
10964

DECEMBER 1985 NO. 77

This community newsletter publishes information, events, problems and concerns affecting the people of Palisades. 10964 needs your moral and financial support. Please send a contribution for 10964 to Box 201, Palisades, NY 10964. With your help you'll find 10964 in your mailbox every month.

COMMUTER BLUES

PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

Aren't we having fun? 6:45 a.m. A tractor trailer has spilled its guts out on Rte. 80. Grapefruits splattered to kingdom come and I can rubberneck this mess from my VWVP (Volkswagen Vantage Point) high atop beautiful downtown Ft. Lee, on my lemming-like determination to get to the GWB. From, say 10:30 to about 4, this access road to the bridge is your normal suburban thoroughfare, but it becomes, in the mystery of morning rush hour, the world's largest parking lot. O acculturated commuter that I am, I soak up the auto rays around me and contemplate the day ahead, the life ahead. Can I do this for even one more morning?

But there are some small compensations. Some days when I drive in alone, Thursdays especially, WBAI plays comedians like Woody Allen or Robert Klein. You who have driven alone in your car with Klein or Allen or Mel Brooks as companions, will understand the problem I face on Thursdays. You want to roll down your window and explain to "everyone" why you seem to be losing your marbles at 7 a.m. on the West Side Highway. You know that your fellow commuters are probably listening to WINS all-news radio and will never comprehend. So you find yourself making these incredibly wimpy gestures in the air, index finger shooting at the radio, all of which go unnoticed by the other travelers in the preoccupation of the commuter manifest des-

(Con't P. 2)

HOLIDAY PARTY FOR CHILDREN AT THE PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER

The Palisades Community Center is holding its annual holiday party in celebration of Christmas and Hanukkah on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 p.m. Children up through 4th grade are invited.

This year we have invited 2 special guests, Twippy, the clown and a Mystery Guest. Each child must bring a grab bag gift suitable for a boy or girl, valued at \$2, and be on time. Refreshments will be served.

Linda Jouas has agreed to run the party, as she did so well last year. But she needs your help. Please call 359-6756 if you can lend a hand that day, bake some cookies, or provide entertainment.



PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On Sunday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m., during the regular worship service, there will be a dramatic presentation by Harry Davis and David Saunders of Palisades.

On Christmas eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24, there will be two services: Family Service at 5:30 p.m. (children are asked to bring a "white gift offering" - gift wrapped in white - which will be given to children at the Rockland Family Shelter); Traditional Candlelight Service at 11 p.m. with lessons and Carols.

(Con't from P. 1)

tiny. You roll up your window, engulf yourself once again in the distracting world of one-liners, and, looking straight ahead and biting your cheeks, proceed upstream.

Sometimes driving with some of my favorite Palisadians is more than ample compensation for the dismal drudgery of the daily commute. Jerry Silverman, for example, provides endless excitement. If 9W is totally backed up he will just drive on the narrow lane all the way on the right, the one separating his car from the rest of the world by a solid and thick white line. Or he will take the old river road which winds down along the Hudson. It is one of the most glorious roads and I recommend it highly for any out-of-town guests --but taken at 50 m.p.h. at 7:10 in the morning, well that's different. We come to a sign stating clearly that the road is closed. Jerry ignores the sign, just goes right around it, tearing up the road at 50 or 60 (and driving straight down the middle of the road because he believes that "No one ever comes in the other direction") until we get all the way to Fort Lee where we encounter another Road Closed sign --only this time there's a long chain on either side of the sign attached to poles dug deep into the ground. Jerry gets out of his car and kicks the chains, kicks the poles, tries to yank them out by their roots. No dice. They just won't budge. With a shrug of his shoulders and a smile, he gets back into his car and we retrace our steps and go back toward Rockland County. Jerry is exciting to commute with. Ask John Kriz. He and Jerry have been out of gas at night at Broadway and 95th--3 times--and John has skidded with Jerry around the turns from the George Washington Bridge onto the West Side

Highway. Driving with Jerry is pitting oneself against time, traffic, and the laws of nature, and hoping you'll get to your office alive. But he is always pleasant, as if this was the way commuting was meant to be.

