



Bulletin



Volume 41 Number 5

February 2018

Council Reorganization; New Positions and Deli-Discussion

By Sharyn Walz

At the Council meeting on December 11, Borough resident Cody Parker was appointed to fill the Council seat left vacant when Councilperson Peggy Malkin was elected Mayor.

Public comment included questions regarding the oversight of three part-time Public Works employees: their hours, wages (\$25 per hour), benefits, and job descriptions. The resident who raised the issue also questioned the Council’s intention to hire a Borough Administrator and whether the budget can sustain additional employees. Another resident pointed out that, despite hiring three new part-time Public Works employees, there is still a significant piece missing, as the previous Public Works employee was also an assistant clerk and covered the Office of Emergency Management. In response, Councilperson Hamilton pointed out the advantages of having three part-time Public Works employees: access to a variety of skill sets, sick and vacation coverage, and the elimination of overtime, except in emergency situations. The Public Works employees are being supervised by Councilperson Hamilton and Treasurer Ana Debevec, although this may change if a Borough Administrator is hired.

There was a discussion regarding quotes received for back-up generators, as it could be catastrophic if the sewer treatment plant were to lose power. Councilpersons Trammell and Parrott both stated that the generators are currently working, and Councilperson

Trammell noted that a transformer blew six months ago, releasing gray water into the Assunpink.

Councilperson Hamilton reported that he has instituted job descriptions for Public Works employees and that a timeclock is being set up. Salaries will be kept to minimum, with no benefits, no time off and no vacation pay.

Councilperson Parrott reported that the Borough website is up and running. An employee handbook, that would cover the attendance of Borough employees at conferences and seminars, was discussed. A purchasing protocol will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Councilperson Trammell reported that the sewer treatment plant was working at 20-50% efficiency, using a lot of water and chemicals, and there is a need to hire a back-up operator. Repairs will be expensive and take time. Councilperson Hamilton noted that a major repair project was done in 1992, but other maintenance still needs to be done.

Councilperson Filepp has met with the owner of the unused deli facility at the corner of Farm Lane and Rochdale Avenue and discussed the history of the site’s liquor license. The owners maintain that they have several potential renters interested in running the deli, but the two issues preventing anything from happening are the restrictions on the second floor apartment and the price of the liquor license. The deli

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the 41st edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from September through July. We will not publish in January and August.

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin Submission Process

The Bulletin welcomes submissions for news items, information of local interest, letters to the editor, poetry, and visual arts. We ask all contributors to adhere to the following submission guidelines:

- Send your submission to the email rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com. For short messages, you can also use the contact form on our web site, which will go to the same address.
- Send your submission as a Microsoft Word attachment or as plain text within the body of your email.
- Please limit your letters to 500 words (about one page in MS Word). We will edit letters for length when necessary. Longer letters may be published in full on the Bulletin web site.
- Please include images as separate files. If you have multiple files, please put them into a zip file, if possible. Please submit only JPEG images.
- The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (e.g., January 15 for the February issue). Submissions received after the 15th will normally be printed in the issue following the one currently in production. (So, for example, a submission received on January 16th would be printed in March.)
- Most submissions will also be added to the Bulletin web site. Allow up to one week for submissions to appear online after publication of the print edition.
- Please name your files with your last name, or the name of your organization, and the month.

It's natural that people have second thoughts about what they've written, but we want to discourage multiple submissions of the same thing, whenever possible. When this is necessary, the revised version should be clearly named as a revision.

The Bulletin board members are thrilled to see that people are utilizing the Bulletin as a forum for communicating about our community's most critical issues. And it is impressive that Roosevelt has supported this publication for so many decades by contributing both financially and intellectually. We are committed to providing you with the best publication possible—your support of our submission guidelines will enable our volunteers to most effectively meet that goal.

The MEALS ON WHEELS program delivers prepared meals to Roosevelt seniors who need this assistance. Though meals are provided free of charge to recipients, the cost to the program is \$2.50 per meal. Donations to help cover these costs may be sent to Interfaith Neighbors, 810 Fourth Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712

SENIOR CITIZENS: There is a S.C.A.T. bus provided by Monmouth County Division of Transportation that comes to Roosevelt and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and where you wish to go.

An archive of all past issues of the Bulletin can be found online at www.mazicmusic.com/rbb.htm, courtesy of Mark Zuckerman. Current and recent issues can also be found online at www.rooseveltboroughbulletin.org, the official website of the Borough Bulletin. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please send your request to rpessler32@gmail.com.

