

Bulletin

Volume 32 Number 4

February 2009

BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Michael Ticktin

Council Reorganizes; Silverstein Elected Council President

The reorganization meeting of the Borough Council was held on January 5. Since incumbents Jeff Ellentuck and Dan Hoffman were re-elected in November, there were no new members to be sworn in. Councilman Bob Silverstein was unanimously elected to the position of council president. The council president presides over the council, and otherwise exercises the duties of the mayor, in the mayor's absence current office holders were reappointed and council committees remain the same.

Councilman Kirk Rothfuss, chairman of the Community Development committee, reported that the State had asked municipalities to submit lists of public works projects that might be ready to be undertaken if Federal economic stimulus funds are made available, and that the State League of

Municipalities is requesting similar information for use in their lobbying efforts. Mr. Rothfuss said that information would be provided on work needed to repair and upgrade the municipal utility systems.

The Council is also soliciting quotes for the removal of the remaining contaminated dirt at the former gas station. Most of the dirt has been removed. However, the original specifications for the removal of the dirt underestimated the amount, so additional removal work is required. Removal of the dirt is a precondition to issuance by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection of a "no further action" letter, which is needed before the property can be sold, or the building can be reconstructed and occupied as a public facility. ■

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

By Michael Ticktin

Board Approves Site Plan and Variance for Solar Village Improvements

The Planning Board held its reorganization meeting on January 13, at which time Jane Rothfuss, Jim Alt and Ann Kassahun were re-elected as chair, vice-chair and secretary, respectively, and Michele Donato was reappointed as the Board's attorney.

The Board also heard an application by the Roosevelt

Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (RSCHC), the non-profit community-based organization that owns the Solar Village, for approval of a site plan showing three new onsite parking spaces, eleven head-in parking spaces in the right-of-way of the extension of Farm Lane, accessible pads for trash cans and widened sidewalks meeting Federal Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're back! There will be a *Bulletin* every month from now through July, 2009.

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

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

Please report any bear sightings to:
State Bureau of Wildlife Management
Kim Tinnes
Wildlife Control
609-259-7955
As well as to David Schwendeman, 443-6204



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

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

Bingo Party at Roosevelt Public School gym.
Sunday, February 8, 2-4 p.m.

Sponsored by the Roosevelt PTA
Everyone Welcome—Support our school and join in the fun!
For more information, call Assenka at 918-1529

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

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

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From the Mayor

By Elsbeth Battel

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone's New Year has started well.

Sorry, that's an obnoxiously optimistic thing to say in the middle of a cold January during one of the worst economic situations in our country's history. Hopefully the new administration will be able to help improve the situation. The weather is guaranteed to improve given a month or two.

The Council had its re-organization meeting last month. Congratulations to the new Council president, Bob Silverstein. The committees and the committee chairs have remained the same as last year: Councilperson Silverstein, chair of Utilities, Councilperson Hoffman, chair of Public Works, Councilperson Rothfuss, chair of Community Development, Councilperson Stinson, chair of Administration, Councilperson Malkin, chair of Finance, and Councilperson Ellentuck, chair of Environmental, Health and Safety. As always, we owe these individuals

our thanks for their willingness to contribute their time and expertise to the Borough government.

One primary goal for the coming year is finally getting the former gas station property cleared and released of further action by DEP so we can either sell it or fix it up for Borough use. Both the emergency services need more garage space, so the idea of keeping the property is a desirable option, but the idea of selling it and having it become a rateable again is also attractive.

Other possible goals include the re-furbishing of the water tower, up-grades to the sewer plant, and—through the efforts of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corporation—improvements to the sidewalks and parking around Solar Village.

One goal I personally would like to see explored would be the installation of solar panels to power the utilities, the Borough Hall, and the Roosevelt Public School. Wouldn't it be fine to see Roosevelt become the first totally 'green' community?

Beth ■

PLANNING BOARD (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 1

The work is to be paid for with a HUD Community Development Block Grant administered by Monmouth County. The application was presented by Bob Clark, in his capacity as executive vice president and counsel of the RSCHC and by the project architect, Gary Wagner. Board members Michael Ticktin, Jim Alt and Ed Moser recused themselves, Mr. Ticktin because he is the president of the RSCHC, and Messers Alt and Moser because their respective spouses are members of the RSCHC board of trustees. In addition to Mr. Ticktin, RSCHC board members Mike Hamilton, Pat Moser, Susan Schwartz, Lou Esakoff and Bill Counterman were present, as were Solar Village resident Bess Tremper and representatives of the project's managing agent, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey. Solar Village, which is Roosevelt's only affordable housing project, has 20 apartments for which occupancy is limited to low income persons who are 62 years of age or over or who have disabilities.

After lengthy discussion, the Board, by a vote of five to three, approved the improvements within the property lines of the project, including a variance for an additional 1.7% impermeable coverage, and recommended to the Borough Council that it take the necessary steps to facilitate creation of the parking spaces adjacent to the property, including passage of an ordinance allowing head-in parking in the right-of-way on the south side of the extension of Farm Lane, allowing the widening of the extension to create the new parking spaces, and designating four of the eleven spaces as reserved for cars with handicapped placards. Jane Rothfuss, Beth Battel, Tim Hartley, Ken LeCompte and Nancy Warnick voted in favor of approval, while Arlene Stinson, Alison Petrilla and June Ord voted against. Mrs. Stinson stated that, while she was not opposed to approval of the site plan as it pertained to the onsite improvements--the only ones under actual Planning Board jurisdiction--or to the variance, she did not want to join in the recommendation to the Council regarding the widening of the extension of Farm Lane and the creation of head-in parking spaces there. ■

THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

is distributed free-of-charge to Roosevelt residents. We look forward to and appreciate contributions which are needed to keep our publication going. Contributions are tax deductible

PLEASE NOTE: Due to postal regulations we can only ask for "donations" rather than "subscriptions" from out-of-towners who wish to receive the *BULLETIN*. We will be pleased to continue sending them the *BULLETIN* when we receive their contributions which, of course, can be for the same amount (or more) as in the past.

From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

Happy New Year! As usual, we are starting the new year with a variety of fun-filled learning experiences for our students. In the next few weeks some of our favorite school events will take place. Mr. Kaufman will host an "A-thon" to help raise money for Field Day, and the kindergarten and first grade classes will lead us in our celebration of the 100th day of school on February 12th. Bingo is scheduled to take place at the school on February 8th from 2-4 p.m.; the Winter Carnival is planned for Saturday, March 7th, and Schoolhouse Hooky will be on March 11th.

The PTA has graciously agreed to work with the staff and me, to open the library to the public. Please contact the school should you wish to help or if you would like further information. There's nothing like a good book on a cold, winter's night! Thank you PTA member for all the events that you plan for our school. You have added such wonderful experiences to our school.

We are so proud of our Student Council for their school spirit and generous efforts. Student Council also sponsored a successful food drive in November and is currently facilitating a clothing drive. We will be collecting clothing until February 2nd. The Student Council also sponsored a number of spirit events including Pajama, Slipper, Stuffed Animal Day and Crazy Hair Day. Ms. Bondy and Mrs. Gazzani, thank you for all your hard work and thank you to the students and their families who have contributed to our projects.

Our Professional Development Committee is working on the school's Professional Development Plan for the 2009-2010 school year. Teachers are surveyed to determine their professional development needs. The plan reflects the district's professional development opportunities for staff for this year, last year, and projected opportunities for next year. The plan will be presented to the Board of Education on January 22nd.

