

10964

The Palisades Newsletter

October 1991 • No.128

Truck Traffic Count in Palisades

Since around 1979 there has been a ten ton limit applicable to trucks on route 9W (a State highway) in Orangetown, except for trucks making deliveries or pickups in Orangetown. For many years there has also been a five ton limit on Oak Tree Road (a Town road). The numerous daily violations of these weight limits constitute a dangerous situation which is of great concern to many Palisades residents.

On Monday, June 24, a truck count on route 9W and Oak Tree Road was made by Vivian Campbell, Harry Davis, Jaime Fitzgerald, Irene Frederick, Maggie Gundlach, Bob Gundlach, Nina Prusinowski, Lynn Seidler, Dossie Thayer and Reg Thayer. We operated in pairs taking two-hour shifts while sitting in a car just east of the 9W/Oak Tree Road traffic light from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. During that twelve hour period, 140 heavy tractor trailer rigs were counted, including 19 fourteen wheelers, 3 sixteen wheelers, 117 eighteen wheelers and 1 twenty-two wheeler. All of these were on route 9W and some of them came from or turned onto Oak Tree Road. Photographs of most of the 140 trucks were taken.

Because of the difficulty in discerning whether a truck weighed less than ten tons but more than five tons, the group was unable to compile any meaningful statistics regarding trucks in the over-five-ton-under-ten-ton category on Oak Tree Road; but it appeared obvious that the five ton limit on Oak Tree Road was being flagrantly violated.

By coincidence, while the truck count was going on, the Orangetown Police had a two-car, two-officer detail

stopping trucks by the 9W golf driving range from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Inasmuch as truckers inform each other via CB radio when police are in the area, it can be assumed that many trucks detoured around the Palisades/9W area that day and were therefore not included in the count.

On July 22, we met with Orangetown Police Chief William Crable and Detective Sergeant Harold Johnson to present the results of the truck count and photographs of most of the 140 trucks. Also, we formally requested that enforcement of the 10 ton limit on 9W and the 5 ton limit on Oak Tree Road be increased, along with increased enforcement of the 15 and 30 mile speed limits on Oak Tree Road. During the past summer an accident took place on Oak Tree Road involving serious injuries to a pedestrian.

Chief Crable and Sergeant Johnson agreed to the request for increased

enforcement of the weight and speed limits. They also expressed concern over the frequency of illegal left turns from Closter Road to 9W (in front of Yonder Hill Antiques) and stated that increased attention will be given to that dangerous situation.

On July 22, we sent a letter to N.Y. State Assemblyman Sam Colman requesting that he ask the N.Y. State Police to render assistance to the Orangetown Police in enforcing the 10 ton limit on route 9W. Assemblyman Colman wrote on August 7 to the Superintendent of the N.Y. State Police and requested not only assistance in enforcing the 10 ton limit on 9W, but also assistance in checking trucks on route 9W to make sure they meet safety requirements (brakes, etc.). He further agreed to let us know how the N.Y. State Police respond to his request.

Dossi and Reg Thayer

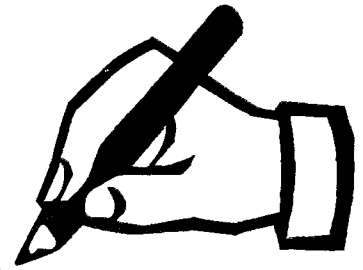
New Golf Driving Range Proposed for Oak Tree Road

An application has been filed with the Orangetown Planning Board to develop 21.6 acres of vacant land on the south side of Oak Tree Road between the little stone bridge and the railroad tracks. The plans include a golf driving range of 52 tees, a nine-hole pitch and putt golf course, two tennis courts, 118 parking spaces, and several buildings, including a restaurant. Since this type of facility is not permitted by right under the present zoning (Light Industry, Office), a zoning variance would be required.

Reg Thayer obtained this information from Joan Salomon of the Orangetown Building Department under the Freedom of Information law. A quick review of the documents indicates that this project might create some drainage and traffic problems.

The public hearing is scheduled for October 9. Interested people will want to attend the hearing.

Letter to the Editor:



In the April, 1991, issue of **10964**, we read that Mr. Jin K. Shin, the new owner of the 9W golf driving range, said he "plans no structural additions" because the range is in a "residential area as well as a historic area." This was good news. However, shortly thereafter, I learned from Joan Salomon, a Palisades resident in the Orangetown Building Department, that Mr. Shin had filed an application for permission to construct a huge structure 410 feet long, 50 feet wide and 32 feet high, to increase the number of tees from 49 to 88, and to double the number of parking spaces. This was reported in the June issue of **10964**.

