



PEAS PAMPHLET...whirling writings
June 6, 2011*Vol. 2*No. 23

PEAS PERFORM AT PUB
CATHERINE ROONEY'S

The *Peas* will perform at Catherine Rooney's 1616 Delaware Avenue in Trolley Square this Wednesday, June 8, 2011. Start time is 7:30 and will be ending about 10. Check out Catherine Rooney's website for directions, menu selections and so on.

www.catherinerooneys.com

OTHER PEAS GIGS

Mark your calendars for the following *Whirled Peas* road trips. Details will be forthcoming.

Killens Pond - July 15th

Twin Lakes Benefit for TriState Bird – July 23rd

Trap Pond - August 5th

Delaware City - August 13th

Lums Pond - August 16th

CD'S AND T-SHIRTS

Check out the *Peas'* website: www.whirledpeasband.com for purchase of this merchandise. And, the *Peas*, are working on 2 more CD's. Delivery date TBA.

MUSIC OF INTEREST

John Frink will be performing at ETG Café (EveryThing Goes) in Staten Island, June 10th at 7:30. And, on July 19th at 7 he'll be at Lums Pond.

SUMMERTIME...BRING BACK THE
"PASSION PIT"

On June 6, 1933 Richard M. Hollingshead, Jr. opened the first drive-in theater on Admiral Wilson Blvd. in Pennsauken.

A chemical company magnate, Hollingshead conducted outdoor theater tests in his driveway in Riverton. After nailing a screen to trees, he set a Kodak

projector on the hood of his car and put a radio behind the screen. He experimented with volume, size of spaces for cars and finally applied for a patent August 6, 1932. He received it May 16, 1933.

His drive-in offered 500 slots for cars and he advertised the theaters with the slogan, "The whole family is welcome, regardless of how noisy the children are." The theater operated for 3 years but his concept took off and soon other states offered drive-ins.

Drive-in Trivia

By late 50's early 60's there were some 4,000 theaters across the US.

In the 50's the theaters were labeled "passion pits" and gained the reputation as immoral.

Admission policies were open to abuse such as smuggling patrons in the trunks of cars, so many theaters established per car rates.

Some theaters offered propane heaters in the winter.

Trailers advertising food was shown to tempt people to the snack bars

To boost attendance, owners hired petting zoos or caged monkeys, actors or musical groups to entertain before the feature film. Some offered religious services Sunday mornings and evenings.

Decline

Land became too valuable to house such seasonal, time-limited (daylight savings subtracted an hour of possible showing) which led to the demise of the drive-in.

Many drive-ins repurposed themselves as flea markets. Spotlight 88 in Beaver County, PA is an example of drive-in turned flea market. After an F3 tornado destroyed much of its property in 1985, the owners put up a "now showing " sign "Gone with the Wind" closing the theater and opening a flea market.

PEAS PONDERING

He's too nervous to kill himself. He wears his seat belt in a drive-in movie. ***A line from a Neil Simon play***