Goals include enhancing student

achievement through differentiated instruction, creating benchmark assessments in all content areas, and enhancing student achievement in language arts and math, as well as our character education program. These goals are aligned with NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards, Professional Standards for Teachers, district goals and our mission. Our professional development goals help us achieve our school mission, which states:

The mission of the Roosevelt Public School district is 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 the N.J. CCCS.

All schools in New Jersey are undergoing monitoring by the State Department of Education. The monitoring system is called New Jersey Quality Single Accounting Continuum (NJ QSAC). RPS will be monitored during the 2009-2010 school year and the school is preparing this year for the monitoring process. The first step is to create a committee. Our committee is comprised of a variety of stakeholders including teachers, administrators, board members and community members. The following is a brief introduction to QSAC:

QSAC: What is it?

According to the NJ DOE, districts are accountable for student achievement and the department has established a new school monitoring and evaluation system that will assess districts, and allow districts to make immediate improvements. The monitoring process focuses on capacity-building and school improvement. In addition, NJQSAC uses one set of standards that apply to all districts rather than many different standards as in the past. The NJQSAC

FEB./MARCH EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 6 Pizza Day
- 8 Bingo 2-4 p.m.
- 12 100th Day of School Board of Ed. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 13 School Closed
- 16 School Closed
- 18 PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Pizza Day
- 26 Board of Ed. Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 27 A-Thon

MARCH

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

system of accountability promotes equity, efficiency and effectiveness and will help build a public understanding among educators, policy makers, legislators, and all stakeholders. The NJQSAC also addresses the mandates of federal legislation and state regulations.

QSAC focuses on monitoring and evaluating school districts in five key areas which, based on research, have been identified to be key factors in effective school districts. These components are: Instruction and program, Personnel, Fiscal management, Operations, and Governance.

I will continue to apprise you of the monitoring process as new information arises. Additional information may be found by accessing the following Web site: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/genfo/qsac/fact.htm>

January is School Board Recognition Month. Please join me in thanking our

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REVIEW: Fletch and Dave's Excellent (Digital) Art RAP Event 12/6/2008

by Brad Garton

Maybe it's a symptom of encroaching curmudgeonhood, or perhaps my old-age inertia is really beginning to take hold, but there are times when I'm at some performance or event and the thought most present in my brain is something like: "Dang I wish this would end! I want to go home!" The Roosevelt Arts Project night at Borough Hall this past December 6th was most definitely not one of those times. "Digital Art with David Teich and Fletcher Grayson" was an absolutely wonderful evening put together by two intensely creative members of our community.

The works presented by David and Fletcher were terrific, but the truly interesting aspect was how they turned the show into an exploration/explanation of the creative process itself. It was pure delight to hear these two talented artists discuss how they accomplished their art, especially because what they do is mediated by advanced technological capabilities. Their work is inextricably bound to digital machinery, but they have mastered the machinations to express profoundly human feelings.

David Teich is a known graphic artist whose recent digital work involves the conception and creation of 3-D "immersive" environments, like the flight simulators used to train pilots or the 'virtual reality' rides encountered at large-scale theme parks such as our nearby Six Flags Great Adventure. Two of David's most recent projects are, in fact, a state-of-the-art flight simulator and one of those Six Flags "rides". At the RAP event, however, he visited some of his earlier work—work he had done for previous RAP events.

For several years, David designed a number of elegant, thought-provoking posters for the Roosevelt Arts

Project. He passed around examples of these posters, prompting many of us to revisit unexpected memories. Then he took us through the process of developing one of the posters, this from a RAP event from the 1990s: *Poems of the Children of Terezin*. It was fascinating to see how David's artistic sensibility informed his choice of fonts, the positioning of the text, the use of a barbed-wire motif (and the digital manipulation of the 'barbs' to yield chilling Nazi symbols), and the placement of virtual lighting to realize the finished work. For Dave, the use of computers isn't a situation in which he (the artist) confronts some "other" (the technology) with the crafted object being the result of some embattled man/machine compromise. Instead, the technical means is an integral and inseparable part of his creative imagination.

This is also true of Fletcher Grayson, another respected graphic artist here in Roosevelt. Fletcher took a different approach to his presentation, however. Rather than preface his work with an explanatory context, he began by showing his latest piece, a 9–10 minute video set to the music of the Icelandic group Sigur Rós. The material for the video came from 'found' sources, and it was Fletcher's vision and technical facility that cohered the imagery into a powerful audio-visual statement. The short film was very moving, in ways I can't quite put to words. There were patterns! There was a big light! There were leaves, and snow, and dark, and... (!) I really hope to see his video again, somehow.

In conversation with the audience after the video, Fletcher described in more detail his working methodology, the enormous amount of data he culled for the final product, and the corresponding time-investment required for this work. As with David, he drew upon extensive knowledge of the digital tools at his disposal to build a compelling (although at times rather dark and disturbing) work of art.

Interestingly, Fletcher and Dave represented two semi-oppositional approaches to working in the digital domain. Dave's art was built 'from the ground up' using innovative virtual-modeling tools. On the other hand, Fletcher took existing real-world imagery and de- and re-constructed it using a different set of digital techniques. The works met, however, at the point where awareness of the technologies employed faded into a potent (and for me at times, quite personal) artistic experience.

It was the extended conversation with us in the audience that made the night so special, though. Certainly the 'performance' put on by Fletcher and Dave was great, but an entire new dimension was added through the discussion surrounding the presented pieces. Artists are often good at the 'how' of what they do, but sometimes not so forthcoming with the 'why'. We gained a privileged insight into the technically sophisticated and acutely emotional process of creation as related by both artists. And the work was indeed extraordinary. You should be sad if you missed this one. ■

REVIEW: THE OUTLAW AND THE KING, ACT II

by Alan Mallach

The story of Saul and David is one of the great stories of world literature. With its king laid low by madness, his love/hate relationship with the young David, who will inherit his crown through a symbolic act of parricide, and the doomed Jonathan, torn between his love for his father and his love for David, it is a Greek tragedy, written hundreds of years earlier. No wonder, then, that it has drawn the attention of writers and composers, from Charpentier's *David and Jonathan* of 1688, Handel's *Saul* of 1738 to, most recently, *The Outlaw and the King*, by long-time Roosevelt residents composer Mark Zuckerman

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Digging Up Family Roots

Thanks to the Internet, it can be easy and often fun to explore your family tree. But as you'll see from this cautionary tale, it can also be addictive.

The seeds for my genealogical adventures were planted when I was 12. My grandmother gave me a 2-page taped-photocopy of a simple family tree she'd compiled. She may have told me a family anecdote or two (and maybe even the illegible names down the center where she'd taped the two pages together), but unfortunately, I probably only listened politely and didn't give it much more thought at the time. Nevertheless that photocopy traveled with me through a dozen moves, back and forth across the country with my "not-sure-what-to-do-with-it-but-don't-want-to-throw-it-out" miscellaneous files. Fast forward 30 years to the year 2000, when I came across that photocopied page in one of the many miscellaneous boxes I was sorting in our Roosevelt garage during a spring cleaning. Something clicked and suddenly that long-ignored page seemed like buried treasure.

A new hobby-obsession was about to grab hold of my life for the next four years. I'm over my addiction now, and only occasionally go digging up the family tree. But along the way I grew our tree to 3000 relatives, and compiled 2 CDs packed with literally thousands of scanned family pictures and documents.

