



Bulletin



Volume 41 Number 1

September 2017

Mayor and Three Councilmembers Resign; Governor to Appoint Replacements to Serve until Successors are Elected

By Sharyn Walz

In the wake of mid-August resignations by Mayor Jeff Ellentuck and Council members Stacey Bonna, Jill Lipoti, and Michael Ticktin, the Roosevelt Borough Council is no longer able to support the quorum necessary to conduct the Borough's business. Borough clerk Kathleen Hart has notified the state; it will be up to Governor Christie's office, in cooperation with Department of Community Affairs, to appoint replacements by September 17. These replacements will serve until new members can be elected. Councilwoman Peggy Malkin will serve as mayor pending a permanent appointment by the Council.

Also at the August 14th meeting, Borough employees Debra Thomas and Kelly Tyers resigned their administrative positions in the Clerk's office, noting that the current atmosphere has made it difficult for them to continue. The Council breakup comes after many months of controversy over a variety of issues, including emergency services, the water utility, code enforcement, and Borough expenditures. Members have been sharply divided into two factions, mirroring divisions within the Borough itself.

Interim Council Appointments in Process

The application process for interim Council members was not well publicized, and the Borough Clerk received the information on the afternoon of August 30, the very last day for residents interested in serving to fill out the necessary paperwork. This notification was sent to the 26 residents who had previously requested to be included on the list for Borough notices and Council information. Queries to officials at the Department of Community Affairs revealed that

a press release had gone out, but upon searching the DCA website for "Roosevelt," the press release was not readily found. Interviews for remaining councilmembers have been conducted.

For the full text of resignation letters or to follow these events in real time, visit the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoroughBulletin>.

Coverage of the story is also available at the Asbury Park Press and NJ101.5 websites.

The Bulletin website also provides additional details about business conducted at July and August meetings, as well as a summary of public comment: <http://rooseveltboroughbulletin.org>.



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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 on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and will take you shopping to ShopRite in East Windsor. The bus will pick you up at your home, you spend 1 ½ hours shopping, and the bus will take you home and leave your groceries at your door. There is no charge to you for this service.

If you wish to go, you must call the S.C.A.T. bus Tuesday no later than 3:00 p.m. at 732-431-6485 and press 1. Give them your name, address, and the town you are from, and your interest in going on Wednesday, the next day.

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

A Newspaper Hat

What a perfect weather day,
Bright blue sky and a mild breeze.
Warm to hot.

We waited for hours
To board a ferry for Hoboken,
Lines of shocked office workers
Snaking along the pier.

Jets roared overhead while green soldiers rumbled past in open green trucks.
A late summer sun dazzling the river's surface.

He was a short man in a blue suit, white shirt, tie slightly askew
Middle-aged, an accountant or an account manager
Not much hair. Glasses squinting. Ashes on his shoulders.

He wore a triangular hat made from a folded newspaper
To shield his sun-exposed pate.
Practical, not jaunty. His suit was singed, covered with dust.

After many hours, the lines crossed, reversed,
Became hopelessly confused.
We were sent back to the beginning,
Our line to nowhere could not bring us to a boat.

The man with the newspaper hat disappeared
Or I just lost track of him
As I headed for the tunnel (falsely rumored to offer a footpath home).

I imagine he found his way back to New Jersey;
Perhaps took a job closer to home.
The newspaper hat discarded with his ruined blue suit.

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

RECYCLING DATES

September 6, 20
October 4, 18

STATE PERMITS

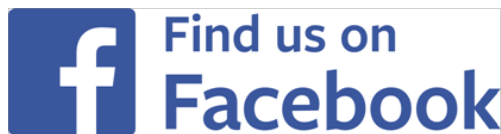
Wednesdays 1 - 3

ZONING PERMITS

Tuesdays 4 - 6 PM

BOROUGH HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Tuesdays 5 - 6 PM
Borough Hall



Keep up to date with the latest happenings, events and announcements. Follow the Borough of Roosevelt on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RooseveltBoro

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



From the desk of
Mary Robinson Cohen,
Superintendent and Principal

Welcome Back to School!

