

# Bulletin

Volume 32 Number 5

March 2009

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Michael Ticktin

### Council Mulls Location of Solar Village Parking and Trash Can Pads

Most of the Borough Council’s February 9 meeting was taken up by discussion of the request of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (RSCHC), the nonprofit organization that owns the Solar Village, to allow 11 head-in parking spaces, four of which would be handicapped spaces, in the portion of the right-of-way of the extension of Farm Lane that is within the existing curb line, as well as to allow placement of two concrete pads for trash cans within the right-of-way of North Valley Road, also within the existing curb line, where they would be accessible for collection.

Gary Wagner, the architect who prepared the site plan that had previously been approved as to on-site improvements by the Planning Board, told the Council that additional parking spaces were needed so that there would be enough parking to serve at least 80% of the residents. Even if the current residents did not need that much parking space, he said, it was reasonable to expect that future residents, who are now younger, will be less likely to give up driving when they live in a town with no public transportation. He stated that head-in parking would be easier for older drivers to use and would discourage use of the loop driveway. He also stated that locating the trash pads closer to the street would make it unnecessary for the residents to move the cans out and back.

In response to Mr. Wagner’s comments, Bert Ellentuck offered his opinion that it would be preferable to put additional parking spaces to the east of the loop driveway,

bordering the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Wagner replied that there was not enough room between the loop driveway and the property line for any parking spaces. Councilwoman Arlene Stinson said that this could not be determined without a survey and asked that one be provided. Councilman Jeff Ellentuck also said that he was not prepared to approve the request without having more information.

At the end of the discussion, Councilman Bob Silverstein made a motion to approve a license to the RSCHC for the requested parking. However, none of the other Council members present (Arlen Stinson, Jeff Ellentuck, and Peggy Malkin) seconded the motion. Councilmen Dan Hoffman and Kirk Rothfuss were absent. Mayor Battel could not second the motion, since the mayor can only vote in the event of a tie. Councilman Ellentuck and Councilwoman Stinson did, however, offer to serve on an ad hoc committee to prepare a list of needed information to present to RSCHC representatives. At the request of Mayor Battel, Councilman Silverstein agreed to serve on the committee, though he disputed the notion that more information was, in fact, needed.

In other developments, Councilwoman Stinson reported that the Administrative Committee was looking into the possibility of sharing an administrator with another municipality. She also reported, for the Public Works Committee, that a broken window at the former gas station was being fixed, as were pot holes on Nurko Road and at the cemetery. Councilman Silverstein reported, on behalf of the Utilities

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you want to contact the *Bulletin*, please look at our masthead to the right with our address and telephone number as shown.

NOTE! New dates and times for the Council meetings. They are the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. Come and see what's happening!

Please report any bear sightings to:  
State Bureau of Wildlife Management  
Kim Tinnes  
Wildlife Control  
609-259-7955

As well as to David Schwendeman, 443-6204



Parents: It has come to our attention that many children as well as teenagers have been playing in the streets. Before there is an accident because of on-coming cars, please make sure that this practice is stopped.

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

RPS Winter Carnival scheduled for Saturday, March 7. Anyone wishing to volunteer, please contact Larisa Bondy at [Larisabondy@verizon.net](mailto:Larisabondy@verizon.net). Everyone from 7th grade to Senior Citizens welcome to volunteer! Thanks.

All artists are invited to Roosevelt Public School on Wednesday evenings from 7–10 p.m., to work on some form of art. No instruction, just a place to gather with other artists to do your own thing (**no oils please**). We will gather in the lobby of the school, except when that is in use, we will meet in the art room upstairs. For more information please call Barbara Atwood at: 918-0757 or e-mail her at: [barbatwood@comcast.net](mailto:barbatwood@comcast.net).

If you expect to include an insert in the *Bulletin*, please be sure to check with Bess first.

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten registration is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31. Should you know any resident with children who will be 5 years old before October 1, please notify them of school registration. Please let non-resident families know that we accept tuition students to attend in our pre-kindergarten through 6th grade program.

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Calendar and Breaking Bread Art  
by Shan Ellentuck

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# From the Mayor

By Elsbeth Battel

Dear Neighbors,

Here comes spring, thank Heavens! Now is the time to consider outdoor spring clean-up for individual satisfaction and the benefit of the whole community. The appearance and up-keep of every yard is a reflection on the town. A neat, clean, beautiful neighborhood leads to a better quality of life and higher property values for all.

Questions or complaints about property violations should be addressed to our new Zoning Officer, Ralph Kirkland. Mr. Kirkland will be in the Borough Hall every Tuesday evening from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.. He is also the man to contact regarding permit applications for new construction projects.

When doing yard work, please remember the common Green Space is not the place to dump debris or leaves. I would suggest acquiring a compost device for yard and

kitchen waste; the end result would be superior topsoil for your garden as well as preservation of the Green Space.

Some neighbors have suggested the desirability of some quiet time on weekends in the summer, when people would voluntarily cease from operating machinery for a few hours to give the town some quiet time. I think it is a nice idea, and would like to hear more from anyone who has thoughts on the matter.

Speaking of machinery, quiet and Green Spaces, the operation of ATVs, dirt bikes and other similar vehicles is prohibited on public property and on lots of less than six acres. The end result of co-operation is keeping Roosevelt one of the best towns in New Jersey in which to live.

Thank you,

Beth ■

## COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 1*

Committee, that Boswell Engineering was undertaking repairs and improvements to the water treatment facilities.

The Council also authorized the hiring of a naturalist to determine how much of the gas station property would be buildable under environmental rules.

At its February 23 meeting, the Council approved a resolution to have Roosevelt participate in a "joint meeting" to be known as the Central Jersey Council of Governments. A joint meeting is public body that can perform governmental functions on behalf of its member governmental units. The hope is that services can be provided more efficiently by the joint meeting than by the member municipalities providing services separately. The resolution does not specify what services would actually be provided by the joint meeting, other than to say that they may include "public services, public improvements, works, facilities, or undertakings.". Each participating municipality has been asked to pay \$300 to the joint meeting as an initial membership fee.

Councilman Silverstein reported that emergency generators would be installed at the municipal building and the sewage treatment plant, without any need for DEP approval, but that such approval, as well as specialized testing, would be required for installation of a generator at the water treatment plant. He also reported on the public meeting conducted by representatives of the DEP underground storage tank program, in which they described the procedure for obtaining reimbursement of up to \$1,200 for the removal of intact underground oil tanks, and of

up to \$250,000 for removal of leaking oil tanks and remediation of damage.

Planning Board member Tim Hartley the availability of "smart growth" grants to encourage development of "walkable/bikeable" communities and how this might relate to the proposed "Capital to Coast Trail" that is proposed between Trenton and the shore and would pass through Roosevelt. He expressed the hope that Roosevelt might obtain funding for new sidewalks on Rochdale Avenue under these programs.

Councilwoman Stinson reported that the Administrative Committee was continuing its search for an area municipality interested in sharing the services of an administrator. She also commended Tim Hartley and the Planning Board for the preparation of a new booklet explaining zoning requirements and announced that Zoning Officer Ralph Kirkland has office hours at the municipal building every Tuesday evening from about 5:00 to about 8:00.