My genealogical journey began that very day. Unfortunately, my Grandmother had passed away a decade before, but I knew my mother would appreciate my new hobby and would have some family lore to share. This time, for weeks of telephone calls and dozens of emails, I carefully

recorded all the anecdotal material she could remember about all the family members in our tree, including family on my father's side, which my grandmother hadn't included. We both also began reaching out to relatives for family information. I admit, I went a little overboard. But lots of treasures were unearthed. Like a bound com-



My Grandmother's mother, Ida Meadow standing on the left, with her sister Bessie Medvedov and brother Nathan Madov and his family in Philadelphia, around 1900

pilation my father's brother gave me that a family member had compiled of 100 members of my father's mother's family. And a second cousin my father last saw when he was 5, sent dozens of photos of early 1900s Silverstein family, including a photo of my father's grandfather, Solomon Silverstein, in his World War I uniform, who died before being able to emigrate with the rest of his family.

That first day I signed up for an online genealogical service and also ordered a computer genealogy program from an email I'd received, which I guess had been the catalyst for the eureka-moment that had incited my newfound obsession. This would open up the door to the bulk of my obsessive family tree-sleuthing, putting me in touch with countless databases of information and misinformation, as well as with numerous other genealogical adventurers like me.

The next four years are a blur now. You would not believe how much information there is online. Some of it is even useful. There are census records. Ship manifests. The Social Security Death Index. Plus thousands and thousands and thousands of family trees that other genealogical searchers have posted. You find yourself pursuing one name after the next, from one side of your tree to the other, hoping that you'll find more information to fill in a missing child or parent or sibling, birth date, marriage date, death date. You find yourself sending out letters to the Social Security Administration for copies of Social Security applications to see what clues your ancestors left behind; to County Clerks for copies of birth, marriage and death certificates. And if you're

over-obsessed like I was, even sending letters to everyone in a particular area with a last name you're trying to crack the code on.

For me, the most important and most exciting part of exploring your roots is looking through family pictures. It suddenly transforms a name and a date into a real person you can feel a connection to, even though they died long before you were born. It's also an important source of leads for filling in missing links in your tree. My Dad's family unfortunately didn't take pictures, but his Bar Mitzvah album provided lots of avenues for exploration. My mom's mom however, the one who planted the genealogy-obsession seed, left us boxes and boxes of family pictures which none of my brothers or sisters and I had ever explored. Of course, I obsessively

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! NATURE NET-WORKING CALENDAR

This is a great time of year for a few outdoor activities here in town. All the leaves are down and the skies are grey and the view from Empty Box Peak overlooking Empty Box Brook Gorge should be fantastic! You don't have to walk the whole trail either. Just drive to the cemetery and walk to the far corner of the field and where the trail bends, head to the brook. Find a place to cross then start climbing up the one of the highest bits of land for miles around. You will know you've reached the top if you see four to five test holes, each the size of a 5 gallon bucket but only half as deep. Take photos and watch for birds and other critters.

Frozen wetlands makes this a good time to try to see the Beaver Dams that are just beyond the Water Treatment Plant towards Assunpink Lake. A friend of mine says there are several dams of varying lengths and I'm guessing 100–150 yards from the end of Pine Drive. Again, please take a camera and watch for birds and other critters, then tell me all about what you see or report it to the recgreen.ning.org website.

Just a word of caution: there may still be hunters hunting (except on Sunday) so wear hunter orange or bright colors. Children should have some grown-ups with them. A cell phone is a good idea to have with you too. It's the modern age and one never knows when a call for help may be necessary. I would like to try these treks with anyone interested. I can be available most Sundays and Thursdays just give me a call (Dave at 609-443-6204). This is networking in action!

BIRD WATCHING FROM HOME

Have you ever heard of a "LIFE LIST"? No, it's not the same as a "Bucket List" which is a list of things to do before kicking the bucket. It's a list of the different species of birds a person has seen in his or her life.

Usually the place and date of seeing that species for the first time is recorded on a list or in a bird watcher's field guide book. Some people in Roosevelt have life lists for their backyards and the whole USA.

Although Tim and Lorraine Hartley have always appreciated the great outdoors, nature and our feathered friends—the birds, it is only recently that they have been keeping records. Their backyard list in the past four years ranged from 20 different species last year to a high of 30 the year before. Their backyard is on Farm Lane but any home in Roosevelt has a chance to see over 100 different species of birds.

Don't just count the birds, but watch for the unusual sightings. In one five minute period the Hartleys saw five different SPECIES of woodpecker in their backyard from the kitchen window! Tim also related the time he saw a sharp-shinned hawk capture a mourning dove near their bird feeder.

Submit *your* sightings to the recgreen.ning.com website or just jot your sightings in your black and white nature notebooks. Help us to better see the diversity of life that we share our Roosevelt habitat with.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAST MEETINGS (12/17/08)

A quorum was present for the last regular meeting. As the year ends, past projects were noted, loose ends were considered and topics for the new year were discussed.

The most important discussion that may affect a lot of Roosevelt residents is the special meeting arranged by Councilman Bob Silverstein. This is a Department of Environmental Protection workshop (see *Bulletin* insert) with information about grant applications to help pay for home heating oil tank removal even if they leaked or are leaking—past, present and future! Come to the special meeting February 11 at 7 p.m. Roosevelt Borough Hall.

And finally, how are your wood duck nest boxes coming along?

OUR NEXT MEETING

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

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

SCHOOL NEWS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 4

board members for all the work they do on behalf of our students.

Please spread the word: Roosevelt Public School accepts nonresident students on a tuition basis. If you know of a family that might be interested in obtaining information about the school, please have them contact me at 609-448-2798.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to a wonderful second half of the year.

Shari Payson

The information below is called Child Find. In compliance with the NJ State Department of Education, this information must be posted yearly.

Roosevelt Resident Parents of children ages 3 to 21 years of age, who notice any special problems in their child's development including fine and gross motor, speech/language development, acquisition of age appropriate cognitive skills or other significant development delays should contact Susan Goldfond, Coordinator of Child Study Team at 609-448-2798. This also applies to homeless children and children of families of migrant workers. ■

FAMILY ROOTS (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 6

scanned and catalogued every one of them! The picture included with this article is my Grandmother's mother, Ida Meadow standing on the left, with her sister Bessie Medvedov and brother Nathan Madow and his family in Philadelphia, around 1900. (This family picture highlights one of the interesting challenges of family tree hunting—the fact that the spelling of last names can differ greatly within a family, and even for an individual in different recorded documents. By the way, their other brother was yet another variation—Medoff!)

Exploring your family tree can bring you a clearer sense of connection—you can actually see the intricate chance connections that took place, ultimately resulting in your life and your children's lives. It can clear up mysteries and create new ones, as well. I must admit, one sort of hopes one will discover a famous relative. If Dick Cheney and Barack Obama can find a common ancestor, what would I discover? However, the only Wikipedia-notable relatives I could find were: John Rock, the inventor of the birth control pill, and William Tecumseh Sherman, the Civil War General who burned down Atlanta. Not the most trafficked Wikipedia entries, and both of those are only by marriage. Nope, I couldn't find a single link to poet/writer Shel Silverstein or billionaire real estate mogul Larry Silverstein. I hope my grandmother's Medoff line isn't related to Bernard

Madoff, although lately I have been checking my mailbox every day for an envelope of jewels and gold bullion.