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is published monthly, except August and January by Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., is a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation

Roosevelt Arts Project

Events for 2018

Drawing from Life

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 8:00 PM

Sharpen your graphite, ink your pen, and join Roosevelt-area artists to sketch & draw the live clothed model. All levels welcome—beginner to pro. Advanced artists will discuss their methods; finished drawings will be displayed.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

Standard Issue: Great Song Writers of the 1920s–1940s

Saturday, February 24, 2018, 8:00 PM

Jazz-singing ukulele player Patsy Monteleone will perform music of Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Hoagy Carmichael, Johnny Mercer, and others as he surveys the 20th Century catalog of popular vocal jazz, Tin Pan Alley, and show songs.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

Themes and Variations: A Piano Recital with Commentary by Alan Mallach

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 8:00 PM

Ever since there have been musical themes, composers have written variations on them. Pianist Alan Mallach will explore how composers have played with their own themes, and themes written by others, from Mozart and Beethoven to 20th century works, including Mallach's own 1985 Chaconne for Piano.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

One Sock Missing: A Poetry Reading

Saturday, April 7, 2018, 8:00 PM

The Roosevelt Poets continue their exploration of the mysteries of the universe, profound and trivial.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

The Roosevelt String Band in Concert—ONE NIGHT ONLY

Saturday, May 12, 2018, 8:00 PM

This year we plan a PP&M extravaganza (that's Peter, Paul and Mary in case you missed the folk revival), with David Brahinsky, Paul Prestopino, Ed and Sam Cedar, Howie Jacobson, and Nancy Wilson.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per person; \$5 for seniors and students.

All events take place at Borough Hall, 33 North Rochdale Avenue, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are very much 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.

In order to save on postage, we would encourage non-residents who have computers to subscribe to the *Bulletin* online at www.boroughbulletin.org in lieu of receiving a paper copy. Donations from readers, wherever they may be, and regardless of the medium in which they read the *Bulletin*, are still very much welcome, since we could not publish without your support.

PLEASE SEND IN A CONTRIBUTION TODAY. ***WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.***

Please send contributions to:

Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc., P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

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facility has been vacant for more than five years.

Former Mayor Jeff Ellentuck offered comments on the issues discussed at the meeting, including the land swap between the Borough and Footlight Farms, the deli's liquor license, the water/sewer facility auger, and the various telephone/internet services. He noted that the sewer plant needs 3 to 5 million dollars in work and that the generators are obsolete. The Borough water tower utilizes millings (recycled asphalt gravel) as the surface for its driveways, and a nearby town is being sued for having millings next to a water tower. Mr. Ellentuck also noted that Roosevelt has not needed a Borough Administrator for the past 80 years, and believes the Council can operate the Borough without an administrator.

Councilperson Trammell noted that Hightstown would like the Borough's fire equipment and inquired about donating it. The Borough attorney suggested that a formal inventory be completed.

January 2 Meeting

At the January 2, 2018, meeting, the Council was reorganized into the following committees:

- Administration: Michael Hamilton (Chair), Joe Trammell, Robin Filepp
- Community Development/Code Enforcement: Robin Filepp (Chair), Cody Parker, Diedre Sheean
- Environmental, Health, and Safety: Diedre Sheean (Chair), Cody Parker, and Vacant
- Finance: Vacant (Chair), Michael Hamilton, Joe Trammell
- Public Works: Cody Parker

(Chair), Michael Hamilton, Robin Filepp

- Utilities: Joe Trammell (Chair), Diedre Sheean and Vacant
- Councilperson-elect Parrott was not present to be sworn in, and could therefore not be given committee assignments.

Greg Cannon is the new Borough Attorney. Councilperson Joe Trammell was sworn in for a new three-year term, expiring at the end of 2020. A long list of standard reorganization-based resolutions were passed, including the designation of schedules, budget appropriations, banks, and newspapers.