About Kriz. He had been commuting in with Bill Eberle and John Fawcett, and for a period of time, me. John Kriz is famous for setting up a little work area in the back seat of the car, brief case open on his lap. He actually begins his work day in the car. One morning Eberle and Fawcett made a side bet with me that I could not keep John Kriz from opening his brief case on the ride in that day. I said, "Piece of cake, boys, get your money ready." I lost the bet on 139th Street and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard (Bill goes through Harlem each day which is why he's one of the more exciting guys to commute with). Until I lost my bet I had kept up this terrific line of chatter, though it was obvious from the beginning it was only John Kriz's innate politeness that prevented him from opening his folders and telling me to shut up. His hand was on the trigger from the start and finally, finally he could bear it no longer and popped his case. Bill and Fawcett and I exchanged glances and we all laughed. Not Kriz of course. He was working.

You know about Jan Stark? One day, Jan was riding home on the West Side Highway, minding her own business, when a tire appeared from out of the sky and crashed through her hood. Right out of the sky it came, Chicken Little! Right out of the sky!

I often ride in with Ann (Alderman) Mathews. She's fun and funny. And slightly befuddled at 7:05 when we depart Palisades. I believe it was Ann who referred to the official bridge office as the Brudge and

Tittle Authority. And I understood her!

Well, you get the idea, don't you? Commuting has its lighter moments, which I suppose saves it from becoming totally intolerable. Space and sanity prevent me from going on and on anecdotally. If you have some favorite asides from your commuting experiences, we'd love to hear about them. Might add balm to the wounds. See you on the road.

LESLIE PRICE HAYES

Donations were received this month from Margaret and William Diederich, and from Vega A. Lalire. Thank you!

PALISADES CIVIC ASSOCIATION UPDATE

No battle is won without a heavy cost in time, money and people. The chain factory, the truck ban, the Palisades Triangle, the Palisades school, the tandem trailer issue all were continuing fights over long periods of time that demanded much of the people involved. And the fight goes on... Here then is the latest status report.

Condos: The officers of the Civic Association have been summoned to court to testify about the impact of the invasive condo development at the corner of Route 340 and Oak Tree Road. This is the latest step in the Article 78 proceeding which has been brought to stop this overbuilding at the most dangerous intersection in Orangetown, if not all of Rockland County. Rita Suriani (former Assn. Secy.), Eileen Larkin (Pres.), Barbara Olson (Treas.) and Dossi Thayer (Secy.) are all taking time

from their personal lives and work to preserve Palisades as we know it.

Bridge Watch: Thanks to Cristina Biaggi, Stephen Mallory, and Helene Stansbury who have volunteered for the Bridge Watch Committee. The Committee will be meeting within the next several weeks to discuss how best to fight the Palisades-Hastings Bridge. Anyone else interested in serving, write to Box 222.

Truck Busters: Eileen Larkin (Pres.) has met with Congressman Ben Gilman's legislative assistant to seek assistance in pushing the DOT to fulfill its commitment to erect a new "NO THRU TRUCKS" sign on the corner of Oak Tree and 9W. In the meantime, Nina Prusinowski (Board Member) is still keeping a log of truck sightings on Oak Tree Road. Please contact her at 359-4580 with any info you have if you should sight these violations.

Incorporation: Lou Leonard, Paul Prisco, Pat Kiely, Donald Tapley and others are in the process of updating a demographic study of Palisades. Meanwhile, the Article 78 proceeding to overturn Supervisor Colello's decision and allow Palisades to vote on the village issue has been filed, and we will keep you up to date on the proceedings as we know them.

New Residents: The PCA is pleased to welcome so many new residents to our community, particularly those on the new streets of Red Oak and White Oak. If there is anything the Civic Association can do to help you out, please contact us at Box 222.