When we were growing up, my parents told us we were Polish on my father's side and Polish and Russian on my mother's side. Turns out it wasn't so simple. Although they didn't know each other before coming to America, my father's mother and father came from the same small town outside of what is now called Lviv. When my grandmother's Wittlin family came over in 1920, she was listed as coming from Kulikow, Poland. But when my grandfather's Silverstein family came over before 1918, the town was under Austria's rule. Today that whole area is part of the Ukraine. My mother's family turns out to come from a number of cities and towns across the former Soviet Union, but all of them are now also in the Ukraine. So I guess we're not Polish or Russian but Ukranian!

The discovery I most regret? I also worked on my wife's family's genealogy, and her family was thrilled when I traced her line back to a French explorer who settled in Quebec in 1690. But I may also have spoiled a generations-held tale of family lore. The family had a longstanding sense of pride in believing that they were part Cherokee. However, after digging up birth certificates, marriage licenses and death certificates, the individual who was supposed to have been Cherokee turns out to have come from a well-established French Canadian line from France. Oops. I'm still hoping someday to find out some information to restore her family folklore.

I haven't worked on the family tree in

years, but I still get emails from genealogical searchers and requests from distant family for the CD of the family tree. And I know that someday, my kids or their kids or their kids' kids will pick up the seeds I've started, and continue to grow our family tree, like I did with my grandmother's photocopied pages.

Postscript: There are tons of great resources online to get you started on exploring your family tree. Some are even free. EllisIsland.org has an extensive free database of passenger records. JewishGen.org is a great free resource for Jewish genealogists. Rootsweb.org, Ancestry.com and Genealogy.com are now all owned by the same company, but have different resources. Most of their services and products are not free, but you can find lots of information to satisfy even the most severe genealogical obsessions. Happy hunting! ■

About Two Square Miles Of Stories

Everyone in our two-square mile town has old family photographs and memories of the people in them. These pictures and your memories are narratives waiting to enrich us all. So, join us in a Roosevelt Show and Tell project—find an old picture or two and tell us a story in a few paragraphs.

For information telephone:

Pearl Seligman 448-2340
Bess Tremper 448-2701



MY HAIR

by Karen Block

My hair stands straight
Like toy soldiers on parade.
Even though I am a girl;
No matter what

My hair won't curl.
Wispy ends flag me by.
And sometimes march
Right in my eye!

OUTLAW (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 5

and librettist/poet David Herrstrom.

The Outlaw and the King, by Mark and David's account, has been in gestation for five years. The first act was read, in a modest performance that substituted a piano for the chamber ensemble for which the work is scored, two years ago. The second act was performed for the first time at Rutgers' Nicholas Music Center on December 1, 2008, in a concert reading with a professional cast of singers, and an ensemble of seven instrumental musicians—woodwinds, brass, harp and percussion—conducted by Andrew Cyr. It was a memorable evening.

After a first act which takes place some time earlier, and establishes the characters and their troubled connections to one another, the second act takes place in two scenes, the first on the eve of Saul's final battle against the Philistines in which both he and Jonathan were killed; and the second the following morning in David's tent after the battle. David Herrstrom's libretto takes ample liberties with the Biblical account, but retains its essence. He has added, as a foil to the insane or God-oppressed central characters, an armor-bearer named Zerubbabel. As a way of representing the presence of the divine power (called in the opera, with a not terribly sly dig at George W Bush, The Decider), Herrstrom has added a female trio, called Hannagail. Hannagail also provides a welcome counterpoint of female voices in what is otherwise an all-male vocal ensemble.

While the work is a collaboration between librettist and composer, in the end what one hears is far more the composer's than the librettist's voice. This is no reflection on Herrstrom's fine libretto, but to make clear that ultimately *The Outlaw and the King* must be judged on its musical qualities, and on the dramatic effect created by the music, rather than on its words. And let it be said, without hesitation,

that the second act of *The Outlaw and the King* is a work of great beauty.

The act opens magically, as a few whispered notes on harp and flute set the scene for Zerubbabel and Jonathan's musings on the peaceful night, and the doom that awaits them at dawn. The opera has many more fine moments, including David and Jonathan's farewell later in that scene; and in the second scene, the confrontation between David and Zerubbabel—the opera's dramatic highlight—which ends with the new king's murder of the old king's servant. Throughout these moments, Zuckerman weaves the voices of his seven singers together expertly; with only seven instruments, he creates a rich, distinctive instrumental texture, moving from lyrical woodwind lines to explosive bursts of percussion. The percussion, in particular, ably played by Peter James Saleh, was a powerful presence, constantly underlining and reinforcing the drama in different ways. *The Outlaw and the King* is not only a work of beauty, but also a work of solid craftsmanship.

At the same time, though, much as I enjoyed the musical intricacy of Zuckerman's vocal ensembles, which reflect his experience as a choral writer, I found myself thinking that—when *The Outlaw and the King* is staged, as it deserves to be—the interweaving of the voices at so many moments may well work against the dramatic impact of the opera, and render it more static on the stage than its creators would probably want it to be. I also would have liked more lyricism in the music Zuckerman has written for David, who was, after all, not just an outlaw and a king, but the psalmist, the sweet singer of Israel.

The performance was solid and full of conviction, and allowed me to get a far better sense of the merits of the opera than had been possible in the earlier reading of its first act two years ago. John-Andrew Fernandez was particularly good as Zerubbabel, while David Arnold, a seasoned bass-baritone, brought power and depth to the smaller role of Saul. Unfortunately, the two

young singers who sang the roles of David and Jonathan, while singing with conviction, had still largely unformed voices, not yet capable of the nuances and shadings that would have given more life to their characters.

No matter. I have heard worse voices at the Met. In the end, I come back to where I began. This was a memorable evening, an outstanding creative achievement by two of our Roosevelt neighbors, Mark Zuckerman and David Sten Herrstrom. A heartfelt Bravo to both, and to the Roosevelt Arts Project, which helped nurture their achievement. ■

RESCUE SQUAD NEWS

by Jack Rindt, EMT-D

The Squad has responded to 70 calls in town and out of town for the year of 2008. Our emergency calls were cardiacs, diffidently breathing, traumas, a host of medical emergencies, fire stand-bys and mutual aid calls into Millstone Twp.

The latest training that was held in November was Patient Assessment and in December the training equipment review.

November was the month that the Squad elected their new officers.

President: Neil Marko

Treasurer/Secretary: Carol Watchler

Captain: Jack Rindt

Lieutenant: Steve Yeger

Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad is to render immediate and necessary emergency care to the sick and injury regardless of nationality, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity and when necessary, provide transportation to the appropriate medical facility. It is also the purpose of the Roosevelt First Aid Squad to promote safety and disseminate knowledge of emergency care methods and procedures.

We can always use more members.

Continued on Page 11

In Memorium: Clare Nadler Sacharoff

In Honor of My Mother: Clare Sacharoff

June 7, 1928 – Nov. 30, 2008

By Debbie Sacharoff

Days come and go, and Clare is not there. Where is my mother? That funny woman ready to tell a story, welcoming family and friends to her home. Where is my mother, I think to myself. How can someone so vital not be here with us now?

I write to honor my mother, Clare Sacharoff, who touched many peoples' lives through her empathy, humor, insight, depth, generosity and patience.

My mother Clare was multi-faceted. She played many roles and juggled them well: mother, teacher, writer, artist, poet, shopper, counselor, wife, aunt, friend, critic, dancer, actor, historian, health and exercise consultant, communicator, comedian and more.

Some History

Clare grew up a shy little girl in New York, and attended a crowded school, where teachers didn't know her name. In the 3rd grade, she decided to become a teacher, to teach shy kids and those having trouble learning.

