

Christmas issue
Sat., Dec. 13

The Main Street WIRE™

Roosevelt Island's Independent Community Newspaper

Between-issues bulletins by e-mail (Send "Add Me" to WIRE@nyc.rr.com)



Blackwell House falls under the long winter shadow of 475 Main Street, the northernmost building in Southtown. The oldest structure on the Island, the farmhouse is long overdue for repairs, its bowed roof evident in this photograph. The Historical Society is working with RIOC to move the process forward.

Vacation with a Service Twist

"I came away with a feeling of gratitude for what life offers." So wrote Imogene Hess, an Westview resident who traveled to Greece in October to join eight other American volunteers as companions to severely handicapped residents of a government-run institution in the northern town of Sidirokastro.

The trip was an experience in service offered by Global Volunteers, a Minnesota-based non-profit.

Hess and the other volunteers played with and fed their new friends, and accompanied them on day trips. Because the institution is chronically short of staff, many of its residents are isolated most of their lives. The companionship of the Americans provided a new experience for some. Global Volunteers plans to follow up with additional two-week visits.

Hess says she gained more than she gave. "I now understand and appreciate the patience needed for

this kind of work, and the dedication that must be involved. I was impressed with the way the children were treated by members of the staff, who showed a lot of love and affection to them."

As part of the visit to Greece, Hess and the other volunteers were able to explore the Macedonian region, rich in historic sites and natural beauty. Free-time activities ranged from visiting folk-art and military-history museums to hiking and visits to natural hot springs. One trip, to the nearby port city of Thessaloniki, took in a world-famous archeological museum.

Participants in the Global Volunteers program pay a fee to join a service team. The organization has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Additional information is available on its website at www.globalvolunteers.org, or by calling **1-800-487-1074**.



Imogene Hess, with a new friend, in Greece.

Briefly...

Eddie O'Flynn, Manager of the Cabrini Thrift Shop, received the St. Frances Cabrini Parish award at a mass held last week.

The **Roosevelt Island Historical Society** will be holding a sale of its publication, *Images of America – Roosevelt Island*, today from 9:00 to 1:00 in the 555 Main Street lobby of Island House and the 625 Main Street lobby of Westview. The book will also be available at the Seniors' flea market Saturday, Dec. 6.

Keyspan will be blowing high-pressure air through piping next week, to clean it as part of its final preparation to go into commercial operation with newly-constructed generating capacity, and residents of Roosevelt Island may hear some unusual "rumbling" noises, perhaps as late as 7:00 p.m.

MetroCard for Tramway Now "Close," Says Speaker Miller But Expectations "Grossly Premature," Says Berman

by Dick Lutz

MetroCard for the Tramway may be close, according to City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller.

Depending on whose words carry the most weight this week, a listener might guess that second-ride transfers to and from the Tram are within sight – perhaps even before year's end – or still at the distance of a difficult but continuing negotiation.

Jessica Lappin, an aide to City Council Speaker Gifford Miller, told *The WIRE* this week, "For the first time, all the parties are at the table and eager to get this done."

RIOC President Herbert E. Berman, on the other hand, when told *The WIRE* would report this week that MetroCard for the Tramway is imminent, said, "It's grossly premature. We're in negotiations with the Transit Authority and they have by no means been finalized." He added, in a Wednesday telephone conversation, "I think it would be an unfair thing to create an expectation for the people on the Island until and unless it becomes a reality. You're the second person who's told me this today but – I wouldn't lie to you – it's not a fait accompli."

Through Lappin, Miller provided this statement on Wednesday: "It has been a longstanding priority of mine to bring the Roosevelt Island Tram into the MetroCard system. Assemblymember Grannis and I have been engaged in negotiations with the MTA and with RIOC to make this goal a reality, and I believe that we are close to announcing that Roosevelt Island will soon be a part of the one-fare system."

The key to recent progress appears to be a meeting between MTA President Lawrence Reuter



The MetroTram card is fantasy, but with the tenth anniversary of the MetroCard near, the Tram may finally be included in MetroCard.

and two politicians who represent Roosevelt Island, Miller and Assemblymember Pete Grannis. Lappin said, "Gifford made a generous offer of some capital funding to move the process along. RIOC and the MTA are right now negotiating final operational issues. We're very close to having MetroCard on the Tramway... We're hoping to have MetroCard on the Tram in the very near future."

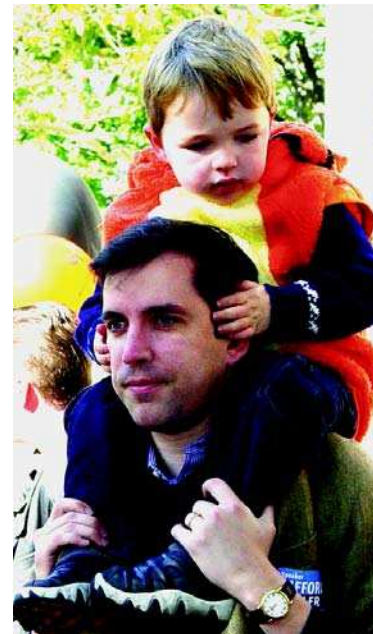
Neither Lappin nor Berman volunteered information. *The WIRE* made inquiries when residents reported workers were taking measurements at the Tram stations.

MetroCard for the Tramway has been an issue since the 1994 introduction of the MetroCard with its slogan, "One City, One Fare." Even while outlying bus companies made deals with the MTA to be included in the free-transfer system, RIOC administrations appeared unable to move the process forward. Over the last two years or more, Residents Association President Matthew Katz has worked to generate progress. In February of 2001, Reuter told Katz, at a public meeting for transit riders, that he was "very interested in the idea." But issues of capital cost and likely loss of revenue for the Tramway seemed

always to keep RIOC and the MTA from moving closer to a deal.

Shortly after Berman assumed the RIOC presidency in August, he made it clear he favored MetroCard for the Tramway. On September 3, appearing before the Residents Association Common Council, he said "I have no information that will give you any sense of comfort that it's about to happen," but added, "We are undertaking a course of meetings to try and see if that can happen and we'll keep you posted. If we're successful, we'll let you know and, if we're not successful, we're going to ask you to join with us in attempting the appropriate pressure to try and get it to happen."