Councilman Ellentuck announced that representatives of Boswell Engineering, the firm doing repair work at the water plant and on the water tower, would be at the municipal building at 6:00 on March 23 for a public hearing at which they would describe the work they are doing and answer any questions. He also said that the Council would be meeting with representatives of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (RSCHC) and of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development program to discuss the Council's plan to resolve the issue of use of the right-of-way of the extension of Farm Lane for parking for the Solar Village by deeding the roadway and the right-of-way

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### 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.

# From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

You will be reading this *Bulletin* article in March, however, I am writing it on Valentine's Day. We had such a busy February in school that I hardly knew where to start. In February we honored the birthdays of Lincoln and Washington. We celebrated 100 days of school and acknowledged Valentine/Friendship Day. We also had Fitness Challenge-A-Thon. March marks the observance of Read Across America, sponsored by the New Jersey Teacher's Association. During this time we encourage families to read, and to especially replace television viewing with reading. We are busy with many diverse projects and programs. Our goal is to enrich the lives of our students and impact achievement daily.

As always, our PTA worked tirelessly for the school. They provided an interactive, hands-on activity called KidzArt. Children created pieces of art, which can be placed on mugs, mouse pads, etc. and purchased via the Internet. The annual Winter Carnival is planned for Saturday morning, March 7. This is a wonderful time to bring youngsters of all ages to participate in the games, and take a chance to win something special at the Silent Auction. This is a fun event for children young and old.

RPS is very excited to announce that the PTA has kindly volunteered to open the school library one evening per week beginning March 19. The library will be open Thursday nights 6:00 p.m.-8:00

p.m. We will have guest readers, fun activities such as game night, and the computers will be available. Please join us for our Grand Opening on March 19. If you have time to spare and would like to volunteer to help, please call the school.

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten registration is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31. Should you know any resident with children who will be 5 years old before October 1, please notify them of school registration. Please let non-resident families know that we accept tuition students to attend in our pre-kindergarten through 6th grade program.

Budget time is upon us. Each year the board finance committee meets to review the proposed school budget item-by-item, line-by-line. This painstaking effort enables us to keep our budget well balanced and consistent from year to year. Our board has a history of fiscal responsibility that should be a model throughout the state. We share services with other districts and the borough and are also a member of several consortiums, which keep our costs down.

Our 6 graduating sixth graders are selling boosters for their school yearbook. If you are interested in purchasing a booster, please call the school to obtain further information. Thank you all so much for your support.

Our fabulous Ben Shahn mural is highlighted in a book entitled *101*

*Masterpieces of New York City*. The mural is highlighted as one of the "101" (which addressed works in parts of New Jersey & Connecticut as well). The author of the book emailed me to let me know that the book was just recently published and can be purchased on Amazon.com. The Web address is as follows:

[http://www.amazon.com/101-Masterpieces-New-York-City/dp/159350098X/ref=pd\\_bbs\\_sr\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1234493969&sr=8-1](http://www.amazon.com/101-Masterpieces-New-York-City/dp/159350098X/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1234493969&sr=8-1).

Please call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Shari Payson ■

## MARCH EVENTS

- 3/6 Pizza Day
- 3/11 Early Dismissal
- 3/12 Board of Ed. Meeting
- 3/18 PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 3/20 Pizza Day
- 3/24 Early Dismissal/  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences
- 3/26 Early Dismissal/  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences  
Board of Ed. Meeting
- 3/30-31 Kindergarten/  
Pre-Kindergarten  
Registration

## COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 3*

where the parking would be built to the RSCHC. Under that plan, the Borough would retain title to the portion of the right-of-way north of the paved roadway on the Farm Lane extension, thereby maintaining public access to the portion of the Assumpink Wildlife Management Area that is behind the Solar Village and the homes to the north of it on the east side of North Valley Road.

Bob Atwood and Naomi Brahinsky, representing the Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP), presented RAP's recommendations to improve the attractiveness of the community room, as well as the donation of a plaque honoring those who made major contributions to pay for the new mural on the front of the municipal building. They recommended that the new plaque, as well as the existing plaque on the front of the building that honors Mark Klatskin, who was responsible for build-

ing the original core of the building as the firehouse, inside, be placed alongside the plaque honoring Isidore Sackowitz, who served for 28 years as the municipal clerk, utilities operator, health officer, building officer, zoning officer, registrar, etc. The RAP representatives also recommended allowing RAP to repaint the room, relocate items hanging on the walls, provide better proper lighting for the new mural and install shelves in the closets to allow more orderly storage. ■

**REVIEW: Cheri Rose Katz**

by Ann Kassahun

Our own Cheri Rose Katz, daughter of Margaret Katz, has distinguished herself once more. She recently appeared as soloist with the Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra's 47th Annual Winter Concert held Saturday, January 24, 2009 at Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall, Princeton University. She sang Richard Strauss' *Morgen* [Opus 27, No. 4] and *Zueignung* [Opus 10, No. 1]. Her dramatic mezzo-soprano voice, noted for its beauty of tone and stylish musicality thrilled the audience. We beheld a beautiful young woman gifted with a strong, expressive voice that could be both delicate or powerful, rich with majestic timbre and deep sonority. Many Rooseveltians attended this performance, ever so proud of our Cheri.

Cheri Rose, a graduate of Hightstown High School and the University of Miami, was with the Deutsche Opera Berlin for two seasons, singing Verdi, Wagner and Strauss roles. She also performed at the Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, at the Berlin Philharmonic and Berlin Konzert Hall, as well as performances in Israel, Italy, South America, Puerto Rico, New Orleans, Phoenix, and North Carolina. She has sung in such famous operas as *Die Walküre*, *Das Rheingold*, *Götterdämmerung*, *Rigoletto*, *Ernani*, and *I Puritani*. In April 2009 she will reprise the role of Marthe in *Faust* with Opera Tampa and in August 2009 she will perform Klytemenestra in *Elektra* with Festival Iberoamericano on tour starting in Puerto Rico.

The young musicians of the Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra were exceptional and professional, performing such works as The Hebrides Overture, [Opus 26] by Felix Mendelssohn, Overture to *Nabucco* by Giuseppe Verdi, and the Symphony in D minor by César Franck. How those young folks did play! It was a great evening and we wish Cheri and these talented young musicians all the best in their musical careers. ■

**My Friend Clare Sacharoff****(1928–2008)**

by Ilene Levine

January 28, 2009

I came to Roosevelt Public School in 1977 when Clare was teaching third grade. Clare and I were colleagues at the school until she retired after teaching at RPS for 30 years. When she left, I took her third grade position, which bonded us throughout the years. After Clare retired, she continued to go to RPS, for she visited my classroom sometimes to help me teach reading and sometimes to tell my students about the history of Roosevelt.



Clare

Here's what I remember most about Clare: In faculty meetings, Clare was the voice of generosity of spirit towards students' individual needs. She practiced "individualization" and what nowadays we call "differentiation" before the words were invented! She reminded the teachers all the time that each child was an individual with specific needs and should be treated with respect. She reminded the students that each one of them was important.

Clare was the voice of our town's history. She gave the students lessons on the history of the school and the town. When visiting my class for an oral history lesson, she told the children funny stories about growing up in Jersey Homesteads. I refreshed my memory of the details of Clare's stories by looking back at an oral history book that my third grade students wrote in May of 1993. The following stories are taken from that book.



Clare with Sean Conover and Alicia Moore

I remember her telling us about going to school in the Bronx where she was a very shy girl, and the teacher didn't even know her name. When she moved to Jersey Homesteads, she was still shy, but she was very happy when the teacher learned her name on the first day of school! She told my students that she had decided then that she would become a teacher when she grew up and treat each child like a special person (which she did).