Because of my concern over the adverse effect this massive expansion of the facility would have on the rural residential character of route 9W and on traffic volume, I recommended to the Palisades Civic Association that they retain attorney Martin Cornell to fight it at a public hearing scheduled by the Orangetown Planning Board on June 12. They accepted my recommendation and Mr. Cornell attended the hearing on

behalf of the Civic Association and Palisades residents.

At the hearing Mr. Cornell presented (orally and in writing) reasons why it would be illegal for the Planning Board to approve Mr. Shin's expansion plans. His principal argument pertained to an existing violation regarding the main building. The driving range is located in a residentially zoned area (R-40-1 acre). Inasmuch as it was there before the residential zoning was established, the law permits it to continue as a so-called "non-conforming use" of the property. The law applicable to non-conforming use allows only one increase of the floor area by more than 50 percent. Mr. Cornell pointed out that since the existing buildings appear to have already exceeded the 50 percent limitation, having been expanded by the previous owner, no further expansion is permitted.

A number of Palisades residents, including members of the Palisades Civic Association, spoke in opposition to the expansion plans, as did Mr. Danforth Toan, Chairman of the His-

toric Areas Board of Review. A number of other violations at the 9W golf driving range were mentioned. These had been revealed by an inspection of the site by the Orangetown Building Department in April of this year. Mr. Charles Zimmerman, head of the Building Department, was at the hearing and was requested by the Planning Board to check on the violations and report back to the Board. The hearing was then adjourned until June 26.

At the resumed hearing on June 26, Mr. Shin's attorney withdrew the expansion application. No mention was made of the violations which Mr. Zimmerman had been asked to check on.

This became a matter of concern to me and others because it appeared that the violations would continue indefi-

- Continued On Page 8 -

Overwhelming Lack of Interest Marks Primary Voting for Sheriff

All of 28 Palisades Democrats turned out for the September 12 primary to choose the Democratic candidate for sheriff.

Stony Point Police Chief Stephen G. Scurti carried Districts 12 and 50 by a combined vote of 18 to 10 over Vincent P. Coyne, a former New York City police sergeant from Clarkstown. Scurti won the county-wide

primary by a closer margin: 3,297 to 2,928, with one of the county's 250 districts and 324 absentee ballots still unreported. Palisades went counter to the Orangetown vote, however, which favored Coyne by almost 65 percent.

Two Sparkill residents were the only voters in either Palisades district to vote in the Conservative primary for delegates to the party's Supreme Court judicial convention.

Palisadian Wins Poetry Prize

Kev Kalayjian was recently honored as a Golden Poet for 1991 by the organization, World of Poetry, which held its annual conference in New York City in September. A poem which he had submitted was selected to be presented at the convention. He was also invited to appear on John Campbell's television show "Poetryland—The Wonderful World of Poetry" to read from his poetry.

Kalayjian, who emigrated to this country in 1970 from Cyprus, has been writing in English only since 1985. He began with prose and has been writing poetry for the past three years. He fell into writing poetry in Armenian when, describing the city as compared to the country, he wrote, "The sky is more expensive simply because there are too many windows."

Congratulations, Kev, we look forward to reading your poems in **10964**.

Civic Association Attacks Zoning Issues in Palisades

In direct response to the organized opposition and legal efforts of the Palisades Civic Association, Jin K. Shin, the new owner of the Route 9W Golf Driving Range, formally withdrew his application for approval of a massive, two-story multi-purpose building running almost the full length of the property.

At the June 5 Planning Board hearing on Shin's application, the Association's attorney, J. Martin Cornell, submitted a legal memorandum to the Board pointing out that the driving range was a non-conforming use in a residential zoning district and that town law restricts expansion of such uses to a one-time maximum of 50 percent. The memorandum further argued that this maximum had been used up and in some respects actually exceeded when the former owners, George and Mildred Kopac, had received permission to enlarge the building in the 1970's.

Palisadians turned out in force to testify against the proposal. William Eberle and William Ryan, both near neighbors of the range, discussed the unsuitability of the lighting and traffic in a residential zone, as well as potential problems involved in the regular spraying of insecticides. Mark and Billie Endelman, Lynne Sandhaus, Janice Cavanagh and others who reside on or close to 9W also testified on the dangerous impact of the proposed expansion on the whole area.

Reginald Thayer presented a detailed analysis of recent findings by the Orangetown Building Department that the range was currently in violation of the building code, the electrical code, the approved building plan and the filed site plan. He urged the Planning Board to refuse to consider the proposed expansion until all the violations were corrected.

Andrew Norman stressed the importance of maintaining the integrity

of the residential zone. He pointed out that if the application were granted, it might be impossible to prevent future buyers of nearby properties from successfully claiming that the zoning was a sham and that the town had in practice allowed Route 9W in Palisades to become a commercial district.