September is always exciting – for the children and grownups alike. As I write this, at the end of August, we are getting the outside and inside of RPS ready so that school year 2017-18 can begin. How fortunate we are to have a building that is steeped in history, has an exceptional art collection, grounds that allow children to get outside for recreation every day that the weather cooperates, a supportive community that is engaged with our students

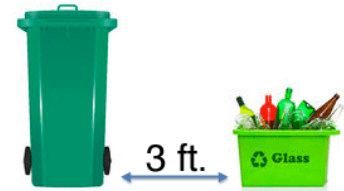
and staff and teachers that have high expectations for every one of our students. I am delighted to begin my fifth year as part of the RPS family.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kelly Tyers, Debbie Thomas, Mayor Ellentuck, Council Members Lipoti, Ticktin, and Bonna for the support that they have offered me, personally, and to the school in my tenure here.

Parking Reminder

Please park your vehicles in the right direction only. Parking on the wrong side of the street or in the wrong direction makes your vehicle difficult for oncoming traffic to see, especially in foggy or dark conditions. Vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street are subject to towing.

REMINDER FOR RECYCLING:



Always leave at least 3 feet between your garbage can and recyclable container(s). The arm that lifts the garbage can needs enough room to operate so it can avoid knocking over other containers.

Opening for Interdistrict Choice Student at RPS

Roosevelt Public School has an opening for a student in Grades K-6 under the New Jersey Interdistrict Public School Choice Program. Please contact:
Mary Robinson Cohen, M.A., J.D.
Superintendent and Principal
Roosevelt Public School
mcohen@rps1.org

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: indivisiblenj4.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.

RPS Board of Education Vacancy

We need you!

The BOE is accepting applications for a vacant seat available following the resignation of Jessica Hanley. Interviews will take place during the school board’s regular meeting on Thursday, September 28, at a special time of 7:00 p.m.

Following the interviews, the BOE will appoint a new board member in open session. The interim board member will serve the remaining time of the term, until the Board of Education’s reorganization meeting in January of 2019.

To be eligible for this interim appointment to the Board, a person must:

- Be 18 years old;
- Be a resident of Roosevelt for at least one year;
- Be a US citizen and registered voter;
- Be able to read and write; and
- Not be directly or indirectly involved in any contract with or claim against the school district.



MISSION

To educate and inspire all students to excel academically*, to become independent and creative thinkers, skillful communicators and lifelong learners. Roosevelt Public School nurtures and challenges the unique potential of each student so that our children will develop individual, social and civic responsibility as well as respect for themselves, each other, and the environment.

*to achieve or exceed N.J. CCCS at all grade levels

A Tour of the Roosevelt Public School

It has been 30 Years since I have had an involvement in the school, but I find I now have some time and inclination to be engaged in the town since I retired a few years ago. I volunteered to be on a committee to evaluate the school and consider its future; little did I know what I was getting into. The next step was to stumble into an open seat on the Board of Education.

What a pleasant surprise to meet new families who were engaged in the school, well new to me anyway. I then realized how disconnected I had become with the town since my work and family had taken me in a different direction. If it were not for my youngest daughter's two young

boys, I would have missed movie nights, school plays and visits to the pre-school.

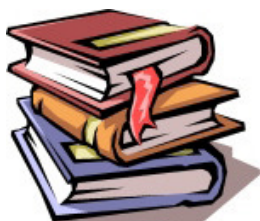
I now find myself waiting outside with the other parents and grandparents waiting for the preschoolers-along with parents who grew up with my other grandkids-an interesting experience. As I continued this new adventure, I began to remember how much I appreciated the school when my children and other grandchildren kept me busy with their adventures, so I decided to check out the school to see what has changed in the last 30 years. I am pleased to report that not much has changed.

I found the school in great shape. The building was well maintained and showed a great atmosphere where the people care about the kids and the school. It was mid-summer during my walk thru and a lot of work was going on. However, the rooms looked like teachers had been there the same day setting up for the new year and the place was ready for kids. I had to ask which classes were in each room, as things had changed and been repurposed as the school evolved. I could see that the former Boards of Education and Administration and staff had done a great job in maintaining the school as a solid piece of the heart of the town. I find the school now in good hands of the current Board of Education and Administration as they prepare for another new school year.

I recalled the addition 30 years ago

and the changes we had made in the facility and realized many of those changes worked and were being put to good use. As I got engaged with the Board of Ed, I learned that the school struggled with its size and limitations and yet it was getting awards and recognition for doing a good job with our kids meeting the demands of the new state requirements for standardized testing. I learned about the changes in the schools operation and the shared services with the Millstone School district while still part of the East Windsor District in a sending-receiving relationship. I learned that our high school students have access to Vocational-Technical schools in Monmouth, Ocean and Mercer counties. These were not available 30 years ago.

