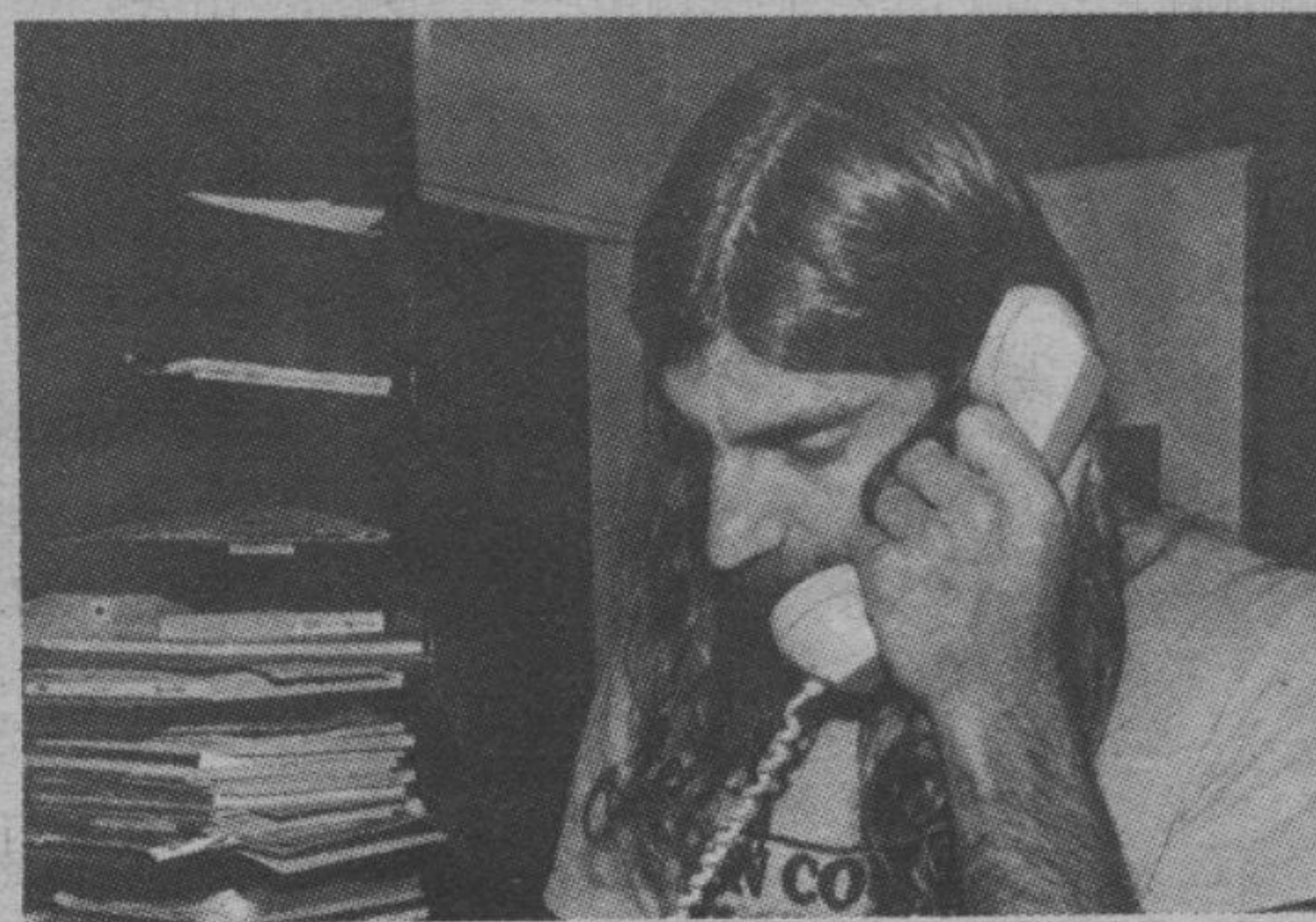


SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community





Autumn's beginning jars those of us involved with SPECTRUM from our summer's meanderings. We find ourselves engaging in the new season's momentum right along with everyone else. It promises to be an exciting time, with speakers, concerts, actions, new organizations forming and old ones experiencing enormous spurts of growth. Changes, changes...

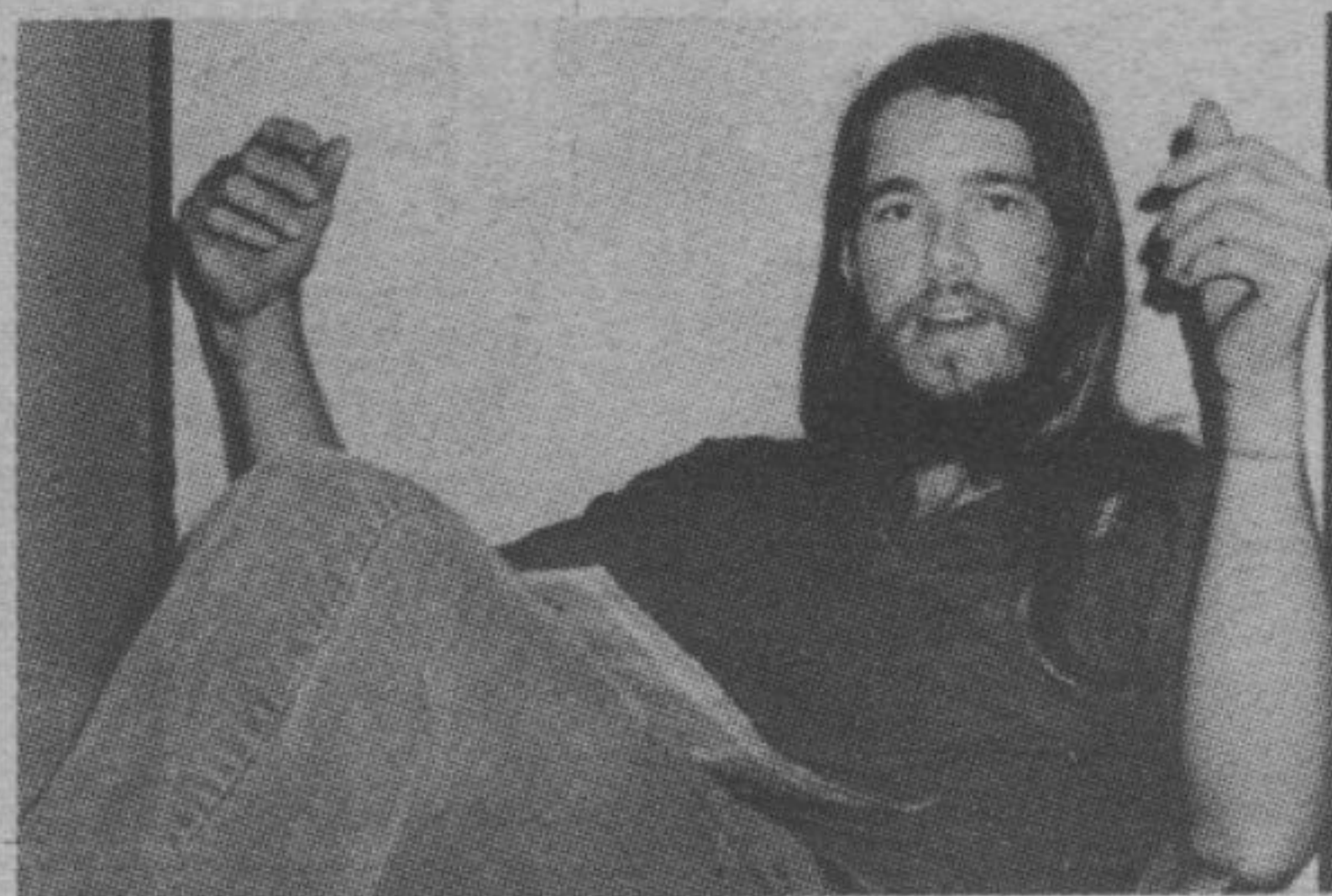
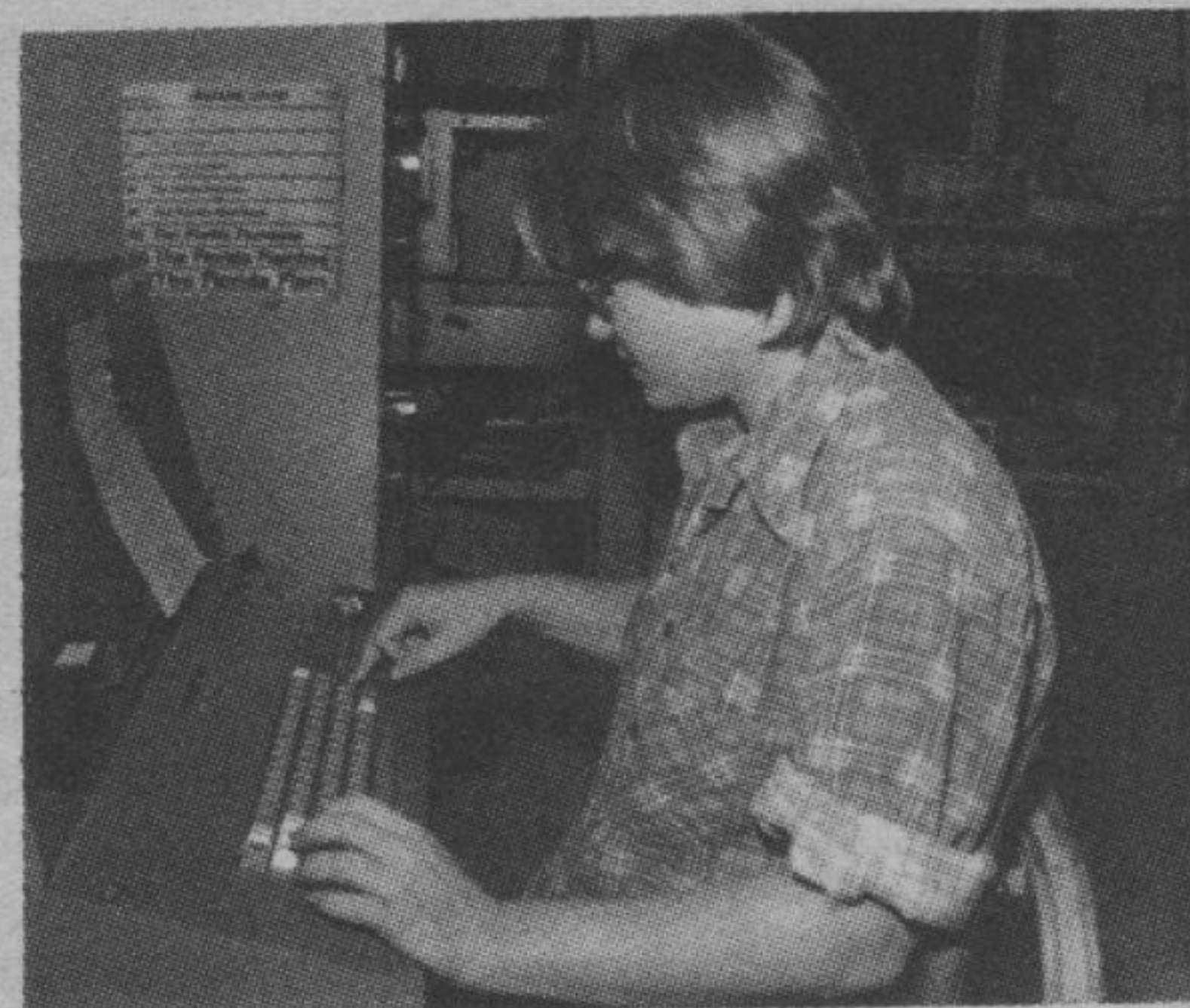
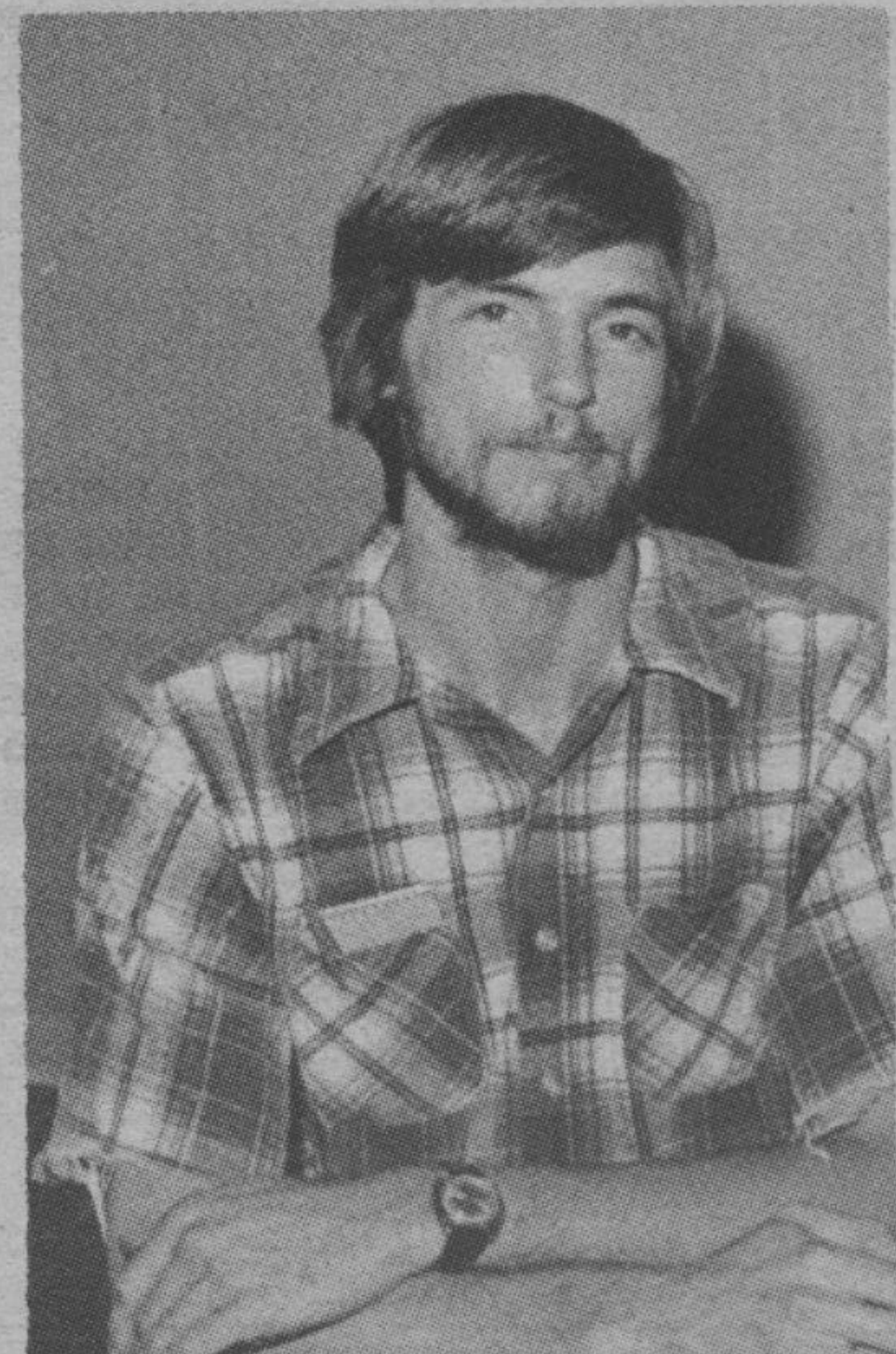
In this, our Anniversary Issue, we offer you a smorgasbord of what's going on in Tallahassee's progressive community, in the regional anti-nuclear movement, and in some of the socio-political arenas of which we are all a part. This issue comes together with great excitement. We are a year old together. We have learned.