The speakers were warmly supported by the entire PCA Board of Directors and a number of other members in attendance.

Mr. Shin, who purchased the range early this year for more than \$7 million, was represented by attorney Jerome Johnson and landscape architects Adler and Young. The plan submitted for approval involved a structure 50 feet deep and more than 400 feet long, running parallel to 9W. It showed a second story for more than half the proposed length, for a total floor area in excess of 30,000 square feet.

Assuming standard 10-foot-square driving tees and 5-foot wide corridors, less than half of the proposed structure would have been devoted to the driving range function and accessory uses. Neither the application nor the oral presentation disclosed the intended use of the other 15,000 to 20,000 square feet.

The Planning Board ended the June 5 hearing by reserving its decision pending a review by Town Attorney Wayne Gavioli of Cornell's legal memorandum.

When the matter was called for continuation of the hearing three weeks later, attorney Johnson advised the Planning Board that Mr. Shin had decided to withdraw the application.

Leaving the hearing, Mr. Shin requested a discussion with the Civic Association and was advised that he would be welcome at the next Board of Directors meeting on July 16.

At the meeting, after listening to more than a dozen Palisadians express their concerns, he stated that he

wanted to keep the driving range much as it is, except for changes required to eliminate violations, and to try to operate it in a manner that would be acceptable to the people of Palisades.

He acknowledged that the two-story building plan was unrealistic and ill-considered, and that his statement to 10964 last winter that he did not plan to build a two-story building was a terrible mistake.

The PCA Board told Mr. Shin that they felt it was their clear responsibility to continue to monitor the situation and the measures taken to correct the violations, in light of the vital importance of preserving the rural quality of Route 9W in Palisades and the integrity of the residential zoning.

In other zoning matters being watched by the Civic Association, the Orangetown Planning Board voted unanimously in June not to recommend a zoning change from R-40 to R-15 for property on the east side of Route 340 directly bordering New Jersey. The new owner, the Kemann Corporation, nevertheless exercised its right to petition the Town Board for the zoning change, which would allow it to replace the former William Stefanyshyn residence on Route 340 and build at least one "flag lot" house behind it. The Town Board was scheduled to act on the request on September 23, too late for a report in this edition of 10964.

The Association is waiting to hear when the Supreme Court will schedule proceedings on the Markarian appeal against the Zoning Board's denials of variances that would enable it to replace the former Donald Knight house on Route 9W with a large modern office building. Although "Article 78" appeals from municipal decisions are statutorily entitled to precedence on the Supreme Court calendar, the typical waiting period in judicial district has lengthened to well over a year.

Andrew E. Norman

Palisades Civic Association

On behalf of our officers, Board of Directors and myself, I extend to you our sincere gratitude for the confidence you have shown in us for the past eight years. As its main objective, the PCA tries preserve the quality of life that we enjoy in Palisades and also to support certain Orangetown issues such as recycling, and the new master zoning plan.

We are presently involved in the 9W driving range issue as Andy Norman's article reports in this issue of 10964 and, more recently, with an application for another driving range along Oak Tree Road near the railroad tracks. Regarding this new driving range, a request for a zoning variance will come before the Orangetown Planning Board on October 9 at the old Greenbush School. Please come to this meeting to express your feelings on this proposal.

Also of concern to the Association is a decision from the courts regarding the Makarian property on 9W and a recent

request for a down-zoning of property on Route 340 from one acre to one third of an acre that will soon come before the Town Board.

During the past year I have made friends with Mary Kuhner, President of the Blauvelt Association of Residents, which has recently celebrated its 10th anniversary. I attended their annual dance, and I hope to see the PCA sponsor a dance to bring all of us together for a night of socializing instead of just attending to civic affairs. We need a committee to organize this, and I am hoping all you dance-and social-holics will come forward to volunteer to help. Please call 359-6589.

I usually attend Town Board meetings on Monday evenings and wish more Palisadians would attend. Copies of agendas, and proposed new Town laws will be posted in the post office and library for your information.

Our sincere regrets are extended to the family of Yolanda Man, who passed

away suddenly this summer.

We continue to need both your financial and moral support. Please become a member for the 1991-92 year. Membership fees are only \$5 per person. Your check can be mailed to Box 222.

Two of the PCA founding members, Reg Thayer and Irene Frederick have resigned, and we will miss them. They can look back with pride on their accomplishments.

Please remember to vote on November 5 for the candidates of your choice. Residents of District 50 (west of the Parkway) vote at the American Legion Hall on 340, District 12 (east of the Parkway) vote at the Palisades school.

Eileen Larkin, President

P.S. Remember to attend the 10/9/91

Planning Board Meeting.

Please join the PCA.

Watch for our notices at the post office, in the library, or in the mail.