I have two daughters and four grandkids that attended the school during the course of the 40 years I've lived in town and I can say they were all well served. Now I see the new families with small children moving into town and I can only encourage them to get more involved in the school and the town. The school is a good place to start discovering the town. The PTA and the Board of Education need the young families to start participating in the enjoyment the small town life in Roosevelt has to offer. I look forward to another year of picking up a pre-schooler and watching happy children play around the school. I wish everyone a happy new school year and encourage the staff and parents to keep up the good work.



STAY CONNECTED!

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.

By Katherine (Katy) Hamilton

New Member of RPS Education Foundation Excited to Start a New School Year

As the days begin to feel shorter and the stores begin selling Halloween decorations, we all know that this means one thing: the end of summer is near. While this may invoke different feelings for everyone, to me it brings on a feeling of excitement. Not only will my son begin attending Kindergarten in September, but I am proud to say I have been elected as a member of the Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation!

As a graduate of Roosevelt Public School, the memories I hold dearest are the ones in which teachers went above and beyond what felt "normal." The creative lesson plans and experiences that energized me as a student are the ones that have stayed with me throughout my life. The RPS Education Foundation is here to provide support to such endeavors. Through teacher grant applications and support from the Roosevelt community, the Foundation has helped provide programs and facilities to the students of RPS--it

needs YOUR support to continue to succeed.

To support the RPS Education Foundation you can participate in one of our upcoming events or visit us at rpsef.org. Whether the end of summer means needing to exercise or needing to relax (or both), we have the events for you! We will be offering 6 Weeks of Pilates in the school lobby instructed by Roosevelt resident and certified instructor, Stacey Bonna. The classes will be held on Tuesdays and will begin October 10th and will go until November 14th. We will also be hosting our annual Wine, Cheese, and Dessert event at the Menda Home (23 Pine Drive) on October 6th from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Come out and have some fun with your neighbors and support the Foundation at the same time!

I am excited to join the discussion and planning of fundraising activities for the upcoming school year. We are enthusiastically coming up with new

ideas, and ensuring we implement some of your favorite activities from the past. Be sure to look for flyers and more updates in future editions of the Bulletin detailing our upcoming events or come visit us at rpsef.org.

We cannot do this without YOU and we thank you for all of your support, and send a special "Thank You" to Bill Felong for all of his help and generosity with creating flyers. I am amazed at the dedication, passion, and devotion shown by the members of the RPS Education Foundation and I can't wait to join them and YOU in supporting the children of RPS. I hope to see you at one of our events soon!



Opening at Roosevelt Public School

Roosevelt Public School has an opening for a Teacher's Assistant/Aide/Para-professional.

Grade: Pre-kindergarten

Hours: Monday through Friday 8:10 to 1:10

Substitute Certification or eligibility required

Prior experience a plus

Contact:

Mary Robinson Cohen, M.A., J.D.

Superintendent and Principal

Roosevelt Public School

mcohen@rps1.org

HALLOWEEN FANATICS AND CANDY FANS WANTED!

Save the date!

The Roosevelt PTA is organizing a Trunk or Treat event on October 22nd.

Registration details coming in October's bulletin!

We will be accepting donations of unopened bags of candy through October 13th.

Contact the RPS PTA for more information at rpspta1@gmail.com

LETTERS

The following letter of resignation from the Council was filed with the Borough Clerk by Council Member Stacey Bonna

August 14, 2017

Dear Ms. Hart,

I agreed to run for office in 2015 not because I had more ambitious political aspirations, nor any desire to be in the spotlight, but rather I wanted to volunteer my time to contribute toward the improvement of our community. I have been fortunate to meet so many wonderful neighbors, been involved with interesting and fun activities, and seen the engagement and involvement of residents. Over the course of my term I have accomplished many things for and with Roosevelt Borough:

- Officiated a wedding of Borough residents at Borough Hall.
- Voted unanimously Council President by the Roosevelt Borough Council.
- Appointed to Finance, Public Works, Utilities, and Administration Committees.
- Chair of Administration Committee 2016 and 2017.
- Volunteered to be the Green Team Representative to Borough Creative Team.
- Roosevelt Borough Alternate Community Development Representative.
- Council Representative to the Environmental Commission (Regular Member since Nov 2014).
- Volunteer to raise money by teaching multiple Pilates classes for the RPS Education Foundation.
- Participated in the EC Attack on Autumn Olive, Butterfly Park planting, and Stream Monitoring class.

