

10964

The Palisades Newsletter

April 1991 • No. 126



A New Grip Takes Hold of the 9W Golf Driving Range After 43 Years of Kopacs

March 1 marked a milestone in Palisades history. After nearly 43 years of involvement and 25 years of ownership, George and Gertrude Kopac sold the 9W Golf Driving Range, for a recorded price of \$5,890,000, to a Manhattan delicatessen operator and former English literature professor at Dong Kuk University in Seoul, Korea.

Contradicting statements attributed to him in a recent Rockland Journal-News article, new owner Jin K. Shin said he plans no structural additions. "I fell in love with this place and with Palisades about eight years ago. The only changes I want to make are to clean up around the sides and to improve the parking area with trees and shrubs and maybe a small embankment between the cars and the highway.

"The reporter completely misunderstood what I said about building a double-deck structure," he continued. "I said I wished I could, but I know I can't because this is a residential zone as well as a historic

area." The new ownership will face an increasingly competitive market. Not only has a new range been announced for Route 303 close to the Palisades Parkway exit in Tappan, but work has begun to double-deck the existing range alongside the Closter mall.

The 9W Driving Range boasted only 15 tees when teenager George Kopac started working for owner Renard Norton in 1948. Norton had recently acquired the range from Stevens & Nicholas, a partnership that had started it some five years or so earlier.

Soon after they bought the range in 1966 the Kopacs expanded

to the present 49 tees, spanning the entire frontage of the 15-acre property. The price of a "large bucket" of about 75 balls has meanwhile gradually inflated to \$6 from 75 cents in 1948.

The distinctive miniature golf course, like the entire operation, has been very much a Kopac family affair. George started developing it in 1949, but it owes its present glory to daughter Diane Kurisko, who selected or created all the imaginative ornaments except the fiberglass giraffe, seal and rabbit. Michael has served as full-time assistant to his father for several years, and the

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Hudson River Defense League

Holds Meeting on Proposed New Hudson River Rail Crossing

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has begun serious consideration of a new Hudson River rail crossing. A number of sites for such a crossing are being assessed, from Palisades in the south to Newburgh in the north. The MTA will propose either a bridge or a tunnel.

The Hudson River Defense League invited Martin Huss, Director of Service Quality for MTA and Project Manager of the MTA's Rail Crossing Project, to discuss the various options and their environmental impacts at the League's Annual General Meeting, held in the Grand View Village Hall on March 28.

Roxane Witke, Director of the League, invited elected and appointed officials, as well as leaders of local conservation and preservation organizations, from the communities in Rockland and Westchester that would be affected.

A report on the meeting will appear in the next issue of 10964, as well as the League's next newsletter.

Palisades Mall

Last year the League led a half dozen Rockland and Bergen associations—including the Palisades Civic Association—in a challenge to the Pyramid Company's proposed new shopping mall at the nexus of Route 59, Route 303 and the New York State Thruway. The proposed mall is to be 50 per cent larger than the Nanuet Mall. The site has a long history of industrial waste contamination. The League and its associates brought suit on procedural and environmental grounds. The

Town of Clarkstown and Pyramid were recently rebuffed by Judge Carey of the New York State Supreme Court in their attempt to have the suit thrown out. Resolution of this stage of the suits is expected soon, and will be reported in 10964, as well as in the League's newsletter.

Piermont Marsh Education Fund

The League's Piermont Marsh Education Fund, initially financed by a settlement with the Carlyle Corporation as a result of the resolution two years ago of the League's challenge to the Piermont Landing project, has so far contributed substantially to the stipends for Tappan Zee High School students employed in a summer study project in the Piermont Marsh, under Dr. Clarence Branch.

The Hudson River Defense League is a not-for-profit corporation centered in Rockland County and is dedicated to the protection of the River and the communities along the Tappan Zee. The League welcomes suggestions and participation and depends on contributions from the community. Tax deductible contributions should be made out to the Hudson River Defense League and sent to Stephen Hickey, Treasurer, Hudson River Defense League, P.O. Box 606, Nyack, NY 10960.

Roger Jellinek, Trustee

The Triangle Flower Garden

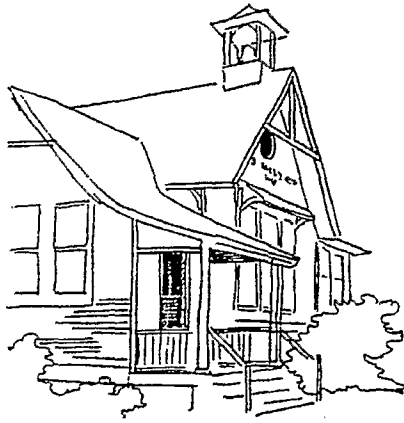
One early morning last November the flower garden across from the post office and behind the postal box was completely destroyed when the Spring Valley Water Company dug it up to replace a water line that ran through it. It was a very discouraging sight when the bulldozer had finished—that beautiful garden was nothing but mud!

Many people called to say how upset they were over the destruction, how much they had enjoyed the garden and hoped we were going to replant it. The idea of starting all over again seemed more than a little over-

whelming, but then thanks to an irate letter written by Margaret Anderson to the water company, we received a call from Mr. Barnes, Public Relations Director of Spring Valley Water Company. He has put their landscaper at our disposal to replace the topsoil and give any labor needed. He will also reimburse us for money spent on replacement plants.

It will take a couple of years to get the garden back to where it was, but we will get there.

