Volume 37 Number 6

April 2014

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Michael Ticktin

## Council Proposes Ordinance Amendment to Strengthen Zoning Enforcement; Bulk Pickup Scheduled; Improved Drainage of Empty Box Brook Noted; Planning Board Chairman Discussed Questionnaire to Encourage Community Participation in Master Plan Review

At the February 24 meeting of the Borough Council, Councilman Michael Ticktin, chairman of the Community Development/Code Enforcement committee, proposed an amendment to the zoning ordinance that would eliminate a provision that allows the zoning officer to take enforcement action only in those cases where some other person files a complaint. Councilman Ticktin said that this provision discourages the zoning officer from taking any initiative in enforcing an ordinance that is designed to protect the quality of life that people in Roosevelt value, and that the zoning officer should have the authority to act on the basis of his own observations, like any other law enforcement officer.

The Council passed the amendment on first reading, meaning that it has to be published and can only be adopted on second reading after a public hearing, and referred it to the Planning Board for review, as required by the Municipal Land Use Law for any amendment to a land use ordinance. of the requirement in the current text of the ordinance that any complaint be in writing, and, on motion of Councilman Ticktin and Councilman Stu Kaufman (Council representative on the Planning Board), the Council again passed the amendment on first reading, with that change, at the March 24 meeting. Councilwoman Peggy Malkin expressed concern that the change might result in overly strict enforcement of the zoning ordinance that would be contrary to Roosevelt's live-and-let-live tradition.

Councilman Tom Curry, chairman of the Public Works committee, reported that there has apparently been an opening of some sort in the beaver dam that has caused the flooding, and consequent destruction of trees, in a large area of the woodlands between Farm Lane and Lake Drive, and that Empty Box Creek was now back within its banks. Councilman Curry said that he would continue to monitor the flow of Empty Box Brook and would check the status of the large beaver dam obstructing the flow into Lake Assunpink.

The Planning Board subsequently recommended deletion

Continued on Page 4

INSIDE	ΤI	HIS ISSUE	
Board of Education News	4	Rescue Squad News	8 - 9
School News	6	Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Department	10
Weather	7	Roosevelt Arts Project	12-13

## A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Welcome to the 37th edition of the Roosevelt Borough Bulletin. There will be ten issues running from October 2013 through September, 2014. We will not publish in January and August 2014.

We welcome your emailed submissions for articles, letters, poems, artwork, and other items of interest. Please send your submissions and inquiries to Rick Pressler (rooseveltbulletinsubmissions@gmail.com). Non-digital submissions will be accommodated to the best of our ability, but we cannot guarantee publication. Inclusion of all items is subject to the availability of space and the editorial judgment of our Editor. Items must be received by the 15th of the month to be included in the next issue.

We will do our best to make the Bulletin both informative and interesting with the help of our devoted writers and production people.

If you want to CONTACT THE BULLETIN, please look at our masthead to the right with our address as shown.



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

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 <u>Tuesday no later than</u> <u>3:00 p.m.</u> 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.

Roosevelt Open Studio Roosevelt School Art Room Tuesdays 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Open for Roosevelt Residents over 15 Contact: Ellen Silverman, Home: 609 490 0557, Cell: 609 865 7396

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.boroughbulletin.org., the official website of the Borough Bulletin that is maintained by Bulletin Trustee Bob Francis. To have the Bulletin sent to you by email, please go to www.boroughbulletin.org and press the "Push Here to Sign Up for Bulletin" button. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** 

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## From the Mayor

## Dear Neighbors,

Welcome to the time of year that allows us to go outside and enjoy the environment. Now is the season to spruce up our yards and neighborhoods. Getting outside allows you the opportunity to increase the attractiveness of your property for your own enjoyment and that of your neighbors as well. If you carry an old grocery bag with you around the block and pick up litter you see on the way, you will gain exercise, fresh air, and the appreciation of everyone else—all for free!

Enjoy! Beth

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 1

C o u n c i l m a n Curry also announced that the semi-annual bulk pick up would be on April 7. He said that it was earlier than usual because that was the week that Hightstown, which provides trash collection services for Roosevelt under an interlocal agreement, had available. He also said that he is working to schedule a pick up date for branches and expects it to be in the near future.

Planning Board Chairman Isaac Menda spoke to the Council about the Planning Board's upcoming periodic review of the Master Plan. At least once every ten years, the Planning Board is required to review the existing Master Plan and make such revisions as may be necessary to reflect changed conditions and any new concerns that may have arisen since the previous review.

Any zoning ordinance or other land use ordinance that the Council adopts is required to be consistent with the Master Plan, unless the Council adopts a resolution identifying any inconsistency and explaining the reason for it. Mr. Menda presented a draft of a questionnaire that he would like to have the Planning Board approve and then have the Council distribute to the community in order to enlist broad public participation in identifying issues and setting goals for the Planning Board to include in the Master Plan.



