

# Bulletin

Volume 34 Number 8

June 2008

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS

By Michael Ticktin

### Council Accepts RAP Plaque for Mural; Liquor License Available

At its May 12 meeting, the Council, representatives of the Roosevelt Arts Project (RAP) and other members of the public discussed a motion to approve the design and placement of a plaque acknowledging people who made significant contributions to help pay the cost of the new mural on the front of the municipal building. Consideration of this motion had been postponed from the previous meeting in response to objections from Bert and Shan Ellentuck, who said that it was contrary to the egalitarian traditions of Roosevelt to single people out for recognition purely on the basis of monetary contributions to a community project.

Speaking on behalf of RAP, Naomi Brahinsky said that the mural was a project to mark the 20th anniversary of the organization, that the Monmouth Council on the Arts had provided a \$500 grant, and that RAP had told the public that those who donated at least \$100 would be acknowledged in a plaque. Bob Atwood continued the same theme by saying that the letter requesting donations and promising recognition on the plaque was a contract with donors that had to be honored, but that RAP was now proposing to reword the plaque so as to recognize collectively all who participated, either

with donations or through participating in the creation of the mural, in addition to acknowledging the major donors. He also said that RAP would have no objection to placing the plaque somewhere other than in the front of building—this being in response to a comment by Councilwoman Peggy Malkin that putting the plaque in front of the building would be “commercial, unsightly and not the Roosevelt way.” RAP President Dave Herrstrom added that, if the plaque were disallowed, RAP would have to return the donations, which would be a great financial burden on the organization.

In response, Shan Ellentuck stated that she still objected to the idea of the plaque, but would happy to participate in donating money to repay anyone who wanted their money back. Allen Newrath questioned the Ellentucks’ assertion that it was not the practice in Roosevelt to acknowledge monetary donations, pointing out that donors are acknowledged by the *Borough Bulletin*. This was confirmed by *Bulletin* editor Michael Ticktin, who also pointed out, in response to the Ellentucks’ concern about acknowledging those who donated \$500 or more to the mural project in larger letters, and the person who

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a *Bulletin* every month from now on through July, 2008.

Incidentally, while we received contributions from many of you, for which we thank you, we do need to hear from more of you.

PLEASE HELP US! Other than your contributions we have no other means of paying our postage and printing costs which are our only expenses.

PLEASE HELP US! We need you!

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?

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Calendar and Breaking Bread Art  
by Shan Ellentuck

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# From the Mayor

By Elsbeth Battel

Dear Neighbors,

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community. Since it's conception as Jersey Homesteads, our town has depended upon and benefited from the donations of time, money and the abilities of our citizens.

I am hesitant to begin trying to list them, knowing I will fall far short of completion, but I will depend on others to point out the missing organizations so I can make corrections in the future.

Roosevelt is a better borough because of the efforts of: the First Aid Squad, the Fire Department, the School Board, the PTA, Clean Communities, RAP, the *Borough Bulletin*, the

Environmental Commission, the OEM, the Planning Board, the Recreation Committee, the Seniors, the Council, FRE, the Solar Village Board, and the Scouts.

Recently there were public discussions at Council meetings regarding whether or not it would be appropriate for RAP to mount a plaque at the Borough Hall acknowledging donors for the Borough Hall Mural created and donated by RAP last spring. The conclusion was the plaque could be the first of many contributions to a 'Wall of Honor' to be created in the Isidore Sackowitz room at the Borough Hall. We invite ideas for further additions to the wall.

And, as always, THANK YOU to all of you who unselfishly contribute to the welfare of Roosevelt.

Beth Battel ■

## BOROUGH COUNCIL NEWS (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 1*

donated \$1,000 in still larger letters, that the *Bulletin* has also given extra acknowledgment to those who have made unusually large donations. He further noted that this whole matter was not as serious as if someone were, for example, asking for naming rights to the sewer plant. In the end, the Council voted to accept the plaque, with the proviso that it be placed inside the building, both to avoid adding to the signage on the exterior and also to protect the bronze from both weathering and possible theft at a time when bronze objects are all too often being stolen from public places and melted down for their metal value.

In his report as chairman of the Utilities Committee, Councilman

Bob Silverstein said that no decision had yet been made as to whether the water tower should be repaired or replaced. (At the previous meeting, Councilman Jeff Ellentuck, who was not present at the May 12 meeting, had presented a report indicating that the most recent engineering report on the strength of the tower supports gave greater credence to the repair option, which, he had stated, would result in considerable savings and avoid major fee increases.) Councilman Silverstein said that his committee had not yet met to discuss any rate change, that the previous report on the tank by Liquid Engineering had indicated that it was in poor condition, but that it was questionable whether the Borough

had enough specific information to make an informed decision. He also said that the grit chamber of the water filtering system was not functional and that the manufacturer had offered to repair it for \$170,000, but that Carmela Roberts, the municipal engineer, and Toby Moore, the utilities operator, thought that there were less expensive options available.

Councilwoman Arlene Stinson, chairwoman of the Administrative Committee, reported that the committee was looking into sharing administrative services with one or another of the other municipalities in the area, rather than hiring someone to replace Bill Schmeling, who resigned as administrator effective

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### THE ROOSEVELT BOROUGH BULLETIN

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

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

# From the Office of the Principal, Shari Payson

Although the school year may be winding down, the activity level at RPS is in full motion. As always, May was a very busy month and June will be as well. May began with our annual Talent Show. Acts ranged from singing and dancing, to piano playing to a food-eating contest. The children were phenomenal and I received much positive feedback from the community. The Safety Patrol had their annual trip to Great Adventure. Our Safety Patrol students take on many school responsibilities. They are a big help during lunch and recess, helping to keep everyone safe. The creative talents of our students were on display at our Art Show. The show featured two pieces of artwork from every student, along with a variety of hands-on activities. The different types of artwork were remarkable. One of our favorite events, the Gymnastics Show took place in May as well. The children amazed the audience with their vaults, tumbling, flips and cartwheels. Students had the opportunity to share their musical talents at the annual Spring Concert. Students sang, played their recorders and instruments to standing room only. RPS's Spelling Bee also took place in May. In addition to learning new spelling words, students learned word origins, grammar and phonics rules, and definitions. The winner of the bee will have the opportunity to participate in the Monmouth County spelling bee next school year. Thank you 6th graders, Mr. Gershman and Ms. Bondy, Mr. Kaufman, Ms. Atwood, Ms. Goldfond and Mrs. R. Levine respectively, for all the time and effort you spent planning and preparing students for these spectacular events.

We are looking forward to some exciting events in June as well. Field Day is scheduled for June 3rd (rain date June 4th). Volunteers are always needed for this event.. The last 3 days of school June 13th, 16th and 17th

are 12:30 dismissals for students. No lunches will be served. The annual awards ceremony is on June 17th at 9:00 a.m. This is also the Last Day of School for students. I hope to see everyone at Sixth Grade Graduation, on June 14th at 4:00 p.m.