- Contributor to the Bulletin, Mendies Farm, First Aid Squad, and former Fire Company.
- Hosted the Student Conservation Association (trail workers).
- Recruited family member to conduct research and provided suggestions for certain EC projects.
- Perfect attendance at Council Meetings (my attendance pre-dates taking office).
- Attended trainings and conferences for the betterment of the Borough:
 - ANJEC "Landscaping with Native Plants" 2017
 - Freeholder Curley's "Seminar for Elected Officials" 2016 and 2017
 - NJLM "Public Officials Seminar" 2017
 - "NJ State League of Municipalities Conference" 2016
 - Rutgers Center for Government Services "Elected Officials Course" 2016
 - ANJEC "Fundamentals of Effective Environmental Commissions Training Course" 2015
 - JIF "Public Officials Seminar" 2015 and 2016 (\$250 savings to Borough for each attendance).

Being a Roosevelt Borough Council Member is an undertaking that has consumed my personal time and resources and exposed me to public scrutiny. Over the course of my term I have watched the Council go from a cohesive unit to becoming split on almost every issue. There are those who not only consistently vote against progress, but openly lobby against progress with misinformation and disinformation. These are the same people

who do very little to contribute to the Borough and take pride in criticizing those who actually do the work.

Given these circumstances I have come to the realization that I am no longer able to effect a change for the better in Roosevelt as Councilwoman. It is for these reasons and many more I do hereby resign my position as Roosevelt Council Member effective immediately.

Sincerely,

Stacey Bonna

A Message from the Acting Mayor

Hello Neighbors,

As I am sure most of you are aware, there have been many changes in Roosevelt in the past few weeks. Some of these changes were expected, and some were a surprise.

Resignations were submitted by the Mayor, three Councilpersons, and two administrative employees.

This left Councilman Mike Hamilton, Councilman Joe Trammell, and myself.

I want to assure everyone that the Borough is continuing to run well.

While it's true that we are unable to hold Council meetings right now, we are working very hard with state and county officials to put all the necessary procedures in place, to ensure a smooth transition.

Inside the Borough Hall, we are taking care of the day to day operations.

I would be remiss, though, if I didn't tell you that many residents have pitched in to help. People

have come to the Borough Hall and helped with some of the unpleasant tasks, such as cleaning the bathroom and kitchen, and taking out the trash.

A couple of weeks ago, another water crisis was averted, when I realized that the water pressure was extremely low. This was at 1:00 am. I awoke Joe Trammell, who checked it out and contacted our Water/Sewer operator. It was remedied before most people realized what had happened.

Mike Hamilton has been overseeing all infrastructure matters, as well as available grants that need to be attended to now.

Roosevelt has a long storied background of history, political disagreements, art, religion and culture. In the past forty years or so, it has become a much more diverse town. And with that diversity, we have become known as a town which is accepting, tolerant, and compassionate. Everyone is welcome here.

Our goal is to have an open, honest, and inclusionary government. Everyone's opinions and ideas will be respected and given consideration. Once we are able to hold Council meetings again, I urge everyone to attend. If that's not possible, write to us. We are listening.

Lastly, I'd like to say that, although our current situation is unusual, it's nothing we all can't handle. When I think about what is happening in Texas right now, as well as other parts of the world, I know how lucky we all are to be warm, dry, and safe in our own homes.

Enjoy the last days of sum-

mer! As we obtain more information and decisions, we will keep you informed.

Peggy Malkin

The following letter of resignation from the Council was filed with the Borough Clerk by Councilman Michael Ticktin:

Dear Ms. Hart:

After much consideration, I have decided that I can no longer continue to serve as a member of the Roosevelt Borough Council. My paramount concern as a Council member has been to support effective code enforcement, an area in which I have spent most of my professional career and which I believe to be a necessary component of any plan to maintain Roosevelt as the safe, secure, decent community in which we all wish to live.

I have now become aware of actions by my remaining colleagues, based on a different philosophy of code enforcement, that I believe to be detrimental to this goal. I do not wish to be associated with those efforts and do not wish to support them by my continuing presence on the Council.

I therefore resign as a member of the Roosevelt Borough Council, effective immediately.

I wish to thank those, including both past and current Council colleagues, Borough officials and employees, and other citizens of Roosevelt who have supported me with their assistance and their good will during my years on the Council and my prior years of service to the Borough.

I trust you will advise the Governor's office of the consequences of my resignation so that appropriate action may be taken, as provided by law.