The Civic Association wishes all of our friends a happy holiday and a healthy new year. With a special thanks to all who have supported us with their time and money during the past year.

JOHANNA FARLEY

SAFE CHILDREN

With the increasing publicity about inflated figures for the number of children abducted by strangers, it is tempting to relax about this entire subject. But the issue is real, one child is too many and all children need to have accurate and non-fearful information about strangers. This can be accomplished by correcting existing misconceptions and teaching a few basic rules.

All discussions of strangers need to begin with: 1) A stranger is anyone you don't know. 2) There's really no way to tell "good" guys from "bad" guys by how they look. 3) There is only one person who is with you all the time who can be responsible for keeping you safe all the time. That person is you.

With this understanding, children can learn and effectively use the following rules without fear or undue anxiety about strangers.

Rule #1 - Stay an arm's reach away from anyone you don't know when you're not with a grown-up. Children need to keep a CIRCLE OF SAFETY around themselves. If a stranger enters the area where children are playing, they should STAND UP, BACK UP and PAY ATTENTION. If the person approaches, they should BACK UP and keep an ARM'S REACH AWAY. If the stranger frightens them or makes them feel uncomfortable in any way, they should BACK UP FOUR STEPS, TURN AROUND and RUN to someone who can help. They should also scream what is happening: "Help, there's a man/woman in the yard!"

Rule #2 - Don't talk to strangers. Children who talk to strangers, even to answer simple questions, are at higher risk. Therefore, children should not talk to strangers when they are alone or

with their friends. When they are with an adult, they may talk if they have permission.

Rule #3 - Don't take anything from a stranger. Children should not take anything from someone they don't know, not even something that belongs to them. It is helpful to point out that it is impossible to take something and stay an arm's reach away. When children are with a grown-up, they can take things if they get permission.

Rule #4 - Don't go anywhere with a stranger. Children shouldn't go anywhere with anyone unless they let someone know. But they also need to have rules for unexpected situations. A CODEWORD can be used anytime you send someone other than who you said you would to pick up your child. If someone does not know the codeword, it is a clear signal to your child to go for help.

Teaching children to be safe around strangers is as simple a part of personal safety as learning to cross the street or ride a bicycle, if we give children clear definitions and rules. The goal is to teach children to feel confident and capable about handling the many situations which might arise and to know when and how to get help if they need it.

SHERRYLL KERNS KRAIZER

[Ms. Kraizer is a nationally recognized authority in child safety, author of The Safe Child Book and Director of Health Education Systems, Inc., which provides school programs for prevention of sexual abuse and abduction. This is the first of several articles she has written for 10964.]



PALISADES VOTERS SUPPORTED A FEW WINNERS IN 1985 GENERAL ELECTION

Only 446 voters braved the light drizzle to cast their votes in Palisades Nov. 5, with another five voting absentee. Top vote getter, leaving aside unopposed candidates for Supreme Court and District Attorney Kenneth Gribetz, was Judge William K. Nelson (D-L), with 261 votes to 150 for Clarkstown Judge Kenneth Roncs (R-C). Nelson, serving by governor's appointment since County Judge Howard Miller resigned earlier this year, was elected to a 10-year term with a county-wide margin of 34,415 to 25,592.

John Grant (D) of Haverstraw won the first election for Rockland County Executive, 30,730 to 25,135 over Supervisor Ted Dusanenko (R) of Clarkstown, with the help of a 246 to 144 margin in Palisades and a remarkably close 6,056 to 6,442 loss in Orangetown.

In Orangetown races, Supervisor Joseph Collello (R-C-RTL) was a 254-166 loser in Palisades but a 9,045-5,557 winner town-wide. Results for three Town Board and two County Legislator seats were similar.