Thanks Neighbors

Many thanks to all who responded to the letter requesting contributions for maintaining the Green Triangle at the intersection of Washington Spring Road and Woods Road. In addition to your generous financial contributions, we also received many comments and suggestions including a request to turn the Green Triangle into a flower meadow. Most, however, expressed a desire that the status quo be maintained, which it will. Anyone who did not get a letter who would like to make a contribution can call Joanne Barak at 365-3448.

Announcement

The Community Playgroup, a United Way Agency located in the Piermont Community Center, is pleased to announce an in-house expansion of its programs.

The Playgroup offers an assortment of pre-school programs as well as full-time child care and after kindergarten child care for South Orangetown residents.

Limited spaces are now available. For registration and other information, call the Playgroup at 359-9174.

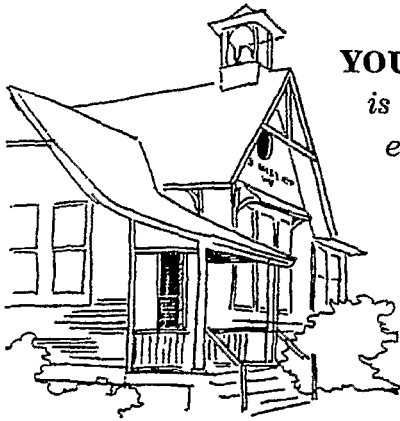
Community Center Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sale held June 8 and 9 raised close to \$1,000 for the Community Center. Thanks to all those who cleaned their closets and searched their attics and garages to donate "saleable" items. Thanks also to those who turned out to purchase our collective treasures. For those who helped display, put away, display again, and put away again, Judy, Kim, Irene, Diana, Louis and John - thank you!

My deepest gratitude, however, goes to a special few: First, to Maria Hrynenko, who worked well into the night for several nights helping to sort out, clean up, and tag all the goods received; to Eleanor and Joe for sitting in the sun and handling the funds, not to mention their true talents of "selling" the merchandise; to my husband Joe for picking up "stuff" and for all around cooperating; and to my son Joey, who finally managed to part with some of his toys to benefit the cause. The sale could not have gone on without all of you. Thanks so much !! Lastly, thanks to the gentleman who bought the two green painted bottles, for more than the asking price. Thank you for your generosity.

The Rummage Sale not only benefited the Community Center, but we are happy to say we were able to donate a large amount of quality clothing along with other usable household goods to the Salvation Army.

Janis Cavanagh



YOUR COMMUNITY CENTER
*is available every evening and
every weekend. Reservations
are best made a week in
advance by calling Diana
Green at 359-8137.*

Annual Halloween Festivities will Kick Off Community Center Season

A brighter, fresher Community Center will welcome Palisades children and adults at the annual Halloween Party on Saturday, October 26. Festivities will begin at 4:30 with traditional games, contests and refreshments and will end with scary stories around the bonfire after dusk.

Kim Miller averted a move by fellow board members to pressure her into repeating her successful efforts of the past two years by volunteering to chair the Halloween Party committee.

With the exterior rehabilitation of the building completed and a new oak floor installed in the main room, the Community Center is again welcoming groups of all kinds.

A new day care center, calling itself the Palisades Schoolhouse (P.O. Box 177), began using the Center in early September with an all-day weekday program under a contract that provides for the Center to be available and suitably cleared for community use on evenings and weekends. The Community Center board committed itself to make sure the situation does not repeat the Blue Rock School experience, which restricted community use to small meetings in a school room setting.

An aikido group started twice-weekly sessions in the Center during the summer. Leader Fred Little describes aikido as "a modern Japanese discipline of centered, aware movement, derived from the same roots as judo." The group meets every Wednesday from 8 to 10 p.m. and every Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. Interested persons should call Fred Little at 359-3261.

Grace Ryan (365-1615) is developing plans for an aerobics group, and Kim Miller (359-6305) is looking for people interested in developing a series of seminars on gardening. Among other plans under development are a bocce court, with weekly informal play and seasonal tournaments. Interested persons should call Andrew Norman (359-2155).

All persons wishing to schedule group meetings, classes, private parties or other events in the Center should call Diana Green (359-8137), who has taken over the job of calendar chairman (or "bookie") from Irene Frederick, who received a warm vote of thanks from the Center board for her many years of devoted and tactful service.

Andrew E. Norman

**Dont
Forget
the
Annual
Halloween
Festival**

**Saturday
Oct. 26th
4:30pm
at the
Center!**

**Games
Prizes for Best
Costumes
Food & Drink
Ghost Stories
Music**

**Big
Bonfire
at Dusk!**

Palisades Free Library

First Annual Chili Cook-Off and Fall Plant Sale

Save Saturday, October 19, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for this event! As part of the continuing fund-raising activities for the new library, and as a continuation of long-established Palisades tradition, this year's plant sale will include a chili cook-off, as much a fall tradition in some states as the plant sale is here.