In 1938, at 10, Clare moved to Roosevelt with her parents Sylvia and Sam Nadler, and brother Nat. Moving to Roosevelt was a whole new world. The new house seemed enormous. She was happy to find teachers who knew and cared about their students.

Round faced 10 year old Clare, with the big smile and shiny long black ringlets, soon became friends with the giggly red haired girl next door, Elaine Porter. Mom told a story of how Nat created make-shift telephones from coffee cans and string. Clare and Elaine talked on these "phones," at night, from one bedroom to the next; and continued their conversations, as close friends, for 70 years.

Clare attended Roosevelt School and Allentown High. She got a college scholarship, graduated from Trenton State, and was the first college graduate in

the family. She taught around Freehold area years before becoming a Roosevelt teacher.

Clare met my father Lennie at a Hillel dance in New Brunswick. She said she liked him because he was nice and caring, was interesting to talk with; and found the way his socks fell down especially appealing. After getting married, they lived in Stelton until 1955, when they moved to Roosevelt.

After my grandfather died in 1958, the family moved in with Grandma Sylvia, in the Pine Drive house. It's unusual today to find someone like Clare: who lived in that same house for almost 70 years, and maintained close ties with special friends and relatives for many of those years.

Clare the Teacher

Clare taught in Roosevelt from 1962–1992. She taught the first grade, the third grade, and worked with children as learning consultant.

Clare was a teacher who cared about children, not about who was smartest or won awards, but about treating students as individuals and helping them learn. She recognized that each child had unique talents, and disliked the competitions, that made some kids feel better than others, and others feel worse. She cared about children's self esteem and confidence.

Clare wanted children to feel good about who they were, and had no tolerance for kids being mean to each other. She enjoyed being able to see students she taught, grow up to become parents with kids of their own. As important to her as lessons, was helping students to become decent and ethical people.

The Connector, Spiritual Director, Friend, Counselor, Artist, Comedian

Clare could relate to people of all ages and types. Her circle was wide: of old and new friends, acquaintances, chil-

dren, families, community members. She knew how to get people to laugh, feel comfortable, or talk about what was meaningful to them. She was a trustworthy person and a good listener.

Mom was friends with Helen Barth

for nearly 50 years, and with Dolores Chasan for almost as many. Yet as busy as they were, these women made time for each other, talking by phone, taking a walk, sharing in each other's lives.

Clare was the glue that connected people. She kept in touch with college friends, childhood friends, cousins, former students and teachers, and my dad's WWII buddies.

The house on Pine Drive was often filled with relatives from New York, who used to come out to the "country" to visit. After lunch of tuna fish on rye, and soup; they'd sit in balmy "Florida Corner" (the front yard), talking for hours. While some people prepared the meals, my mother assigned herself the role of "spiritual director," keeping everyone happy.

Mom had a wealth of knowledge she shared. She was always there to ask for help; in any grade, including college. She taught me all kinds of things: sad Yiddish songs; family history, town history, music from the 30s and 40s. She liked love songs like *The Blue Room* or *Embraceable You*. She used to ask me to play the songs on the piano while she sang. Now I'm glad for all the great melodies I learned.

Clare was funny by being herself. She had a dark sense of humor, and a cynical, pessimistic streak. Ready to say "no" when invited to do anything; she'd rethink it later, and sometimes say "yes," but initially preferred to play it safe. She didn't expect things to be good, so when

Continued on Page 13



RESCUE SQUAD (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 9

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

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

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

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Safety Notes:

Diabetic Emergencies:

Diabetes is a disorder of carbohydrate metabolism and is defined as a lack of or ineffective action of insulin. A total lack of insulin is considered Type I Diabetes, or insulin dependent. This condition is more common in younger persons and is thought to be triggered by an autoimmune response. Management is by diet, exercise and insulin.

Type II Diabetes, or non-insulin dependent, diabetes, insulin is produced but the body is not able to use it effectively. Management

may be by diet, and exercise or by the addition of an oral agent such as chlorpropamide (Diabinase), glyburide (Micronase) or glipizide (Glucotrol).

Signs and Symptoms:

First blood glucose levels rise to extremely high levels hyperglycemia. Once the blood glucose levels reach 200 mg/dl or more the kidneys excrete excess glucose. This process requires a large amount of body water. The loss of water in such large amounts causes polyuria (frequent urination) and polydipsia (excessive thirst).

Second without insulin to maintain fat deposits, fat molecules are mobilized and are broken down. As a result ketones, and fatty acids are formed. Ketones are highly acidic and are produced at a rate faster than the body can eliminate them. The excess ketones in the blood also give the breath a fruity odor or an odor of acetone. When this process is uncontrolled diabetic ketoacidosis results. Uncontrolled ketoacidosis causes vomiting, abdominal pain and a type of deep rapid breathing call Kussmaul respirations.

Third without insulin, protein stores also begin to break down. With this breakdown, waste chemicals build up in the blood faster than they can be excreted. Polyphagia (excessive eating) abdominal pain, irritability to the heart and occasionally itching develop.

Glucose is the only source of energy for the brain. It is very sensitive

to a drop in blood glucose level. Therefore this reaction is sudden (within minutes for a Type I diabetic) and dramatic. Because the brain is "starving," an altered mental status is the first sign. Chemicals are also released to alert the body to a problem. Those chemicals cause the skin to become pale, sweaty and cold. The heart rate is fast and the respiratory rate is rapid and shallow. If blood glucose levels remain low, unconsciousness and permanent brain damage can quickly follow. If not sure always dial 911.

• • • • •

Check your house numbers to make sure that they are large enough and colorful enough so Emergency Services can see them from the roadway. Remember if you need help just Dial 911. ■

Monmouth County Adds Rogers Tract to Perrineville Lake Park

by Michael Ticktin

On December 6, Monmouth County acquired ownership of the wooded 15-acre Rogers Family tract on the south side of Oscar Drive/Witches' Hollow Road, bringing the total acreage of the portion of Perrineville Lake County Park that is in Roosevelt to 175 acres. This brings the total of publicly owned open space in Roosevelt, which also includes 133 acres of municipal parkland and 242 acres of the State-owned Assunpink Wildlife Management Area, to 550 acres, which is 44% of the total area of 1,240 acres. In addition, there are 258 acres of preserved farmland. The total amount of preserved land in all categories is thus 808 acres, which is 65% of the total area. (By way of comparison, New York's Central Park has 843 acres.)

(See map on Page 12.)

Continued on Page 12

Remember, if you need help just Dial 911.

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





ROGERS TRACT (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 11

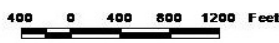


OPEN SPACE AND PRESERVED FARMLANDS

**BOROUGH OF ROOSEVELT
Monmouth County, N.J.**

-  Borough of Roosevelt Open Space
-  NJDEP / Assunpink Wildlife Management Area
-  Monmouth County / Perrineville Lake Park
-  Farmland Preservation

Source: Borough of Roosevelt G.I.S. Base Map and Tax Assessment Data
Prepared: January 16, 2009



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Map courtesy of T. Andrew Thomas, P.P. ■

MY MOTHER (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 10

she had a good time, it was a pleasant surprise. Yet even after a bad time, she could tell a good story.

"It was the worst trip we ever took. I'm so happy to be back home. We were supposed to leave at 8 and the bus didn't leave till 9. The ride was bumpy, and the host was dopey, he told jokes that weren't funny. I sat next to a guy talking about insurance, a big show-off. But on the way back, I met this nice woman from Cranbury. She showed me cute pictures of her grandchild Tess, born April 13th with curly red hair. And the lunch was terrible, but the coffee was pretty good. I think your father had a good time".