The birth of this publication and its early development occurred in surely one of Tallahassee's most tumultuous years. While we were hatching, we were also reflecting the strife and confusion that was going on. But, while it has been a time of trouble and sometimes outrage, it has also been a time when we as a community have been forced to reevaluate ourselves and clarify our direction.

SPECTRUM is a year old! While we were learning about the political and cooperative structures of Tallahassee, we were also learning how to produce a newspaper, balance a checkbook, sell ads, communicate with printers and evolve a publication with some sense of wholistic design. Looking back over the year, I can see how the time has been spent by us as a young collective, getting to know each other and how to work together. It's not totally smooth, yet. A long way from perfect.

The hours in the lab where we typeset it and create the ads and pages are long and grueling. At 3:30 a.m. in a windowless room, surrounded by whirring machines, the universe seems timeless with no natural light or sound to clue us in to the planet's motion. We exist at that time - with no past or future - but as a point between, where we are portraying the past to the future. We are trying to steadily improve our process as well as our product.

SPECTRUM is open to critique by any of you who pick this paper up somewhere out there in the Tallahassee community (and beyond -- we have a growing subscription list). Please inform us as to what you think we should focus upon and where we should look for that information. Unlike other publications around this area, we do very little of our own writing and depend upon volunteer writers from organizations and the community at large to help us keep our readers informed. We hope that criticism comes from a place of help and improvement, with concrete suggestions and clues as to how to "get there from here".





The SPECTRUM Editorial and Production Collective:

• Larry Teich • Jerry Johansen • Vicki Mariner • Rowan Fairgrove • Pat Simmons • Lynn French • Margie Menzel • Roger Peace • Libby Brice • Tana McLane

People Who Helped on This Issue of SPECTRUM:

• Kay Cranford • Lee DuBose • Rick Johnson

Photography:

• Joyce Harper

For information and advertising sales, call 575-2934. Or write 2105 Autumn Lane, Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Copy deadline for next issue of SPECTRUM is October 7. Turn in articles to the SPECTRUM basket at the Leon County Food Co-op or contact above address.

SPECTRUM is an open forum for the Tallahassee community. Emphasizing events, developments and activities in the "alternative" or "progressive" culture here, we encourage people to participate with contribution of articles, labor or advertisements.

Writers cannot be paid. Articles are printed on a space-available basis. Please be sure your name, address and phone number (and perhaps an autobiographical line or two) so we or our readers may contact you.

SPECTRUM is published on a monthly basis. Our publishing schedule will be the third Monday of the month throughout the fall season and article deadlines will be about the 7th. This allows us time for

production. WE PLAN TO BE ADAMANT ABOUT CONTRIBUTORS MEETING OUR DEADLINE. It makes it easier for everybody.

Views expressed by writers are not representative of SPECTRUM or of any particular organization unless identified as such. Our goal is to provide an open forum for the community, but the staff does bear certain legal and moral responsibilities for the content of the publication. Therefore, we reserve the right to withhold from publication any material that is libelous in tone. The SPECTRUM staff also reserves the right to withhold material referring to specific individuals until such individuals have had the opportunity to review and respond to all articles in question.

Planning for the Year 2000

by Larry Teich

By state law, all counties of Florida are to devise a comprehensive plan for the future to prepare for city and county needs through the year 2000. The process of gathering information and establishing priorities must be democratic. All geographic, social, ethnic and economic special interests are being included in the preliminary stages of developing the final draft, which is to be turned in by July of 1980.

What is important is that this is one of the few chances provided by government for people to have a major impact on the direction and quality of their own and their children's lives. The normal election process, citizen advisory boards, judicial procedures, local commission meetings, freedom of speech, etc. (all the bastions of democracy) are so dominated and hindered by politics, bureaucracy and ego that the "Democracy in action" theory has become "democracy in traction". The average person is seldom provided with the power, the freedom or the satisfaction of living a healthy, secure, content life since they don't have the money or influence to overcome the established hierarchy of

decision making now being guarded by a few powerful males. The following announcement by the local Planning Department is to generate public interest and publicize where and how individuals, but especially neighborhoods, can give input to the information, planning process and priorities on which Tallahassee and Leon County will base its future policy plans. The initial focus or categories are to be on: (1) conservation, open space, and future land use; (2) housing; (3) energy and utilities; (4) transportation; (5) water and waste; and (6) inter-governmental coordination. There will be three draft discussions with the City and County Commissions to develop the final draft.

So, if you're interested personally, attend the workshops and spread the information learned to others. Form neighborhood associations and send representatives to make your particular needs known. Form coalitions to ensure that people's needs are cooperatively decided upon and properly dealt with. And take this opportunity at the beginning to have a voice in the formation of our local policies.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOPS

THE TALLAHASSEE-LEON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF WILL CONDUCT A SERIES OF PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOPS TO AID IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY PLAN FOR TALLAHASSEE AND LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA. THE DATES, TIMES & LOCATIONS OF THE FIRST OF THESE WORKSHOPS ARE LISTED BELOW:

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1979: 7:30 PM AT WALKER-FORD COMMUNITY CENTER
2301 PASCO STREET
- TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1979: 7:30 PM AT GILCHRIST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(FORMERLY TIMBERLANE)
695 TIMBERLANE ROAD
- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1979: 7:30 PM AT MYERS PARK COMMUNITY ROOM
912 MYERS PARK DRIVE
- MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1979: 7:30 PM AT GODBY HIGH SCHOOL 1717 WEST THARPE STREET

WORKSHOP FORMAT WILL INCLUDE STAFF PRESENTATIONS OF THE POLICY PLANNING PROCESS, BACKGROUND INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN, AND DISCUSSION OF DRAFT GOALS AND PROBLEM STATEMENTS. FOLLOWING THE STAFF PRESENTATION, PUBLIC COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO THE ABOVE ITEMS WILL BE ENCOURAGED. ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND ANY OR ALL OF THE WORKSHOPS. DISCUSSION ITEMS WILL BE THE SAME AT EACH OF THE ABOVE WORKSHOPS.

SUBSEQUENT WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS WILL PERTAIN TO ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR DEALING WITH THE IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS. DATES OF FUTURE WORKSHOPS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

announcements

Trident Public Education Forum, St. Mary's, Georgia. 2 films and speakers, a panel discussion. Contact Barry Snitkin at 222-6077.

Occupation at Seabrook, New Hampshire, October 6.

Peace Conference, United Ministries Center, FSU; 222-6320.

Two Free Movies, "LoveJoy's Nuclear War" and "Paul Jacobs and the Nuclear Gang" 7:30 Tues Sept. 25 at 143 Bellamy Bldg, FSU.

A Cooperative Community Credit Union

by Jerry Johansen

The "Alternative community," the "counter culture." We have earned these names because it is apparent that many of our values run counter to those of the "mainstream" culture. Primary among these is our desire to put people and the planet before profits. We have started in this by building a "counter-economy" based on a not-for-profit motivation. The Leon County Food Co-op (LCFC), Co-op Books and Records, Good Life General Store (GLGS), and Miccosukee Land Cooperative are some examples. Many of our consumer needs can already be met in this not-for-profit counter-economy, and we are growing all the time. Some of us are even employed within it.

But, most all of us still have our money in banks and banks are one of the prime examples of what we are against. They take our money and invest it to make more for themselves. To do this, they lend our money to corporations with great human rights records such as Nestle, those with major concern for the environment such as oil companies, to earth-raping, energy-inefficient "developments," and the rest.

An alternative to banks are credit unions which are cooperative financial institutions. Members save money together in individual share (savings) accounts which receive interest and are insured up to \$40,000, just like any other bank. They also make loans to other members. Since the people who make the loans are fellow members, decisions can be based on character, need and personal

knowledge of the borrower. Since the motivation is not-for-profit, the interest rates are low on loans and high (eventually) on savings. Since it is a member owned, operated and controlled cooperative, the member money is used only for the benefit of the members and not for corporations in South Africa and the local parking lot entrepreneurs. There are many more things a credit union can do in the way of services to meet most all our financial needs right in the cooperative community.

Membership in credit unions is based on a "common bond." This means that the members must all have something in common such as working for the same employer, living in the same neighborhood, or belonging to the same association such as a cooperative. We could establish a credit union for the local cooperative community. Membership in one of the co-ops (LCFC, GLGS, MLC, Co-op Books, etc.) would qualify one for the credit union. The common bond would be cooperativism.

The reason that we want to base our common bond on several co-ops rather than just one, such as LCFC, which is the largest, is because we are looking to the future. Think. Dream. It will not be that long before we have other food co-ops; maybe in such places as Miccosukee, Quincy, and Sopchoppy, as well as some on the north, east and west sides of town. Other types of co-ops - garage and auto co-op, a health care co-op, co-op housing - are all within the realm of possibility to us. By making cooperativism, rather than one co-op the "common bond" we will reinforce our unity as a community and a counter culture

future cooperatives



as we grow larger. Hopefully, we can avoid, or at least reduce, the mass alienation of mainstream urban culture as it is today.

We can do all this and more. Currently, we are trying to determine the need for and feasibility of a cooperative community credit union. If you are interested, please fill out a survey and drop it off in the Co-op Credit Union box at LCFC, GLGS, Co-op Books and Records, the CPE office, or mail it to 2105 Autumn Lane, 32304.

Copies of the survey are available at all the above locations. In order to demonstrate the need for such a credit union, we need at least 200 responses, so please take the time to fill them out and return them. And tell your friends.

To start and operate the credit union, we will need at least 15 people willing to serve on a Board of Directors, a credit (loan) committee, and a supervisory (audit) committee. If you feel that you would like to put more energy

into this, please write to 2105 Autumn Lane, 32304. Or phone 575-2934. Give us your name and address, phone number, skills to offer and time available. Or, just come to our organizational meetings when they are announced.

Keep your eyes on *Spectrum* for further developments. In a future issue, I will discuss more of the services available through the credit union such as loans, "share draft" accounts (interest-free checking) and more. Also, the Fall CPE catalog has an article that deals more in depth with the political/economic aspects of this concept.

Organizing an Artist's Co-op

by Jack Rink & Earl Morrogh

On the sixteenth of September, fifteen artists and interested others came together to organize yet another Tallahassee cooperative. The gathering produced the embryonic form of an arts cooperative. Exciting ideas and visions were voiced with much enthusiasm.