Very truly yours,

Michael L. Ticktin

A Brief Note from Borough Hall

Since the resignations of the Mayor and three council members, I can report the following:

Borough Hall is functioning as usual. Ana (our Treasurer), Kathleen (Clerk), George (CFO), Gerry (Auditor) and Sam (Tax Collector) are still on duty and carrying on their individual tasks.

Maria Del Piano was gracious enough to come in and thoroughly clean the bathroom and help me clean and re-organize the kitchen. On Wednesday 16 August, 2017, the staff found that we could not access our Borough email system. Upon a call to Computer Solutions, (our office server installers) we found the new server address and within fifteen minutes we were back in business. Thanks Jon and Bob from CS for getting us back up. We renewed our service contract with CS.

I received a call at 1:00 am Monday morning, August 21, that there was no water or low pressure on Homestead and Lake Drives. Driving around town showed no breaks in the mains, Toby was called and showed up around 2AM. Apparently one of the pumps pushing water into the tower had failed. He started the backup pump and called Rich the electrician who confirmed the pump being off line. It was restart-

ed later and functioned quite well for the rest of the night and we all had water that morning.

Our next tasks will be to trim the hedges, repaint the “Municipal Hall” sign and clean the third bay of the Hall. These things are being done by volunteers. We will continue to make these improvements while waiting for a quorum in the Council, hopefully by the time you read this.

Keep your eyes on the Bulletin Board at the Post Office for our calls for volunteers to help perform these

and other tasks. We continue to be optimistic and look forward to serving you – Our Town.

Respectfully Submitted;

Councilman Joe Trammell

The following letter of resignation from the Council was filed with the Borough Clerk by Councilman Jill Lipoti:

Ms. Kathleen Hart, RMC, CMR
Clerk, Borough of Roosevelt

Dear Ms. Hart,

I joined the Council with a vision for Roosevelt. I was concerned about the sustainability of our town, whether it could survive as an entity for the next generation. Immediate problems facing the town were the need to house the emergency services, address the aging infrastructure, reopen the only store in town, organize the files at Borough Hall, and attract a buyer for the old gas station property. Roosevelt had a number of abandoned houses, and properties in need of maintenance.

Roosevelt’s assets included:

- the active fire company which had swelled to 18 members,
- the first aid squad which was responding to calls from neighboring towns as well as Roosevelt,
- the environmental commission who successfully obtained grants to support their activities,
- the Roosevelt Arts Project with their full schedule of events,
- the Solar Village, which was getting a much needed make-over, and
- the wonderful Roosevelt Public School.

The town was effectively using its volunteer power and community spirit to attempt to overcome the challenges it faced.

During my council service, I contributed my time and energy to identify funding sources to address the aging infrastructure, listen and support staff, respond to emergencies, assist in bringing Roosevelt into compliance with the Joint Insurance Fund requirements, assist with Sustainable Jersey initiatives, and encourage the building of a pollinator garden for butterflies to stop on their migration pathway. After questions were raised about the need for the emergency services building, I served on the committee to flesh out the options, and provide cost estimates for each. At times, I had to join the Council meetings via conference call, but I listened to every person during public comment period, and I carefully considered their concerns.

All of these tasks brought me in daily contact with the Roosevelt staff, who were amazing in their

dedication and focus on working through the plethora of problems brought to them by the Roosevelt residents.

To address the economic vitality of our town, we pursued legal action to get the liquor license back, as a way to goad the deli-owners into reopening our town store. To address the issue of vacant houses in Roosevelt, we adopted a more aggressive enforcement stance for our zoning regulations, to pursue the house owners to bring them up to code and get them on the market. This added to all property values in town, as the town became well-maintained. I remain hopeful that we will have a vibrant business in the old gas station property eventually.

To address the social issues, the fire, first aid, environmental commission and Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) were all committed to working to create a place where everyone in Roosevelt felt needed, supported, and engaged. Even the butterfly garden idea brought people together and brought some beauty to our borough hall. The Environmental Commission’s work with the Student Conservation Association brought us a newly developed woodland trail, and RAP held an art walk along the trail. The Environmental Commission submitted its first application to Sustainable Jersey for the Bronze category of recognition.

In infrastructure issues, the water plant was upgraded, painted, and a grand opening was held. Financed by a bond, the water tower was inspected and brought up to NJDEP standards. The sewage treatment plant was assessed by a well-respected engineering firm

and recommendations made for upgrading systems.

Nevertheless, things keep breaking in our infrastructure. Even now, the valve at the base of the water tower is held together with a strap. Every incident at the water/sewer facility meant that I was on site, discussing the issues with our water/sewer operator, and our engineering firm. At each Council meeting, the issues were brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council through the Committee reports.

