

# 10964

MAY 1988

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.



## PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

### FROM THE EDITOR:

Our primary issue in Palisades has not been choosing a new U. S. president, but considering the incorporation petition. Many of us showed up at the old elementary school to air our sentiments yet again, and I asked Elaine Landriau to report on the proceedings for 10964. You'll find her article inside. I realize that this meeting may be old news by the time 10964 reaches you, but it is important to include it in this May issue.

The irony of this incorporation issue is that both "sides" are fighting for the identical thing: to keep our lovely hamlet from changing, to keep its uniqueness as a quiet, beautiful, safe environment for our families.

Palisades is a bit hidden; most folks pass by it

not knowing they have. And we like that about the place. We like the almost rural atmosphere; its country roads; its quaint library and tiny post office; the historic architecture; and institutions like the Plant Sale and the Library Dance (and 10964). We all enjoy walking and driving around feeling this sense of deep familiarity with everything as we pass by. We know who lives in which house, what grades their kids are in, even the names of their pets. We like that about the place. We like the "feel" of Palisades and that is why we all live here, and none of us wants Palisades to change--not Palisades for incorporation and not the Committee to Preserve Palisades. The goal is the same. Isn't that the truth? Let's try to keep that in mind, okay? □



### COLELLO'S DECISION REGARDING THE INCORPORATION PETITION

In my possession is a copy of Joseph Colello's "Decision in the Matter of Incorporation of the Village of Palisades." It is six pages long and basically gives three major reasons why the Orangetown Supervisor feels the petition fails to comply with requirements of Village Law of the State of New York:

1. "The description of the territory attached to the petition for incorporation does not sufficiently identify the location and extent of such territory with common certainty."

2. "The petition is legally insufficient in that it is not accompanied by a complete list of the regular inhabitants of the territory."

3. "The petitioners intend to secure a majority vote in their favor, by means of a geographical

arrangement where the result would be otherwise if natural lines were used, such as streets and highways." He added later in the statement, "I am sure that it was not the intention of the State Legislature to permit the use of gerrymandering in the selection of boundary lines in the formation of a Village. . .[but] permit the incorporation of a Village in accordance with traditionally natural lines such as streets, highways and rivers."

The Decision was signed by Joseph Colello and dated April 16, 1988, in Orangeburg, N. Y.

Palisadians for Incorporation are pursuing this by challenging this decision in court. We hope to have an update in our June issue.

LPH

## INCORPORATION HEARING REPORT

by Elaine Landriau

On April 7, a hearing was held at the Palisades School to consider the legal sufficiency of the petition for a proposed village. The tone for the meeting was set when Joseph Colello, Town Supervisor, stated that everyone who wanted to speak would be heard and requested that the audience dispense with audible approval or disapproval.

Pat Haugh, Town Clerk, read from the affidavit of publication and stated that documents would be available for examination. She read letters of objection received by the town from the Tappan Library, the Tappan Historical Society, Adolpho Luca, and Palisades residents Norma Evola, Celeste Bester, Erstin Westerfelt, Laura Ebmeyer, Edith Ryan, Helene Stansbury and Arthur Firestone. Through her attorney, Michael L. Klein, Helen Ostrowski submitted a letter to the Supervisor setting forth her objections to the legal sufficiency of the petition. Also read was an inter-office memo from Charles Vezzetti.

Among the objections voiced were:

- that there were homes within the proposed village which did not want to be included;
- that acquisition of part of Tappan might jeopardize the Tappan Library's tax district;
- that there is strong opposition to the proposed annexation to the Village of a part of Tappan that was deeded to it in 1886;
- that the "crazy-quilt" pattern of boundaries was arbitrary and violated the "natural and contiguous boundaries" concept of a political community;
- that members of the community would be disenfranchised;
- that the part of Palisades that has been selectively excluded has no definition as an entity;
- that the petition violates the concepts of due process and voting rights.

Those assembled were next invited to speak extemporaneously. Speaking against incorporation were Paul Guttman, Ralph and Ann Grieco, Laura Ebmeyer, Nash Castro, Carol Vlahos, Mary Cardenas for the Tappantown Historical Society, Nancy Hall, Art Firestone, and Tom Holland for the John Perry Post of the American Legion.

Speaking for incorporation were Bill Eberle, who felt that local control of our zoning was essential to preserve the quality of life in Palisades. Alan Seidler also felt that control of zoning was a grassroots right of people to determine their environment. Concerned with the safety of children, he stated that Orangetown had failed to enforce traffic regulations on 9W in Palisades and contrasted that with the efficient enforcement of traffic laws in Grand View, an incorporated village. Mr. Seidler also pleaded that, whatever the outcome,

there be civility among neighbors.

The remainder of the hearing consisted of legal presentations and rebuttals, first by the lawyer for the proponents, Martin Cornell. He called on Andrew Norman, Reginald Thayer and Jay Greenwell (surveyor) to refute the claims of legal insufficiency and substantiate his points. Mr. Norman explained the basis of inclusion or exclusion of various contested residents. The point was made that 642 residents were in the territory, and the statutory requirement was 500. He said the names in dispute were not, therefore, a point of contention. Mr. Greenwell explained the procedures and processes used to define the territory to be included. Mr. Thayer got chuckles with his description of "securing the documents" with plywood covers and the use of an electric drill to bore holes to secure the binding. In closing comments, Mr. Cornell stated that whereas bisected streets might be an administrative problem, they do not invalidate the petition; formation of a village is a voluntary creation and people can coalesce in the manner they wish. Therefore, he stated, the petition is consistent with the statute and is not gerrymandering. He added that neither the taxing district of the Tappan Library nor the historical boundary of Tappan will be encroached upon by the inclusion of a portion of Tappan in the proposed Palisades Village.