Dossi and Reg Thayer



Your Community Center Needs \$8,000 a Year

Will You Pay For A Day?

To Reserve the Center call Irene Frederick at 359-3194.

But Folks, It Ain't Free!

The Blue Rock School was a mixed blessing for the Community Center. The nice folks at Blue Rock used the Center part-time, paid us about \$2,000 a year more than we needed, and filled the Center with the sound of happy children. But they also filled the Center with an enormous amount of school equipment that made many activities difficult or impossible to conduct at the Center.

Since Blue Rock moved out in early November, there has been a dramatic increase in the use of the Center by Palisadians, and many new community events have been planned.

Five of our civic groups now meet regularly at the Center: The Boy Scouts, the Swim Club, the Civic Association, and Palisadians for Incorporation.

Quite recently, the Center hosted a special meeting of the P.T.A. to discuss the "budget crisis" with School Board President, Gerry Miras.

In addition, for the first time in many years, Palisadians held private parties at the Center in March — two birthday parties and a bridal shower.

There are also five Festive Events planned for the Center so far this year:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| The 5-Mile Run | June 2 |
| The Rummage Sale | June 8-9 |
| The Palisades Cook-Off | July 6 |
| The Halloween Festival | October 26 |
| The Holiday Bazaar | December 14 |

Finally, the Teen Club is being revived (see the accompanying story on this page) and there is talk of reviving the Senior Citizens Club — and someone was overheard dreaming of staging a children's play at the Center.

"Truly, our old Palisades Schoolhouse is fast becoming the center of community life that it was always intended to be."

The Palisades Community Center receives no funds from the Federal, State, County, or Town governments. We have only two possible sources of income: Donations from Palisadians, or fees charged to outside groups for the use of the facility. This means that either Palisadians must pay to keep the Center operating or they must settle for a "part-time" facility, shared with a group, such as Blue Rock, that is willing to pay to use the Center.

It takes quite a bit of money these days (about \$8,000 a year — \$22 a day) to keep the Center heated, insured, and in good repair. We have therefore provided envelopes in this issue of 10964 which we hope you will fill with a substantial contribution of \$25, \$50, or \$100.

John Converse

5-Mile Run: The Palisades 5-Mile Run will take place on Sunday, June 2. It will begin and end at the Center and there will be coffee and donuts before the run. Anyone who is not a runner and would still like to participate may walk the course — walkers will leave earlier than runners. T-shirts will be given to all those who finish and there will be a \$10 entry fee. Starting time is 9 A.M. For further information, contact Kim Miller at 359-6305.

Rummage Sale: A rummage sale to benefit the Community Center will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 8-9. Donations of sale items are needed. For further information, contact Janis Cavanagh at 359-1026.

New Teen Club Forming: WANTED all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from Palisades. Come to the opening meeting, April 15, at 7 p.m. at the Palisades Community Center on Oak Tree Road. Help plan your teen club... a place to hang out, have fun. Activities, whatever you want! BE THERE... snacks will definitely be served. For further information please call 365-3317

Library News

1991 Plant Sale and Garden Market

The Palisades Free Library garden extravaganza will be held on Saturday, May 11, 1991, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition to your favorite annuals, perennials, vegetables and herbs, this year we will have a market area offering:

Hand-made and imported pots and planters - Garden decorations
Outdoor furniture - Books on gardening - Hanging baskets
Gorgeous fresh cut flowers.

Plants available will include bleeding hearts, astilbe, ferns, columbines, violas, geraniums, impatiens and begonias for shady areas, and for the sunny garden, daisies, poppies, cosmos, cleome, petunias, marigolds and zinnias. There will also be an expanded selection of flowering shrubs for sale.

If you have plants you would like to donate, call and we'll help you dig them—we'd love to have more plants from local gardens. Don't forget the bake sale table—bring donations with you, and lots of money to spend.

Questions, requests, offers of help to Ann Brooke, 365-1375.

Centennial Building Campaign

Having received our flyer "Concepts for a New Library," everyone in Palisades should be familiar with our aspirations for enlarging the library. The conceptual drawing sent out to the community and to others is designed to give everyone an idea of what an enlarged library could look like on the existing site. The plan has not yet gone before any zoning or historic board and most certainly is not finalized. We are very concerned with our hamlet's historic status and expect to comply closely with its integrity.

In order to go forward with our plans, we must raise a considerable sum of money. We need all the help we can get, from everyone in the town and as many other interested parties as possible. We are excited and encouraged by the support we have received thus far. Every effort is being made to meet our goals so that the final plans can take shape and be realized. To that end, the

historic value of the original Jordan House will be integrated with a building plan that will enhance our small hamlet and blend with its historic status.

The expansion of the Palisades Free Library is an excellent chance for us all to invest in something that will truly have direct benefits for the community of Palisades. For one person a \$250 contribution for the library addition is going to be a very generous donation. For another it might be \$1,000, or \$5,000 or possibly even \$10,000. In the final analysis all donors will share together the pure excitement of helping to create a new library that can adequately handle all our current needs. Please consider sending in your pledge card now.

The library will be hosting several fund-raising events this year including an auction in the fall. Watch for further details.

Centennial Celebration

On the week end of June 15, the library will host a 100th Anniversary Celebration. There will be reminiscences by past trustees about the library's history as well as a short original theatrical presentation involving the children of Palisades. (Any children interested in performing should call Lynne Aubrey Seidler at 359-7355.) Immediately following will be a Pot Luck Supper. An exhibit of memorabilia will include copies of Maryann Lowndes' history of the library, which is now being edited and updated by Roger Jellinek to include the last 25 years.

