



ACTION ISSUE! Your Help Is Needed to Maintain the Quality of Life That We Have Come to Enjoy in This, Our Small Piece of the World



In mid-March, Franklin E. White, NY State Department of Transportation Commissioner, will make the final decision on the request of Consolidated Freightways to use tandem-trailer trucks on Rte. 303 south of Mountainview Ave. and on Oak Tree Road going to and from their depot.

Consolidated Freightways made this same application in 1985 and was turned down. Michael Mignogna, DOT Regional Traffic Engineer, explained that they were refused because of "the physical inadequacy of Oak Tree Road to handle larger trucks, and the degree of local concern that the tandem trailers would have a negative impact on highway safety along Oak Tree Road."

"The Oak Tree Road case is similar to dozens of requests the DOT receives from companies seeking to use local roads as access routes to interstate highways," Mignogna continued. "Many companies win permission, while others are routinely denied. It all depends on the circumstances." Certainly tandem trucks on Oak Tree Road today would be more dangerous than in 1985, and approval of this application would surely open the door to even more illegal-sized trucks using the entire length of Oak Tree Road. Since my concern is just as strong as it was in 1985, I have taken the following action:

I contacted John Grant, County Executive, who wrote a strong letter of opposition to the DOT.

I contacted Ed Clark, County Legislator from Orangetown, who initiated a Resolution of Opposition to the County Legislature which was unanimously adopted and sent to the DOT as well as to other officials, including Governor Cuomo. In fact, Ed Clark's Resolution prompted other county legislators to initiate a ban on tandem tailers in other parts of the county.



Where Your Help is Needed Pages 2, 3 & 8

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Don't Throw Them Out!

Palisades is an historic village with an interesting past, and every time an old inhabitant dies, someone like Tippy O'Neill or Waldine Zinnel, a part of history may be lost.

Fifty years ago, when Miss Ella Coates, the last descendant in the village of the Snedens family of the Landing died, her invaluable collection of papers about the ferry and the Snedens was sent to a relative in Florida. Now they are in the possession of a more distant relative in New Jersey who refuses to let them be catalogued or copied. Mr. Winthrop Gilman saw the papers when Miss Coates was alive and listed seventeen which tantalize one's interest. He copied Dennis Sneden's bill for ferrying Revolutionary soldiers across the river, but generally he just copied the water marks from other papers, only describing the documents on which they appeared - a letter from Samuel Sneden in Nova Scotia to Mrs. Mary Sneden at the Landing, a bill for building a pettiauger, etc. .

With such an unfortunate example in mind, Milbry Polk and Annie Gerard have suggested that we should try to find out what important papers are in the possession of individuals in Palisades, so that they might be catalogued and copied to be kept in the library. This kind of preservation might also help to make more available the many personal accounts of life in Palisades and Snedens Landing.

Some that we know of are these: Nicholas Gesner kept a detailed diary of village life in the early nineteenth century; Winthrop Gilman left many notebooks about the last half of the nineteenth century; and his daughter, Anna Gilman Hill, wrote a charming account of her childhood here in the 1870's and 1880's. Besides Isabelle Savell's book about the Tonetti years, which is widely available, Barry Faulkner interviewed Anne Gugler, and tells many more good stories. Dick Salmon also told about the goings-on of his generation in Snedens. Mr. Gilman wrote a history of the first twenty-five years of the Palisades Library and Marion Lowndes continued it for fifty more years. Both of them are action-filled stories of a lively institution.

If these were all put on microfiche or disks, they could be printed out for anyone interested in the history of the community. When one has the good fortune to live in Palisades it adds an extra dimension to know about the past.

If anyone who has original material connected with the history of Palisades and Snedens Landing would get in touch with one of us we would be glad to arrange to have the material inspected and to help to make copies of whatever should be preserved for the use of future historians.



Environmental Alert: Save the Canada Geese

(excerpted by Diana Green from a Coalition release)

There is a new fever of insanity spreading through Rockland County that is so inhumane and ecologically reckless that it strikes one as almost ludicrous when heard for the first time! Charles Holbrook, Clarkstown Supervisor, has formed a coalition of supervisors from Stony Point, Haverstraw, Orangetown and Ramapo that is committed to supporting any effort to drastically reduce geese. He has done this because he believes that the majority of Rocklanders perceive Canada geese as a nuisance, and because Dr. Thalenberg, the Commissioner of Health for Rockland, has misinformed him about health hazards posed by the geese. Holbrook's plan involves capturing over 10,000 geese during their molting season when they cannot fly and gassing them.

