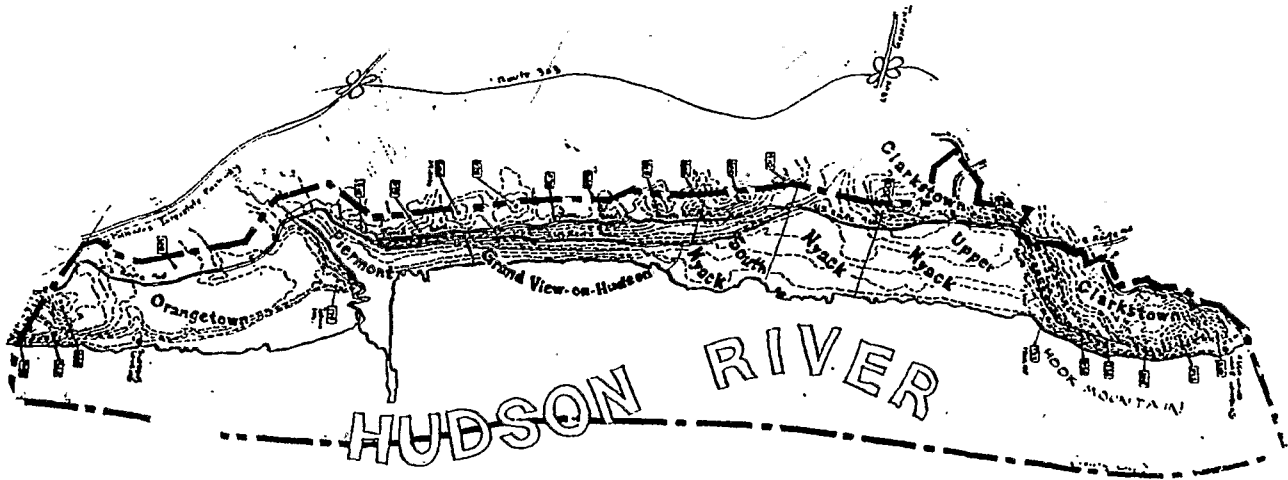


10964

The Palisades Newsletter

June 1995 • No. 147



**Tappan Zee Scenic District:** Designated by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in October, 1988 and includes villages of Nyack, Upper Nyack, South Nyack, Grand View, and Piermont, and parts of Orangetown (Palisades) and Clarkstown. Local governments are directed to prepare plans for the management of lands and waters within the Scenic Area in order to enhance, protect and manage the scenic and historic qualities of the district.

## ⌘ Tappan Zee Coalition Emerges as Leader ⌘ in Fight Against River Crossing

### Alternative to Bridge/Tunnel Crossing Proposed

On April 12 before an audience of over 100 residents, the Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition held the first in a series of planned public meetings regarding Metro-North's proposal to cross the Hudson River at one of three proposed sites — Palisades, Nyack, or Newburgh.

The Coalition, which has as its officers and directors residents of Palisades (William T. Beaty II, Ann Bedell Smith, Nash Castro, Lowell Iberg, and Ann Tonetti), Piermont, Grand View, South Nyack, and Upper Nyack, was organized in 1987. Along with government officials, it was instrumental in establishing the Tappan Zee Scenic District area under Article 49 of the New York State's Environmental Conservation Law and now, under this provision, the Coalition has taken a stand against Metro-North's proposals which are estimated to cost between 3 to 5 billion dollars. They believe that future transportation problems can be dealt with in other ways; for example, by improving existing facilities, such as restoring and upgrading existing West Shore rail lines to bring passenger and freight service from Orange and Rockland Counties into the New York Metropolitan area via the

Continued page 2

## **Tappan Zee Coalition:** *continued*

available connecting lines and tunnels of New Jersey Transit, Path, and Amtrak.

At the conclusion of the public meetings, which are planned for Palisades, Piermont, Grand View and other areas, the Coalition will formulate a plan reflecting the recommendations from the meetings and present it to the transportation authorities (New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Metro-North). The Coalition is prepared to carry out a program of extensive petitions and/or a demand for a public referendum.

### **Speakers Unified in Opposition to Metro-North Proposal**

Acting as moderator of the meeting, E. Hazard Gillespie, Coalition President and former U.S. Attorney for New York's Southern District, read a letter addressed to him from County Executive Scott Vanderhoef which expressed opposition to the Metro-North proposal, and urged an examination of the West Shore Line as an alternative. These views were echoed by a number of speakers who were virtually unanimous in opposing a new river crossing, and many of whom favored investigating the West Shore Line option.

John Murphy, a County Legislator representing Orangetown and currently on the Public Works Committee of the County Legislature, stated he expected that opposition to the project would be upheld by the County legislature. Other county and state officials who spoke in opposition were Keith Giles, representative from Senator Holland; Robert Binnewies, Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission; and Betty Hedges, President of the Rockland County Conservation Association. Orin Getz, Chairman of the County Transportation Advisory Council, emphasized the importance of alternatives to alleviate current transportation congestion in the County.

Town and village officials also spoke against the Metro-North proposal. Orangetown Supervisor Jack Cassidy assured the Coalition that the town would be involved and would support efforts to oppose a new crossing. He noted that other parts of Orangetown, and not simply the river towns, would be affected and promised his availability. Eileen Larkin, Councilwoman from Palisades, stated the Metro-North Project would completely disrupt the community and would impact all of Rockland County.

Representatives of nearby villages agreed, including Nyack Mayor Terry Hekker, Upper Nyack Mayor Felicia Teyrup, South Nyack Mayor Charlie Cross and Grand View's former Mayor Lorraine Moscow, as well as the present town planner. Jerry Blood, representing the Mayor of Tarrytown, expressed his concern for the terrible impact a new Hudson River Crossing would have on the east shore of the river. He stated that towns from Westchester County should also be consulted in opposing Metro-North's plans. A representative from the

Clarkstown Civic Association urged other Civic Associations to be active and involved in both opposing these plans and supporting alternatives.

**Metro-North Response:** Joan McDonald, Director of Capital and Long-Range Planning for Metro-North, gave an overview of the process leading to the 1994 feasibility study (see April, 1995 issue of -). She stated that in 1987, the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board directed Metro-North to assess the feasibility of providing direct rail service from Rockland County to Grand Central Station. Since 1987, the Federal Highway Administration has issued new regulations which require transportation agencies to look at transportation corridors including roads and trains. They also mandated that both a Draft Environmental Impact Study and Major Investment Analysis be done and that public participation become a full requirement of the process.

The next step will be to examine all possible alternatives. At the end of this process, a recommended alternative will be identified (a "locally preferred alternative"), and Metro-North will move forward. One possibility is that Metro-North "do nothing" in terms of a new river crossing. They will also look at the West Shore Line although there are significant issues with this alternative, from MTA's point of view, which McDonald did not identify. She ended by reemphasizing that there will be full participation of the public in the process, although she did not answer questions related to public notification of meetings, decision points, and how the public gains access to the input process.

