



## Two Palisadians Run for School Board

On Wednesday, May 6, voters will go to the polls to vote on the South Orangetown School budget and to choose two school board members. Every year, by law, one or two seats on the 5 member board must be voted on. This year the seats are those of Geraldine Miras, Palisades, and Sylvia Baumel, Orangeburg. Although it is not legally binding, for many years there has been a "gentlemen's agreement" among the five areas of South

### Geraldine Miras

As a member of the school board for 9 years, I have seen many changes in the South Orangetown school district in the decade of the '80s. In 1981-82 two schools were closed due to falling enrollment. Over the next few years the closings saved taxpayers over seven and a half million dollars. Then, in 1988, as student population increased and the Schaefer school ran out of space, we again proved our flexibility. I was president of the board when we reorganized the elementary schools into the present configuration using three schools for grades K-5.

Twenty-five years with the New York City Board of Education and nine years as a school board member have proved to me that a school system open to change is a healthy one.

Change is upon us once again. It is likely that as 10964 goes to press, the Board of Education will have chosen a new superintendant to lead the district. With new leadership the next year will be a most important one. I expect to see new goals set for curriculum improvement, better articulation between the grades, increased staff accountability and improved communications throughout the school system and the community.

Particularly challenging will be the need to accomplish these things and more in the face of severe cuts in state aid. To pass these costs on to the taxpayer is unthinkable. How, then, do we improve an already good educational system while spending less money?

South Orangetown has met challenges before. For our children, we can do it again.

Orangetown (Palisades, Piermont, Tappan, Orangeburg and Blauvelt) that the person running for a particular seat must be a resident of that area.

At this writing, Geraldine Miras, incumbent, and Margaret Umbrino, both of Palisades, intend to run for the traditional Palisades seat. The deadline for filing candidates' petitions is April 6. Because the education of our children is very important, we urge you to exercise your right to vote on May 6. We asked Gerry and Margaret to share a little of their backgrounds and thoughts regarding the upcoming year in our district. Here are their comments.

### Margaret A. Umbrino

Margaret has been a resident of Rockland County for the past 13 years, eleven of those years in the hamlet of Sparkill and the last two in the hamlet of Palisades. Margaret has been an active member of the community. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Tappan Zee Thrift Shop in Piermont for two consecutive terms. As a member of Saint John's Church in Piermont, Margaret has served as chairwoman for the Church's annual Fund Raising Appeal Committee under the auspices of the Archdiocese of New York, for eight successful years.

Margaret is very active in the school community as a volunteer serving on many committees for the Board of Education, school administration and parent groups. She is the vice-president of the P.T.A. Council as well as a member of the SOCES P.T.A. Board.

Mrs. Umbrino is a former Junior High School Language Arts teacher. She is trained and possesses provisional licenses in both elementary education K-6 and secondary English 6-12.

Mrs. Umbrino and her husband, Frank, have three children, two of which attend South Orangetown schools. Their eldest is at the Cottage Lane School and their second child attends the Tappan Zee Elementary School. Their third child is a pre-schooler.

Margaret, if elected to the Board of Education, offers her skills and experience to contribute to a new vitality and vision, thereby enhancing the board's role in our community.

# Letter from the 10964 Staff

It has been some time since we last issued an open call and invitation to members of the community to join with us in publishing this local newsletter. While we do need writers and editors, there are other jobs such as pasting up, mailing, telephoning, etc., which contribute to a smooth-running operation. If you have some interest and some time, call and talk with one of our staff members. Our staff meetings are enjoyable, not too frequent, and usually pretty lively. We'd welcome hearing from you.

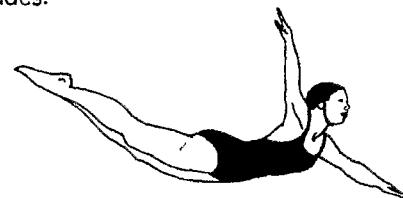
During this present season, the editing function of the newsletter has largely been the bailiwick of Carol Elevitch, Diana Green, and Boyce Leni, with the assistance of the staff as a whole at meetings. Our staff writers Judy Zehentner and Diana Green have been happy to welcome another writer, Kevork Kalayjian, to our group. Lori DiGiacomo learned the computer program, PageMaker, and laid out our December and February issues. John Converse, who has so ably done our computer layout work since November of 1989, is delighted to have another staff member equipped to do this work. Gina Vermandel is our treasurer, bookkeeper, and subscription handler, and our artists are Marika Hahn and Kwibin Park. Mary Ann Brueckner handles our paste up, and Martye Krainin has helped Lori to boost our list of advertisers for this season.

We cannot fail to mention those of you in Palisades who have written reports from organizations and articles for us. Your names are too numerous to list, but you are known to our readers who appreciate your efforts. Thanks to you all.

## Palisades Swim Club

Are you making plans for this summer? Why not spend June, July and August right here at home with us at the Palisades Swim Club? We are a family oriented small club of under 200 families from Palisades and its surrounding areas. In addition to our pool and kiddie pool there are swim lessons, a swim team and tennis courts for all to enjoy.

For more information about joining the Palisades Swim Club this summer, call Barbara Loweree at 359-3935 or write to the Palisades Swim Club, P.O. Box 192, Palisades.



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## Rockland Center for the Arts

### Photo Exhibit of Rockland Landscapes

An exhibition of Eva Shaderowfsky's evocative photos of Rockland landscapes opened at Photo-Space on Saturday, March 28. It will continue through May 1.

Ms. Shaderowfsky's photos were taken on walks around Rockland County and are a small part of an ongoing series she started six years ago. Her unique focus is the endless variety of rocks and boulders scattered throughout the aptly-named Rockland County.

Photo-Space is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends from 1 to 4 p.m., and closed holidays.

### Two Concerts in April

"Voice of the Turtle" Quartet will play and sing music of the Sephardic Jews on Saturday, April 4 at 8 p.m.