Mr. Colello had until April 17th to decide whether the petitions comply with State law, and if so, to schedule a referendum. He closed the meeting with a commendation to the approximately 125 people assembled for the manner in which they conducted themselves during the hearing. □



THAT MUST BE WHAT THEY MEAN BY  
'THE NEW HOME TRAIL'

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## WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE ALPINE BOY SCOUT CAMP?

By Holly Whitstock Seeger

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A few months back we heard that the Boy Scouts had sold their land in Alpine. But to whom? Yours Truly was elected to research this matter, and so began my sleuthing saga. After the first half-dozen phone calls, it became clear that this assignment was not going to be especially easy.

The property in question is situated in Norwood, N.J., and after another string of calls made to the Borough Hall of Norwood, I finally got the tax assessor on the line. I was informed that the buyers were a group who called themselves the Norwood East Hill Associates, located at 500 Kinderkamack Road in Oradell, N.J. Upon calling information for the telephone number, I was surprised to learn that there was no such listing, not even as an unpublished number.

The next step was to find out where and what this location actually was. I suspected that this company was actually a subdivision of a larger one, and I set off in the car, armed with a road map and accompanied by my very young assistant, my son Max.

I found Kinderkamack Road, turned onto it and began following the numbers. Soon afterwards, we arrived at our destination, an office park of colonial design that housed several different businesses. One was a law firm by the name of Klinger, Nicolette, Mavroudis, and Honig. Acting on a hunch, I roused my peacefully snoring little partner and we piled out of the car, stroller, dark sunglasses and all.

As we struggled through the big glass doors of the law offices, the receptionist looked up in mild surprise and asked if she could be of help. I asked her if she knew the whereabouts of the Norwood East Hill Associates. This drew a blank so I further elaborated that this company had recently purchased some land from the Boy Scouts and I was interested in learning of the plans for this property. She was just about to dismiss me and this matter, when a co-worker emerged on the tail end of our conversation and said, "Oh yes, that's Joanne's department." The sidelong glance shot to this co-worker by the receptionist was less than complimentary. At any rate, I left my name and number for Joanne, with the message that I would appreciate her call regarding this issue, and off Max and I went, home for lunch.

Here the mystery ends and the harsh reality begins. Several days later, I called the law offices and was put through to Mr. Mavroudis, who informed me that the property in question, which he said amounted to 150 acres, had been sold by the Boy Scouts to the Norwood East Hill Associates, a

subdivision of the Rio Vista Developers. This group specializes in building luxury single family homes, examples of which can be seen in Alpine and Cresskill, right off Route 9W. The entrances of these developments are marked by sentry structures, and the homes themselves are massive and contemporary in style.

The new Norwood development will be accessible via Pierson Avenue, located right off Piermont Avenue, and will feature one-acre zoning. According to Mr. Mavroudis, the plans for this project had been approved by the Borough of Norwood months ago.

If anyone has happened to notice the aforementioned developments in Alpine and Cresskill, it is apparent that the houses themselves encompass almost an acre. Although it may be presumed that if one can afford a home of such proportion one might acquire more than one acre, the possibility still exists that 150 of these structures could soon populate this countryside.

My next step was to contact the Boy Scouts themselves to find out how they could relinquish this portion of their beautiful forest to the bulldozer. According to Dan Ruth, Director of Camping at the New York City office of the Boy Scouts of America, the original agreement for this transaction took place in 1980, although the matter finally went into litigation a year ago. Prior to this time, the Alpine Boy Scout Camp was a 1000-acre tract of land, 700 acres of which was endowed by a Rockefeller trust and 300 acres provided by a private donor. It is the latter portion of land which was sold. Here the figures differ from those of Mr. Mavroudis, as he had mentioned only 150 acres. When I brought this up to Mr. Ruth, he said that although he had not held his present position back in 1980, he was under the impression that it did indeed have 300 acres.

In response to my question as to why the sale took place at all, Dan Ruth responded that the funds were needed to properly maintain the remaining land for the Boy Scouts and they felt that keeping the bulk of the property intact (the Rockefeller endowment) was their most important goal.

So ended my sleuthing saga with the cold, hard facts. I enjoyed my adventure into investigative reporting but am saddened to learn the details of yet another loss of natural woodlands in our area. □

## CONSUMER'S CORNER: GERARD ON GARBAGE

by Annie Gerard

*This is the second in a series on issues important to us as consumers and residents in Rockland County.*

I hope most of us are already aware that there's a national garbage crisis, and an imminent local crisis as well in Orangetown, and the rest of Rockland County. The Clarkstown landfill does not have a permit to operate--the law requires at least five feet of separation between garbage and groundwater when the landfill is built on a swamp; it remains open under a State consent order that may be cancelled at any time. This would leave 270 days to find another place for the almost 950 tons per day (1986 figures) of solid waste generated by the present users of the dump--Orangetown, Clarkstown and Ramapo.

In order to prolong the life of the landfill and minimize disposal costs in the future, the towns recently have been forced to begin designing and implementing recycling plans. Orangetown's plan so far seems to be similar to Clarkstown's, which is modelled on that of a Canadian town, Mississauga, Ontario. It involves using compartmented waste containers in which homeowners would place two or three recyclable items-- newspapers, clear glass, and possibly cans, in the case of Clarkstown--which would be picked up by a private carter on a weekly or bimonthly basis at a small additional cost to homeowners. A recent town board meeting approved authorization for the town clerk to collect bids from carters for the service, as well as to begin advertising for bids on the containers to be used.