Clare had a creative streak that revealed itself in many ways. She could sit down and easily write a story, poem or letter. She was a good actress, and had fun playing roles in community and school plays.

Mom had a fantastic sense of color and instinctively knew what to do with crayons or paint. I remember watching her color when I was only 5, trying to figure out what she did to make everything so vivid and beautiful.

Clare was not afraid to be herself; she was inventive with her fun, she'd make up words, languages and stories. In Clare cat talk, she'd say to the cat, "boo boo, boo boo, whadjah boo, whadjah boo."

Clare liked to potzkuh. She liked to experiment, combine things and feel different textures. She did this in art, but also in cooking. It was really about the mixing, not the taste. She might say, "Guess what I did last night. There was a little ice cream left over, a bit of raspberry jello, a piece of banana, half a cookie, a little peanut butter, some chocolate pudding and a little yogurt. So I mixed it all together, put it in the freezer, and a few hours later, your dad ate a delicious frozen dessert!"

Clare and the Arts

My mother Clare enjoyed the arts in many forms: plays, movies, dance,

poetry. But she liked to say outrageous things, I think, just for effect, like "I hate music", and "I don't believe in fun".

Mom rooted for heroes who had tender hearts and big struggles. She loved the movies *Marty*, *Lili* with Leslie Caron, *La Strada* with Guilietta Masina; and the comedians Imogene Coca and Judy Holiday. She could sum up a film and tell you what was wrong with it in just a few minutes. Clare had sympathy for characters suffering from unrequited love, overcoming obstacles, or triumphing despite a disability.

If she had her druthers and could have been anyone (with any body), she said she would have been a ballerina. Years ago, she used to turn on wild Greek or crazy bullfighting music, and dance. She also loved going to McCarter with Dolores Chasan to watch professional dancers perform.

Clare: Lover of Variety and Schedules

As my cousin Amy put it, Clare was a combination of deadpan serious and hilariously funny. She was uninhibited and spontaneous, but also controlled and restricted. She could let go through creative pursuits, but liked deciding what she was doing and when.

Clare didn't like events too big or too long. She liked really liked doing a bit of this or that: she'd sip coffee, start a Sudoku, slice an apple, share it, write a note, return a call, and half watch *Law & Order*.

Clare liked small treasures and quiet pleasures: a cup of coffee and a cracker with peanut butter, a puppet found at a garage sale, an exotic pair of earrings, or a good piece of chocolate.

She liked other activity as long as she knew the boundaries and limitations; as on a recent trip to Seattle, she said:

"Debbie, I'm feeling very flexible. We can do anything you want as long as it doesn't take more than 45 minutes, and has nothing to do with being on, in, or near the water."

Clare the Shopper

Clare liked the hunt and the thrill of shopping; it excited her and made her

heart jump to find something beautiful, a good bargain, or both, especially shoes. I could hear the excitement in her voice when she found a new pair of shoes. No matter how many times she shopped, when she found that special something, she sounded like a kid, able to convey the thrill of discovering something fresh and new.

Clare the Brave

Once upon a time, I thought of my mother as strict, someone to be afraid of. Now she is the close friend and parent I will miss. She was always ready to listen, always happy to talk.

Many thought of Clare as fun, funny, sarcastic, witty, intelligent, and zany. Yet in her last year of life, a new courageous Clare emerged, a woman who demonstrated great courage that few had seen before.

Clare was valiant and strong as she underwent chemotherapy last year, never complaining, complying with requirements, and doing all she could to be as active as possible during that time.

Though she survived cancer, it was a series of events that later caused her to weaken. The loss of Clare: mother, teacher, wife, friend, aunt, and long standing community member, is very sad for many people, including myself, my father Lennie, brother Ira, our family and friends.

Two weeks before she died, Clare underwent brain surgery. Afterwards, we were unsure of whether the fully competent Clare with the razor sharp mind would still be there. During recovery, she was quite tired. It amazed me however, that when she was alert, she asked how everyone else was; and remembered people, their birthdays and special events.

Clare put in a strong fight, and wanted very much to be able to return to Roosevelt.

I would have wanted to be able to walk around town with her one more time. I remember the days when she was the fastest walker, marching up Tamara

Continued on Page 14

MY MOTHER (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 13

Drive at breakneck speed, very fast for a woman of only 5 feet 1.

I thank everyone for not just coming out to the funeral to show their support for Clare and for our family; but also thank the families and individuals, who afterwards, visited and brought over food during the week we sat shivah.

Today, my mother Clare is still alive in my heart. If she had a message for us all to remember, I think it is that we should be kind and patient with each other; that you should never lose your sense of humor; that instead of trying to be like someone else, appreciate what makes you unique and be unafraid to be yourself. ■

Dear Aunt Clare,

by Amy Nadler Pilger

This article is a tribute to my zany and wonderful aunt Clare who passed away, November 28th the day after Thanksgiving. The passing of Clare Sacharoff, my Aunt Clare, marks the end of a period of time in my life in which a certain generation of woman who influenced me during my formative years are now all gone. Aunt Clare and I had a relationship that had many incarnations. She was my aunt, of course and lived across the street from me for many years on Pine Drive in Roosevelt, but among other roles she was also my first grade teacher, my pen pal and my earring exchange partner. When my mother, Mildred Nadler died, my aunt Clare stepped up and helped to fill the gap. We spoke regularly on the phone and she always remembered my birthday and the birthdays of my children. Her propensity for ritual and regularity as well as her razor sharp memory made her a touchstone in an ever-changing world. She was an accessible and familiar character and

she was my home away from home.

Aunt Clare as Mrs. Sacharoff,

My First Grade Teacher:

As a first-grade teacher, Mrs. Sacharoff was simultaneously deadpan serious and hilariously funny. Along with instructing us in skills such as decoding the hieroglyphics of letters, combining small numbers into larger quantities and putting our earliest unformed thoughts down on paper, Clare taught us the most important job of all: how to clap erasers. But Clare also taught my cousin Ira and me an early lesson about code switching. We were in the same first grade class in which we both had to call Clare, "Mrs. Sacharoff". That must have been a tremendous challenge for Ira, since he had to switch from "Mommy" to "Mrs. Sacharoff" directly after he changed out of his jammies, had his breakfast of toast and oranges and hopped into Nelly (the car). I know I must have slipped up a number of times, calling her Aunt Clare in front of a stunned and unsuspecting group of six year olds, but she was steadfast in her rule and by the end of the year I knew to call her Mrs. Sacharoff inside the walls of Roosevelt Elementary School and Aunt Clare everywhere else. Recently, while we were visiting Clare in the hospital, Ira was taking a break and reading a newspaper, "Ira," I said to him, "Do you remember who taught you how to read". "Yes, of course", he said to me as he folded down the paper looking straight at me in a familiar, deadpan manner, a sardonic twist in the corner of his mouth, "Mrs. Sacharoff, of course" and of course, he was right.

Aunt Clare as Exercise Guru:

Clare was a devotee of Jack LaLanne, one of the first televised exercise shows in the early 1960s and often could be found on her red rug next to the round green vinyl ottoman doing leg lifts and arm twirls in concert with Jack. Her enthusiasm for floor exercises was contagious and every so often she would inspire the rest of her family or those of us who were visiting to join her in leg lifts (later on I think there were big

rubber bands involved). But that was not her only exercise regimen. Clare and grandma Sylvia would religiously go on long, slow walks that looked like walking meditations through the town of Roosevelt. Sometimes we would join them from across the street but the Nadlers didn't have the same religious ferocity about stepping out as those two mindful pedestrians.