A group called the Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese has formed in response to this crisis. They have done extensive research into all the reasoning behind allowing the destruction of the geese, and they have found that none of the concerns are justified. Numerous public health experts and physicians have testified that the geese pose no threat to human health and are not transmitters of salmonella poisoning, as Dr. Thalenberg would have us think. In addition, wildlife biologists and naturalists have asserted that the plan to destroy the geese would be ultimately ineffective since more geese and other animals would fill in the niches where those birds were.

The following is a list of inexpensive and humane alternatives for dissuading the geese from settling in private or public places where they are not welcome:

1) Put up signs telling people not to feed the geese. Feeding attracts them and keeps them in the area.

2) Let lawns grow around lakes, or set the lawn mower blades to leave the grass as long as possible. Geese love short, new blades of grass, and the taller, tougher grass will discourage them.

3) Plant pachysandra, periwinkle or other ground cover that geese will not like to walk through. These plantings can be done all around a lake area where geese would not be welcome.

4) Put an 18" - 36" high netting around the lake. There are several inexpensive types of netting that will serve this purpose.

5) Use noisemakers to scare away the geese. There are many types, depending on the area they are to be used in, and they only have to be used for about 3 days in early spring to dissuade the geese from settling in and eventually nesting in the area.

These methods must be started in mid-March when geese start to scout for nesting areas.

I would like to urge all of our readers to encourage any person or business they know that is bothered by the geese to adopt these methods instead of supporting the horrifying and unthinkable eradication plan. I also urge you to seek out an antidestruction petition and SIGN IT! The petition has been circulated at the Liquor Store in Tappan and at Act IV Haircutters, also in Tappan. If you would like more specifics than could be included in this article, please contact Steve at Act IV Haircutters or the Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese at (914) 429-8733.

Tandem Trucks cont.

I contacted Homer Wannamaker, Orangetown Police Chief, who said that his department is strongly opposed to tandem trailers on Oak Tree Road for safety reasons and he would certainly send the DOT a letter of opposition.

I contacted Robert Binnewies, Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, who wrote a letter of opposition to the DOT.

I contacted the two schools on Oak Tree Road; the Early Childhood Program, run by the South Orangetown School District, and the private school called the Palisades Schoolhouse which is housed in the Community Center. Both added their support to the opposition by sending letters to the DOT.

In addition, I called numerous residents of Palisades who in turn wrote individual letters to the DOT opposing the tandem trailers. I also understand that State Assemblyman Sam Colman and State Senator Joe Holland have added their voices of opposition.

Finally, a Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Orangetown Town Board opposing the use of tandem trailers on Oak Tree Road. It would certainly appear that only the trucking industry is in favor of allowing oversized vehicles to travel on these roads. If the DOT grants Consolidated's application, it will be a brazen example of pandering to the trucking industry which runs contrary to the wishes of the residents.

Persons opposed to these drastic changes can write to:

Commissioner Franklin E. White N. Y. State Dept. of Transportation State Campus Albany, NY 12232 -- Dossie Thayer

Address for the letter on the right:

Mr. Albert Bauman Regional Director N.Y.S. D.O.T. 4 Burnett Blvd. Poughkeepsie, N.Y., 12613

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Palisadian:

On February 25, the State Department of Transportation unveiled its extravagant plans for the widening of Route 303 from a four lane road to a six lane super highway from Route 59 in W. Nyack to south of the intersection at Oak Tree Road. This was their response to a request by citizens back in 1989 to investigate issues of safety on Rte. 303. At that time, recommendations from the townspeople included traffic signals and increased police enforcement of the 40 M.P.H. speed limit. These were simple requests that would have alleviated most of the accidents on this roadway at a reasonable cost to the taxpayers. The Government however, namely the D.O.T., comes back to us 4 years later with a design estimated at 67 million dollars! Some of the "benefits" we will derive from this 67 million dollar expenditure will

1. Severe depreciation of property values throughout this historic area.

2. Loss of revenue from businesses that would be closed through condemnation.

3. People thrown out of their homes through the state's aquisition process.

4. A more hazardous route for the school buses to travel.

5. Increased truck traffic.

include:

6. Gross increase in all environmental problems (noise and air pollution).

For Palisadians to believe this will not directly impact them would be extremely negligent. A Town Board meeting held one month ago to investigate the request of Consolidated Freightways (located on Oak Tree Rd., Palisades) to permit tandem trucking into their facility has yet to be determined. However, they <u>have</u> been granted a temporary permit to the surprise of the homeowners who demonstrated against this request. One could therefore logically conclude that this expansion of Route 303 had nothing to do with the original safety request but has everything to do with the trucking industry at large.