Thanks go to Lynne Seidler and Anne Tonetti who have volunteered to co-chair this event. We hope you can join us at this special event in honor of our library.

Books! Books! Books!

Please call Nina Prusinowski (359-4580) with your old-used books for the Plant Sale. Please do not drop books at the library as we don't have the room. Also, no textbooks or *National Geographics*.

New Books

Bly, *Iron John* (Sean McCarthy Memorial)

Cheever, *Tree Tops*

Connell, *Alchymist's Journal*

Gerds, *Art Across America* (Britten/Parton Memorial)

Godwin, *Father Melancholy's Daughter*

Gordon, *Good Boys & Dead Girls*
Levin, *Silver*

Oates, *Rise of Life on Earth*

Oz, *To Know a Woman*

Price, *Bright Captivity*

Quindlen, *Object Lessons*

Rewald, *Seurat* (Britten/Parton Memorial)

Mildred Rippey

90 in 91

(To the tune of "Hello Dolly")

Hello Mildred, Here we go, Mildred,
As we sing your praises to the sky today.
We love you so, Mildred, let us show, Mildred,
We appreciate the love you give so free and gay.

We love your mind, Mildred, and we find, Mildred,
That you want the world to be a kinder place, so . . .
Take a chair, Mildred, let us show you how we care, Mildred.
We know that you're more than just a pretty face.

David Sanders



Photo by Diana Green

On Sunday, February 19, the Palisades community celebrated the 90th birthday of Mildred Rippey at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. Observing the close to 200 people of all ages filling the Meeting Room to capacity, Chris Iosso remarked that this gathering to honor Mildred Rippey was probably one of the largest in Palisades history.

The party was organized by Mildred's daughter, Jo Cole. Seventeen Rippey relatives came from near and far including two daughters, Janet Chesnut from Pittsburgh and Jo from Rockland County. A third daughter, Mildred Elaine Imady, sent good wishes from Damascus, Syria. Grandchildren came from Seattle, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. The youngest family member was great-granddaughter Essma Imady, whose fourth birthday was the following day.

Other celebrants included neighbors in Palisades, Mildred's Bible study group from the Tappan Alliance Church, her current classmates from Rockland Community College, and members of the Palisades Presbyterian Church where Mildred has worshipped most of her life.

Jane Sherman organized the Palisades Sunday School children to make a Tree of Hand Hearts. Jeff, Jake, Kate, Bree, Rhiannon, Alison, Elisabeth, Amanda, Bret, Chris, Niko, Jeremy, Geoffrey, Sam, Caleb, Ariana, Travis, Elanor, Luka, Shane, Justin, Evan and others, dipped their hands into paint and pressed their handprints on paper cut into hearts and hung on eucalyptus boughs.

Mildred sat in the midst of a swirl of activity receiving the homage of her friends and family. The choir serenaded her with a medley of tunes including "Over the Rainbow" and "I Get a Kick out of You."

Two songs were written in honor of Mildred. Virginia Kahrman wrote "I'm Just Wild About Mildred" sung to the tune of "I'm Just Wild about Harry." David Sanders wrote verses entitled "Hello Mildred," sung to the tune of "Hello Dolly." Mildred's poems were read and tributes made to the "Grande Dame" of the Palisades Church and community.

Grandson Andy Chesnut echoed the group sentiment when he said, "I hope to be back here in 10 years for another birthday party."

For those of you who missed the event, all is not lost. To find out more about our fascinating fellow Palisadian, you can check out the video entitled "Mildred," by Cristina Biaggi and Patricia Walsh, at the library.

Milbry C. Polk

Thank you kind friends who are near to me,
And my loved ones who are so dear to me,
For coming to sing and to shout
With this old lady who is on her way out.

I may stay with you a year or two,
If God has something for me to do,
But then I will suddenly fly away
And wait for you until the day
When we'll all be together again.
Halleluia! Amen!

Mildred Rippey

What Peace Means

In our February issue of 1964 we asked for our readers to share what they think peace means. Thanks to all of you who took time and thought and wrote to us.

A Peacetime Story

Some weeks ago, in a far-away village, a public building bore the sign: "We support our Troops." Inside, a yellow ribbon display honored local reservists serving in the Persian Gulf and a poster announced, "Wanted: Saddam Hussein, Dead or Alive - Preferably Dead."

Some building users, however, were unhappy with this range of feelings, which seemed to indicate that any disbelief in war had been suspended. One such building user put up a contrasting sign suggesting peace might be an option. Ripped down that night, with fingernail marks visible the next morning.

The unauthorized peace sign was replaced later that day. And that night, it was again removed. This time, however, the job was professionally done. Upon inquiry, the peacemonger learned that a member of another building group had removed the sign, with the express order of the Mayor of that village. The elected leader indicated there would be no peace signs on public buildings in their town.

The "We support our Troops" sign was also taken down, as was the Wanted poster, though a flag was added and the yellow ribbon display remained.

What do they stand for?

Christian T. Iosso

I embrace peace and find war abhorrent and barbaric. I am happy for the men and women who can come home to their families. After the euphoria has subsided, I hope we can focus our power, might and tax dollars on our very real needs at home, such as, education, homelessness, unemployment, health care and many other dire needs.