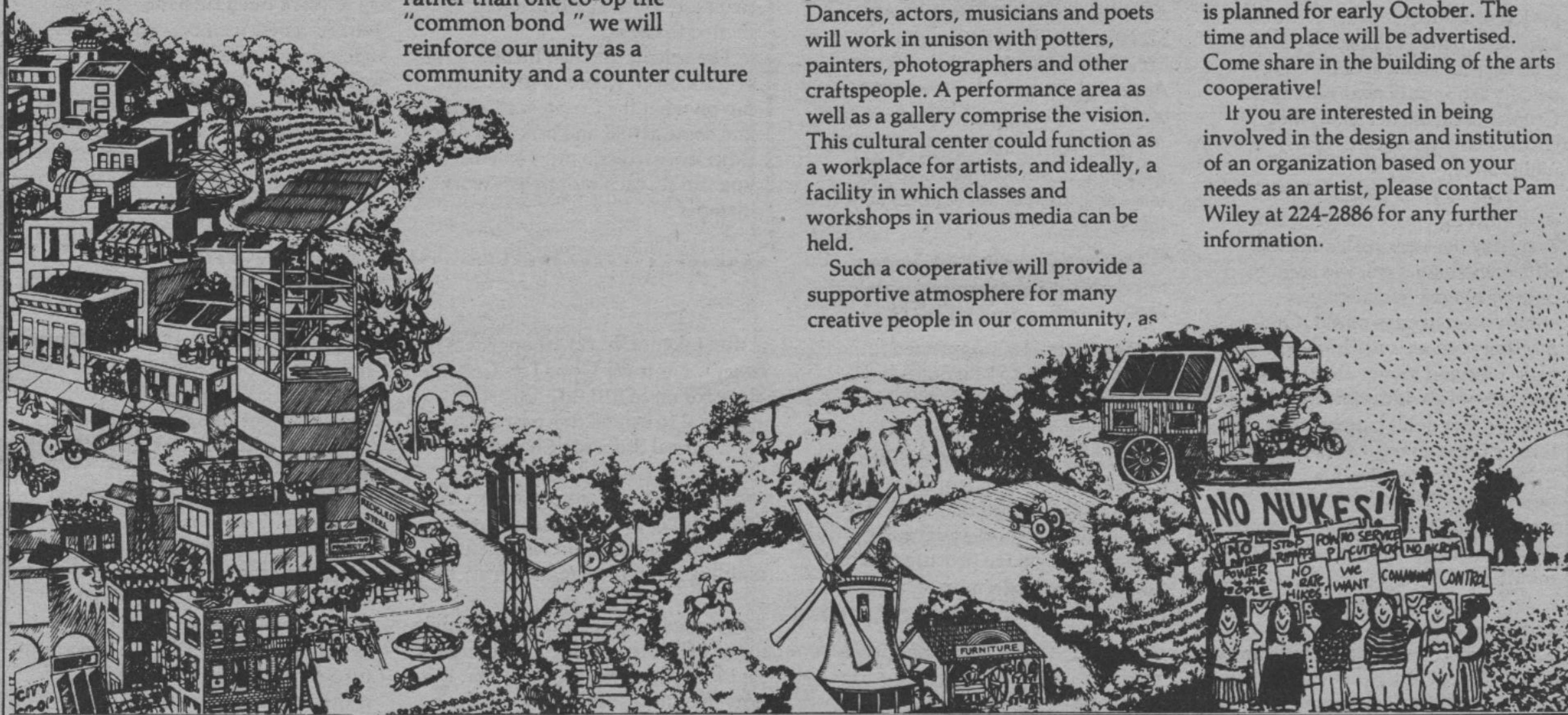
The organization hopes to provide a facility which will fuse visual and performing arts and artisans. Dancers, actors, musicians and poets will work in unison with potters, painters, photographers and other craftspeople. A performance area as well as a gallery comprise the vision. This cultural center could function as a workplace for artists, and ideally, a facility in which classes and workshops in various media can be held.

Such a cooperative will provide a supportive atmosphere for many creative people in our community, as

well as provide a forum for others to experience and develop their own creative instincts. People may be able to augment their financial picture through creative expression if the co-op successfully provides the marketplace and showplace it promises. The beneficial impact to our community would be enormous to both artists and visitors to the center.

Another gathering for all interested is planned for early October. The time and place will be advertised. Come share in the building of the arts cooperative!

If you are interested in being involved in the design and institution of an organization based on your needs as an artist, please contact Pam Wiley at 224-2886 for any further information.



cooperatives

Principia

The \$165,000 Question

by Richard White

Principia is a monthly column written by Richard White, a locally-involved cooperator. Principia is about the cooperative movement - whether it is focusing upon local, regional, national or philosophical development. Richard is about that, too - spending time in meetings, conferences and caucusing with friends. Here, he deals with a current topic - the proposal that the food co-op buy the building it inhabits. -TM

Well folks, are YOU ready for the \$165,000 question? Are you ready to help decide whether the phrase "member owned" should take on a whole new dimension of meaning? Negotiations are underway for the

Leon County Food Co-op to purchase the building in which it now operates. By tradition, and according to the bylaws, only the membership of the Co-op can make a decision of such far-reaching magnitude.

The Co-op's present lease expires at the end of March, 1981. The board of directors established a "Lease Renewal/Purchase Option" committee at their May 7, 1979 meeting. The possibility that the Co-op could purchase the property opened up after a letter was sent to the owner of the property on July 28, 1979. At its first approval (two consecutive approvals are required for a final decision) to appropriate up to \$1,000 for an appraisal. The board gave final approval for \$175 for the appraisal at a special emergency board meeting on August 27, 1979.

At the August 27 meeting, the board also gave first approval for up to \$1,000 for any professional services (other than appraisal) which might be required to arrange the purchase, if the purchase is approved.

At the August 27 meeting, another committee was formed to provide information supplemental to the appraisal report. This "appraisal" committee, and the original "purchase option" committee investigated various aspects of the proposed deal, and reported back to the board at a meeting on September 10, 1979.

The "appraisal" committee found that the deal offered for the property looked good in comparison to other property transactions in the neighborhood (appraisers use similar properties in widely separated localities) and found little to lose and some possible gain to the Co-op from street modifications planned by the city.

The purchase option committee reported that the owner financing at a price of \$165,000 with a 2 percent down payment (\$13,300), 10 percent interest, and 20 years to pay, was more financially advantageous to the Co-op than conventional bank financing of the \$14,000 that the appraisal report had indicated the property to be worth. Besides, the \$14,400 down payment that would be the smallest conceivable under conventional financing (and then only if the present owner financed a second mortgage for the Co-op) is beyond the Co-op's financial means.

Coordinator Dave Taylor reported that the purchase should not adversely affect the Co-op's credit standing at the bank. Nor should it have any immediate impact on our tax situation. The deal would guarantee our location for so long as we desire to maintain it, and would eliminate the fear of considerable inconvenience and expense as the result of having to move. Purchase of the property would result in projected monthly payments of \$1,561.75 in comparison to our present rent of \$730.00 (we pay the property taxes either way). But, if we do not purchase the building, rent is expected to increase greatly when (and if) the lease is renewed. Rent would continue to rise over the years, but purchase of the property would stabilize the cost until the year 2000, at which time there would cease to be

any cost, and the Co-op would own a valuable piece of property.

After reading and listening to the various reports concerning purchase of the property, the board of directors unanimously recommended that the general membership approve the purchase so that negotiations with the owner can continue.

In the short run, purchase of the property will cost the Co-op (that is, the membership of the Co-op), somewhat more money. But the purchase will prove far more economical in the long run. And it will ensure a stable base for the Leon County Food Co-op, which in time can become a foundation for the establishment and maintenance of other consumer-owned enterprises in our community.

Obviously, my views on this are those of a proponent...

At the Sunday, September 23rd membership meeting, those present gave unanimous approval for the purchase at the stated terms. The BOD must now approve the proposal at two consecutive meetings (five days' notice each). These will be announced in the Co-op soon. So, if you have questions, doubts or objections (or positive words of support), come to one of the meetings and give your input. Or, at least contact a BOD member (phone numbers are in the Co-op).

Food Co-op Board Notes

by Jack Rink

Leon County Food Co-op is in a period of tremendous growth. Our agenda at board of directors meetings is always long and arduous. We usually labor until near midnight. Critical financial decisions loom, occasionally the subject of my nightmares.

On the brighter side, the BOD plods through policymaking and everyday business with amazing efficiency these days. We seem to operate almost effortlessly in comparison to days of old. Our meeting process is methodical, time conscious and moves along with the greatest of ease. Arguments during a meeting just don't happen at all. But fatigue takes its toll.

I would like to take this opportunity to review for the membership the financial decisions we have encountered in the last eight months.

February - Good Life General Store proposed that LCFC guarantee a \$2500 loan for them; action taken: we needed a concrete proposal in writing.

March - Magnolia Warehouse in Atlanta asked LCFC to co-sign a \$2500 note to help them acquire a \$16,000 loan; action taken: ok. Approval given to borrow \$2000 to buy ice machine.

April - coordinators ask for approval to borrow \$4000 to buy large shipment of apple juice; action taken: ok.

May - coordinators ask for pay raise amounting to approximately \$600/month; action taken: ok.

May/June - \$400 approved for travel expenses to Magnolia and Consumer Cooperative Alliance conferences.

July - Good Life General Store asks for extension of free rent for 12 more months (\$1200) and that LCFC co-sign a \$10,000 note to guarantee a loan they wished to procure; action taken: we needed a more concrete proposal in writing.

August - (1) the lease committee asked for up to \$1000 to spend on appraisal of the co-op's building;

LCFC Orientation Program

The Leon County Food Co-op is pleased to announce the beginning of an Orientation Program that will focus on the Co-op and its philosophies, policies, and practical workings. Anyone who is interested in learning about LCFC and earning two hour's work credit as well, is invited to come.

The orientation will include a tour of the Co-op, where to find things, a rap on what the Co-op is all about, and some actual and practical work experience to acquaint you with what you can do each month as a working member.

We are interested in sharing our cooperative experience with you and sharing ideas as well. Our first orientation meetings are listed below, but if you find that there is a time conflict with your own schedule, talk to one of the coordinators and we will try to work out a time that will suit you. As a new member, we want to welcome you and this is the best way we know how. Come and learn!

Orientation schedule (each session should last about two hours):
Thursday, September 27th, 5:30
Saturday, September 29, 12 noon

action taken: Ok. (2) 1st approval to co-sign a note for Good Life General Store for up to \$10,000. (3) 1st approval to extend free rent to Good Life General Store for 6 months (\$600).

September - recommendation from lease/purchase committee(s) to seriously consider purchasing our building for approximately \$165,000!

In August, our accountant strongly urged LCFC to develop a system for financial planning. I suggest that it is now the time to take his advice and

take firm steps toward planning our future. This responsibility lies with the BOD and I hope we soon will bring the general membership a proposal for a specific course of action.

Preliminary information will be necessary to do planning and your cooperation as members will be necessary. Please be responsive when called upon to complete survey forms! Let's move forward in a systematic and responsible process to insure continuing and successful growth of our cooperative.

General Store On Solid Ground

by Diann Bradley

Saturday, September 8 saw the Good Life General Store's members under a warm sun, beginning a transformation of the storefront. Shelves were constructed and the interior was partly rearranged. The shovel-power of members moving truckloads of dirt created a yard area within a perimeter of logs. Soon, sod will be laid, small trees and flowers will be planted and benches set. The brick walks begun will be completed on next month's workday on October 6th.

The first GLGS membership meeting followed the work party. Volunter staffers familiarized members with operating procedures and present financial status. Members gave input on inventory planning. Much discussion focused on bylaws and on how decision-making power should be apportioned to the board of directors, the staff and the membership. Minutes of the meeting will be posted in the store.

Inventory continues to expand. The store stocks a wider selection of jeans and Danskins, and an order of Indian clothing will arrive soon. Membership input is central to inventory planning and we're seeking input in two ways: First, through a survey soon to be sent to members on inventory priorities; and secondly, by encouraging members to look through the store's catalogs and to place orders or make general recommendations.

The inventory grows in proportion to available cash. Members are asked to pay ahead on their memberships. By paying ahead, you give the store, in effect, a non-interest loan. If you cancel your membership in the future, you can receive a refund, minus \$5.00 per year for each year you belonged. Please speak to any staff person if you wish to contribute in this way. As a cooperative, GLGS relies on its members for its growth and the help of every member counts.

New Book and Record Co-op managers... Linda McLaughlin is now the manager of Co-op Records. She was previously the manager of Community Co-op, a food co-op in Clearwater and replaces Doug Nargiz, who resigned in March.

Hartmut Ramm is Co-op Books' new manager. He has already been employed at the Co-op for two years as assistant manager to Ronda Hansen, former manager. Carmen Avilla is now assistant manager.