Each year, a teacher recognition program is sponsored for every county in New Jersey. Every school district has the opportunity to select a teacher to represent the staff at a program designed to recognize teacher accomplishments. This year, I am happy to announce that Howard Kaufman was selected to represent the staff at Roosevelt. Mr. Kaufman is our health/physical education teacher. He also coordinates the Safety Patrol Program and facilitates the Gymnastics Club and Field Day. He works tirelessly to educate staff and parents about health and physical education. Throughout his 42 years of teaching, I know he has been an inspiration to all.

As the 2007-2008 school year reaches its conclusion, it seems a good time to reflect on the activities of the year. We sang, we danced, we had gymnastics, art night, field day, concerts, monthly assemblies, field trips, spelling bee, grant winners, talent show, recycling, hoagie and pizza days, School Spirit Week, and more. Whenever we needed parents, they were here to help – to prepare and serve food, chaperone on field trips, plant outside, and be a terrific audience for whatever the children were presenting.

Our PTA supported our many activities and provided the children with enrichment programs that were educational and enjoyable.

Members of the Board of Education worked diligently to provide whatever was needed in order to continue to provide the best possible educational programs to the children of Roosevelt. At the April 28th board meeting, Jaymie Kosa was elected president and Natalie

Warner was elected as vice president. Please join me in congratulating them.

Our dedicated, hard-working, and caring staff are second to none. Everyone has worked collaboratively to create a phenomenal learning environment for our students. The Roosevelt community, individual community members, the Environmental Commission, RAP, and the Post Office personnel have enriched our programs by sharing their expertise. I am grateful to each and every person.

On another note... I am pleased to see children playing on the playground and using the ball fields in the evenings and on weekends. I am glad that children have a safe meeting place. However, with the additional use, comes more and more trash. Unfortunately, much of the trash is thrown on the ground and not in the garbage cans. Trash on the ground is both dangerous and unsanitary. Please, show pride for your school and community, and keep it clean and safe.

We wish the graduating class of 2008 success in middle school.

I extend warm regards to everyone for a safe, healthy, relaxing summer. Please feel free to stop by and visit. Thank you all for a wonderful school year.

*Continued on Page 6*

## JUNE EVENTS

June 3	Field Day/ Early dismissal
June 4	Rain date field day/ Early dismissal
June 6	Last day
June 13	Early Dismissal
June 14	Graduation 4 p.m.
June 16	Early Dismissal
June 17	Early Dismissal – LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS

## TOWN TOPICS

### BIG ROOSEVELT TURNOUT FOR PADDLE FOR PINK

By Ann Baker

Roosevelt will have at least one full dragon boat of 20 paddlers at the second annual Paddle for Pink Festival on June 1 on the lake in Mercer County Park. In addition, some paddlers from Roosevelt have organized a team from their workplace or volunteer organization. Roosevelt will also be well-represented in the Kayak Patrol for water safety, and among the dozens of volunteers.

The Machestic Dragons are creating a terrific event with lots of fun for everyone, including dragonboat rides, drumming, and musical entertainment. Everyone who comes will experience a new sport. In all, there will be at least 24 teams participating in this day-long event, with races throughout the day.

Dragon boating is an ancient Chinese sport and festival that has spread all over the world. There are international events with very competitive teams participating. In the mid-1990s, a physician who treats breast cancer survivors in Vancouver, BC thought that paddling a dragonboat would be an excellent form of upper body exercise for women after surgery.

Most breast cancer survivor teams are not so much competitive as they are recreational. Machestic Dragons

was formed in 2002, and the members are from all over central New Jersey. Some members participated in the international BCS festival in Berlin in 2005 and in Caloundra, Australia last year. They also go to races in Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Montreal, and Burlington, VT.

The high point of a BCS dragonboat festival is the Flowers on the Water Ceremony in which several boats of paddlers toss pink carnations onto the water to remember those who have died of breast cancer. Spectators on land toss pink flower petals in remembrance.

The Machestic Dragons brought back a very moving idea from Australia called Field of Women – pink silhouettes of women 14 inches high, mounted in a field. The festival participants and spectators can make a donation in memory of someone who has experienced breast cancer, living or deceased, and a tag is placed around the neck of the silhouette with that name on it. This year the donations for Field of Women will be given to LIGA International, Flying Doctors of Mercy who go to rural areas of Mexico to provide medical services otherwise unavailable. Carol Watchler's surgeon is part of this humanitarian undertaking.

With excellent participation from Roosevelt, we hope to see many more of you at Paddle for Pink on June 1 at the West Picnic Grove on Mercer County Park Lake from 9–4. Wait until you see the dragons on the boats.

### SOLAR VILLAGE TRUSTEES, OFFICERS ELECTED

By Bob Clark

At their annual meeting on May 1, 2008, 19 members of the Roosevelt Senior Citizens Housing Corp., the nonprofit organization that owns the Roosevelt Senior Housing complex (sometimes called the "Solar Village") at Farm Lane and North Valley Road, elected seven trustees, including three officers, to serve in the coming year. Officers are Michael Ticktin, President; Michael Hamilton, Secretary; and William Counterman, Treasurer. Other members of the Board of Trustees are Patricia Moser, Louise Baranowitz, Louis Esakoff and Susan Schwartz. All were elected unanimously. Mr. Ticktin replaced Ms. Moser as President after she declined to run again after serving as President for nearly four years. Mr. Hamilton replaced Robert Clark as a trustee and Secretary after Mr. Clark declined to run again as a trustee after serving on the Board for more than three years. Mr. Clark will continue as Advisor to the Board and Government Liaison.

Trustee Baranowitz will serve as Residents' Representative. Trustee Esakoff will be responsible for Property Maintenance Oversight.

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## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

By Ann Kassahun

The Roosevelt Senior Citizens met at noon on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at the Borough Hall. There were 19 present and Geri Millar presided.

The group discussed activities for the third Tuesday of this month, May 20. It was decided to eat at TGI Fridays and then go to the movies nearby in the E. Windsor Center. Members will carpool.

On the last Friday of the month, May 30, the luncheon was cancelled because of the holiday weekend. Instead, the

luncheon will be held along with the June meeting, to be held on Monday June 2 (not Tuesday, June 3). All Roosevelt seniors interested let Geri know if you expect to attend, so she can make arrangements for the food.