Irene Frederick

Peace has always been momentary. The trick—as people, as nations—is to gather as many of these moments as we can until peace becomes a season.

Peter Michelmore

Peace is unifying good to overcome evil. In this country, gun control laws would be an excellent start.

Nan Michelmore

Homecoming euphoria cannot bury our questions and our doubts. The death score was 100,000 to 78—is that a victory or a massacre? Do the yellow ribbons and flags represent patriotism or the self-righteousness of a bruised national ego? Couldn't we do anything to prevent the deaths and the devastation? Or was the war a showcase for our military and our 'defense' industries? How much longer can we survive on militarism, weapons-worship, and uncontrolled exploitation? Sorrow, shame, and fear for the future are a poor foundation for Peace.

Jack Hoffmeister

Peace is a conversation. It can be one that is angry, heated, morose, scared, threatening, daring, gloomy, bright or cheerful. It is a communication about issues that may be challenging or innocuous. It is one person—brother, sister, husband, wife or head of state—reaching out to another with the intention of understanding and recreating the other's viewpoint, and then creating resolution without violence. At the very least, it is the commitment to further communication until the issue is resolved.

Judith W. Umlas

Peace is a harmonious relationship among individuals and nations, based on mutual respect, trust, morality, and good will. At times the pursuit of peace requires courage to thwart the brutality of tyrants who misconstrue restraint for weakness.

Jules Leni

What Peace Means to Me

Peace means not just the end of hostilities between nations, but peace established within families, neighbors, communities, races and religions. My focus is on striving and attaining personal peace. The peace within one affects and may be the key for achieving the other kinds of peace. This peace, however, is the most difficult to achieve.

The truth is that there is a little or big war inside everyone—attitudes, feelings, fears, anxieties, trusts. Personal peace doesn't come swiftly. Irish poet, William Butler Yeats, in his poem "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," vows to "arise and go now," to Innisfree and build a small cabin. And he says, "I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow..."

What is inner peace? It is not hate, fear, envy, greed, deceit, anxiety, resignation, retreat, passivity or blind acceptance of what life and events bring. It is not self-centeredness or disregard for others.

Inner peace is joy and love. We have established a reconciliation and an integration within and a concern for others, for mercy, and for truth. We have learned to look outside ourselves. We have come to terms with ourselves and recognize and like who we are. We have built inner resources to give strength, joy, faith, inspiration, and finally, peace.

And so the battle against the enemy within is arduous and challenging—not one we can measure by success of troops, sorties, tanks, or cease fires. But peace within may "come dropping slow" and may bring peace to all.

Have I achieved inner peace? Not yet. How many have? Perhaps we should all wear yellow ribbons in support of ourselves.

Mary Frances Murphy

News from the Tappan-Palisades Historic Areas Board of Review

Spring's arrival brings with it a flurry of home improvement projects in the 10964 community which by now all Palisadians have grown to accept as one more rite of spring. The activities accompanying this annual ritual may range from the painting of window shutters to the construction of a new home. As disparate as these projects may appear to be, they share one common denominator; they may take place in the Palisades Historic Area.

Those projects which occur within the boundaries of the Historic Districts and require a building permit or which call for exterior changes to buildings over 100 years old require approval of the Historic Areas Board of Review. The Board of Review recommends that homeowners contemplating a project in either the Palisades or Tappan Historic Areas that affects the exterior of their home first check with a building inspector at the Building Department. (A building permit application is required.) Then speak with Robert L. Hunt, Administrative Aid for Planning, at 359-5100, ext. 258. If the homeowner resides within the District, the Board further recommends that a request be made to appear before the Board for an informal consultation. Availing oneself of an informal discussion can result in speeding up the process of obtaining the necessary approvals and permits. Also, a consultation will typically minimize architectural and engineering redesign time and fees when a proposed project is not compatible with the character of the Historic District.

Once a consultation has occurred, the homeowner then makes application for a formal public hearing, at which time plans, photographs and samples of construction materials are presented to the Board. To this end, the following documentation as required by the Orangetown Building Department must be completed and the requirements met prior to a consultation or review.

Requirements for Consultation:

1. A written request to the Board.
2. A vicinity map.
3. A set of photographs of the subject property.
4. Sketch plans, if available.
5. A check to "Town of Orangetown" for the appearance fee of \$50.

Requirements for Review:

1. A copy of the Building Permit Application showing the denial and referral by the Building Inspector.
2. A copy of the deed to the subject property.
3. A Historic Areas Board of Review application completed and signed by owner or owner's agent together with a check made out to "Town of Orangetown: for the appearance fee of \$50.
4. Agent must file written authorization from the property owner. A Contract Purchaser may file his contract of sale.
5. A list, obtained from the Town Assessor's Office, of abutting property owners and those across the street from the subject property together with addressed

#10 envelopes without return address and with the proper postage. Do not use a postage meter.

6. At least seven copies of all plans. Drawings are to be dimensioned, show the scale used and are to include:
 - a. Floor plans.
 - b. Elevations with exterior materials and color schemes. Samples should be furnished.
 - c. All exterior mechanical equipment.
 - d. Elevations to scale of existing buildings to show relationships to proposed alterations or additions.
 - e. Provide elevations to scale of any buildings within twenty feet of a new structure.
 - f. A plot plan.
 - g. A vicinity map.