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

If you would like your organization's event posted to the Borough's Facebook page, please send event details to

aprilsuk@gmail.com

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

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

## BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS



## 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

Draft 2014-2015 School Budget Available

The draft 2014-2015 Roosevelt Public School budget can be reviewed at www.RPS1.org –follow the black banner near the top. The eight-slide presentation and user friendly budget give a detailed account of the proposed budget.

The proposed tax levy increase, when you consider general fund and debt service of \$32,144, is 2.06%, which equates to an increase of \$123 per year on the average home valued at \$237,906. The proposed budget reflects the end of debt service payments and the re-appropriation of that payment to capital improvement projects which are much needed. The proposed budget also includes waivers for a \$6,764 increase in health benefits and the use of \$53,236 in banked cap.

The Board will vote on the total budget/tax levy on April 24, 2014 at 7:30 pm. This will set the

budget for the 2014-2015 school year, but does not set in stone the pro-

grams for next year. The Board, Chief School Administrator/Principal, and School Business Administrator will continue to assess programs based on current needs and submit grants and search out other revenues. Final program recommendations and hiring recommendations will come before the Board throughout the spring and summer as needs are finalized.



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.

## Sisterhood Trip on Monday, May 4, 2014

Anyone interested in going by bus to the National Museum of Jewish History featuring an exhibit of Jewish athletes, please call: Karen Block at (609) 426-1560. We are also going to visit Congregation Mikveh Israel, "Synagogue of the American Revolution," which is the oldest continuous synagogue in the United States. The total charge of \$50.00 per person includes the bus and entrance into the synagogue and the museum. Lunch is on your own. We can make suggestions regarding restaurants. The bus will depart Roosevelt at 9:00 a.m. and return at approximately at 5:00 p.m.

## ELECTRONICS

## RECYCLING

State law now prohibits disposal of computers and TVs with trash. Free drop-off. Program open to all Monmouth County residents, small businesses, and institutions. Limited to one pick-up truckload.

Items accepted:

By

- Computer cases, CPUs
- Keyboards, Mice
- Monitors, Scanners
- Printers, Cables
- Laptops, Peripherals
- Televisions
- Radios, Cameras
- Telephones
- Copiers, Fax Machines
- VCRs, DVD Players
- Stereo Components

Location: MILLSTONE TOWNSHIP Dept. of Public Works Garage Recycling Center 899 Perrineville Rd. Open on Saturday & Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For additional sites within Monmouth County, please visit www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx-?ID3021

## HOUSE FOR RENT IN ROOSEVELT

## **11 PINE DRIVE**

BY OWNER \$1750/Month plus utilities

3-BEDROOM HOUSE WITH MODERN APPLIANCES AND FENCED YARD

Call: 609. 731.9039

## Office of Emergency Management

Thanks to the Department of Public Works, CodeRed flyers were distributed to every household in town, after which, the number of registered households jumped from 123 to 263 and we are now able to quickly and efficient communicate emergencies to 75% of the households in town. The objective of having this system is to keep you, the residents, safe and informed, so thank you to everyone who has taken the time to register for this valuable system. If you are part of the 25% that has not yet registered, please visit www.Roosevelt911.com and fill in the form. You do not have to register for an account, you simply need to enter your name, address and a minimum of one contact (phone, email address, etc.) and click the continue button. If you do not have internet access, paper forms are available at the Borough Hall for you to fill out, and a Borough employee will enter your information into the system for you.

There was another water emergency on March 6, in which a water main broke on S. Rochdale Ave. and the road was closed at several different times on the 6th & 7th. CodeRed was used to alert the residents about both the water main break, and to alert them once everything had been repaired. Afterwards there were a few questions raised by residents that are worth addressing publicly so that everyone can benefit from the answers.

Q. What do I do if I miss part of the message and need to replay it?

A. If you should miss part of the message, call back the CodeRed number (866) 419-5000 and it will replay the entire message. Note: You have to call back on the same phone number that you have registered with CodeRed, so if your mobile number is registered and your home number is not, don't call back on your home phone.

Q. Why say "until further notice",

why not just give a time?

A. The contents of the message are dictated by the Borough entity that asked for a CodeRed message to be sent out; in this case the message was written by Department of Water & Sewer. The preferred method is to make one call and give a time that systems will return to normal, but sometimes due to the nature of the incident, that is not always possible.

If you have any other questions about CodeRed, please feel free to send me an email at aprilsuk@gmail. com and I will do my best to answer them.