Also note that the E. Windsor movie theater is holding its Silver Screen series of wonderful older movies every Monday at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$2 for seniors and this includes popcorn and a soda. Those interested should arrive by 12:30 because the theater does fill up quickly. ■

## SCHOOL (CONT'D.)

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# The School Garden

Photographs by Ilene Levine



*Photos:*

1. Joey is preparing his plant for a Mother's Day gift. 2. Emily is measuring her space basil plant. 3. John is studying his experimental NASA basil seedling. 4. Traci's marigold plant that she started from seed has bloomed already! 5. Adam, Traci, Ben DF., and Ben H. are proud of their seedlings that they had grown in the classroom! 6. Eric Vuolle is teaching the children how to transplant their seedlings into the garden. 7. Samantha is loosening the soil in the garden. 8. Max is spreading fertilizer onto the garden beds. 9. Emily is placing a baby praying mantis into the garden. 10. Trace, Ben H., and Samantha are transplanting parsley into the garden. 11. Sean, Roman, Traci, Bryden, and Samantha are problem-solving together to get the hose untangled! 12. Tamanna, Zachary, and Ashley look on as Emily waters the seedlings. Top Right: This swallowtail butterfly emerged from its chrysalis that we had kept since last fall. ■

## TWO SQUARE MILES OF STORIES

I am a German Jew born in 1932. Those two facts alone certainly bring an idea to your mind immediately as to what my life was like as a child. I was born in Breslau, Germany (now Wroclaw, Poland), the year that ushered in the gruesome Hitler's era. My father's name was Alfred Berger. He was born in a small mining town in Upper Silesia, where his father owned an inn. My mother, born Bianca Philipsborn, was born in Berlin. She was the daughter of a well to do owner of a fashionable dress shop. All her life my mother talked about her happy youth in Berlin, where she was a classmate of Marlene Dietrich, with whom she kept in touch the rest of her life. My mother passed away in 2000, but she would want to know that I have mentioned her relationship with the great Dietrich, she was very proud of it.

After my parents married they moved to Breslau.

It was here they opened a successful wholesale chocolate business. Unlike most women from that time period, my mother worked in my father's business. As a result, my sister Inge and I were raised mostly by a governess, and a cook I adored.

One day as I was walking with my father on a street I burst into song. My father told me to be quiet. When I asked why, he told me that because we are Jewish, we should not attract attention to ourselves. The real shock came on November 9, 1938 when we were woken up by my sister screaming, "Fire, Fire!". When everyone ran into our room we could see from our window that the synagogue next door to us was in flames. We were all in a state of shock as we listened to the smashing of windows and dynamiting of neighboring Jewish houses. This is what is now referred to as "Crystal Night" and the scene was recreated all over Germany.

The next day my father went into

hiding by driving around the outskirts of Breslau, thus avoiding the fate of his brother who was arrested. The next night he went to hide in an apartment of his non-Jewish friend.

After this experience, my parents decided to act. Since they could not immigrate to the United States because of unbending rules regarding quota



My first day of school in Germany with a customary bag of candy

numbers, they paid a lot of money to the Cuban consulate. This money ended up in the pocket of the Cuban dictator Batista and allowed my family to sail to Havana, Cuba. After we landed, I remember being in awe. For the first time in my life I was seeing black men with beautiful

muscular bodies and gorgeous turbans on their heads unloading cargo!

Our visa specified that my parents were not allowed to work, so in order to make a living they rented a large house where they rented rooms to other refugees. We remained in Cuba for two years during which time my sister and I learned fluent Spanish and some English. We saw the famous "St. Louis" boat when it arrived in Havana filled up with German refugees. One on board was my father's best friend who had lost his leg in World War I fighting for Germany. The boat was not allowed to land in Havana or in the United States and eventually went back to Germany where passengers perished in concentration camps.

Our quota number finally came up and we were allowed to enter New York in 1941. The first six weeks we were taken care of in Rabbi Stephan Wise's Congress House, where refugees were allowed to stay when they first arrived. After that my sister and I went to school

By Charlotte Bondy

while my parents opened a small chocolate store called "Berger's Chocolates." It was in Washington Heights and became somewhat famous to chocolate connoisseurs. My mother, who lived to be almost 98, had a vegetable drawer filled with chocolate and swore by it. "A small piece of chocolate everyday will keep you good." It worked for her!

In later years, I went to the High School of Music and Art as a voice student and then studied drama at Hunter College.

At the age of 18, I married Ota Bondy. We raised two children, Filip and Larisa. The first ten years we lived in New York and were very poor but happy. After Ota graduated from Columbia University as a night student, we moved to East Brunswick, New Jersey. Larisa, who was 9 years younger than Filip, was born there. When she started school full time, I became a nursery school music teacher. After Ota retired from the University of Pennsylvania, we moved from East Brunswick to Roosevelt to be close to Larisa, her husband and her three boys who keep us entertained with their various sporting activities. My son Filip lives in Montclair and is a sports writer for *The Daily News*. He also has two children, now grown. The oldest, Stefan is now a father too, making me a great grandmother!

We love living in peaceful Roosevelt where everyone is friendly and concerned about each other. ■

*Editor's note:* While it is indeed the case that the *St. Louis* returned to Germany, it should be noted that was only after all the passengers had been accepted for entry by Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, or Belgium. While many of the passengers were indeed sent to Nazi camps, that only happened after France, the Netherlands, and Belgium were conquered by Germany a year later.

### 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

## SOLAR VILLAGE (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 5*

Trustee Moser will act as Managing Agent Liaison. Trustee Schwartz will be in charge of Resident and Community Programming.

During Ms. Moser's and Mr. Clark's tenure as officers, a new Managing Agent, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey (LSM of NJ), was hired. A Community Development Block Grant for \$123,000 was obtained. Walkways were replaced, repaired and brought into compliance with accessibility standards by a local firm, Black Point Landscape Associates, owned by Mark Roberts, with capital reserve funds. The efficiency apartment above the Community Room was prepared for occupation by the Maintenance Supervisor for LSM of NJ and his wife. Several members of the Board thanked Ms. Moser and Mr. Clark for their efforts, which included appeals to the Board of Freeholders for Block Grants, handling a case before the Office of Administrative Law and enlisting the help of Congressman Chris Smith's office to intercede with USDA Rural Development for quicker action on important priorities.

Other residents assisting the Board to accomplish its projects included Robert Francis, Arthur Stinson, Bert Ellentuck, Alan Schuster and Thomas Orlando. ■

## Roosevelt First Aid Squad

By Jack Rindt,  
President, Roosevelt  
First Aid Squad

Good News, one of our Squad members Jennifer Shamburger/Rindt is home on leave from Kirkuk, Iraq. There she is serving in the US Army as a Combat Medic with the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, NY. Welcome Home!!!

The Squad so far this year has responded to 22 calls in town and out of town. The types of calls have included medical emergencies, mutual aid calls, and fire stand-bys.

The Roosevelt First Aid Squad is looking for any and all old picture, letters, and newspaper articles of the Squad when it first started back in 1948. We are looking to update the Squad's history from the beginning to the present. The Squad is in its 60th year of service to the community and still going strong. The new ambulance is now in service and has responded to calls.

