that horses in the residential area – along with other extra pets – should be disposed of, but I’m not about to suggest how that can be done.

Another thing that seems to have escaped my attention is, “We have a zoning ordinance, and one thing you can’t do in a residential area is farm.” That’s all the ordinance says, it’s not very clear as to the type of farming involved. Does it mean commercial or individual farming? If the former, then it stands to reason that all of the existing residential housing would have to be removed to accommodate such an operation. If the latter, then, that ordinance has been a dismal failure, for the simple reason that there has always been a great deal of individual farming going on within the residential area, from the earliest days of Jersey Homestead, particularly after the communal farm scheme that was part of the original package went belly-up, because nobody wanted to work there. No mat-

ter how you slice it, farming is farming, whether it be a 250-sq. ft. plot, or one hundred acres. The intent is to grow the food we all need.

Living in the real world, there is one thing I’m not confused about. That is the acceptance of the tolerable effects of human activities. A bit of noise here, a bit too much of the blessing of artificial light there, animals of all sorts at close proximity – not as close as they used to be in ancient times – and the boon of ten thousand years of agricultural evolution, making it possible for man to be self-sustaining, at the best of times, and at the worst of times. The alternative is to shut everything down, and revert back to the age of the Neanderthals, living in caves, fearful of the night from dusk till dawn, cautious that any noise may awaken – to their detriment – a lurking saber-toothed tiger. Talk about “feral cats.”

G.C. de Malvilain

To the Editor:

I am writing to endorse Democrats Beth Battel and Marilyn Magnes for Council.

Council woman Marilyn Magnes has served several terms on the Council under several different administrations and she has always done her job as a public servant with respect for the public whom she represents. Marilyn is a hard worker, she studies proposals and pulls more than her fair share of the workload that public bodies must attend to.

Marilyn has brought to the Borough a wealth of knowledge from her professional experience and she has applied those skills to the benefit of our citizens. As Chair of the Council Administrative Committee, Marilyn has worked to see that the town is better managed. Marilyn’s expertise regarding housing has been invaluable in the development of our affordable housing plan.

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Councilwoman Magnes is insightful and I find that I often turn to her for her opinion on matters because I trust them and I trust her. I know that Marilyn's opinions will be drawn from her extensive experience and tempered by her feel for our community. Marilyn values community and has worked hard over the years to preserve farmland and open space and to protect the special sense of place that we all feel as citizens of Roosevelt.

Beth Battel is the owner of Footlight Farms, the stables at the end of Lake Drive. I first met Beth over ten years ago when I came to visit her at the stables in order to write an article for the *Bulletin* on Footlight Farms. Although I never wrote the article, I walked away being very impressed with how hard Beth worked, and the way she seemed to approach everything.

Several years later I met Beth again when I was on the School Board. Beth showed up at the school playground on her backhoe to help us dig holes for the footings for the playground equipment that we were installing. Again I was impressed, this time with her dedication to helping the town.

Some of you may know Beth Battel from her 12 years of volunteer service to our community as a volunteer and Captain of our First Aid Squad. Others may know her because of her service as a Planning Board member. As if that isn't enough, there is something else that you should know about Beth Battel.

Beth's property extends behind the houses on Lake Drive all the way down to the path that leads to Solar Village. Beth is donating much of that land to the Borough so that her Lake Drive neighbors can have an area of greenbelt behind their houses like many other Roosevelt homeowners enjoy. In a way, Beth has offered to help us complete

what is essentially the original design of the town. She has proven her dedication to our community not through words but through quiet but effective action.

When she learned several weeks before the election that Democratic candidate Bob Atwood was unable to run for Council but it was too late to remove his name from the ballot, Beth volunteered again, this time to run as a Democratic write-in candidate for Council.

Over the years I have been impressed with Beth's quiet dedication to our community and I would love nothing better than to see her be given the opportunity to serve on the Council. I am sure that she would approach that job in the same way she approaches everything else, in a careful, considerate and thoughtful way, and I am sure that you will be as impressed with her as I have been over the years.

When you come the polls on November 5th, take the time to write-in Beth Battel, Democratic candidate for Council and to pull the lever for Democrat Councilwoman Marilyn Magnes. They are by far the best choices for Council.