**Conclusion:** Coalition president Gillespie closed the meeting after hearing comments from community residents and environmental groups, who called for vigilance and continued opposition to these transportation proposals. The Coalition will establish two committees: one to monitor Metro-North and its activities, the other to investigate the viability of the West Shore Line option, as so many attending had urged.

Gillespie encouraged all residents to join the Coalition by contacting their Area Director, or writing to: Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition, 873 Piermont Avenue, Piermont, NY 10968.

**Note:** 10964 called Janet Mainiero, Assistant Director at Metro-North, on April 24 for response to a Rockland Journal-News article on April 12 that suggested that there was a moratorium on the Hudson River Crossing Project.

Ms. Mainiero stated that at the Metro-North Board meeting held on April 19, it was formally decided to put the project "on hold" pending uncertainties with the capital program for financing the project. She went on to say that Metro-North still believes that the project has a good deal of merit, and will continue to pursue it, most likely in three to four months. An article in the Rockland Journal-News on April 20 confirmed that a planned \$5 million study of the project was "formally tabled".

Carol Elevitch



# Cruising the Hudson on a Nineteenth Century Ship



Many Palisadians are no doubt familiar with the Hudson River sloop *Clearwater*, which periodically docks at the end of the pier in Piermont for educational sails. During the last century, the Hudson River used to be covered with hundreds of freight vessels of similar design working their way north past Albany and back down to New York with loads of lumber, grain, and other cargo. Their graceful lines and brilliant white sails must have been a beautiful sight, especially when compared to the occasional tug-and-cement barge combinations that comprise the majority of today's riverine freight traffic.



Each week during the *Clearwater's* sailing season, the seasoned mariners on board are joined by a group of four or five volunteers who learn to help sail the boat, to teach the school groups that come on board each day about river ecology, and, of course, to perform high level chores such as scrubbing out the head and washing dishes. Last October, I was fortunate to be able to volunteer for a week on the *Clearwater*, and so taste in a small way the life of a sailor on a river sloop, although today's experience no doubt offers significant improvements in the way of personal comfort and amenities compared to a nineteenth century sailor's life!

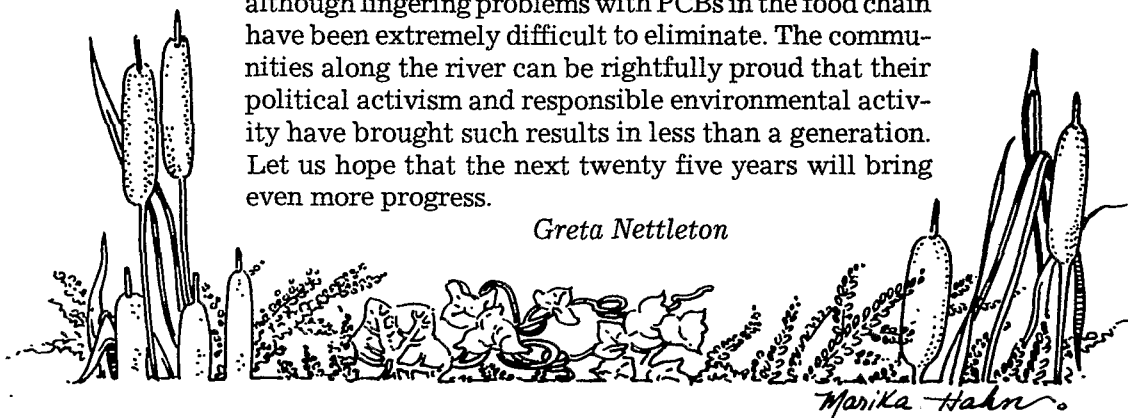


My cruise started with a commuter's train ride down to the Riverdale "Yachtless" Club, where I met the boat. We proceeded first to Alpine and then to West Point, where we spent the balance of the week. The lack of wind meant that we had to rely on the engine most of the time, but the fall foliage was at its height. Sleeping in a small cabin with fourteen other people quickly instilled a sense of group effort into the new crew members. Each day started with a 7 am deckwashing session with briny water to preserve the wood deck and rails from rotting; in compensation, the sunny, mild weather made each dawn an aesthetic event, as the fingernail moon vanished into delicate river mists between the high cliffs around West Point.

When I faced the task of teaching groups of sixth graders about river ecology, it was immediately apparent to me how little I knew about these topics myself — it took until the end of the week before I could confidently expound on the types of local fish, estuary plankton, simple river chemistry, and navigation. Another point that was soon clear is how important the activities of groups that look out for the Hudson River have been; twenty five years ago when the — first set sail, the Hudson River was so polluted that raw sewage was often visible floating along-

side the boat. Now the river is clean enough to swim in, although lingering problems with PCBs in the food chain have been extremely difficult to eliminate. The communities along the river can be rightfully proud that their political activism and responsible environmental activity have brought such results in less than a generation. Let us hope that the next twenty five years will bring even more progress.

Greta Nettleton





# Lyme in Palisades



**R**ecently, my son, Cory, came down with a sudden and terrifying illness. Literally overnight he lost feeling and motor control on one side of his body and was unable to talk clearly. He was admitted to Nyack Hospital later that day.

The pediatric neurologist who saw him there first suspected a brain tumor, or something similar to Guillain-Barre, a reaction to the flu. After tests ruled out many of the more frightening possibilities, he was diagnosed with post-infectious myelo-encephalitis, an immune response to the flu he had the week before. He was given a course of immunoglobulin and began to get better, though it took time before he could really walk well.

Almost two weeks later, after Cory had been home for a week and was continuing to make a good recovery, we were told that his spinal fluid had tested positive for Lyme disease. He had to go back to the hospital to begin a four-week course of intravenous antibiotics, which we would continue at home. It was the beginning of another difficult period during which I spoke to people who have experienced neurological Lyme firsthand, and read about its implications.

## Early-Stage Lyme and Late-Stage Lyme

You can find flyers at the library or your doctor's office that give basic facts on Lyme disease and the ticks that carry it. The most recent pamphlet from the State University Medical Center at Stony Brook, widely acknowledged as the leaders in Lyme research and testing, is full of sobering information. While most of us are familiar with the signs of early Lyme - the characteristic bulls-eye rash, possibly with vague "flu-like symptoms" - these symptoms only occur in 50% to 75% of infections. (If you have the rash, a blood test is not considered necessary; immediate treatment is advised.) Without the rash, "...it is very hard to definitively diagnose early Lyme disease." Meanwhile, early blood tests are inconclusive; by the time a test is positive, it may be a month or more into the infection. And, "...4 to 6 weeks after infection, the nervous system and heart will be affected in 20% of patients."

