

10964

The Palisades Newsletter

December 1995 • No. 149

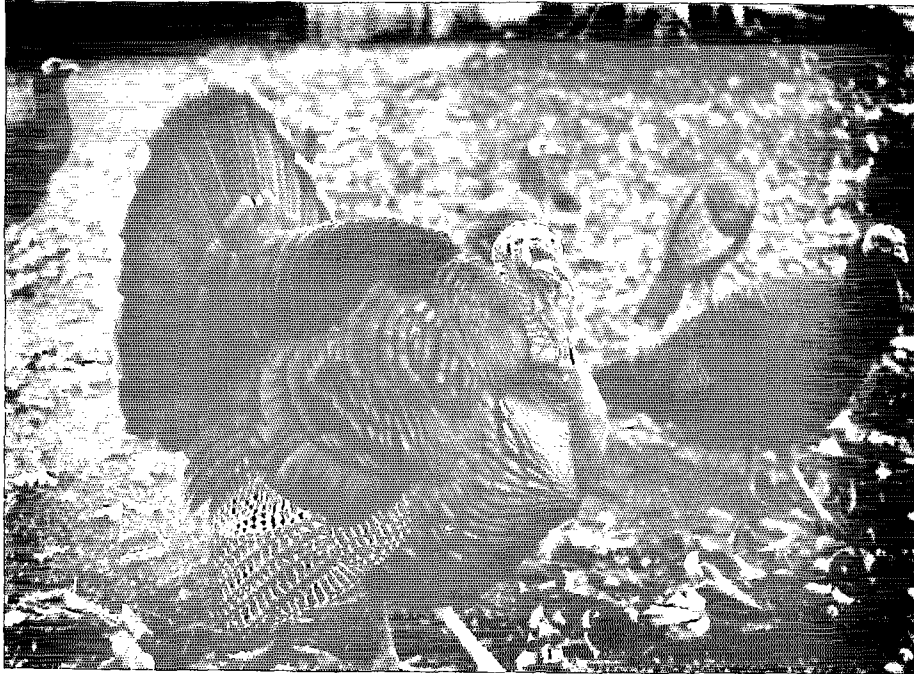


Photo by Diana Green

Our Feathered Guests

Eight wild turkeys arrived in Palisades between 9W and the river a little more than a year ago. Raised by some unknown person in Piermont, they were deposited in the woods near Lamont, possibly because they were becoming a problem in their home town. The turkeys have had a rough year. There are still eight of them, but at least eight babies were born during the spring and summer and only three have survived. Judy Tomkins has found two turkey carcasses; others must be around.

Because Sandy MacAllister fed them all last winter and the current tenant of the Captain John house is feeding them now, six of them have settled around lower Washington Spring Road. Another pair, a mother and son, were roosting near Grace Knowlton's house at the top of Ludlow Lane but have recently joined the others. They wander, however. The other day the group of six were preening themselves in front of Arnold Finck's house while someone took a polaroid picture. They can fly; it's quite a sight to see some of

them perched on a ridgepole. They are not afraid of cars. One day this summer they stopped the traffic on 9W, trucks and all, in both directions for ten minutes.

Judy Tomkins, who fed them for a while, wrote this about them:

"They are reputed to be dumb, but in truth, they certainly remember where their handouts have come from. They are still looking for Sandy and to my amazement have recognized me away from home, as I also used to feed them. For the gardeners it is a love/hate relationship, as they do their share of damage with digging. But at times, when grandchildren are visiting, it beats the VCR anytime as mine became mesmerized for hours as she sat amongst them in her own private world."

Somewhat they are very special guests, giving us a look at creatures who lived here long before we came. Let's hope their second year is better than their first.

Alice Gerard

Holiday Giving

Hurrah for the fun when the turkey's done! Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!