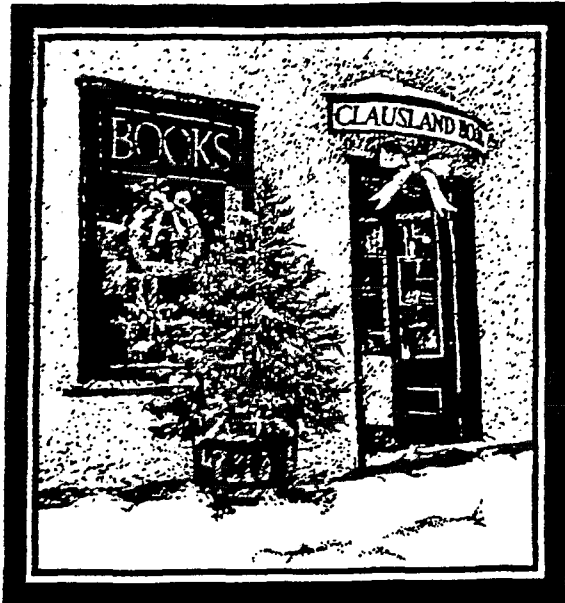
Five state propositions and the Orangetown zoning-change moratorium won approval in Palisades, and the town pool proposal was rejected. The Palisades votes mirrored the over-all results on six of the seven. The exception was state proposition #2, defeated statewide, which would have allowed the legislature to incorporate federal tax provisions by reference without having to repeat them word for word in state laws (Yes, 168; No, 132).

Some unofficial totals in the contested elections were as follows: [NOTE: * = incumbent. All

(R) below were also (C) and (RTL) except John Murphy was not on the (C) line and Paul Phinney was not on the (RTL) line. All (D) were also on an Independent Taxpayer line except Joseph McDevitt.]

	<u>PAL O'TOWN</u>	
COUNTY LEGISLATOR (two elected)		
John Murphy* (R)	178	8,244
H. Easter* (R)	166	8,063
R. Levin (D)	241	5,175
J. Sacli, Jr. (D)	225	4,990
D. Filippone (C)	16	1,215
SUPERVISOR		
J. Colello* (R)	166	9,045
C. Gorman (D)	254	5,557
TOWN COUNCIL (4 YRS) (two elected)		
C. O'Sullivan (R)	162	7,805
C. McLiverty* (R)	159	7,403
N. O'Sullivan (D)	257	6,274
J. McDevitt (D)	234	5,636
2 YRS - unexpired term)		
W. Griffith (R)	169	7,911
L. Bertussi (D)	237	5,844
TOWN CLERK		
P. Haugh* (R)	192	9,015
A. Mirijanian (D)	221	4,829
TOWN JUSTICE (4 YRS)		
R. Feenick* (R)	162	8,473
J. Schloss (D)	254	4,959
(2 YRS - unexpired term)		
P. Phinney* (R)	152	7,137
G. Scrocco (D)	242	6,174
RECEIVER OF TAXES		
E. Bohner* (R)	177	8,998
L. Zuccaro (D)	238	4,959
TOWN PROPOSITIONS		
Zoning Moratorium	YES	246 6,015
	NO	82 4,280
Town Pool	YES	145 4,186
	NO	193 7,495

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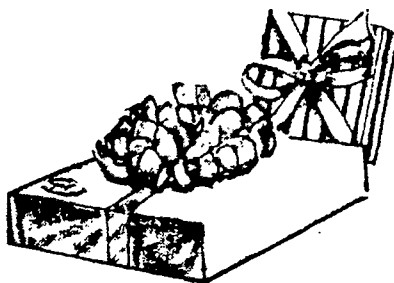
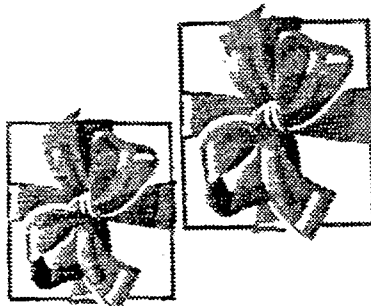
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OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Two young Palisadians, both 11th graders in Tappan Zee High School, have brought credit upon themselves and their proud parents. Elizabeth (Libby) Hayes and Gregory Olsen were recently inducted into the National Honor Society. The society honors students who distinguish themselves in the areas of scholarship, character, leadership and service.