Other appointments included the following: Joe Trammell—Council President, Kathleen Hart—Joint Insurance Fund Commissioner/Assessment Search Officer, Gregg Possiel—Safety Coordinator, Salvatore Cannizzaro—Tax Search Officer, Ana Debevec—Public Agency Compliance Officer/ Records Officer, Ron Kostar—Clean Communities Coordinator, Rob Masterson—Emergency Management Coordinator, Cody Parker—Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, Raymond Raya—Public Defender, Susan L. Solda DeSimone, Prosecutor, John Marini—Assistant Zoning Officer/Assistant Code Enforcement Officer/Housing Inspector, Fran Hezroni, Danielle Vansalisbury, and Kate Murphy as School Crossing Guards, and Michael Ticktin as Borough Historian. It was stated that a new Zoning Officer would be appointed shortly.

In addition, Donna Taylor, Jacqueline Carpenter, Chad

Vroman, and Rob Masterson were appointed to the Planning Board. Margaret Schlinski and Heidi Monteleone were appointed to the Environmental Commission and Michael Ticktin was appointed as Chair of the Environmental Commission.

Public comment included concerns about the way the Borough Attorney was selected, and the choice of Roberts Engineering as the water/sewer engineer, as Roberts was the original designer of the auger that is causing so many problems. It was noted that Roberts has a new engineer on staff that specializes in water/sewer treatment and Councilperson Trammell expressed interested in meeting with them.

Other concerns addressed the Council not following the recommendation of the Environmental Commission to appoint Nick Murray as Chair of the Environmental Commission. Mayor Malkin stated that she did not wish to discuss personnel matters. Additional concerns were expressed as Sharyn Walz and Beth Battel were not re-appointed to the Environmental Commission following the expiration of their terms in December 2017, to which Mayor Malkin replied that new administrations often appoint new people

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to various boards. Councilperson Filepp echoed the disappointment of not following the Environmental Commission’s recommendation for its own Chairperson, but agreed that Michael Ticktin has served on the Environmental Commission for a substantial period and would certainly do a fine job. Nicholas Murray requested clarification as to Councilperson Parker’s being

appointed as Council representative to the Environmental Commission, and it was clarified that Mr. Parker is being appointed to the alternate seat previously held by Mr. Ticktin.

Robert Kragen distributed a campaign flyer from the previous election and expressed concerns that the current Council needed to be reminded of the spirit in which

they campaigned and won their positions. Mr. Kragen spoke in support of Councilperson Parrott and suggested that the Council offer her the position of Chair of the Finance Committee. Mr. Kragen also expressed that he had concerns about the Borough’s current water/sewer operations and has reached out to the NJDEP for recommendations on next steps.



Dog License Period January 2018

Hi! This is “**Rover**”, Roosevelt’s official pooch, with a reminder that the 2018 licensing period for dogs will begin on January 2, 2018. In NJ all dogs over the age of 7 mos. are required to be licensed on a yearly basis. Dogs licensed from Jan. 2 thru Jan. 31 will not incur a late fee. Thereafter, a late fee of \$1.00 per dog for each outstanding month will be charged.

In order to license your dog for 2018, you will need to present a rabies certificate that **will not** expire before **Oct 31, 2018**; as an example, if the rabies certificate expires on Oct. 30, 2018, you will still need a new certificate in order to license your dog. The only exception to this NJ state requirement is for those dogs who have a verified medical condition and/or reaction to the rabies vaccines; in this case, the owner must present a signed, current statement (2018) from the treating veterinarian indicating that the dog cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

The fees for the initial licensing period (Jan 2 – Jan 31, 2018) are as follows:

	Neutered/Spayed Dogs	Non-Neutered Dogs
License fee:	\$7.00	\$7.00
NJ Registration fee:	1.00	1.00
Clinic fee	.20	.20
NJ Pet Population Control	--	3.00
Late fee	-----	-----
Total	\$8.20	\$11.20

Payment should be in exact cash or by check as the office most likely will not have change available. Sorry, credit or debit cards are not accepted. Best days for licenses are Tues - Thurs from 10 am – 3:30 pm. If you would like your license(s) mailed to you, you will need to send us a copy of the current rabies certificate, check or money order and you will need to supply a stamped self-addressed envelope – postage: .47 for 1 – 2 licenses, .68 for 3 – 4 licenses; over 4 licenses needed, please come into the office. Once again, dependent on weather and road conditions, we will try to schedule two evenings during the month of January for license issuance for those who are not available during the day but wish to license their dogs at the office.

This is Rover signing out and saying thanks for your help, understanding, cooperation and dog biscuits.



PTA Newsletter January/February 2018

PTA News

Happy 2018!

We had a great turn out for our December and January PTA meetings. Congratulations to all the door prize winners. We look forward to more attendance in the future.