Late-stage Lyme has commonly shown arthritis-like symptoms, but now it is apparent that the brain and nervous system can also be harmed, sometimes permanently. Dementia and memory loss can occur. In children, the heart may be damaged, and Lyme can mimic juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. Articles in the *New York Times* over the last several years mention "psychological" problems such as depression and hallucinations in connection with

neurological Lyme as well. What makes all this even more disturbing is evidence that late Lyme may at times be able to "hide" in the brain and nervous system, unreachable by either antibiotics or the body's own defenses, and undetectable by the usual blood tests. Only a spinal tap can be relied on in these cases, though Dr. Munoz, a pediatric Lyme specialist in New York University's Lyme Center, notes that in 80-90% of the cases he sees, the blood test agrees with the spinal fluid test.

**Prevention:** Where older pamphlets, and even current Rockland County Health Department leaflets, have advised wearing long sleeves and tucking pants into socks (as every child is more than eager to do in the full heat of the summer!), the new Stony Brook advice simply starts with: check your body thoroughly and bathe soon after

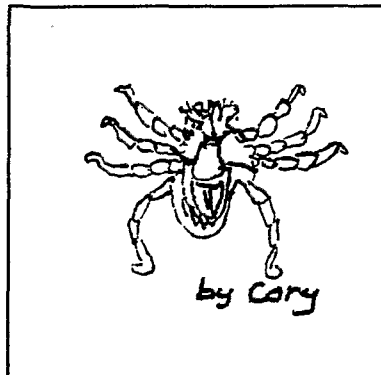
returning from an area where there are ticks. It advises that you check your animals before they enter the house, and ends with the less-than-reassuring "tick repellents may help."

There are a few steps we can all take. A product called Daminex (basically cotton balls soaked in pesticide and stashed in cardboard tubes, which are scattered around one's property for mice to take home to their nests) has been effective in reducing the tick population on mice and other small rodents, now the main animal reservoir for Lyme. Dr.

Phillip Bauman, a Palisades resident, discovered that a good substitute for the rather expensive and sometimes hard-to-find brand name product is toilet tissue tubes (there's an endless supply, and it's recycling, too!), with cotton balls that have been soaked in diluted flea/tick dip containing permethrin (available in pet stores) and dried. This is most effective when the whole community participates.

It's best to keep lawns trimmed, and to stay out of fields and underbrush. And wear insect repellent with DEET-which isn't very good for you and probably shouldn't be used on bare skin, especially on children. Some of the literature suggests long, light-colored and/or tightly woven clothing; my theory is that you're better off with a minimum of clothing (which ticks can walk around on and into and under, unnoticed, for hours before they decide to attach to skin), but liberal use of repellent (the safest you can find) around the hairline and on the hair, the hardest place to spot embedded ticks. And then **CHECK EVERY TIME YOU (OR YOUR KIDS) COME INSIDE**. Even if a tick is attached, the faster it's spotted and removed the less chance there is that it will transmit infection.

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# Sandy MacAllister

Remembered by Milbry Polk

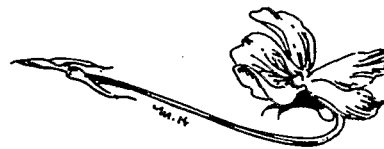
Miriam MacAllister, known to all as Sandy, passed away on March 25, at Englewood Hospital, aged 79. Sandy lived a rich, full life and was an integral part of our Palisades community.

She was born in Los Angeles to an Italian mother and a Scots father which accounted for some of her unusual personality — a forthright manner mixed with enthusiasm and wit. Sandy graduated from Guilford College and from Union Seminary. During World War II, she served in the Women's Army Corps in India as a liaison officer for the pilots flying the Hump to Burma. When her fiancé died over Burma she transferred to the office of the Governor of Bengal. She retired from the war as a Major honored with the Bronze Star.

After the war Sandy came to New York City and soon thereafter moved out to Palisades with the Guglers. She worked at Macy's and later as Executive Director for the Achelis and Bodman Foundation until her retirement in 1975. She was active in local concerns which included serving on the Board of the Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition.

Sandy was one of the youngest people I knew. Her enthusiasm for everything was infectious. She loved people and was a loyal and good friend. Sandy loved children. This love was reflected in her long devotion to the Children's Storefront in Harlem.

Sandy's time in India was one of great romance and excitement. It set a pattern for her life. She was always in the thick of things, always ready for a party, for an adventure. She was open and receptive to new ideas and people. She listened without judgment and offered sage advice to her friends. Her quick wit and friendly nature put everyone around her at ease. Her work and love for young people kept Sandy young. And to her last days though she was sick and in pain, she always projected such a great sense of herself, her independence, her strong spirit and her great joy of life which has touched all of us. Sandy we will miss you dearly.



## Remembering Sandy

by Dorothy Davis

In spite of our sadness and our loss we must see the fitness in Sandy's dying of a mammoth heart attack. She had a mammoth heart. There are legends beyond any I can tell of Sandy's generosity. If you had a cause in which you believed, that was proof positive for Sandy. You would have her contribution in the morning. But not only did she give: she came with the gift. She was part of the package.

She tended to walk away from thanks. She had a very high sense of the moral values by which a human being should be measured. And she did take measurements.

Sandy was an old fashioned patriot. It came in large part from her mother, an Italian immigrant who aspired to the American dream for her daughter — and breathed her own life into it when her husband, Staff Sergeant Gwen MacAllister was killed in World War I.

Sandy loved the company of all kinds of people — from theater, to the arts, business, organized charity — but the camaraderie she shared with trades and craftsmen was her special pleasure. If there was any work to be done Sandy was the first to arrive on the scene. Her work ethic was monumental.

Sandy's sense of fun must be celebrated. She loved music and she loved to dance. She loved toys — for grownups as well as children. I remember her birthday gift of a wound-up dachshund to a friend — she brought out the undiscovered child in him — they were friends for life.

She was so concerned with others' pain but when it came to her own, nobody ever said "ouch" more reluctantly than Sandy. I'm saying it now. We all are.

## Lyme in Palisades: *continued*

### Summary

We know there is Lyme in this area. Watch carefully for signs of early Lyme; the tiny nymphal deer tick can attach and drop off without ever being noticed. And if you know someone has been bitten by a deer tick, keep the following in mind: anywhere from 25 to 50% of cases show no noticeable first-stage symptoms; blood tests are not reliable until a month or more has passed; Lyme can infect the brain or nervous system within 4 to 6 weeks;

late-stage Lyme treatment is costly, traumatic and not guaranteed effective. There are pediatricians and doctors who treat prophylactically — that is, before any symptoms or test results. After doing your best to prevent a tick bite, if the worst happens, I would look for a doctor who follows this practice. For further questions, call your doctor. The Stony Brook Lyme information line is 516-444-TICK; the NYU Medical College in Valhalla is 914-285-7185.

Annie Gerard



# Helen Davis Norman



October 28, 1929 — May 6, 1995

The Palisades Church was full to overflowing on May 13 when we met there to grieve for, and to remember, Helen Norman.