By October 22, in an open house meeting with Eastwood residents, See **Tramway**, page 2



Speaker Miller (and a future Speaker?) were on the Island for the Halloween parade October 25.

Islanders

Military Past, Artistic Here and Now

by Anusha Shrivastava

Walking into Paul Katz's apartment is like entering an art museum. There are rows of pictures on every wall. There are pictures in the kitchen, in the living room, in the bedroom, and even in the bathroom. These are not the kind of pictures most people hang up – pictures taken by others or bought from galleries and flea markets. These are either pictures Katz has shot himself or pictures his artist friends have shot and he has selected. They are all large, arranged row by row with an aesthetic sense, throughout his sixth-floor Eastwood apartment.

For the coming weeks, though, the pictures have been moved to the Island branch of the New York Public Library, for an exhibit.

It is hard to take your eyes off these pictures because they are stunning – beautiful, evocative, and very often *provocative*. There's one black-and-white picture taken overlooking a park on a snowy day (see gallery of images, pages 6-7). There's a black silhouette

ette of a man etched on a large clock with a larger, more fluid white silhouette across it. Waves cover the bottom third of the picture. Katz explains: "That's *Time and Tide Wait for No Man*."

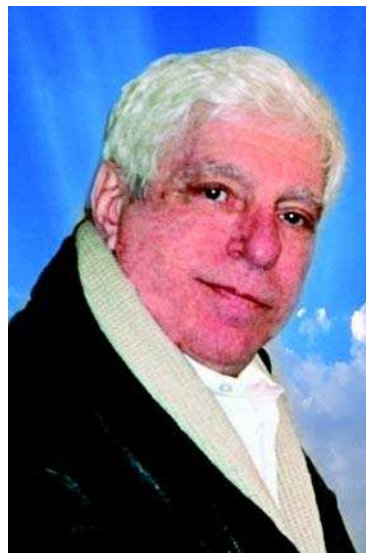
Some pictures are black-and-white, some are color, and some have more color than you can deal with. There are images that will

stay in your mind's eye long past the day you've seen them. That, in a way, is the point of all his work, he says. "I don't have words to express all I see. I find it easier to show you a fall leaf than describe to you what its color is and what its veins look like."

The frames are simple metal, almost plain. "Ornate frames take the emphasis away from the picture. Frames are there just to hold a picture in place. They can add simple elegance to the picture but nothing should distract from the picture itself."

Confronted with these images, it is hard to reconcile them with the fact that Katz has spent most of his life as a military man, albeit with a camera in hand. At 67, this tall, white-haired, bespectacled man appears to be more of an academic, more of an artist, and more of a philosopher than a former soldier who was in Korea in the fifties and Vietnam in the sixties. As an infantryman in Korea just before the armistice, he says he saw a "little bit of

See **Katz**, page 2



Letters

To the Editor:

I wanted to take advantage of the lovely weather last Sunday to walk to Southpoint Park. As I approached the entrance gate, I saw a large group of visitors who had come from the City to see the Renwick ruin and the beautiful views of the City. However, a small yellow sign posted at the gate informed us that the park was closed until Monday due to the filming of a movie. I went back home, while the poor visitors who needlessly shlepped here ambled aimlessly towards the back of Goldwater Hospital amidst the garbage and sewage smell.

I wondered why the “RIOC family,” as Herb Berman calls it, couldn’t come up with a single sign on either side of the river to inform the visitors that he is so anxious to welcome that the park was closed. The family brain-trust consists of:

- Two lawyers who never seem to have an answer on any legal issue (see Red Bus insurance incident)
 - An engineer who always needs to hire costly consultants
 - An amorphous “President’s Assistant” who was initially transferred by DHCR to hover over an interim president after Ryan was booted out
 - A Public Relations representative who is never heard but everyone speaks for
 - A President who speaks for everyone but seldom listens
- Total salary for these six folks only is about \$650,000 (not to mention another \$1,300,000 for the rest of the administrative staff).

I checked the RIOC website, presumably maintained by our full-time computer guy, and that also had no reference to this closure, but did still have the same wonderfully self-congratulatory quote that “New York has only one destiny ... it is Greatness,” from our equally great Governor Pataki.

If only our evolving transitional president of 180 days was allowed to run this small, unpretentious neighborhood without the millstone of these highly paid political bureaucrats he could have continued to:

- Remember that human beings live here – deserving honest communication
- Fix the lights – most of which are out
- Clean Motorgate periodically, instead of waiting for film crews to clean spots when they use it for shoots
- Repair Blackwell House – before the matching grant is lost and the poor structure collapses
- Repair and open Sportspark for public use – as originally intended in the GDP
- Restore Public Safety staffing and organize them effectively
- Drop these pathetic and desperate development deals in which the developer makes millions and we get pennies

Since we are told that RIOC has plunged us into a million dollar deficit for this year, and that belt-tightening (ours of course, not theirs) is on the way, I might have suggested that they use the flip side of the laminated posters that they put up on all the kiosks urging the Yankees success in the post-season.

I do look forward to seeing warm wishes for Seasons Greetings from RIOC on the kiosks in another few weeks, but I don’t expect any information that I can actually use.

Nurit Marcus

To the Editor:

I need guidance. Whom can I support for Governor, for State Senator, for State Assembly Member next time around?

The present people in those positions have small regard for promises they made to the citizens of Roosevelt Island. At decision time our Governor and our legislators always put our interests aside.

Governor Pataki gave every indication in January of 2002 that he supported home rule for Roosevelt Island. As of now, no progress. Are the powers behind his throne trumping the Governor in order to hold onto patronage positions?

Senator Mendez told the Governor in January 2002 that the idea of home rule for Roosevelt Island was an idea whose time had come. With all the political capital she has acquired by changing parties, she has not used one bit to advance that idea.

Assemblymember Grannis is a dilemma. He has been a stalwart in standing with Island residents on many issues until push comes to shove. With the chips down, he finds it more important to find ways to counter Senator Mendez. Is it because she is a mugwump or because of some other reason?