None of this sounds very painful and should be welcomed by area residents. The plans envisioned by William Griffith and the other towns' recycling coordinators, however, appear to be largely taken from last year's County Recycling and Composting Plan Report, and this raises a question about how much the individual coordinators have been able to research issues on their own. Mr. Griffith, for instance, spends two days a week in his office--and he has no staff to help--at a time when the June 1 deadline for having a program in place is fast approaching.

In light of this, I think it's also reasonable to ask whether the adapted Mississauga plan is environmentally best for our particular area, and whether local officials are pursuing the most cost-effective plan. Admittedly we are only seeing the first stage, and there is much room, though not much time, for improvement. But there are a couple of factors that we, as homeowners and voters, should keep in mind.

In my discussions with town officials, I found a distinct tendency to underrate the popularity of recycling among homeowners; and a reluctance to do anything that might be unpopular as a result, even though the county report on recycling found broad public support for increased recycling efforts as far back as 1988. This negative view persists among town officials, however, and has helped limit the scope of initial plans, so much that, even with good compliance, the Orangetown waste stream, for instance, may initially be reduced by about only 13 per cent. And at this point, some of the worst components--the plastics, which do not biodegrade and are unsafe to burn--are not included at all. We should let the town government know that we are willing, even happy, to put in a little extra effort to make a plan work well.

Another unfortunate aspect of the issue is money. We pay carters to take the recyclables away, and they collect at the other end as well when they sell the goods. Particularly when hauling costs for non-separated garbage are soaring, there's albt of money to be made in the transaction. For instance: Though the county report projects savings to towns through recycling, we're being asked to pay an additional fee. Fine, but is there a provision that the carter's profits--if any--on recycled goods get paid back into the town government? If not, whose pocket do they end up in? There is also county and state money available for implementing these plans--are we getting the full advantage of what's available? If not, who is?

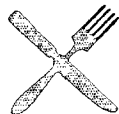
There's also a large and messy dose of politics involved (as I have discovered in conversations with local town officials) between towns, between town and county, and even on the state level. At all these levels there are habits to be broken. And speaking of habits to break, a good place to start might be your shopping cart. Ask for paper bags--a renewable, recyclable, biodegradable resource--instead of plastic for your groceries. Avoid produce in plastic cartons; buy paper instead, if you can. Be aware of excess plastic packaging, and don't buy products in plastic rather than glass or aluminum containers. It's not that big a sacrifice, is it?

There are constructive solutions. But if we don't choose to become more involved in the process, from the bottom up, Orangetown's answers to the impending garbage crisis may not only be more costly than they should, but also much less effective environmentally. And we'll have only ourselves to blame when the garbage ends up in our own back yards. □

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**RESTAURANT REVIEW**  
by William T. Beaty, II

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*Bill Beaty studied cooking at the Michael Field School.*

Both shores of the lower Hudson Valley are indeed fortunate to have outstanding restaurants under the ownership and day-to-day operation of Peter Kelly and Theresa McGahran, creators of Xavier's at Piermont and Xavier's at Garrison.

Concentrating on Xavier's at Piermont, which is closest to the 10964 readership, that restaurant is more than lucky to have the benefit of an extraordinary maitre d'hotel in the person of Glen Vogt, who puts to shame most maitre d's in the better Manhattan restaurants.

The food of the Piermont restaurant, which is essentially continental with a strong French accent, is superbly prepared, imaginatively presented and incredibly delicious. This writer has never had a poor or mediocre dish or meal in this restaurant, which is undeniably dedicated to the arts of the table.

The restrained and elegant decor of the restaurant is a model of good taste for a pleasant place in which to dine and enjoy good food and friends. All of this is matched by the most courteous and attentive service.

Reservations are a must: (914) 359-7007. Lunch: Wed.-Fri. and Sun. Brunch 12-2:30 p.m. Dinner: Wed.-Sun. 6-9 p.m. (2 seatings on Sat. at 6 and 9:30). No credit cards. Personal checks accepted. ☐

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**A REMINDER:** The Community Center is available as a meeting place for **all** community organizations. Your contribution will help to maintain and improve our historic building.

**OUR NEWS:** This year we plan to replace our old lighting fixtures with more attractive units and to substantially improve the grounds by planting several new shrubs and a flower garden.

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**JOHN CONVERSE - LINDA JOUAS  
KEVIN WEBER  
BONNIE BOWEN - GLYNN FREDERICK  
WILLIAM GERARD - EILEEN LARKIN  
KIM MILLER - NINA PRUSINOWSKI**

## HOW DO YOU GET AIDS?

*This is the second article by Marge Fenn, R.N., a Clinical Specialist on the subject of AIDS.*

AIDS is transmitted through blood, sex and from a mother to her unborn child. The AIDS virus is not hearty nor easily transmitted. These facts have been born out by all of the responsible scientific research throughout the world.

Rockland County has reported approximately 60 cases of AIDS. While this number probably reflects under-reporting, it is still very low when compared to that of New York City. For transmission to take place an infected person has to be involved. Even high-risk behavior cannot create the virus. Transmission via blood has primarily been through infected needles previously used by someone who has the virus. Needle sharing is a common occurrence in the intravenous drug-using communities.

While contaminated needles and blood transfusions have been the most common source of transmission via blood, there has been a very small number of cases on file of hospital workers who were professionally exposed either from laboratory accidents or mucous membrane contact. Contaminated blood on the skin is not a problem unless there are openings in the skin. The clotting process begins almost immediately after a cut and what we consider a cut is really not penetrable.

I have been involved in the testing of almost 100 needle-sticks to employees and we have not had a single sero-conversion despite the fact that many of the accidents were from needles used on AIDS patients. Sero-conversion (viral antibodies in the blood) would show in six weeks to one year following inoculation.