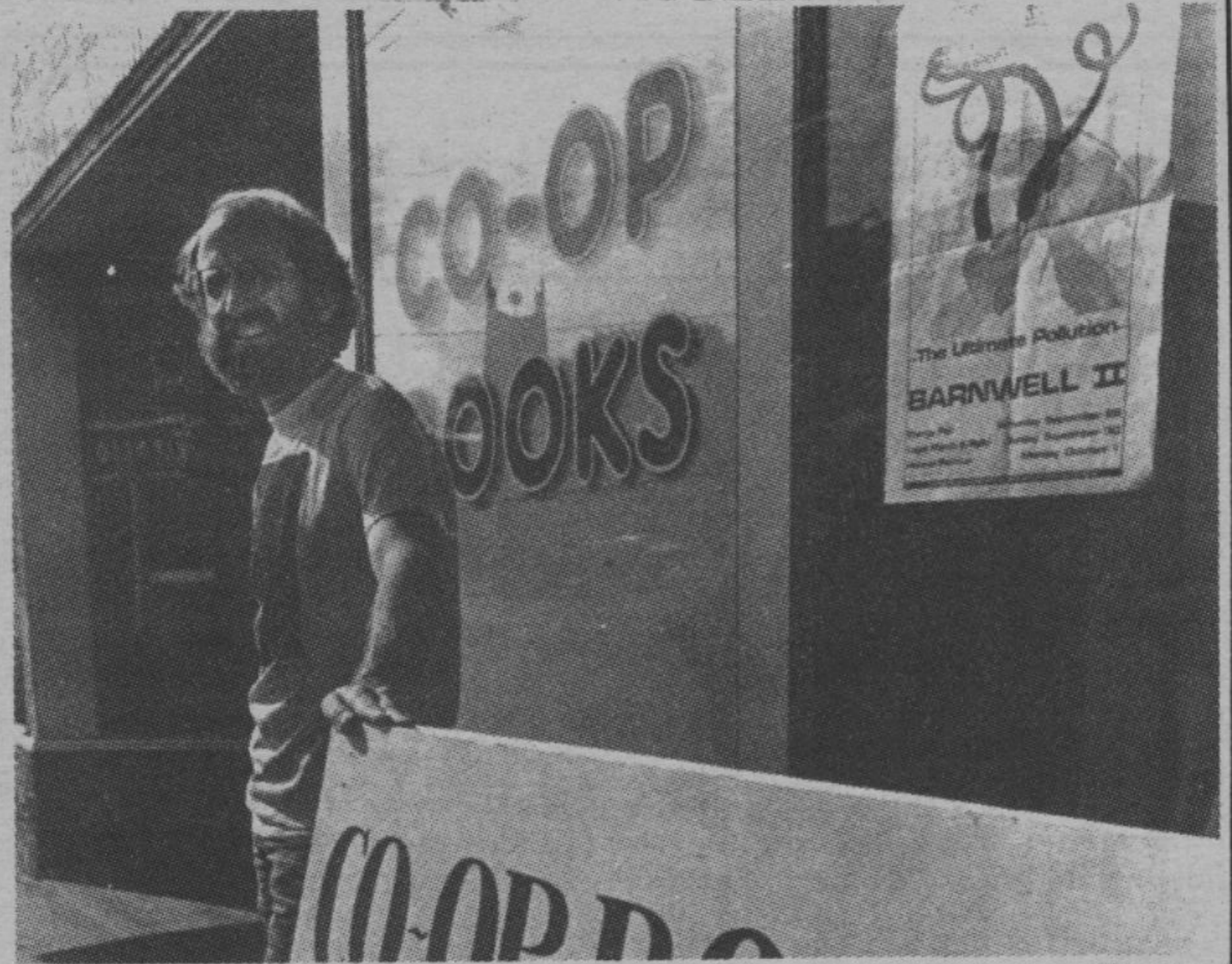


photo by Joyce Harper

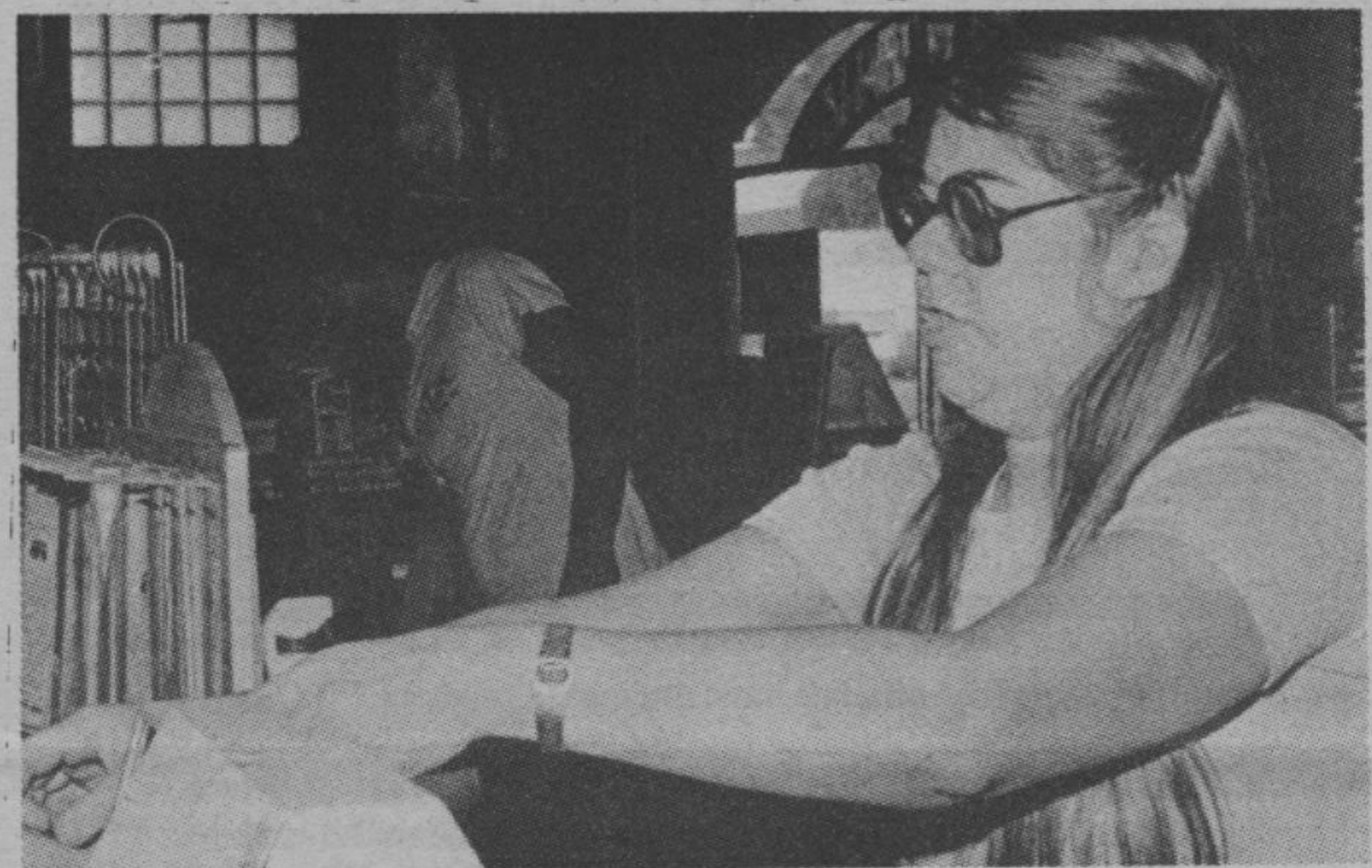


photo by Joyce Harper

Co-op Books at Recession's Door

by Hartmut Ramm

In April of this year, Co-op Books began its eighth year of operation. In that short span, it has acquired a presence in the broadly defined "movement" that extends all over the world. For all of us, the Book Co-op has meant relief from the junk-thought dished out by the local franchises. It has done for Tallahassee's consciousness what the Food Co-op has done for its diet.

In the context of Florida, the Book Co-op stands as a lonely oasis in a vast wasteland. Nationally, we are a part of an interdependent network of publishers and distributors of Movement -- a kind of Movement market. Internationally, the Book and Record Co-op will be remembered by flood victims in India and by freedom fighters in Iran, Southern Africa and Puerto Rico.

But however noteworthy all this may be, the remarkable thing about the Book and Record's history is that it should live so long. After all, books and records are leisure goods, the first to suffer from the reduced spending power that recessions bring. And the recession of '74-'75 was the worst in 30 years. How does one account for the statistical miracle that the last recession should bring not death, but growth, to the Co-op? Without a doubt, a large part of the answer is to be found in the wizardry of our general manager and the dedication (and tolerance) of his staff. But, many businesses are well-staffed. The crucial element in our success was and continues to be community support, especially that which takes the form of volunteer labor.

It is now officially acknowledged that we have entered into another recession and our friends in the Movement market have been the first to feel its bite. Two feminist distributors and one large distributor of, among other things, radical political theory from Europe, have already been devoured. We will feel (are feeling?) the recession in the reduced largesse of our customers and in the restriction and hardening of credit. Even granted that there is never a good time for a recession, this one could not have come at a worse time. Our sales have already shown signs of dropping over the past four months: sales during that period were up only 1% over 1977 -- that despite a price increase of 10% to most of our customers in 1978 and after an all-time sales peak in the

preceding (winter) trimester. Now, to add insult and more injury, the Book Co-op has been excluded from the only available parking lot, leaving only two disagreeable choices: decreased sales or increased rent.

As for our credit picture, here again it is not a question of trouble in the future. We are in deep trouble now. In general, publishers' bills are due in thirty days, but they are freely tolerated up to 60 days. After that, exhortations begin to appear on monthly statements, and when 120 days have elapsed, the credit door closes temporarily and further shipments are suspended. After 150 days, dire threats of collection agencies and attacks on our credit rating are the rule. During the month of September, \$6,000 worth of bills to publishers will have matured to 150 days. Even if sales reach their record high of 1978, \$2,400 worth of these bills will remain unpaid and move on to the perilous 180-day category. The end of October will probably find us with something like \$3,000 in the 150-day category.

So, what has to be done? We will have to liquidate much of our inventory through returns and sales. For that we need the community's understanding and its readiness to order books from us directly which might once have been found on our shelves. We will have to stay open as much as possible. For that we need dependable volunteers to ease the burden on an already overworked staff.

With decreasing inventory and credit, sales will decline unless we concentrate more on the more profitable items. Magazines and textbooks have the greatest potential in this regard, thanks to their high turnover rates. Students can help us by asking that their professors take note of the fact that the Co-op is alone in offering textbooks at a 10% discount and that we give professors up to three months longer to choose their books.

In a word, we must swim against the current. While the rhythm of buying and selling nationwide slows, ours must quicken. In order to accomplish this, the Co-op will need volunteers in record numbers. We hasten to point out to other recession victims that volunteering at the Book Co-op is not without its material rewards. Check out our ad in this issue, and come by the store to talk it over with us.

organizing & activism

Skye Campbell, Director of Tallahassee's "Free University"

by Margie Menzel

Skye Campbell is a vital and dynamic member of Tallahassee's progressive community. She has a finger in every pie. Skye recently became director of the Center for Participant Education (CPE) and southern coordinator for the Free University Network. She is also a member of Catfish Alliance, the Women's Center Board of Directors, Co-op Books and Records, a writer for the *Flambeau*, an anti-death penalty activist, and an ardent feminist. She is a full-time student and mother of two children.

Skye told me that CPE was founded in 1970 by Nesta King and Rick Johnson, "as a progressive challenge to the university curriculum." The gist was, and remains, "anyone can learn and anyone can teach." Skye said that CPE fosters a feeling of accomplishment, of self-confidence, with no strings of punishment attached. She cited priorities of diversion, being a gateway to alternative news sources and the connection between the community and the university.

"The gist was, anyone can learn and anyone can teach."

Skye said that some FSU officials have attempted to give CPE a "bad-Commie, plotting" sort of image, but that the center has no one ideology save the acquisition of information that "people want and can't get elsewhere."

Skye began as a CPE volunteer in September 1977. She said it took her awhile to feel like a true equal because the group wasn't operating strictly as a collective. She spent a long period of what she called "internship" while the major responsibilities were confined to "old hands". She said there was not much of a feminist perspective. And she said that Faye Williams was an inspiration to her in terms of feminist participation in CPE.

In fall of 1978, Skye got a CPE work-study position, had regular hours, and felt as though she knew more about what was going on. She told me that Neal Friedman and Jack McCarthy helped her "learn the administrative ropes." She criticized the former problems of a lack of regular staff meetings or clear-cut learning processes. At the same time, she pointed out that Jack, then CPE director, was "under much pressure from the administration."

When Jimmy Lohman followed Jack as director, he appointed Skye assistant director. Jimmy's immediate task was to "straighten out an incredible morass of red tape." That being more or less accomplished, he was able to share a "learning process" with Skye.

She said that Third World consciousness was high at CPE, but that she felt the need to assert a stronger feminist awareness. As an example, she pointed out that every woman speaker sponsored by CPE was considered a feminist "regardless of her topic." Skye felt that unconscious sexism persisted and called that period her "rage stage".



photo by Joyce Harper

Skye said that she felt very confident about becoming director, very excited. She began as southern coordinator for the Free University Network about three months before becoming CPE director, and "figured that if I could handle the whole South, I could handle CPE." Amongst her innovations is alternative orientation, an adjunct to the official FSU registration whereby groups like the Leon County Food Co-op, the Book and Record Co-op, and the Feminist Women's Health Center have the opportunity to set up tables and distribute literature to students. Her goals as director include easier access for volunteers and an equal distribution of responsibility. She handles the budget, the administration, steering, and overview.

A few weeks after this discussion, I saw just how important CPE is to the community and Skye is to CPE. The FSU student senate had proposed a bill that would drastically contain the content of the CPE catalogue, amounting to censorship. Skye organized a show of force, press, and speakers, and addressed the student senate in a forceful and persuasive manner. The bill was soundly defeated.

CPE is an irreplaceable asset to the Tallahassee community. Volunteers are needed, and can contact CPE at 644-6577.

Go to it, Skye.

Women's Center Fall Events

The FSU Women's Center, located on 110 N. Woodward St., is an organization dedicated to providing for needs of women in the campus and Tallahassee community. The Center seeks to provide support for women in their everyday struggles, and to create an environment in and through which women can act on their own oppression.

The facilities which the Women's Center provides include a resource library, a night time childcare cooperative, and a variety of study groups and special classes ranging from consciousness raising groups to self-help clinics.

Besides these ongoing services, the Women's Center also sponsors a number of special events and lectures throughout the year. The fall's programs include lecturing engagements by Mary Daly, noted

feminist philosopher and author, on November 7 at 8:00 pm in 201 Diffenbaugh Bldg.; and Geneva Smitherman, prominent linguist and specialist in Afro-American language and literature, speaking on October 25 at 8:00 pm in 201 Longmire Bldg. There will also be a program focusing on "Women in Prisons" beginning on October 28, with a poetry reading at 8:00 pm in the Women's Center.

The Women's Center is open from 9-5 Monday through Friday, with special bi-weekly meetings held on Tuesday at 7:30 pm, where upcoming events and projects are discussed. These meetings are open to all interested and fresh ideas are always appreciated. For more information regarding the Women's Center and its programs, contact the Center at 644-4007.

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The People for Rational Marijuana Laws

For the nearly 40 million people who have tried marijuana, the 1970's was a time of patient, inactive optimism.

In the early 1970's, we all felt that a major change in the marijuana laws was right around the corner. It was just a matter of time until rationality prevailed and those who chose to smoke marijuana would no longer be classified as criminals.

But the arrests continued throughout the 70's at a national rate of approximately 400,000 per year. Lives were ruined, families were broken -- not from the mild effects of the herb, but from the barbaric effects of irrational marijuana laws.