Helen's mother, Helen Dwelle Davis, died when she was born. Her father Philip Davis, a professor of Greek at Vassar College, married the theater director Hallie Flanigan in 1934. Helen and her older brother and sister, the twins Jack and Joanne, grew up with an always interesting but often absent stepmother in Poughkeepsie and in Northhampton, Mass.

Helen studied at Trinity College, Dublin, the University of Michigan, and Vassar College, where she majored in art and art history. She married Andy Norman in 1954 and moved to Palisades in 1960, first to the Captain John house and later to Niederhurst, the former Anna Gilman Hill estate.

Helen had four children, Abigail, Sarah, Margaret, and Rebecca. Her interest in art eventually led her first to making and furnishing doll houses and then to creating a very successful business, Hudson River Doll Houses, which she operated out of her home. Her first grandchild, Erica, who was born this spring in Somerville, Massachusetts, came to visit Helen just before she died.

James Morton, a very old friend, was the first person to speak about Helen Norman at the memorial service. He had separately met both Helen and Andy fifty years ago, and was later the one who introduced them to each other. Karen Savage, whose first husband Gene Kearney shared the job of assistant managing editor of the *Harvard Crimson* with Andy Norman, continued the recital with memories of Helen and Andy going back forty years: Helen as the proud new mother of Abigail, working with Helen to invent a Snedens Landing Monopoly game, and many shared informal meals in the Norman kitchen at the Captain John house. Karen spoke about Helen's enthusiasm and hospitality, her sense of fun, and her almost Victorian innocence.

Ginny Garbers Francis, who spoke next, lost a very close friend when Helen died. Ginny spoke movingly about Helen's "old fashioned virtues of strength and character" which her friends even hoped "might have allowed her to win out over death," and recalled how much Helen delighted in everything whimsical, witty, entertaining and charming.

Helen's two nephews, Philip Davis and Eric Bentley, affectionately described summer stays at Cape Cod with a favorite aunt who took them searching for miniature shells on the beach, deftly and cheerfully ran a household full of relatives coming and

going, and provided many hours of enjoyable activities, which the young people thought of as Aunt Helen's "organized fun."

Eileen Larkin spoke briefly from the congregation to remind people that Helen had sponsored and remained close to a Chinese family from Vietnam, now living in Nyack. And Gus Babalis added a doll house story. A beautiful doll house made by Helen and Andy had been raffled off for the benefit of the Palisades Library. When Gus's daughter Mia failed to win it, she burst into tears. Sometime later Helen, who had quietly observed the scene, took action and presented Mia with a doll house of her own.

Those of us who sat in the congregation at the service shared the sense of loss expressed by the speakers. We have our own affectionate memories of Helen. In her quiet way, she touched many lives. I remember the Normans when they first moved to Palisades, and how much I liked them both. It was my mother who won the dollhouse that made Mia cry, and Vi Dai, a boy from Helen's Chinese family, was my student for several years at the Rockland Project School. There is a void in my world because Helen is gone, something missing in Palisades as we have known it these last thirty-five years.

Alice Gerard

## Helen Lerner Zimbalist

Longtime Palisadian Helen Lerner Zimbalist (1908-1995) passed away in May. Helen came to Palisades in 1945 with her husband, Samuel, a composer from Manhattan. In the 1930s Helen studied art and was a model for the Ashcan Movement. Her portrait was painted by well-known artists of the time. Later she became a teacher for children with special needs at the Rockland Psychiatric Hospital. Before she became ill, Helen took an active part in Palisades life. She was a longtime friend of Ed and Lois Snow. Ed Snow's ashes are buried in her garden. For years Helen hosted delegations of Chinese dignitaries who came to pay their respects.

## Corliss Lamont

Corliss Lamont, whose family donated to Columbia University their 100-acre Palisades estate where Lamont-Doherty Observatory is now located, died April 26 in Ossining, New York. Mr. Lamont, a poet, writer and former philosophy professor fought tenaciously his entire life for civil liberties and served as director of the ACLU for 22 years. Throughout the years he remained a generous friend and supporter of the Palisades Free Library.

# Bulletin Board

**Robert Adzema** is completing two sundial sculptures which will be installed during the summer. The first, a venetian glass mosaic now being fabricated in Germany, will go to the Brooklyn Children's Museum. This sundial is constructed so that when a child stands on it his or her shadow will tell the time. The second sundial sculpture, made of welded steel, will be placed at the Robert Yeager Health Complex in Pomona in early July and was commissioned by Rockland County's Art-in-Public Places.

**Cristina Biaggi and Alice Gerard** invite anyone interested in archaeological mysteries to a presentation on the controversial French site of Glozel. Their French guest, Robert Liris, author of *Les Graveurs du Silence*, will show slides and discuss the site at 8 pm on Sunday, June 4, at the Palisades Community Center.

Jawonio, Inc. tells us that they are looking for volunteers who would be interested in working with residents at the **Cummings House**, on Oak Tree Road. The residents, all of whom suffer from severe cerebral palsy, would enjoy many kinds of activities, such as music, reading and informal conversation. Please contact Lisa Degroodt at 634-4648 if you would like to help out.

**David Englander** has opened a new law office in Tappan. Call him for any legal problems. As an added bonus, his office administrator is Annie Gerard.

**Simon Gerard** is offering two summer art classes: art with children and cooking with adults. Call Simon at 365-1908 for more information.

Also in Piermont, **Marika Hahn's** new designs for children's clothing are available at Abigail Rose.

**Eileen Larkin** reports she has now been a councilwoman on the Orangetown Town Board for almost 2 1/2 years and, although it is a part-time position, it is really a full-time job. Among her responsibilities, Eileen represents the Town on the Historic Area(s) Board of Review, Zoning Board, Site Selection Committee, Committee to Enhance the Business Climate in Orangetown, and the Village Advisory Committee as well as serving as senior citizen liaison. On the personal side, she conducts her decorating business from her home now that her children are grown. Billy is in construction, Stephen works for a law firm in Manhattan, Aimee has her Masters in elementary education and teaches in the Bronx, and Brian is a junior at Wheaton College. Eileen invites Palisadians to attend Town Board meetings held every Monday at 7:30 pm. You can call her at 359-6589 or write to her at 15 Horne Tooke Road if you have any questions.

**Luba Mason**, daughter of Ellen and Rudolph Gregus is presently appearing in the Broadway musical, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, as Hedy LaRue, the tall, platinum-haired protégé of J.B. Biggley, president of the firm. The *New York Times* characterized

Luba's performance as noteworthy in a highly favorable March 24th review of the musical.

Luba, a graduate of Tappan Zee High School, went on to study theater at New York University and Circle-in-the-Square in Manhattan and most recently sang and danced in *Will Roger's Follies* and the California production of *Sunset Boulevard*.