Thank You,

April Suk

Emergency Management Coordinator



Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company **EGG HUNT** Sunday, April 13 11 AM \$5.00 per person\* Roosevelt Public School Baseball Field 2A School Lane, Roosevelt ,NJ \*All proceeds go towards saving

for a new fire truck

ETS Scholarship for Graduating Seniors

ETS, the non-profit organization that develops, administers, and scores more than 50 million tests annually, has announced the ETS **Employees' Community Action** Fund (ECAF) Scholarship program. The ETS ECAF Scholarship program was established to assist graduating seniors in New Jersey public schools in their goal of achieving a higher education degree. Scholarships up to \$5,000 will be awarded to selected students who are pursuing a vocational/technical or a two- or four-year degree from accredited schools, colleges, or universities in the United States.

Due to low number of applications, the deadline has been extended to April 10. This program seeks to help students with need who might not be able to attend college without the assistance of a scholarship.

Interested students may complete the scholarship application online, which can be accessed at https:// aim.applyists.net/ECAFNJ.

They may also contact:

Rita A. Nini

Manager, Community Relations

ETS Center For Advocacy and Philanthropy

Rosedale Road, Princeton, NJ 08543

Phone: 609-734-5305

www.ets.org

## SCHOOL NEWS

By Mary Robinson Cohen

This month's article showcases student work from RPS. Here is an essay that a first grade student in Ms. Jones' class, Rachel Geber, wrote in her journal about bullying. Rachel read her essay to the whole school during morning announcements:



Photo Credit - Gabrielle Balon

"Tuesday February 25, 2014

We are wearing purple ribbons to show that we are not a bully. In my school we don't hit we don't punch and we certainly don't kick. That we don't do in my school.

My class is always bullying free. Well my class is sometimes bullying free.

It is only a happy day to me if it is a happy day for everybody even Miss Jones.

We are a bullying free family. If one does something everybody gets the punishment.

I want my school to be bullying free but it is kids choice.

If you be nice sometimes people will copy off you."

## **RPSEF Wins Grant for Roosevelt Public School**

On March 7, the newly established Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation (RPSEF) was informed by the New Jersey Education Foundation Partnership (NJEFP) that they were a winner of the Toby Tyler Grant for fine arts education. The RPSEF will receive \$4,988.45 to enhance the Studio Art Program for the students in grades 1 to 6 at Roosevelt Public School through the purchase of a kiln and ceramic and pottery supplies so that students can make and fire handbuilt pottery.

For the first time in its seven-year history, NJEFP awarded grants totaling \$18,000 to six local education foundations. The money was raised at last year's Toby Tyler Golf Invitational to fund fine and performing arts programs in New Jersey's public schools. Seventeen education foundations applied for grants, requesting over \$80,000 in funding. RPSEF is one of the six announced winners of the Toby Tyler Grant. The five other fine arts grant recipients are Allamuchy Township Education Foundation, Branchburg Education Foundation, Freehold Borough Education Foundation, the Foundation for Manalapan-Englishtown Regional Schools, and the Trenton Public Education Foundation.

As a result of the grant, RPS students will experience clay-modeling techniques and use those techniques to create sculpture, ceramic pieces, and pottery. Visits with local artists are planned in conjunction with the local non-profit arts organization, Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP). During school hours, the kiln will be available to the regular classroom art teacher, who can then elect to incorporate its use in New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standard based lessons for the entire school population.

Roosevelt Public School Education Foundation responded to a request by Studio Art Teacher Ewa Koziar and CSA/Principal Mary Livingston Cohen, based on student interest and need, by applying for the Toby Tyler Grant. The Foundation is committed to providing funding for programs and purchases for Roosevelt Public School that cannot be funded through the school budget. In NJEFP's announcement of RPSEF's winning, the Foundation was notified that the grant was "creative," "involved many community members" and was of "lasting" value.

The RPSEF Board would like to thank the following community members, RPS staff and friends who assisted in the preparation of the grant by providing thoughtful comments and suggestions, letters of support, photography and technical assistance: Jan Bozowski, Mary Livingston Cohen, Donna Gazzani, David Herrstrom (President, Roosevelt Arts Project), Ben Johnson, Ewa Koziar, Ilene Levine, Sheila Linz, Kevin McNally, Amy Medford, Meredith Murray, Leonid Siveriver, Claire St. Romain, Rod Tulloss, and Natalie Warner (President, RPS Board of Education).