Then Jimmy Carter came along, promising decriminalization and a rational approach to marijuana use. Jimmy Carter got the White House; the people got paraquat and a beefed-up federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), spreading terror and ridiculous propaganda across the land. The arrests and jail sentences continued.

As the 1970's drew to a close, the people came to understand that patience and apathy do not change laws. Lawmakers respond only to responsible, organized action.

To fill the need for responsible, organized action to change Florida's irrational marijuana laws, The People for Rational Marijuana Laws was formed in the autumn of 1978. "The People" are mad as hell over the continued treatment of marijuana smokers as common criminals, and are committed to bringing humane rationality to Florida's approach to marijuana use.

The People for Rational Marijuana Laws neither promote nor support the non-medical use of any drug, including marijuana. We do advocate the recognition of the wide use of marijuana among Florida's population, and a rational approach to such use. Current marijuana laws, branding our citizens as felons (and failing to prevent use), are more a product of erroneous mid-century

propaganda than a reflection of current attitudes and medical evidence. If millions of dollars are to be spent, the rational approach is research and regulation, not arrests and jail sentences.

The People for Rational Marijuana Laws is a grassroots, non-profit, Florida organization that is dedicated to rectifying the following intolerable facts of life:

1. Laws which treat marijuana users as criminals are inherently irrational.
2. Irrational marijuana laws produce disrespect for the law and for the criminal justice system, among the marijuana users and non-users alike.
3. Irrational marijuana laws produce alienation and distrust of the political system and process.
4. Irrational marijuana laws waste valuable law enforcement resources, overload the judicial system, overcrowd the penal system, and unreasonably burden taxpayers.
5. Irrational marijuana laws violate the inalienable rights of American citizens to privacy, equal protection of the laws, and freedom from cruel and unusual punishment.

"The People" are committed to building a grassroots effort to educate and motivate citizens and lawmakers regarding the irrationality of the present situation. The task is not an easy one. It requires the organized efforts of the hundreds of thousands of Floridians who smoke marijuana, who don't want their friends and relatives who smoke marijuana to go to jail. The job demands a massive educational and communicative campaign to demonstrate the relative harmlessness of the herb, prove the destructiveness of existing irrational laws, and persuade Florida's lawmakers to enact rational marijuana laws.

Some lawmakers still believe that rational marijuana laws are not a burning issue and that most of the people are indifferent. We must show them they are wrong.

The New American Movement

(First in a Series of Articles by Tallahassee NAM)

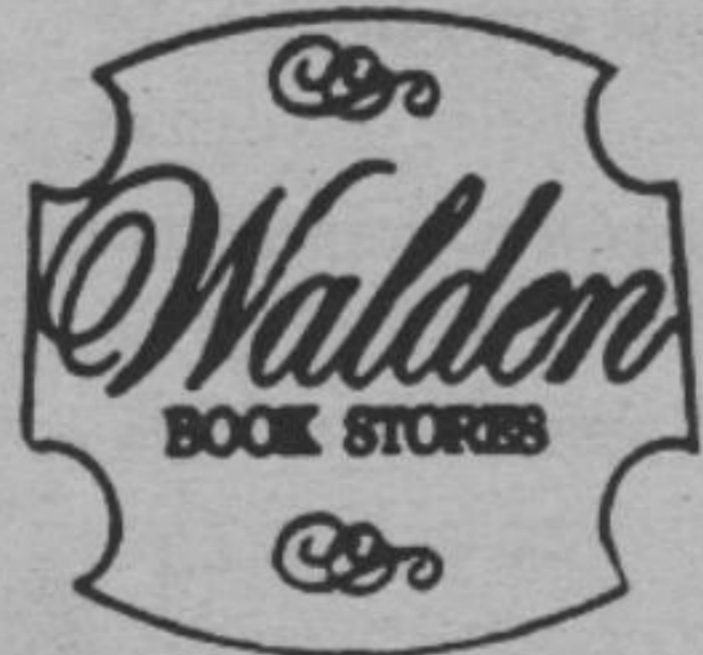
We live in a country that calls itself a democracy, yet its most basic choices are removed from public scrutiny and control. Wealth and power are concentrated in a corporate structure that moves across our country's landscape - and the world's - by no standards but its own. To influence or contain its smallest aspect requires immense organization and effort. Thus nuclear power plants continue to be built despite possible catastrophic consequences and widespread public opposition. Thus our inner cities continue to decay because profit dictates investments no longer be made in them.

Socialist governments are confronting crucial problems of hunger and unemployment in countries much less developed than ours. But it is too often the case that people in those countries have little real decision making power about their national leaders or government policies.

We in *New American Movement (NAM)* believe that a true socialism requires both an economic transformation and a political transformation that deepen democracy rather than stunting it.

This means open debate on all policies, elected leaders - and the right to criticize and recall them - and as much local, direct democracy as possible about the basic decisions that affect our lives. True democracy is only possible when everyone has the necessary information and has developed skills in evaluating the consequences of the alternatives.

continued page 14



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Lowell Women Speak

by Margie Menzel

The political analysis here is left to the reader. The women telling their tales here cannot be confined to words on a page, nor can I, as the writer. Perhaps a journalist can only make public someone else's story. The women speaking here do not expect to ever read their own words. I hope they're wrong.

The woman's name is not Anita, but that's what I'll call her. Although she fears reprisals from the prison officials for talking to me, she zeros in on me as I wander Ross Hall. She's got a lot on her mind, so we find two comfortable chairs. By now, I recognize the signs of someone who is ready to speak her piece.

She starts off by talking about the counselors. She says she sees young women come into the prison and turn suspicious, mistrustful. She says that the women at Lowell have a lot on their minds, a lot to talk to someone about, but that the counselors are only interested in "your record". She says it's because they're so overworked that they can never get to know anyone as a person. She calls it "a game you learn to play", harder than that of any street. She says that, if you can survive in prison, you can survive anywhere.

I ask Anita whether the counselors prescribe drugs. "Are the women given Thorazine?, I inquire. "About half," she says.



Anita calls Thorazine "medication for hostility". I want to know whether they're being uniformly medicated. Anita says that "we're under tension", that there are attempted suicides. There are fights, depressions. So there is medication. She says that the Thorazine "makes you hungry, blows you up" and that this, combined with the lack of effectual physical exercise programs and with the cheap starchy food, makes the women fat and sluggish. She also says that the prison sometimes holds up a woman's release because she is addicted to anti-depressants.

By now, Anita and I are surrounded by a lively group of women who are laughing ruefully and calling out to me, trying to outdo one another with the most inflammatory tale, the foulest outrage. It's obvious, though, that they're not exaggerating. One woman shows me her eye, red watery, and inflamed, and tells me she asked to see a doctor six weeks ago. I hear about another woman who lost a finger because it went untreated too long. They say that medical care is very difficult to get; one woman tells me that she was taken to the doctor handcuffed behind her back. They tell me, though, that the serious cases do indeed get treated, because, as one woman says, "they don't want us to die on them".

I have been doing some inquiring of my own in the medical wing. I find out that the only form of contraception available is oral, carcinogenic and worse. Only 15 of 496 prisoners are eligible for this, owing to being on work release. They are not supposed to be sexually active, but the prison recognizes the possibility. What it refuses to recognize is that the male guards have intercourse with the prisoners although I have heard many accounts of this. These women have no recourse to birth control. A prisoner tells me that the prison claims not to arrange abortions, but "I don't believe it." She tells me that there are women who, suddenly, are no longer pregnant. She implies pressure on pregnant inmates who want to keep their infants. When one recalls the struggle of Terry Moore (a former inmate) to have her baby and keep it with her, it's not difficult to imagine.

Another question I have is about tuberculosis. The disease is rampant in other prisons, and I want to know what they do about it at Lowell. An aide tells me there's only one case. But, when I ask where the woman is, she says she's out on the compound, mixing freely in the prison population. I hear that both inmates and staff receive skin tests for TB, and that the active respondents are given a sputum can, with which to collect specimens and a chest X-ray. The staff all get a chest X-ray automatically. I ask whether they're worried about cancer from the X-rays and get no response. A few hours later, a staff member catches up with me on the compound and says that they made a mistake, that the TB patient has been cured and that's why she's not kept "in medical". The inmates tell me that TB in the prison constitutes "an epidemic".

The group around me begins discussing lockup, the official term for a wing of dreary, dingy cells in which no talking out the windows, no reading save the Bible, and no physical exercise, are permitted. It is total inactivity, boredom and loneliness. Lockup is imposed, according to these women, for a multitude of petty offenses. It is arbitrary and capricious. The prisoners say that more blacks than whites receive the punishment. The prison is about 65 percent black, according to the warden. The prisoners talk about the lockup being imposed for quarreling, for talking through the windows to others already in lockup, for "displaying physical affection", for walking to the canteen without permission. When I finally get to the lockup wing, on my second visit, the women there tell me the same things. They are very glad to have someone to talk to.

Then it is a free-for-all in the group. Having a ready ear, the women hold forth about problem after problem, indignity after indignity. Opened mail. No hot water. Lousy bedclothes, lousy food, money from relatives and friends withheld, outrageous canteen prices, vaginal and anal searches before (not after) visitation, money lost in vending machines without recourse to compensation, mail thrown away by postal workers and never received. I want to go one talking to them, but our tour guide is braying her incessant "Girls, girls!" and I am herded away.

The vocational training building has a bulletin board in the foyer entitled "Freedom is...Independence Day 1979." The freedoms enumerated here are the following: to go home, to knock on any door, to express yourself, raiding the refrigerator, to stay out late at night, realizing your worth from your heart, the ocean against the rocks, the wind blowing through your hair, ERA, to do what you want when you want to, Jonathan Livingstone Seagull, a warm kitten, free enterprise, kids, to hold the one you love, parole.

I have a long drive back to Tallahassee and a lot of time to think. What I think about, mostly, is how much easier it is to intimidate and control women than men. I recall the classes in modelling and disco, the vocational training in cosmetology and horticulture, the required work in the kitchen and laundry. Totally useless for getting a decent job, especially with a record. Their "crimes" mostly property crimes, anyway. All that's happening to them is that they're being required to act like ladies. What will they do when they get out?

The beds at Lowell are often in huge halls, barely separated. One is constantly being watched, and the inmates get considerations for reporting on each other.

I feel so paranoid about it that I plead bladder problems and make six trips to the john in four hours, only to sag gratefully against the back of the door. The deprivation of privacy, I think, must be the most insidious and horrible form of revenge. And when I return home, I survey my room and think of my job, my friends, school, my lover. Then I run to the john and puke up my guts.



**WHILE THERE IS A
LOWER CLASS I AM
IN IT, WHILE THERE
IS A CRIMINAL ELE
MENT I AM OF IT,
WHILE THERE IS A
SOUL IN PRISON
I AM NOT
FREE. ♡♡♡ GENE DEBS**

Helping Women at Lowell

by Margie Menzel

Lowell is the location of the Florida state prison for women, a small town south of Gainesville.

A group of Tallahassee and Gainesville, organized by Barbara Schneider of the Clearinghouse on Criminal Justice, has been visiting Lowell and attempting to establish programs to meet the unique needs of women in prisons.

Many prisoners at Lowell cannot read. We have received clearance from the prison to augment its impoverished reading program with University of Florida students.

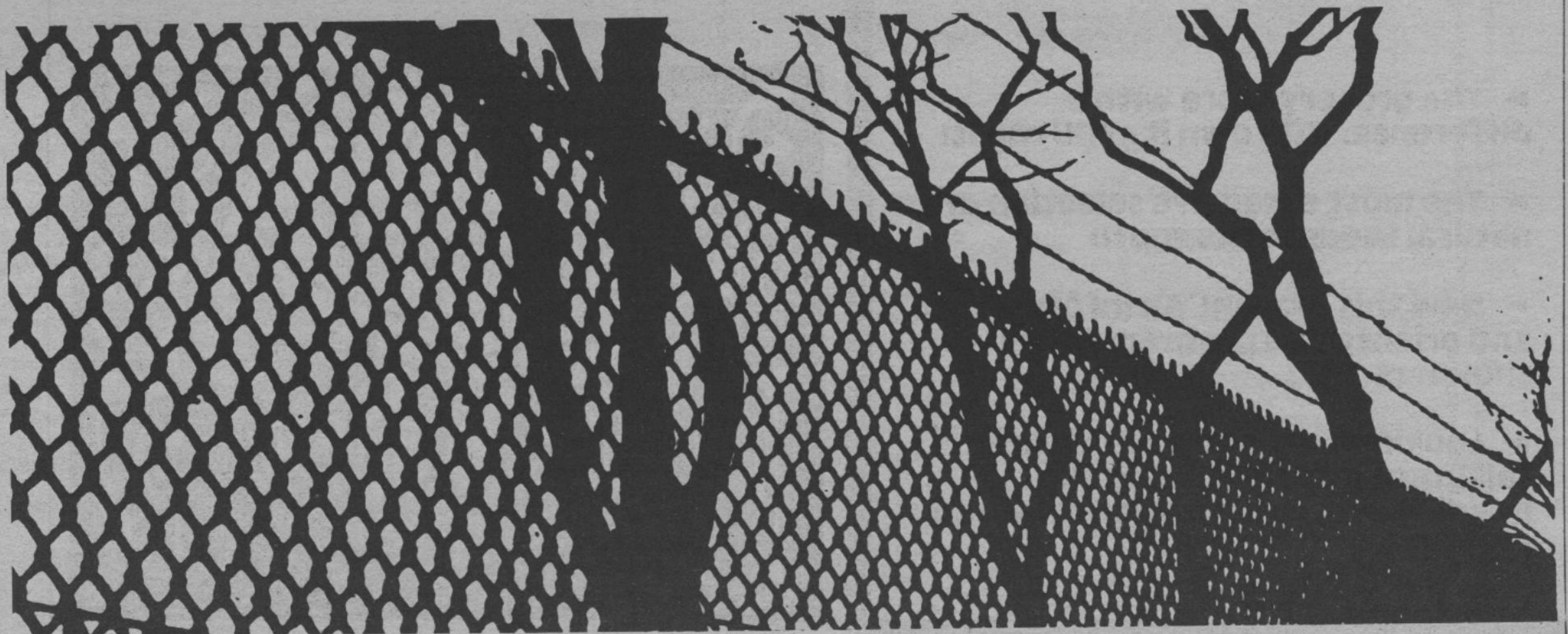
Our next goal is to establish a paralegal program in which the Lowell women can work with law students and learn about their own cases.