When they first moved into Jersey Homesteads, Clare and her brother went for a walk around town. All the houses had flat roofs and looked alike to her. When they got back to their house, Clare asked her brother, "When are we getting home?" to which he replied, "We already are!"

I remember the story she told about seeing tomatoes growing for the first time in a garden in her new town. Since she had come from the city, she had never seen tomatoes growing. She thought that they grew on trees, so when she saw them along the ground, she didn't recognize them.

I remember the story about how Clare and a girlfriend worked in the factory when they were teenagers. Clare brushed the hats and got 50 cents an hour. The rules were very strict—they had to ask per-

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Mrs. Sacharoff

Drawing by Shaun Conover and Sarah Skillman

## Removed but Close

I am proudly Bess Tremper's daughter-in-law and I do not have a story like the ones I read in the *Bulletin* but I want to honor Bess with my family story because for most of my life I have tried to ignore my past.

I don't keep family heirlooms or photos because I have not wanted my heritage to define me. I am not ashamed of my family, even though, to be honest I often learned about life coming at it from the negative side and declaring that I would not be like my parents.

I started reading "Two Square Miles" a few years ago and the family histories were so rich with what defines our nation and so personal that I began to reflect more on what my childhood had given me. I hope you enjoy what I have to tell because where I came from created the woman that waited

thirty seven years to meet her wonderful husband, Bess's son Steve.

I was born at Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto, California. I don't think I would have even been conceived, but tragically, my only brother was electrocuted by a fan that fell in a bath tub; he was using it to blow his sail boat. My parents were at a Stanford party and my grand-parents were baby-sitting 10 year old Rick. This happened in 1948 and my mother miscarried twice before I came along and, unfortunately, I didn't fill my father's longing for another son, so there were four more sisters after me!

Rick had been an accomplished young horseman and so were my two older sisters, Linda and Kitty. People often use the expression, "born on the back of a horse", and that about describes me perfectly. I have enclosed two photos. The first one is of my mother pregnant with me, and my two sisters are in it. The second one is of my father, his

horse Navajo. I guess I would have been about three years old, because that's when I knew that all I ever wanted to do was be around horses and ride.

All I could talk about was having a horse of my own. I think I bugged my grand-father relentlessly every morning, as he drove me to school on his way to work. Poppy was a "country law-



My mother (pregnant with me) and my two sisters Linda and Kitty



My father with me (about 3 years old) on his horse Navajo

yer" whose practice focused on family matters like adoption, name changes and community issues. Poppy often accepted goods and food in return for his work. We all adored Poppy because he was the buffer to a very angry father. Poppy's lessons about how we treat our neighbors is happily well in-grained in me, but there was one thing Poppy could not do well: he was a terrible driver who later in life had numerous small accidents, yet still drove to work daily with his beloved dog Gully, till a month before he died at age 94. So, the day before my 5th Birthday, Poppy must have been pretty excited too because he neglected to close my door on the car very carefully and as we made the turn around the big pepper tree in our front yard, I FELL OUT! I wasn't hurt, but it sure was a big deal. I must be pretty tough, because that was just the beginning of my "horse related" accidents.

For my birthday that year, my dad went to El Camino Real in the Bay Area,

near Palo Alto, and bought a pony for me that came from some gypsies. I mean we never saw them again! The pony arrived with no saddle or bridle but, regardless, my cavalier Dad put me up on "Cocalo" the afternoon he arrived, bareback, with a bridle that did not fit. Cocalo immediately escaped with me on his back, galloping into the walnut

orchards and heading for the only busy road for miles around. As we neared the road, I fell off and I was no more physically scathed than emotionally; I eagerly approached riding Cocalo every day. I was never scared or

hurt and Cocalo must not have tried to go back to the gypsies because, for many days and weeks and months, the same scenario would happen till finally one day Dad was leading me from his big horse and the pony and the horse started fighting, I ended up under all their hooves on the ground, supposedly getting hit by flying hooves. I remember being rushed to Stanford Hospital for the second time in my life. I recovered quickly and the next day, from my bedroom window, I saw the horse trailer come to take dear Cocalo away to be instantaneously replaced by Blackie, an ancient, quiet and kind gentleman who patiently taught me how to ride with the help of my sister Linda.

Linda was my idol. She rode like a pro at an early age and was competing against adults in difficult competitions all over the west. We had a riding instructor that Grammy paid for, but

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## REMOVED BUT CLOSE (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 6*

I would have nothing to do with Mrs. Ethel Redfield till years later. Linda had to teach me to ride. Every day I would be let off the school bus near our horse barn and I would meet my best friend, Lisa, and we would feed our horses, clean their pens, groom and ride them. We could not put the saddles on them, so we would stand them next to a fence and jump on. Off we would go for hours. In the summer, we would ride through the apricot orchards and near the fig trees and eat fruit. Lisa was a few years older than I and, lucky for us, she didn't burn down our old hay barn the day she taught me how to smoke up there hidden away. Forty years later, I spent some time with Lisa when she worked as a lawyer in Washington, DC. Those early bonds were still strong, even though she had taken up tennis and I, being, I guess, very boringly always the same, had never given up my passion for riding. So, I rode in the Hunt in Middleburg, VA and, after work in my first husband's chemical factory, I would pull on my English boots and take jumping lessons.

Mrs. Redfield taught me so well that, to this day, I follow many of her lessons. We always warmed our horse's bits up in our hands by blowing on them during the winter, so the horses would accept the bit when you bridled the horse. The foundation she gave me (and my husband always gets after me because it is hard for me to say this) an excellent horsewoman. The more I advanced in my riding endeavors, the more I realized how special my early lessons had been; she taught me to ride with double reins, something usually attempted after many years of riding. Last summer, here on the ranch, I rode with a young man who had had very little instruction and my past all came back as I talked to him for hours on end about good horsemanship.

Before long, Blackie grew too old to

continue giving me lessons. I was told that he was turned out to pasture, which is a nice way to say he was euthanized. I learned that several years later from Mrs. Redfield, I am not sure if it was the way she told me, or if I just instinctually have always felt this, but I think we are required to alleviate the unnecessary suffering of our animal family. I will not prolong the painful end of my four legged family members. I am also sure that I am going to heaven, where I will see the horses and dogs that I miss and love dearly.

Since I brought up dying, I will tell you a bit about my crazy father. In our family of seven sisters, we were all pushed to stay thin. I mean Dad and Grammy were obsessed with being thin. I think Gram wore a corset and consumed odd products to stay thin, but Dad simply would never let us have fried food in the house and was horrified if we made cookies in the kitchen with the family cook. When he was near to dying, my sister asked me to come help care for him, which I did as I was able to get away from my job for a month. Before I got there, Kit told me that Dad said that Gramy and Poppy had come to visit him and tell him it was time to go with them. He told them NO! Then one night after I had arrived, Dad was talking to Gram and he told her it was ok for him to eat butter now because he was thin. Amazing! Finally, though the night before Dad was to die, I was alone with him. I made him comfortable before I got in my cot next to his bed and he told me that in the morning he was going riding with Linda and Rick (Linda took her own life when she was just 30, so she was up there with Gram and Pop and Rick). Dad told me Rick was going to ride Navajo and Linda was going to ride Quinta Maiden but, when I asked who he would ride, he wasn't sure.