Clare as Pilot of Nelly

Clare was good at giving directions but was not much of a driver. In fact, she was reluctant to venture out of Roosevelt. On rare occasions she would drive into the periphery of Hightstown but never into that thriving metropolis. For years, she drove an old blue Plymouth with a paint job so flat it was gritty. Its back seat had very squeaky springs, a joyride for hyper children and ripped seats that collapsed a little when you leaned into them. She named her car "Nelly" and on very cold days, instead of walking the never ending path (well, it seemed never-ending) to school, I could count on Clare to drive me along with my sister, and my cousins, Debbie and Ira to school in her luxurious car. But Nelly was a temperamental girl and we had to rub her seats and encourage her to start on those frigid days. Clare instructed us to put incantations over Nelly, administering kind and hopeful words. "You can do it, Nelly" Clare told us to repeat to her beloved car. "Come on, Nelly, we believe in you." Oh, how that car complained and moaned but, with Clare's insistence and our good encouragement, she would always start up and in that way, Clare taught us about faith.

Clare as artist extraordinaire and an individual

My mother, Milly Nadler, and Clare went shopping one day without children in tow and bought home two prints of the same darkly framed print by Braque. They must have gotten a good deal. It was a drab and grey cubist still life. My mother hung it in the living room between a David Stone Martin and a Ben Shahn but, Clare

Continued on Page 16

**Winter Forecasts
February 2009**

2008

The numbers for 2008 are in and it was another warmer than normal year in Roosevelt. The average temperature for all of 2008 was 54.8 degrees. That's 2.5 degrees warmer than normal. There were 4723 heating degree-days. That's 634 fewer heating degree-days than normal. There were 168 more cooling degree-days than average.

The amount of precipitation was another story. The total precipitation for the year was very close to normal. The normal amount of yearly rainfall in this area is 47.68 inches. In 2008, there was 47.06 inches.

Global average temperatures for 2008 tied the average temperature for 2001. The two years tied for the eighth hottest year on record since 1880. These rankings may change as more information comes in. However, it is safe to say 2008 ranks as one of the hottest years on record.

Here are some other 2008 weather highlights from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

“The United States recorded a preliminary total of 1,690 tornadoes during 2008, which is well above the 10-year average of 1,270 and ranks as the second highest annual total since reliable records began in 1953. The high number of tornado-related fatalities during the first half of the year made 2008 the 10th deadliest with a 2008 total of 125 deaths.

Arctic sea ice extent in 2008 reached its second lowest melt season extent on record in September. The minimum of 1.80 million square miles (4.67 million square kilometers) was 0.80 million square miles (2.09 million square kilometers) below the 1979–2000 average minimum extent.

The 2008 Atlantic hurricane sea-

son was the third most costly on record, after 2005 and 2004, and the fourth most active year since 1944. This was the first season with a major hurricane (Category 3 or above) each month from July through November.”

Weather Word

Frostbite is a cold-related injury characterized by freezing of tissue. Mountain frostbite is a variation observed among mountain climbers and others exposed to extremely cold temperatures at high altitude. It combines tissue freezing with hypoxia (an overall lack of oxygen content within the body's tissue) and general body dehydration.

Symptoms affecting frostbitten body parts include the following:

- Coldness and firmness
- Stinging, burning, numbness
- Clumsiness
- Pain, throbbing, burning, or electric current-like sensations on rewarming

First Aid

1. Shelter the person from the cold and move him or her to a warmer place. Remove any constricting jewelry and wet clothing. Look for signs of hypothermia (lowered body temperature) and treat accordingly.

2. If immediate medical help is available, it is usually best to wrap the affected areas in sterile dressings (remember to separate affected fingers and toes) and transport the person to an emergency department for further care.

3. If immediate care is not available, re-warming first-aid may be given. Soak the affected areas in warm (never HOT) water—or repeatedly apply warm cloths to affected ears, nose, or cheek—for 20 to 30 minutes. The recommended water temperature is 104 to 108 degrees Fahrenheit. Keep circulating the water to aid the warming process. Severe burning pain, swelling, and color changes may occur during

Continued on Page 16

Dec. 15, 2008 - Jan. 15, 2009

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	65.5	42.3	53.9	0.00	11.1
16	60.4	33.3	46.9	0.12	18.2
17	42.3	32.9	37.6	0.82	27.4
18	42.1	30.2	36.2	0.05	28.9
19	36.9	32.4	34.7	0.00	30.4
20	36.3	25.7	31.0	1.05	34.0
21	36.3	26.2	31.3	0.15	33.8
22	31.6	14.7	23.2	0.55	41.9
23	31.6	17.1	24.4	0.00	40.7
24	54.9	30.4	42.7	0.10	22.4
25	57.4	31.5	44.5	0.20	20.6
26	42.1	27.1	34.6	0.00	30.4
27	48.4	38.8	43.6	0.00	21.4
28	64.2	45.5	54.9	0.00	10.2
29	53.8	34.5	44.2	0.00	20.9
30	45.0	26.0	35.5	0.00	29.5
31	43.0	21.0	32.0	0.00	33.0
1	26.0	17.4	21.7	0.00	43.3
2	35.0	19.0	27.0	0.00	38.0
3	38.0	27.0	32.5	0.00	32.5
4	43.3	23.0	33.2	0.00	31.9
5	46.4	31.1	38.8	0.00	26.3
6	41.9	29.7	35.8	0.00	29.2
7	41.2	32.0	36.6	0.00	28.4
8	40.5	30.9	35.7	2.02	29.3
9	36.1	26.6	31.4	0.00	33.7
10	33.8	25.7	29.8	0.00	35.3
11	35.2	31.5	33.4	0.00	31.7
12	35.0	22.8	28.9	0.00	36.1
13	37.2	17.0	27.1	0.00	37.9
14	33.0	19.0	26.0	0.00	39.0
Total Precipitation			5.06		
Total Heating Degree-Days			926.7		

AUNT CLARE (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 14

had other ideas. She would have none of those dismal colors in her home. She would reinvent it. With a box of watercolors and a paintbrush she colored each angular shape some shade of red, pink or vibrant orange like a paint by number project. Then without a moment of hesitation, or any thought about it's possible affront to fine art she hung it over her couch and of course, it is still there displayed in all of its transcendent glory.

Clare as Historian

For those of us who left Roosevelt and our roots behind, Clare, provided constancy in a way that no one else could. She could recite where each student in my class ended up. Whoever it was, she always knew. Clare was able to keep track of all the details of everyone's lives, all the ups and downs. There was a richness to the Roosevelt story that came through Clare. She accounted for just about every thread of it, weaving a

vibrant fabric much like my grandmother's wildly colorful crocheted afghans. Clare also remembered anecdotes about my childhood that no one else could and in that way she helped connect me with my own history and to ground me. Her house alone was a constant, unchangeable fixture in my life. While my parents and I moved to Princeton and eventually to Florida, and the backgrounds and people shifted, aunt Clare kept her home and many of the objects in it unchanged. The picture of the man and small girl in a rowboat always could be counted on to be on the wall in the porch above the couch crowded with throw pillows. A yellowed and taped picture of my grandmother Sylvia beautiful and surly, smoking a cigarette and wearing a sailor suit was displayed nearby. Above the couch in her living room, was a beaded clown. There was an odd and amusing collection of dolls on a shelf in the porch, some standing happily at attention, others flopping over in despair. Even the sweet smells of past meals, hidden mold and brewing coffee remained the same. ■

WEATHER (CONT'D.)