We feel that the prison is badly in need of vocational training that non-sexist and will liberate these women from traditional, low-paying jobs. We want to establish a placement service that will aid women leaving Lowell in finding jobs, places to stay, emotional support and so on. We want to get funding to do prisoner advocacy for these women and prevent the kinds of maltreatment this article describes.

It is my firm belief that women are imprisoned for offenses like drugs and property crimes that are basically dangerous to no one. Women accused of violent crimes are generally acting in self-defense. It's very difficult to justify the existence of a prison for women who are already the victims of sexism and poverty, who were singled out for punishment largely because of no access to quality legal services. And, once behind bars, they are ground beneath the heel of regimented non-personhood. They are locked into a cycle of victimization.

The only way for prison abuses to be held in check is for people in the free world to be watchful. Public awareness and protestations are essential. We can apply pressure to the Department of Corrections by publicizing our information and demonstrating our outrage.

The term "correctional institution" is a misnomer. Prison life is designed not to correct, but to cow. Those who refuse to submit are treated with conscious viciousness. We must recognize the terrible injustices of our legal system and penal system, but above all, of the society that creates such scapegoats in the first place.



actions, benefits & conferences

United Ministries Center Holds Peace Conference

by Jack Ahlers

A conference under the theme *Peace In Search of Makers* will be sponsored by the United Ministries Center on the Florida State University campus, October 5-6. Keynote speaker will be Mary Cosby, co-founder with Rev. Gordon Cosby of Church of the Savior in Washington, D.C. and World Peacemakers, Inc.

Another featured speaker will be Dr. Sanford Gottlieb, Arms-Reduction Coordinator of New Directions, a major Washington-based lobbying organization on disarmament questions. Dr. Gottlieb will address the issues of National Defense Priorities and SALT-related developments.

Six action-oriented workshops will be held Saturday afternoon: Florida-related issues; War Taxes; the Role of the Churches; SALT; "Conversion: Military to Social Welfare Economy;" and "The Genius or Insanity of Current War Strategies". Music and audio/visual resources will further enhance the development of the conference theme.

Because of the complexity of the issue, six follow-up seminars will be held each consecutive Monday night (7:30-9:30) beginning with the October 8 "A Military View of Peace-Making". Other seminars include: "The Relationship between Nuclear Power and Weapons Production" on October 15; "The Psychological Impact of the Arms Race" on October 22; "Multi-National Corporations and Weapons Production" on October 29; "The Two Sides of SALT" on November 5; and "A Christian Strategy for World Peacemakers" on November 12.

Another element of the Conference will be an art contest on the Conference theme.

The Conference is a response to the Christian mandate to be facilitators of world peace. Worship experiences will be a major factor throughout.

For further information, contact Jack Ahlers, 548 W. Park Avenue, Tallahassee, Florida, 32301.

Boycott to Help Farmworkers Achieve a Dignified Lifestyle

by Association of Migrant Organizations (AMO)

Farmworker families labor between nine and twelve hours a day, yet the average household earns less than \$3000 per year. The corporate structure of agribusiness continues to contribute to this exploitation of farmworkers by refusing to participate in negotiations for betterment of wages and working conditions.

In the Midwest, the farmer, grower and canning company form a triangle of irresponsibility. The companies insist that they have no responsibility for the plight of farmworkers and that the grower is the employer. The Farm Labor Organizing Committee in Ohio argues that the company is ultimately responsible for the worker's conditions and must work together with the grower to bring about economic change for the worker. The Farm Labor Organizing Committee has been boycotting the Campbell's Co. for the past year because of their unwillingness to participate in negotiations. They request your support in this boycott. Please do not buy the following products:

Libby-McNeill-Libby

All Nestle's products (Nestle is the parent company of Libby-McNeill-Libby). All vegetables, fruits, meats and juices with the Libby's label.

Campbell's

Campbell's soup, Swanson prepared dinners and meats, V-8 Vegetable juice, Efficient food service products, Recipe pet food, Hanover Trail restaurants, Franco-American products, Lexington Garden retail garden centers, Pepperidge Farms products, Granny's soups, Bounty canned chili and entrees, Godiva chocolates, Pietro's Gold Coast Pizzas, Delacre cookies and pastries, Herfy's Restaurants, Kia-Ora food products, Vlasic.

In the west, the United Farm Workers' union is engaged in a similar struggle. UFW has been engaged in a bitter strike against Salinas valley lettuce growers since January.

"What began as a strike to win decent wages and benefits has become a strike to save the union," says UFW president Cesar Chavez.

The UFW has called a boycott against non-union iceberg lettuce. The union was also conducting a boycott against Chiquita bananas, but has called off this boycott because UFW has made a contract settlement with United Brands, the parent company of Chiquita bananas.

The Leon County Food Co-op is presently selling non-union iceberg lettuce although the membership of the co-op has voted to not sell non-union lettuce. We ask for your support in these boycotts.

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"Barnwell" is Here

by Tana McLane

The second anti-nuclear waste demonstration in Barnwell, South Carolina is upon us. It's this weekend (September 29-30, October 1). And it should be a good one.

First of all, it promises to offer lots to see and hear, people to watch and get to know from all around the Southeast and the country, and a consciousness-raising opportunity about both the perils of current methods of reprocessing and storing nuclear wastes and the happy (and possible) alternatives of tapping into renewable sources of energy.

There will be an Appropriate Technology Fair (AT Fair) on the camping/rally site which will be a large grassy field surrounded by pine forests. The fair will feature working models of such alternative technology projects as solar collectors, solar showers, solar ovens, methane toilets, and possibly a hot air balloon. Workshops, handouts, and impromptu discussions with people involved in the development of AT on both a commercial and homegrown level will be the order of the day.

Also on site will be a "Show of Hands" art show of large painted canvasses depicting the silhouettes of different nuclear facilities around the Southeaster region (and possibly beyond), upon which the painted handprints of viewers are placed in effort to create an artistic obliteration of the very hostile and life-negating industry we have come here to protest.

Both the AT Fair and the art show, as well as an arts and crafts fair, will

be happening on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday evening, there will be a sort of "open mike" onstage for different speakers, musicians and theatre groups to stand up and share their impressions and solutions to the nuclear problems. There is also rumour of an opportunity for the crowd to dance to good music on that evening, both releasing ourselves from the months of organizing, travel, and long meetings that have occurred on both the regional Barnwell Council level and in our local anti-nuke alliances, in celebration of a life-affirming stance we are choosing to take.

Sunday will see the Legal March by all of the weekend's participants to the three nuclear waste facilities of Barnwell: the Savannah River Plant weapons facility, Chem-Nuclear Services waste reburial facility, and Allied General Nuclear Services two-faced spent fuel reprocessor/proposed Away From Reactor storage facility. The march should be quite colorful, as the three-legged route is traced by all the people carrying banners, signs, and musical instruments. Last year's legal march was comprised of more than 2000 protestors.

After the Legal March, we will return to the camping/rally site and attend the planned rally that will last into the night. At this rally will be the nationally known musicians and speakers who have been invited.

After the rally, many people will be leaving Barnwell for home. This will be encouraged because the business at hand will be the final preliminary

anti-nuke activism

stages for the civil disobedience action that will be occurring on Monday morning.

On Monday, October 1st, people organized into "affinity groups" and previously trained in the ways of nonviolence, will return to their respectively chosen sites at one of the three nuclear waste facilities, walk onto the sites and refuse to leave until the facilities are either closed down or

until the protesters are arrested. Civil disobedience is a serious step to take for everyone concerned. But people in affinity groups — small groups who know each other and have learned to make decisions through a form of democratic process (usually consensus), and relate to the larger group by a person chosen as a "spoke" sitting in a council made up

continued page 14

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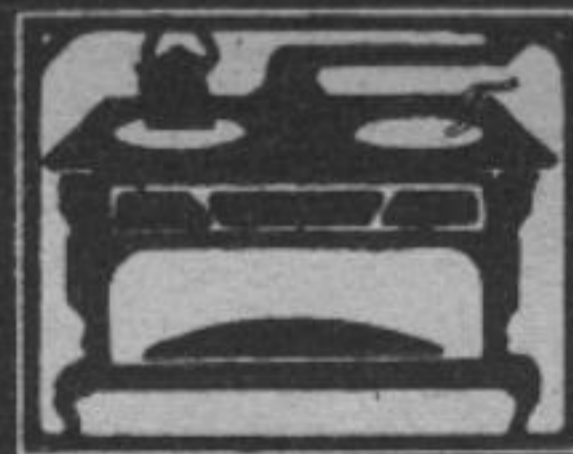
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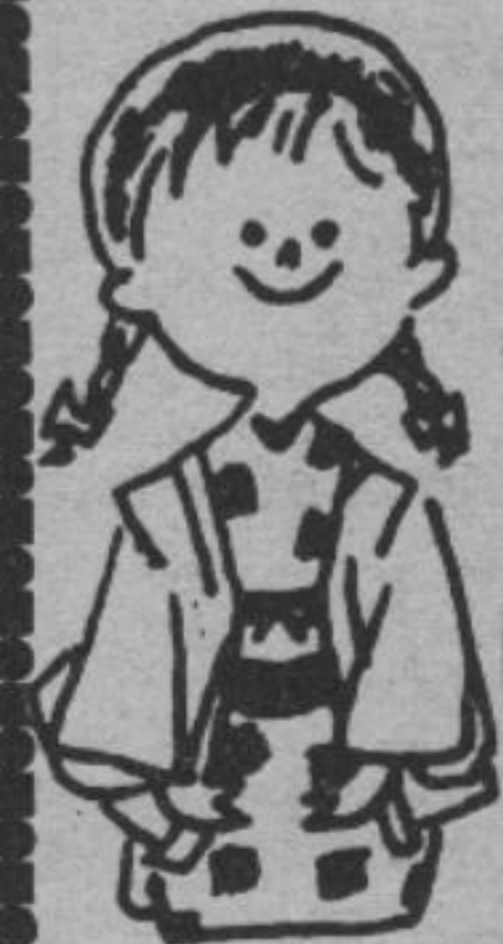
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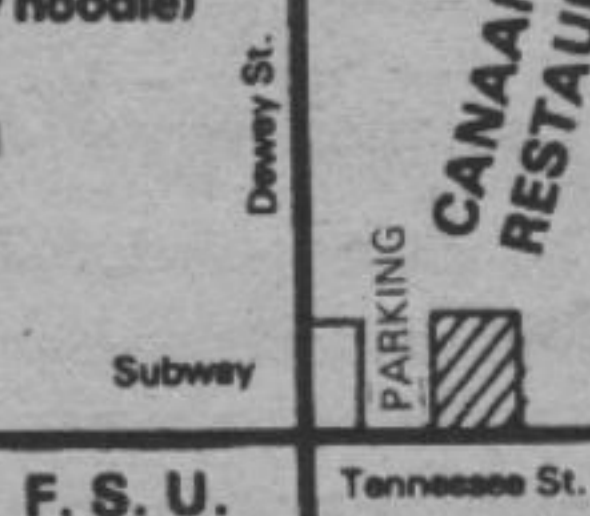
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politics & health




Abortion Action Week

An ad hoc group of feminists is planning a rally and demonstration for Friday, October 24 at noon, tentatively scheduled for the Capitol. The purposes of the rally include both a show of support for abortion rights and the mobilization of progressive groups and individuals in the Tallahassee community. Plans for the rally include speakers not only on the abortion fight, but also the childbirth movement, clinic violence, and sterilization abuse. The rally is

scheduled to coincide with the national Abortion Action Week, October 21-28.

Those interested in working on abortion rights should attend the next planning meeting on Tuesday, September 25 at 7:30 pm, at the FSU Women's Center. Everyone plan on attending the rally.

Contact persons are Judy Adkins, 878-5668; Margie Menzel, 222-4346; and the Feminist Women's Health Center, 224-9600.



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Midwife Defense Benefit

Carolle Baya's case has been presented in St. Augustine. The state is calling for an injunction to prevent Carolle from practicing midwifery without a license. Carolle is attempting to have the licensing statutes declared unconstitutional for vagueness. Both sides have indicated that they will appeal an unfavorable decision.

At the heart of this conflict is the reluctance of the medical establishment to surrender any of its power. Carolle has been rejected in her attempts to obtain a license

because she has been unable to get a physician's sponsorship. She testified that she had attempted openly to comply with the licensing laws, but that St. Augustine doctors would not cooperate with her. She has delivered 20 babies -- 18 of whom were present in the courtroom.

In order to raise funds for Carolle's defense, we are holding a benefit at Tommy's on Tuesday, October 9th. *Lohman-Mello* and *The Rolling Mothers* will be playing.

Everyone come out and support Carolle!

Tallahassee Birth Center has formed

by Margie Menzel

Tallahassee Birth Center, Inc. is a non-profit corporation that works as a consumer organ to improve maternity care. It's been officially in existence since April 10, 1979, and hopes to have an out-of-hospital facility within a year.