The vision that I had for the town was one where we would address our long-term issues through long-term investment, paid off in a long-term strategy, unless grants were available. The costs would be borne by the people living in town benefitting from the services. That is what bonds do for towns – spread the costs over time.

At some point in time, a group of people formed who felt that the town's direction was misguided. They were effective in their campaigns. After a number of costly referenda, countless argumentative Council meetings, and general hard feelings, I concede that my vision is not shared by the majority of Roosevelt voters or by some members of Council.

The decisions made are permanent. The dismissal of the Roosevelt volunteer fire company and selling of the fire department assets means that Roosevelt is now committed to contracting with neighboring towns for fire coverage. A town asset has been lost, and I can only imagine how hurt the firefighters were at the end of their service to the town.

Roosevelt's problems have not

been solved. There are daily issues. Roosevelt is subject to daily fines for the air quality in the Borough Hall because the First Aid vehicles start up inside the building without ventilation. Roosevelt residents have chosen to have different people make decisions on their behalf through their choices on the referenda and primary election.

As I am no longer effective as a Council member, I am resigning, effective tonight. I have dedicated many hours to Borough business, however, without appreciation for my work, the volunteer hours are no longer rewarding. I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life.

Sincerely,

Jill Lipoti

The following letter of resignation was filed with the Borough Clerk by Mayor Jeff Ellentuck:

When I joined the Council in 2006 I had a list of goals for the Borough. I'm glad to say that during my tenure on the governing body I saw many of those goals achieved.

We all successfully prevented the importation of "black water" into our sewage system. We were successful in the yeshiva litigation. Along with Pat Moser, I was successful in convincing the Council to have our historic and iconic water tower refurbished at a cost of \$520,000 versus replacing it at a cost of \$1.3 million to \$1.8 million. We obtained cut-rate financing to rebuild our water plant. The Council (not the Mayor) sets the budget. The Councils on which

I served kept municipal taxes almost flat for ten years, even as the budget and surrounding towns increased. I am particularly proud of the fact that I was able to find a way to refund our "unrefundable" 40-year high-interest utilities bonds, thereby saving us \$50,000 a year in interest payments.

There were some disappointments as well. We expanded our fire department from just a few active volunteers to a full contingent of 18 fully trained firefighters over a period of ten years. I was disappointed that the voters chose to contract for outside fire services, as were the many young people who had trained to be volunteer firefighters. I had also hoped that we would sell the old gas station for use as a business to employ local residents, pay taxes, and provide useful services for the Borough. I have met with a company that is interested in purchasing property and have urged them to make a presentation to the Council. I am still hopeful that our gas station property will be put to good use.

I was immensely proud of the Borough's response to our hurricane-then-snowstorm. Some of our employees worked around the clock, with at least one only sleeping a total 6 hours over a week's time. Our volunteer firefighters and public works personnel cut their way through town with chainsaws so that our First Aid volunteers could get through to aid and check on residents. Volunteers operated the shelter and the required "OEM center". Even our younger residents helped out by preparing food to share and by helping out wherever possible. This is how Roosevelt has worked and should work.

Volunteering to do the hard work and actually doing that work is how residents make Roosevelt financially sustainable. This is true whether those volunteers serve on municipal boards and commissions, serve as emergency service volunteers on the First Aid Squad or former Fire Department, plant gardens, clean our trails and woods, or perform myriad other tasks large and small. The job of the members of the governing body in a town of less than 900 residents is not just to “set policy” or sit in judgment. It is incumbent on elected officials to roll up their sleeves and work every day.

In the past, there were often disagreements among members of the Council concerning goals, priorities, and policies. The issues were discussed civilly, though certainly not always dispassionately, and were resolved by compromise, concession, or vote. Unfortunately, this is no longer the case. Borough employees did their jobs mostly without interference, insult, or harassment. This, also, is no longer the case.

It has become increasingly diffi-

cult to accomplish anything for the benefit of the town, or even to maintain the basic services upon which residents rely. Having grown up here, I know that Roosevelt has always been different from its neighbors and, often, much of the nation. Even when faced with the most contentious issues, we were able to work our way through them. We did this by assuming that each person was honest and had the best interests of the Borough at heart. When the issue was resolved, we could share a glass of wine. Unfortunately, the Council now reflects the national spirit of political divisiveness, alternate facts, incivility, and personal attacks. Proposals are rejected out of hand, not because of their virtues, but because of who proposed them. This is no way to govern a town that faces numerous difficult issues and choices. We need action to resolve issues with our buildings. The Borough Hall roof continues to leak and the Council delays. PEOSH may start fining us shortly unless action is taken with our HVAC systems and indoor air quality. The DEP will fine us heavily if we fail to complete the

study of our sewer pipes soon. Our sewage is treated by chemical treatments instead of being treated the way our sewer plant was designed because the plant is old and decaying. I urge the Council to take the steps necessary to fix these issues before the costs to do so increase.