Sung in Judeo-Spanish and performed on an astonishing variety of folk instru-

ments from Spain and the Near and Middle East and from medieval and Renaissance times, these songs bring to life the history, geography and daily ambiance of the Judeo-Hispanic culture.

Tickets for the performance are \$15 general admission and \$12 for Center members and seniors. For reservations and information, call 358-0877.

An all Mozart program marks the grand finale of the 20th Chamber Concert Season at the Center on Friday, April 24 at 8:30 p.m. The Tappan Zee Chamber Players are the evening's ensemble and they will be joined by guest artists. An added attraction this year is an informal reception after the concert featuring a Viennese table of delectable desserts and a selection of fine coffees.

Tickets for the concert are \$12 general admission and \$10 for Center members, seniors and students. Tickets for the concert and reception are \$20 and \$18 respectively. Proceeds from the reception will benefit the concert series. For reservations and information, call 358-0877.

## Palisades Presbyterian Church

### Services for Easter Sunday, April 19

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Gordon and Ginnie Eaton home on the Lamont-Doherty grounds followed by a pot-luck breakfast.

9 a.m. and again at 11 a.m. Worship service at the church with special choral music.

## Blue Hill Cultural Center

Paintings by Francisco Bologna and the sculpture and drawings of Harry Leigh are being exhibited at the Center through May 28.

The exhibition explores some common interests by two artists of vastly different styles: realist painter Francisco Bologna, and abstract sculptor Harry Leigh who has lived in Rockland County and taught art in county schools for more than 30 years. The exhibition will be on view Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

# Palisades Civic Association Round-Up

We have agreed to participate in the County's **KEEP ROCKLAND CLEAN AND GREEN DAY** on Saturday, April 11. All Palisadians are urged to join us at 10:30 a.m. at the Community Center for coffee, juice and doughnuts. We will take bags provided by the Orangetown Highway Department and deploy to selected roadside areas that have become eyesores.

A flyer will be mailed in a few days with more details, including gift items for participants promised by Orange & Rockland and Lederle Laboratories.

We are looking for a large, high-spirited turnout. Please call me at 359-6589 if you want to share in this celebration of our commitment to our community or if you have a spot you would like cleaned up. (Keep in mind that we cannot clean up private property.)

## Parkway Plaza Mall Update

We were recently asked by the *Journal-News* to comment on the mall proposed for the old Orangeburg Pipe/Flintkote factory site on Route 303 in Orangeburg. We feel such a mammoth, 36-acre retail center, comparable to the new Spring Valley Marketplace, would have severe negative impact on traffic, local municipal services and the Sparkill Creek environment.

While the site is not in Palisades nor on our immediate borders, it would unquestionably generate substantial traffic on Oak Tree Road — merchandise trucks, shoppers from nearby New Jersey communities, and Tappan residents who now use Parkway Exit 5 but who would switch to Exit 4 and Oak Tree Road to avoid the congestion created by the mall on Route 303.

We have secured a copy of the "scoping" report prepared by Manuel S. Emanuel for the Town Board, and will make it available at the Palisades Free Library. It specifies that the developers (Parkway Plaza Associates and Berbor Realty, Inc.) must address all the appropriate concerns in their

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) before asking the Town Board to consider their request for rezoning from LI (light industry) to CC (retail shopping).

The "scoping" report also focuses on the potential impact of rezoning on the rest of the Route 303 corridor. It points out that CC zoning allows thinner lots with narrower sideyards than LI, leading to more and more entrances onto an already dangerously overburdened state highway.

Another highlighted issue concerns the large quantity of tar-impregnated pipe, some of it also incorporating asbestos, that lies buried on the premises.

We hope the Town Board will refuse to change the zoning, and we will be looking for a big turnout of Palisadians if and when the question reaches the Town Board.

## Driving Range Future in Doubt

We have been unofficially advised that the Route 9W golf driving range, a source of considerable controversy in the past year, has closed, at least temporarily. We assume the expansion and increased number of nearby driving ranges has had an adverse effect on this business, as has the multi-million dollar mortgage debt involved in last year's purchase. We do not know what the future holds for this nearly 11-acre site, which is zoned R-40 (single-family residences on one-acre minimum lots).

## Overpasses, Paths and Tunnels

The Civic Association is addressing the poor condition of the Route 340 overpass over the Palisades Parkway, which shows the effects of several years of apparent neglect. Questions of divided responsibility make this a touchy problem. Route 340 is a state highway, but the Parkway is financially responsible for upkeep of the overpasses, both on 340 and on Oak Tree Road, a town highway.

It is our understanding that a walking path is being cleared where the railroad tracks were located on the Palisades side of Finn McCool's, formerly Sullivan's Tappan Inn. We hope to have more information on this soon.

Another ongoing concern is the study being done by Metro-North Rail for a possible tunnel to meet with the projected future transportation needs of Rockland, Orange and Westchester Counties. Brian Warner, recently appointed to a vacancy on the Civic Association board of directors, has volunteered to represent us on the county-wide committee monitoring this study.

## Annual Meeting in June

Plans are being developed for our 1992 annual meeting to be held in early June. The present board members have indicated a willingness to serve for another one-year term, including the two recent appointees, Brian Warner and Janis Cavanagh, who will serve as liaison with the Palisades Community Center, of which she is the newly elected president.

I shall not seek reelection as president this year. I have been president of the PCA since it was formed back in 1984 and I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve in this position. It has been a wonderful growing experience for me, and I value the trust and honor you have given me.

I have worked with great people over these years; and looking back on all we have accomplished, working as a team, it has been worth all the hours spent at Town Board, Planning Board, ZBA and other meetings. I hope the PCA will always strive to be non-partisan and remain strong and active. We should continue to support other civic groups in the town when issues come up which impact on all of us.

Again, thank you for all your support over the past eight years, and please enroll or renew your membership in the PCA with a \$5 dues payment (P.O. Box 222).