The existing RIOC system dances to the signals called from Albany. The results have been awful. There is no indication they will get any better.

The latest bombshell – that RIOC has not been prudent in its financial planning – has grave implications. Having gambled capital funds away on projects without a return, counting chickens before they hatch, and doing all that out of the glare of public scrutiny – all this means that the Island residents will take another hit in the quality of Island life.

The answer has to be in getting the policy makers, the elected officials, accountable. I intend to do whatever I can do to support candidates for State offices who will work for our best interests.

Whom can I support?

David J. Bauer

Letters Policy

The WIRE welcomes letters to the editor, to the community, and to/from officials. Publication on a *Name Withheld* basis will be considered, but the writer’s name, address, and phone number **must** be provided for verification and for our records; anonymous letters are not considered for publication. **Preferred methods of submission:** E-mail to Letters@MainStreetWIRE.com (E-mail format preferred, or use any wordprocessing software) to put a file on a PC-standard 3.5" floppy disk left at 531 Main Street addressed to *The WIRE*. **Alternatives:** Typed, double-spaced copy left at 531 Main Street or faxed to 1-212-755-2540 (call ahead to 1-212-826-9055). Clearly-handwritten letters will be considered if brief, but we cannot take telephone dictation of letters. **All letters are subject to acceptance, and to editing for length and clarity.** Recommend maximum length, 300 words; longer letters will be considered if their content merits the required space.

Letters deadline for Dec. 13 issue: Dec. 9

After deadline, letters are considered on a space-available basis.

To the Editor:

I’m writing with an update on Paul Braucher. To begin, let me thank the entire Roosevelt Island community for its generosity with good wishes and contributions. It was that wonderful support that helped to get Paul through this ordeal.

Paul was operated on in mid-August. A doctor in Denver, Colorado, attempted to remove a tumor from Paul’s sinus canal that the doctors here in New York City were unable to operate on. It was a tricky and difficult procedure that was expected to require 22 hours of surgery and a two-week stay in the hospital.

Paul came through the surgery fine. The doctor was able to complete the procedure in about 16 hours, six less than anticipated. Paul decided that his recovery should be abbreviated, as well, and he returned home to his family in Chicago after about ten days.

His family, as you might well imagine, was ecstatic to have him home, and threw him a wonderful party, inviting all the neighbors and friends from his childhood. When he was feeling a little stronger, he returned to Roosevelt Island.

He’s doing fine – really fine. He has been declared cancer-free and is free of the pain that the cancer caused.

Thanks to this community for being a part of Paul’s miracle. He couldn’t have done it without you.

Connie Tanner

Tramway from page 1

Berman appeared more hopeful, but he was laconic: “We’re in very, very significant negotiations with the MTA on a regular basis. It’s a major cost initiative for them.” A week later, he told Rivercross residents, “It’s one of the most ongoing and continuing and tedious negotiations that I’ve been involved in, and they’re very, very thorough... This is a major effort on our part.” Pointing out that the Tram’s operating loss is a major drain on the RIOC budget, he said, “In my opinion, the one thing that will give it life and rehabilitate it financially is the MetroCard. I think it’s essential that the Tram continue because it’s a very important part of the Island, and it is the character of the Island. So I consider [MetroCard] a priority and we’re spending a lot of time trying to accomplish it.”

Just what the effect of MetroCard will be on Tram revenue is difficult to project. Because the second ride is free and the provider of that ride receives no revenue under present arrangements, there are likely to be losses during the homebound rush hour unless revenue-sharing formulas are adjusted. On the other hand, availability of a free transfer to East Side bus and subway lines could attract riders during the Manhattan-bound rush.

Tram ridership started dropping once a years-long series of subway repairs and rerouting was complete and the F train began providing reliable service. But riders have complained that morning rush-hour trains arrive at the Island station jammed and unboardable. For the MTA, a shift of morning riders to the Tram could take some pressure off an overburdened line.

The WIRE will provide e-mail updates on this matter as additional information becomes available. To receive the bulletins, send an “AddMe” to WIRE@nyc.rr.com.

Katz from page 1

the action.” “When people are trying to kill you, that’s enough action right there,” he says.

In 1954 in New York, the City where he was born, he did the night shift for the Army and spent the day working an assortment of civilian, mainly clerical, jobs. That was until he found a place to reignite his childhood passion for photography. “For \$20, I joined the Brooklyn Camera Club and that got me access to the Brooklyn Academy of Music and a 24-hour darkroom and studio,” Katz reminisces. “That’s when I began learning the mechanics of a camera and the compositional skills needed to take a good picture.”

In the early 60’s, he was commissioned as an officer and sent to Alaska as an official Army photographer. He worked with a 13-member team to document the environmental condition of the military and its equipment at near-freezing temperatures. Returning to New York to spend more time with his wife, he began to work at the Astoria studio, then owned by the Army, to produce motion pictures for military training. Using footage from the Vietnam conflict, he worked on a series called the Vietnam training report.

His next assignment was with the Department of the Army Special Photo Office headquartered at the Pentagon. Working with the Panama division of the organization, Katz says his mission statement was to document U.S. military activity in Central and South America during the Cold War. “I shot floods and earthquakes, and relief activity around those,” Katz says.

He laughs as he recounts one such assignment in Anchorage, Alaska. As he walked out of a bar one night, he pressed the street crossing button and saw the other side of the street cave in. “I thought I had caused that. Then, I got my camera and began shooting pictures of the Good Friday earthquake.”

In 1979, Katz left active military duty and returned to New York. Though he stayed in the Reserve, he began working for the photography department of New York University and then opened his own studio. He worked for Citicorp for a decade, producing photos for their brochures, advertisements, and collateral materials. He said he did not like the formal atmosphere at the company where he would have to go for shoots in a suit, “dressed as if going to a board meeting.”

Katz spent the ’70s running his studio and working on a per-diem basis for the U.S. Marshal Service. “I could work 24 hours a day,” Katz says. But as he grew older, he wanted to lead a simpler life, and began to sell his pictures to Index Stock Imagery, a photo agency. He says that even though he collects Social Security, he is not really retired. “What is *retired*? I have the heart of a 23-year-old.”

