

# Independent Press

Serving Bloomfield since 1883

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

TWO SECTIONS - 50 CENTS

## Animal shelter gets support from celebrity endorsement

By Anna L. Malyska  
Staff Writer

The Bloomfield council and members of the audience were treated to an appearance at Monday's township council meeting by celebrity groomer Lee Day, who volunteered to bathe and groom, and give love to all the pets in the shelter.

She also presented to the council information, provided by the Doris Day Animal League, about laws in New Jersey regarding the handling and treatment of animals in the custody of an animal shelter, as well as laws against the use of animals for experimentation.

"I know we can make things happen if we work together," said Day, a singer, actress and pet groomer who likes to sing to the animals while she grooms them. "I will shampoo and sing to the animals. I want to get music in the shelter and TVs."

Day would also like to do an autograph signing with her dog, Mr. Doo-gie, and perform a doggie and kinnie wedding, after the animals are spayed or neutered, of course.

Since her appearance at the council meeting, she has called local hardware stores to request their help with roofing, plumbing and painting for the shelter.

"This town means a lot to me, and the animals mean a lot to me," said Day. "I will not forsake my four-legged friends. They will have the

best of everything, and get homes."

Day's appearance, and the consideration and information provided to the council by the Doris Day Animal League, added a special touch to efforts of the Bloomfield residents who have worked hard to keep the Bloomfield Animal Shelter in the town.

Members of the council recognized the residents, who have offered to volunteer their time and effort.

"This was really an issue that was addressed with a passion I have never seen," Councilman Timothy Kane said.

Residents have been attending council meetings over the past few

months in an attempt to dissuade the council from outsourcing the shelter, and offered suggestions to keep the shelter in town. The council seemed convinced the shelter would not be outsourced.

"We are under the assumption that we would like to keep the animal shelter in Bloomfield," said Councilman Vincent Esposito.

Councilwoman Maureen Esposito has met with with Diana Jeffrey, a Bloomfield resident who has offered to draw up grants for funding for the shelter. She will be meeting with her again this week.