One use of needles that rarely comes into discussion is tatoos. While I have never seen a study identifying tatoos as a risk, I have seen many patients who have tatoos. These patients have been involved in other high-risk behavior so the tatoos are probably not the culprit. Nevertheless, those wanting tatoos should be very wary of the equipment used and make sure the artist is very reputable.

If you should come upon an accident where there is blood involved, use a barrier between your skin and the blood. This can be almost anything that isn't porous. You may have noted that during prize fights on TV, the trainers now wear plastic gloves when treating cuts. Blood spills should be cleaned with a solution of household bleach that is diluted with up to 10 parts of water. This will kill the

virus on contact. Rubbing alcohol will have the same effect.

Transmission via sex can be from man to man, man to woman and woman to man. Lesbians do not appear to be at risk from their sexual experiences.

The only truly safe sex with an infected person is no sex. Some practices such as use of synthetic condoms along with spermicidal jelly or foam have proven to be effective against transmission, but not 100 per cent. These devices have to be used correctly, and there is always a risk of breaks or tears in the condoms. Pregnancy certainly has taken place despite the use of condoms.

HIV is most concentrated in blood but is also heavily concentrated in semen and vaginal secretions. The virus can be isolated from saliva and tears but in very low proportions. Equally the mouth is really a hostile environment for any virus, and the rest of the digestive tract is even more unfriendly. If a solution of one part Clorox and 10 parts water will kill the virus on contact, what chance does it have against the hydrochloric acid in our stomachs?

Kissing has not been identified as a mode of transmission. However, many infectious disease experts advise against deep kissing, sometimes called French kissing. They feel that even minute, unproven chances of contraction should be avoided. Again, one of the persons involved has to be infected.

Children born with AIDS become infected while in their mothers' wombs or during the birth process. Fathers cannot give HIV directly to their babies. The father may infect the mother who then passes it on to her unborn child. Even in this closest of all relationships the virus is unpredictable. The first pregnancy following infection of the mother produces the AIDS virus in almost 40 per cent of the children, and the odds increase considerably in subsequent pregnancies. A newborn cannot be tested. Most experts recommend no testing until the child is 18 months old. It takes that long for evidence of the mother's antibodies to be eliminated from the baby's blood.

The danger of infection with AIDS appears somewhat remote in our hamlet. But as our children leave home to enter colleges, join the work force and take their place in society, they need to know the facts about AIDS so that their future will be all that they desire. □



## HOW THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND WORKS

by Andrew E. Norman

ROCKLAND, COUNTY OF, fills three-quarters of a page in the telephone directory, making it easy to forget that from colonial times until very recently New York State saw no need for real county governments at all. The Supervisors of all the towns in each county got together once in a while to see if the judge needed a new desk, or the clerk a new typewriter or the sheriff a new horse. They would ask the elected county treasurer how much was needed in county taxes, haggle over how much each town would pay, and then repair to a friendly tavern to swap tall tales and technical details about their real jobs--running their towns.

In the late 1980s, the federal courts declared the Rockland County Board of Supervisors in clear violation of the new one-man, one-vote doctrine, seeing that all five towns had equal power even though Stony Point had 6 per cent of the county's population and Ramapo close to 30 per cent. The result was a county legislature, with Orangetown electing four of the 17 (now 22) members.

Every two or three years, Rockland voters had a chance to institute a County Charter featuring an elected County Executive. And every two or three years, most of the voters said no. In 1984, to almost universal surprise, a County Charter referendum came up a winner. One year later, John Grant was elected to a four-year term as Rockland's first County Executive.

Major departments over which the County Executive has direct control include Budget & Management, Audit, Finance, Law (the County Attorney's office), Insurance, Buildings, and Purchasing and Personnel (headed by James Anderson of Palisades), which also administers civil service matters for towns and villages.

The County Department of Social Services runs at least a dozen federal and state welfare and service programs, including departments of health, mental health, hospitals and youth bureau, reimbursed under diverse formulas averaging 50 per cent federal and 25 per cent state funds, leaving the county to pay for the balance.

Community colleges in New York are remarkable hybrids. Basic tuition provides a maximum of one-third of their operating revenues; the state supplies a little less than 40 per cent and the sponsor is responsible for the remaining 27 per cent. Rockland Community College, however, earns about 10 per cent of its expenses from other sources--grants, contracts, rental of facilities and extra tuition from students from out of the county, leaving only 17 per cent to be paid by the county taxpayers--less than at least 29 of the state's 30

other community colleges.

These complexities look like a model of rational simplicity when compared with the judicial and law enforcement structure. Rockland's three County Judges, two Family Court Judges and one Surrogate are paid directly by the state, as are their clerks, the Commissioner of Jurors and his staff. The county must, nevertheless, provide any pay for the space they occupy, with some reimbursement for maintenance and utilities. The District Attorney and the Public Defender receive no state support, while the Sheriff's Department gets limited reimbursement for court security costs.

The County Department of Planning not only does the capital project planning for the county and its agencies, it also reviews proposed zoning changes by municipalities for their impact on drainage, traffic and other broader-than-local concerns. Its decisions, however, can be overridden by town and village boards by vote of a majority plus one.

While drainage is primarily a municipal concern, the county takes some responsibility for creeks and streams. Project funding is traditionally decided by toe-to-toe bargaining among the towns. Exactly what Ramapo or Stony Point, say, got in exchange for the county's purchase of some 30 acres in Palisades as a "drainage area" (east of Sparkill Creek and south of the P.J.P.) is lost in the swamps of informal political history.