That may explain why he never stopped experimenting with his art and his photography. “Paul is not in the box,” says Tony Vita, an Island resident and artist responsible for getting Katz to move to the Island in August this year. They’ve known each other since their days at New York University. “He has maintained his creativity. He is generous in spirit and a great teacher,” says Vita.

Surrounded by his art and pictures, Katz seems to be at peace with himself and his work. Though he shot pictures of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, none of those pictures are on the wall. It is his more recent and more artistic works that are displayed.

The sole exception is a plaque at the entrance that reads “1966 Pictures of the Year – Second Place Pictorial, Capt. Paul C. Katz, U.S. Army.” It was awarded to him by the National Press Club and the University of Missouri’s School of Journalism for a picture he took at a military checkpoint in Vietnam. “Things come together compositionally and you find the right moment to shoot it,” says Katz. “Occasionally, you are lucky enough to do that.”



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On behalf of everyone at RIOC, we want to extend the warmest wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving to all on Roosevelt Island.

As the holidays rush toward us we hope to make Main Street especially festive this year. And at the same time, even though temperatures are moderate right now, we are gearing up for the effects of ice and snow as winter approaches. We're making sure we have enough supplies on hand for efficient snow and ice removal. Let's hope planning for the worst weather brings the opposite and provides us a gentle winter.

I think we should all congratulate Matt Katz and RIRA and Gristede's for their generosity in providing a "thank you" dinner for the FDNY's Special Operations command headquartered here on the Island. There is no way to sufficiently recognize the losses suffered by the FDNY on September 11, 2001, but we must try so that we never forget. RIRA certainly deserves praise for keeping these memories green.

The RIOC Column



Herbert E. Berman, President
Roosevelt Island Operating Corp.
e-mail: hberman@rioc.com

extremely productive.

On that note have a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season.

As for RIOC and its role of developing the Island, there is nothing new to report regarding any development either at Southtown or the Octagon site.

Also, we continue to talk to the Child School regarding its bus operations on the Island. There are still some problems with congestion on Main Street that we are addressing.

Finally, I will be scheduling a couple of evening open houses at RIOC's offices. I look forward to hearing from more Island residents. I have found these open houses to be

The Public Safety Blotter for the first half of November is now available on Website NYC10044 at <http://nyc10044.com>.

Is it possible that forty years have elapsed since President Kennedy was assassinated? I was a college freshman, just coming out of gym class, when I saw the flag atop my dorm go to half-mast. Does anyone alive and sentient in 1963 not remember exactly where they were, what they were doing and thinking on that day? Why do those films of the motorcade and the funeral still have the power to shake me to the core? Like everyone else, I spent the next three days parked in front of a television trying to come to grips with what would prove to be the primal horror of a bloody and surrealistic decade. I started the sixties a callow high-school boy and ended them in the uniform of a nation at war. (Are those decaying photos of a slim young man in a Class-A uniform really me?) How do we explain to the generation that came of age after Desert Storm the schism in the national fabric that the civil-rights movement and Vietnam caused and that the sixties were not just about sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll? I hope that students of these times are fortunate enough to be taught by teachers who came to maturity during those years. Only then will they understand the events that shaped my generation. It's appropriate to remember on this November 22. But enough of that.

I'd like to correct some misinformation I gave you in the last issue. There is a new telephone number to report identity-theft crimes to the New York Police Department, but it is not 1-866-5-OPT-OUT, as I had said. The correct number is: **1-888-5-OPT-OUT**. I apologize for the error.

RIRA First Vice President Steve Marcus and I participated in a productive and wide-ranging discussion with RIOC leadership earlier this week. Together, we are investigating the emergency and contingency plans that apply to Roosevelt Island. Our intention is to learn from the hard lessons of 9/11 and last summer's Blackout to derive a plan, to be shared with you, that will provide for our unique situation as a State-run Island in the East River. What I can offer now is that the Public Safety Department has trained nine officers in the operation of the two defibrillators in their possession. While this emergency service is not yet available 24 hours a day, the intention is to quickly make it so. RIOC President Herb Berman has urged the community to call 911 before calling Public Safety in the event of a medical emergency. The window of opportunity to cardiovert a heart attack victim or someone suffering from ventricular fibrillation is only about six minutes. Therefore, intuitively, it would seem more logical to obtain immediate treatment from Public Safety before calling **911**, with the delays that bringing help over the Roosevelt Island Bridge might entail. I think this will be a judgment call for any resident caught on the horns of this dilemma. Remember, Public Safety can be reached at **1-212-832-4545**.

There are two extraordinary organizations based on Roosevelt Island with impact that is felt far from our shores. The first, Orphans International, has founded four orphanages (and counting) in far-flung parts of the world, and has been written of extensively in these pages. OI's director, Jim Luce, a human dynamo residing in Eastwood, saw a need in third-world countries not just to care for destitute children, but to prepare them to be useful adults and world citizens.

The other organization, the Icla da Silva Foundation, was founded in tragedy when a young Brazilian girl residing on Roosevelt Island died of leukemia. Time ran out on her quest to find a bone-marrow donor who specifically matched her unique requirements. Bone-marrow transplants are the only hope for leukemia and lymphoma patients. Her father Alci and brother Airam vowed to improve the statistically minute chances of finding a perfect match for other young people. In the eleven years since its founding, the Founda-

tion has registered over 32,000 potential bone-marrow donors, primarily in the Latino community, given logistical, emotional, and financial support to over 240 patients and facilitated over 150 bone-marrow transplants.

Last week I was privileged to witness a meeting of one such donor and a young recipient. In an event held at the Venezuelan Consulate in Manhattan, and in the presence of members of the diplomatic community as well as the Foundation's officers, directors, and friends, two families came together to celebrate life. A young Midwestern woman is attending college and leading a normal life because another Hispanic woman offered her bone marrow to a complete stranger. It was a moment that none of us will ever forget.

RIRA and the Icla da Silva Foundation have produced blood drives together on Roosevelt Island. As a part of that process, bone-marrow donors have been solicited, as well as blood and platelet donors. I'm not sure when the next blood drive will be, but when you see the Foundation tent somewhere on Main Street, be sure to drop by and sign up. How often does one get the chance to save a life, anyway?