HOLIDAY SHOP

This year for our winter holiday shop we changed things up a bit. In the past we used a vendor with items typically priced between \$1-\$15. In an effort to lower costs for our RPS families and offer better quality items, we decided to forgo the vendor and do all of our own shopping. Through some savvy shopping, we were able to keep all items \$5.00 and under. We feel that this year's holiday shop was very successful; the kids were able to find nicer and more affordable gifts for their friends and loved ones and while we do not consider the Holiday Shop a fundraiser, the small profit that would have gone to the vendor in the past remained with the PTA, which can now be put right back into activities for our students! Due to the success of this year's holiday shop, we look forward to continuing to do our own shopping next year. A HUGE THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped to make this shop possible for the children!

MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK

Back by popular demand, our first movie night is TONIGHT Friday January 26th! We will be showing Despicable Me 3. We hope to see everyone there. Don't forget to stop by the concession and grab a snack; Popcorn \$1.00, Water \$1.00 Juice boxes \$0.75

SCHOOLHOUSE HOOKY

Our annual Schoolhouse Hooky day will be February 16th, 2018. This event gives your child the ability to put their school work aside and have a fun creative day while still learning. This year we hope to provide a STEM activity, a soccer clinic and a few other fun activities to make the day exciting. The PTA will provide 1 slice of pizza and juice for each child for lunch.

TALENT SHOW

The 2018 Talent Show is here, and all students are invited to participate! Auditions start next week, on Wednesday January 31st from 3-4:00. Practices will then take place weekly on Wednesdays, also from 3-4:00PM. The Talent Show itself will be held on Thursday, March 8th. To ensure there is enough time for all performances, please limit your budding performer to two acts, each act running under two minutes. Please make sure your child comes with a completed permission slip!

SPRING CARNIVAL

Our school carnival is quickly approaching. The RPS carnival will be held April 21, 2018. There are three committees for our carnival; raffle, games and food. We are looking for volunteers for the day. If you can donate a few hours of your time, it is greatly appreciated! If you would like to volunteer for one of these committees please contact the chair:

- Raffle- Nikki Wiese & Kate Murphy
- Games- April Suk & Kathrine Hamilton
- Food- Christie Hague & Toni Stanley

Meeting Minutes

Membership April reported we now have 55 members as part of our PTA, which includes 13 staff members.

Treasurer Report April gave the treasurer's report, with a full accounting of all deposits and expenditures. She spoke about the insurance bill and dropping the insurance to a \$1m policy. She also gave a rundown of what each fundraiser has brought in so far, and listed out what upcoming events we still have to pay for.*

Fundraising report: Christie brought up having a dinner night out similar to what the RPSEF held. Ms. Bondy brought up using a smaller local restaurant, like Scotto's. Kate volunteered to speak to the owner and see what could be arranged. Additional fundraisers were discussed including a Mother's Day Candle Sale and a Father's Day Sports cup sale. Both sales may take place at the same time.

New business: Standing Rules were approved and put into place at the Dec 5th meeting. A copy of them are available to all members. As per the previous meeting we addressed communications from room parents, and ask that all communications be available to all, and room parents use two forms of communications.

It was suggested moving the meetings to coincide with BOE meetings since we had such a good turnout for the first half hour, but no change was voted on.

Public portion: Sheri Sexton spoke about donating leftover food from events to Solar Village and the Senior Association.

Sheri Sexton also spoke about setting up a Trenton Thunder night. It was discussed having it coincide with 6th grade graduation, and they 6th grade class would be acknowledged at the game. Paying for the 6th grade students tickets was also discussed. Sheri will follow up with Trenton Thunder to get a list of available list of dates in June. We need a minimum of 20 people to purchase tickets.

* documents submitted available to members in good standing upon request



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UPCOMING PIZZA DAYS

January 31
February 14th, 28th
March 14th, 28th

NEXT PTA MEETINGS

@7pm in School Lobby
February 6th & March 6th

TALENT SHOW AUDITIONS

January 31st 3-4PM

RPS TALENT SHOW

Thursday, March 8 7PM

BOX TOP SNOWBALL FIGHT!!!

January 29th-February 23rd

Classrooms collect box tops to earn 'snowballs' to throw at other classes. Two winners will receive a Hot Cocoa Pajama party.