Mike Hamilton, Mayor

Dear Roosevelt Friends,

Many, many thanks to all of you for your wonderful thoughtfulness to me during my illness. I can't begin to count all the telephone calls, get well cards, gifts of food and so on that I have received, not only from those who are my really old friends but also from some of the relatively newcomers in town. That's what happens in Roosevelt.

I'm sure your good wishes have helped me to get well and I am most appreciative to all of you.

Diana Klein

To the Editor:

I am running on the Democratic line for Councilperson. Last year, I was elected to complete the remaining one-year for the seat vacated by Judith Tractenberg. I would like to continue to play an active role in the issues that affect our community. This past year, I worked with my fellow Council members to: plan our affordable housing program; devise ways to address blighted properties; successfully bring in a cell phone tower (which will increase our revenue by a minimum of \$30,000); and, comply with DEP's mandate to install water meters.

The lawsuit we are engaged in with US Homes will be of major importance during 2003. I believe that this suit, initiated by US Homes, must be continued. Since my first term on Council in 1975, I have been an advocate for the preservation of open space. Before moving to Roosevelt in 1970, I had lived in many areas of the country in urban, suburban and rural communities. I feel fortunate to live in a community that offers green belts, small classroom sizes, an opportunity to participate in decision-making, and neighbors who care about one another. I have always felt that instead of changing Roosevelt, more communities should be created like ours. I hope you feel as I do and will support my candidacy for Council.

For six years I worked with Beth Battel as an EMT on the Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Beth is still serving. She provided outstanding leadership and demonstrated a high level of commitment. She currently serves on the Planning Board and the Fund for Roosevelt. I am delighted that she will be running for Council as a Democratic write-in. Please take the time to understand how to write in a candidate. A demonstration exhibit will be available

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at the polls and we will be distributing literature to explain the procedure.

I urge you to get the facts about the issues and to vote for Beth Battel and for me.

Marilyn Magnes

To the Editor:

Stuart Kaufman, the perennial Republican loser, is running again for Borough Council.

Kaufman announced to the *Borough Bulletin* one recent year (it's hard to remember which one) that the question of building senior housing in the tract where US Home wants to build, is a dead issue. Now you have to believe that he is either so incapable that he isn't fit for office, or he was trying to lull the community into dropping its guard. In fact, he has become one of the staunchest advocates of the US Home project not on their payroll, and is very protective of their interests. He argues that we are spending too much money on legal fees defending against this disruption of Roosevelt's quality of life.

He also came up with an attack on the current Council for not paying enough attention to the water plant. In fact this Council has done more for the water plant than Kaufman even proposed. Among other things, this Council has replaced well number 3, which now gives the best water of all the wells.

Kaufman was on the Borough Council for six years, during which time the Borough taxpayers lost tens of thousands of dollars in interest, because Kaufman and his fellow Council members allowed Borough accounts to lie about in non-interest bearing accounts.

There are other issues too, but some seem out of date or small in comparison. One thing we know: Stuart Kaufman has never apologized for an error, and we can expect more of the

same if he is elected.

Ed Moser

To the Editor:

The Democratic Council candidates of this year's ballot are Marilyn Magnes and Beth Battel, a write-in candidate. Magnes is the most experienced Council member currently serving, and has given many hours of her time and effort to Roosevelt. She has a clear, technical understanding of housing issues, and understands Borough finances as well.

She was a leader in fighting against big, rapid development and keeping the Roosevelt quality of life. With her leadership, the gas station was put up for disposal, to get ready to come back on the tax rolls.

Battel is a newcomer to Roosevelt's political scene, but not to Roosevelt. She owns Footlight Farms, the beautifully kept horse farm on Spruce street. Battel is a longtime member of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad, and a former captain. She is a current member of the Planning Board, and has donated land to the Borough. She has agreed to be a write-in candidate for Council. Instead of pressing the lever for Bob Atwood on the Democratic Council line, write in Beth Battel's name.

I'm going to vote for Marilyn and Beth Battel. I hope you will too.