The designation of certain streets and roads as county highways has the same tradition of intertown benefit-swapping. But however it came by its highways, the county is responsible for maintaining and plowing them. The County Highway Department does a major share of the work itself, but many tasks, such as snowplowing Closter Road and maintaining the blinker at the Oak Tree Road intersection, are done by town highway departments at county expense. Many bridges that are part of town and village roads have also been taken under the county's wing. (The Oak Tree Road span over the parkway, however, is the Palisades Interstate Park Commission's burden.)

The county has boards to examine and license electricians and plumbers, an Office of Emergency Services (formerly Civil Defense), a Fire Training Center (in Pomona) and a Fire Advisory Board, an Energy Office and an office to administer federal community development funds for everybody except Orangetown, which refuses to accept them. There is a Rockland Economic Development Corporation, a Data Processing Center and an Archivist Office.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Piermont's Blue Grass Fair

Members of 10964 are invited to Piermont's Annual Blue Grass Fair to take place on Memorial Day, May 30, in Kane Park at Ferdon and Piermont Avenues from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The work of local artists and artisans will be displayed and sold. There will also be flea market items and food to eat while you listen to the music of Rich Rainey's Risky Business Blue Grass Band. This event is sponsored by The Piermont Civic Association.

### Creative Piano Lessons

Glyn Frederick Nixon, M.A., Music Education, is offering Creative Piano Lessons to all interested children who want to discover, explore, create and enjoy music. Classes beginning this fall will include Music for Moppets (ages 4-5), KinderKeyboard (ages 6-7) and Music for Piano, a comprehensive musicianship program for students aged 7-16. Partners and small groups are forming now, so please call her soon, 359-5985, for an interview and to register your child.

### Summer Sitters for Playgroup

The Palisades Playgroup, located at the Palisades Presbyterian Church, will be offering two excellent and experienced babysitters during the summer months. We are inviting any local little ones between the ages of 1 and 3 to join us for up to four mornings a week, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Please contact Annie Gerard at 359-4338 or Milbry Polk at 365-0297.

### Jane Herold's Open House

Jane Herold will hold an open house at The Pottery on Ludlow Lane on May 6, 7 and 8 to celebrate the firing of her new beehive kiln. The kiln design is adapted from the traditional round English kilns that were used until the turn of the century to make redware. Jane fires with wood to white heat--almost 1300 degrees Centigrade--which produces strong, non-absorbent pots that can take everyday use. The glazes are mixed from clay and ashes, as well as milled materials. Hours: May 6 and 7, 1 to 5 p.m.; May 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bring along your questions--Jane loves to explain how it all works! For more information, call 359- 5421.

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## CORRECTION

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In the April issue of 10964, Lin Dymond's name was incorrectly spelled in the article about the Plant Sale. Please forgive the error. □

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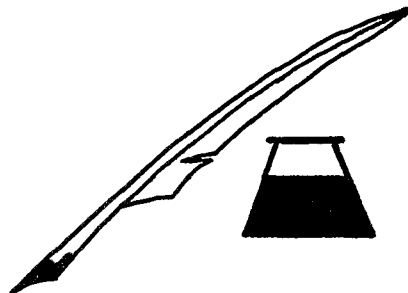
## How the County of Rockland Works (Cont'd from p. 7)

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In addition to its own operations, the county contracts with an immense and ever-changing list of independent nonprofit agencies. This year's budget lists 18 that provide health and mental health services, 14 in the areas of economic assistance and home and community services, 16 in culture and recreation and two animal shelters.

Where does all the money come from? Nearly two-thirds of the county's \$238 million expenditures in 1988 will be paid for by departmental income, state and federal aid, and sewer taxes charged only to the areas served by the county sewers. The remaining \$90 million would normally come roughly half-and-half from real estate taxes and the 2 per cent sales tax put into effect five years ago. Sales tax revenues so greatly exceeded projections that a surplus of nearly \$50 million built up in the last three years, making a one-year moratorium possible in real estate taxes. Next year is expected to see a return to normality, with a county tax rate at least 8 per cent higher than the 1987 rate.

And the prospect is for substantial increase in county responsibilities, and costs in the years ahead, particularly if the garbage dump crisis cannot be resolved on the town level and if the county goes ahead and secedes from the Metropolitan Transportation Administration, which collects the extra .25 per cent sliver of our sales tax and gives Rockland next to nothing in return. □



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Nick and Cass Ludington, who used to live on Lawrence Lane and now are in Cyprus, receive 10964 regularly. In a kind note accompanied by a contribution, Nick (who is with the Associated Press) writes:

"As far away as we are, and as preoccupied as I am with coverage of the daily horrors in Lebanon, Iran, Iraq and Israel, plus developments in Damascus, Amman, Riyadh and the Persian Gulf emirates, 10964 is an important link with home. We look forward to receiving it each month." □



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**ABOUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE IN YOUR  
NEWSLETTER**  
**Has Life Become Too Complex for You  
in the 1980s?**

Enclosed in this issue is a questionnaire coming to you in duplicate for heads of households and to ensure each respondent's privacy. 10964 is taking a survey and we ask that you fill out these questionnaires--do not give your names please--and return them to us. The subject is basically quality of life for us today. We all seem to be in a frenzy of activities, speeding from one chore to the next, from one committee to the next, from one lecture or class to the next. What is causing this in us, and do we really like life this way? When was it better? How can we get back to that place in time where we seemed more able to accept and relish idleness, a free hour, an uncommitted moment? When we find ourselves with time on our hands, even if it's just an hour or two, we instantly want to fill it up with "something productive," with "getting something accomplished." Are we exhausting our psyches? Are we spending our souls? Why?