Libby, who came to Palisades two years ago from Winfield, Kansas, recently paid a return visit of four months to her friend Lucy Jones who lives in the suburb of Hemel Hempstead just outside London. After Thanksgiving, she returned to Tappan Zee High School, a school she finds more challenging than the ones she attended in Winfield and London.

Challenge is what Libby likes. She is a conscientious student who studies hard and strives for perfection. She loves music, plays the violin with the school orchestra, and goes out for track. And who can forget that marvelous Pete. in the school production of PETER PAN? That was Libby. Interested in acting, she spent last summer at a theater training camp.

Libby returned from London to the Hayes home, where in addition to parents Denny and Leslie, she was welcomed by two sisters, one step-sister, and two step-dogs. And there were several families happy to get their favorite babysitter back.

It is too soon to say where Libby's future lies. She is interested in so many things.

Gregory Olsen was two years old when he moved to Palisades with his parents Ralph and Marge and brother Keith. A bright, active child, he could count to 10 and was working

on the alphabet. Still bright, still active, he is fulfilling the promise shown years ago.

When asked what makes him so smart, Greg replied, "I'm not so smart. I'm a good test-taker, have good study habits and don't get distracted easily."

His best subject is math. Greg is a tutor in the high school, a member of the Math Team and in the National Math Society. Talented in music, he sings with the Troubadors (a boys choir in the high school), the school choir, and with his church choir.

Greg has some gardening jobs on weekends. In addition to listening to rock, bicycling, coin collecting, watching football and baseball on TV, Greg and his friends enjoy taking in the sights and sounds of New York City.

All these activities take place only after Greg has put in two hours of studying a day. "It's not my favorite thing," says Greg, "but it's necessary." He is not only smart, but honest as well.

If, as Greg plans, he attends Columbia University for engineering or medicine, no one will be surprised.

Congratulations to Libby, Greg and their parents. All of Palisades takes pride in your accomplishments.

GERALDINE MIRAS

SANTA CLAUS LETTERS

Children of the community are invited to write to Santa Claus, P.O. Box #1, Palisades 10964, by Dec. 19. Be sure to include full name, address, and age. Any child who writes to Santa by that date will receive a personal message from him.

LAURA EBMEYER

Over the years our community has managed to confront and deal successfully with controversial issues. Recognizing and benefiting from past experiences can be useful in facing current and future problems.

In the 1950's, a Thruway Link was proposed through Palisades. At that time a Civic Association was established, and the idea was defeated.

The Palisades School, formerly K-8, became part of the South Orangetown School District some 30 years ago. Residents of our hamlet were confronted with a decision which would affect future generations of children. While many preferred the neighborhood-school concept, it became impractical since Nyack High School would no longer accept our high school students.

Sewers (for homeowners west of Route 9W) became a critical issue in the late 1960's. Installation seemed impossible because of the terrain in Palisades. Once again a strong effort was launched by our residents, and today we enjoy the benefits.

When an addition was needed to our "new school" to allow for a gym and cafeteria, residents met and negotiated with the school district, and were successful in obtaining an addition which is still being utilized.

At this point, the "old" school became obsolete and was about to be sold. Interested citizens were able to gain control of the building for use as a community center.

Twenty years ago, residents of Palisades recognized the need for a recreational facility. With much determination and hard work, the Palisades Swim Club became a reality.

Important issues will continue to arise in our hamlet, as they do in other parts of our lives. Based on our past history, I am convinced that we can work out successful solutions.

EDITH RYAN

ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Fri., Dec. 13, 8:30 p.m.: Renaissance Band; 13th-17th century music. \$7.50 admission; \$6.50 senior citizens and students.

Sat., Dec. 14, 8 p.m.: "St. Mark's Gospel", starring Lynne Thigpen (London and Broadway hit). \$10. admission; \$8.50 senior citizens and students.

Sun., Dec. 15, 2 p.m.: National Marionette Theater (for children). \$5. child; \$6. adult.