There is a span of 55 years here. I would bore you with all my tales because they are all about horses but, unbeknownst to me, somewhere out there a young kid from New York was growing up like me, living in the city but always

getting away to visit his grand-father on their ranch in Walden, New York. As my first marriage was unwinding miserably, I remember how much I hoped that there was someone out there for me, because I sure was lonely. When I moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, I worked during the day at a Veterinary Clinic, and at night, at the restaurant my first husband had started and abandoned. One day, I was hit by lightening when the most handsome cowboy came into the veterinary clinic with a sick dog. I remember the moment and the feeling, because the effervescent light that came off of my "husband to be" seemed real. It was just like in the movies.

Steve Tremper and his son Ben became part of my life within months. That was almost 23 years ago. We have worked together on three ranches since that day, and the happiest moments are when we can work together with horses. We work well as a team around them, and we especially love riding together. It took us both a long time to find each other, but we did, and I know Gramma Bess is comforted that we are together.

About my lifelong passion, someone once said that I was lucky that I always knew what I wanted to do and what I liked. I guess some people never find out. But horses have been my teachers, my spiritual counsel and my friends. I don't think Steve and I will be able to retire from our life with horses; I think we would both miss the horses and the incredible ranch life we have had. Maybe we will just ride off into the sunset like in the movies... ■

### 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:

Pearl Seligman 448-2340  
Bess Tremper 448-2701

## Notes on a First (?) Through-Hike of the Roosevelt Woodland Trail

by Tim Hartley

The afternoon of February 4th was a gorgeous day to undertake this end-to-end walk of the Woodland Trail that I had been thinking about doing for more than a year. The 3 inches of snow we had received the day before was still around but the temperature had climbed into the 40s and the brilliant sunshine was reflecting off the still snow-covered branches. The Roosevelt Woodland Trail stretches from the far end of Pine Drive to the cemetery, a total distance of just under 2 miles, with an elevation gain of about 110 feet. Obviously neither of these statistics makes the trail a very grueling trek, but for a town of our size to have been able to develop such a thing is pretty remarkable. The trail is broken into 4 sections (A thru D) starting at the sewer plant and separated by 3 road crossings at Tamara Drive, Rochdale Avenue and Valley Road (this last one is actually only a paved path). The trail is flagged by white blazes on trees and pretty much follows along the northerly side of Empty Box Brook. In other words, if you start at the sewer plant and keep the brook to your right it's not difficult to keep your bearings even when out of sight of houses or road crossings.

Part of the reason I procrastinated for so long before doing this walk was uncertainty about just how boggy the first 2 sections might be. I like to hike, I just really hate hiking with sodden feet, and I

had heard rumors that some of the wooden walkways over the swampy parts of Sections A and B were not in good repair, and the few times I had tried either of these sections the footing was pretty damp. I have walked Section C between Rochdale and Valley Road many times over the years (our property



backs up on that section), and have also walked Section D out to the cemetery several times since it was completed in 2007, so I knew both of these sections to be relatively dry. As it turned out, the snow on top of the semi-frozen ground from

the preceding cold snap resulted in excellent footing. Although I wasn't hurrying at all, and stopped to take several photos along the way, the entire walk took only 50 minutes. Some notes from the separate sections are as follows:

Section A – One half mile. Almost dead-flat. No houses in sight. Some small saplings were bent low over trail by snow and tended to drop some of said snow down the back of one's neck when ducking under. Did I mention that I also really hate snow down the back of my neck?

Section B – One quarter mile, also dead-flat. Some views of the brook were quite pretty. School is visible to your left as you reach Rochdale.

Section C – Four tenths of a mile, still really flat. Houses along Farm Lane are visible along most of this stretch. This section has numbered posts, relating to I'm not sure what. One of the largest trees in Roosevelt, with a five foot diameter trunk, is at post #8. I hope to ID the species in the Spring. The brook really spreads out as you approach the Valley Road crossing. It should probably be renamed Empty Box Swamp at this point. Results in an interesting change of visual character though.

Section D –  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, with an elevation gain of 94 feet. Very different feel to this section due to the relative "hilliness." Solar Village is quite close at the start of this section, a minute later the iconic Roosevelt water tower with resident turkey vultures is visible in the distance. The trail then achieves a fairly "remote" feel for the balance of the walk until you approach

Continued on Page 9

## ENVIRONMENTAL (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 8*

the cemetery when you glimpse two houses that are actually across the border in Millstone.

Maybe it was just getting out in the woods in winter again and shaking off cabin fever, but all-in-all this was one of the most enjoyable walks I have taken in a while and I was once again reminded of how lucky we are to live in this town. If you haven't yet explored this trail, go for it.

By the way, the reason for the question mark in the article's title is that I can easily imagine that some other industrious walker/hiker (of which Roosevelt has several) has already done a "through-walk" and I just haven't heard about it. If you (or someone you know) has done so, please let me know so we can compare experiences. ■

### Grant Money for Home Oil Tanks

By David Schwendeman

Three representatives from NJ Department of Environmental Protection came to Roosevelt to discuss underground residential home heating fuel tanks. They supplemented the discussion with a Powerpoint program and answered a myriad of questions from the audience of about 20 residents. We even had refreshments after the meeting.

Apparently a program was started in 1997 to help NJ residents to remove their underground oil tanks. Owners of tanks 'flagged' as leaking may also apply for funding to help defray costs of clean-up and remediation. Now as I understand it, there are two starting situations and both require removing the tank from the ground.

Situation One: Hire and pay a

contractor to remove tank. If it is non-leaking, apply for up to \$1200.00 to offset the cost. Apply to the NJEDA. Application fee is \$250.00. Ralph Warnick reported that funding for this program is retroactive to 2006 only.

Situation Two: Hire and pay a contractor to remove tank. If it is leaking it will be flagged and given a number. This event will definitely complicate the future sale or ownership transfer in the future and such complications will only become more expensive. There is State funding available right now to help with tank removal and environmental remediation costs. There is a \$400.00 application fee but right now the chances are good to receive up to \$250,000.00 for tank removal and clean-up costs. This program is also retroactive but to what date may vary.

The contact person for Roosevelt residents is Mr. Ben Martin who can be reached at 609-633-2296. A limited number of informational packets will be available at the Borough Hall. I plan to apply and I will report my experience in a future column.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAST MEETING (2/18/09)

Several reoccurring items are put on each meeting agenda. The ones we discussed at this time were the Roosevelt Environmental Commission/RPS connection focusing on Arbor Day and what we can do with the teachers and students this year. Scheduling a Spring wood debris pick-up, envi-

ronmentally better ways to maintain macadam driveways. And Roosevelt Woodland Trail maintenance was discussed.

The main topic was a review of the special DEP presentation reported on earlier in this column.

And finally, the particulars of a new grant for planning trails was introduced by a member of the public in attendance, Mr. Tim Hartley. A team was put together to hash out the details for submission by the quickly approaching deadline.

How are your wood duck nest boxes coming along?



### OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meeting will be held Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. on March 18, 2009. Everyone is welcome to attend and there is a chance for public comment and questions during each meeting.

If anyone has a newsworthy nature note of interest or comment of environmental concern, please give me a call at 609-443-6204 or drop a note to P.O. Box 203. Thank you for reading this column and please visit the [recgreen.ning.com](http://recgreen.ning.com) Web site. ■



The Squad has responded to eight calls in town and out of town for the year of 2009. Our emergency calls were a medical emergency, cardiac emergency, fire stand-by and mutual aid call into Millstone Twp for a motor vehicle accident, emergency transport and difficult breathing.