Eileen Larkin

# Farewell to the Eberles

*Barbara and Bill Eberle moved from Palisades last fall, after residing here for 35 years in which they took part generously in the community. Barbara was a mainstay of the Palisades Library for 21 years, contributing time every week at the circulation desk, at plant sales and other library events. She is an avid gardener and a daily swimmer, having competed in state meets in her age groups, and winning several. The Eberles have retired to their farm in upstate New York and their Palisades' neighbors wish them a fond farewell as evidenced by the following article from Albon Man.*

Bill Eberle is absolutely the best driver I have ever known. Neither a pushover nor aggressive, he actually seemed to enjoy driving even in the city. He kept his cool under the most trying circumstances again and again; stuck in traffic going home on the Harlem River Drive, with a flat tire on a ramp leading up to the George Washington Bridge, or in dense fog heading south on 9W in the morning—conditions that might cause somebody else to explode in a string of expletives. In my six years of riding with Bill, I heard him swear only once—when a cab cut him short on Sixth Avenue at 5:15 p.m.

We talked about many things as we rode to and from the city—"we" being Bill, John Fawcett, Don Lipkin, John Kriz, and I. One thing that came out in these conversations was Bill's great pride in his family—in Barbara, their children, and their grandson, Jason. Whenever he came back from a weekend swim meet to which he had driven Barbara, he would tell us about the new medals she had just won, to add to her already big collection of decorations. And this pride in family extended to previous generations, too. Bill once told us about an ancestor—his grandfather or great-grandfather—who lost an arm in the Civil War but after the war cleared some land upstate, built a house, farmed the land, and sired a family.

Which brings up a couple of other traits of Bill's: volunteerism and self-reliance. He never spoke about these things; instead, he acted as an individual, without fanfare, taking care of a community problem for which others might urge the creation of a new public agency. How many residents of Palisades know that for years Bill was the chairman of what we in the car half-jokingly called

the Bus Shelter committee—actually a one-man operation—singlehandedly repairing the two shelters at the corner of 9W and Oak Tree Road, chopping down a falling tree that imperiled one of the shelters, and collecting the litter left in and around them?

I suspect that Bill's self-reliance came about because he got where he got on his own. He came from a farm in upstate New York where you had to do things yourself to survive, but he has never seemed to me to have been callous to the problems of others. Bill is also not a person to trumpet his good deeds. Instead, he goes about them quietly and you find out about them almost by mistake—a public nuisance remedied without fanfare, an unobtrusive visit to a sick or bereaved neighbor, a word of encouragement to somebody needing it.

If Bill undertakes a job, he sticks with it to its conclusion. He is not a person to accept an office calling for a commitment of time and energy and then shortly give it up because he finds it too onerous. The experience and wisdom he accumulates enhance

his performances as the years go by. Witness his service on the South Orangetown School Board. He must surely have set a record with his 13 years' tenure—from July of 1961 to July of 1974, including service as president in 1972-73.

Lots more fun than being on the School Board must have been grilling all those hamburgers and frankfurters every spring and fall at the plant sales of the Palisades Library. I have admired him not only for the burgers and franks but also for his bravery during the fall plant sales, when the yellow jackets swarm around the food, because Bill is highly allergic to yellow jacket stings.

And generous? Every summer we car passengers shared in the bounty of the Eberle garden—zucchini, tomatoes, and rhubarb. At least once every summer, when Bill would come back to Palisades from a weekend at his farm, he would "declare a dividend," as he put it. The dividend for each of us was a muskmelon or two, and the most delicious you ever ate. I often use the fireplace in my house, and Bill has kept me supplied with firewood—most recently with wonderful cherry wood logs. I think of Bill fondly when I throw another log on the fire and bask in the warm glow.

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## Old Friends From Near and Far

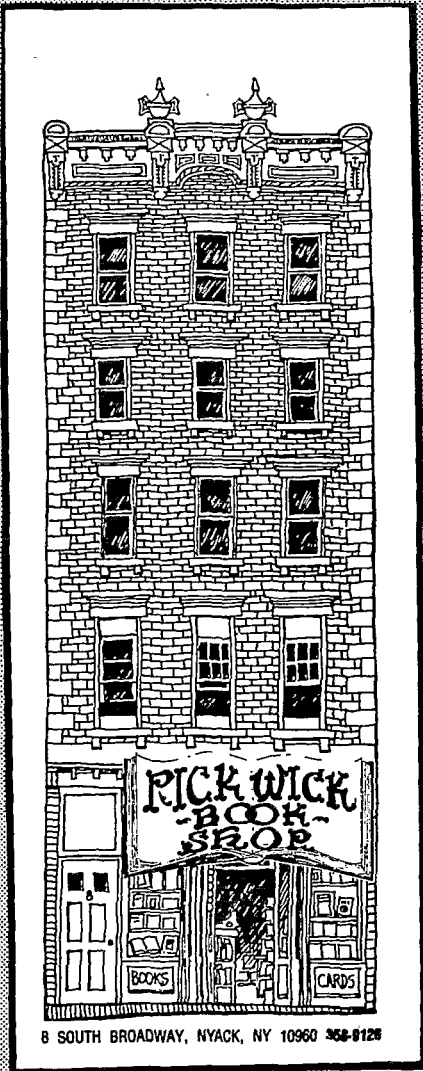
*We are always glad to hear from former Palisadians and to pass along their news to 10964 readers.*

**Margherita Jellinek** has been appointed director of Columbia University's School of Social Work site at the Purchase, N.Y. campus of the State University of New York. Margherita, a former resident of Palisades now living in Piermont, has 27 years experience in social work, concentrating in the fields of health, mental health and child welfare. Until 1990, she was director of the social work department at the St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in Manhattan, a Columbia affiliate, when she took the position as director of the social work department at the Yale-New Haven Hospital. Margherita has developed or implemented many programs and seminars on leadership and management, community education, and personnel health and has written

papers on women in the health care industry, the impact of AIDS on health care for women and children, ethics in health care, assertiveness training, and stress management in the labor force.