For more information, and the latest on PTA events follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rpspta/>



Spring
Carnival
April 21, 2018

Two Scholarships Available

The Land Conservancy of New Jersey is now accepting applications for its 2018 Scholarship Program. Two scholarships are available to college students who reside in New Jersey and are pursuing a degree in environmental science, natural resource management, conservation, horticulture, park administration, or a related field. The application deadline ends April 1, 2018.

Applications can be downloaded here: www.tlc-nj.org or can be obtained by calling (973) 541-1010 x14.

Potential candidates must be enrolled in a college or university, be in good standing, have at least 15 credits completed, and have an academic average equivalent to a 3.0 or higher.

“This year we are pleased to be able to provide \$7,500 to each of our two scholarship recipients,” announced Rick Simon, Trustee and Member of the Scholarship Committee for The Land Conservancy of New Jersey.

“The Land Conservancy has made a long-term commitment to help future environmental leaders in New Jersey,” said The Land Conservancy President, David Epstein. “We are excited to meet a new group of passionate students and hope that our scholarships can assist with developing their skills so that they can help New Jersey meet its future environmental challenges.”

The Russell W. Myers Scholarship was established in 1983 to honor Mr. Myers, founder of The Land Conservancy of New Jersey. An outstanding leader in the field of conservation, Mr. Myers was the first Director of the Morris County Park Commission and served for more than a quarter century. His dynamic leadership established the Morris County Park System, which remains the largest county park system in the State of New Jersey and one of the finest in the nation.

The Rogers Family Scholarship was established in 2005 by Gray and Mollie Rogers, dedicated conservationists who wanted to expand The Land Conservancy’s educational support for outstanding environmentally-oriented students. Gray Rogers is a Trustee Emeritus of the non-profit land trust.

Past recipients have hailed from nearly 40 different New Jersey towns and have used their scholarships to obtain bachelor, master’s, and doctorate degrees at institutions including Rutgers University and Richard Stockton College. Their fields of study have included environmental law, policy, chemistry, and planning; as well as wildlife ecology, geography, landscape architecture, and forestry management.

“What in the Ham Sandwich?”

Remembering Cissy Porter

By Jeff Ellentuck, et al

Above is a quote from a treasured lady, admired by all. Her quote is what she would say because she never cussed. Alana “Cissy” Porter left our world peacefully on December 16, 2017. A reverend, wife, first aider, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, nurse, 20+ years office worker, loyal friend, a person of guidance and confidence, to whomever asked or needed it. Cissy gave it to you straight, whether you agreed or not, she shot straight from the hip. A true neighbor to all.

Former mayor, Beth Battel, said, “Cissy was someone with whom I always enjoyed conversing. She was warm, insightful and possessing a sharp wit. She was always concerned about the well-being of our town and its residents.”

Cissy grew up in Hightstown on Shapiro Avenue. Dianna Moore said, “Her family was known by a lot of families in Hightstown and that included my mother’s family. We didn’t realize that until we were talking one day about Hightstown and she asked me about where I came from before Roosevelt. If anyone goes to look for Shapiro it is no longer there. We enjoyed reminiscing about the past. Cissy was a good friend and listener, a lesson we should all take! It was a pleasure to know her and I will never forget our talks.”

“I remember Cissy’s stories, which gave you insight into her character,” said Jill Lipoti. Cissy’s early life in Hightstown, being one of the few black families, was interesting. She was raised by her grandmother

because her mother died early. One evening, there was a glow in the sky from a fire. The KKK was burning a barn owned by a Jewish farmer and was burning a cross on the lawn of another Jewish resident. Cissy’s family heard a knock on the door and, despite her grandmother’s pleas not to go to the door, her grandfather answered. There were hooded men at the door. One of them said “We’re just here to tell you you’re safe. We’re not after you Mr. Brown.” Mr. Brown said “thanks Chief”, closed the door and went back to his newspaper. How frightening that must have been for little Cissy. She would grow up to oppose discrimination in any form.

“Cissy, as we all know her, was a strong willed woman who inspired whoever she encountered, young or old, pink or purple, black or white, abled or not,” said Kelly Tyers, often referred to as her adopted daughter. Cissy opened her door willingly and freely. Kelly said, “my children and myself, as many others, had the pleasure of being called her friend. To me it was like having a second mom.” Kelly remembers the stories she told from her youth to the times living in Roosevelt, on Cedar Court, Tamara Drive, and Farm Lane. Sometimes her stories were repeated but always intriguing, and always had a moral. Cissy’s wisdom and knowledge was incredible.