Pat Moser

Dear Roosevelt Resident,

It should be a given that any discussion of an important local issue by a candidate for public office should be based on an informed understanding of that issue. Council candidate Stuart Kaufman's letter to the October *Borough Bulletin* makes a number of statements concerning the former PCD-II conditional use in the R-Ag 400 district which do not meet that requirement. As a member of the Roosevelt

Planning Board since 2000, I participated in the deliberations during which the Board, with the assistance of its attorney and master plan consultant, thoroughly reviewed PCD-II regulations. The result of the review was that the flaws in these regulations made it desirable that they be rescinded by the Council. All review discussions were open to the public. The opinions of the master plan consultant, Michael Sullivan of Clarke, Caton, Hintz, advocating deletion of PCD-II regulations are a matter of public record.

At the beginning of this year (2002), I was elected Planning Board chairman. My qualifications for the chairmanship are based on 35 years as a professional planning consultant for rural and urban municipalities in New Jersey and New York. I also served as an adjunct professor in the department of Environmental Resources at Cook College, Rutgers (1975, 1976) and the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College in New York City (1978-1999). My prior membership on the Roosevelt Planning Board (1958-1988) ended before the introduction and adoption of PCD-II regulations in 1991.

To the average urban observer of open space in municipalities, the usual assumption is that it can accommodate as much housing as there is open space. A customary procedure in planning and zoning for future development of communities with significant areas of open space, however, is to conduct a detailed study of what physical conditions might limit full development of such open areas. Physical limitations include steep slopes, wetlands, and poorly drained or rocky soils that either limit or preclude development. In the past 10 years, the accuracy of such studies has been greatly improved through a computerized process known as GIS

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(Geographic Information Systems). It combines data from aerial photography, tax maps, environmental evaluations and other relevant sources to produce maps and tables defining the location and extent of physical limitations. In 2000, Mayor Hamilton submitted an application for state Smart Growth Planning funds to allow Roosevelt to buy into Millstone township's newly created GIS mapping program which included Roosevelt. While the Roosevelt application for Smart Growth Planning funds received favorable reviews, shortage of State funds prevented its funding and the Borough bought its sector of the Millstone GIS program at a nominal price. These negotiations delayed preparation of GIS-based Roosevelt mapping in time for inclusion in the master plan. Base maps and wetlands maps of the entire borough, however, as well as a supplementary physical limitations map for tax block 5 (the site of U.S. Home's litigation) were prepared later and are on display in the Borough Clerk's office.

There were many reasons for rescinding the PCD-II provisions as originally written in the Roosevelt zoning ordinance. Inconsistencies with the State plan, ambiguities and vagueness were among the difficulties cited by the current Planning Board attorney, the consultant for the new master plan, the Borough attorney and various planning professionals who reviewed the ordinance. Moreover, of the "northern 500" acreage of the Borough originally permitting PCD-II as a conditional use, the western portion's approximately 270 acres on either side of Nurko Road were acquired by the Fund for Roosevelt for agricultural preservation. Section 7.488 k of the Roosevelt zoning ordinance concerning PCD-II, however, permitted transfer of the buildable densities unused in the fund for

Roosevelt sector to those allowed in tax block 5 across the road. The recent (2001) GIS-based physical limitations map of tax block 5, on display at the Borough Hall for the past two months, further justify the rescinding of PCD-II regulations for that sector. Of the 211 acres in which some interest in development had been expressed (lot 12 was excluded), the GIS map and its accompanying table show only 80 acres to be developable, i.e., not restricted by wetlands. Furthermore, the 80 acres are almost equally divided not just between two watersheds, the Assunpink and Rocky Brook, but two major drainage basins, the Delaware and the Raritan. This would require pumping sewerage from any development in the Raritan Basin to the Borough's sewage treatment plant in the Assunpink watershed/Delaware Basin. If unsewered, single family homes would require lots of approximately three acres each.

There are other possible limitations both in COAH (Council on Affordable Housing) regulations and the State plan which were not taken into account during the original PCD-II designation. Any discussion of the number of homes desirable or possible on tax block 5 which does not take all these statutory and environmental realities into account cannot be considered either thoughtful or responsible. For anyone interested in accuracy, the information on available buildable land in the sector formerly designated as PCD-II is on the physical limitations map for tax block 5 on display in the Clerk's office in the Borough Hall. The table quantifying buildable and non-buildable lands by block is affixed to the back of the map.