Then in January the Squad hosted a NJ state EMT re-certification class know as a CORE 13. This is a 24 hour class which goes over all EMT disciplines. There were 15 EMTs from around the state that attended. All EMTs must attend this class to stay certified.

In February all the Squad members was recertified in CPR/AED and Blood-borne Pathogens. This meets NJ EMT re-certification and OSHA requirements.

We can always use more members. We will pay for the training. If anyone is interested please contact a Squad member or stop in during our training and meetings for an application and an EMT training schedule. By receiving your Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training you can help your community and have a good chance at getting started in a career as an EMT.

We would like to introduce our newest member. Her name is Alexandra (Lexie) Sopher. She lives in the Perrineville section of Millstone Twp. and comes to us already trained as an EMT. Lexie is a junior at Muhlenberg College in PA.

We would like to thank all the residents of Roosevelt in their generous donations to the Squad. Without your support we could not operate. Thank You!!!

If any one wishes to make a donation please make it out to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Remember all donations are tax deductible.

• • • • •  
**Safety Notes:  
Environmental  
Emergencies**

**Hypothermia** is defined as a core temperature which has fallen below 95 degree. The body's ability to regulate temperature and generate body heat becomes markedly compromised at this temperature.

To protect itself against heat loss, the body normally constricts blood vessels in the skin, creating the characteristic blue lips or fingertips. As a secondary response, the body produces additional heat by shivering. As cold exposure increases and these mechanisms are compromised, many body functions begin to slow down. Eventually the function of key organs such as the heart begins to slow. Untreated this may lead to death.

Hypothermia can develop either quickly as in cold water immersion or more gradually as occurs during prolonged exposure to a cold environment. The temperature does not have to be below freezing for hypothermia to occur.

**Local Cold Injuries:** Local cold injuries are the result of exposing body parts to extreme temperatures. Particularly the feet, ears, nose and face are especially vulnerable to cold injuries. When tissue is exposed to extreme cold but does not die, the condition is called *frostnip*, *chilblains*, or *immersion foot* (trench foot). Once the tissue dies, the injury is called *frostbite*.

**Hypothermia Care:**

- Move the patient to a warmer environment.
- Handle the patient gently.
- Remove any wet clothing.
- Use passive rewarming techniques.
- Do not massage the extremities.
- Do not allow the patient to eat, drink, smoke or chew tobacco.
- Call for Emergency Medical Assistance.

Jack Rindt, EMT-D  
Captain  
Roosevelt First Aid Squad  
FMFD7568@verizon.net

• • • • •  
**Remember, if you need help, just Dial 911.**

**Check your  
house numbers to make sure that  
they are large enough  
and colorful enough so  
Emergency Services  
can see them  
from the roadway.**

## CLARE (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 5*

mission to use the restroom. Every day, they made a plan to meet in the ladies' room. First one went to the restroom, and then, about a minute later, the other one went. They enacted their plan, met in the ladies' room, chatted, and then got caught and into trouble! They never did that again!

Clare told us about how one day she couldn't find her young daughter, Debbie. She and her neighbors looked all over town. Then she heard a noise from her neighbor's garage, and when she opened the door, she found her daughter and the neighbor's son painting each other—their hair, bodies, shoes, everything!

Clare told us how she had her son Ira as her student when she taught first grade, and one night, when they were home eating at the kitchen table, he raised his hand and called her "Mrs. Sacharoff."

Besides enchanting the students with her stories of Jersey Homesteads, Clare engaged the teachers with stories about past school days and RPS personalities, always making the teachers in the teachers' room laugh during lunchtime with her wit.

Clare was part of a group of my good friends in Roosevelt, all once having worked at the school. Clare and I shared our lives, as friends do. She told me about Lenny, Debbie and Ira, as well as the rest of her family. And she always took an interest in my professional life as well as my personal life, giving me lots of good advice on both fronts. I am going to miss her. ■

## **REVIEW: *In Search of Yiddishkeit*: Mark Zuckerman at Borough Hall, February 7, 2009**

by Alan Mallach

A good-sized audience, including quite a few faces unfamiliar from previous Roosevelt Arts Project events,

showed up at Borough Hall Saturday night to hear Mark Zuckerman talk about his personal and musical journey, and listen to some of the music he has written in the course of that journey. Mark began by talking about himself and his discovery of the Yiddish language and its rich culture, stressing that it has a rich cultural and musical heritage, and that it is far more than Klezmer music and "Rozhinkes mit mandeln." That, in turn, led him to compose both original works for chorus to texts by Yiddish poets, as well as choral arrangements of eighteen Yiddish songs, ranging from the famous to the obscure, of which he played a collection for the audience. Since it was not practical to import a choir for the occasion, we listened to recordings of the music.

Mark's use of the word 'arrangement' is a flexible one; many of the pieces he played were more free fantasies on the original songs than literal transcriptions. Particularly delightful was his reworking of the Hanukah song "Ich bin ein kleine dreidel," where he set off the well-known melody against a counterpoint of the four letters on the dreidel (a four-sided top children play with during Hanukah), Nun, Samekh, Ayin and Heh, giving a sense of the top spinning along with the music. Other songs were more somber in tone, including Holocaust songs by Sutzkever and Manger, and a powerful version of the Passover song, "Zog, Maran," ("Tell me, Marrano"), about the hidden observances of the secret Jews in 16th century Spain. He concluded this part of the evening with his version of "Bei mir bist du sheyn", in which he has worked in Yiddish scat singing in a sort-of-tribute to the Andrews Sisters, who popularized the tune (in English) in the 1930's.

Mark didn't talk about his musical journey as much as his personal, Jewish, one, but as a musician I found it fascinating to think about how he has traveled from the strict serial, or twelve-tone, training he received at Princeton to the more tonal, while still individual and recognizably contem-

porary, music that he writes today. What relationship that journey, and the composer's personal and Jewish journey, he only hinted at, but I think it is a significant one. Mark continued with a number of original compositions for chorus, including "Mir zaynen do tsu zingen" (We're here to sing) a rhythmically intricate and thoroughly enjoyable work he calls a "musical mission statement", and wrote for the Di Goldene Keyt chorale, a superb ensemble that has performed much of his music. Later on in the evening, he played a thoroughly successful arrangement he made of the piece for string orchestra, called "Theme Song."

All in all, I came away from the evening with Mark Zuckerman with three things, each one nested, as it were, in the other. First, the pleasure of hearing beautiful music beautifully performed, even if heard in recording rather than live. Second, learning about Mark's journey, and the role that not just Judaism, but specifically Yiddishkeit, that amalgam of religion, language and culture that formed the matrix of the Eastern European Jewish world for centuries, played in his personal and musical development. And third, the opportunity to meditate a bit on the meaning of that matrix of culture and language, which is, of course, my own heritage as well as Mark's, and the fact that more than sixty years after its homeland was obliterated, it still survives, and brings forth fresh shoots. ■

## **Agreement for In-Lieu Payments by the Federal Government for Jersey Homesteads Found in Millstone Files**

by Michael Ticktin

In my capacity as municipal historian, I recently asked Nancy Warnick, who serves as the Deputy Clerk of Millstone Township, to see if there was any record in Millstone of the events

*Continued on Page 12*

## AGREEMENT (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 10*

leading up to the separation of the Jersey Homesteads from Millstone and its establishment as a separate borough (renamed Roosevelt in 1945).