Note: Photographs may be used to augment the above. It is recommended that the architect for all projects be present. Ordinances concerning the Historic Areas and this Board are available. Purchase price is \$5.25.

FEES:

Review of plans \$50.
Consultation \$50.

It is important to underscore the Board of Review's mission: Assist both the individual homeowner and the community in preserving the character of the Historic District. It is the Board's conviction that early consultation will more effectively address both the individual's concerns regarding his or her own property and the community's desire for a stronger preservation program in Palisades.

A future article will address the powers and obligations of the Board, history of the Historic Areas District in Palisades and the members of the Board. Palisades residents presently sitting on the Board include Donald Tapley, Robert Williams and William Walther.

William Walther

William Walther is an architect living in the Palisades Historic Areas District with his wife and two children.

Aconcagua Expedition

Palisadians Cristina Biaggi, David Green and Laura Harrison went adventuring recently in Argentina. We asked Cristina and David to share the experience with 10964 readers.

On February 3, 1991, we started climbing Aconcagua in Argentina, (22,834 feet) the highest mountain in the Western hemisphere. We were accompanied by Laura Harrison, six other climbers and two guides. The climb took ten days of strenuous to extremely grueling hiking through spectacular desert valleys and up steep scree slopes via switchbacks all the way to the top. At night we camped in designated spots at various altitudes.

It took two days to walk to the base of the mountain into Base Camp (14,000 feet), traveling through the magnificent and deserted Horcones river valley which is bordered by tall mountain ranges sharply etched against the impossibly blue sky. At night we marveled at the profuse constellations which, because of the high altitude and thin air, seemed to be suspended almost within reach.

We spent three days at Base Camp getting used to the altitude—reading, sleeping, eating, and taking local conditioning hikes. From Base Camp we also ferried supplies up to the next camp (Camp I at 15,500 feet). These trips took four to six hours of hard-breathing hiking with 30 pound backpacks. As we got higher up it became colder, windier and increasingly difficult to breathe.

On February 7 we moved permanently up to Camp I where we

spent the next two days resting and taking supplies up to Camp II—appropriately named Condor Camp, being at 17,600 feet. Camp I was beautifully situated on a spur of the mountain that jutted out like a large eagle's aerie. From this vantage point we had a view of mountain ranges as far as the eye could see. On February 9 we moved up to Condor Camp where again we spent two days resting to prepare ourselves for the summit attempt.

On February 11 we trudged up to Camp III (19,600 feet), named Berlin Camp because it was extremely cold and arid. The air there is so thin that anything you do takes a supreme effort. Also, at that altitude you lose your appetite completely and you have to force yourself to eat to keep up your crucial strength. From Camp III we would make the climb to the summit.

Excerpts from Summit Day Journal Entry by David Green

I have never been so tired in my life. Yesterday we awoke at 5:30 a.m. to get ready for our summit attempt. It was still dark and icy cold as we packed the few items we needed to take with us—water, candy and extra clothing.

After some tea and a little cereal we took off for what was scheduled to be an eight to nine hour climb to the summit and return to camp. We had 3,600 feet to go to get to the top. If some of the previous days getting to Camp III had seemed hard, they don't now. About one hour into the climb I was already having trouble keeping up with the main group. Laura, who had been struggling

with the altitude for several days, finally quit her valiant effort at about 20,000 feet when she noticed the beginnings of frostbite on her fingertips and complained of seeing flashes of light in front of her. She returned to Camp III while the rest of the group ventured on.

The climbing became more and more difficult as we gained altitude. The air thinned even more, and fatigue turned into exhaustion. Even John, our guide, was having troubles, though not to the extent I was. Breathing became my primary concentration, as I found myself now breathing five or even six times for every step I took. We reached the base of the Canaleta and began our last charge for the summit.

As we neared the top, what had been a calm, sunny, and relatively warm day started clouding up, and soon snow was falling as distant thunder rumbled. At this point I was dead on my feet, pausing every couple of minutes to rest and leaning on my ski pole for support. Several times I nearly fell asleep.

Somewhere around 5 or 5:30 p.m., some ten hours after leaving camp, Cristina, John, and I reached the summit. However, I never actually got to stand on the summit and look around because right as we scrambled to the plateau there was a crackle in the air and my hair stood on end as if lightning was about to strike. Augusto yelled for everyone to lie down. I had visions of a lightning bolt blasting the summit, exploding chunks of rock in every direction, and people subsequently saying, "Yes, Dave made it to the

summit but was killed by a bolt of lightning."

As we started to get to our feet and take the mandatory photographs and look around, the air once again crackled with electricity. I felt a mild current of electricity enter my left hand, run up my arm, cross my shoulders, and run down my right arm. We dove for cover once more and John shouted for us to get ready to leave. Fortunately, lightning did not strike and we convinced John to hastily snap a shot of us with Cristina's instamatic in our moment of survival, if not triumph. We then turned quickly to our descent.

I fell and fell again as we tediously picked our way down through the rocks until John became concerned about my ability to continue. In some ways he was right. If I had thought I could survive the night on the mountainside, I would have just curled up and gone to sleep right there. But I knew that I couldn't stay there with the sub-zero night coming on, and he was very insistent, coaxing me to my feet and fashioning a handle to the back of his pack for me to hold for balance and support. In this fashion we completed our descent of the Canaletta. I have never been so tired or defeated in my life. Each step was the last I could take, I could go no further. But we continued on... and on... and on...

Well, I did it. And I don't ever have to do it again... if I don't want to.