**Oak Tree Summer Playgroup** begins July 10 and goes through August 31. It is at the Palisades School from 9 am to noon Monday through Friday, for children ages 2 1/2 to 5. Call 359-6472 for more information.

The **Oasis Grill** on Route 9W has a new menu for your summer catering needs. Call Khaled Elkady at 365-1320 for more information.

**Jeffrey and Lynn Sandhaus** received a historic preservation award from the Historical Society of Rockland County this May for their work on the Big House, which has been dated to 1739. **Richard and Debby Sears** were given the same award for creative repairs on Cliffside, built in 1870. And **Andrew and Helen Norman** received an award for the adaptive use of the Dovecote on their property.

Palisades resident **Lynne Seidler** recently opened a shop in Piermont. Appropriately called Aubrey Flowers and Goods, it specializes in gifts for the garden and antiques, vintage tablecloths, vases and pots, topiaries and other unusual plants, and jewels for the gardener. Cut flowers are also available on weekends.

Help! Because of the recent death of her good friend and helper, Sandy MacAllister, **Dossi Thayer** could use some help maintaining the flower garden across from the Post Office and behind the postal box. It is a low maintenance garden with mostly perennials and requires a Spring clean-up and occasional weeding thereafter. If you are interested, please call Dossi at 359-3207.

Palisades welcomes new neighbors **Michael and Wendy Yamin**, who recently moved to Heyhoe Woods Road from Tappan. They have two children, Tyler, 6, and Shelby, 4. Michael is a research pharmacologist and Wendy is a flautist, who plays for several symphonies in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey and teaches at the Lincoln Center Institute.

**George Zipparo** is the art director for a new magazine called *Troika*, which has just put out its second issue. Published by Eric Meadow and edited by Celia Meadow (who comprise a husband and wife team), the magazine covers general interest topics and current culture, and features pieces on volunteerism and altruistic organizations, as well as short fiction.

The **De Wint House** in Tappan will hold formal re-opening ceremonies on Sunday, June 11 at 2 pm. State Representative Ben Gilman will cut the ribbon, light refreshments will be served, and admission is free.



# Hats Off to Our Graduates!

*10964 would like to congratulate all of this year's graduates! We know you've worked hard and we hope the future holds many fascinating opportunities for you. We were able to get in touch with some of these young people and we'd like to tell our readers a little bit about their plans.*

**Christian Bester** is graduating from Tappan Zee High School and hopes to go on to the University of Miami to study theatre, film and television.

**Jason Choi and Eugene Kim** are also graduating from Tappan Zee High School, but could not be reached.

**James Chung** was a football player and the Vice President of his senior class at TZ. He is going on to Cornell to study medicine.

**Donna Marie Costello** is graduating summa cum laude with a BA in Business Administration, from Iona College. She is presently working as an accountant with Arthur Anderson.

**James Costello** is graduating from Tappan Zee and going on to Rockland Community College.

**Larry Costello, Jr.** graduates cum laude with a BS in architecture from New York Institute of Technology. He is presently working for Hillier & Eggers.

**Freya Englander** graduated from Dwight-Englewood School in Englewood, New Jersey and will attend Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio in the fall.

**Patrick Farley** just finished a year at RCC in lieu of his senior year at Tappan Zee. He will be going on to Clarke University to major in psychology and swim for the swim team.

**Shannon Fitzgerald** also graduates from Tappan Zee this month and will be going on to Cornell. She ran cross-country and track at TZ and hopes to continue in college. She plans to become a veterinarian and is presently working at the Hudson Valley Animal Hospital.

**Kate Hooker** graduated from Fieldston School in Riverdale, New York and intends to begin her college study in the fall at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

**Yagnesh Jani** graduates from TZ and will be at Rutgers in the fall where he hopes to study medicine.

**Charles Kim** graduates from TZ and is going on to Columbia University where he is planning a pre-med

curriculum. He says that his work as a volunteer at the ambulance corps this year was a very rewarding experience.

**Raymond Long** will be going on to RCC this fall after graduating from TZ. He hopes to study Finance and Business Administration.

**Claudia Perdomo** is graduating from Tappan Zee this month and has plans to travel and work this summer. She is as yet undecided about any college plans.

**Bryce Schuler** graduates from TZ and will be attending Rockland Community College in the fall. He would like to major in art and is presently working at the Cineplex Odeon Movies in Nanuet.

**Amanda Sondermann** graduates from TZ this month and is going on to RCC. She hopes to major in

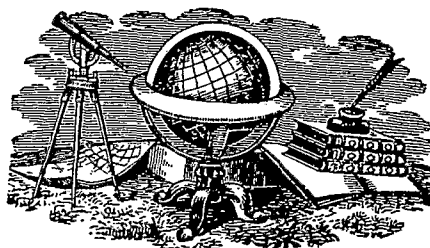
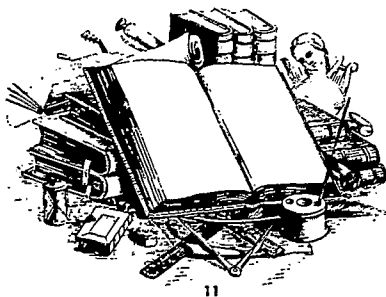
education and will be working at the Gap this summer.

**Elizabeth Wernicki** will be graduating from Tappan Zee and is going directly on to Penn State in June where she will be doing pre-med studies.

Kudos to you all and many good wishes for the future!

If this list does not include someone you know, please contact us with the information and it will be printed in the Bulletin Board of the October issue of 10964.

*Diana Green*





# South Orangetown School News

## Summer Programs

Three types of summer programs are being offered through the schools this summer.

**Summerstage.** Two of these popular programs will be available. The first, traditional Summerstage, is a 5-week workshop that will run from June 26 through July 28. The program is open to students entering second grade through high school, and will be held Monday through Friday from 9 am to 1 pm at Tappan Zee High School. Cost of this program is \$390.

The second program, Summerstage T.V. Live, will begin on July 31, and run through August 18, and is also open to students entering grades 2 through 12. This program, held on Monday through Thursday, provides experience in television production, including storyboarding, writing, and editing, and will result in a television variety show to be aired on cable television in September. Cost of this program is \$220.

For more information about Summerstage programs, call 359-6439.

**Linking Learning and Play.** Four two week sessions will be available, starting on July 5 and running through August 25. Linking Learning and Play is for children entering the first through sixth grades, and offers a morning session only. A supervised lunch period is available, and kids can enroll in the Orangetown Town Camp which takes over after lunchtime. The first session will cost \$120; sessions beginning on July 17, July 31, and August 14 will cost \$145 each. For more information about this program, call Dr. Joann Shaheen at 365-4271.

**Soccer Camp.** South Orangetown will be hosting Cosmos Soccer Camp, an intensive instructional program for students aged 7 and older. This coeducational program will be available from July 10 through July 14; and from July 17 through July 21, running from 8:30 am to 5 pm, at a cost of \$185 per week. For more information, call 365-1624.