Mrs. Warnick conveyed this request to Millstone Clerk Maria Dellasala who, though she could not find any minutes or correspondence expressing any opinions regarding the establishment of the Borough of Jersey Homesteads, did find an agreement dated March 1, 1937 between the United States of America, acting through the Department of Agriculture, and the Township of Millstone providing for the payment of \$184 a month for four months, payable on the first day of April, May, June and July, for municipal services provided to the project by the Township, without specifying just what those services were, except that they had to be the same as those provided to residents of areas of the Township contiguous to the Jersey Homesteads project.

A noteworthy feature of the agreement is that it was signed by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, who was subsequently vice-president during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's third term and was the candidate for president of the Progressive Party in 1948. (Though it has been stated, in various articles, that Wallace carried Roosevelt in 1948, the fact is that he came in second here to President Harry S Truman, but still ran ahead of the Republican candidate, Governor Thomas Dewey of New York.)

Attached to the agreement is a copy of an agreement, ratified by the Township, between the United States of America, acting through the Resettlement Administration (which was in the Department of Agriculture), and the School District of the Township of Millstone for the payment of \$4,962.50 for educational services provided to residents of the project. Payments were to be in the amount of \$348.65 on October 1, 1936

and \$512.65 on the first day of every month thereafter through July 1, 1937. The agreement specifies that, as of October 1, 1936, the project would have not more than 34 elementary school students and not more than 20 high school students.

The Borough of Jersey Homesteads was established by an act of the Legislature that was signed into law by the Governor on May 29, 1937. It is interesting that this occurred during the term of these agreements, and that nothing in the agreement entered into on March 1 in any way suggests that a separation of the project from Millstone was imminent.

I wish to thank Mss. Warnick and Dellasala for providing these documents. ■

## Meeting About Farm Plans

by Carol Watchler

While this year's Roosevelt Community Supported Agriculture is already underway and the farmer who is handling it has sent out invitations to sign up for shares, a number of Roosevelt CSA enthusiasts and other interested persons are continuing the planning of Holdsworth Farm & Partners, Inc, a social business modeled in the manner of Nobel Peace Prize winner Mohammad Yunus.

This corporation is envisioned as facilitating the enterprises of both farming and non-farming business partners, under the common brand name of Holdsworth. Investors and entrepreneurs of every size are invited to attend a community meeting to explore further possibilities at Roosevelt Borough Hall on Thursday evening, March 5, 8:15 p.m. (following the Tai Chi class in that location). All interested community members are encouraged to attend. For further information, please contact Carol Watchler, 609-448-5215, carolwatchler@comcast.net. ■

## 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

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regulations we can only ask  
for "donations" rather than

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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.

“During the bleak month of March Mr. Wheeler went to town in his buckboard almost every day. For the first time in his life he had a secret anxiety. The one member of his family who had never given him the slightest trouble, his son Bayliss, was just now under a cloud.”

—*One of Ours* by Willa Cather

**March**

As bleak as March was in Willa Cather’s novel it is not always so bleak for us. March is the first month of spring. It holds the promise of milder weather and renewal. However, it has also teased optimism with brutal blizzards.

The Climate Prediction Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is calling for equal chances for above, below and normal temperatures and precipitation for our area. The same forecast was made for the entire spring, March, April and May.

**January**

Not much precipitation fell in January. Most of it fell in the form of rain. Most of the rain fell on one day. There was two inches of rain on the eighth. There were only 3 inches of snow for the month. Normal snowfall for January is 7.2 inches. Total precipitation were 3.03 inches, 0.72 inches below normal.

The first month of the year brought colder than normal temperatures. The average for the month was 28.6 degrees. Normal is 30.1 degrees. This was also reflected in the heating degree-days count. January had 1129.5 heating degree-days. That’s 44.5 more than normal. The coldest low temperature was on January 17. The mercury

dipped into the single digits for an overnight low of 7.2 degrees. That was the only single digit reading for January. The warmest day was January 23 when the high for the day reached 49.5 degrees.

Colder than normal temperatures dominated the area of the United States from Maine to through North Carolina to Arkansas to Minnesota. Overall, the contiguous United States had a slightly warmer than normal January.



**Weather Word**

**Blowing Snow Advisory:** When wind driven snow reduces the surface visibility causing dangerous driving conditions. Blowing snow can be falling or snow that has already accumulated on the ground but is picked up and blown by strong winds. ■

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	28.9	15.4	22.2	0.00	42.9
16	28.9	12.9	20.9	0.05	44.1
17	22.1	7.2	14.7	0.00	50.4
18	38.7	20.5	29.6	0.00	35.4
19	34.3	17.8	26.1	0.00	39.0
20	31.3	12.4	21.9	0.00	43.2
21	28.6	13.3	21.0	0.00	44.1
22	38.8	16.3	27.6	0.00	37.5
23	49.5	22.1	35.8	0.00	29.2
24	45.9	22.3	34.1	0.00	30.9
25	32.4	14.4	23.4	0.00	41.6
26	32.9	15.8	24.4	0.00	40.7
27	33.4	27.7	30.6	0.00	34.5
28	41.0	25.9	33.5	0.45	31.6
29	35.4	23.7	29.6	0.50	35.5
30	38.3	19.6	29.0	0.00	36.1
31	28.9	19.2	24.1	0.00	41.0
1	50.2	22.3	36.3	0.00	28.8
2	52.3	29.5	40.9	0.00	24.1
3	39.0	29.7	34.4	0.00	30.7
4	30.7	18.1	24.4	0.40	40.6
5	23.0	9.1	16.1	0.00	49.0
6	35.1	9.9	22.5	0.00	42.5
7	50.7	15.4	33.1	0.00	32.0
8	59.4	36.1	47.8	0.00	17.3
9	44.8	25.0	34.9	0.00	30.1
10	55.9	33.6	44.8	0.00	20.3
11	63.5	42.1	52.8	0.00	12.2
12	57.9	44.2	51.1	0.00	14.0
13	49.6	36.3	43.0	0.00	22.1
14	44.2	28.6	36.4	0.00	28.6
15	41.7	26.2	34.0	0.00	31.1
<b>Total Precipitation</b>				<b>1.40</b>	
<b>Total Heating Degree-Days</b>				<b>1080.1</b>	

# Roosevelt First Aid Squad

- Wanted to help others.
- Felt obligated to give back what I got.
- Sense of citizenship.
- Interested in the work being done.
- Desire for involvement with a group of friends.

Volunteerism is a tradition in the United States. Americans have a long history of volunteering.

Emergency medical services have depended on volunteer support for many years. The importance of volunteers to the delivery of emergency medical services cannot be overstated. Rural America relies almost totally on the volunteer system to provide EMS services in a timely manner.

Volunteers are characterized by the diversity of their backgrounds, ages, gender, and reasons for volunteering. Since almost one-half of the population engages in volunteer activities, it is no surprise that the typical volunteer can be almost anyone.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad needs you as a member. We pay for all training. Some of the classes run on Weekends only, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., then there are classes that run Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and some Sundays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., then there are classes that run Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. These classes are at the MONOC classroom in Wall Twp. just off Rt. 34 or at the Marlboro First Aid building.

The people of Roosevelt pride themselves on volunteering, well now it's time to learn to save a life.

If anyone is interested in joining just e-mail [FMFD7568@verizon.net](mailto:FMFD7568@verizon.net)

Jack Rindt, EMT-D  
President,

# Contributors to the Bulletin 2008/2009

Contributions received after the 15th of the month will appear in the next *Bulletin*.