RPS Education Foundation Board of Trustees – Maria Del Piano, Anna Johnson, Mary Tulloss & Deborah Visconti

**Roosevelt Public School** 



## SAVE THE DATE!

## ANNUAL TEACHING ARTIST CONFERENCE September 17 - 18, 2014 Grounds for Sculpture Hamilton, NJ



Workshops \* Networking \* Professional Development \* Best Practices Call for session proposals, information & registration available soon at www.njaec.org



Make me over, mother April, When the sap begins to stir! When thy flowery hand delivers All the mountain-prisoned rivers, And thy great heart beats and quivers To revive the days that were, Make me over, mother April, When the sap begins to stir!

from "Spring Song" by Bliss Carman (1861-1929)

## WEATHER ALMANAC

By Ron Filepp

				Dyi		lepp
		Feb	ruary	y <b>201</b> 4	4	
			Cool'g/Heat'g Degree			-
Day	High	Low	Avg I	Precip	Snow	Days
1	47.3	28.0	37.7	0.00	0.00	27.4
2	52.7	28.6	40.7	0.00	0.00	24.4
3	41.8	31.8	36.8	0.70	7.00	28.2
4	36.7	17.4	27.1	0.00	0.00	38.0
5	36.9	31.1	34.0	0.26	0.00	31.0
6	41.9	22.1	32.0	0.00	0.00	33.0
7	34.2	18.5	26.4	0.02	0.00	38.7
8	33.6	18.3	26.0	0.00	0.00	39.1
9	36.1	16.9	26.5	0.23	2.25	38.5
10	29.8	15.4	22.6	0.00	0.00	42.4
11	25.2	7.3	16.3	0.00	0.00	48.8
12	29.8	3.2	16.5	0.00	0.00	48.5
13	39.0	23.7	31.4	0.70	7.00	33.7
14	42.3	29.5	35.9	0.30	3.00	29.1
15	39.2	25.5	32.4	0.15	1.50	32.7
16	31.1	18.9	25.0	0.00	0.00	40.0
17	31.5	11.3	21.4	0.00	0.00	43.6
18	42.1	20.7	31.4	0.33	3.25	33.6
19	46.4	26.1	36.3	0.00	0.00	28.8
20	51.3	26.2	38.8	0.00	0.00	26.3
21	59.5	34.9	47.2	0.18	0.00	17.8
22	52.2	30.7	41.5	0.07	0.00	23.6
23	52.3	33.4	42.9	0.00	0.00	22.2
24	40.8	30.2	35.5	0.06	0.00	29.5
25	35.4	21.7	28.6	0.00	0.00	36.5
26	35.8	18.3	27.1	0.00	0.25	38.0
27	35.8	12.0	23.9	0.00	0.00	41.1
28	24.4	9.5	17.0	0.00	0.00	48.1
Tota	ls			3.00 2	4.25	961.9

## RESCUE SQUAD NEWS

The First Aid Squad has responded to 41 emergency calls from January 1 to February 28—13 in January and 28 in February.

The Squad responded in Roosevelt to 3 fire stand-bys, 2 respiratory emergencies, 1 fall, 1 head injury, 1 unconscious, 1 cardiac, 1 crisis, and 2 emergency transports.

Mutual aid into Millstone Twp.: 1 fire stand-by, 3 emergency transports, 1 dog bite, 2 ankle injuries, 4 respiratory emergencies and 3 motor vehicle accidents.

Upper Freehold Twp.: 1 cardiac emergency and into New Egypt 1 fire stand-by.

In February the Squad did their annual Bloodborne Pathogens training to keep in compliances with OSHA 1910:1030. All EMTs that attend received continuing education units (CEU). Members of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad and Roosevelt Fire Company were in attendance.

As the Squad sent out our donation letters we included "My Personal Medication" form. Please full the form out and place it on your refrigerator, including only your current medication. This would be a great help to the Squad members if we had to come to your home in an emergency. If you miss place it the form contact any Squad member for a new one or if you need more than one.

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

If anyone wishes to make a donation, please send it to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad at P.O. Box 274, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Remember, all donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated. Roosevelt First Aid Squad 33 North Rochdale Ave. P.O. Box 274 Roosevelt, New Jersey 08555 Est. 1948

We are always looking for new members. We will pay for the basic training that is needed. If anyone is interested please contact any Squad member or stop in during our training for an application. If you would like to join or receive information about becoming an EMT, please email rooseveltfirstaidsquad@yahoo. com. We are now on facebook.

### Health Notes: Autism

As a parent, you never want to believe that your child has a problem. But when it comes to autism, catching it early—ideally by the age of eighteen months—makes a huge difference. The younger your child, the greater the impact of treatment on symptoms of autism. But no matter your child's age, treatment can reduce the disorder's effects and help your child learn, grow, and thrive.

#### **Understanding Autism**

Autism is a spectrum of closely related disorders with a shared core of symptoms. Autism spectrum disorders appear in infancy and early childhood, causing delays in many basic areas of development such as learning to talk, play, and interact with others.

The signs and symptoms of autism vary widely, as do its effects; however, every child on the autism spectrum has problems, at least to some degree, in three areas:

- Communicating verbally and non-verbally
- Relating to others
- Thinking and behaving flexibly

There is disagreement about what causes autism and how best to treat it, and much that we still don't know. But all agree that early and intensive intervention helps.