I have devoted thousands of volunteer hours over the years. I would be willing to continue to do so if I thought things would change. I am now convinced they will not. For this reason I am resigning effective tonight.

I have returned with this letter all keys and access information in my possession.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ellentuck

CODE RED for Emergency Notification

Please sign up to receive emergency notification from the Borough’s CODE RED system. Stay informed, stay safe! You can register by calling Borough Hall or by visiting: <https://public.coderedweb.com/cne/en-US/E317CFCBE3FD>

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Turtleheads - Linguaphile meets Floraphile

Past articles have targeted the invasive species that we need to watch out for. This year we will highlight the native species that we need to encourage.

Many plants' names are derived from descriptions of the plants: milkweeds have milky sap, fringetrees have frilly flowers, blueberries have blue berries, and jack-in-the-pulpit, well you know. Turtleheads have flowers that look like turtles' heads. To take this one step further, the genus (family) name *Chelone* is that of a nymph from Mount Khelydorea in Arkadia (southern Greece) who haughtily refused a summons to attend the wedding of Zeus and Hera. Big mis-

take! Hermes transformed her with her house into a lazy, stay-at-home tortoise.

As for the plants, there are four species (and some subspecies) in North America. The Jersey native, although not that common, is the White Turtlehead *Chelone glabra*, (*glabra* - without hairs). This native's range is east of the Mississippi and eastern Canada. You might see it growing 3-4 feet tall in a ditch beside the road.

Pink Turtlehead (*Chelone lyonii*) is named for John Lyon (1765-1814), American botanist, who was an early explorer of the southern Appalachians. You can find it commercially available as the variety, "Hot Lips", a relatively short selection. It is found along the east coast,

but curiously not in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware and Maryland. It shares similar cultural requirements and characteristics with White Turtlehead.

Red Turtlehead (*Chelone oblique*) is found in the South and between the Mississippi and Appalachians. Cuthbert's Turtlehead (*Chelone cuthbertii*) is found in the South.

All the Turtleheads are perennials and bloom in the late summer (August

to October). Butterflies and an occasional hummingbird visit the flowers for a bit of nectar. They are the native host plant for the caterpillar of the Baltimore Checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas phaeton*). Turtleheads' bitter foliage deters deer. The plants like moist woody soil and will tolerate shade. So if you are interested in promoting native plants and the butterflies they support, turtleheads are an excellent choice. You can find sources for plants in New Jersey (see Wildflower Plant Sources below). Please, do not dig plants from the wild! Their life is tough enough without plant poachers.

References:

White Turtlehead - *Chelone glabra*
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=j780>

Pink Turtlehead - *Chelone lyonii*
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=b990>

Turtleheads
<https://piedmontmastergardeners.org/article/chelone-a-funny-name-but-a-sweet-flower/>

Search *chelone* at <https://plants.usda.gov/java/nameSearch>

Wildflower Plant Sources

http://www.npsnj.org/pages/native-plants_Sources.html



White Turtlehead (Chelone glabra)

NJ Department of Environmental Protection

24-Hour Hotline

1-877-WARNDEP or 1-877-927-6337

For reporting spills, hazardous discharges, and other environmental emergencies.



BUY FRESH, BUY LOCAL

Ten Reasons to Buy Local Food

Reason #3: Locally grown food is better for the environment. Fresh foods come from small farms that typically use sustainable agriculture practices, such as soil conservation, nutrient replacement, and protection of water sources.

For a list of where locally grown food is available near Roosevelt, go to <https://tinyurl.com/Roosevelt-Buy-Fresh>.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad is and has always been an independent and apolitical organization, and for good reasons. Our Mission Statement is to provide pre-hospital medical assistance to residents and surrounding communities.

Good news—we recently added two new members to our ranks; this will enable us to better do our jobs helping the town. We are appreciative of these new members' selfless zeal to help the Squad. We are positive they will be excellent EMTs.