The next day we walked back down to Base Camp, and the day after that we hiked the 21 miles out of the Horcones valley to Punta de Inca where we had started our journey.

We had all lost weight, and it took a week to recover from this amazing experience which we will never forget.

Cristina Biaggi and David Green

A Few Words About Alan Hale

Alan Hale died on January 22. His business partner, Al Husted, supplied a death notice for *The New York Times* which described him as a "...New York City public relations executive for performing arts organizations, dance companies, theater events, opera companies and performers... He loved being a press agent but had a secret desire to be a gossip columnist. Friends have fond memories of Alan's witty watercolor paintings and his "Funny Names Hall of Fame" that evoked tears of mirth. Few press agents have the style Alan mastered, and few humans have the grace with which he lived."

Al got it right.

Alan moved to Palisades less than four years ago. At that time he had known that he was HIV positive for a year or so and had begun an appropriate program of medication. His approach to the disease was, I think, inspired. He took it seriously, did what he was told, then lived his life to the fullest.

He worked hard and well at his career. He had long dreamed of living out of the city, and after a couple of years of sharing space here in Palisades, he bought a house of his own in Grand View. It was his pride and joy.

He was quick to make his mark in the community, found many friends whom he loved to entertain, serving meals inspired by the *Times* Sunday Magazine Section which were sometimes successful, always memorable. When he was asked to join the Board at the Rockland Center for the Arts, he 'served with distinction.' He kept close watch on the cultural life in the city, with a particularly indulgent eye for the new and novel. He enjoyed traveling, but was equally happy at home taking long walks through the woods or along the bridal path.

He will be remembered with love and admiration.

Jack Hoffmeister

Piermont Library Fund-Raising Event

"Friends of the Piermont Library" are sponsoring a benefit at the premier of a Musical Theater Works production by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, collaborators on the world's longest-running musical, "The Fantastics" and "I Do, I Do." The new musical "Colette Collage," revolves around the vibrant life of French author, Colette, from girlhood into old age. There will be 75 places available for \$75 apiece. The reservation includes the play at the Theater at St. Peter's (Citicorp Bldg., 54th and Lexington) followed by a wine and dessert reception at which participants can mingle with the cast and authors. Francoise Gilot's portraits of Colette will be on display.

Proceeds from the benefit will go to the New Building Fund of the Piermont Public Library. For more information and reservations contact: Audrey Leeds at 359- 1855 or the Piermont Library at 359- 4595.

Summer Camps for Children

With spring almost upon us, it's time to think about the warmth that summer will bring... and, time to start planning for the sun and fun! In my eyes, summer means the swim club and trips to the beach. To others, camp is where it's at! I've put together a list of popular camps in the area to help you make your choice. The variety and flexibility of these camps make it very easy for all of us to enjoy either "a little" or "a lot" of summer camp. Not all of the information was available at this writing so I've simply listed the basics needed. I recommend that both the parent and camper visit the facility before making a final decision. If anyone knows of other terrific camps-please share the wealth!

Environmental Tip

Rain forests control climate by influencing wind, rainfall, humidity and temperature. They recycle water, oxygen and carbon which reduces soil erosion, flooding and air pollution. While rain forests make up only 2 per cent of the earth's surface, they support over half of the world's wild plant, animal and insect life.

Tropical rain forests produce oxygen and consume carbon dioxide. Deforestation, resulting in increased carbon dioxide emissions, contributes to global warming. Burning of tropical forests is responsible for one tenth or more of this greenhouse effect.

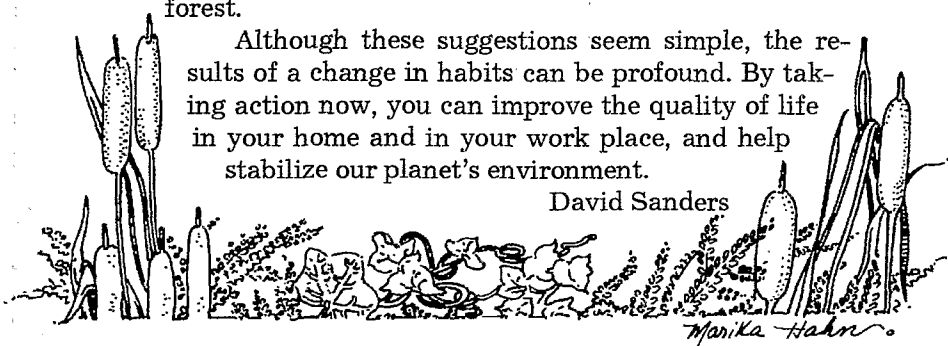
Close to half of the world's rain forests have been destroyed. At a disappearing rate of approximately 100 acres per minute, 80 per cent of today's rain forests will be gone by the year 2000!

How Can I Help?

1. Do not buy tropical wood products obtained by clear cutting, such as teak, mahogany, rosewood or ebony.
2. Reduce consumption of paper products.
 - a. Use mugs instead of paper cups.
 - b. Use cloth rags instead of paper towels.
 - c. Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.
 - d. Use reusable containers for leftovers instead of plastic wrap or foil.
3. Bring your own shopping bag to market. Request recycled paper bags instead of plastic bags.
4. Use our recycling program. Buy more non-packaged goods.
5. Plant and maintain trees.
6. Do not buy endangered plants, animals or products made from overexploited species, including ivory, reptile skins, or coral.
7. Ask before buying a parrot if it was captured (illegally) in the rain forest.