**Mary Ann Sahadi**, a former editor of **10964**, is now living in Winnsboro, S.C., where she has an antique shop on Main Street across from the Robert Mills designed County Court House and the clock tower which houses the oldest continuously running clock in the United States. She appraises for the State Museum in Columbia and is one of the three appraisers for Identification Day, a state-wide event held four times a year at the museum. Also, she serves on the Boards of Directors for the Fairfield County Historical Society and the Fairfield County Museum, as well as the Committee on Tourism for the Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce.

Mary Ann is completing renovations on an old Southern Colonial (1796) house and declares this is the last time she'll live in plaster dust!



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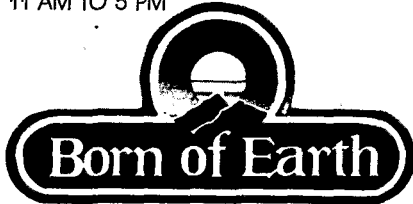
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# Community Center News

## Center Holds First Contested Election in 10 Years

Interest in the Community Center has increased dramatically in the past year as evidenced by much greater use of the facility by Palisadians and by the unusually large attendance at this year's annual meeting that was held on January 29. More than twenty-five members attended and, for the first time in at least ten years, more candidates were nominated to fill seats on the Board of Directors than there were seats available to be filled. An election was therefore required to choose between eight candidates seeking the two vacant and three expiring seats on the nine-member board.

Since no board member had ever attended a contested election under the by-laws adopted in 1982, the by-laws' principal author, Reg Thayer, was asked to conduct the election. With the consent of the members, Diana Green, Kim Miller and Gerry Miras were appointed Election Inspectors and Linda Jouas and Louis Leonard were appointed to verify the membership of those wishing to vote in person and by proxy.

A lengthy discussion then ensued concerning proxy voting. Many in the audience were unaware that the PCC's by-laws allow proxies and some felt that it is undemocratic to obtain commitments of any kind before all the candidates in an election are known. The discussion ended with Reg Thayer pointing out that while the members are free to change this provision of the by-laws at a future date, the current PCC by-laws explicitly permit proxy voting.

Following the discussion, which lasted for almost an hour, the election of directors took place. The results revealed that the winning candidates had been elected by overwhelming margins (ranging from 4-to-1 to 7-to-1), indicating that the proxy votes had not altered the outcome of the election. Incumbent directors Janis Cavanagh and Linda Jouas were re-elected, joined by three first-time Directors: Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, Maria Hrynenko, and Lynne Sandhaus.

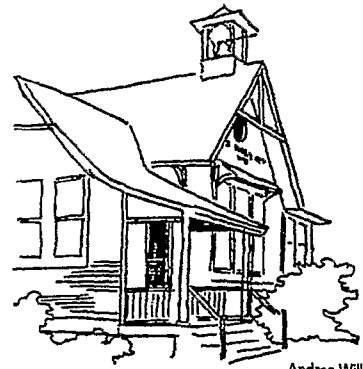
A five-person nominating committee composed of Cristina Biaggi, Carol Elevitch, Diana Green, Pat Lindgren, and Andrew Norman was then elected without a contest. The job of the committee is to nominate candidates for the board who are entitled to compete with other nominees

for election at the Annual meeting in 1993.

At the close of the public meeting, the directors elected officers for the coming year: Janis Cavanagh was elected President of the Board, Tony Gerard - Vice President, John Converse - Secretary, and Linda Jouas was elected Treasurer. It is noteworthy that Linda Jouas is beginning her ninth year as PCC Treasurer.

John Converse

**Personal Note:** In her new role as president, Janis Cavanagh faces many challenges, many responsibilities and lots of hard work. Her first duty is to insure that the center has sufficient funds to maintain and operate the facility. In addition, Janis



Andrea Williams

**To Reserve the Community Center call Janis Cavanagh at 359-1026.**

must plan or oversee the existing activities at the center and work with the community to develop new activities. Please help Janis by supporting the Center financially and by volunteering to help with the center's various social events.

## A Message from the New PCC President

The newly elected board of directors appreciates the interest and concern shown by Palisadians at this year's annual meeting and plans an ambitious agenda for the Community Center in 1992.

It is our aim to encourage interest and participation and to develop a fully-functioning community center that will benefit everyone in Palisades in one way or another. For example, the word is already spreading that the facility is available evenings and weekends for private functions — so far, several birthdays parties, a reunion and a Communion party have already been booked. In addition, a series of garden workshops is underway, an aerobics class is looking for takers, and art classes will resume in April.

We plan to continue the traditional Halloween Festival. Unfortunately, Kim Miller plans to move in the near future and will not be available to organize the festivities. Her enthusiasm and talent will be greatly missed.

In addition to the Halloween party, we hope to see many other festive events staged at the Center. Last year, Diana Green organized a wonderful Christmas Party and a successful Arts Fair. We hope that these events will continue and that more Palisadians will volunteer to stage community happenings at the center. So we ask each of you to take a moment right now to consider what activities you would like to see offered at the center and which of your talents you would like to make available to your neighbors. Please write to us at P.O. Box 222 or telephone me, Janis Cavanagh, at 359-1026.

The concerns voiced by the members at the annual meeting will also be addressed. In the coming year, the board plans to review the PCC by-laws and propose a number of changes. Some members have suggested, for example, that candidates for the board should be nominated long before the night of the annual meeting so that their candidacies can be publicized and assessed. In addition, many on the board are uncomfortable with the board's power to enter into long-term agreements with tenants, and would prefer that such agreements be approved by a vote of the members. Changes in the by-laws require the approval of a two-thirds majority of the members attending a meeting called to consider such changes. Please look for notices of meetings in the library and post office, in 10964, and in the mail.

In closing, I would like to personally thank John Converse who, as president for the past four years, did so much to revitalize the Palisades Community Center.