The Center's philosophy is that maternity care can be improved through the optimum application of personnel, space and equipment. This can be done, according to Pamela Brown of the Center's board of directors, within the established community framework, by "enhancing, rather than duplicating services." The use of a certified nurse-midwife is integral to this philosophy, the center's research shows. That's because the majority of births do not require hospital space, expensive equipment, or emergency services.

Midwives, according to Brown, will detect almost every possible emergency in advance and transfer the woman to a physician. In the tiny

percentage of cases that are undetected emergencies, OB/pediatric backup is provided for.)

Meanwhile, the Birth Center is doing research, conducting free classes in pre-natal nutrition and pre-natal exercise, and organizing its structure. Its board of directors consists of Pamela Brown, Diane Chiquelin, Susan Maynard, Beth Swisher, and Barbara Becker Nelson. You can contact the Center about becoming a volunteer, or about membership.

Members pay \$10.00 a year and receive a newsletter in addition to having access to the lending library and research files.

"If you are not convinced that currently available maternity care is the best it possibly could be, come join us and help offer Tallahassee a viable alternative," writes Susan Maynard.

Tallahassee Birth Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 12544
Tallahassee, Florida 32313

Contact people:
Beth Swisher, 385-8549
Diane Chiquelin, 877-4924
Susan Maynard, 878-3664
Cyd Hoskinson, 222-3346



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Infact News Bulletin

by Carmen Avila

Tallahassee Infact represents an organized effort to publicize certain of the activities of marketing baby formulae, mainly by Nestle, that abuse the health and self-determination of Third World people. The group's aims are highly educational, but also include actions designed to call attention to the infant formula struggle. A major strategem is the boycotting of all Nestle products.

- In an article in the April 14 *Washington Post*, Dr. Jame Post, a professor at Boston University, stated that the current world market for infant formula products used in bottle feeding is around \$1.5 billion. He estimated that before 1980, the developing world will be spending \$1 billion per year on patented substitutes for breast milk.

- Actress Linda Kelsey, who plays reporter Billie Newman on the popular "Lou Grant" TV show, made an unusual contribution to INFACT at a Los Angeles press conference on April 20. Kelsey turned over a check for \$858.88 which she received from making a commercial for Nestle's Butterscotch Morsels in 1977, the total amount earned since she became aware of the boycott. Joined by Dr. Benjamin Spock at the press conference, Kelsey added that she had originally intended to ask Nestle to take the commercial off their air. However, because she felt she must honor her contract, Kelsey decided that the next most helpful action was to give INFACT the commercial's proceeds. "I cannot, in good conscience, accept money from a corporation that indirectly robs any child of its health," stated Kelsey.

- Two employees directly involved in the promo and sales of Wyeth-Suaco Laboratories, Inc. infant formula products recently informed INFACT of Wyeth promo techniques for Bonna, SMA, and S-26 infant formula. Wyeth has helped pediatricians and other medical practitioners build or establish clinics, providing cash donations and equipment. Wyeth also supports clinics by donating bassinets, feeding bottles, diapers, health record cards and books, folders, steel cabinets, pens, writing pads, Rx pads, calendars, and other equipment. Roundtrip tickets and expense money for medical conferences and free supplies of Wyeth formula and nursery equipment have been other inducements. Wyeth also has a formula prescription monopoly, or a special discount program in several Manila hospitals.

- The Colombian government has prohibited from hospitals and health centers all milk products propaganda which encourages bottle feeding, and has also begun a campaign against false claims that breastfeeding will ruin a woman's figure. It was mandated that newborns not be lodged separately from their mothers following birth. The Ministry of Health has urged that hormones not be used in family planning (birth control) immediately after birth, and has recommended as optional for a child's health that he or she be breastfed until the age of two. The government objected to bottlefeeding, suggesting that a child be breastfed upon demand during the first four months, and breastfed in combination with other foods through two years of age. The Ministry has created a systematic program guaranteeing a mother's ability to breastfeed; it includes education, services, and exams.

- A Swedish boycott supporter has written INFACT that in the last two years, Semper Company, owned by Swedish farmers, has greatly increased the sale of breast milk substitutes in Turkey, and has sold its "Know how" to the Turkish company, Mamsam. In this time more and more people have withdrawn their support from Mamsam, including the Swedish Pediatricians Society, the Social Welfare Board's experts on breastfeeding, and, more recently, Turkish Women in Sweden. In Turkey a state-appointed group has been trying to facilitate breastfeeding of babies to one year of age. They have been advocating 3 to 6 months leave-of-absence for nursing mothers, construction of nurseries near job sites, further education of welfare staff, and state production of milk powders and formulas bought only from pharmacists by means of a doctor's prescription. But bottle feeding has gained much status in Turkey, and Mamsam plans aggressive competition with German and English firms. Ironically, formula costs a Turkish worker 25% of his or her wages, while a Swedish worker pays only 3%.

- The results of the 1500 questionnaires used in a study investigating feeding practices by poverty-level mothers in the U.S.— in urban ghettos, and Indian reservation, and the rural South — will be available in September. The questionnaires are currently undergoing computer analysis.

- Nestle, one of the leading food processors in the world reported that sales fell 2.8% last year to \$11.5 billion. Net efforts to maintain market share against competitors and unfavorable exchange rates. Nestle's holding company, Unilac, Inc., posted a sharp decline in earnings — off 23% to \$19.7 million. (*Financial Times World Business Weekly*).

organizing & activism

tag: catfish alliance update

Catfish Alliance is gearing up for a full and exciting fall. The Barnwell actions, of course, are taking place at the end of the month (September 29 - October 1).

Several movies and speakers are also planned for the fall:

September 25

Lovejoy's Nuclear War and *Paul Jacobs and the Nuclear Gang* will be shown at 7:30 in 143 Bellamy

October 14

Trident Slide Show and *Dr. Strangelove* will be shown at the FSU Moore Auditorium at 7:30

November 14

Barry Commoner will be speaking at FSU (see CPE catalogue)

November 29

Catfish Alliance is proud to announce the hiring of Sherry Rauch as staffperson for the organization. She is presently working in the Catfish office which is located in the Co-op Community Resource Center at 730 W. Gaines Street.

Sherry's role will involve coordinating and facilitating the newsletter *Plutonium Grits*, organizing the Catfish library, filing system and correspondence. She will also facilitate the information clearinghouse for Catfish.

This position is funded by the FRIENDS OF CATFISH, which is a group of individuals who pledge \$10.00 per month. More FRIENDS are needed and all interested persons should contact Janet Sherman at 385-4568 and pledge their support so that this position can continue to be funded.

Michael Alfonso of FAME will speak on Passive Solar Design
December 4

HOLLY NEAR CONCERT

In addition, several committees are meeting to work on specific areas within Catfish. The educational committee is doing half-hour educationals before the Catfish business meetings. The legislative committee is getting facts and ideas about possible bills to be introduced in the spring. Money, naturally, is an ongoing need, so benefits are likely to occur several times this fall.

Anyone interested in working with Catfish or who wants information, feel free to call the Resource Center at 224-2416.

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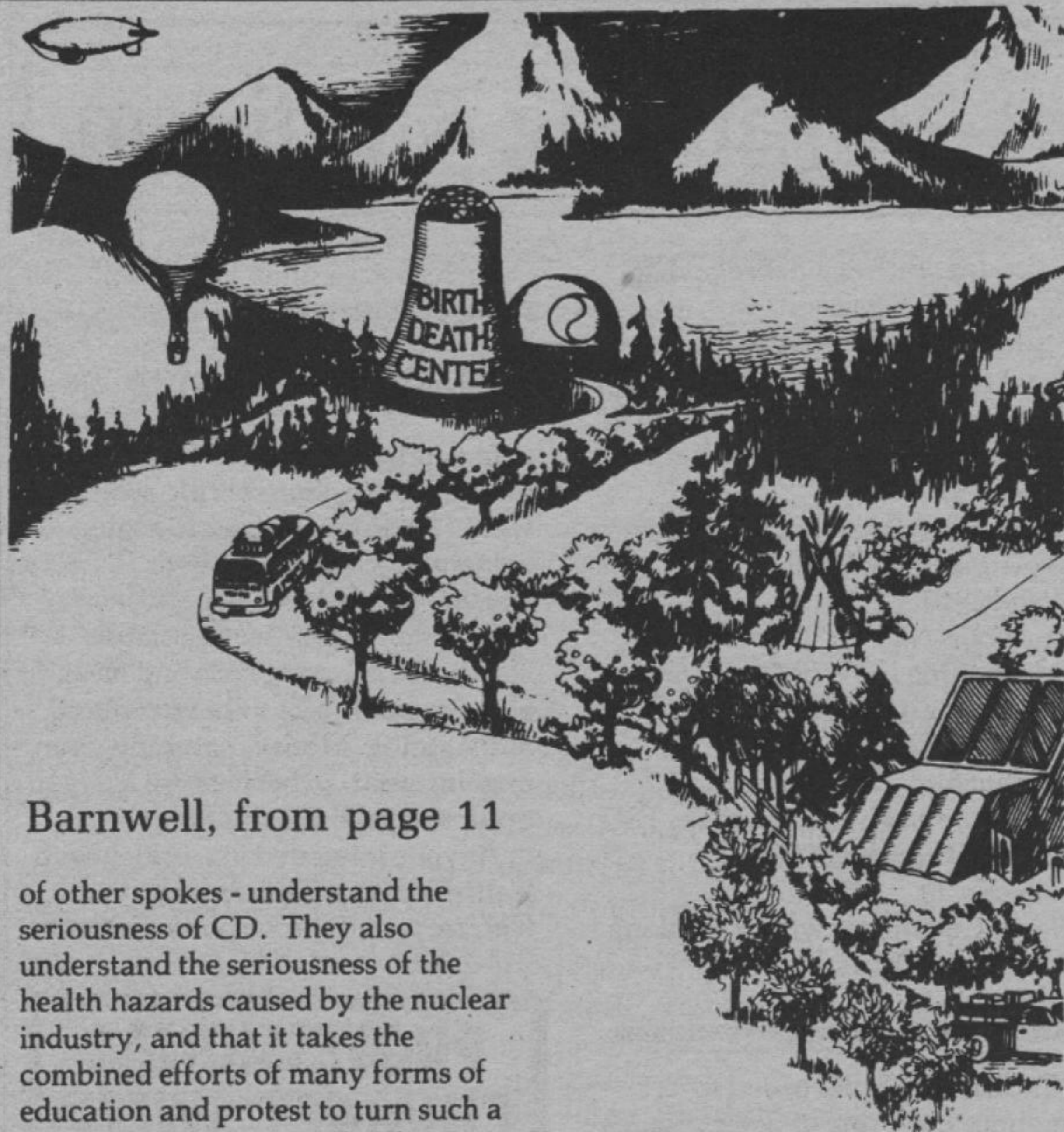
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Barnwell, from page 11

of other spokes - understand the seriousness of CD. They also understand the seriousness of the health hazards caused by the nuclear industry, and that it takes the combined efforts of many forms of education and protest to turn such a monstroid thing around. These people are willing to go to jail and through the legal hassle, time, expense and loss of jobs or schooling in order to drive home their point.

An affinity group has formed and been trained here in Tallahassee. It will participate in the October 1st action. Other members of the Tallahassee community and Catfish Alliance will be present on site and at the CD action to do support work and remain as liasons until every person arrested is out of jail.

People interested in travelling to Barnwell to take part in the Legal Rally and the AT Fair, hear the speakers and see the people, can contact Catfish staffperson, Sherry Rauch at 224-2416 and reserve a place

on the chartered buses. The cost is \$25.00 round trip. The bus leaves Tallahassee Saturday at 6:00 am from the FSU pool parking lot, arriving at the rally site in Barnwell at noon. It begins the return trip home at 9:00 pm SUNDAY, AND ARRIVES IN tallahassee around 2:00 am on Monday. We need to know by Wednesday morning, September 26, whether we have filled up both buses or whether we should cancel one.

If you decide to come to Barnwell, be sure to bring the gear you need to camp overnight, food to last your stay, and flexible clothes for the possibily of heat, cold, or rain. Further questions should be directed at Sherry.