Kelly went on to say that there are so many memories and stories to share.

One of my favorite memories was right after Cissy’s husband Bill had passed. She had missed many services at her church due to her strong will to care for her family (but not herself). After all was done, Cissy set a date to preach at her church, plans were set, friends and family organized to attend the service without her knowing. It was a warm summer Sunday (a little too warm). This was a day that no one would miss. The theme for the AME church that Sunday was friendship fellowship: how more perfect can it get? Services started at ten. Jess Hanley and myself waited to see her leave the house before we could leave. Phones calls from everyone for directions to church and timing arrivals, so she would not see any of us. Meeting place was the parking lot of the church. (Cissy was already inside.) As we approached the church doors with a large group of Roosevelt residents, we all had the same thoughts, support our friend! The doors swung open and there Cissy was in the greeting line. Grand slam we surprised her! We all took a seat, Cissy approached her pulpit and stated that all of Roosevelt was here! She said it with pride and joy, and knowing that she was part of the community and the community was part of her.

Jeff Ellentuck remembers spending many evenings visiting Cissy and her family, especially after Bill and then Cissy became ill. Strong willed and to the point, Cissy had an unshakeable set of ethics. Right is right and wrong is wrong. She countenanced no wavering.

If Cissy supported you or your cause, you knew it. That did not mean she would not let you have it verbally if she thought you were on the wrong track or were 'misbehaving' even in pursuit of just cause.

Cissy enjoyed reminiscing with Jeff about the Roosevelt, Hightstown, and Allentown of days past, as well as illustrating her points with parables. He in turn greatly enjoyed so many of her stories. In addition to her memory of that very odd

meeting with the KKK, she and Jeff particularly enjoyed talking about her drag racing at English-town Speedway (and, if the truth be told, their respective experiences racing on Applegarth Road and Crematory Road when they were barren stretches). Yes, she was quite the firecracker even in her earliest days. Cissy was a strong believer in those parts of her religion that taught love, tolerance, and self reliance. She particularly enjoyed a religious

parable about a drowning man who received offers of help from a canoeist, a motorboating crew and a cruise ship. At the pearly gates, the drowned man asked why his god had not saved him. An angry deity replied "I sent you a canoe, a motorboat and a cruise ship". As Cissy would say – "The Lord helps those who help themselves".

Good bye, Cissy. We all loved you. You will live on forever in our hearts!

Calling All Democrats

For all Democrats who would like to get involved in a local Democratic Party organization, you are welcome to attend any and all meetings of these local groups:

- 4th Congressional District: indivisiblej4.com
- Upper Freehold: [facebook.com/UpperFreeholdDems](https://www.facebook.com/UpperFreeholdDems)
- Millstone: millstonedems.org
- Monmouth County: monmouthdems.org

For more information, contact David G. Brown, the Chair of the Monmouth County Democratic Club at (732) 739-8888 or info@monmouthdems.org.

Become Part of the Bulletin Team!

The Roosevelt Borough Bulletin is a fully volunteer effort of its writers, editors, layout artist, and distribution captain. We would like to expand our team.

We offer an excellent work environment (your home) and terrific benefits (people actually do say thank you a lot). The only requirements are that you must be able to send your material via email and translate all your work into Esperanto (actually, the Esperanto is optional).

Calendar Editor – Prepare monthly calendar. Takes about 2 hours if you do it carefully. We have an MS Word template you can just fill in for the routine stuff, and we can steer you towards reliable sources for the other stuff. A great way to find out what's going on in the Borough!

Roving Reporter – 4 hours a month – Write short features that focus on Roosevelt-specific themes.

SIGN UP FOR CodeRED!!

RECEIVE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE BOROUGH.
HAVE THE NOTIFICATIONS GO TO YOUR LANDLINE, OR CELL, OR BOTH!

SIGN UP BY GOING TO www.rooseveltnj.us

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Coreopsis - Gold for the Garden

Continuing our series of articles highlighting the native species that we need to encourage, this month we spotlight Beebalm.