Thanksgiving is just around the corner – an American tradition. Another tradition, now in its third year, is this community's offering of Thanksgiving dinner to the guys at the Special Ops firehouse north of the AVAC building. This was part of the Resident Association response to the events of September 11, 2001 that included a fund drive for the families who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center as well as the memorial plaque and tree that occupy a place of honor just northwest of the Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

RIRA members Margie Smith and Vicki Feinmel began an annual event that now includes many members of the community, with Island kids providing decorations and music. This year, RIRA member Joan Christianson is honchoing the event. There's always room for another side dish, and so, if you would like to be a part of this opportunity to say "thanks" to some of New York's Bravest, call Joan at **1-212-759-8336** (or send an e-mail to joanbrady@aol.com). You can also leave a message of your contribution at msmith@quintennium.com.

My wife, Sherie, has made her incredible cranberry relish (would you believe horseradish, onions and sour cream could complement fresh cranberries?) and frozen it, as we will be out of town during the days leading up to Thanksgiving. If this recipe sounds intriguing, you will find it in the Roosevelt Island International Cookbook, a must-have compilation of foods from around the world and offered as a joint venture by the RIRA Legal Action Fund Committee and the PTA. Give us a buzz (**1-212-935-7534**) if you would like to buy a copy.

One last thing to say: Despite all the *sturm und drang* of the battles we fight to get services for the community and recognition from government, there isn't a day that goes by that we're not grateful to live on Roosevelt Island. Sherie and I found a harmonious and entirely serendipitous quality of life when we moved here almost fifteen years ago, as well as friends that we treasure. When we commiserate with colleagues who fight the good fights with us and complain about the frustrations, someone always says, "Yeah, but it's worth it!" I'll be thinking about that when I dig into my aunt's roast turkey next Thursday.

Happy Thanksgiving, neighbors.



Matthew Katz, President
Roosevelt Island Residents Assn.
e-mail: matthewkatz@rcn.com

COMING UP

– This Weekend –

Paul Katz exhibit, Sat., Nov. 22, Library. (Story, page 1; pictures, pages 6-7; Library schedule, page 2.)

Main Street Theatre Comedy Night, Sat., Nov. 22, 9:00 p.m. \$16 admission benefits MST&DA scholarship fund. Reservations necessary; call **1-212-361-4449**.

– The Coming Week –

Roosevelt Island Committee of Community Board 8 meeting, **Mon., Nov. 24**, 7:30 p.m., Westview Lower Community Room. Open to public participation; agenda includes Main Street traffic problems, noise pollution, Motorgate, public safety.

114th Precinct Community Council meeting, **Tue., Nov. 25**, 7:30 p.m., at Riccardo's, 24th Avenue at 21st Street, Astoria. Directions: **1-718-721-7777**.

Toastmasters Meeting, Mon., Nov. 24, 8:00 p.m. For information, **1-212-935-1254** or **1-212-751-9577**.

– Future Events –

Mitchell-Lama Convention, Mon., Dec. 1, 5:30-8:00 p.m., Danny Kaye Auditorium at Hunter College, East 68th St. at Lexington Avenue, sponsored by Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, the Mitchell-Lama Residents Coalition, and the Mitchell-Lama Council. Program to cover tenant rights, rent increases, buy-outs, government subsidies. Free. Reservation: **1-212-669-4460**.

RIRA Common Council meeting, **Wed., Dec. 3**, 8:00 p.m., Chapel of the Good Shepherd. Open to the public; public comments invited near start of meeting.

Annual Bazaar of the Roosevelt Island Jewish Congregation, **Sun., Dec. 7**, 10:00-4:00, Cabrini Thrift Shop. (Donations accepted 7:00-9:00 p.m. Dec. 1-6; classroom, Cultural Center, 548 Main Street.) Additional information: 1-212-753-6518.

The Main Street WIRE – Holiday issue in 3 weeks, on **Sat., Dec. 13**. (To receive e-mail bulletins in the meantime, send an "Add Me" message to Bulletins@MainStreetWIRE.com.)

Deadlines: Advertising in the paper, Fri., Dec. 5; decision on fliers for *The Bag*, Mon., Dec. 8; fliers due Thur., Dec. 11. Future issues every two weeks Jan. 10 through June 12, 2004, then July 3, July 31, Aug. 28, and resuming a twice-a-month schedule Sept. 11 through Dec. 18. (Schedule subject to adjustment.) **Phone/fax** for news, **1-212-826-9055/755-2540**; urgent matters **917-617-0449**. **phone/fax** for display and classified advertising placement and information, **1-212-751-8214/755-2540**. **To list your organization's Island event in this column**, e-mail information to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com, or leave it, addressed to *The WIRE*, at the desk at 531 Main Street; provide a telephone number for follow-up questions; there is no charge.

Roosevelt Island Tidal Energy (RITE) Joint Agency/Public Meeting, Mon., Dec. 15, 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., Manhattan Park Theater Club. Discussion of project to use East River East Channel currents to generate electricity with the Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies responsible for approvals.

Book Discussion – *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt, **Thur., Dec. 18**, 6:30 p.m., Library. Free. Books available at the Library.

Book Discussion – *Pale Fire* by Vladimir Nabokov, **Thur., Jan. 15**, 6:30 p.m., Library. Free. Books available at the Library.

Book Discussion – *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* by J.W. Johnson, **Thur., Feb. 19**, 6:30 p.m., Library. Free. Books available at the Library.

There is no charge to list Island events here. E-mail information to ComingUp@MainStreetWIRE.com or leave copy at the lobby desk at 531 Main Street, addressed to *The WIRE*. Please provide telephone numbers for possible follow-up.