LPH

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**TO HAIRY**  
**By Millie Giarrantano**

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*A tribute to Mildred Post Rippey's cat Hairy, who died in his sleep, written by Mildred's dear friend who took care of him while Mildred was in the hospital.*

So long dear friend but not goodbye  
I miss your purring presence by my chair  
and your sweet stare

It seems you're still there basking in the sun  
or greeting little children when they come  
to stroke your hair

And still I feel your importuning paw  
You always wanted just a little more food  
and all my love

---

**BLUE HILL CULTURAL CENTER**

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More than 60 sculptures in stone by members of The Stone Sculpture Society of New York and guest artists will be exhibited at the Blue Hill Cultural Center from May 12 through September 28. A variety of concepts and images, expressed in a number of styles through only one material--stone. The exhibition extends outdoors to landscaped knolls and grassy banks of the pond near the visitors entrance, and at the upper level of the building throughout the rose garden. □

## SUMMER VACATIONS

### First Stop: The Palisades Free Library

by Maggie Brown Gundlach

This is the first in a series of articles to acquaint Palisades residents with the myriad resources of the Palisades Free Library.

With the plunge of the dollar on world currency markets, many Palisadians with a wanderlust are scaling back their summer vacation plans and deciding that this is the year for finding new vistas in their own backyards or elsewhere in the continental United States or its offshore territories (their reluctance to venture afar is perhaps encapsulated by the woman overheard recently in a local grocery check-out line complaining about her \$50 bill for breakfast in Tokyo!).

Their first stop in planning a trip might well be a visit to the Palisades Free Library, which offers literally an embarrassment of riches, information stretching from the Caribbean to Alaska and from the Atlantic to Hawaii in the Pacific. Its resources range from nitty-gritty details to historical and sociological underpinnings.

An invaluable practical resource is Fodor's USA 1988. There are also Fodor guides for regions, states and several of America's most colorful cities, replete with maps and tips on accommodations, restaurants, museums, sports, natural wonders, entertainment and night life.

Also excellent are the Mobil guides, notable for their ratings of hosteries and restaurants throughout the county. Among other enlightening compendia are *The Official Museum Directory 1988*, which lists admission fees as well as dates of exhibition openings, and the *American Traveler's Treasury: A Guide to the Nation's Heirlooms*, which highlights ghost towns, castles, frontier trading posts, fine arts collections, Indian artifacts, wineries, reconstructed villages, plantations and mission churches. Typical of more specialized references are *Country Inns and Back Roads* and *The Complete Guide to Bed and Breakfasts, Inns and Greathouses*.

Then there is the Audubon Society's *Field Guide to the Natural Places of the Northeast Coastal*. Studies of the Hudson River and its environs occupy a large space on the shelves. Among the many handsome volumes of nature photography focused on specific areas or phenomena is *Corridors of Time: 1,700,000,000 Years of Earth at Grand Canyon*, edited by Palisadian Roger Jellinek. Other works by such noted photographers as Ansel Adams, Alfred Stieglitz and Eliot Porter are located in the Library's Margaret Parton/Lem Britter Memorial Collection.

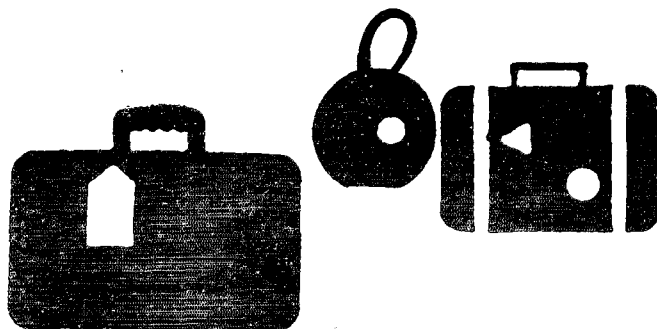
The older traveler who wishes to widen his intellectual horizons while indulging a taste for distant destinations might refer to the Library's Summer 1988 catalog of the Elderhostel movement, which specializes in inexpensive, short-term academic programs at colleges and universities.

A real find for a family with children is *500 Things To Do in Washington for Free*. Other attention-grabbers include: *Ferries of America: A guide to Adventurous Travel*, outlining the attractions of some 270 such craft, from luxurious paddle wheelers to rope-pulled primitives; or *Painted Ladies: San Francisco's Resplendent Victorians*, an introduction to the city's mansions; *The American Bicycle Atlas of the American Youth Hostels*; *River Camping*; *The Bayous*; and *Following the Santa Fe Trail*.

For those who must settle for turf closer to home, the Library's stacks bulge with the promise of treats implied in such titles as: *The Old Lighthouses of the Hudson River*, *New York Walk Book*, *Fifty Hikes in the Adirondacks*, *The Carefree Getaway Guide for New Yorkers: Day and Weekend Trips Without a Car*, or *Exploring the Little Rivers of New Jersey*.

Once the bread-and-butter details have been worked out, the Library offers a sumptuous feast for the traveler-scholar who likes to buttress his explorations with historical and sociological background, including Frances Trollope's classic (much resented at the time), *The Domestic Manners of the Americans* and Crèvecoeur's *Eighteenth-Century Travel in Pennsylvania and New York*.