To be a chili cook, get out your favorite chili recipe, cook up a pot full, and call Bill Walther for further details at 359-6529.

To be a judge and taster, come along on the 19th, pay your nominal contribution, sample each of the chilis

and vote for your favorite. Winner gets a prize, and you get a cheap and delicious meal.

You can also look forward to a pumpkin-carving contest with prizes for best adult and best child; a bake sale featuring autumn-type foods and pies (to contribute, call Marie Firestone at 359-0599); tulip and daffodil bulbs, plants, apples and pumpkins for sale; used books for sale (call Dale Prusinowski to donate at 359-4580); and a last chance to buy raffle tickets to win an Aiwa mini-stereo system and other valuable prizes. Drawing will be held at the plant sale.

Lots of not very serious fun. Be sure to be there!

Successful Summer Reading Program for Children

Many Palisades children succumbed to the reading bug this summer. Circulation soared to 1,158 juvenile books, and there was enthusiastic participation in the summer reading game. Every spider, ladybug, grasshopper, or other flying, crawling creature on our lively bugscape represented a book read by a child.

Story hours, crafts, games and even a visit by a local entomologist carried us spinning and buzzing through the summer.

Fall Story Hours

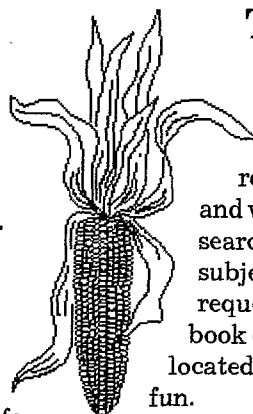
The program for young children, ages 3 through 5, will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays beginning September 25. These storytimes, which last roughly 1/2 hour, are designed to be interludes in which children hear stories in a variety of ways and learn to interact in a small group. We ask that you call 359-0136 or come in to register the children for storytime.

Seasonal Craft Program

This activity for school age children will be held at 4:15 p.m. on Wednesdays, October 23, November 20, and December 11. Circle your calendar and watch for more detailed information at the library and in 10964. Sign up.

New Fiction

Binchy	<i>Lilac Bus</i>
Brookner	<i>Brief Lives</i>
Condon	<i>Final Addiction</i>
Dexter	<i>Brotherly Love</i>
Follett	<i>Night Over Water</i>
Forsyth	<i>The Deceiver</i>
Francis	<i>Comeback</i>
Gordimer	<i>Jump</i>
Mailer	<i>Harlot's Ghost</i>
Piercy	<i>He, She and It</i>
Tan	<i>Kitchen God's Wife</i>
Tyler	<i>Saint Maybe</i>



The Intelligent Computer

It is user friendly. It replaces the microfiche catalog and will be kept up-to-date. It will search for books by author, title, or subject. It will print out your requests and indicate where the book or books of your choice is/are located. Do come in and test it. It's fun.

New Non-fiction

Clifford	<i>Counsel to the President</i>
Cronyn	<i>Terrible Liar</i>
Dunne	<i>Mansions of Limbo</i>
Fulghum	<i>Uh-Oh</i>
Gorbachev	<i>I Hope</i>
Heat-Moon	<i>Prairyerth</i>
Hersh	<i>Samson Option</i>
Koop	<i>Koop</i>
Lewis	<i>The Jameses: A Family Narrative</i>
Margolis	<i>Mystery Dance</i>
Middlebrook	<i>Ann Sexton: A Biography</i>
Ray	<i>Who Killed Martin Luther King</i>
Reston	<i>Collision at Home Plate</i>
Storr	<i>Jung</i>

Library Hours

- Monday to Wednesday •
3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Thursday •
10 to noon, 3 to 9 p.m.
- Friday •
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday •
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday •
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day	Christmas Eve
Thanksgiving Eve	Christmas Day
Thanksgiving Day	New Year's Eve
New Year's Day	



Hip Hooray For the First Day

Palisades Children Starting Kindergarten This Fall

Top row, left to right: Emma Lipkin, Amanda Ngai, Kerri Heineman, Iliana Ferramosca, Amanda Barba. **Bottom row, left to right:** Brielle Ewig, Ann Prusinowski, Jacob Iosso, Emily Hirsch, Perry Gerard-Little. **Not Pictured:** Samantha Boren, Miguel Guerrero. Photo by Diana Green

Library Centennial Celebration

On Sunday, June 9, the Palisades Free Library celebrated 100 years of service to the community with an afternoon garden party on the grounds of the home of Jeffrey and Lynne Sandhaus, a former Library site now known as the "Old Library." The sun shone brightly on faces old and new as friends of the Library past and present gathered to wish it a Happy Birthday. After opening remarks by Board President Donald Lipkin and a special welcome extended to past friends and trustees who had travelled some distance to be there, the children of Palisades, some 35 strong, in splendid homemade costumes gave an unforgettable rendition of Tom Chapin's song "Library Song," directed by Kim Miller, Bonnie Bowen, Carol Heinemann and Mary Viviano.