It becomes apparent to those who have attended these informational hearings that the ultimate goal of the state DOT is to have a fast-rolling, free-flowing corridor from the Thruway Interchange down Route 303, across Oak Tree Road and onto Route 9W! We make note that although the D.O.T. could not guarantee the " new and improved " speed limit on this "highway to nowhere", an audience member discovered in the D.O.T.'s journal an additional plan to possibly widen Oak Tree Rd. and increase its speed limit. If you still feel apathetic, consider how this "improvement" takes us one step closer to another Hudson River crossing right through your front yard or under your front yard. We can not believe that the D.O.T. is stupid enough to spend millions of dollars on a "highway to nowhere" - or could they be? Needless to say, all of us who live in this lovely area will be negatively affected by these changes. This is bound to increase truck traffic on Rte, 9.W., which has a 10 - ton weight limit and on Oak Tree Rd., which has a 5 - ton limit (all of which is seldom enforced due to lack of policing). If nothing else, every Palisadian must take a moment to sign the following letter and send it to Mr. Albert Bauman.

Dear Mr. Albert Bauman,

I am opposed to current state plans to widen Rte. 303 in Rockland County. The implementation of these plans will have a highly negative impact on the quality of life in several Rockland communities. In addition, your plans to permit Consolidated Freightways to operate oversized trucks on Oak Tree Rd. in Palisades, N.Y. will create a serious safety hazard in the community. I urge you to reconsider and to abandon these plans.

Sincerely yours,

Thank you for your help! - - Jocelyn DeCrescenzo

Lamont Changes Its Name (Again)

Two months ago, Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory changed its name to

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. The research institution, which was established in 1949 by Columbia geology professor Maurice Ewing, was first called the Lamont Geological Observatory after the Thomas W. Lamont family, which donated the 125 acre estate on which it was built. It was renamed the



Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory in 1969 after a gift from the Henry L. and Grace Doherty Charitable Trust.

Faye Yates, assistant director at Lamont, gave two reasons why this latest change has been made. First, the new name better captures the span of the work the institution is engaged in, which deals with the earth, the oceans and the atmosphere. The new Lamont logo, pictured above, illustrates the change in emphasis.

A second reason for the change in name is that the word "Earth" resonates with a wider audience than the word "Geology," and may be more helpful as the institution gears up development efforts, hoping to secure enough funds so that Lamont scientists have a firmer financial base to stand on and don't need to spend so much time and effort raising money for programs. A logo, pictured above, goes with the name, and a committee of Lamont scientists chaired by Kim Kastens have prepared an eloquent mission statement, which follows.

"Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University is dedicated to understanding how planet Earth works, in all of its physical manifestations. The Observatory is scientifically renowned throughout the world for its problem-solving innovation, its unique geological and climatological archives, and the outstanding achievements of its graduates. Lamont scientists observe the Earth on a global scale, from its deepest interior to the outer reaches of the atmosphere, on every continent and every ocean. They decipher the long record of the past, monitor the present, and seek to foresee the future of the planet. From global climate change to earthquakes, volcances, non-renewable resources, environmental hazards and beyond, the Observatory's fundamental challenge is to seek to provide an adequate and rational basis for the difficult choices faced by civilization in its stewardship of our fragile planet."

Researchers at the institution are engaged in a variety of wide-ranging projects which add important scientific data to our present knowledge of the earth. A few details on four of these projects follow.

In 1990 Dr. Kathleen Crane, adjunct associate research scientist at Lamont-Doherty, led a Soviet-American expedition to Lake Baikal in the Soviet Union, the world's oldest and deepest lake. The group discovered volcanic vents in the lake bottom, evidence that Lake Baikal may be an ocean in the making.

Arnold Gordon, professor of Oceanography at Columbia University, spent four months last year living with other scientists on a drifting ice floe in the Antarctic's remote, previously unexplored Weddell Sea. The sixty researchers who spent time on the floe amassed a wealth of new information on this climactically important region.