In 1574, a Spanish botanist Nicolás Bautista Monardes (1493-1588) described some North American mints from specimens sent back to Spain. Today, that genus of plants bears his name: Monarda. There are more than

20 Monarda species, plus natural hybrids, subspecies and cultivated varieties. Like all mints they have opposite leaves on square stems. The flowers are tubular radiating from a central head. The leaves of all Monarda are fragrant. Some smell like thyme or oregano or lemon or eucalyptus.... Probably because of their wide distribution, each has many names, which can be confusing. The references below list some sources for these plants, and many are available at local nurseries.

Three native Monarda are New Jersey residents.



The best known is Bergamot or Scarlet Beebalm (*Monarda didyma*). This perennial has long been cultivated, and numerous selections in a

range of colors are commercially available. Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) is similar, but with lavender flower heads on branched stems and silvery blue-green

leaves. There is a good-sized stand in the Assunpink. If you happen to be in the Delaware Water Gap National Park in July, be on the lookout for some pretty impressive displays. The last is Spotted Beebalm (*Monarda punctata*), named for its brown spotted yellow flowers. It is different from the other two; it is not spreading and the flower heads are stacked up along the stem, it favors dry locations, and the green, white, pink and purple bracts (inconspicuous in the others) add to the beauty of the flower. There are differing reports as to whether Spotted Beebalm is an annual or a perennial. The plant I had survived for several years

before it died. You can see them blooming in the field to the right of the Roosevelt Cemetery in September.



Monarda are visited by butterflies and hummingbirds, so they will brighten your garden two ways. They are also a favorite of native bees and predatory wasps, that need our help. Their aromatic foliage deters deer, which makes them an excellent plant for Roosevelt gardens.

References:

Monarda

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarda>

Bergamot Monarda didyma

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MODI

Wild Bergamot Monarda fistulosa

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MOFI

Spotted Beebalm Monarda punctata

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MOPU



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Roosevelt Public School Board Of Education is creating an email distribution list for meeting agendas and information. If you would like to be added to this list, which will be used in a BCC format, please email: RPSBOE@gmail.com.

Senior Group Meetings

The Senior Citizen Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Borough Hall.

At 1:30 pm we frequently have guests who speak about a variety of topics, generally applicable to everyone. Finances, health, and safety in the home are a few examples. Notices will be on the bulletin board at the P.O. All residents are welcome to take advantage of this worthwhile program.

Thank you.
Geraldine Millar
President, Seniors

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Food is distributed, free of charge, by volunteers one Friday and Saturday a month between 12:00 and 1:00 pm at the Clarksburg Community Center, Route 571, next to the Clarksburg Fire House. You have to pick it up yourself since there is no delivery. No questions as to eligibility will be asked.

The Saturdays do vary, so when I find out which Saturday, I will put a notice on the bulletin board at the Roosevelt Post Office. Call me if you have questions.

Geraldine Millar 609.448.0351

Movie Review: “The Shape of Water”

By Ron Kostar

The movie “The Shape of Water” is a testament to the power of love and magic in a willful, conflicted, overly pragmatic world.

Director Guillermo del Turo’s film is set in 1962 Baltimore, at the height of the Cold War. Agents for the US government have captured a magical hybrid (half man and half fish) somewhere in the Amazon Rainforest, and an evil agent named Richard Strickland (Michael Shannon) has dragged him back to the States to see whether the amphibian could serve any practical purpose to NASA. Naturally, the Russians soon appear, wondering the same thing for their space program, and a struggle for control over the “asset” quickly heats up.

Neither the Americans nor the Russians are aware of, or care, whether the Amphibian Man has any notable human qualities, or in this case, super-human qualities. Leave this to the two heroes of the

film: a mute custodian, Eliza (Sally Hawkins), who is a lively, likeable Chaplinesque young woman who works with her loquacious buddy Zelda (Octavia Spenser) cleaning the lab that houses Amphibian Man; and Giles (Richard Jenkins), Eliza’s best friend and neighbor, a gay painter who shares Eliza’s tenement building and generously opens his apartment.

Eliza and Giles are “little” people. Eliza is a mute custodian and Giles is a balding illustrator who has lost most of his work to photographers. Both are lonely and yearn to connect with people. In contrast, Strickland and the US Army General Hoyt (Nick Searcy) who is in charge of “assessing the potential of the asset,” are cold, pragmatic, and violent. From the start they are inclined to “liquidate the asset” and be done with the Amphibian Man.

Director del Turo’s view of Cold War America is not particularly favorable.