Early detection of autism is up to parents. As a parent, you're in the best position to spot the earliest warning signs of autism. You know your child better than anyone and notice behaviors and quirks that a pediatrician, in a quick fifteen-minute visit, might not see. Your child's pediatrician can be a valuable partner, but recognize the importance of your own observations and experience. Educate yourself so you know what's normal and what's not.

#### Monitor your child's development.

Autism involves a variety of developmental delays, so keeping a close eye on when—or if—your child is hitting the key social, emotional, and cognitive milestones is an effective way to spot the problem early on.

## Take action if you're concerned.

Every child develops at a different pace—so you don't need to panic if your child is a little late to talk or walk. But if your child is not meeting the milestones for his or her age, or you suspect a problem, share your concerns with your child's doctor immediately.

#### Don't accept a wait-and-see

**approach.** Many concerned parents are told, "Don't worry" or "Wait and see." But waiting is the worst thing you can do. You risk losing valuable time at an age when your child has the best chance for improvement. To develop skills in an area of delay, your child needs extra help and targeted treatment.

**Trust your instincts.** Ideally, your child's doctor will take your concerns seriously and perform a thorough evaluation for autism or other developmental delays. But sometimes doctors miss red flags or underestimate problems. If you feel something is wrong, be persistent.

# Signs and Symptoms of Autism in Babies and Toddlers

If autism is caught in infancy, treatment can exploit the young brain's

## RESCUE SQUAD (CONT'D.)

remarkable plasticity. Although autism is hard to diagnose before 24 months, symptoms often surface between 12 and 18 months. If signs are detected by 18 months, intensive treatment may reverse symptoms.

The earliest signs of autism are the absence of normal behaviors—not the presence of abnormal ones—so they can be tough to spot. However, you can catch warning signs early if you know what to look for. Here are some early signs of autism in babies and toddlers:

- Doesn't make eye contact (e.g., look at you when being fed).
- Doesn't smile when smiled at.
- Doesn't respond to his or her name or to the sound of a familiar voice.
- Doesn't follow objects visually.
- Doesn't point or wave goodbye or use other gestures to communicate.
- Doesn't follow the gesture when you point things out.
- Doesn't make noises for attention.
- Doesn't respond to cuddling.
- Doesn't imitate your movements and facial expressions.
- Doesn't reach out to be picked up.
- Doesn't play with other people or share interest and enjoyment.
- Doesn't ask for help or make other basic requests.

The following delays warrant an immediate evaluation by your child's pediatrician:

• By 6 months: No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions.

• By 9 months: No back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles, or other facial expressions.

• By 12 months: Lack of response to name.

• By 12 months: No babbling or "baby talk."

• By 12 months: No back-and-forth gestures, such as pointing, showing, reaching, or waving.

• By 16 months: No spoken words.

• By 24 months: No meaningful two-word phrases that don't involve imitating or repeating.

\*\*\*

There are still many houses in town that do not have house numbers or have numbers that are too difficult to see from the street. Please check the numbers posted on your house to ensure they are large and visible enough for emergency services and State Police to see from the road, especially at night.

Remember if you need help in an emergency, dial 911.

Jack Rindt, EMT, Captain Roosevelt First Aid Squad rooseveltfirstaidsquad@yahoo.com

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We are writing to introduce the Roosevelt Environmental Commission (REC) to those of you who do not already know about us.

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission is an advisory board of seven regular and two alternate members who meet on a monthly basis to discuss our small town's environmental concerns such as open space preservation, water resource management, pollution control, environmental education, and protection of our native flora and fauna.

At the request of the Commission, the Roosevelt Borough Council authorized the Borough of Roosevelt to register with Sustainable New Jersey – as the 400th NJ municipality to do so! (Resolution 13-74, passed 11/12/13)

Sustainable Jersey is a non-profit organization that helps municipalities become environmentally sustainable communities. It provides free services through a certification program which provides tools, training, technical assistance, and funding to support sustainability actions. Grants are available and the Borough of Roosevelt applied for two:

1) A \$2,000 capacity-building grant to support the general operations and direct expenses of sustainability actions, and

2) A \$10,000 project grant to update the Borough's 1993 Natural Resources Inventory (NRI)

A Natural Resource Inventory is an index of natural resources and environmental features that provide baseline documentation for measuring and evaluating environmental protection issues. The primary purpose of updating it is to identify significant changes and to recommend appropriate responses.

We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in obtaining the \$2,000 capacity-building grant.

We would love to hear from you and welcome your help in identifying projects that matter most to our town so we can focus our efforts on positive and achievable actions. Please feel free to reach out to us at RooseveltEC@gmail.com with any suggestions, questions, concerns, or ideas for 2014 and beyond. In our immediate future, we propose to submit articles to the Bulletin, develop a Facebook page, work with the school for Earth Day, and seek assistance for the woodland trail.