Although these suggestions seem simple, the results of a change in habits can be profound. By taking action now, you can improve the quality of life in your home and in your work place, and help stabilize our planet's environment.

David Sanders



Bronx Zoo

Zoo camp: ages 8-12: 10 one week sessions, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 24 to August 30. \$185. members, \$195. non-members

Around the World with Pablo Python: Ages 5-7. 6 one week sessions, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. July 1 to August 30. \$135. members, \$140. non-members. Contact: Renee, (212) 220-6854 for brochure

Nyack YMCA

4 two week sessions, ages 18 mo.-10 years. June 24 to August 16. 4 different programs. 2 hour mini-camp, full day programs for older children. Contact: 358-0245

Town of Orangetown Summer Camp

Ages 5-12. 3 two week sessions, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4 or 5 p.m. \$50. per week, or \$100. per session per child lunch included, nurse on staff, no confirmed site. Contact: Town Youth Recreation, 359-5100, Ext. 233, 234.

Piermont Playgroup

Ages 3-5. July 1 to August 2. 5 days, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Community Center in Piermont. Contact: 359-9174

Town and Country Day Camp

Old Tappan, N. J.: Ages 3-15. July 1 to August 23. 4, 6, or 8 weeks. Contact: 359-1188 or (201) 768-4553. Open House every Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Lindgren Nursery School

Closter, N. J.: Ages 3-9. Some openings left for second half of summer. Contact: (201) 768-3550.

Oak Tree Playgroup

Ages 2-5, dates presently unavailable. Contact: 359-6472



Lori Ann Rasmussen and George Michael Cohn, February 23, 1991.

Announcing

Lori Ann Rasmussen of Palisades, N. Y., and George Michael Cohn of Northvale, N. J., were married by the Rev. Laurie Ferguson at the Palisades Presbyterian Church on February 23, 1991, at 11 a.m. A reception immediately after the ceremony was held at the Colonial Manor in Old Tappan, N. J.

Bob Griffin and our staff member, Judy Zehentner, and their two sons Bobby and Danny welcome the new arrival of **Thomas Malachy** on March 25.

Congratulations and all good wishes!

People Who Do: *This new section will introduce you to Palisades residents offering particular skills and services that you may find useful. Future lists will include catering, crafts, baby-sitting and other services. If you would like to be included, please drop us a note to P. O. Box 201 with your name, address and phone number, and a brief description of the service you offer.*

Spring Spruce-Up

Irene Blanchard, 359-5520, is an artist who also does murals and other fine finishes, fine antique and architectural restorations.

Ann Brooke, 365-1375, and her crew do landscape gardening, gar-

den design, planting and maintenance on a regular or occasional basis.

David Mooring-Frye, 353-4642, does interior and exterior painting, high-quality prep, power washing, wallpaper removal and installation, plastering and taping and custom colors. Licensed and insured.

Bill Ryan, 365-1615, does general landscaping and swimming pool maintenance.

Richard Rasmussen, 359-5190, Personalized Lawn Care, does mowing, edging, thatching, fertilizing, hedge and shrub trimming, spring and fall clean-up. Free estimates.

The Nature Place Day Camp

Outdoor educational and non-competitive humanistic program. Ages 4-13. July 1 to August 9. 4 and 6 week sessions. Open House, April 13, 1 to 4 p.m. Contact: David Dickson or Ed Bieber, 356-6477

Blue Rock Summer Program

West Nyack, N. Y. Elementary age children June 17 to June 28. Contact: 627-0234.

Inge Lake Pre-School

Closter and Norwood, N. J. Ages 2 1/2-6. June 24 to August 16. 4, 6, 8 week sessions. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: (201) 767-3735.

Kim Miller



...43 YEARS OF KOPACS

flourishing food counter has been the work of Gertrude with the help, at various times, of son George, Jr. and daughters Kathy Cook and Wendy Stewart. All five children's spouses have also worked at the range, including Jim Stewart, who succeeded George as head professional at the Blue Hill Golf Course in Pearl River in 1976. At least three of George and Gertrude's seven grandchildren have pitched in as ball collectors and general helpers. All members of the family live in Sparkill and Tappan, within two miles of the range.

"We have put a lot of work into it, and we are grateful for the interesting and rewarding years it has given back to us," says Gertrude Kopac.

"Our lives are going to be quite different now, and we had to do a lot of thinking before we accepted Mr. Shin's offer," says George. "But we decided the time had come for us to move on to other things." One of those things may be more serious development of George's hobby of

buying and restoring old houses in Orangetown and nearby towns. Among the pleasant memories the Kopacs take with them are friendships with Palisadians, including golf nut Bill Murray and Mikhail Baryshnikov, a recent convert to the game, and in past years Ginger Rogers and John Voigt.

But the 9W Driving Range did not reach its present state of near-capacity operation with local patronage alone. The guest book is sprinkled with the names of entertainers from Ed Sullivan and James Dean, a regular when he lived in Englewood, to Mickey Rooney, Dick Gregory, Eddie Fisher and Julius LaRosa. Noted athletes have emptied many a bucket at the range, including football stars Phil Simms and Larry Csonka, heavyweight boxing champions Floyd Patterson and Joe Frazier, former Yankee catchers Elston Howard and Rick Cerone, and the greatest baseball player of the post-World War II era, centerfielder Willie Mays of the Giants and later of the Mets.