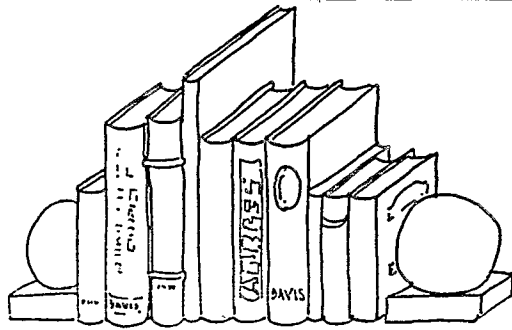
There are also a number of helpful periodicals, from *Traveler* to *Gourmet*, with its reports on regional cooking, and a *Weather Almanac* outlining temperatures in various areas. It should be noted that there are comparable resources for more distant and expensive overseas locations. Beatrice Agnew and her staff will be glad to steer inquirers of every stripe to the appropriate information. □



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## NEWS FROM THE PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

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### New Nonfiction

Casey	Secret War Against Hitler
Hayden	Reunion
Kazan	Elia Kazan
Theroux	Riding the Iron Rooster

### New Fiction

Barnard	Skeleton in the Grass
Fast	The Jade Stalk
Grafton	"E" Is for Evidence
Leonard	Freaky Deaky
Lindsay	In the Lake of the Moon
Masters	Amy's Children
Middleton	People in the Picture
Pearson	Undercurrents
Plain	Tapestry
Price	Good Hearts
Rybakov	Children of the Arbat
Yglesias	Only Children

### The Bookworm's Plea to Youth of All Ages

Permit me to introduce myself. I am the library bookworm. For decades I have lived within the stacks, reading and learning. But though comfortable I am lonely. I have gathered knowledge but no one knows me. I watch you all, listen at story hour, laugh with you, and really wish we could be friends. After all, I am getting smarter and more fun each day! For a worm, I am charming in a green kind of way. Finally it hit me like a ton of books: You have not seen me nor have I a name! I NEED A NAME!

Without a name I cannot get a pizza, a library card, or even think about becoming an author, much less a well-known bookworm. Can you help me?

I have a saying (I made it up myself):

"KNOWLEDGE IS IDENTITY"

I do not want this bit of brilliance attributed to Anon. So please come to the Spring Plant Sale at the Library on May 7th and enter the "Name Me" contest. Please add any bits of whimsy, rhyme, or reason you wish. A smile and a little surprise "thank you" will be given to all who submit an entry. If you win, you get a genuine slimed--- oops, I mean signed---picture of ME. ☐

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## THORPE INTERMEDIA GALLERY

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The Thorpe Intermedia Gallery will host a multi-sensory art exhibition featuring mixed-media art work with twelve recognized New York artists. The exhibit runs through May 14.

The twelve artists whose works will be shown are Larry Bakke, Syracuse; Bernard Boffi, Carmel; Shalom Gorewitz, N.Y.C.; H. N. Han, N.Y.C.; George Bobby Jones, Chester; Robert Kaupelis, Yorktown; Robert Mangold, Washingtonville; James Ridlon, Syracuse; Claire Siedl, N.Y.C.; Catherine Skopic, N.Y.C.; Alan Gussow, Congers; Bill Viola, N.Y.C. ☐

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## PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Pancakes and strawberries are on the agenda for the Palisades community in coming weeks under the auspices of the Palisades Presbyterian Church. It will host its two traditional springtime social and fundraising events: its annual Pancake Breakfast on Monday (Memorial Day), May 30, from 8 to 10:30 a.m. in the parish house, and its annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 11, on the lawn at the Manse. Circle the dates and bring your friends!

In the meantime, work has begun on the addition to the church for expansion of the office and study. ☐

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## ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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### May Baskets for Mothers Day

Saturday, May 7, 1-4 p.m.

Lori Eastwick of Piermont will conduct a workshop on creating "May Baskets" from silk and dried flowers.

### "Raku" Workshop

Sunday, May 22, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

A workshop explores the ancient Japanese art of "raku"--a special method of ceramic firing.

### Students Exhibit Works

Sunday, May 22 through Sunday, June 5.

The annual Student Art Show. This year the exhibition will be combined with a ceramics sale for the benefit of the center's ceramics department. A gala opening of the show will be held from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, May 22. The public is invited at no charge. ☐

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## **THEATRE CALENDAR FOR MAY**

by Eden-Lee Jellinek

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### In Rockland:

#### **Irving Berlin Revue in Piermont**

Florence Newman, who used to teach elementary grades in Palisades at the schoolhouse on Oak Tree Road, is directing a tribute to Irving Berlin on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Presented by the Grand Central Players, "A Berlin Celebration" featuring a cast of 10, will be performed at the Piermont Village Hall on Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7, at 8:30 p.m., and on Sunday at 2 p.m. Telephone: 359-2581. General Admission: \$7.50. Fri. and Sun., sr. citizens \$6; Sunday, children, \$6.

#### **BELFRY REPERTORY**

South Broadway, Nyack. 358-8583

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" Musical delight featuring the lovable world and characters of Charles Schultz. Choreographed by Joan Saporta of Tappan. Weekends through May 8.

#### **ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE**

Park Street, Nyack. 358-4445

"What the Butler Saw" Joe Orton's scathing black comedy-cum-social commentary farce. Stars J. Robinson Garland of Tappan and Ted Tarson of South Nyack. Opens Friday, May 20, and runs weekends through June 18. Call for reservations.

#### **PENGUIN REPERTORY THEATRE**

Crickettown Road, Stony Point. 786-2873

"The Breadwinner" Timely revival of W. Somerset Maugham's witty comedy satirizing suburban parents and teenagers of the 1930s. Vintage generation-gap high jinks. Opens Friday, May 27; runs through June 19; Thurs. and Fri., 8:30 p.m.; Sat., 6 and 9 p.m.; Sun., 2:30 p.m. (Remember Boulderburg Manor Sunday brunch tie-in.)

### **ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

Special treat for the last evening in the popular series "Out Loud" (produced by Frank Platt), Alan Anderson directs readings of scenes from Maxwell Anderson's "High Tor" and "Winterset" with some extraordinary guest stars. Only Fri., May 20, 8 p.m.