Palisades young people appeared next, faces shining with the day, to recite the "Saga of the Palisades Library" as written in verse form and directed by Eden-Lee Jellinek, adapted from Marion Lowndes forthcoming "History of the Palisades Library." Bob Williams, head of the Library expansion committee, gave a talk on plans for the future, followed by Mildred Rippey, much loved Palisades librarian and scholar, who read from her own works two poems befitting the occasion. Wine was donated by Ann Tonetti who with Lynne Seidler co-chaired the event. Food was donated by members of the board and most hard-working committee. Carolyn Poole Turoff along with Oriel Kriz created a summer bower of ivy and lace and flowers and balloons under the large tent. It was a very fine afternoon.

Rockland Center for the Arts

"Discarded" Exhibition Opens RCA's Gallery Season

Artist David Hammons, a winner of the MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Fellowship Awards, will participate in the new exhibit opening at Rockland Center on Sunday, October 6. Mr. Hammons has been called the "master of metamorphosis" by *The New York Times*. His work transforms urban detritus and humble objects into insightful statements that address issues of black history, African culture, racism, drug addiction and poverty with compassion and complexity. His sculptures, which can be described as visual puns, are intensely political and social, but spiritual as well.

Other artists who share in the exhibit have all made a significant mark on the current art scene. They all make observations about society and the human condition using objects our society throws away, incorporating discarded and found matter in their work. The reuse of abandoned materials - remnants, fragments and leftovers - found in the urban environment, add meaning and richness of detail to the sculpture assemblages and installation presented in the exhibit.

Sunday's opening is from 1 to 4 p.m. and the exhibit continues through Friday, November 15. For more information about the exhibit, or to obtain a free brochure listing the more than 50 classes in fine arts and crafts offered at Rockland Center, call 358-0877.

Folk Art Workshop

A workshop in the folk artists' skill of scene painting on boxes will be taught on Sunday, October 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fee is \$60 plus \$10 for materials.

Rubens Teles, president of the America's Folk Heritage Gallery in New York City and a teacher at the Folk Art Institute, will be the instructor.

Robert Adzema Sculptures Exhibited at Blue Hill

On October 1st, an exhibit of art-work will open at the Blue Hill Cultural Center which features the sculptures of Palisades artist, Robert Adzema. The show consists of works which explore our relationship with our natural environment, and Mr. Adzema is best known for his work with sundials as sculptural forms. Two of his sundial sculptures may be seen on permanent installation at Thorpe Village in Sparkill and outside the American House Gallery in Piermont.

Mr. Adzema first became interested in sundials when he was invited to do a work on commission for the University of Pennsylvania, and they had in mind a clock or a clock tower. Before that point, Mr. Adzema had been primarily a figurative sculptor, experimenting with relief figures mounted on a wall. It was then that he became interested in the way the light caught the figures at different times of day and in different locations.

"I saw a strong connection between

how the form of something is dictated by where it is," Adzema remarked. "The light catching a figure at a particular time of day in a certain place, say, Boston, would be different than Maryland or Connecticut." When he was asked to do a clock, he realized that a sundial would be the "perfect tool for figuring out where the sun was and how it affected a particular wall."

His attraction to the properties and substance of light has grown with him since childhood.

"I was always fascinated by moving light, by how shadows move over the seat when you're travelling in a car," Adzema continued. "I was also obsessed by time- that there never seemed to be enough of it. Sundials had a way of humanizing time for me. My work with them allowed me to feel more connected to the seasons and the rhythms of the earth, especially in a time- the early seventies- when everything seemed to be speeding out of control."

Mr. Adzema's sundial sculptures take many forms. Some that are very large were mostly done on commission for outdoor installations. He also constructs smaller pedestal sundials for gardens. They all have in common a feature of the sculpture which focuses a beam of sunlight onto the sundial rather than the traditional shadow method. This distinction is Adzema's way of giving the sunlight a real place in his work and showing that light is something we should not take for granted.

Robert Adzema first came to Rockland County as a boy when he left his home in Brooklyn for a summer trip to camp. He has been returning ever since and is now a permanent resident after his wedding to potter Jane Herold last October.

The show at the Blue Hill Cultural Center will continue through January 30 and will incorporate about 10 sundial sculptures and 10 of Mr. Adzema's watercolors.