A team of scientists led by Dr. Edward Cook, associate research scientist at Lamont-Doherty's Tree Ring Laboratory, recently examined tree rings from the Australian island of Tasmania. Analysis of the climate history of the last thousand years revealed that the period from 1965 to 1988 had the warmest temperatures in the last millennium, providing evidence for the existence of global warming.

William B. Ryan, adjunct professor of geologic science at Columbia and Doherty Senior Scientist, has recently developed new computer software, called Mapmaker, based on the observatory archives of sonar data. This data, collected on research cruises with the help of echo sounders, enables scientists to create accurate reproductions of features on the sea bottom. Mapmaker will enable viewers to bring up on their computer screens bright colored pictures of the dark ocean floor.

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory is a unique and exciting institution, an important addition to our community.

- - Alice Gerard

Spring Plant Sale

The Spring Plant Sale sponsored by the Palisades Free Library will be held on Saturday, April 24 from 10:00am until 2:00pm. As usual, there will be a wide variety of annual and perennial plants and garden vegetables. Of course, we will have "pre-read" books for sale (contact Nina Prusinowski at 359-4580 about donating to the book table), and our cookbook, *Pots ana Pans*, will be available. Please plan to enjoy lunch while you shop for your spring plants.

The last frost date for our area is May 15. The Plant Sale is being held somewhat earlier than usual this year in the hope that you will purchase your spring plants and vegetables from your Library, rather than a local nursery. We will try to fulfill special orders, including those for shrubs and trees. Donations of local plants are always welcome. Please call Phoebe Rosenwasser (365-2441) or Ann Brooke (365-1375) for further information.



Conversation With Chef Annie Gerard

Recently, I had lunch with new Woods Road resident, Annie Gerard, who finds she has a little time on her hands now that her house is mostly done. We were eating leftovers from her latest catering job, which raised some tasty questions.

MP: Is southwestern food your specialty? (I asked between bites of chili with all the trimmings.)

AG: I do like lighter foods with brighter colors and flavors, like southwestern, Thai, Mediterranean and even Indian cuisines. Of classical European food, I tend to favor the peasant dishes. I enjoy cooking anything that starts with fresh ingredients and seasonings. I'm not above a little "haute cuisine" now and then...though, I admit, I am irreverent with it.

MP: What do you mean by that?



AG: Well, we did a dinner recently with medallions of filet mignon with a butter sauce made with ancho chiles, served with diamonds of polenta instead of the traditional toast rounds. I don't take anything as gospel as far as what "ought" to be served or how. I prefer to think for myself and try to figure out what's best for a given group or situation based on what is fresh, how the logistics of cooking and serving work out, and, of course, what the client's tastes and budget are.

MP: How did you get from engineering and housebuilding to catering? That is, what is your background?

AG: My father's father owned restaurants in Cold Spring Harbor and Jacksonville, Florida, and the landmark Gerard Hotel in midtown Manhattan was in the family a generation ago. My dad started out in Cornell's restaurant and hotel school before switching to geology/oceanography, so he taught me a lot about cooking and eating as I was growing up. Then, as a teenager, I lived in a large house full of poor students and did most of the shopping and cooking. Through college I worked occasionally with my brother, Simon, doing catering and, after I became dissatisfied with engineering work and commuting to the city, I went back to cooking. First I worked at Bittersweet in Piermont when it was a tea shop serving lunches - and then at a restaurant in Santa Cruz, California. I started as prep and pantry help, but quickly took over as pastry chef.

MP: So you do desserts, too?

AG: Of course! A really good dessert - one that complements the rest of the food - is such an important part of a meal. My only regret is that it's difficult to do quality baking for large jobs because most clients don't have a commercial oven available.



MP: How large are the jobs you take on, or how small?

AG: I've done intimate dinners for 12 and buffets for over 50. I consider each job in terms of whether I can keep the quality high enough. Someone recently asked if I'd consider going to the city to do a showroom opening. I said I'd have to see the kitchen, know how many people I was cooking for and what kind of food, the same as for any job I do locally. As with cooking, I don't have arbitrary limits. I just do whatever works. That's where the engineering comes in, I think, in the ability to solve problems. It also helps to have a creative and imaginative approach and background, especially with food, and especially in this community where there are so many creative and educated eaters.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Annie's delicious dinners and fabulous desserts can call her at 359–3261.