## Building Utilization Study Committee (B.U.S.T.)

On June 5 the B.U.S.T. Committee will be presenting its long-range report covering kindergarten through high school, at a regular Board of Education meeting to be held at the South Orangetown Middle School. The Committee has already recommended to the Board that: (1) the high school remain grade 9 through 12, and (2) the middle school cover grades 6, 7 and 8. The public is invited on June 5 to attend the presentation of the entire plan, which will recommend grade and/or building configurations for kindergarten through the fifth grade.

For more information, call Mary Viviano, parent member of the B.U.S.T. Committee, at 359-1664.

## Election Results

Geraldine Miras of Palisades, who ran unopposed, won reelection in her bid to serve another term as Board of Education member. Anna Stellwag will assume the Orangeburg seat formerly held by Sylvia Baumel. Both Board members will serve two year terms, commencing July 1. The budget proposal, which represents an increase for academic year 1995-1996 of 2% over the 1994 level, passed by a margin of 2 to 1.

## School Events

Tappan Zee High School Spring Concert II will be performed on Thursday, June 1 at 8:00 pm. There will also be an instrumental music concert at Cottage Lane elementary school on Thursday, June 15. For more information, contact Public Information at 365-4204.

*Ellen Chayet Kidd*

## 10964 Announcements

Kids are invited to send in drawings, poems, or descriptions of their summer vacations, which 10964 will include on the Children's Page. Submissions must be received by September 10 in order to appear in the October issue.

If you have a child who will be entering **kindergarten in September**, or know of anyone entering kindergarten, please inform Diana Green over the summer. She arranges for a group photograph to be taken in early September. Call Diana at 359-5035, or send a note with the child's name and phone number to the Editors at Box 201.

Staff of 10964 will be holding its organizational and planning meeting on June 12, at 8:00 pm. We would love to have people who are interested in writing, editing, typing, reporting or participating in the newsletter in any capacity to come to this meeting. If you are interested in joining us, (or if you cannot attend but would like to be involved with 10964), please contact one of the editors. We need your help!

# Historic Areas Laws Reviewed

**T**hirty years ago the Town of Orangetown enacted a Local Law establishing an Historic Area in Tappan, the first such law in New York State. Three years later a similar law was passed for Palisades. For nearly three decades, these laws, which impose controls on the design of new houses and the style of alterations to existing ones, have been administered by the Historic Areas Board of Review (HABR) with very little public notice.

Then in 1993 tranquility turned into sharp debate. Proposals to expand the authority and autonomy of HABR were met with vigorous opposition by residents who wanted less regulation. A major point of contention was HABR's ruling against the use of certain modern materials (aluminum and vinyl siding) within the Historic Areas. In response, in May 1994 the Town Board established the Historic Areas Study Committee and appointed twelve members representing a broad spectrum of community interests to examine the boundaries of the Historic Areas and to recommend corrections where errors may have entered into the maps, to examine the current laws for provisions which appear to conflict or have disputed interpretations, and to address the issue of "modern building materials" in terms of where they may and may not be used.

The Committee held seven meetings between July and September, 1994. Their final report was submitted by the Chairperson, Josephine Davidson in January and formally received and filed at the Town Board meeting of Feb. 27, 1995. The recommendations can be summarized as follows:

## **General**

- 1) The Town should take measures to inform Historic Area property-owners and prospective property buyers about the Historic Area Laws and area boundaries.
- 2) Members of HABR should be thoroughly conversant with the Historic Area Laws and confine their decisions solely to areas covered by the laws.
- 3) HABR must provide speedy decisions and provide preliminary, no-fee consultations in order to process applications rapidly.

4) Strict and equitable enforcement of lawful HABR decisions must be supported by the Town and its agencies. Decisions made in full conformity with the law should not be overturned by the Appeals Board except in special circumstances (e.g., hardship).

## **Laws**

1) Rewrite in simple language the paragraph giving the intent of the legislation in both Historic Laws, stressing that the purpose is to protect buildings and places within the historic areas in order to preserve the overall look and character, reminiscent of an earlier time.

2) Present laws provide special controls for structures "more than 100 years old." It is unclear whether this is counted back from the present or from the date (1965) of enactment of the Tappan law. There should be a fixed date for older structures defined as, "buildings constructed before Dec. 31, 1918."

3) Remove the ambiguity in the present laws regarding HABR review of alterations or changes to newer houses (presently defined as less than 100 years old). One section allows "changes" not requiring a building permit to be made without HABR review, while another section states that "alterations" require review.

## **Modern Materials**

- 1) HABR should be empowered to permit the use of modern materials such as vinyl siding in newer houses if the board determines that such use is appropriate.
- 2) In the present Tappan law, new structures must "conform in general character" with structures built in the area "over 100 years ago." The Palisades law requires new structures to "harmonize" with those in the immediately surrounding area. The language of the Tappan law should follow that of Palisades.

## **Boundaries**

- 1) Several changes to the current maps showing the boundaries of both Historic Areas were recommended to correct errors made when earlier maps were redrawn.

**“The creation of the Historic Areas has played an important role in preserving the rich architectural heritage of Palisades and Tappan.”**

## Historic Areas Laws: *Continued*

2) Local historical groups were asked to prepare maps of the two Historic Areas listing the construction dates for each structure on the respective properties. This information would benefit HABR and applicants coming before it.

### Special Workshop

On May 2, the Town Board held a Special Workshop Meeting to discuss the Historic Areas Study Committee's recommendations. The meeting was well attended and Supervisor Cassidy encouraged full discussion of the report. Numerous comments and opinions were expressed, including:

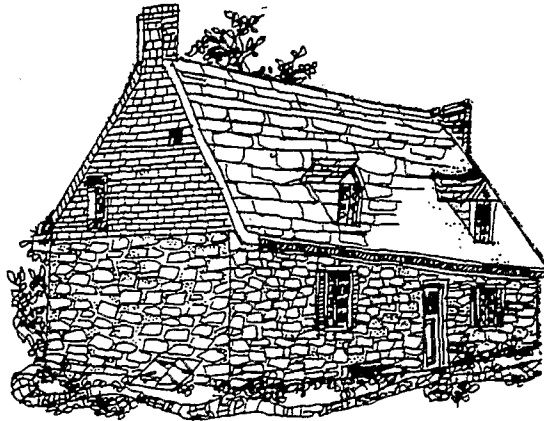
- Suggestions on how to inform prospective and current property owners about Historic Area laws and boundaries including road signs, special zoning code designation and information on property tax forms.
- Questions about changing the age for older structures from 100 years to "built before 1918," a choice that was not unanimous; proposed dates ranged from 1865 to 1945.
- A letter from Concerned Orangetown Residents (COR) was read urging that older houses be defined as pre-1865 as they were when the original Tappan Historic Area law was enacted. COR criticized the report for not considering earlier suggestions made by Town Board members

for removing certain post-1950 residential developments from the Tappan Historic Area.