Janis Cavanagh



# Palisades Library News

## New Members Elected to Library Board

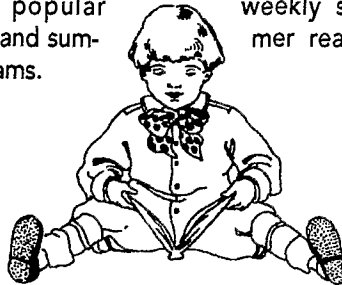
Three new trustees have been elected to serve on the Board of the Palisades Free Library. Ann Brooke, Dan Martin, and Phoebe Rosenwasser began their four year terms effective with the February 1992 Board meeting. Newly elected Board President Bill Walther, who replaced outgoing President Don Lipkin, welcomed the new members and called upon them to assume an active and involved role in charting the future growth of the library. The other members of the library's Board of Trustees include Elaine Dempsey, Ronnie Estadella, Bob Griffin, Dale Prusinowski, and Deborah Sears.

## Library Expands Programs and Services to Meet Community Needs

Last year was the busiest and, for Librarian Beatrice Agnew, the most exciting year on record at the Palisades Free Library, and for good reason. In 1991 the library hosted 49 children's reading and crafts programs, increased its circulation by 6 percent to 20,823 volumes (a 15 year high!), served a record 60 percent of the hamlet's entire population—and reached a milestone in its facilities expansion program. "With more young children using the library than ever before, we are truly serving the community as a complete information resource. These are very exciting times for all of us," Beatrice told 10964.

## Expanded Children's Programs for 1992

To help meet the growing need of the community for more children's workshops, crafts programs, and reading series, Beatrice announced that **Lois Hink, MLS** (a school media specialist and public librarian) has joined the staff as a Children's Librarian. Lois is developing a new children's program while **Martha Bosch** continues her very popular weekly story hours and summer reading programs.



## Adults Have Needs Too!

Reflecting the fact that more adults are using the library than ever before, Béatrice told 10964 that in 1991 a record 6,768 adult books were borrowed. "What's more, we continue to expand the size of our periodical and video collections, as well as the number of books on audio cassette that we carry," she explained. Not surprisingly, managing this growing number of periodicals, books, videos, and audio cassettes has become quite a challenge. To meet the challenge, the library is now in the process of automating its operations, and that should be underway by June. This new bar code based system is in addition to the computerized "Magazine Index Select" system that was installed last year.

## Building Expansion Program Moves Forward

On the building expansion front, major progress is being made. Thanks to the hard work of many people, particularly Bob Williams, over 170 individual contributions have been received. The building capital fund now exceeds \$162,000.00! While the library's Board of Trustees hopes to receive additional contributions in the near future, the library has decided to begin the expansion in 1992. Toward this end, the Board has established a sub-committee that is working with an architect on a new building design. Beatrice reports that when the initial design is ready it will be presented to the community for approval. "All of us at the library strongly encourage Palisades residents to support this vital expansion program," she says. "If you have not made a contribution but plan to, please make it today so that we can include it in our planning process." Ours is a wonderful library, rich in history and tradition, but dedicated to meeting the needs of today's residents," she points out. "We have completely outgrown the current space, and the expansion will provide all Palisadians with the space and services we all need."

## Spring Plant Sale Set for May 2

Don't do a thing with your garden this year until you come to the Palisades Spring Plant Sale on May 2 at the library. This yearly rite of Spring is a Palisades tradition that deserves the entire community's support. A wonderful selection of annuals and perennials awaits you this year, as does a variety of gardening accessories, a few surprises, and, of course, the usual array of baked goods and treats! So please do come by from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and help celebrate the arrival of Spring '92 to Palisades.



**Come to the Pajama Party!** Nancy Schur and her "Kiddie Kabaret" return to the Palisades Library on Thursday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. for our Children's Pajama Party. Nancy's show presents a musical evening of puppets, theater, and traditional songs. For children 3 years and older, interested parents are asked to register for this special evening at the library.

# After the War

by John Garrison as told to Milbry Polk

On June 10, 1942, Tippy O'Neil and I got our greetings from the President of the United States. We reported to Camp Upton on Long Island and shipped out together

to Ford Meade, Maryland in July. Tippy went to officers' training camp in Fort Benning, Georgia and I went through the Panama Canal to Hawaii with the West Virginia-Kentucky National Guard.

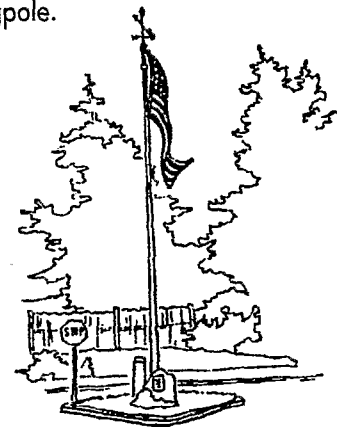
From Hawaii I went to New Guinea where the Australians impressed me. They were in charge of graves and kept the most immaculate cemeteries I ever saw, and at each grave site they had a still! From New Guinea we went to Leyte, then on to Luzon. I knew Tippy's outfit was in Manila, but we couldn't make contact because our letters went through the APO in California.

I was wounded March 10, 1945, hit in the trigger finger and the head outside of Bagio by shrapnel and was hospitalized for ten months. I was in a foxhole; I spent the war in a foxhole! Tippy was hit in the thumb and the jaw on April Fools Day, 1945. He still carries the shrapnel that lodged in his throat as a memento. Later, after reaching home, we discovered we had been in the same hospital together and hadn't known it.

I landed in Tacoma, Washington on VJ Day, August 14, 1945 and was sent to a hospital in Swananoa, N.C. to recover. There

I met Bentz Plageman whom I had known before the war in Palisades. He had developed polio in the Mediterranean. I was discharged December 4, 1945, and Tippy, in a hospital in upstate New York, was discharged about the same time.

The first day home I went to the antique shop; Miss Marshall and Dr. Munn, Tippy's wife, had been managing the place. Then I walked down to the river where I had spent many a day as a youth and visited all the old places. I saw more cars on my walk down than I saw in all my time growing up. Simmons' grocery store was still operating. So was Post's gas station and road stand behind Yonderhill. The flag pole had a big wooden frame with all the names of the men and one woman, Marge Greenfield, who had served in the War. I didn't realize there were so many able-bodied people in Palisades. Now it has a bronze plaque embedded in the stone at the flagpole.