-- Milbry Polk

Benefit Performance for the Blue Rock School

You are invited to enjoy a special evening entitled "A Passage to E.M. Forster" - a staged reading with actors Bob Heitman, Maeve Kinkead, William Roerick, Peter Simon and Kathryn Walker - on Saturday, March 20th at 8:00pm. The production will take place at the Dutch Reformed Church in Nyack. All seats are \$20, and the proceeds go to benefit the scholarship fund of the Blue Rock School. Tickets are available at the door and there will be a champagne reception immediately following the performance.

Music Amici Presents An All Mozart Evening

Music Amici, a chamber ensemble of winds, strings and piano will present the final of its 1992-93 Chamber Concerts on Sunday, April 4th at 7:00pm at Threefold Auditorium in Spring Valley. It will be a program of music by Mozart including "Sonata in e minor" for violin and piano, and the "Grand Partita" for 13 winds. The performers will include Music Amici regulars as well as special guest members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

Tickets are available at the door for \$14 general admission, or \$10 for students and seniors. For information, contact Music Amici at 359-3892.

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Some Thoughts On Getting Your Garden Ready For Spring

PEAT MOSS may not seem like an endangered species, particularly when one sees the apparently endless numbers of yellow plastic sacks being emptied into every new landscape and garden. (Reminds me of that rather beautiful bluestone-like rock that is used for paving and stone walls on these same new jobs, not only in this area, but all over the East Coast; it comes from a quarry called "Endless Mountain", which is surely going to come to an end quite soon unless we start using local stone instead.)

Most of the peat moss sold here comes from prehistoric peat bogs in Canada and the far northern U.S.. Like fossil fuels, we are using it without replenishing it (an impossibility, since it takes millions of years to form). In its natural state, peat is extremely fertile, and therefore valuable for agriculture. However, when we dump a bag or two of processed peat moss into our gardens, it does virtually nothing for soil fertility, and little to make the soil looser. Meanwhile, each bag we use further depletes the shrinking peat bogs.

We have an excellent source of humus/soil conditioner right in our own yards - the decomposed leaves from our trees. Using your own leaves presents a problem, unless you have a yard that is large enough to pile them up and let them sit for a year or so. If you can't do this, you can simply truck on down to the Orangetown Recycling Center on Route 303 (the old drive-in movie site) and load up on some of the leaves that the town has composted during the winter. Make sure to take yours from the oldest, most decomposed pile where they have formed a rich, dark, loose humus. Use these instead of peat moss. They will lighten your heavy

soil and add nutrients, as well as allowing you to feel virtuous - one of the welcome side benefits of gardening. The town also has piles of wood chips which can be used to make walkways and even for mulch (as long as they are fine and partially decomposed). While you're out trucking, get some manure from one of the local horse farms, but make sure it's very old before you add it to your garden.

WET SOIL should never be walked on as the pressure forces all the air out of the soil and makes the soil particles bond together so tightly that you end up with something more like concrete than soil. In the spring, our soil is so waterlogged with rain and melting snow that if we wait for it to dry it may be July before we get to plant. Either design your garden beds so that they can be reached from all sides without being stepped on, or place boards or stepping stones among the plants and walk only on them.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY is pea-planting day. If you have a well-drained strip of soil that gets plenty of sun (6 hours a day), simply poke the peas about 1" into the soil with your finger. Space them 6" apart and cover them lightly. The new sugar snap peas are delicious and very easy to grow. Fragrant, old-fashioned sweet peas are divine, but not at all easy to grow - but go ahead and put some in anyway. No garden should be without them and some of those you plant may actually survive. If you don't have a suitable location, both kinds can be grown in pots against a sunny wall; just make sure to keep them watered.

- - Ann Brooke

Spring Gardening Workshops

Two workshops will be held in April at the Community Center. They will be practical in nature, aimed at giving you all the information you need to go home and make your own vegetable/herb and flower cutting gardens.

Emphasis will be on using recycled and rejected materials (all that stuff lying around your house in case it comes in useful sometime), and on gardens that are easy to care for without chemicals. We will talk specifically about how to grow vegetables and flowers - both of which require full sun or close to it - in the generally shady conditions prevailing in this area.

The workshops will take place from 9:00am - 11:30am at the Community Center on the following dates:

Saturday, April 3: Making a Vegetable/Herb Garden and Saturday, April 17: Making a Flower Garden.