- A question was raised about the status of Charles St., which remains half in and half out of the Historic Area.
- A member of the study committee remarked that they were charged only to correct errors in the Historic Area maps, not to add or delete properties. Any decisions to change the boundaries of the areas should await completion of the maps listing the ages of structures.

- In addition, a COR representative stated that, according to a recent questionnaire sent to all property owners in both Historic Areas (with a 50% response), 28% of respondents in Palisades and 55% in Tappan would prefer to have their properties removed from the Historic Area if given the choice.

- A member of Tappantown Historical Society spoke of the important role the creation of the Historic Areas has played in preserving the rich architectural heritage of Palisades and

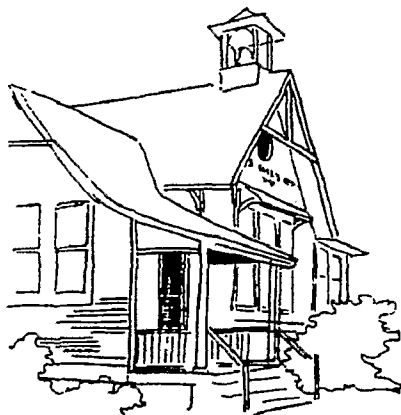


Kelly Carson

Tappan and strongly supported keeping the age for the designation of older homes at 100 years.

Supervisor Cassidy closed the meeting with thanks to the Historic Areas Study Committee for their conscientious work. He also thanked those who had joined the discussion and gave credit to both sides for their restrained and reasonable debate on what has been a volatile issue.

*Robert Gerard*



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# Palisades Free Library News

## Palisades Library Plans "Read Around the World" Summer Program

Some enjoyable events will be taking place at the Palisades Library this summer in conjunction with the library's participation in the New York State summer reading theme "Read Around the World." An in-library international music and songfest will get the program off to a rousing start. Anna Teigen, an accomplished local performer, will lead the program which will feature international music sung and played using violin, mandolin, percussion and group participation. Anna shares rhythms, songs and stories from around the world. The program will be geared to kids ages 4 to 9. Save the date!

**THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 7:30-8:30 pm.**

At that time, just before school ends, we will share plans for the rest of the summer, including reading games, craft programs using ideas from other countries, and our annual Teddy Bears' Picnic which this year will feature a Russian bear tale. Please come and start the summer library fun.

## New Books

### Non-Fiction

Allende	<i>Paula</i>
Bair	<i>Anais Nin; A Biography</i>
Gingrich	<i>To Renew America</i>
Hite	<i>Hite Report on the Family</i>
Kael	<i>For Keeps: Thirty Years at the Movies</i>
Leaming	<i>Katharine Hepburn</i>
MacLaine	<i>My Lucky Stars</i>
Mailer	<i>Oswald's Tale</i>
Naifeh	<i>Stranger in the Family</i>
Polmar	<i>World War 2: America at War '41 '45</i>
Sheehy	<i>New Passages</i>
Smith	<i>Rethinking America</i>
Trillin	<i>Too Soon to Tell</i>

### Fiction

Ernaux	<i>Frozen Woman</i>
Garcia Marquez	<i>Of Love and Other Demons</i>
Leonard	<i>Riding the Rap</i>
Nagy	<i>Marriage</i>
Schwartz	<i>Fatigue Artist</i>
Settle	<i>Choices</i>
Steal	<i>Lightning</i>
Thorp	<i>River</i>
Tyler	<i>Ladder of Years</i>
Uris	<i>Redemption</i>
Weldon	<i>Splitting</i>



## New Periodical Subscriptions

New Republic, PC Computing, PC Magazine

## Summer Hours

Monday to Wednesday	3 pm - 9 pm
Thursday	10 am - noon 3 pm - 9 pm
Friday	3 pm - 5 pm
Saturday	2 pm - 5 pm
Sunday	Closed (June 18 through September)

We are happy to announce that Johanna Lo has joined the library staff on a full-time basis.

Congratulations to Plant Sale Raffle winners Annie Gerard, Blythe Anderson, and Alice Gerard!

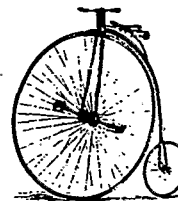
## The Difference in a Woman's Heart

The signs of cardiovascular disease are often different in women than in men. While men usually experience sharp pains in the chest, women experience vague chest pressure, usually in the epigastric area (below the sternum). Their pain tends to come and go and is often accompanied by nausea. Women with heart disease also tend to experience severe shortness of breath when mildly exerted. As one woman, 50 years old, reported, "I just hadn't been feeling well. Even with just a little effort, I'd suddenly be out of breath. Sometimes I felt so nauseous, I couldn't eat. I went to the emergency room and they thought it was my stomach. I insisted on a second opinion and that's when a cardiologist told me I was indeed having a heart attack."

According to medical experts from the advisory board of "The Difference in a Woman's Heart" campaign, which is a national effort sponsored by DuPont Radiopharmaceuticals to educate physicians and women about female heart disease, women may not recognize their risk factors — age, hormone status, family history of heart disease, smoking, obesity, cholesterol levels and physical inactivity — and need to take a more active role in discussing them with their doctor.



## "Rails to Trails" Update

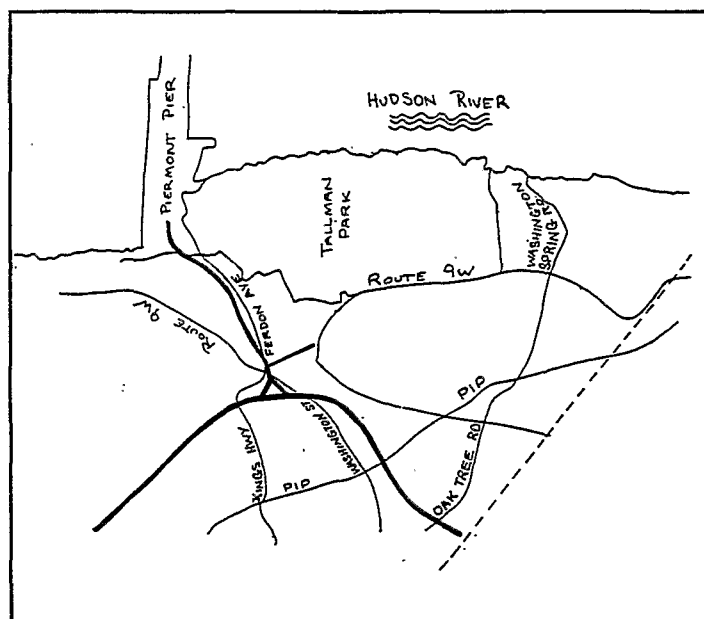


In mid-March, the town of Orangetown moved one step closer toward acquiring a 5-mile stretch of abandoned railroad bed for the Rails to Trails program when the Town Board gave its approval to proceed with the project. The road bed runs from Oak Tree Road (near Finn McCool's) to Sparkill where it branches; one leg goes to the Piermont pier, and the other crosses Route 303 in Orangeburg, ending by the former Glenshaw Glass factory. The rail line is still active all the way to Northvale, New Jersey, so continuation of the trails into New Jersey is unlikely.