The tradition of family involvement continues in full force with the Shins. Collaborating with Jin Shin are his wife Young, their son David, his sister Sun Lee and her sons Yul and Jai.

Jin quit his teaching position in Seoul ("Shakespeare, O'Neill, Ibsen, Strindberg - all the greatest European and American playwrights") 20 years ago to bring his family to New York, where they operate Shin's Deli at Madison Avenue and 90th Street and live nearby. Soon stricken by the golf virus, he became an outstanding player and now chairs the Korean Single Handicap Golf Association of New York (50 members with single-digit handicaps; his own is a proud 5).

"I would like to move to Palisades right away, but my wife is a dancer who gives performances and demonstrations of traditional Korean dancing, and she doesn't want to live so far from all her connections with other dancers and artists," he said.

Andrew E. Norman

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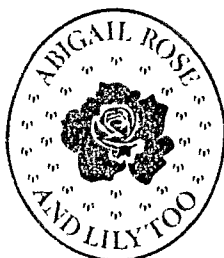
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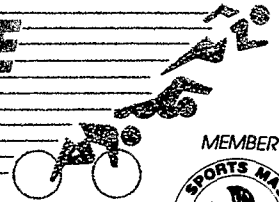
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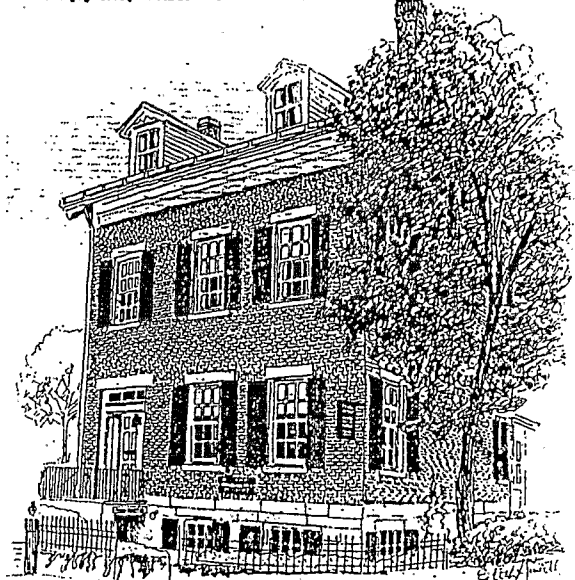
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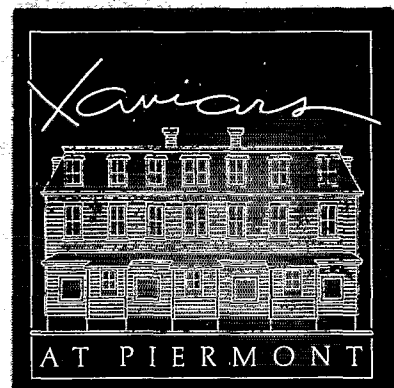
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ABOUT 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964 needs your moral and financial support!** Please send a contribution to **10964**, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, NY. 10964. With your help we'll be able to put **10964** in your mailbox every other month, October through June.

The following staff members worked on this issue.

Ann Brooke - Mary Ann Brueckner - John Converse - Lori DiGiacomo
Carol Elevitch - Diana Green - Marika Hahn - Boyce Leni
Gina Vermandel - Judy Zehentner

Special thanks to our **10964** Board of Directors, Roger Jellinek, James Farley, Andrew Norman, and Ernest Quick, and to Arthur Firestone for his assistance.

Contributions Thank you to the following Palasadians for their financial support of our newsletter: Frank and Janet H. Carlson, Alice M. Haagenzen, and Denis and Evelyn Tighe.

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FOR SALE: Palisades 12 yr. old bi-level. 4 BR, 2 new full baths, eat in kitchen, DR, family room with wood burning stove, central air, hardwood floors, skylight, 2 level deck on 1/4 acre, dead end street, landscaped. Price \$220,000. 359-4955.

RECOMMENDING Dan Cornell, college student with general carpentry skills and 5 years experience as an apprentice, who seeks summer job or jobs. References available from Palisades residents. Call him at 358-1710, ext. 310 or 311, or 359-6948.

\$15

Reward Offered By Palisades Parent with Poor Memory

My 7 1/2 year old daughter Stefanie wants me to offer a \$15 reward to anyone who can help me remember the missing part of this nonsensical jump rope rhyme, which she loves. She is sure that some **10964** reader will know the whole thing. Those of you born circa 1947, please search your memory banks. This is the way we say it now:

"Eena meena
Tipsa Teena
Ooh Ah bumbalina
Ochee Kochee
Double Ochee, ooh-ooh gee!
Little girl, little girl,
Yes ma'am, yes ma'am!
Have you seen my chickens?
Yes ma'am, yes ma'am!
Which way did they go?
Down the road, down the road..."
(I forget the rest, I forget the rest!)

Help us, and you will win \$15.
Write to **10964**, P.O. Box 201, Palisades, NY 10964, or telephone 359-2150.

Fish n' Chips

The Community Playgroup of Piermont will be holding a Fish n' Chips Dinner on Friday, April 12. Food will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Manse Barn in Tappan. Tickets for the fund-raiser cost \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. For reservations please call 359-9174.

The Community Playgroup is a non-profit child care center with a nursery school program, a day care program, a kindergarten after-school program and a summer program. If you wish further information you may call Elaine Trotta, Director, at the above telephone number.