These dates were chosen to fall at the optimal times for planting these types of gardens, so you can have them ready as plants become available in local nurseries and at the Palisades Library Plant Sale later in April.

The cost is \$15 for each workshop (\$25 for both if you register in advance). To register, or for more information, call Ann Brooke at 365-1375.



Whimsical Wonderful Wildflowers A Child's Guide

Elegant Cat's Ears

'So very like a cat's ears The shape is right 'tis true; But I never saw a kitten's ears With purple fur ... did you?



This flower for a fairy Dutchman grows It comes down to his knees; It fits him fine when he stands tall Would it fit him if he sneezed? (V)



Indian Blanket

The Chief and Mother Nature spoke (Sitting 'neath a tall live oak; He asked for the earth a blanket too And she adorned the plains with you!

Birdfoot ¥iolet

A bird stepped in a pot of blue And left a bright shoeprint on you; A bee buzzed by, his lunch to get And named you "birdfoot violet." N



– – Bette Castro





Palisades Free Library News

Annual Meeting Caps a Year of Progress

The 1993 Annual Meeting proved just how vital the Library is to the entire community of Palisades when Dr. Morton Sherman, Superintendent of Schools for the South Orangetown School District, spoke as this year's Guest Speaker. In his prepared remarks, Dr. Sherman covered a wide range of educational issues, from the quality of current educational programs to his vision for a new technology-based classroom environment that he called "wired."

Dr. Sherman's obvious passion and committment to the task at hand was clearly felt by the near overflow audience that attended the meeting. The community response to Dr. Sherman's presentation was largely positive, with many in attendance voicing their support for his goals while reminding him of the school district's past failures. Time will tell if Dr. Sherman's vision of the future can be realized in our school district, but it is clear that his heart and his mind are in the right place, with the parents and children of the district.

Library Expansion Moves Forward

Dr. Sherman wasn't the only good news at this year's Annual Meeting. After many years of planning, development, and community review, the Board of Trustees presented the revised plans for the library's much needed and long overdue expansion. Board President, Bill Walther, unveiled the revised drawings that had been prepared by the architectural firm of Michael Esmay, Architect. Esmay's firm, which was selected by the library several years ago, is very active in our area, particularly in library design. The firm has designed the libraries in Valley Cottage, Tappan and Nyack, and is now beginning work on the new Tuxedo Park Library.

In presenting the revised plans at the Annual Meeting, Walther stressed that the library Board had worked hard to incorporate comments and suggestions from a broad spectrum of the community. "As you know," he told the audience at the meeting, "this project has taken many years to reach this point. All of us in the community recognize the need for an enhanced library facility, and all of us understand the importance of designing this new library in such a way that it complements the character and history of our hamlet." The overall reaction to the new plans was extremely positive - so much so, in fact, that Walther announced that the library would now proceed to the next stage of soliciting contractor bids.

"To be sure, there is still much work that remains before us," Walther emphasized. "Finally, however, we have a plan that the community can support, and that is a very important and vital first step. All of us at the library encourage people who haven't seen the plan to visit the library and study it."

Walther thanked the entire community for their support of the expansion project, in particular those who have shown their support with financial contributions. "This program could not have been undertaken without the generous financial support of this community," Walther affirmed. "The library's fundraising effort, which has been led by Ronnie Estadella, will continue through the Spring of this year. Our goal is to raise an additional \$100,000 to add to our present building fund, which now exceeds \$200,000.

"It's important to remember that the tax monies we receive each year from the town and the school district just barely cover the library's operating expenses - the purchase of new books, bar coding and automation. An expansion of this type can only come from the additional support provided by the community at large. Many have shown their support and all will benefit because of it."

New Board Member Elected

No library Annual Meeting would ever be complete without the traditional punch and cookies and the election of new board members. At this year's meeting the community elected Joann Benson to fill the seat vacated by Elaine Dempsey who was retiring after four years of service.

Sign Up Now For a Ukranian Easter

On Wednesday, April 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the library will host a program on decorating Easter eggs in the Ukranian manner. The event is open to the entire community (grade 4 and up). All materials will be provided and space is limited so please register as soon as possible. Ukranian Easter is just around the corner!

How Much Was That Again?

The Price of a Well-Stocked Library Increases:

Like many other things today, the cost of books continues to rise. Publishers Weekly, a leading trade publication, tracks costs for all major categories. According to their report for 1991, the average price of a hardcover book was \$44.17. Novels averaged \$21.00, biographies \$26.00, histories \$30.00, mass market paperbacks \$5.08, and trade paperbacks \$18.39.