Now the town is waiting for a signed agreement to come from the State Department of Transportation in Albany before it can enter into negotiations with Conrail to buy the property. Money to pay for 80% of the purchase price is available to the town through a joint federal/state transportation grant, and the town also has at its disposal all the equipment it would need to carry out any maintenance that would be required to keep the trail level and clean.

The Director of Parks and Recreation for the town, Joseph Clark, has worked extremely hard to bring the project this far, and has been able to overcome some substantial political resistance at the local level. Community support for the project continues to be important.

Calls in support of the project to our local Town Board representative, Eileen Larkin, or to the town Supervisor will no doubt help to ensure that this valuable effort does not fall through at the last minute, so close to its successful completion!



### Moon Over Piermont

Three summer outdoor concerts are scheduled in Flywheel Park in June, July and August to coincide with nights when the full moon will rise over the Hudson River. Bring a blanket, an on-site picnic, and watch the moon rise. A \$5 charge for anyone over 16 will go to the Piermont Library Building Fund.. (Rain dates are the Thursdays following each concert date.)

**June 13:** Flamenco dancer "La Chispa" (the Spark), JoeDe Romano, and classical/flamenco guitarist Jonathan Troffa. 7:30 pm

**July 11:** Flutist Brenda Sakofsky, trumpeter Carl

Sakofsky, and keyboard artist George Bryant perform a program of classical music. 7:30 pm

**August 8:** Tommy Dunn, Jan Lynch, and their band, well-known for their Irish music, sing and perform pop, country and standards. 7:30 pm.

### Rockland Center for the Arts

**June 9: Deadline for Artist-in-Residence Grants;** three grants available, \$2,000 each. Visual, literary, performing, photographers and video artists are invited to submit proposals.

**June 10: Watercolor Workshop** (focusing on flowers and still life); 10 am-4 pm

**June 23: Art in the Garden;** exhibition and art sale at Matterhorn Nursery, 227 Summitt Park Road, Spring Valley, 9 am - 5 pm. Through June 25

**June 24: An English Garden Party;** gala benefit with music, cocktails and buffet dinner, 6 - 9pm at Matterhorn Nursery. Reservations required. Call 358-0877

**June 26: Summer Classes Begin;** "Valleys & Vistas", "Birds and Beasts", "Gardens & Greenery". Call Center for details at 358-0877

**September 10: Faculty Exhibit;** opening reception from 1-4 pm. Call Center for fall class offerings.



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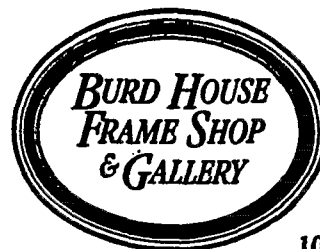
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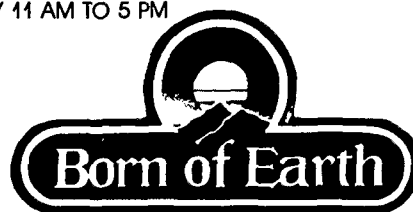
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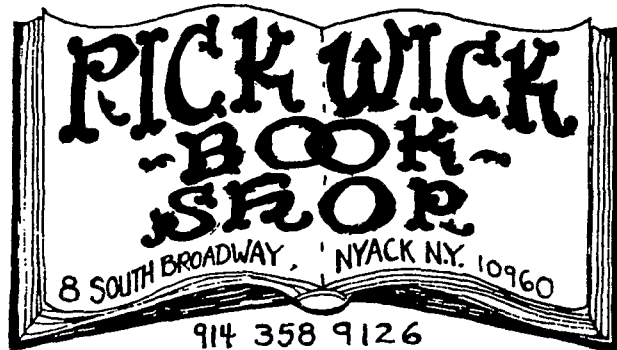
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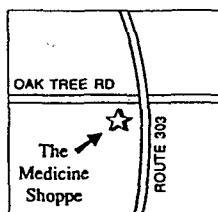
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### Contributions

We are most grateful to Grace E. Batchelder, Thomas R. and Dorothy A. Carroll, Robert and Mary Jane Whitstock, James and Helen Moran, Geraldine Miras, and David Sanders for their generous contributions to 10964.



### Palisades Presbyterian Church News

#### Thank You, Palisades

Palisades Presbyterian thanks its extended community of friends for helping make its Nice Goods Sale & Auction a resounding success — proceeds from this two-day fundraiser significantly contributed to the Church's Building Expansion Fund and it was an opportunity to celebrate the Church's refurbished Parish House, the newest addition to the Palisades community.

The silent Auction and reception on April 7th was an elegant and interesting event that many compared to an evening at Sotheby's. The Sale on the following Saturday was a fun day to search for a bargain and chat with friends. Again, thank you for the overwhelming support and generous donations that made Nice Goods possible.

**Strawberry Festival:** On June 10 from 3 to 7 pm, the Palisades Presbyterian Church will hold its Annual Strawberry Festival on the lawn of the Manse. Strawberry shortcake, strawberry ice cream, and more. Homemade!

## About 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964** needs your moral and financial support! Please send your contribution to **10964**, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, New York, 10964. With your help we'll be able to put 10964 in your mailbox five times this year from October through June.

#### *The Following Staff Members Worked On This Issue:*

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### The Difference in a Woman's Heart:

*Continued from page 13*

Cardiovascular disease, well known as the leading killer of men, is actually the number one killer of women as well, claiming the lives of nearly 500,000 every year, reports the American Heart Association. According to a recent Gallup poll, many women believe that breast cancer is their most serious health threat — but in fact, about twice as many women die from heart disease than from breast, lung, ovarian and uterine cancers combined.

Research has proven that women with coronary artery disease, which causes heart attacks, are less likely to be properly diagnosed than men and are also less likely to be treated aggressively. According to Dr. D. Douglas Miller of the St. Louis University Medical School, there are simple, painless, noninvasive tests available to detect heart disease that may be better suited to a woman's anatomy and physiology. One of these is cardiac imaging which shows 3-D images of blood flow and the pumping action of the heart. "By using a newer imaging agent such as Technetium-99m sestamibi," Dr. Miller explains, "we are able to overcome the problem of shadows caused by breast tissue which can interfere with images of the heart. The clearer picture resulting from this method of testing may give more accurate results than previously available from routine treadmill and echocardiogram tests."

If you suspect that heart disease may be a problem for you or someone you care about, consult your doctor. For a free patient brochure about "The Difference in a Woman's Heart", call 1-800-866-0400.

*Rockland Review, Dec. 28, 1994.*