Senior Center

Monday	Thursday
10-11, Latchhook Class	10:00, Tai Chi
10-11:30, English as 2nd Language	10:30, Creative Arts
10:30, Blood Pressure Screen	12:30, Movie
12:30, "Oldies" Movies	7:00, Dance
1:00, Tai Chi	Friday
7:00, Dance Class (Beginners)	Pool Tournament (time flexible)
Tuesday	9:30, Yoga Stretch
10:00, Computers	7:00, Games (RISA)
10-11, Dance & Relax	Saturday
1:00, Bingo	7:30, Bingo (RISA)
6:00, Yoga Class	Special Events
7:30, Games (RISA)	Sun., Nov. 23 , Annual Dinner, 6:00
Wednesday	Thur., Nov. 27 , closed for Thanksgiving
9:15, Stay Well	Wed., Dec. 17 , Atlantic City
10:00, Spanish Class	Thur., Dec. 25 , closed for Christmas
10:30, Shoppers' Bus	
12:30, Sculpting	
7:00, Pokeno (RISA)	

Home-delivered meals available: **1-212-744-5022**, ext. 1203

Island Arts Music Center

*Roosevelt Island's
New Community Music School*

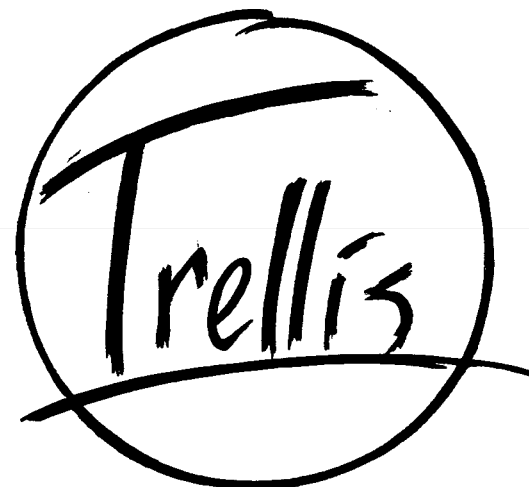
Now Enrolling Students for the Fall Term

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Located in the Main St. Cultural Center,
(548 Main St.)
Classes are offered Weekdays and Saturdays

For Information, call (212) 929-8343
Or, visit the Main St. Cultural Center,
and ask about our program.

The Island Arts Music Center was founded by Director of RIVER MUSIC, Robin Russell, trained at Juilliard and Harvard (B.A. in Music). With over 20 years teaching experience with private students, he has been on the faculty of the Turtle Bay Music School, and the Diller-Quaile School of Music.



Thanksgiving

We're thankful for your business, but that goes without saying, and there's more to say. At Trellis, we're also thankful to be part of this wonderful Roosevelt Island community. From all our staff to all of you and yours, thank you, and **Happy Thanksgiving.**
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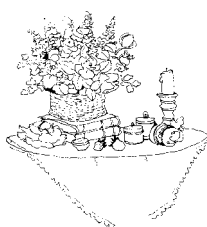
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Senior Center, 546 Main St.

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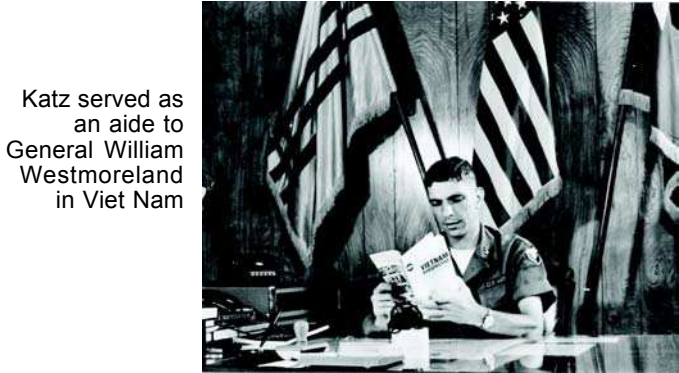
A Gallery of Paul Katz Images – and More to Be Seen Starting Too



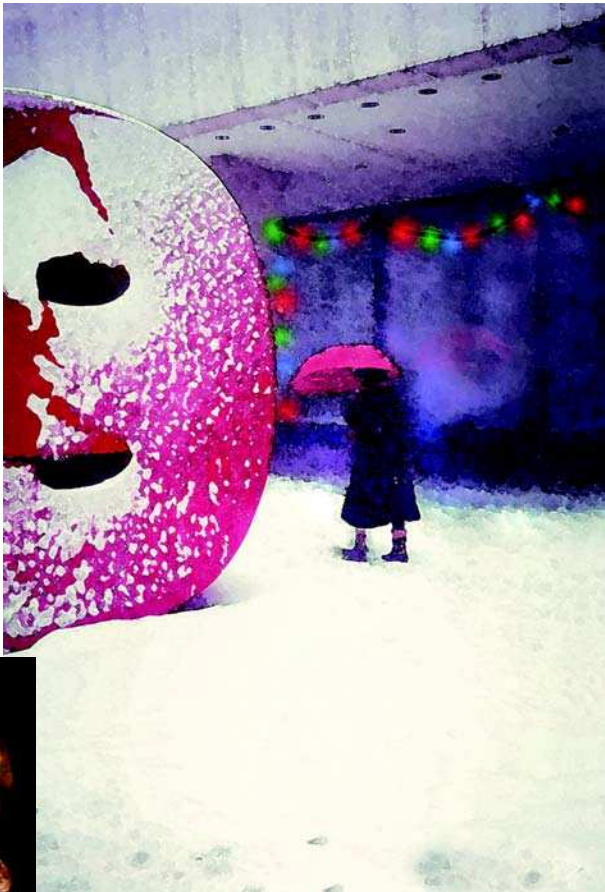
The Ben Wha Bridge, Viet Nam, December, 1966



President Lyndon Johnson (second from right) in El Salvador



Katz served as an aide to General William Westmoreland in Viet Nam



Katz's recent images are digital. Computer processing has opened up opportunities for fantasy and image adjustment to create or reflect a mood. Many of these images have been processed to resemble watercolor paintings.