Why not use the library more often and save money in the process? Now that's interesting food for thought!

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The Palisades Community

Center is available for private parties, classes and for meetings of Palisades groups and organizations. For further information and reservations contact Janis Cavanagh at 359-1026.

The Annual Meeting

At this year's well-attended Annual Meeting, Tony Gerard and Andy Norman were reelected to the Board and Dr. Madhu Aluwalia (O'Connell), Uma Shaw and Mitchel Warner were elected to the Board of Directors. In addition, The PCC By-Laws were amended to limit leasing to outside groups to one year and another provision now requires that a complete list of candidates for the Board Of Directors be sent to members prior to the Annual Meeting.

New Classes Starting

Julia Breer, who has had great success with her previous Hands On Fun Art workshops, will be starting a new 10 week session beginning at the end of March. The class is for 5 - 8 year olds and will be held on Saturday afternoons. Anyone interested in being part of the class, call Julia at 359-0581.

Future Presentation

John Drechsler would like to present to the community of Palisades as a whole his alternative plan for the Expansion of the Palisades Free Library. He developed the concepts and preliminary drawings in August of 1991 and wishes to present them at the Palisades Community Center on a date to be announced in the next issue of **10964**.



He hopes that this presentation will open the doors of communication about the Expansion which he feels should not be a closed subject.

Special Thanks Are Due Retiring Director Dr. Donald Tapley Who Served on the PCC Board For the Past Five Years.

Keep the Ban on Irradiated Food

Food irradiation is a preservative process in which food is exposed to gamma radiation. The FDA has approved the use of gamma radiation to treat many of the foods we eat including fresh fruits and vegetables, grains, nuts, teas, spices, poultry, and pork. While irradiated food is not radioactive, there are serious health risks associated with the process which have been proven through scientific studies. There are also concerns regarding threats to workers and to the environment from the use of this process. A number of accidents have already occurred at irradiation facilities. In addition, irradiation can cause a loss of nutritive value in the food and also produces known carcinogens.

In 1989, and again in 1991, the New York State Legislature passed landmark consumer protection legislation banning the sale of irradiated foods for a period of two years. This legislation is once again up for review. It is vital that the ban be continued to protect New York State consumers from this unwanted technology. Please write Assemblymember Greene and Senator Sears, the chairs of the Consumer Protection Committee, and demand a continued ban on irradiated foods.

> Assemblymember Greene 621 Legislative Office Building Albany, NY 12248

> Senator Sears 944 Legislative Office Building Albany, NY 12247

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Palisades Presbyterian Church



The **Chancelor Players**, a group of dedicated actors from the congregation, have announced their Spring Schedule: March 28 at 7:30 pm - *Poet's Corner* April 12 at 7:30 pm - Readings from *Our Town*

April 17 at 7:30 pm - *Save Me a Place in Forest Lawn*, starring Mary Ann Garland and Sally Green.

Easter Schedule

April 8: Maundy Thursday service at 8:00pm. Members of the Charles Ame Zion Church will participate in the service. April 11: Sunrise Service & Breakfast at 6:30 am at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Eaton at Lamont.



Gear Up For the Fifth Annual Arts Fair!

Artisans, artists and volunteers, GET READY! The next, the FIFTH Annual Palisades Arts Fair, will be taking place in September at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. Anyone interested in exhibiting or helping run the event can call Diana Green (359-8137) or Milbry Polk (365-0297). If you are not the creative type, you can still participate and lend a hand with this fun-filled and inspiring event. It's a great way to meet your neighbors! So, get those creative juices flowing, get your energy going, and we'll see you in September!

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Library News Cont.

Judy Tomkins to Exhibit at Rockland Center for the Arts

Palisades photographer, Judy Tomkins, will exhibit portraits and new photographic series at the Photo-Space gallery at Rockland Center for the Arts. The opening reception is Sunday, March 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.. The exhibition will run through April 18.

Ms. Tomkins, who is represented by the Leo Castelli Gallery in New York City, has had a distinguished photographic career. She has had solo exhibitions at Neikrug Gallery and at Castelli, and has been in group shows at the Brooklyn Museum, Guild Hall and the Venice Biannalli. She is also represented in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In Photo-Space, Ms. Tomkins will exhibit a variety of subjects. Among them are 7 photos from the Hell's Kitchen series shown at the Castelli Gallery in June 1980. "I took a lot of photos around the playground in Hell's Kitchen in New York City where the film *West Side Story* was shot," explains Ms. Tomkins. "I got to know the people and got their trust. The area is always festering, just like it's name. You think you've got the fire out and it starts all over again." Because she didn't want to be pidgeonholed as a street photographer, she went on to other things.