Ralph Seligman

By Clare Sacharoff

During the summer months, the Senior Club enjoyed a performance by Leslie Uggams, a well known vocalist at the PNC Garden State Arts Center.

In July, several members attended the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton where they viewed a planetarium show and saw an exhibit by the late local artist Jacob Landau.

On September 4, there was an event called "Salute to Seniors". This was a picnic for all seniors in Monmouth County. It was held at Sandy Hook and included lunch and entertainment. Twelve of our members participated.

Beth Johnson invited the club members for an afternoon of swimming, sitting around her pool and just being friendly. All those who attended enjoyed it.

The club voted to contribute \$25 from the Sunshine Club to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad.

There was a potluck luncheon at the September meeting.

In October there were nominations for officers. Elections will be held in November.

We wish a speedy recovery to three of our members. They are Ed Moser, Diana Klein, and Gladys Nadler. ■

November days are short. During the eleventh month, the sun rides low in the sky and cold weather settles in. Still, if you are lucky, you can find warmth enough to push away the autumn chill. A warm interlude can stop you in your tracks as you walk protected from a breeze into bright sunlight and warmth reflected off a wall. Or, as a momentary warm breeze wafts out of a valley. The surprise of the warmth's occurrence and momentary nature can rejuvenate you. November will lead to cloudy December. The sun of January taunts with its cold brilliance and then abandons us in bleak February. But suddenly the memory of a warm interlude that is November's gift will comfort you.

The National Weather Service (NWS) indicates that el Nino may cause some warm interludes during the winter. The NWS is forecasting a warmer than normal winter for our region. Though drought conditions are predicted to persist at least through the end of the year, the Weather Service is forecasting normal precipitation for the entire winter.

For a less scientific look ahead:

"If the skins are thick expect a cold winter."

"If the November goose bone be thick, so will the winter weather be."

"If squirrels are scarce in autumn, it indicates a cold winter."

"Onions skins very thin, a mild winter is coming in; Onion skins thick and tough, the coming winter cold and rough."

If your trust is in the Old Farmers' Almanac, then get ready for a warm winter with above average precipitation. The Almanac has forecast significant snow events for the end of November, around New Year's Day, for late January and finally, in the first half of February. The coldest part of the winter is predicted for early February.

Weather Event

The immigrant ship *New Era* hit a sandbar off Asbury Park during a storm on the morning of November 13, 1854. Though rescue workers got a lifeline out to the ship, it broke and there was no replacement line nearby. Of the 385 passengers on board

Weather Word

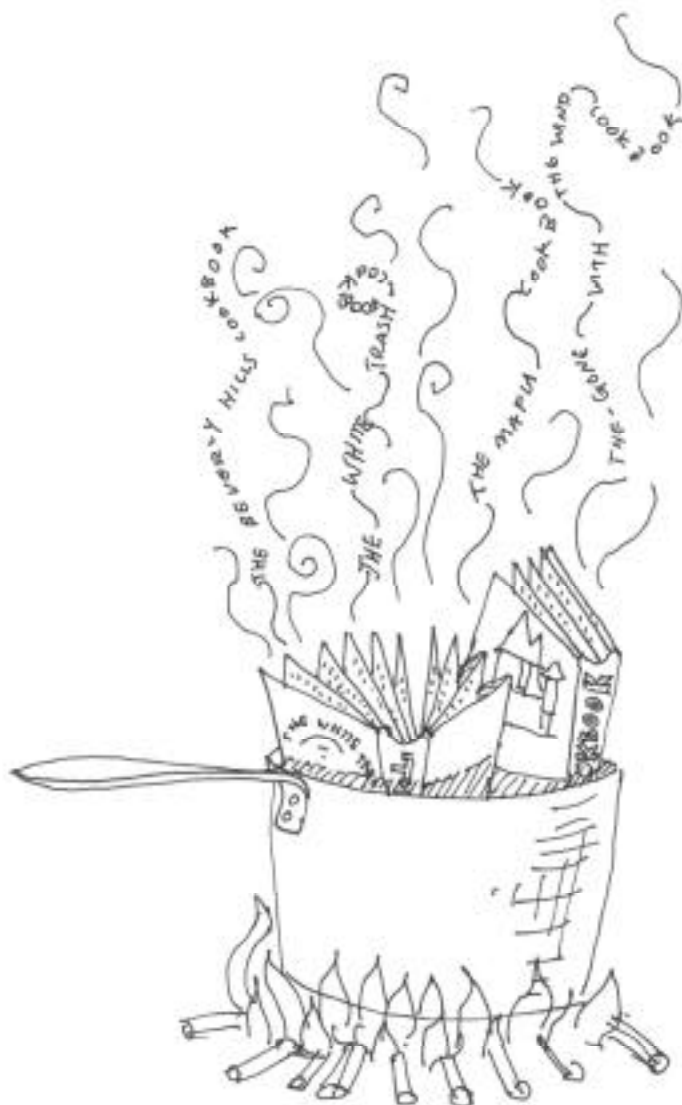
240 lost their lives.