The latest training that the Squad has attended was the Incident Command System I-200 course. This 16-hour course was held in town and went over a number of the ICS features to include using common terminology, incident action planning, chain of command, unified command and much more. By New Jersey and National standards all emergency services officers must have this course to be in charge of an incident. By having this class the Squad is now better prepared to handle major emergencies, natural or man-made.

We can always use more members. The training is tough and we will pay for it if you join the Squad. 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), you can help your community and have a good chance in getting started in a career as an EMT.

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.

On Sunday June 22 the Squad will be hosting American Red Cross CPR/AED classes. These classes will be open to anyone over the age of 15. Two classes will be conducted that day. The first one will be CPR/AED for adults starting at 9 a.m. and running to 12 noon. The second class will be CPR/AED for infants and children.

That class will start at 1 p.m. and run to 4 p.m. Both classes will be held at the Roosevelt Borough hall. The cost of class will be \$35.00 each or \$50.00 for both. Cash, check or money order made out to the Roosevelt First Aid Squad. Upon completion, you will receive a Red Cross certification card. CPR saves lives. If any is interested contact any Squad member to save a seat.

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. ■

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and colorful enough so Emergency Services can see them from the roadway.**

**Remember: if you need help just Dial 911.**





# Greenbelt Gossip

By Manuela & Mark McCusker

**D**aylight slowly folds, during summer, into the shades of night that envelop a plethora of nocturnal life. As eyes adjust to the diminishing light, other senses become more pronounced, enhancing the odors of soil, foliage and opening night flowers, and the sounds of cricket song and flowing water. A bat flies nearby, a bull frog croaks. And then lights flicker on and off: Closer observation reveals that fireflies are active.

Light has been a source of fascination for mankind for millennia in the form of scientific study, poetry, art and a guide for daily routines. It is also part of the universal force, and nature has endowed some organisms with bioluminescence. Bioluminescence is the process whereby light is produced by a chemical reaction within an organism. Its name is a hybrid word, originating from the Greek *bios* for “living” and the Latin *lumen* for “light”. Although all cells (and therefore all living organisms) produce some form of bioluminescence within the electromagnetic spectrum, almost all of this light is invisible to the average human eye. Bioluminescence is considered to be a type of “cold light”, as it barely generates any appreciable thermal radiation. It is not the same as fluorescence (based on external radiation), phosphorescence (which includes absorption of energy) or the refraction of light. While the specific biochemistries of bioluminescence are diverse, all include an enzyme-mediated reaction between molecular oxygen and an organic substrate. However, every organism’s bioluminescence is unique in wavelength, duration and timing.

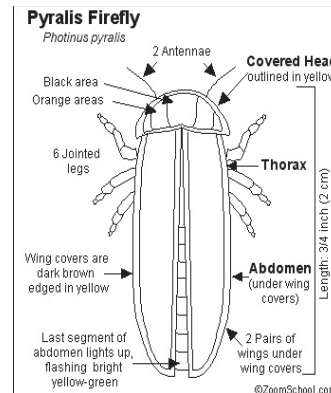
Bioluminescence is a phenomenon mostly found in creatures at or near the bottoms of the world’s oceans. Ninety percent of deep-sea marine life is estimated to produce a significant amount of bioluminescence in some form. Some fish, crustaceans, mollusks,

plankton and sea microbes exhibit this property. Non-marine bioluminescent organisms also exist, such as fireflies, glow-worms, railroad worms, certain centipedes and millipedes, and some bacteria, mushrooms and fungi. Scientists believe that nature developed bioluminescence to serve four purposes: camouflage, attraction, repulsion and communication. For instance, the dinoflagellate, a type of plankton, becomes luminescent when a predator is sensed; this attracts larger predators, which may eat the dinoflagellate’s own potential consumer. Camouflage seems an unlikely function for luminescence, but an example can be seen in the cookie cutter shark. This fish, when it becomes luminescent, has a small patch on its underbelly that remains dark. This small dark patch looks like a small fish to predators, such as tuna or mackerel. These fish will swim close to the shark in order to eat the “small fish” and are then eaten themselves by the cookie cutter shark.

There are an estimated 3,000 species of luminous beetles of the Coleoptera order. These include fireflies (not really flies or bugs, but, instead, beetles of the Lampyridae family), click beetles and glow-worms. There are over 1,900 known species of fireflies worldwide and approximately 170 species in the United States. They exist on every continent, excepting Antarctica. Most fireflies are nocturnal, but some are diurnal. Most diurnal species are non-luminescent. Fireflies all exhibit their luminescence by “flashing”. The process by which a firefly accomplishes its luminescence is not

entirely known. This is one popular theory. The light-producing section of the body is located in the sixth or seventh abdominal section of the firefly, and it is within this cavity that the two compounds, Luciferin and Luciferase, are stored (both named after Lucifer, the fallen angel of light). A firefly will draw in oxygen through its complex system of air tubes. Most of this oxygen is used by mitochondria in the cells, but bio-

luminescence requires oxygen, and nature will not be deterred, so it has provided the firefly with the ability to produce nitric oxide when octopamine is released from its nerve cells. A nitric oxide molecule is very small and diffusible, so it easily passes through the photocytes’ cell membranes, located in the firefly’s abdomen. Once inside these cells, the nitric oxide signals the mitochondria to freeze and thus stops their use of available oxygen. This allows the oxygen to combine with Luciferin, causing it to oxidize and activate the Luciferase. This will then generate the light that shines through the exoskeleton of the firefly’s abdomen. The process by which light emanates from the firefly’s body is extremely efficient. Very little heat is generated, resulting in little energy being wasted. This



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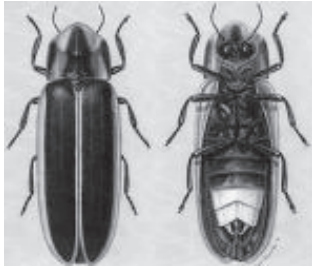
## GREENBELT GOSSIP

Continued from Page 9

“cold light” has a 96% efficiency rating, incredible especially when compared to most incandescent lights, which have a 10% efficiency rating.

Fireflies transmit light for a reason. Males fly and flash as they search for female mates that have landed on foliage, who are also flashing to indicate their location. Another reason is to signal to birds and other predators that they are not a good meal. The chemicals used to create their light are extremely bitter-tasting. This warning of “bad taste” serves the same function as the orange coloring of a monarch butterfly or the yellow stripes on a wasp. All firefly larvae glow for this reason only. A third reason for the light display is to warn other fireflies of danger. Different species of fireflies have different colors of light. The genus *Photinus* have a yellow flash, the *Photuris* a green flash, and *Pyraclomena* have an amber flash.