Please also note that our monthly meetings are always open to the public and you can find the list of dates at the post office notice board. We look forward to a successful and energizing year as we look for ways to ensure our town's natural resources are both valued and preserved for years to come!

Respectfully yours,

The Roosevelt Environmental Commission

## ROOSEVELT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

By Dan Archer

The Roosevelt Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank everyone who came out to our Pasta Dinner in February. It was a huge success and we had a great time running it! Thanks to generous donations from Barilla Pasta, Wemrock Orchards, Italian People's Bakery, Walmart, SAMs Club, and, of course, Karen Block and Deb Curry, we were able to feed over 100 people. In addition to eat-in and take- out options, we also offered a free delivery service to residents of Solar Village; which was met with a lot of enthusiasm.



Our next fundraiser is a Community Egg Hunt which will be held on April 13, so please come out and help us find the 700 eggs which will be hidden in the RPS baseball field; it should be great time for the kids. These are the first of several fundraising events we have planned for this year. All proceeds will go towards our ultimate goal of \$30,000; which will be used to purchase a new fire truck. While we all have a certain amount of sentimental attachment to our antique 1970 Mack Fire Engine, it is constantly in need of costly repairs and no longer a reliable option for a first responding apparatus. That is why we are all very excited about the prospect of purchasing a 1993 KME Pumper from Wall Township Fire District 1, which they have informed us they will be replacing in February

## of 2015.

Thanks to a grant from the Firefighters Support Foundation, we accepted delivery of three new sets of FireDex Turnout Gear on Thursday, March 13. We hope to purchase three more sets of gear with grant money obtained from the NJ Forest Fire Service and we are working on three additional grants to outfit the rest of the department. We are hoping

to qualify for enough grant money in 2014 to purchase new turnout gear for all of our members so that our fundraising efforts can be focused solely on the purchase of a new truck.

A new truck can't come fast enough as this year has already been a busy one! We have responded to 14 calls and added two new members, Lester Alvarado and Matt Lawson. In addition, Tim Curry, Justin Lenart, and Brendan Powers started attending the Monmouth County Fire Academy in February. They are giving up every

Thursday evening and their entire Sunday for 14 weeks so they can earn all of the certifications they need to be fully trained Firefighters. We thank them for their commitment and the sacrifice they are making in order to make our department stronger and our community safer.

Chief Dan Archer, along with Captain Chris Suk and John Lenart, are also furthering their education in the fire service by attending weekly trainings with the Hightstown Fire Department. This is a great opportunity for our department, not



only to learn new skills, but also to be able to network with other firefighters. The members of Hightstown have been extremely gracious and our members are always made to feel welcome when they attend these trainings. Hightstown has made clear their willingness to work with us to better our department and we look forward to building and fostering a strong relationship between the two departments.

We've posted our 2013 Annual Report to our Facebook page, so please feel free to check it out as well as follow our other activities at www. facebook.com/RooseveltFire.

We can't continue to grow without volunteers, and we are always seeking new members. If you're interested in the different opportunities the fire department has to offer, please contact Chief Dan Archer at 732-586-4573 or chiefarcher@rooseveltfire.org.



## REPORT FROM YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Hello fellow Rooseveltians, I want to start with good stuff—it has stopped snowing, the birds are

singing and spring has sprung. Now for the bad stuff—our "Utility Problem."

Our water/sewer rates...How high can they go?. I have been writing about our utility problems for

many years, so here are a few highlights from my past articles.

### March 2006:

"I have written and spoken out about Roosevelt's money pit of a water system since 2000. At that

time the water and sewer rate was \$125.00 a month and I wrote that within the next few years that rate

would seem low compared to how the rate would increase to \$150.00 or \$175.00."

### February 2007:

"Less than a year ago I wrote a letter to the Examiner. I wrote about "the looming crisis of our water system" and the potential that would have on harming Roosevelt. At that time we just had an increase on our water rate of \$25.00, I warned that we could expect continued increases on the water rate from \$150.00 to \$200.00 a month. The increases would be necessary because of major breakdowns of the system in the near future."

It is 2014 and our rates are \$182.00 a month, and we may see another rate increase in the near future. I know my last article was more upbeat, but I have been advised to not sugarcoat our "Utility Problem." We as a community must deal with our water utility, which to me is Roosevelt's life blood. There is a tipping point where utility rates become so high that it could adversely affect our town.

Let us look at the numbers for 2013 (as anticipated by our Chief Financial Officer) Surplus

Deficit \$64,633 (this is one of the reasons our rates went up)

0

Debt Service \$229,355 (this a third of our budget)

Outstanding Debt \$3,955,126 (this is principal/interest balance)

We owe more than what the facilities are worth. What did we get for all this money? I can't answer. I have a lot of questions after seeing firsthand our Utility infrastructure. As a community we should all be asking questions: Why are rates so high? Why are our water and sewer plants in such poor condition after we have spent millions?