An "accessory cloud" is a cloud that is dependent on a larger system of clouds for development and continuance. ■

Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, 2002

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip
15	82.8	67.8	75.3	0.20
16	82.0	69.1	75.6	0.40
17	75.7	57.0	66.4	0.00
18	77.0	52.7	64.9	0.00
19	77.0	53.2	65.1	0.00
20	81.0	59.0	70.0	0.00
21	86.0	65.1	75.6	0.00
22	82.4	66.2	74.3	0.00
23	75.2	64.4	69.8	0.00
24	74.5	51.6	63.1	0.00
25	73.4	50.4	61.9	0.00
26	64.6	57.0	60.8	0.00
27	78.3	59.7	69.0	1.35
28	76.3	59.7	68.0	0.46
29	68.4	50.4	59.4	0.00
30	71.8	49.1	60.5	0.00
1	76.3	56.7	66.5	0.00
2	81.7	62.1	71.9	0.00
3	82.9	63.9	73.4	0.00
4	73.6	62.1	67.9	0.00
5	83.3	65.7	74.5	0.15
6	70.7	48.4	59.6	0.00
7	75.4	55.6	65.5	0.00
8	64.4	43.2	53.8	0.00
9	68.0	44.4	56.2	0.00
10	66.2	55.8	61.0	0.07
11	63.9	55.4	59.7	1.59
12	64.8	59.0	61.9	1.69
13	63.0	57.0	60.0	0.20
14	61.0	45.9	53.5	0.10
15	59.5	37.4	48.5	0.00

Total Precipitation 6.21



The Cook Book Collector

Baked Potatoes

Cut 5 baked potatoes in half lengthwise. Carefully scoop out potatoes so as not to tear skin. Beat like mashed potatoes. Add:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1/2 C. canned milk | 1 C. grated cheddar cheese |
| 1/2 C. reg. Milk | 1 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 1 C. sour cream | 1/2 tsp. pepper |
| 1 egg | 1/2 tsp. garlic salt |
| 3 T. green onion | 1/2 C. fresh sliced mushrooms, |
| 4 strips bacon, | sautéed in 1/3 C. butter |
| fried & crumbled | 1/2 tsp. parsley |

Put ingredients back in shell and bake another 20 minutes. Can be prebaked and heated in microwave.

For many years I have been collecting cookbooks. Some are acquired for their titles, others for their recipes or art work. Some of the more unusual books are titled:

- The White Trash Cook Book
- The Mafia Cook Book
- The Beverly Hills Cook Book
- The Gone With The Wind Cook Book

Many of my cookbooks are acquired when friends or I travel. My husband, Carl, and I often visit the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. The following recipes are from an Amish cook book. I hope you enjoy them as much as my family and I do.

Baked Sweet Potatoes

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 6 cooked sweet potatoes, | 4 T. butter |
| (canned may be used) | 4 T. water |
| 1 C. brown sugar, packed | 1/2 tsp. salt |

Slice sweet potatoes into baking dish. Make syrup by bringing remaining ingredients to a boil. Pour syrup over potatoes. Bake about 30 minutes at 350 degrees, basting occasionally until syrup thickens and potatoes are glazed.