Like many insects, fireflies attain adulthood through the process of metamorphosis. Only a few days after mating, a female will lay her fertilized eggs a little below the surface of the ground. The eggs hatch in 3-4 weeks into larvae. These larvae are predaceous and have been observed to feed on earthworms, snails and slugs. Larvae can detect a snail's or slug's slime-trail,



and will follow it to the source. When they locate their prey, the larvae use the hollow ducts located in their mandibles to inject an anesthetic substance into their prey. This causes the prey-animal to be immobilized, allowing the firefly

to easily ingest it. Groups of larvae have also been observed attacking larger prey items, such as earthworms. They scavenge dead snails, worms and similar organic matter. The larvae continue to eat until the fall, at which time they burrow underground for the winter. When they finally emerge in the spring, they eat and grow until summer, then pupate for roughly two weeks, after which they emerge as adults. Adult Fireflies also have mouth parts

suggestive of predation (long, sickle-shaped mandibles), and a few species mimic the flashing typically produced by mates of other firefly species in order to attract and devour them. Although it is not entirely known what adult fireflies eat, it is likely that they feed on plant nectar to sustain their energy requirements in the adult stage, which can last several months or longer.

Fireflies play and have played (though not always willingly) many roles in human activities. They greatly benefit gardeners and farmers, as they eat many plant-damaging snails, slugs and cutworms. They are also key players in scientific research. Chemists

have synthesized the light-producing chemicals to make glowsticks, and use the gene that makes luciferase to track and test various drugs. NASA scientists hope to use the firefly's light-producing chemicals to search for extraterrestrial life in the Martian soils. Historically, fireflies were part of Mayan mythology as one of their gods and were closely associated with the stars. In East Asia, the ancient Chinese collected fireflies and placed them in semi-transparent containers, using them as lanterns. The firefly also played a role in Japanese folklore and is now a Japanese symbol for river protection and environmental conservation. And let's not forget that the Pennsylvania state insect is the Pennsylvania firefly, *Photuris pennsylvanica*.

Unfortunately, firefly numbers are reported as declining worldwide. Scientists believe that this may be due to climatic changes (fireflies prefer moist environments) and prolonged pesticide use. Hopefully, continued and increasing conservation efforts by many people locally and worldwide will result in the saving of the amazing firefly, as well as the many other threatened species of life.

“What is life? It is a flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.” —Crowfoot

—Comments and/or future topic requests?

—write the McCuskers at PO Box 131 or 3artists@comcast.net ■

“What is life?  
It is a flash of a firefly in the night.  
It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime.  
It is the little shadow which runs across the grass  
and loses itself in the sunset.”

—CROWFOOT

## DO GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS?

They say good fences make good neighbors but what if the fence or boundary plantings are the point of contention?

I recently had some of my border trees cut without my knowledge or permission. These trees (now GONE) took five to thirty years to grow and were established in that location for a particular reason. Part of our outdoor environment is the "VIEW-SHED" or what we "see" at different seasons and from different vantage points like the large street trees on the Pine Drive curve during Autumn leaf color change. This is an important "view-shed" in Roosevelt and actually recorded as part of our Natural Resource Inventory.

My boundary trees were all native species and important to my personal yards ecology and view-shed. A flowering dogwood was planted and carefully pruned to hide the back of an ugly brown shed. Sumacs were elected because they do not grow tall yet provide shade and block the view of the neighbor's cars, driveway and front yard affording BOTH of us a little privacy. The dogwood was cut by accident and the sumac were cut leaving five foot high stumps.

Trees are important parts of memories too, like the saddleback caterpillar on one low branch of my shed-hiding dogwood that so painfully stung my belly while cutting the lawn back in August of 1997. Now I have the memory of landscape genocide, an awkward confrontation with my neighbors and the problem of fixing the damage to my environment that took me 5 to 30 years to establish.

It is wrong, actually a criminal violation, to cut your neighbors' trees, shrubs or plants without permission. You may be held liable for restitu-

tion and fines just like for cutting Greenbelt and Assunpink trees. It is important to talk to your neighbors before cutting anything especially boundary plantings where ownership may be questioned. If you are already not talking to each other, write a note regarding your questions, wants, needs or desires. If possible, try to work together or try to compromise for a mutually acceptable outcome.

You can legally trim any branches that hang into or over your boundary air space but remember you will also have to look at the job that you do. You do not want a reputation like the guys from Ohio who trim street trees under our local power lines.

Again, be courteous and communicate with your neighbor before doing anything on the border. Remember, we all share the outdoor environment and you wouldn't want someone using "Google Earth" to see a crappy yard now, would you? Also, it is not easy to replace a thirty year old tree!



## WHAT IF YOU FIND A WILD BABY BIRD?

I had this question posed to me recently and like the "turtle crossing the road" it is best to leave baby birds and mammals where they are found unless you know the parent animal(s) are dead.

Try to locate the baby bird's nest of origin and put or coax the young critter into the nearest plants or brush offering cover or some amount of protection from strong sun or predators. The parent bird(s) will continue to feed and protect their young. Back away and watch from a distance. Usually you will see the adult return to take care of it's young in just a few minutes.

Precocious wild animal babies need to be fed every few hours with a special diet, kept at a constant temperature and cuddled frequently around the clock. It is a challenge and one my mother did with a baby cottontail rabbit only a few days old. Only one was alive when we found the nest after the nursing mother was killed by a cat. My mother took the hairless newborn in and for three weeks she nursed the young rabbit until it was mature enough to begin nibbling grass on its own. Success! And my mom was very proud, but it took a lot of time and work on her part and my father, my sisters and myself, had to learn to feed ourselves for those three weeks!

In most cases it is best to let Mother Nature take its course. Sometimes man causes the disruption as in "roadkill" accidents. Then it is appropriate to intervene and there is a network of individuals and rehabilitation facilities set up for just such situations. Call me for more information if needed.



## OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next scheduled Roosevelt Environmental Commission meeting will be held Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. on June 18, 2008. Everyone is welcome to attend and there is a chance for public comment and questions at the end of 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. Please watch for future pleas for help from the Roosevelt Environmental Commission for future projects and activities. Thank you for reading this column. Happy Summer! ■

To the Editor,

As is evident from his letter in the *May Borough Bulletin*, Bert Ellentuck tries to denigrate those who disagree with his point of view regarding the Yeshiva in order to distract the reader from important issues in the cases now pending in federal and state courts. A well-reasoned, conciliatory letter from Bruce Shoulson, the Yeshiva's attorney, is demeaned by Mr. Ellentuck as a "saber-shaking lawyer letter" with Bert placing quotation marks around something that was never said in the letter: "Do what we want or we'll sue the pants off you." Then Bert calls what Bert just wrote (which Mr. Shoulson never wrote) "an unmitigated threat." He then proceeds to accuse me of "doing his best to add to that threat by citing dire outcomes in selected other communities." Mr. Ellentuck further alleges that I have "consistently been an advocate and mouthpiece for the Yeshiva" and made "insulting statements about the Council."