We continued working at auctions as if we never left off.

The Palisades Parkway and the NYS Thruway came in the early '50s. Before the parkways we would always see long lines of cars stopped at the light at Oak Tree and 9W. People started taking the Tappan Zee instead of the GW Bridge and we were isolated for a while. Then development started along Oak Tree Road. Walter Simmons closed down his store about then and, thanks to Mrs. Tonetti, moved down to the Boat House at the landing. He later moved to Tappan.

I was married September 30, 1951, to my wife Jill. For the wedding I had to wear a bow tie. I never had worn a bow tie in my life and didn't know how to tie one. Katherine Cornell came in on a Sunday afternoon and said, "Oh, John, I'll tie it for you." And she did tie it for my wedding. My brother

Continued on Page 8

- New Books at the PFL**
- Blau, *The Visible Poor*
  - Cooper, *Letters of Evelyn Waugh*
  - Epstein, *Buttons*
  - Ernaux, *A Man's Place*
  - French, *War Against Woman*
  - Galbraith, *Culture of Contentment*
  - Hirshfeld, *Hirshfeld, Art & Recollections from 8 Decades*
  - Meller, *Textile Design*
  - Nizer, *Catspaw*
  - Sheehy, *Silent Passage*
  - Thomas, *Fragile Species*
  - Tolley, *Gifts From the Herb Garden*
- New Fiction**
- Baker, *VOX*
  - Clark, *All Around the Town*
  - Dexter, *Jewel That Was Ours*
  - Dillard, *The Living*
  - Grimes, *End of the Pier*
  - Gupta, *Memories of Rain*
  - Kennedy, *Very Old Bones*
  - Morrison, *Jazz*
  - Rouand, *Fields of Glory*
  - Steel, *Jewels*
  - Wiesel, *The Forgotten*

## Media Watch

Palisadian Joan Konner, as Dean of Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, has instituted many innovative forums which bring together practicing members of the news media, TV and radio as well as print. The most recent took place in December when author Salman Rushdie made a surprise appearance at Columbia at a dinner celebrating the 200th anniversary of the First Amendment.

It was Rushdie's first appearance in public in 1000 days of hiding and his first trip outside Britain since 1989 when Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini condemned his novel, *The Satanic Verses*, as blasphemous against Islam and offered a reward for his death. Konner, who had invited Rushdie to speak, told reporters after the event the details of the extreme secrecy and security measures which were taken to ensure his safety. The news of Rushdie's appearance and the speech he delivered focused world attention on the University and on the challenges facing free speech, making headlines around the world. "Free speech," Rushdie said, "is life itself."

Fruits  
need  
time  
to ripe

to rape  
the mind  
which forgets  
to rage  
upon  
betrayals.

Regrets  
require  
requiems  
to rest  
the rest.

Kevork Kalayjian

# Pots for a Shade/Trade Garden



Since so many of us work ground that falls under the spell of forest suburban/primeval, let me offer some notes on a garden of mostly circulating pots I did in '91 and will again in '92.

The situation was The Usual: people wanted to see a varied and colorful garden where light was taxed at every turn by trees and buildings; and where root interference was tight as a mesh of conflicting bureaucracies. Still, there was a splendid riverbank terrace and steps, with porch overlook and a venerable old maple dappling the light's progression overhead. All it needed was a touch of floreality--but how?

Sites like this are usually abandoned to things like Pachysandra, or to Impatiens, that Muzak of the flowering world. Impatiens had in fact arrived before I did in June but never mind. It's never politically correct to put down a bad idea that works. Besides, there were lots of other voids to fill, so why not do the boldly vagrant, spotlight thing? Why not lend handsome pots of light-demanding plants from suntime to shadetime... sometimes?

Given my druthers, of course, I'd have grown in shade what shade delights. As an all-day gardener, I have time to feel sympathique with plants in ways that scandalize the laity and their landscape designers. I'm even personally grizzled enough to be seized by purely foliage joy--a Grim Reaper symptom old gardeners talk about.

Well then. I began with a notion of giving each pot about one week of three in shade. Needless to say, that ratio changed pot by pot as various plants made their wishes known. My inventory grew to seventy-odd pots, no more than two alike, with most shared by more than one kind of plant. I used annuals, perennials, shrubs, and those catch-all exotics we call houseplants.

Immediate gratification being an issue, I started with stock bought in look-see condition; but as the season wore on, investments in small starts and seedlings paid off handsomely. Thanks to the wonderful Indian summer of '91, this garden gave very good value, retiring with amazing grace after long service. Meantime, its dwindling inventory of pots was rearranged to suit every degree of threat and blandishment that comes be-

fore the final sad generality of frost.

The most stubbornly outdoorsy pots made their last stand with the season's tattered praying mantises lingering long past their time by the sunny south wall of the greenhouse. About 25 pots then went into a coldstore room (40°F) while another 25 gave a winter garden under glass most of its character. Another process of attrition set in as plants had to survive my refusal to get chemically violent with aphid, scale, mealybug and whitefly. Even so, it is remarkable how many shade/trade pots have held their own against those nagging varmints. (I must take some credit as a dedicated hands-on predator.)

Let one example speak for the survivors in service even now in March. Blue Marguerite (*Felicia amelloides*) spills blooming out of a pot where its companion Stonecrop (*Sedum caucicola*) sleeps. Come spring, *Sedum*'s fleshy bluegreen leaves will consort again with Felicia's tiny blue daisies, taking up the color slack when Felicia falters in summer heat. Then, come fall, *Sedum* will add its pink bloom finale to Felicia's revived enthusiasm.



When *Sedum* goes dormant, small pots can be nestled in its space, like one of some miniature Cyclamen now.