Dianan Green

...LETTER

nately if the Building Department failed to act. I was especially concerned that Mr. Shin would come back with an alternative application to expand the facility which is already in violation with respect to size. Accordingly, I personally retained Mr. Cornell to advise me on how to best persuade the town authorities to insist that Mr. Shin bring the facility into compliance with the law. On advice of Mr. Cornell, I wrote to Mr. Zimmerman on July 5, asking what action had been taken regarding the 50 percent expansion violation and other violations discovered in the April inspection.

On July 12, Mr. Paul Witte, Orangetown Code Enforcement Officer, wrote to C & L Golf, Inc. (Mr. Shin's corporation), about the violations. His

letter listed four existing deviations from the last previously approved site plan, five Zoning Code violations and two Building Code violations and requested immediate action to correct the violations. Aside from the illegal expansion of the main building, other existing violations included an unauthorized increase in the number of tee areas, roofing and electrification of some of the tee areas, installation of additional light poles, erection of four additional buildings, installation of above-ground fuel tanks, all without a permit, and open, exposed electrical wiring and switches. Mr. Witte's letter also pointed out that one of the buildings is being used as living quarters (unauthorized), and that there is a fuel spillage problem at the site. I learned that Mr. Witte considered the fuel spillage so serious that he reported it to the Rockland County Health Department and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

On July 16, I attended a meeting conducted by the Palisades Civic Association at which Mr. Shin and one of his attorneys appeared and discussed the golf driving range. At that meeting I was pleased to hear Mr. Shin state that due to a complaint to the Town (my letter of July 5), he would take immediate steps to eliminate the violations (just as I was pleased to read last April in 1964 that Mr. Shin had no plans for structural additions!).

On July 25, because of Mr. Shin's continuing failure to eliminate the violations set forth in Mr. Witte's letter, I spoke to Mr. Zimmerman and asked why the violations had not been corrected. He told me that action would be taken by his department in a few days. Thereafter, on August 1, Mr. Witte sent C & L Golf a more formal letter, via certified mail, repeating the request to eliminate the violations, and on the same day, he posted a violation notice on the exterior of the main building. Since then, I have repeatedly followed

Lamont News

Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University, one of the leading institutes of earth science in the world, was established in Palisades in 1948. An important reason for the choice of its present location was the need for a laboratory undisturbed by noise and vibrations, where sensitive seismic instruments could be tested and earthquakes monitored worldwide. Scientists at the Observatory work in many interrelated disciplines, all aimed at understanding the Earth.

Lynn Sykes Honored by U.S.G.S.

Dr. Lynn Sykes, Palisades resident and a Senior Research Scientist at L-DGO, was one of four 1991 winners of the John Wesley Powell Award presented by the U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior. The award honors persons and groups outside the federal government for voluntary actions that result in significant gains or improvements in the efforts of the U.S.G.S. to provide earth science in the

up with the Orangetown authorities to find out why the violations are continuing. On September 9, Mr. Wayne Gavioli, Orangetown Town Attorney, told me that a Summons and Complaint, answerable in Orangetown Justice Court, will go out by September 10. This is the status of the matter as I write this letter to 10964.

I am hopeful that by the time this appears in print, concrete steps will have been taken regarding elimination of the violations. Enforcement of the law as respects the main building is particularly important to prevent the construction of the huge monstrosity which Mr. Shin had in mind last spring (similar to the massive new golf driving range facility across from Burger King in Closter, N.J.).

Those of us who are concerned over this situation have no objection to having a golf driving range on 9W as long as it complies with the Building and Zoning Codes.

Reg Thayer

public service.

Dr. Sykes was cited for his unfailing commitment to the development and nurturing of the U.S.G.S.'s National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program in which he served in an advisory capacity, first in conception of the program and later in helping to establish the programmatic structure which the President and Congress would support. Dr. Sykes also served, in 1976, on the Newmark-Stever committee which drafted a seminal document that formed the basis of the current program and from 1977 to 1981 provided critically needed guidance as a member of the Earthquake Studies Advisory Panel. During the 1980s he continued to serve the nation on various advisory panels and boards and in 1984 was selected to serve as chairman of the National Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (NEPEC).

With Dr. Sykes as chairman of NEPEC, the council took an aggressive role in evaluating the state of knowledge on earthquake hazards in Alaska, the Pacific Northwest and California; it also instituted evaluation of earthquake probabilities for faults in California and pressed for the implementation of the Parkfield Earthquake Prediction Experiment in California.

Earthquake Center Funds Are Renewed

The National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (NCEER)—a five-university consortium that includes Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory—has been awarded a \$21 million grant that will fund research for a second five-year period.