We are always looking for new volunteers to make the Squad even better. We are in good shape compared to other squads in the surrounding

areas. This is due to the selfless dedication of each member. If you are interested in helping, you can email us at rooseveltfirstaidsquad@yahoo.com and an officer will get back to you. Remember, when you need help, it's always better to see a familiar face than an out-of-town provider.

Lastly, we want to thank the residents for their generous donations and their supportive and thoughtful notes.

Be Well.
John Vo
Captain, EMT-B



The Roosevelt First Aid Squad needs you!

We pay for training and uniform. Neighbors helping neighbors. Without volunteers, the ambulance cannot drive itself and residents might be forced to wait for an ambulance from another town. Time matters when you need help.

If interested, please email rooseveltfirstaidsquad@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your support.

Property Maintenance Reminder

This is a reminder to the residents and property owners in town that it is their responsibility to maintain their property according to community standards. These are some examples of property maintenance issues that are becoming all too common in Roosevelt.

- Please mow your lawns. Grass height must not exceed 10 inches.
- Do not store excessive amounts of clutter in your yards. The front yard should not be used for permanent storage of equipment or debris.
- Excessive visual damage to the exterior of your home. Things such as broken or boarded up windows or hanging gutters need to be repaired

Failure to maintain your property detracts from the beauty of the community, it is disrespectful to your neighbors, and it is against the law.

The code enforcement officer has the authority to issue warnings and summonses for property owners who do not comply with the statute. Receiving a summons means a court appearance and, if found guilty, fines range from \$250 up to or greater than \$1000.

If you have any questions regarding property maintenance, please contact the code enforcement officer John Marini. He is at the Borough Hall Tuesday evenings from 5 to 7 pm.

Contributors to the Bulletin 2016/2017

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

Mary & Carlo Alfare	Al Hepner	The Ng Family
James Alt & Susan Schwartz	Constance &	June Ord
Robin & Robert Axel	David Herrstrom	Maureen Parrott
Helen Barth	Len & Michele Hillis	Parsons family
Elsbeth Battel	Daniel Hoffman &	Bob & Alison Petrilla
Bruce & Irene Block	Assenka Oksiloff	Petrillo family
Karen & Marvin Block	David & Louise Hoffman	Gregg and Elizabeth Possiel
Linda Block	Gail Hunton &	Richard & Hope Pressler
Charlotte Bondy	Wes Czyzewski	Steve & Peggy Ring
Bondy/Vuolle Family	Cynthia Imbrie	Patricia Roberts
Ulrich & Stacey Bonna	Michelle & Rick Jaeger	Roosevelt Arts Project
Susan & Robert Cayne	Sheila & Phil Jaeger	Merle & Irv Rose
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Help us to fill up this page.

Thank you for your generosity!

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The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and businesses, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$50.00/year, \$60.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month

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S E P T E M B E R

5 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
6 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
7 Thurs.	12:30 – 1:00 and 3:00 – 3:30	PTA Popsicles on the Playground Roosevelt Public School
9 Sat.	1 – 5 pm	Roosevelt Collaborative Artists’ Book Exhibition Assifa Space, 40 Tamara Dr. , Robin Middleman
11 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Peggy Malkin, Acting Mayor
12 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
19 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President
19 Tues.	7:00 pm	RPS PTA Meeting Roosevelt Public School
20 Weds.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
20 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
25 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Call Borough to Confirm Peggy Malkin, Acting Mayor
28 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061

O C T O B E R

2 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall.
4 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
8 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Peggy Malkin, Acting Mayor
10 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall
14 Sat.	1 – 4 pm	Roosevelt Woodland Trail Art Walk and Open-Air Gallery Begins at Post Office, Heidi Monteleone
17 Tues.	7:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Meeting, John Vo, President
18 Weds.	7:00 pm	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Eitan Grunwald, Chair.
18 Weds.	8:30 am	RPS PTA meeting, Roosevelt Public School Lobby
18 Weds.		Recycling Pickup 
22 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Meeting, Borough Hall Peggy Malkin, Acting Mayor
22 Mon.	TBA	RPS PTA’s Trunk or Treat Roosevelt Public School
26 Thurs.	7:30 pm	RPS Board of Education, Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061



An electronic calendar was installed on the Roosevelt Board of Education’s website containing information about state testing, upcoming field trips, events and additional pertinent information. Learn more about all of the happenings in our school, visit RPS website: www.rps1.org. Please send notice of your events to Bulletin at P.O. Box 221 or email to RooseveltBulletinSubmissions@gmail.com.

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