This spring, I'll remake most of the pots, using cuttings now making ready, seedlings soon to be sown, and later on, the mass market annuals it's cheaper to buy. I'll also experiment with some '91 holdovers, starting duplicates afresh, just in case pot weariness sets in. Some of these headstart pots are greenhoused, like Passion Flower (*Passiflora caerulea*) sharing with Dusty Miller 'Silverdust' (*Senecio maritima*) bushing up for a blooming stint not seen in the bedding annual use of this tender perennial. Like gardens in sheltered spots outdoors, the coldstore room is all a-bud with impatience to get on with the business of spring. It's hard to resist these advances, but then again, why give lumbago a headstart on '92 by shifting pots in and out so soon?

I'm being shy with plant names here, not wanting to spill a rattlebag of nomenclature much beside the point. Enough to say that if your favorites will submit to pot, you can have them where you want them--part of the time at least.

I do think it's important to give light-lovers time to get their growth before you ask them to cope with any stint. The real trick then is to spot a waning enthusiasm in the shade before it becomes debility no amount of belated sun can cure.

Clearly, we're talking plant-sensitive, light-savvy gardening here, and a degree of madness you'll cut to your own measure. So size up your Best Beloved. Pot to suit your mutual strength. Then flourish in sun and in shade together.

J-P Malocsay gardens on an estate in Palisades, N.Y.

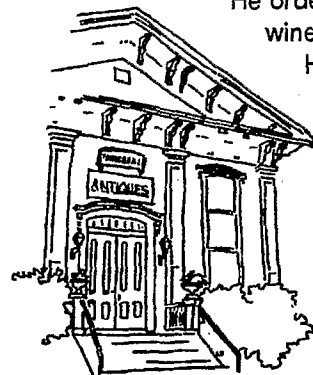
## ...AFTER THE WAR

George married Jill's sister Loni. Loni has been working at Yonderhill since 1965. Before I got married I had been living upstairs at the antique shop. So I had to build a house. And I did across the road at the SW end of Salmas cow pasture.

We mostly had auctions on Saturdays. Once Boris Karloff and Vivien Leigh were visiting at the landing and came up to the auction. The next day Boris Karloff came in and wanted to know how to get to New City to Jerry Carnegie's Tavern and Restaurant. He asked if there was a cab or a bus. Tippy said, "Oh, John will take you." I, of course, said yes. On the way Mr. Karloff said, "If you go through Tappan could we stop at the place they tried Major Andre?" I said, "Surely." I knew the owner and went into the bar and introduced them. With his stentorian voice, big black shoes and black suit, everyone knew who he was, and he made sure they did as he walked slowly through all the rooms.

He ordered a glass of wine. I had a beer.

Hé said, "By jove, that wine was so good I think I'll have another." I had another beer. He put his hand in his pocket



# Dream'n Baseball

Opening day of the 1992 Major League Baseball Season is here. Each spring much to do is made of the "Boys of Summer" and their team's prospects for having that "dream" season. In Palisades we have our own "Boys and Girls of Summer" who play in the Palisades-Sparkill Baseball League where every year is a "dream" season.

I am pleased to say that the 1992 season will be no exception. Over 300 children ranging in age from five years to sixteen have registered to play in five different divisions. Not affiliated with Little League, Palisades-Sparkill is the oldest independent youth baseball league in Rockland County. For 36 years the league has remained committed to providing all boys and girls in the community with the opportunity to play baseball as a friendly, competitive sport.

In 1956, the league was comprised of a handful of neighborhood kids living in either Palisades or Sparkill. Recent seasons have seen a noticeably different composition of participants. Children from a dozen communities in Rockland County now play in the league. The neighborhood is simply getting larger. Starting with a single field on Rte. 340, generously provided by the John M. Perry American Legion Post, the league's popularity and growth have required obtaining four additional playing fields from the Town Recreation Department in various locations throughout Orangetown.

In addition to the expanding role the Palisades-Sparkill League plays in providing children of all ages in Orangetown with the opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball, this year will mark the introduction of two senior traveling teams for players 13 through 16 years of age. These teams will play in the North Jersey Knickerbocker League, an organization of more than thirty senior level teams competing in two divisional age groups.

and said, "By jove, I do believe I'm in straits." So I paid. When we got up to Jerry Carnegie's he took out a \$20 bill and asked for change to make a phone call. I always said he did that so I'd be able to tell the story.

Over 25 young men and women from Palisades have worked here at auctions and as day help over the years. Most of the young men were going to college, including our son, Wayne. One fellow who worked here became the District Attorney of Rockland County, Robert Meehan. Another, Roger Hauser, son of Bob Hauser, the garbage collector in Palisades and noted musician who worked with name bands, including Reissman's in the '30s, worked here while going to law school and became a successful lawyer.

I've been in Palisades since I was born, and I've been at Yonderhill since 1936. There has been very little that went on in Palisades that I didn't notice. I recall two things that show the change of times, changes I've seen. When I was a kid, what they call the Triangle now was a baseball park. Homeplate was in the NE corner. There were just a few big trees and the rest was open. My father and a few of the other old timers said that George Brown once hit a baseball into the Greenhouse, where the library is now, from homeplate. George later ran unopposed for years as Superintendent of Highways in Orangetown.

Note: Part 4 will be about Skunk Hollow and the hillbillys on the hill.

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As the league grows and expands its role in youth baseball, it is important to nurture and strengthen the traditions that have kept the league active for 36 seasons. The one tradition I have always been impressed with is the enthusiastic parent participation, especially in the younger divisions. So if for any reason you may have forgotten about this year's "dream season" and would still like to be a part of it, then either contact Craig Firestone, President, at 365-1448 or one of your Palisades neighbors who is a director of the league; Chris Capezzutto, Vice-President, at 359-4904 or Dale Prusinowski, Treasurer, at 359-4580 would be more than happy to answer any question you may have regarding the league.