The grant was given by the National Science Foundation, which created the center in 1986 to study how structures perform during earthquakes and how they can be designed to reduce earthquake damage and injury.

Within 72 hours after California's 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, Lamont-Doherty scientists, working under the auspices of NCEER, set up an array of sensitive instruments to study the earthquake zone before seismic activity subsided. They proved that soft soils

amplified ground motion, dramatically increasing the earthquake's destructive force on structures built on top of them, such as Nimitz Freeway, which collapsed.

Using portable ground-motion detectors, L-DGO scientists have identified similarly endangered areas on the East Coast and in the New York metropolitan area. In 1988, Lamont-Doherty seismologists installed a permanent network of strong-motion seismometers arrayed across the Eastern U.S. The network provided crucial data of a November 1988 earthquake in the Saguenay River region in Canada. The data demonstrated that East Coast earthquakes, though less frequent than West Coast ones, could be more destructive because East Coast tremors can travel far greater distances. Further, they have warned that older, East Coast structures have not been designed or built to withstand earthquakes.

As a consequence, Lamont-Doherty researchers have helped to write the first building codes ever attempted in New York City to minimize earthquake damage. The codes, which have not yet been adopted, recommend minimum engineering features to minimize earthquake damage and provide safety features for buildings in identified soft-soil zones.


L-DGO is a founding member of the nation's two earthquake research centers: NCEER, headquartered at S.U.N.Y. in Buffalo (and also including Cornell, Princeton and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) and the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) which was created this year by the NSF and the U.S. Geological Survey. L-DGO is the only East Coast member of the SCEC.

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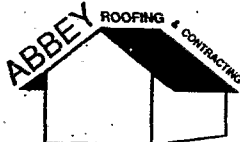
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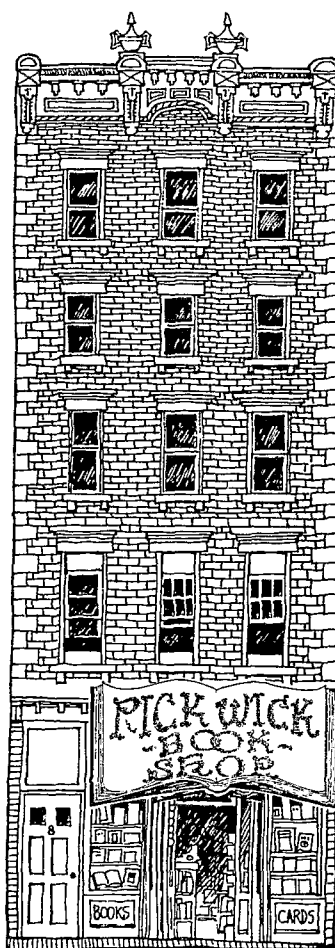


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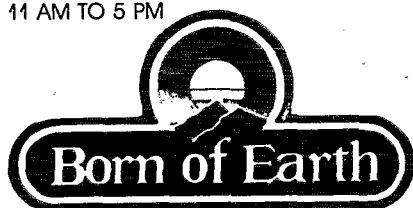
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This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964** needs your moral and financial support! Please send a contribution to **10964**, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, N.Y. 10964. With your help we'll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

The following staff members worked on this issue:

Mary Ann Brueckner, John Converse, Lori DiGiacomo,
Carol Elevitch, Diana Green, Martye Krainin, Boyce Leni,
Gina Vermandel, & Judy Zehentner.

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On-going classes in **TAE KWAN DO** (Korean Martial Arts), taught by Cristina Biaggi 3rd Dan which began in September will continue on Monday afternoons from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Palisades Presbyterian Church Parish House. Women and girls (ages 7 and up) are especially encouraged to join. A small fee will be charged. For details and to enroll call Cristina Biaggi at 359-5898.

Children's Art Classes: Simon Gerard is accepting applications for the fall semester for children ages 5 through 12. The classes use a wide variety of materials with emphasis on drawing and painting and occasional explorations into clay work, bread sculpture, batik, art history and other areas.

The aim of the classes is to introduce tools and techniques and most importantly, to have fun with art. Simon Gerard taught art to children at the Rockland Project School in Valley Cottage for ten years and has been teaching privately for four years.

For information about the classes, call 359-4338.

Palisades Presbyterian Church

The Palisades Presbyterian Church has returned to its regular season schedule of services at 9 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. Childcare is provided for children aged 3 through Junior High School.

There will be a class given for adults on Comparative Religion, taught by Dr. Chris Iosso. It will begin September 29 and continue on October 6, 13, and 27 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. It will cover Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam.

Births

Lara Riley Nixon was born July 17 to Glyn and Peter Nixon of Tarrytown, N.Y. She is the sister of Briana, and granddaughter of Louis and Irene Frederick of Palisades.

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