Strickland is a bundle of nervous ticks and veiled threats and he seems to epitomize the ideological

zeal and strident quest to acquire products and power of some post-WW 2 Americans. Strickland is “moving up”: he buys a teal Cadillac, a traditional symbol of success in the 60s, and he reads Norman Vincent Peale’s *The Power of Positive Thinking*; that is when he isn’t electro-shocking the Amphibian Man with his phallic baton or sexually harassing Eliza in the lab or alternately ignoring or dominating his Stepford-like wife at home.

Eliza comes in contact with the effervescent Amphibian Man while she’s cleaning the lab that houses the water tub in which he’s imprisoned. She dares to approach him despite his strange appearance, and she gains a certain degree of his trust by feeding him hardboiled eggs and playing him Benny Goodman albums. But more importantly, she teaches him to sign, and the more they communicate the more they bond; it soon becomes obvious they are physically attracted to one another.

When Eliza learns that General Hoyt and

Continued from Page 13

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Strickland plan to kill her Amphibian Man, she convinces her friends Zelda and Giles and a renegade Russian scientist/double agent (Michael Stuhlbarg) to kidnap him and whoosh him to safety. What ensues is a heist followed by a lengthy, engaging chase scene, which concludes miraculously alongside a harbor, and in which Eliza and the Amphibian prove that sometimes love and magic can transcend even death. It's a magical ending that is completely believable within the context of the movie.

*

"The Shape of Water" draws from Jean Cocteau's Surrealist classic movie "Beauty and the Beast," as well as from "Frankenstein" and "Cinderella" and other fairy tales. It also owes a debt to the Magic Realism of South American and Mexican novels. From the look of the movie, I suspect Director del Turo has watched plenty of American TV shows from the 50s and 60s, and that his viewing included episodes of "The Twilight Zone."

The sets in the movie are memorable and worth mentioning.

Giles' well-lit apartment, where much of the movie takes place, is brimming with interesting art objects and Giles' own paintings. It is a lively, creative place. (Giles also watches musicals from the 20s and 30s while he's working and Eliza and Giles occasionally break out into impromptu song-and-dance routines.) In contrast, Strickland's home is gaudy and garish and much too bright, like a room in "Mad Men" or "The Stepford Wives." Eliza's apartment is damp and green and it fits her like a glove. Visually, much of the movie looks as if it's taking place under water; the fertile color green is everywhere and water is the film's healing, transforming element. There's a magic at work in "The Shape of Water" that hints of allegory, but the story is very much of this world and cultivates a sort of credibility.

"The Shape of Water" may not match last year's two best movies, "Paterson" and "The Florida Project," but it's still wonderful and definitely worth seeing. I give it:

Four STARS ****

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If you would like your organization's event posted to the Bulletin's Facebook page, please send event details to rooseveltbulletin submissions@gmail.com.

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

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FEBRUARY

- 3 Sat. 8:00 pm Drawing from Life, Roosevelt Arts Project, Borough Hall**

- 6 Tues. 12:30 pm Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall

- 6 Tues. 7:00 pm Planning Board, Borough Hall

- 12 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Acting Mayor

- 14 Weds. Recycling Pickup 

- 19 Mon. Roosevelt Public School Closed, Presidents Day

- 20 Tues. 7:00 pm Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President

- 21 Weds. 7:00 pm Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall,

- 22 Thurs. 7:30 pm RPS Board of Education, Ken LeCompte, President

- 24 Sat. 8:00 pm Standard Issue: Great Song Writers of the 1920s-1940s Roosevelt Arts Project, Borough Hall**

- 26 Mon.. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 28 Weds. Recycling Pickup 

MARCH

- 6 Tues. 12:30 pm Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall

- 6 Tues. 7:00 pm Planning Board Borough Hall

- 12 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 14 Weds. Recycling Pickup 

- 20 Tues. 7:00 pm Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President

- 21 Weds. 7:00 pm Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall,

- 22 Thurs. 7:30 pm RPS Board of Education, Ken LeCompte, President

- 24 Sat.. 8:00 pm Themes and Variations: Piano Recital with Commentary by Alan Mallach Roosevelt Arts Project, Borough Hall**

- 26 Mon. 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Borough Hall
Peggy Malkin, Mayor

- 28 Weds. Recycling Pickup 

- 30 Fri. Roosevelt Public School Closed, Spring Break

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Please send notice of your events to the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com.



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February 14, 28

March 14, 28

STATE PERMITS

Wednesdays 1 - 3

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