William Walther

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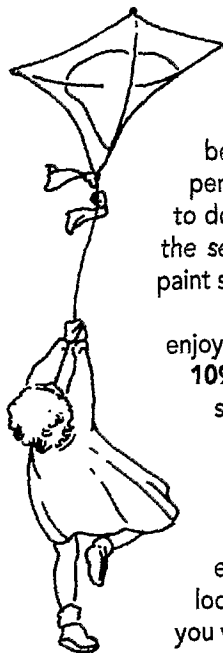
## The "I Can't Wait for Summer" Contest for Kids

Love to write, draw, or paint??? Yearn to see your name in print??? Well, here's your big chance. If you're between 6 and 18 years old and live in Palisades get out your pencils, brushes, or pens (or turn on your "Mac")! All you have to do is create an original piece of prose or poetry, completing the sentence, "I can't wait for summer because..." or draw or paint something that reminds you of summer.

Your work will be judged for creativity, form, interest and enjoyment by an independent panel of judges. Send your entry to **10964**, Box 201, Palisades, New York. We must receive your submission by May 10 so that the names of the winners can be published in the June issue of **10964**.

What's in it for you? The winning selections will either be published in the June issue of **10964** or will be on display at the Palisades Library over the summer. You may even win a gift certificate for \$20 at a local bookstore. We are looking forward to receiving hundreds of entries... so what are you waiting for?

Judy Zehentner



# Walking, Running and Getting in Shape in Palisades

This is the first in a short series of articles about walking/running paths and bicycle routes to make use of in your own personal fitness program or just to explore for the first time. Some may already be familiar, others a new discovery. If anyone has any favorite spots that you'd like to share with the readers of 10964, please drop us a note in P.O. Box 201.

## Four Seasons Bike-Path

Commonly referred to as "the bike path," this trail through the woods of Palisades and Tallman Park is also suitable for walking and running. It offers many possibilities in terms of the length of time you want to spend on your jaunt; but whether you spend a little time or a long time, the peace and stillness of the woods are sure to soothe your soul.

The entrance to the bike path can be found diagonally across Route 9W from the driving range. If you brought a car, you may park it in the small parking lot near Kennel's Gas Station and begin your walk from there. From 9W to the end of the path

where it meets the road in Tallman Park measures 10 miles. Should you want to continue your venture at that point, the possibilities are endless. A favorite route that offers some good training for serious runners and mountain bikers is to make a left at the end of the path and continue past the ranger's house up the hill. If you manage to take your walks/runs early in the morning, you will be rewarded by encounters with the local wildlife. Naturally, deer abound in the woods, but there is also an enormous variety of birds including hawks.

Along the path are also a number of smaller paths on which to turn off and explore. The most notable is one which turns off to the left after about 1/2 a mile. It is a path which proceeds along a berm bordered by swampy areas on both sides, and it leads to a delightful skating pond in the woods which is called Walkaweeja by those who know it.

Let your imagination and curiosity lead the way and walk, run, bike, ski, dance or just stroll down the bike path. Revel in the changes of the seasons and in the healthy glow you'll see in the mirror when you return home.

Diana Green

## People Who Do

This month we are featuring people in Palisades who do any sort of repair and home improvements inside your house and out.

### Home Fix-Up

Ann Brooke, 365-1375, and her crew do landscape gardening, garden design, planting and maintenance on a regular or occasional basis.



Jim DeCrescenzo, 359-2538, does lathe turned bowls and platters; reproduces stair spindles, porch posts, table legs and moldings no longer commercially available. He builds custom furniture and survives mainly as a carpenter/cabinet maker.



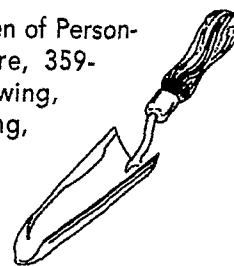
Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, 359-2538, does custom stenciling on walls and woodwork.

Kevin Foley, 359-8571, does painting, plastering and refinishing.



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.

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



Bill Ryan of Pati-O-Pool, 365-1615, does general landscaping and swimming pool maintenance.

Diana Green

## ENVIRONMENTAL TIP

### Recycling Motor Oil

Excerpted from *The Recycler's Handbook*, (Earthworks Press)

Have you ever seen used motor oil? Nothing could be dirtier; it's thick, black, and full of toxic engine crud. It looks like it could never be cleaned... but it can. When motor oil is "re-refined," it is just as good as new. In fact, according to oil recyclers, motor oil never wears out; it can be re-refined and used forever.

#### Why Recycle?

- Throwing oil in the trash — even in an airtight container—is just like pouring it on the ground. The oil will seep out and leach into groundwater when containers are crushed.
- A quart of motor oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water.
- We make our own oil spills; about 62 percent of all oil-related pollution in the U.S. is caused by improper disposal of motor oil.

### It's Easy!

Recycling motor oil is a simple process in our area since most of the service stations that I called do it for you. These four in the following list recycle the oil that they remove from your car during an oil change, and they will also accept used motor oil from you if you are someone who likes to change your own oil. If your favorite service station is not on this list, call them before you take your car in the next time and make sure they plan to recycle the oil. If not, try one of these that does:

- Garjon Service Station of Tappan, 359-3880
- Goodyear Tire and Auto of Northvale, (201) 767-8750
- Jiffy Lube of Nyack, 358-5601
- Orangeburg Auto Express on Rte. 303, 365-3700

If you want to go one step further, ask store managers where you buy your motor oil which oils are re-refined and buy them for your car, motorcycle and lawnmower. When a demand is created for recycled products, it encourages the system to continue.

## FATE OF THE EARTH EXHIBITION

CURATED BY CRISTINA BIAGGI

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**JUNE 9-28, 1992.**  
**RECEPTION:**  
**TUES. June 16, 5-7PM.**

This show will coincide with the United Nation's Earth Summit being held in Rio de Janeiro June 1-12. Though women constitute 52% of the world's population, they have little to no say in the Earth's future. This exhibition will be symbolic in women's voice over their concern for the the world and its environment and will be represented from all points of the globe.

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