Best-Ever Carrots

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 C. carrots, sliced & cooked | 2 C. milk |
| 1/4 C. butter | 1 tsp. mustard |
| 1/2 C. onion | 1 C. shredded cheese |
| 1/2 C. celery | 1 C. cracker crumbs |
| 1/4 C. flour | |

Sauté the onion and celery in the butter. Add the flour, milk and mustard. In a casserole dish alternate the carrots and the thickened sauce. Top with the cheese and crumb mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serves 6-8. ■

This column will appear from time to time to inform our residents of current and coming events such as those listed below as well as CD's, publication of books, singing engagements, etc. Please call Bess Tremper, 609-448-2701, to include your event.

DAVID BRAHINSKY

Chanting at Princeton Center for Yoga & Health
 Montgomery Professional Center
 50 Vreeland Dr., Suite 506
 Skillman, NJ 08558
 Telephone 609-924-PCYH
 or 609-443-1898
 Saturday, December 14, 8 p.m.,
 \$15 (\$12 PCYH members
 or in advance)
 David leads chants from many
 traditions: Native American,
 Hebrew, Christian, Islamic,
 Hindu Buddhist and others.

JACOB LANDAU

Exhibition at James Yarosh
 Associates
 Fine Art and Design Gallery
 55 E. Main street (Rt.520)
 Holmdel, NJ
 David Herrstrom will present a
 conversational lecture at the
 Sunday Reception,
 October 12 to November 12.
 Note: a group of Landau's work
 will be on permanent exhibition at
 this gallery.

ALAN MALLACH

Alan will present a recital of
 Romantic piano music at Rutgers
 University's Kirkpatrick Chapel on
 Somerset Street in downtown New
 Brunswick. The concert, which will
 include music by Liszt, Faure,
 Tchaikovsky and Chopin, will take
 place on Sunday, November 3 at
 3:00 p.m., and will benefit the
 Brunswick & Raritan Housing
 Corporation. For further informa-
 tion, call 732-247-4035.

PAUL PRESTOPINO

Paul is one of the back-up
 musicians for Peter, Paul & Mary
 concerts. Herewith the schedule
 for the remainder of the year:
 King Center for Performing Arts,
 Melbourne, FL, 11/7/02
 Van Wezel Performing Arts Center,
 Sarasota, FL, 11/8/02
 Ruth Eckerd Theater, Clearwater,
 FL, 11/9/02
 State Theater, New Brunswick, NJ,
 11/14/02
 Proctor's Theater, Schenectady,
 NY, 11/15/02
 Haas center, Bloomsburg, PA,
 11/16/02
 Paul also accompanies country-
 dance groups. Here is their
 schedule for the remainder of
 the year:
 Princeton Country Dancers,
 English Country Dance,
 Princeton Friends School, 11/20/02

Country Dancers of Westchester,
 English Country Dance,
 Church in the Highlands,
 White Plains, NY, 12/14/02
 Princeton Country Dancers,
 Cotillion Contra Dance,
 Princeton Friends School, 12/15/02
 First Friday Dance,
 English Country Dance,
 Princeton Friends School, 1/3/03
 Info on Prince Country Dancers
 events can be found on line at
<http://www.princetonol.com/groups/pcd/>
 The English Country Dance group,
Hold The Mustard, has a new
 CD out, which can be seen at
<http://www.redstarlinecd.com/redstarline/index.html> or
 purchased from Paul.

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2002 - 2003 SEASON

Saturday, November 9

3:00 p.m. Exhibit; 7:00 p.m. Lecture at Jacob's Geodesic Dome, 30 Lake Drive

A VISIT TO JACOB LANDAU'S STUDIO

The art of the late Jacob Landau will be displayed, and at 7:00 p.m. Professor Mel Leipzig of Mercer County Community College will talk about Jacob's art. This will be followed by an informal reception.

Saturday, December 7

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

MEZZO-SOPRANO CHERI ROSE (KATZ)

Cheri Rose will sing operatic arias, songs, and musical theater pieces.

Saturday, February 8, 2003

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

THE ELLARSLIE TRIO

Cindy Ogulnick, violin; Ericka Phillips, cello; and Alan Mallach, piano. They will play great music from the Baroque era to the 20th century.

Saturday, March 8, 2003

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

POETRY READING

Join the Roosevelt poets for an evening of poetry with musical accompaniment.

Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26, 2003

8:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall

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2002 – 2003

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Contributions received after October 16 will appear in the next issue.