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Elizabeth Weiner  
Erich Woitschlienger  
Lydia Yohay  
Diane & Joseph Zahora  
Judith & Mark Zuckerman

Help us to fill up this page.  
Send in a contribution today.  
Thank you!

## Yogurt

Back in the do-it-yourself seventies, when I was a teenager, my mother used to occasionally culture a jar of yogurt on top of our green 1960's Frigidaire, which hummed and threw off warmth like all the big appliances of the era. Although I liked the idea that liquid milk could be turned into yogurt by just adding bacterial culture and time, I disliked the taste of milk and wasn't the least bit tempted by the tart, gloppy, semi-solid that it grew to be.

Time and culture eventually brought me out of my own tart, gloppy, semi-solid state and I became a little more open-minded about things dairy, fermented or not. I ate a little yogurt, even made a few batches now and then, and developed a taste for sour cream, crème fraîche, and soft cheeses, but I was still mostly lukewarm about the yogurt. Just a few years ago, though, "Greek-style" yogurts came into my life and I was won over.

First my parents brought back tubs of it from a Greek dairy shop in the city. Then a commercial brand, Fage, began to show up in the dairy aisles of supermarkets. Fabulous stuff – as thick and rich as sour cream, but with a distinct yogurt tang. Now I was definitely developing a taste for it, and too bad for me, because at two dollars or more for a six-ounce carton, it was too expensive to keep on hand.

I remembered how simple it was to make yogurt at home, and figured that this was the time to try again, but I wasn't confident that I could make anything as delicious as these thick Greek-style yogurts. I bought several different brands to try as starters, made with different bacteria and having different textures. I wondered if they'd all come out the same when made in the same home-kitchen manner, or whether there would be noticeable differences based on the characteristics of the starters. I needn't have worried – in the end I found that whatever I started with was pretty much what I ended up with.

My starters were Fage Non-Fat Yogurt, Liberte Low Fat Goat Fresh Cheese (called "cheese" rather than "yogurt" because it uses a bacteria that's not included in the FDA definition of "yogurt"), and Horizon Organic Low Fat Yogurt. I put a dollop of each into its own clean jar, heated half a gallon of milk until it started to form a skin, then let the milk cool till pleasantly warm. Once cool, I divided the milk among the jars, stirred each one to mix the yogurt evenly in the warm milk, then covered the jars and set them in the heater room to culture. When I checked them six hours later, two jars had firmed up to the consistency of soft custard and could be declared "yogurt"; the jar with the Fage starter took another two hours to set.

The next step was to thicken the yogurts to turn them into

the Greek-style I was yearning for. Traditional instructions for thick yogurt call for straining it through several layers of cheesecloth for a few hours. This allows most of the watery whey to drain off and leaves a lump of thickened yogurt deeply embedded in sodden cotton cheesecloth. I found this method messy, wasteful, and slightly gross. I tried a plastic mesh "yogurt-cheese" strainer from the cookware shop and found it satisfactory but very slow. The quickest and cleanest method was also the cheapest: a colander suspended over a bowl and lined with a paper coffee filter made yogurt as thick as the store-bought Greek-style stuff in about an hour.

The Horizon yogurt was smooth and custardy straight from the container. Six hours later, two tablespoons of it had cultured two cups of skim milk into a perfect custardy replica of itself, which was a good trick, but not what I was craving. Straining thickened it into a yogurt cheese, but it definitely retained the custardy texture of the original.

The Liberte was lovely—two spoonfuls had produced three cups of thick yogurt in six hours. The original product was made from goat milk and had a distinctly goaty flavor. Since I had used only two tablespoons in about three cups of cow milk, the finished yogurt, though it had the same luscious texture as the original, had just a pleasant whiff of something not quite cow-like, but not quite identifiably goat, either.

The Fage yogurt, which began as my ideal, was the slowest to culture. Because it took an extra few hours to set it was tangier than the others, more so than I liked. When I try it again, I'll either add a little more starter or find a warmer place for it to culture; either one should speed up the process a little.

All my starters made good yogurt, and I was able to reproduce the thick type I was craving. Is it worth doing? It's certainly cheaper – here's my math:

$\$3.50 = 1 \text{ gallon milk} = 16 \text{ cups fresh or } 8 \text{ cups thickened yogurt} = 10\text{-ish } 6 \text{ oz containers store-bought Greek-style yogurt} = \$15 - \$20 \text{ value (with a one-time cost of } \$1 \text{ or } \$2 \text{ for the store-bought container of yogurt to use as a starter).}$

As for the time and attention involved, you'll have to try it a couple of times before you decide if it's worth your while. The first time you make it, it may seem fussy. You have to check the temperature of the milk, look for a warm place to culture it, and remember to test for thickening. Once you've done it a time or two, though, you'll see that those bacteria

Continued on Page 17

## YOGURT (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 16

are really adaptable and very forgiving. After you've used a food thermometer on the first batch, you'll probably be able to judge the temperature without one for subsequent batches. Also, you can heat the milk in your microwave, then just note how long it takes to reach 185 degrees or a little above. If you forget about it while it's cooling down, just heat it up to about 110 degrees when you remember it and continue with the process. If you don't have a spot in the house that's

warm enough (90–110 degrees is ideal), you can pre-warm a small cooler with a jar of hot water, then set the mixture in the cooler to culture. Or wrap it in a towel and set it on a heating pad set to low. And if you don't have a thermometer, you can borrow mine for the first batch.

### Grow-Your-Own Yogurt or Yogurt Cheese

Half a gallon of milk will make 8 cups of regular yogurt or 5 cups strained Greek-style yogurt.

Heat milk (any level of fat or skim) to 185 degrees. This eliminates any existing bacteria in the milk that would cause it to become spoiled instead of becoming delicious.

Set aside and let cool to about 100–110 degrees, which takes about an hour in January in a Roosevelt house at room temperature (your mileage may vary).

While you're waiting for it to cool, go figure out where you'll leave it to culture.

In a very clean container, put 1 or two spoonfuls of your favorite live-culture yogurt (plain) for every 2 cups of milk you'll add. Once you've made your own, use some of that as the starter.

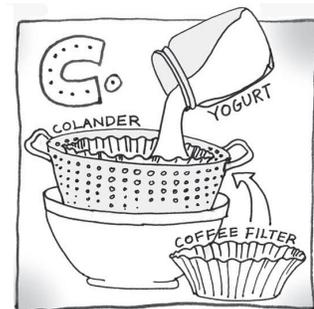
Pour some of the warm milk into the container and stir it well to thin out the starter yogurt. Stir in the remaining milk.

Cover and set aside in a warm place to culture until it holds its shape when you tip the container slightly. It will continue to firm up in the refrigerator.

Refrigerate in the jar, or if you want it thickened pour it into a colander lined with a paper coffee filter and set over a bowl for an hour or two in the refrigerator. Longer straining will give a thicker cream cheese-like result.

Set aside a small amount to use as the starter for your next batch.

Serve drizzled with honey warmed in the microwave, or top with a dollop of good jam. Sprinkle with walnuts, raisins, chopped figs or apricots, or plop over fresh fruit sliced in a bowl. You might as well toast a hunk of good bread and eat that, too. I would. And you know, a cup of good coffee wouldn't hurt. ■



# ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

## 2008 - 2009 Season

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March 14, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

### THE DAWN OF ROMANTICISM: ALAN MALLACH/PIANO RECITAL

In the 1810s and 1820s, as new ways of making music swept across Europe, a generation of composers used the piano to express their most powerful ideas and feelings. Alan Mallach will perform the music of those years, from the works of Beethoven and Schubert, the two towering figures of the era, to lesser-known composers including Muzio Clementi, Jan Dusik and Carl Maria Von Weber, along with a commentary that will illuminate their lives and creative achievements.