Wow, I'm glad we don't still have sedition laws! I wonder if, nonetheless, I might be deemed a traitor and sent to Guantánamo.

My actions and motives are much more mundane and benign than Mr. Ellentuck implies. Instead of threatening dire outcomes, I merely have pointed out that they exist as pitfalls in the real world for those deemed to have infringed religious freedom, which is protected in this country by federal and state constitutions, statutes and case law. In this context, it is very disingenuous to imply, as Mr. Ellentuck does, that the lawyers the Council has hired at great expense (maybe the Council will tell us exactly how much as the cases grind along) are so "highly experienced" that success will inevitably flow from their

advice. The Yeshiva's lawyers also are skilled and experienced. If all plaintiffs' lawyers are "heads" and all defendants' lawyers are "tails," it is safe to say that, on average, lawyers lose 50% of the time and win 50% of the time. Should the Yeshiva's lawyers achieve an outcome even partially favorable to the Yeshiva, their fees would be paid by Borough taxpayers. If the Council's lawyers were to "win" entirely, the taxpayers still would pay their fees.

Is litigation instead of compromise a pitfall for us taxpayers? I think so. If you tell someone that signs will help him to avoid falling into an open manhole, are you not just warning him of an avoidable danger? Not in Mr. Ellentuck's world; in that world you are threatening him with the manhole at the behest of the sign makers.

I have not continued this debate with Mr. Ellentuck to serve as what he calls a "mouthpiece for the Yeshiva." By the way, why does Bert use a pejorative word to describe me that he would never write to describe his son, the now-Councilman Jeff Ellentuck, who served as a spokesperson for the committee that sought the recent recall election?

If I have advocated for anyone, it has been for those, like me, who do not want their tax dollars thrown into fires stoked by a few alarmist, hyperbolic Yeshiva opponents, who have channeled Roosevelt into what promises to be an interminable, revenue-sucking quagmire of litigation. Behind this exercise in futility lurk constant assertions, regardless of how many times they are contradicted and shown to be untruthful, that somehow the Yeshiva's existence at the Synagogue amounts to an "invasion" seriously disruptive of Roosevelt's character and tranquil-

ity, rather than what it really is: an influx of tolerable vibrancy brought by prayerful walkers into a dormant religious institution. I have been trying to ground the discussion in facts, law and compromise because I fear, as Mark Twain noted, that "A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes."

I also do not want Roosevelt to undermine, via exclusionary zoning, the "First Freedom" of our nation's Bill of Rights. As pointed out in my "Two Square Miles of Stories" piece in the April 2001 *Borough Bulletin*, three of my direct ancestors, Roger Williams, Anne Hutchinson and Mary Dyer, laid the groundwork for religious freedom in America three centuries before Jersey Homesteads was created. An opportunity to further their vision and honor their sacrifice is all the motivation I need.

Mr. Ellentuck admits that the Yeshiva's sketch that was supposed to begin settlement discussions with the Borough "was distributed by [t]he Roosevelt Preservation Association, not by the Council ...." I should not have to repeat why that document, which was clearly marked as confidential and for settlement discussions only, should not have been turned over to the RPA by any Council member so it could be used by the RPA as a propaganda piece, thus poisoning future settlement overtures in the cradle.

Mr. Ellentuck revisits the conflicts that should disqualify his son, Jeff, and Councilwoman Peggy Malkin from deliberating and deciding Yeshiva matters. Even if Yeshiva students were living across the street from Ms. Malkin illegally, as Bert alleges, she still would have a conflict. As for Jeff, no court

*Continued on Page 13*

## LETTERS (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 12*

determining his conflict is going to weigh whether, as Bert notes, the son and either of his parents “are independent thinkers and often disagree.” Instead, a court would consider things like Jeff standing to inherit less if an off-street parking lot were to be constructed on the Synagogue’s lot between his parent’s house and the Synagogue. A court also would consider that Jeff’s role in keeping the town in the expensive business of fighting the Yeshiva relieves the Roosevelt Preservation Association of the burden of privately funding anti-Yeshiva efforts before municipal bodies and in courtrooms.

Two motions are pending before the federal district court. The Borough seeks a dismissal of the Yeshiva’s complaint on the ground that it is not ripe for court decision because more things first need to be decided by the Planning Board and the Council. The Yeshiva contends that the Planning Board already made a final decision that not even a small Yeshiva could exist in the Synagogue. Meanwhile, the Yeshiva brought a motion for summary judgment. We could have appeals from the court’s decisions on the motions, then, perhaps, drawn-out

administrative proceedings if the lower and appellate courts all side with the Borough, then a return to a trial court, then appeals from the trial decision until appeals are exhausted. Of course, the discovery process and the trial will be lengthy. And maybe some or all of the process will have to be repeated if a court finds that the Council’s decisions have been tainted by Jeff Ellentuck’s and Peggy Malkin’s conflicts and their failure to accept disqualification.

Along the way, we will want the Council to answer questions about emergency appropriations, CAP waivers, rising tax rates, why the Joint Insurance Fund is not participating, why our budget surplus is reduced, why legal services accounts are draining funds from a multitude of other accounts, why the money we spent on attorneys’ fees could not have been used to repair or replace the water tower, and why we have not received periodic reports about all these things and their ramifications.

I hope what I am writing will be viewed as a wake-up call and not a threat. It’s all real stuff that we would be smart to avoid if we can—like an open manhole.

Bob Clark ■

To the Editor,

I would like to thank Bob Clark for his May letter to the *Bulletin* in which he so carefully described the Yeshiva’s plan to complete their scheme to subvert the Borough’s Zoning Ordinance and destroy the Homestead Lane residential neighborhood. Bob makes explicit what up to now has been implicit. That is, after bamboozling a naïve congregation into giving away about \$600,000.00 of real estate property by making promises they have yet to keep, the Yeshiva then embarked on an effort to have a select sub-committee of the Council appointed to negotiate in private those variances that they knew were not available to them if they made requests in public meetings with the Planning Board. The Council, properly, rejected that request. In their continuing effort to avoid public scrutiny, they then filed frivolous suits against members of the Council, Board, and private citizens. Now, since there has been a legal action filed, the Yeshiva expects that it can hold secret settlement conferences and get their way by continuing to threaten to drive the Borough into bankruptcy by the lawyer’s fees.

The Yeshiva won’t win their suits, but what a wonderful devious plan. What lawyer thought that one up?

Bert Ellentuck ■

Patronize our business sponsors.

Most of them are our neighbors.

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## COUNCIL (CONT'D.)