Continued from Page 15

warming. Warming is complete when the skin is soft and sensation returns.

4. Apply dry, sterile dressings to the frostbitten areas. Put dressings between frostbitten fingers or toes to keep them separated.

5. Move thawed areas as little as possible.

6. Re-freezing of thawed extremities can cause more severe damage. Prevent re-freezing by wrapping the thawed areas and keeping the person warm. If protection from re-freezing cannot be guaranteed, it may be better to delay the initial re-warming process until a warm, safe location is reached.

7. If the frostbite is extensive, give warm drinks to the person in order to replace lost fluids.

DO NOT

- DO NOT thaw out a frostbitten area if it cannot be kept thawed. Refreezing may make tissue damage even worse.

- DO NOT use direct dry heat (such as a radiator, campfire, heating pad, or hair dryer) to thaw the frostbitten areas. Direct heat can burn the tissues that are already damaged.

- DO NOT rub or massage the affected area.

- DO NOT disturb blisters on frostbitten skin.

- DO NOT smoke or drink alcoholic beverages during recovery as both can interfere with blood circulation.

When to Contact a Medical

Professional

- There has been severe frostbite, or if normal feeling and color do not return promptly after home treatment for mild frostbite.

- Frostbite has occurred recently and new symptoms develop, such as fever, malaise, discoloration, or drainage from the affected body part.

Thanks to *Emedicine* and *Medline Plus* for the information on Frostbite. ■



LETTERS to the EDITOR

To the Editor:

I just wanted to say Thank You to the many Rooseveltians who displayed kindness and support after my mother Clare Sacharoff's death.

I was very touched by the huge number of people who showed up at the funeral in the pouring rain, and by the many people who stopped by the house immediately afterward, (which may have set a world record for the most people squeezed into an old Roosevelt house) and by those who showed up later.

It really gladdened me to see the sense of community that Roosevelt still has, and I was very happy to see people I hadn't seen in years, although I wished it could have been under better circumstances.

My mother loved living in Roosevelt, and felt warmly towards many of the people who live there. She would have been gratified to see all those who paid their respect, and amazed at the quantity of great food people brought by.

Thanks again,
Ira Sacharoff

Contributors to the Bulletin 2008/2009

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

Mel Adlerman
Mary & Carlo Alfare
The Alt Family
Robin & Robert Axel
Louise Baranowitz
Helen & Leon Barth
Janet & Richard Bernadin
Naomi & David Brahinsky
David Burdick
Susan & Robert Cayne
Delores Chasan
Maureen & Robert Clark
June & William Counterman
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M. Kathleen Drury
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Virginia North Edwards
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Elizabeth Weiner
Erich Woitschlienger
Lydia Yohay
Diane & Joseph Zahora
Judith & Mark Zuckerman



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

ROOSEVELT ARTS PROJECT

2008 - 2009 Season

February 7, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

IN SEARCH OF YIDDISHKEIT: A LOCAL COMPOSER'S MUSICAL ODYSSEY OF JEWISH EXPLORATION AND SELF-DISCOVERY

Roosevelt composer and NJ State Arts Council Fellow Mark Zuckerman will talk about the development of Jewish influences, both deliberate and fortuitous, on his music. The composer will illustrate with examples from his body of choral, vocal, and instrumental music, with special emphasis on his internationally-recognized collection of Yiddish choral arrangements.

March 14, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

THE DAWN OF ROMANTICISM: ALAN MALLACH/PIANO RECITAL

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

April 4, 8:00 PM, Borough Hall

THE ROOSEVELT POETS

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

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

THE ROOSEVELT STRING BAND

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

May 30, 1 - 5 PM, Roosevelt Public School

ROOSEVELT SOUND INSTALLATION HOUSE TOUR & 30 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHS

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

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

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

* maps/guides available at Roosevelt Public School

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 at the top of the page to sign up for our e-mail list. For further information call Robin Gould at (609) 448-4616. ■

BUSINESS SPONSORS

The Bulletin publishes free-of-charge public information listings from Roosevelt residents and business, and from those in the immediate vicinity with ties to Roosevelt. Write: Roosevelt Borough Bulletin, Box 221, Roosevelt, NJ 08555. Contributions are appreciated and are tax-deductible (suggested: \$50.00/year, \$56.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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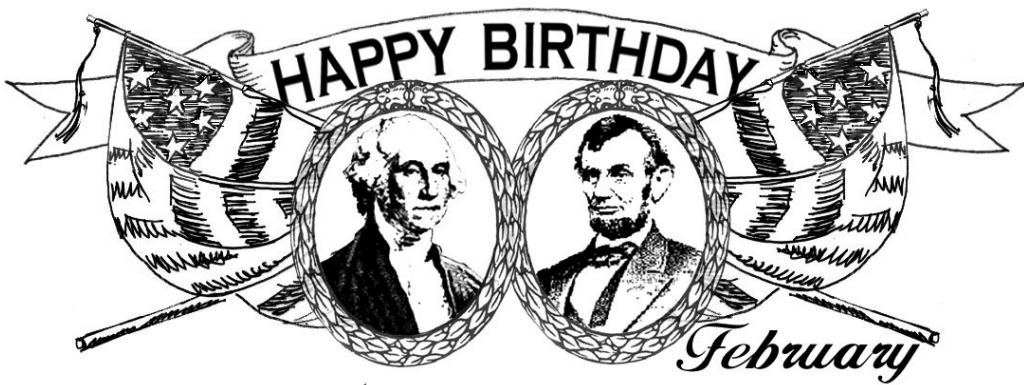
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FEBRUARY

3 Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Blood pressure check, Borough Hall
	1 :00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting, Borough Hall Gerry Millar, President 448-0351
4 Wed.		RECYCLE 
6 Fri.		PIZZA DAY, RPS
7 Sat.	8:00 p.m.	Borough Hall. Roosevelt Arts Project, In Search of Yiddishkeit: A Local Composer's Odyssey of Jewish Exploration and Self-Discovery, by Mark Zuckerman.
8 Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training, Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475
	2-4 p.m.	Bingo Party, Roosevelt Public School gym Sponsored by Roosevelt PTA
9 Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701
10 Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Planning Board, Borough Hall, Jane Rothfuss, Chair, 448-3713
12 Thur.	7:30 p.m.	Roosevelt Board of Education, Roosevelt Public School Library, Jaymie Kosa, President, 371-6294
13 Fri.		School Closed, Presidents' Weekend
16 Mon.		School Closed, Presidents' Weekend
17 Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Roosevelt First Aid Squad Meeting, Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President, 448-9475
18 Wed.		RECYCLE 
	7:30 p.m.	Environmental Comm., Borough Hall, Dave Schwendeman, Chair, 443-6204
	7:00 p.m.	PTA Executive Meeting, Meredith Murray, President, 371-9714
	7:30 p.m.	PTA General Meeting – all invited
20 Fri.		PIZZA DAY, RPS
23 Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Borough Hall, Council Action Meeting, Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701

MARCH

3 Tues.	12:30 p.m.	Blood pressure check, Borough Hall
	1 :00 p.m.	Seniors Meeting, Borough Hall, Gerry Millar, President, 448-0351
4 Wed.		RECYCLE 

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

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