Roosevelt Island Halloween



The World Trade Center 9/11/01



The WIRE's color presentation of this portfolio made possible by the New York Pu

Day at the Roosevelt Island Branch of the New York Public Library



57th Street Reflections

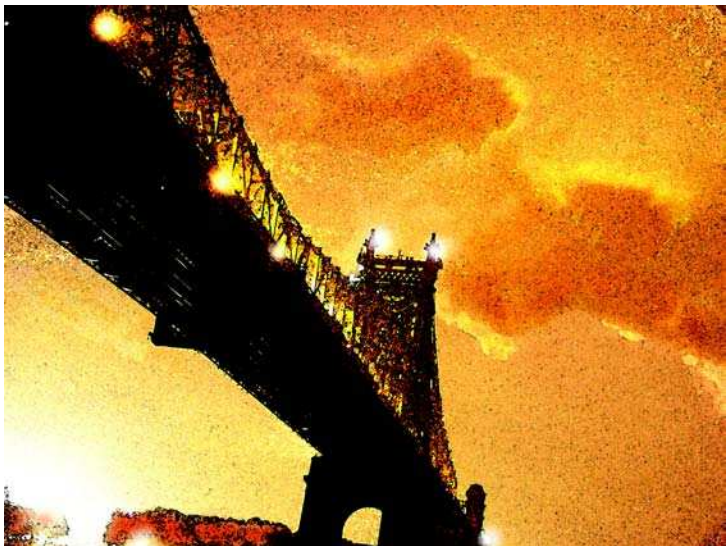


Fourth on Fifth



Spirit of the Martini

The West Village



Public Library through a grant from Roosevelt Island Community Literary Associates

A big

Thank you

from the PTA of PS/IS 217 and the Manhattan Park Management/Community Relations to those listed below for making our Halloween Fun House and Masquerade Party Fund Raiser a howling success:

- Our Firefighters, Mike Musich and Bob Foley, and all associated volunteers from the Special Ops Command who cooked all that wonderful food and helped out, especially Cruella and her Dalmatian pups
- Dolores Green and all the volunteers from RISA: Bubu Arya, Joan Christianson, Pearl Cooper, Ruth Davidson, Linda Egan, Ruth Kollins, Dominic Sciallo, Marilyn Sherman, Annie Shoots, Pearl Thomas, Elaina Vrinceanu
- Our extraordinary Face Painters: Eve Gagnon (from RIVAA) and Paul Rivera
- Israel and Wengerd Farms for the wonderful pumpkins, bales of hay, corn stalks and contributing the proceeds of October's pumpkin and cider sales
- Our community volunteers: Ayesha Kamal, Sandra Morabito and her mother, and the witch, Gail Montague
- Our children, Andrew, Melissa, Nassima and Thibault for manning the games
- The community businesses that contributed to our event: Beauty Salon, Cards & Gifts, Capri Italian Pizzeria, China One, Cleaners, Fish Market, General Store, Grog Shop, Gristede's, Island Flowers, Dr. Itskowitch, M&D Deli, New York National Bank, Nail Salon, Julie's Back Page, Trellis, We Are One, Costco, Fresh Direct, RIHMC, RIOC, Beacon Program
- The art students of PS/IS 217 who, under the guidance of our new art teacher, Ms. Jensen, made the Halloween murals and invitations for the event
- Captain Jim Fry and the Public Safety Officers
- And last but not least, all the parents and everyone else who contributed their time, talent, and baked goods.

Great Job!

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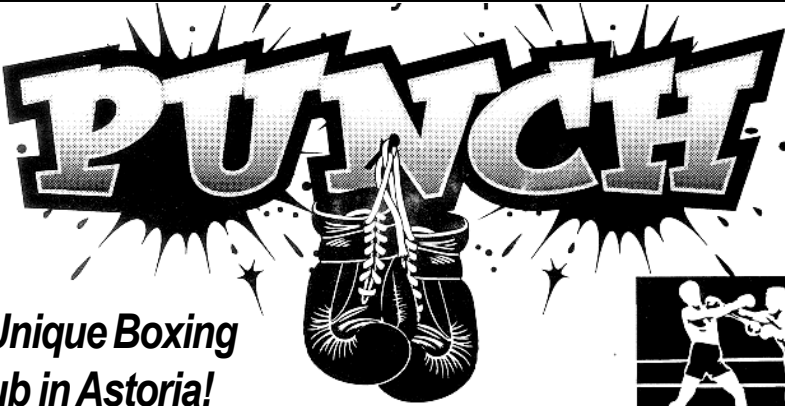
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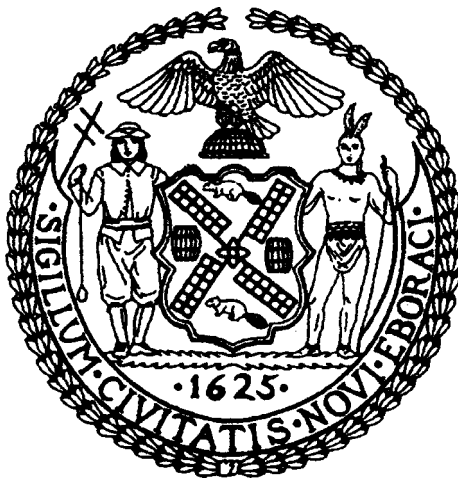
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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8**



Roosevelt Island Committee
Patrick Stewart and Deirdre Breslin, Co-Chairs

Meeting:
Monday, November 24, at 7:30 P.M.
Westview Lower Community Room

Are you concerned about the quality-of-life issues on Roosevelt Island?
If so, please come to our action-oriented meeting designed to create an agenda for change!

AGENDA

1. On-going traffic problems on Main Street
2. Noise pollution
3. Parking garage
4. What other concerns do you have that need discussion and planning for change?
5. Report of Byron Gaspard, Chair of RISK, on the Roosevelt Island Public Safety Agenda
6. As New York City taxpayers, do we receive adequate and on-going New York City Police Protection?

PLEASE COME. WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

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Senior Association**

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December 6th and 7th

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1st floor**

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SPORTSWIRE

Soccer A very competitive regular season in the Youth Program’s Fall Soccer League came to a close and the playoffs began on November 8 in the Minors (ages 7-8) and on November 15 in the Juniors (9-11) and Seniors (11-14).