*Continued from Page 3*

the beginning of May.

Councilman Kirk Rothfuss, chairman of the Community Development Committee, said that he had met with Bob Clark, Roosevelt's representative on the Monmouth County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) committee, to discuss projects, including sidewalks and improved handicapped-access at the municipal building, for which we might apply for CDBG funding. Last year, Mr. Clark, with the assistance of Freeholder Bob Clifton, was able to reverse the initial decision of the committee, which was more interested in municipal road projects, and secure funding for sidewalk repairs and improvements

at the Solar Village.

Municipal Attorney Richard Shaklee reported that the former owners of the Roosevelt Deli, who had not sold the liquor sales license when they sold the building, were not renewing it and, in fact, had surrendered it to the Borough. Since each municipality is entitled to issue at least one sales license, the Borough is now in a position to issue a new license to any owner of a commercial property who wishes to purchase it.

The availability of a liquor license may be of relevance when the Borough finally receives a "no further action" letter from the Department of Environmental

Protection with respect to the former gas station property, and will thus be able to sell the property for a commercial use. Referring to that property and the pile of tires collected from it, Mayor Beth Battel reported that the Council is now looking into disposal of those tires, as well as others located around the community, by trucking them to a Monmouth County waste facility in Tinton Falls. Until that is scheduled, however, tires may not be brought to gas station site because adding to the pile of tires already there might compromise the site's eligibility for a "no further action" letter. ■



## Stranger

By Nathaniel Koster

A little girl sells flowers  
For her mother  
To the lovers  
En las plazas  
With birthmarks like  
    raindrop dimples  
On her cheeks  
And moon sun eyes that speak  
In simple tongues  
And tears that water crops  
    for weeks

And I  
Too weak  
to say no (to this angel)  
Give her two pesos  
And say mi amor,  
I have no one here  
Por favor  
Plant it where  
    it might grow

And as I go  
She smiles and squeeks  
"Señor, you talk in words  
    I cannot speak"  
And I smile,  
With ease,  
And whisper "si,  
I am a stranger  
    to these streets." ■

**OPEN GYM**

The Recreation Department will continue its Open Gym program at the Roosevelt Public School on Friday nights from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The program is open to students in 4th – 12th Grades. Please contact 448-0539, x3 for more information.

**SUMMER CONCERTS**

The Recreation Department will hold concerts at the amphitheatre adjacent to the Roosevelt Public School on Saturday nights throughout the summer. Tentative dates are June 28th, July 12th, July 19th, and August 9th. Please contact 448-0539, x3 for more information.

The Recreation Department is also planning a family bus trip that will take place in July or August. Please contact 448-0539, x3 if you have any suggestions. ■

**TOWN TOPICS (CONT'D.)**

*Continued from Page 8*

**REVIEW:****Roosevelt String Band**

By Gladys Nadler

The Roosevelt String Band is the only RAP-sponsored group that returns every year, presents concerts on two consecutive nights, Friday and Saturday, and fills the Borough Hall both times. The one I attended this year took place on Saturday, April 26.

What makes this group so special? For one thing, every member is multi-talented. The two main vocalists, David Brahinsky and Sara Houtz, besides singing, have

written some of their own songs and at times have accompanied themselves on one of the string instruments. The main instrumentalists: Paul Prestopino, Ed Cedar, and Joe Pepitone (percussionist) play more than one instrument each in the course of an evening. Each of them also is an accomplished soloist, well able to sing and accompany himself on a guitar, banjo, or mandolin, as well demonstrated during the concert. In a special guest appearance, Howie Jacobson contributed a humorous song by Frank Meyers and a

serious one by Dave Carter.

Throughout the evening, the group presented enthusiastic renditions of a large variety of folk songs. There were popular songs by people like Bob Dylan, the Weavers, Peter Yarrow, and others. There were humorous songs, and also songs that made serious comments about current social problems such as the horrors of war, political corruption, and poverty.

It was an evening of enjoyment, and also of moving, thought-provoking moments. ■

**Gone to Seed**

By Wes Czyzewski

I stop at a field  
Of dormant corn

Dwarfish and earless  
With dull gold tufts  
Like second thoughts

Retarded by happiness  
And a lack of ambition

No need for a scarecrow  
No fear of marauding deer  
The emperor sends no troops  
The roads fill up with weeds

This is what the next world is like  
If you're expecting  
an eternity of bliss ■

By Ron Filepp

The warmer and drier than normal weather for 2008 continued in April. The average temperature for the month was 4.9 degrees above normal. Precipitation was off by 2.37 inches. Every month in 2008 except for February has had below normal precipitation. March and April were particularly dry. Both months brought less than half their normal amount of precipitation. For the year, we are about three inches below normal.

Although April temperatures were much above normal in our region of the country, across the 48-contiguous states it was a cooler than normal April. The nation had its 29th coldest April since 1895. Meanwhile, the temperatures globally were above normal making it the 13th warmest April for the entire earth.

Another bit of disturbing weather news is that across the globe the snow cover for the month of April was the eighth least snow cover for any April in the 42 year history of such record keeping.

Hurricane season started June first and will be over on November 31. On average, September is the most active month for hurricanes.

Following is the list of potential hurricane names for 2008:

Arthur	Ike	Rene
Bertha	Josephine	Sally
Cristobal	Kyle	Teddy
Dolly	Laura	Vicky
Edouard	Marco	Wilfred
Fay	Nana	
Gustav	Omar	
Hanna	Paloma	

**Weather Word**

“Weather” is the state of the atmosphere at a particular time and place. Weather is described in terms of variable conditions such as temperature, humidity, wind velocity, precipitation, and barometric pressure. Weather on Earth occurs primarily in the troposphere, or lower atmosphere, and is driven by energy from the Sun and the rotation of the Earth. The average weather conditions of a region over time are used to define a region’s climate. *The American Heritage® Science Dictionary* Copyright © 2005 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved. ■

**P**AULA is digging and shaping the loam of a salvia,  
 Scarlet Chinese talker of summer.  
 Two petals of crabapple blossom  
 blow fallen in Paula’s hair,  
 And fluff of white  
 from a cottonwood.