My email address is s2k2000@comcast.net; I want to hear from you. Attend Council meetings and get to meet your council members in person. Remember—I am your representative on the Council.

Until next month,

Your Council Representative,

Stu Kaufman



## PET WASTE POLLUTES OUR WATERS

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP PROTECT OUR WATERS

Pick up after your pets. Properly dispose of pet waste Into the trash. Animal waste contains coliform bacteria, which is harmful to our health.

Carry a newspaper or plastic bag to pick up the waste while walking your pet

When treating your pet and yard for fleas or ticks, check with your veterinarian for safe substitutes. Never dispose of flea dip liquid on the ground or in the storm drain. It should be disposed of as a household hazardous waste.

Visit www.state.nj.us/dep/ dshw/rnp/hhwcps for list of county household hazardous waste disposal centers.

Do not feed wildlife such as geese, pigeons, ducks and deer.

Feeding results in more pollution from their waste.

For more information please contact the following:

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

> BUREAU OF NONPOINT POLLUTION CONTROL

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This year's Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) season is dedicated to the theme of the arts in education. As public schools find themselves under growing pressure to concentrate on standardized tests organized around an increasingly constricted core curriculum, and



forced to operate under increasing cost constraints, the arts, rather than being seen as an integral part of any child's education, are being increasingly seen as a frill, or at best an adjunct to that education.

While as artists we can be accused of special pleading, we nonetheless consider this not unfortunate, but tragic. There is abundant and compelling evidence that the arts play a central role in motivating children, increasing their engagement with school, and enhancing their performance in academic areas like math and reading. As artists, though, we recognize the immense practical value of the arts in creating an educated, highly-skilled population, but we also know that their value goes far beyond the practical.

An engagement with the arts, whether it be through music, poetry, painting, theater or video, fosters the creativity, critical thinking and sense of wonder of each child in ways that test-driven curricula cannot even begin to. It is the arts that enable her to become an adult aware of her inner creative strengths and appreciative of the beauty of nature and the works of art that surround all of us every day. We all need the skills to earn our livings, and enable the United States to compete in the global economy, and yet if we are to be worthy of the civilization that has nurtured us, we need more than that, we need the soul that only the arts can provide.



Drawings by Roosevelt Public School students

#### The Roosevelt Mural

The mural shown in the header was created by Ben Shahn in 1937-38 to commemorate the New Deal resettlement community of Jersey Homesteads, now called Roosevelt, N.J. The mural can still be seen in the Roosevelt Public School. As one of the first and finest art works in the town, it is only appropriate that it should serve as the header for the RAP site.

NEW: a video of the excellent talk given by Alan Mallach about the mural as part of RAP's 25th anniversary celebration is now available on this web site http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt. Or if your browser blocks popups, you can also find it on YouTube.

## ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT 2013-2014 SEASON

DATE/ VENUE	EVENT	DESCRIPTION
12:00 - 5:00 PM Saturday & Sunday, April 5&6, 2014 Assifa Space	"A Moment in Time": Work by Roosevelt Photographers	Photographs by current and former Roosevelt residents. Come and re-experience these moments long after the capture of the images.
8:00 PM Friday & Saturday, May 9&10, 2014 Borough Hall	Roosevelt String Band	In our 26th year, the Roosevelt String Band will perform many songs that we hav- en't done before and some we have. As usual, it will include ballads and blues, songs of love and peace, songs of troubled times and songs to help make the good times roll. We also plan to continue the tradition of having the audience sing along with some of our songs, so practice your scales and harmonies!

Voluntary Contribution:

For most events \$5 per adult, for the String Band \$10 per adult, \$5 for seniors and children. Visit RAP's webpage at http://music.columbia.edu/roosevelt. Use the link to sign up for our e-mail list. For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616.

## Roosevelt Artists Featured at New Jersey State Museum

The New Jersey State Museum (205 West State Street, Trenton) is featuring a show dedicated to Roosevelt Artists through May 25. http://www.state.nj.us/state/museum/dos\_museum\_exhibit-roosevelt.html

"Artists of Roosevelt" explores the development of Roosevelt as an art community and allows visitors to discover the impact these important artists had, and continue to have, on American art. Historic works drawn from the Museum's collections and loans from private collections include artists Jacob Landau, Sol Libsohn, Stefan Martin, Gregorio Prestopino, Edwin Rosskam, Louise Rosskam and Ben Shahn. Contemporary artists included are Jonathan Shahn, Bill Leech, Ani Rosskam and Leonid Siveriver.