#### **The Turning Point**

Five musical evenings, Wed.-Sun. nights throughout the month, with two open-mike Wed. nights--May 4 and 18. Call 359-1089 for information on specific p.m. menus.

### **FEATURED DISCOVERY:**

Eisenhower Hall at West Point is a terrific place to catch Broadway shows at reasonable prices. Touring productions en route to and from N.Y.C. often stop over for a weekend run. May is the final month of the season. Three scheduled events:

-Pilobolus Dance Co., May 7, 8 p.m. Original and exciting modern Dance troupe.

-West Point Cadet Band Graduate Concert, May 21, 7:30 p.m., free.

-West Point Cadet Glee Club Graduate Concert, May 22, 7:30 p.m., free. For ticket information and reservations: (914) 938-4159.

### In New Jersey:

#### **BERGEN COUNTY PLAYERS**

298 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, (201) 261-4200

"The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. Freewheeling comedy involving a heartsore Briton deposited in the midst of Deep South small-town family squabbles, and a plot to make the K.K.K. the rulers of the world. It all explodes (literally) in this delightfully madcap milieu.

#### **NEWARK MUSEUM'S BALLANTINE HOUSE**

43 Washington Street, Newark, (201) 596-6550

"The Servants Entrance" presented by the Learning Theatre. Performances are free and open to the public Sundays at 2:30 through June 26.

#### **PLAYERS GUILD OF LEONIA**

(201) 947-9606 or (201) 944-6868

"Dark of the Moon" Hill folklore and witchcraft; eerie, poetic drama.

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### **STAGE NOTES**

from Eden-Lee Jellinek

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I'd like to use this column to report on the summer activities of young up-and-coming thespians in the community. Please write me at Washington Spring Road, Palisades, or call 359-7697 to let me in on any of the following:

-Summer arts camp plans: Theatre, Music, Dance.

-Performance plans: Summer stock, Repertory

If any Palisades "postgraduates" have news of theatre activity this summer, let me know and 10964 will spread the word. □

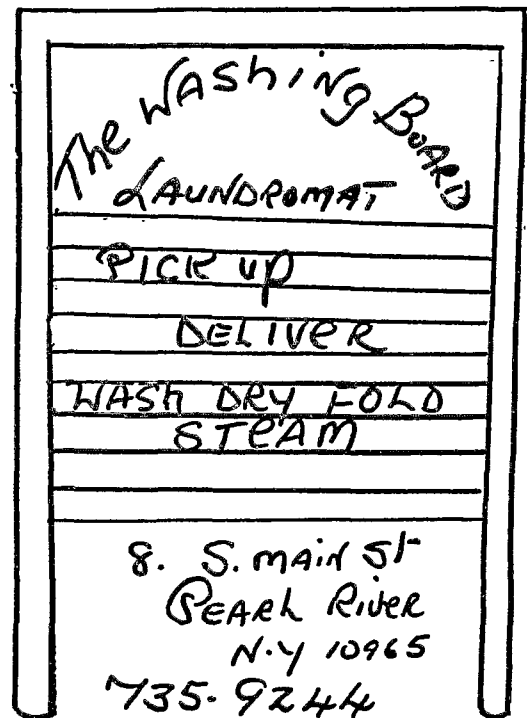
## NEWS FROM THE BLUE ROCK SCHOOL

The Blue Rock School will present a musical play, "The Story of King Arthur and the Sable Knight," on May 27 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. Everyone is invited. There will be no charge.

A Children's Workshop of the Performing Arts will be offered by the Blue Rock School at the Community Center from June 20 through 25. It will include storytelling, drama and music. A presentation of the children's work will take place on Saturday, June 25 at 6 p.m.

Children ages 4 and 5 will meet for half-day sessions each day from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The fee is \$100. Children ages 6 through 10 will meet for full-day sessions each day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fee is \$180. Enrollment will be limited to 30 children.

Three special evening programs for adults are being planned in connection with the Children's Workshop. The first of these programs will feature Richard Lewis, director of the Touchstone Foundation in New York City, who will speak on children's imagination and creativity. This special program is sponsored through the New York Council for the Humanities and the New York Foundation for the Arts. Times and dates for this as well as other programs will be announced later. They will be free and open to the public. □



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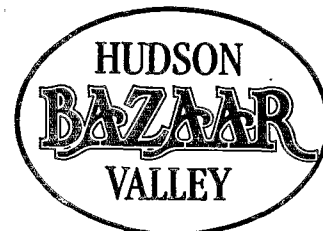
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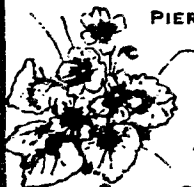
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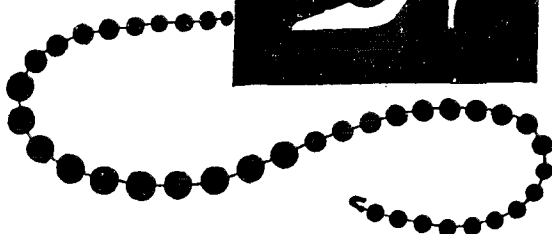
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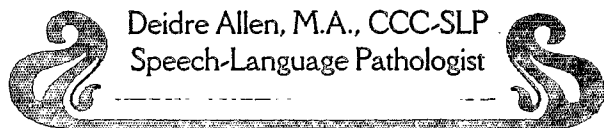
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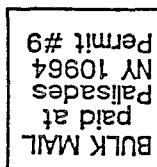
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Thanks to Nick and Cass Ludington and Mildred Post Rippey for their contributions this past month.

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## 10964 DEADLINE

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The deadline for copy for the June issue is May 15. Please send copy to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, N. Y. 10964. The June issue will appear in your mail as close to the first of the month as possible.