— CARL SANDBURG, *Chicago Poems*

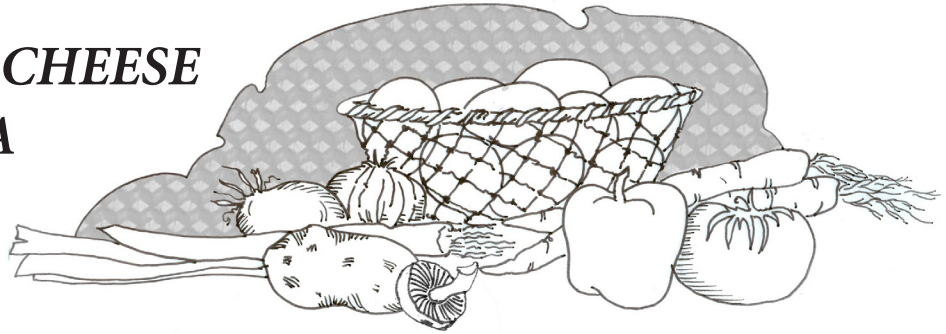


**Apr 15, 2008 - May 15, 2008**

Day	High	Low	Avg	Precip	Degree Days
15	60.1	34.2	47.2	0.00	17.9
16	66.0	33.6	49.8	0.00	15.2
17	72.9	34.9	53.9	0.00	11.1
18	80.1	41.2	60.7	0.00	4.4
19	82.8	50.0	66.4	0.00	0.0
20	70.2	54.3	62.3	0.00	2.8
21	65.7	50.4	58.1	0.00	7.0
22	71.4	46.4	58.9	0.00	6.1
23	76.3	44.4	60.4	0.00	4.7
24	76.5	53.4	65.0	0.00	0.0
25	76.1	46.9	61.5	0.00	3.5
26	65.7	51.3	58.5	0.00	6.5
27	60.4	45.5	53.0	0.00	12.1
28	63.5	48.2	55.9	0.00	9.2
29	58.0	49.3	53.7	0.60	11.4
30	58.0	35.2	46.6	0.00	18.4
1	64.0	37.0	50.5	0.00	14.5
2	70.0	49.0	59.5	0.00	5.5
3	58.0	48.0	53.0	0.00	12.0
4	73.0	49.0	61.0	0.00	4.0
5	71.2	51.8	61.5	0.00	3.5
6	77.2	47.5	62.4	0.00	2.7
7	79.7	46.9	63.3	0.00	1.7
8	75.0	62.8	68.9	0.00	0.0
9	66.4	53.1	59.8	0.00	5.3
10	62.8	48.0	55.4	0.00	9.6
11	65.1	41.7	53.4	0.00	11.6
12	50.7	44.2	47.5	0.00	17.6
13	70.2	41.7	56.0	0.00	9.1
14	75.6	40.5	58.1	0.00	7.0
15	77.4	51.8	64.6	0.00	0.4
<b>Total Precipitation</b>				<b>0.60</b>	
<b>Total Heating Degree-Days</b>					<b>234.2</b>



## MUSHROOM *and* CHEESE FRITTATA



One of the nice things about a frittata is that it has only two essential ingredients – eggs and a little butter or oil. Anything else – cheese, vegetables, meat, or whatever is in the refrigerator - is what you choose to use. Another nice thing is that it takes almost no time to make. And a third exceptionally nice thing about a frittata is that it tastes better the second, or even the third day – so you can cook it at your convenience.

Unlike an omelet, the fillings for an Italian-style frittata are mixed in and cooked along with the eggs instead of being folded in at the end. The frittata is cooked slowly, and it's cooked on both sides, making it firmer than an omelet. After trying this basic recipe, you might want to play around with some of the suggested variations – or some of your own.

### Mushroom and Cheese Frittata (Serves 4)

1 - 2 tablespoons of butter or olive oil	1 cup sharp Cheddar cheese, shredded
3/4 cup of diced onion	– and divided in half.
½ pound mushrooms, sliced	Salt and pepper to taste
(Optional: 1/4 pound of ham, sausage, or bacon – cooked)	
6 eggs, beaten	

- Preheat the broiler.
- Melt the butter or heat the oil in a heavy oven-proof skillet.
- Add the onions and cook over medium-low heat until just transparent – about 3 - 5 minutes.
- Push the onions to one side of the pan, and add the mushrooms.
- Raise the heat to medium-high, and cook until the mushrooms are browned – another 5 minutes.
- (At this point, add ham, sausage, or bacon, if desired.)
- Beat the eggs lightly with 1/2 cup of the cheese. Add salt and pepper.
- Pour the egg mixture into the pan – stir once to even out all the ingredients, but don't stir again.
- Lower the heat to low and cook until the eggs begin to firm up around the edges, lifting the edges occasionally, to let any uncooked egg run underneath.
- When the eggs are set, sprinkle them with the remaining 1/2 cup of the cheese.
- Transfer the skillet to the broiler and broil until the cheese melts and bubbles.
- Serve in wedges, either hot or cold.

What else can you use to make a frittata? How about sun-dried tomatoes, feta and olives or smoked salmon and cream cheese; potatoes and parmesan cheese; asparagus or zucchini; spinach and ricotta; onions, ham and Gruyere cheese; mixed herbs; red pepper, jalapeno and cilantro, sausage and hash browns; or chorizo and jack cheese?

Depending on your needs, your desires, and what you have in your refrigerator, you can make breakfast frittatas, lunch or dinner frittatas, and even little frittata squares for appetizers. Have fun! ■

**In order to impress our readers,  
this whole page is being used to  
emphasize our need for funds.  
For the first time in many years,  
our postage fees have increased significantly  
so that in addition to  
not receiving contributions from  
many of our residents  
we are really having a money problem.  
To repeat, we need help!  
If you haven't yet contributed,  
or can give more if you already have,  
**WE NEED YOU.****

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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: \$40.00/year, \$50.00 if over 5 lines.) Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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## JUNE

2 Mon. 12:30 p.m. Blood pressure check, Borough Hall  
1.00 p.m. Seniors' Meeting, Borough Hall,  
Gerry Millar, 448-0351

3 Tues. 6:00 a.m.–8 p.m. **Primary Election**, Borough Hall,  
Field Day, RPS ( Rain date, June 4),  
Kacie Mixon, PTA President,  
443-9325

4 Wed. RECYCLE   
7:30 p.m. PTA General Meeting, All Invited.  
Kacie Mixon, President, 443-9325

6 Fri. RPS Pizza Day  
7:30 p.m. PTA Dance, RPS

8 Sun. 10:00 a.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad, Training,  
Borough Hall, Jack Rindt, President,  
448-9475

10 Tues. 7:30 p.m. Planning Board, Borough Hall,  
Jane Rothfuss, Chair 448-3713

14 Sat. 4:00 p.m. **RPS Graduation**,  
Roosevelt Memorial, 448-2798

16 Mon. 7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall,  
Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701

17 Tues. 8:00 p.m. Roosevelt First Aid Squad,  
Business Meeting, Borough Hall,  
Jack Rindt, President. 448-9475

18 Wed. RECYCLE   
7:30 p.m. Environmental Commission,  
Borough Hall, Dave Schwendeman,  
Chair, 443-6204

26 Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Board of Education Meeting, RPS,  
Jaymie Kosa, President, 371-6294

30 Mon. 7:00 p.m. Council Action Meeting, Borough Hall,  
Beth Battel, Mayor, 448-7701

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