***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.**

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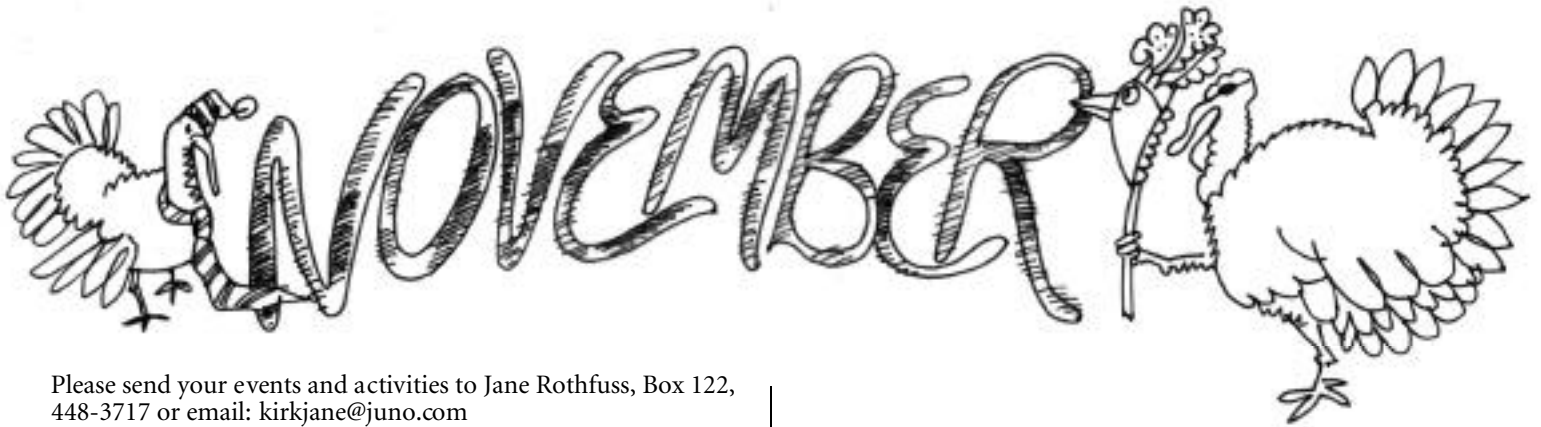
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Wednesdays 7-8:15 p.m. Roosevelt branch of the Monmouth County Library open at RPS

November

1	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day	7:30 p.m.	PTA Meeting, RPS, President Larissa Bondy, 609-443-7430
4	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Agenda Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227	19	Tues. 8 p.m. Planning Board Meeting, Borough Hall, Chairman Ralph Seligman, 609-448-2340
5	Tues.	6 a.m.-8 p.m.	Election Day – Voting – Borough Hall	20	Wed. ♻️ RECYCLE
		12:30 p.m.	Blood Pressure Check, Solar Village Community Room	21	Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Synagogue Board Meeting, Neil Marko, 609-443-6818
		1 p.m.	Seniors Meeting, Solar Village Community Room		8 p.m. Environmental Commission Meeting, Borough Hall, Kirk Rothfuss, 488-2713
6	Wed.		♻️ RECYCLE	22	Fri. RPS Fabulous Friday
7	Thurs.		RPS Closed – NJEA Convention	25	Mon. 7:30 p.m. Council Committee Meetings, Borough Hall, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227
8	Fri.		RPS Closed – NJEA Convention	27	Wed. RPS School Performance and Early Dismissal
9	Sat.	3 p.m. & 7 p.m.	RAP Program – A Visit to Jacob Landau’s Studio, 30 Lake Dr., Art Exhibit and Lecture respectively	28	Thurs. Thanksgiving – RPS Closed
11	Mon.		Veterans’ Day	29	Fri. RPS Closed
13	Wed.	School Hrs.	RPS-PTA Holiday Gift Fair	30	Sat. Hanukkah
14	Thurs.	School Hrs./ Parents-evening	RPS-PTA Holiday Gift Fair		
		7:30 p.m.	Board of Education Meeting, RPS, President Sharlene Ellentuck, 609-448-4440		
15	Fri.		RPS Pizza Day		
18	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Mayor Michael Hamilton, 609-443-5227		
			RPS-PTA Frozen food Sale Begins – continues until Dec. 12		

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