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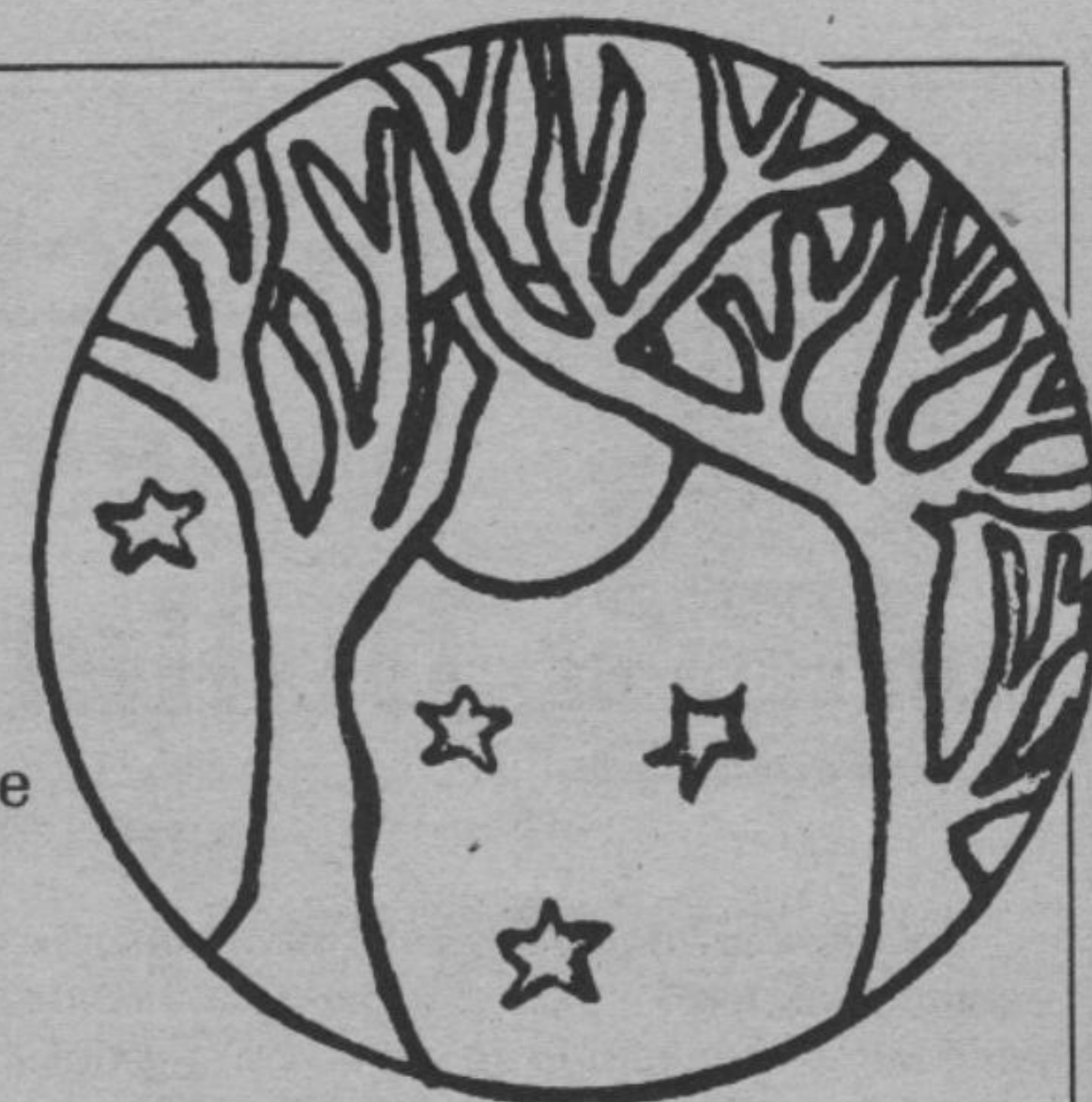
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Add years to your life and life to your years

Spreading Branches

by Rowan Fairgrove



Feast of Mabon

At Mabon, the Autumnal Equinox, (Sept 23) the sun enters the house of Libra and hangs in balance between the light of summer passing and the darkness of winter to come. It is also the Feast of Finishing Fruits or Harvest Home. It is the last preparation and putting away of provisions before the cold winds of October.

Just as it is time for preparation of the larder against the hungry time, it is also the time to prepare the soul for an interbal of introspection and inner growth. The winter is the time for learnings which will provide compost for new insights and growth when one is reborn in the spring.

Mabon is the point between, where we praise and give thanks for the time of richness and good harvest, but also look forward to the time of darkness and rest before rebirth.

Each individual or group must decide which aspect or balance of aspects is best for their growth.

Activities range from hayrides and canning parties to meditation and ritual preparation for study. This year, with the new moon two days prior to the equinox, it is especially auspicious to begin projects at this time. Pull out one of those things you've been putting off and putting off and make a promise to yourself on the 23rd that you WILL: take those twenty minutes a day to meditate; or take that Tai Chi class; read that book; whatever you feel you need to do. You can make your promise as simple as a thought or you can invest it with any amount of ritual that you feel comfortable with. You might light a candle and watch it burn down while repeating, "I will...(promise)" or silently prepare a cake while thinking your promise at it, then as you eat it, say something like, "This promise is becoming part of me and as I promise, so I will do." With a little ritual you can "programme" your subconscious to help you follow through with your intentions.


New American Movement, from page 7

We are working to build a socialist-feminist organization that develops its members in this way: a socialist society will constantly transform its citizens into people better able to fully participate in its workings.

And now...in the *New American Movement*, we work for changes while building a socialist movement for the future. We're a small but growing force for change within the labor movement. We're fighting to keep a woman's right to choose abortion, to end sterilization abuse, and to extend reproductive rights. We've been part of the grassroots groups who have tried to stem the tide of rising energy prices. We've defended battered women in Lansing, Michigan; fought for public power in Buffalo, New York. NAM works for gay rights in California and Chicago. We helped from a tenants' union in Texas, a clerical workers' union in the midwest. We're part of the struggle for justice in South Africa. When protesters occupy nuclear power plants, we're there.

The changes we fight for are necessary now. And they are part of a process of building for the future. Our destiny is in our collective hands.

(Responses to this article and requests for more information are welcome.
Call Pat Muar or John Buckley at 878-2575.)



**Your body deserves
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Nature's Way

1932 W. Tennessee
224-2043

A Restaurant with homespun meals

by Pat Simmons

There's no place like home. Especially if home is far away, as it is for many of us who are at college or who have simply moved away. For those who live in Gainesville, however, home is just around the corner.

On N.E. 6th Street, by the railroad tracks, tucked between rows of wooden houses, with a giant rubber tree pressed against the front window, sits the best place in town for down home company and good ol' home cookin'.

The proprietor of Mama Lo's has been dishing out home-cooked taste bud tantalizers for over sixteen years to those away from their own mama and stuck hungry in a strange town.

For y'all interested in alternative restaurants run by alternative people, Mama Lo's should definitely be on you alternative list for an alternative visit.

The moment you step through the door, your senses are filled with delightful alternativeness.

The door appears to be recycled from an old house torn apart long ago. So do the window frames, the wall paneling, and even the tables and chairs. They are crude but certainly not splintery. I'm sure the mighty oaks who now serve as table tops and seats are proud to have been immortalized as furnishings at Mama Lo's.

The menu is handwritten on only two copies, thank you. When you come in, go up to the cash register and ask what's on the fire. None of

the silverware, nor the plates, nor the napkins match. Just like home.

The aromas of chicken delights - broiled, fried, barbequed - over rice; turkey and gravy; corn on and off the cob; greens, flavored and non-; squash; beans, snap and pole; peas; yams; stuffings and all the extras permeate the nostrils. While the clatter and clammer permeates the ears.

Leftovers go back into the ground or are given to friends as hog slop. (You know those hogs go to bed belching and smiling.)

Mama Lo's always has a selection of home-baked pies to choose from, made fresh each day by her own loving hands. It's not unusual for a pie connoisseur to stop by just to buy a whole pie, or a couple of whole pies along with a slice or two for the road.

At almost any time of day between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. except on Sunday, you can eat here as a guest of Ms. Lo. She can most always be found in the back, tending the big black double stoves. With ladle in hand, she slaps up a mound of mashed potatoes grown in her own garden onto some lucky diner's plate. Or, wielding a knife with Julia Child finesse, she dices up freshly-pulled-from-the-soil carrots. Or she stops to chat with an old friend by the pool table. Pool table? Of course. Her smile is always warm and welcoming.

Ms. Lo doesn't really run the place by herself. With a little help from her family and friends, everything

simmers without hassles. Five fellow cooks and fellow waitresses, as well as her husband who by day moonlights in a local bank, and their youngest daughter, are usually there to help out during the standing-room-only evenings. "Yeah, we do get awfully busy here some nights. But we like it like that," said Ms. Lo as she rolls the roasting chickens over.

"Some people come here and they just want me to wait on them. If I'm not here, they'll leave and come back and wait for me. I enjoy it. That's why I put in over sixteen hours a day, six days a week."

Most customers are students, but there are many who are not. A lot of locals stop in, and some non-locals make sure they pay a call to Mama.

"We had some people come all the way from California. People that I didn't even know who said they had heard of my place. Imagine, out in California. They said they just had to stop in."

And I bet they were glad they did. If she had said Madagascar, I would have believed her. That's pretty good PR, considering that Mama Lo's has almost no advertising. Except for a local clip-out coupon now and then, all that is known of this culinary nook is spread by word of mouth.

If she had wanted, Ms. Lo could have franchised, from Pahokee to Two Egg and all points in between. There could have been homespun meals with homespun atmosphere in every major city in Florida, with two locations in Disney World. But alas, she has kept the uniqueness of her

talent in ol' Hogtown. "I've done well with my business," explained Ms. Lo. "It's gotta be something you want. You got to stick with it to make it work."

I may visit Gainesville again and miss the shows at the Great Southern Music Hall, or a visit to the Granary. But I'll never miss my meals at Mama Lo's.

With a flash from her straining spoon and a twinkle in her eye, she added, "Yeah people, when they come here, they may not meet their real mama. But they do meet Mama Lo."

Ain't it the truth! Ain't it the truth!

Tallahassee has a problem. It lacks inexpensive, nourishing meals prepared fresh each day in a commercial restaurant. Impossible? Listen up. Ms. Lo, operator of Mama Lo's in G'ville does it, and does it well. Anyone interested in how to start and manage such a restaurant can stop in her place and talk to her. Tallahassee has the energy, the will, and the means. Here's the prototype.

Caucus Day

by Cliff Thael

Leon County Democrats will meet in caucus in the State Capitol on Saturday, October 13, 1979, to vote for a slate of delegates who will represent this county at the Democratic state convention on November 13. The thirteen elected delegates will cast a straw ballot at the St. Petersburg convention for their choice for President in 1980. Presently, the choice for President would be between Jimmy Carter and Ted Kennedy. The Carter forces appear increasingly worried about the threat of a Kennedy challenge to the Presidency due to the "extremely well organized Kennedy effort in Florida."

Any registered Democrat is urged to come out to the caucus and vote in the delegate selection process. The important thing to remember is that these delegates will shape the state platform under which the *nominated candidates* are pledged to abide by. If a progressive slate of delegates can be sent from the Capitol city, this county could begin to have a significant voice in the direction of policies which will guide this country into the eighties.

Nothing begins at 12 noon, but individuals must be certified as eligible to vote before noon. Come on out and make this a better state for all of us to live in.

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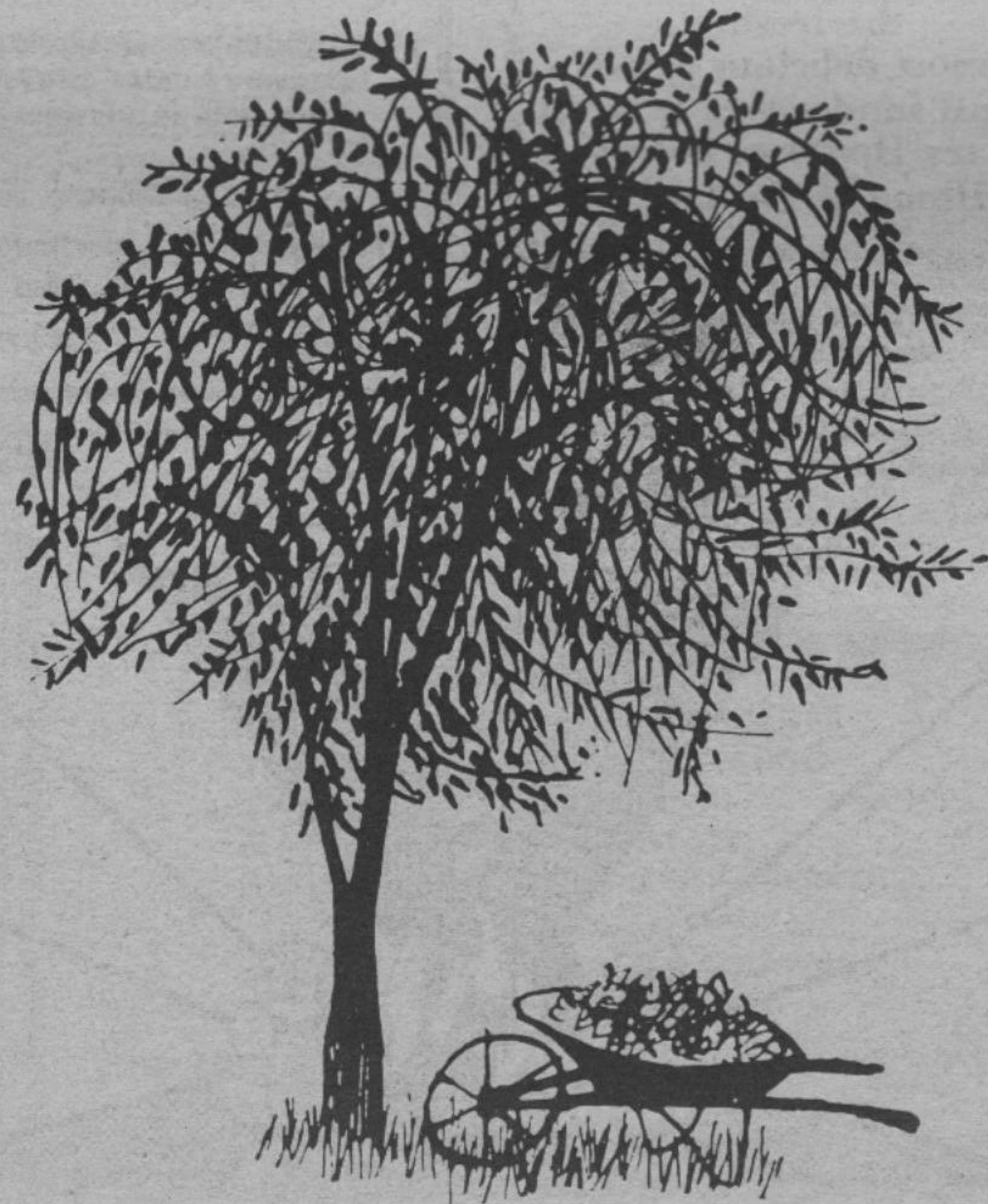
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