Reservations required for all events (358-0877).

POTTERY CLASSES

Are you interested in pottery? Classes have been made available to the residents of Palisades and the surrounding neighborhood, and are taught in the studio of Sylvia March on Rt. 9W in Palisades. In general, the pottery classes are organized by age groups. Young children start at 3 or 4 years old to work with clay and to paint on glazes, and they love taking it seriously. Intermediate classes of 5 and 6 year olds, or 7 and 8 year olds, continue to learn handbuilding techniques, and begin to learn throwing on the potter's wheel, as well as glazing techniques of dipping and pouring. There are special classes for adults where the concentration is on centering the clay, and learning throwing on the potter's wheel. For information and schedules, call Sylvia March, 359-3767.

PALISADES EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Children aged 3 to 4 years who have developmental delays are benefiting from a unique free-tuition program sponsored by the South Orangetown Public School District and housed in the Palisades School on Oak Tree Road. Specialists and children meet Mon-Fri for 2 1/2 hours a day; screening, testing, and assessment of the children's skill level in relation to developmental delays is conducted free throughout the year. There is also a full-day transitional kindergarten class for special children who need extra attention in developing basic skills.

On Nov. 22, the program hosted a Consortium of Early Childhood Programs for Handicapped Children throughout New York State. Educators from throughout New York State attended to observe this unique program.

For more information, call or write Robert Cavanagh, Coordinator (359-3966), Palisades Early Childhood Program, So. Orangetown Central School District, Van Wyck Rd., Blauvelt, New York, 10913.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Frances Breer, MSW and CSW, is announcing the start of a private practice in psychotherapy in Rockland County with individuals, couples, families, and groups. She would appreciate everyone spreading the news inside and outside the community. Reasonable fees. Ludlow Lane, Palisades; 359-1146.

THEATER AT THE TURNING POINT

The Turning Point restaurant in Piermont has converted its lower floor into a Little Theater or cabaret. For their first selection, Palisades' Val Hendrikson, one of the founders of the American Moment Company, is directing Strindberg's "Miss Julie." You can dine, drink, and enjoy the play. The last performance is Sunday, December 8th at 4 p.m. Tickets: \$8.50.

Kenny Rankin will be performing there January 2nd at 8 and 10 p.m. Tickets: \$12.50. Call 359-1089 for information.



OTHER COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS:

At our recent board meeting, it was decided to raise our rental rates to \$10. per hr. for members and \$12.50 for non members. We are anticipating a jump in our insurance rates and one of the ways to offset this increase is to raise rates for use of the center.

Anyone wishing to rent the building should call Barbara Olson at 359-7280. We are looking for someone to be a program chairperson, to arrange various programs at the center which would be of interest to children and adults. Please call me at 359-6589 if you are interested.

We wish all our residents a happy and healthy new year and thank all of you who became Community Center members in 1985.

EILEEN LARKIN
President

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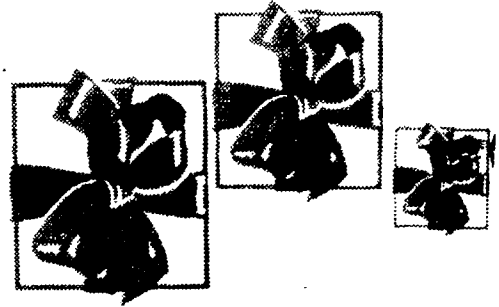
WANTED: Potter's apprentice.
Strong young person to help with
clay preparation, mixing glazes,
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Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah,
and Happy New Year to all from the
staff at 10964.



10964 STAFF

Co-Editors: Nancy Hall, Carol
Elevitch. Asst. Editor: Karen
Jefferies. Treasurer: Boyce
Leni. Consultant: Maryann Sahadi.
Contributors: Joan Bracken, Leslie
Price Hayes, Kari Boyer, and
Sherryll Kraizer.

Deadline for the next issue is
January 13. Publication date will
be approximately February 3.

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