"Artists of Roosevelt" is part of Concentric Circles of Influence: The Birth of Artists' Communities in Central New Jersey, a series of art exhibits, film, gallery talks and panel discussions that focus on notable art communities that developed in central New Jersey beginning in the late 1930s. The exhibitions are being offered in venues across the greater Mercer County region and explore the role New Jersey has had as a creative cauldron since the mid-20th century.

Museum Hours: Tuesday - Sunday, 9 am to 4:45pm. Closed Mondays & State Holidays





February 15 through May 25 New Jersey State Museum, Riverside Gallery, Second Floor

## Contributors to the Bulletin 2013/2014

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

Mel & Gloria Adlerman Carlo & Mary Alfare Jim Alt & Susan Schwartz Robert & Robin Axel Ann Baker & Carol Watchler Helen Barth **Janet & Richard Bernardin** Linda Block Marvin & Karen Block Charlotte Bondy Bondy/Vuolle family Alexandra Bonfante-Warren Stacev & Ulrich Bonna David & Naomi Brahinsky J A Carpenter Robert & Susan Cayne Maureen & Bob Clark Dina Coe & Greg McGrath William & June Counterman Deborah Dauer Maria DelPiano MK Drury Frances Duckett Shan Ellentuck Lou & Irma Esakoff

Lian Garton Iudith & Ed Goetzmann The Goldmans Karyn & Eitan Grunwald Anne Hayden Albert Hepner Constance & David Herrstrom Louise & David Hoffman Cynthia, James & Dawn Imbrie Rick & Michelle Jaeger Sheila & Phil Jaeger Anna & Ben Johnson Stephen & Bette Koffler Lynn Lawson Karen Liebowitz David & Joanne Leff Jill Lipoti & Brad Garton Lowrie family Alan Mallach & Robin Gould Geraldine Millar Terri Nachtman Judy & Norm Nahmias Tom Orlando Robert & Allison Petrilla Liz & Gregg Possiel

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

Please send contributions to: Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Inc. P.O. Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555

#### BUSINESS SPONSORS

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 Borough 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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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TTAI CHI CLASSES Roosevelt Boro Hall Wednesday 9:30 am - 11 am Thursday 6 pm – 7 pm & 7 pm – 8 pm June Counterman 609-448-3182 Email bilcount@quixnet.net

## MATH TUTORING

### **ROOSEVELT STUDENTS:** Elementary through College Do you occasionally need help with math homework or help preparing for a test? Call Mary Tulloss (Retired H.S. Teacher) for appt.: 609-448-5096 Tutoring provided at no charge in loving memory of Sarah Tulloss.

Patronize our business sponsors. Most of them are our neighbors.

## PRSRT STD Postal Customer Roosevelt, NJ 08555-0221

Å		BREL		REC	YCLING DATES: April 9, 23 May 7, 21	
APRIL			MAY			
1 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall	4 Sun.	9:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training	
1 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall			Jack Rindt, Training Officer	
5 & 6 12:00-5:00 pm Roosevelt Arts Project: Sat. & Sun "A Moment in Time": Work by Roosevelt Photographers, Assifa Space			6 Tues.	7:00 pm	Planning Board, Borough Hall	
			6 Tues.	12:30 pm	Senior Citizens Meeting, Borough Hall	
7 Mon.		Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall	7 Wed.		Recycling Pickup	
		Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701	8 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business integers Chris Suk, President 490-0931	
7 Mon.		Large Trash Pickup	9 & 10 Fri.	& Sat.	8:00 pm Roosevelt Arts Project:	
9 Wed.		Recycling Pickup			The Roosevelt String Band	
10 Thurs.	7:00 pm	Fire Company Business eting, Chris Suk, President 490-0931	12 Mon.	7:00 pm	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701	
13 Sun	11:00 am	Fire Company Easter Egg Hunt, Roosevelt Public School \$5/person	20 Tues.	8:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Business Mtg. Jeff Klein, President	
13 Sun.	9:00 am	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training Jack Rindt, Training Officer	21 Wed.	7:30	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Boro Hall, Stu Kaufman, Chair. 448-4921	
15 Tues.	8:00 pm	Roosevelt First Aid Squad,	21 Wed.		Recycling Pickup	
		Business Meeting, Jeff Klein, President	22 Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	RPS Board of Education Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061	
16 Wed.	7:30	Environmental Comm. Mtg., Borough Hall, Stu Kaufman, Chair. 448-4921	26 Mon.		Roosevelt Public School Closed for Memorial Day	
23 Wed.		Recycling Pickup	27 Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall,	
24 Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	RPS Board of Education Natalie Warner, President, 609-903-1061	Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701 An electronic calendar was installed on the Roosevelt Bo of Education's website containing information about s		ar was installed on the Roosevelt Board	
28 Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701	, testing, upcoming field trips, events and additiona nent information. Learn more about all of the hap			
			in our sch	ool, visit R	PS website: www.rps1.org.	

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