Well known for her affecting portraiture, Ms. Tomkins will also show six portraits of both public and private figures, including children. She prefers to photograph subjects in their own environment in natural light. The one-on-one relationship between photographer and subject is essential to her style. "The emotional moment between myself and the subject is what is important to me rather than an exacting technique," said Tomkins.

Recently, her work has been getting more abstract with a focus on close-ups of body parts. The hands are particularly fascinating to her. "You can tell a lot about a person by their hands and by the way they gesture and move parts of their body," she explained. "You get a feeling of who that person is." She will show two new series in this genre which include individuals as well as groups. Here she moves in on telling details: the body of a pregnant mother, the hands of a mother and newborn baby, a group of dancer's torsos with hands that belie a telling grace, even at rest.

Admission to the exhibition is free or by suggested donation. Gallery hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on weekends. For further information call 358-0877.



Memorials and Bequests

Over the years, the library has been remembered by friends and community alike through memorials and bequests, and we never seem to find the time to publicly acknowledge this kindness and generosity. Therefore, we would now like to thank all who have remembered the library over the years. If anyone has been left out, please let us know.

With Heartfelt Thanks ...

John (Jack) Algert Florence Babcock Lem Britter Annette Gugler Sean McCarthy Yolanda Man Kathleen Martine Leah Miras Ann Matthews Philip Murphy Carol Panter Margaret Parton-Hussey **Constance** Price **Ruth and Richard Salmon** Geddes Smith Marian Stewart



All of This in Such a Small Building?

How busy was the library in 1992? Very busy indeed, according to Librarian Beatrice Agnew, who took the time to tally some numbers for this issue of **10964**. The result is that the Palisades Free Library now has the second highest per capita circulation rate in the county (16.42). Indeed, in 1992 the library circulated a record 21,256 items, an increase of 75% since 1986! "More families have moved into the community with children of all ages who are availing themselves of the library's resources," Agnew explained. "At the same time, our outreach program to Palisades Gardens grows larger each year."

Other statistics point to continued growth. Consider the following: in 1992 the library staff answered over 400@reference questions, hosted more than 1500 children in 60 special reading, craft and history programs, added 978 new volumes to the shelves, and welcomed over 12,000 visitors. Somewhere during all of this activity, the staff also found the time to bar code the library's entire collection of 21,088 items!

"We accomplish a great deal in a very small space," Agnew states with well-deserved pride. "In 1993 we will accomplish even more!"

continued on page 14



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ABOUT 10964 10964 Newsletter P.O. Box 201 Palisades, NY 10964 This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. 10964 needs your moral and financial support! Please send a contribution to 10964, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, New York, 10964. With your help we'll be able to put 10964 in your mailbox six times this year from October through June. The following staff members worked on this issue: Paula Boren, Lori DiGiacomo, Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, Diana Green, Marika Hahn, Martye Krainin, Boyce Leni, Milbry Polk, Gina Vermandel and Judy Zehentner. Read All About It! New Books at the Library Births Fiction & Non-Fiction Byatt Angels & Insects Gai-Jin Clavell Mortal Enemy Cook Tainted Evidence Daley Into What Far Harbor? Drury Faragher Daniel Boone Gaines A Lesson Before Dying Green Surviving Portrait of My Desire Harris Daffodils Harrison Exposure Irvina Final Argument McBain Marv. Marv No ode to you so splendid A Mother's Love Morris Thousand golden ones? Degree of Guilt Patterson All would be bards can only whisper Plain Whispers It's been done! Roth **Operation Shylock** West Race Matters Bette Castro Wilson Jesus. A Life Fearless Yglesias

Carrier Route Sort Bulk Mail Paid Permit#9

Palisades, NY 10964

Contributions

We are very grateful for a contribution from Mrs. Jean Twitchell.

Thank you!

John and Linda Ewig and big brother, Jevon, and sisters, Brielle and Kira, welcome a lovely baby girl, Ariella Nicole. She was born on February 4th. Her grandmother, Marge, is also pleased as punch!