Minors: In the Minors Championship game, Black & White defeated Gold, 2-1. Gold had the lead at the half, 1-0, on a goal by Marcello Anglani, but Black & White came back in the second half behind two goals by Leo Folla. In the battle for third place, Green defeated Burgundy 6-3 behind goals by Marko Cibic, Serwaa Osei-Danquah, and Luka DeLuka, as Chris Schrum scored all three goals for Burgundy. Congratulations to all of the members of the championship Black & White team – Shawn Boston, Samantha Byrne, Catherine Camilleri, Lucia Capello, John Patrick Donelan, Leo Folla, Stephanie Herlihy, Taro Hyodo, Leo Kell, Jarette Kleitz, Sameer Kurien, Fabiola Oubida, Edwin Perezic, Martin Rabot, Mohammed Sall, and Christine Sison; and their coaches, Hiro Hyodo and Chris Rabot.

Juniors: In first-round playoff action November 15, the first-place Black & White team remained unbeaten as they advanced to the championship game with a 4-0 victory over Gold. Javon Perry led Black & White with three goals, and Marko Oydanich added the other goal. In the second game that day, Green advanced with a 2-1 victory over Burgundy. Mahdi Ladjouzi scored both goals for Green while Oussama Boutaleb scored for Burgundy. The championship game between Black & White and Green will be played today (Saturday, November 22) at 11 a.m. at Firefighters Field in Southtown.

Seniors: In November 15 first-round playoff action, second-place Burgundy defeated Green 5-3, while first-place Black & White squeaked by Gold, 2-1, in a game that went into overtime. In the Burgundy-Green game, Robert Manukyan, Ante Kendes, Thomas Herlihy, Alex Pinks and Mikko McDonald scored for Burgundy, while Alex Beola, Anas Dorani and Rayco Trojanovic scored for Green. In the Black & White-Gold game, Ahmed Abudelezz put Black & White up 1-0 early in the first half, but Bertrand Oubida came right back to tie the score for Gold. The half ended 1-1 and there was no scoring in the second half. However, in the second five-minute overtime period, Samuel Johns scored for Black & White to give them the victory. The championship game between Black & White and Burgundy was scheduled (after *WIRE* deadlines) for Friday evening, November 21, at 7:00 at the Octagon Soccer Field.

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Gallery RIVAA Holiday Art Show



8 ■ 8

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Deadline for December 13 issue: December 9

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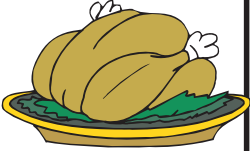
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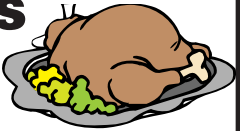
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\$1 59 lb.





RAO'S ITALIAN FOODS • QUALITY AT ITS BEST FOR THANKSGIVING!

RAO'S Restaurant on the Upper East Side has been a landmark for over 100 years, and known for its quality and Italian homecooking. You can not get a reservation in their restaurant for over six months, but GRISTEDE'S brings you RAO'S quality products everyday for you to enjoy. So if you want authentic old world Italian products, buy RAO'S at GRISTEDE'S. *John Catsimatidis, Chairman & CEO*

RAO'S Extra Virgin Olive Oil

\$10 99 500 ml.



RAO'S Roasted Garlic Vinaigrette

\$4 99 12 oz.

RAO'S Red Wine Vinaigrette

\$3 99 12 oz.



RAO'S Marinades

\$4 99 12 oz.

Lemon Chicken or Seafood



RAO'S Pasta Sauce

\$7 99 24 oz.

All Varieties



RAO'S Marinara Sauce

\$8 99 32 oz.



RAO'S 8 Star Balsamic Vinaigrette

\$4 99 12 oz.



RAO'S Vodka Sauce

\$7 99 24 oz.



Pepsi Cola

99¢ 2 liter

Regular • Diet or Caffeine Free



Lipton Tea Bags

100 Count

\$1 99 each



7 UP

6 Pack

\$1 99 12 oz.

Regular or Diet



Snapple Teas & Drinks

Assorted Varieties

3/\$2 16 oz.



Barilla Lasagna

2/\$3 9 oz.



Florida Natural Premium Orange Juice

2/\$5 64 oz.



Polly-O Ricotta

Whole Milk • Part Skim

\$4 99 48 oz.



Axelrod's Egg Nog

\$2 59 32 oz.

Breakstone's Sour Cream

Assorted Varieties

\$1 29 16 oz.



Polly-O Mozzarella

Whole Milk • Part Skim

\$3 59 16 oz.



Seabrook Farms Creamed Spinach

\$1 29 9 oz.



Birds Eye Vegetables

Assorted Varieties

89¢ 9-10 oz.



White Castle Hamburgers or Cheeseburgers

\$3 99 9.5-11 oz.

Frozen

Celentano Round Cheese Ravioli

\$1 99 13 oz.



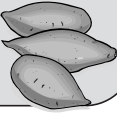
Haagen Dazs Ice Cream Yogurt or Sorbet

2/\$5 16 oz.



US #1 • Extra Fancy Cured Yams

69¢ lb.



California Broccoli

\$1 99 each



California • Green Celery

99¢ each



Jumbo Size • Sweet Pineapples

\$3 99 each



Jumbo • Sweet Honeydews

\$2 99 each



Dececco Pasta

Regular Pasta Cuts Only

2/\$3 1 lb.-pkg.



Maxwell House F.A.C.M. Grind Coffee

2/\$5 13 oz.



Martinelli's Sparkling Apple Cider

\$1 99 25.4 oz.



Nabisco Snack Crackers

Wheat Thins, Flavored or Triscuits All Varieties

\$2 99 6.75-10 oz.

College Inn Chicken Broths

Regular or No Salt

99¢ 13.75-14.5 oz.

Canada Dry Ginger Ale, Club Tonic or Seltzer

99¢ 1 liter

Limit 2 • exp. 12/3/03



Gift Box of Clementines

\$5 99 each

Limit 2 • exp. 12/3/03

Gold Medal Flour

Bleached or Unbleached

99¢ 5 lb. bag

Limit 2 • exp. 12/3/03



Arnold Stuffing

All Varieties

\$1 99 14-15 oz.

Limit 2 • exp. 12/3/03



White Rose Apple Juice or Cider

99¢ 64 oz.

Limit 2 • exp. 12/3/03