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April 4, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

### THE ROOSEVELT POETS: A 2-PART EVENT!

Join the Roosevelt Poets for their Second (Provocative) Poetic Ensemble: an evening of poetry, music & movement.

**Part One: POETRY** from Wes Czyzewski, David Herrstrom, Ron Kostar and Judith McNally with David Brahinsky and Guest Artist Guy DeRosa on blues harmonica.

**Part Two: "CATCH"** - Ensemble Reading of a new one-act comedy by Judith McNally; A modern-day Inspector General sets out to find out the "truth" about Adam & Eve, and the Snake!

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May 1 and 2, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

### THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

With David Brahinsky on guitar and vocals, Ed Cedar, on bass, guitar, mandolin and one vocal, Paul Prestopino on every string instrument imaginable and at least one vocal, Sarah Houtz on vocals, Joe Pepitone on bass and guitar, and Howie Jacobson, in a guest appearance where he attempts to steal the show (and usually does).

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May 30, 1 - 5 PM, Roosevelt Public School

### ROOSEVELT SOUND INSTALLATION HOUSE TOUR & 30 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Visit the insides & outsides of contemporary Roosevelt homes, explore for yourself how a space can be transformed when personal aesthetics intersect with site specific sound installations. What are sound installations? Come and find out!

In addition to the home installations, students from RPS will be constructing their own collaborative audio/visual street installations. Their "home" installations will be situated in various public places throughout the borough and will be noted on the map/guide. All the audio installations are designed by New York and New Jersey artists, including local artists Brad Garton, Victoria Estok and Wiska Radkiewicz.

Begin your tour at the Roosevelt Public School with Ilene Levine's photography exhibit featuring photographs of her students and their activities spanning her 30 year career.

\* maps/guides available at Roosevelt Public School

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

Visit RAP's Web page at <http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt>. Use the link at the top of the page to sign up for our e-mail list. For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616. ■

### PUBLIC MEETING

Sunday, March 8th, 11:30 AM  
Roosevelt Public School

What events would you like to see next season?  
Come share your ideas for the  
2010 RAP Season

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**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: \$50.00/year, \$56.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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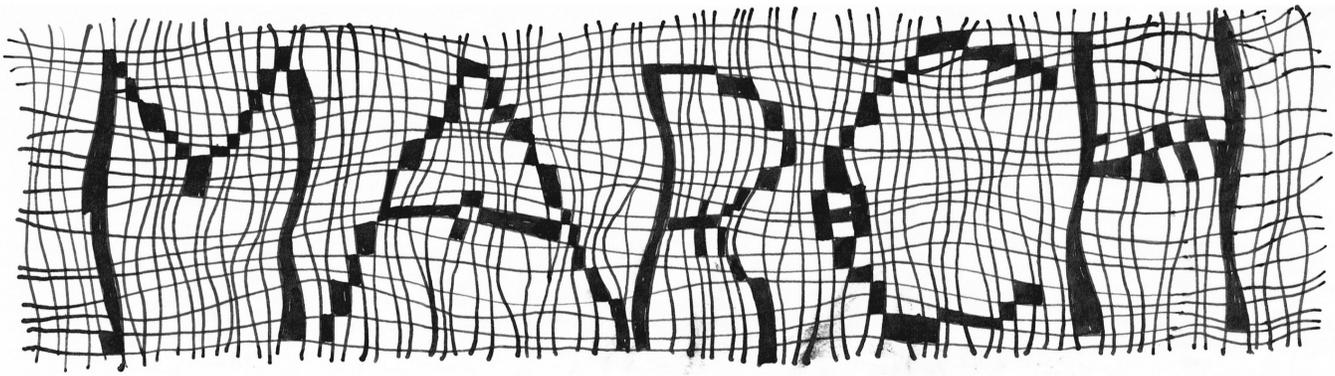
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Please send notice of your events to Ann Baker at P.O. Box 308 or e-mail to abncpcm@comcast.net.  
I can also be called at 443-8780.

## MARCH

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 3 Tues.   | 12:30 p.m. Blood pressure check, Borough Hall<br>1 :00 p.m. Seniors Meeting, Borough Hall,<br>Gerry Millar, President, 448-0351   |
| 4 Wed.    | RECYCLE    |
| 6 Fri.    | PIZZA DAY, RPS  |
| 7 Sat.    | Winter Carnival, PTA,<br>Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714   |
| 8 Sun.    | 10:00 a.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training,<br>Borough Hall,<br>Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475   |
| 9 Mon.    | 7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall,<br>Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701   |
| 10 Tues.  | 7:30 p.m. Planning Board, Borough Hall,<br>Jane Rothfuss, Chair 448-3713  |
| 11 Wed.   | Schoolhouse Hooky, PTA,<br>Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714<br>RPS Early Closing  |
| 12 Thur.  | 7:30 p.m. Roosevelt Board of Education,<br>Roosevelt Public School Library,<br>Jaymie Kosa, President, 371-6294   |
| 14 Sat.   | 8:00 p.m. Borough Hall, Roosevelt Arts Project,<br><i>The Dawn of Romanticism</i> ,<br>Alan Mallach, Piano Recital  |
| 16 Mon.   | PreK–2nd Grade Assembly,<br>Otto the Auto, PTA,<br>Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714   |
| 17 Tues.  | 8:00 p.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad Meeting,<br>Borough Hall,<br>Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475  |
| 18 Wed.   | RECYCLE <br>7:00 p.m. PTA Executive Meeting,<br>Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714<br>7:30 p.m. PTA General Meeting—all invited<br>7:30 p.m. Environmental Comm., Borough Hall,<br>Dave Schwendeman, Chair, 443-6204 |
| 20 Fri.   | PIZZA DAY, RPS  |
| 23 Mon.   | 7:00 p.m. Borough Hall, Council Action Meeting,<br>Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701   |
| 26 Thurs. | RPS Early Dismissal, Parent Conference  |

## APRIL

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1 Wed.           | RECYCLE    |
| 3 Fri.           | PIZZA DAY, RPS  |
| 4 Sat.           | 8:00 p.m. Roosevelt Arts Project,<br>The Roosevelt Poets, Borough Hall  |
| 7 Tues.          | 12:30 p.m. Blood pressure check, Borough Hall<br>1 :00 p.m. Seniors Meeting, Borough Hall<br>Gerry Millar, President, 448-0351  |
| 8 Wed.           | 7:00 p.m. PTA Executive Meeting,<br>Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714<br>7:30 p.m. PTA General Meeting— all invited  |
| Mon. 10– Fri. 17 | RPS, School Closed, Spring Break  |
| 12 Sun.          | 10:00 a.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training,<br>Borough Hall,<br>Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475   |
| 13 Mon.          | 7 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall,<br>Beth Battel, Mayor 448-7701   |
| 14 Tues.         | 7:30 p.m. Planning Board, Borough Hall,<br>Jane Rothfuss, Chair, 448-3713   |
| 15 Wed.          | RECYCLE <br>7:30 p.m. Environmental Commission,<br>Borough Hall, Dave Schwendeman, Chair<br>443-6204 |

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