We've rolled on past Thanksgiving by now and are well on our way to celebrating a number of other bountiful holidays which descend upon us at this time of year. In all likelihood, most of us have remembered many things that we can be thankful for this year, but amidst the dizzying agenda of things to be done in preparation for the upcoming festivities, we need to try and remember those who can find very little to be thankful for, those much less fortunate than ourselves.

Often, however, the spirit of generosity is thwarted by the effort it takes to discover where our generosity is needed. The following is a project to which 10964 readers might join their efforts and lend a helping hand this holiday season.

The Santa Project

People to People, the largest hunger relief agency in Rockland County which serves all of Rockland County, has a holiday giving program they call "The Santa Project." Families in need write letters and send them to the agency describing their situation, listing all family members and expressing their needs and wishes for the holiday season. These letters are then put into binders, with the names omitted for privacy, and the binders are displayed in the office of People to People's Nyack Food Pantry. Individuals and families wishing to help are invited to read through some of the letters and choose one that fits their budget and touches their heart. They then take a copy of the letter and do their best to fulfill the family's needs. The items are then returned to the office for distribution.

People to People also assembles ingredients for families to take home to make their holiday meals. Items needed for this collection are 5-lb. canned hams, and assorted non-perishable trimmings including cranberries, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, rice, beans, canned juices (no bottles, due to possible rough handling during transportation), and sweets (cookies, candies, etc.). Other non-perishable food items are always needed year-round, particularly peanut butter and jelly!

The family letters will be available beginning December 4th and the sooner the items are brought in, the better for organization and distribution. The final day to return "Santa" items is Sunday, December 17th. If you wish to wrap gifts, please label each one with the name of the family member.

If the thought of shopping for an entire family is too overwhelming, single items are gladly accepted. These might be of a more generic nature, such as dolls, stuffed animals, books, games, hats & gloves, a walkman, or new clothing with the tags still on. These items should not be wrapped, as they will be used to fill in wherever needed.

People to People is located at 261 Mountainview Avenue in Nyack. Your help with this effort would be greatly appreciated and might do your heart some good as well to know you brought smiles to some hopeful faces.

Diana Green

Christmas

*Christmas bells and Christmas trees.
Oh! look at the snow!
The reindeer are pulling Santa's sled
across the big blue sky.
It is snowing on the reindeer's heads
when Santa goes right by.
The presents are going in to children's
homes
at the crack of dawn.
Now the Christmas trees start to kringles.
The boys and girls are waking up, jumping
from their beds
creeping down the stairs, and find their
little sleds.
Now I am done.*

 Holiday 

Suggestions for Software Gifts

from Young Computer Users

Many children are more skilful than their older friends and relations at using a computer. Although computer software might be a good present for these kids, the choices are bewildering. As an aid for people who might want to buy presents for young computer users, I interviewed several children between the ages of seven and ten. They told me about their favorite software and gave me reasons for their choices.

Zachary Lonberg, age 7, enjoys using *The Backyard* (Broderbund) "Because it has a lot of good games in it."

Cory Gerard-Little, age 7, likes to use *Supermunchers* (MECC Software) because "it's educational, you can pick your level and learn about words." He also likes *Math Blaster* and *Math Blaster Plus* (Davidson Software) which teach math facts in the guise of video games for children in grades 1-6.

Max and Sam Seeger, ages 8 and 6, recommend *Think'n Things* (Edmark Software) because "it's a game where you get to make different things, you learn things like songs and colors." Max also told me that the game *Doom* (GT Interactive Software) "is very interesting and a lot of fun."

Nicholas Taucher, age 8, recommends *Treasure Mountain* (The Learning Company) because "it's fun, you have to figure out math problems and it helps you with school."

Ben Wolk, age 8, likes the *Kings Quests* series (Sierra Games) because "it's really exciting, you have to figure out problems and codes."

Eames Yates, age 9, chose *Sims City 2000* (Maxis Software CD) "because you can make your dream city." He also recommended the game *Wolfenstein* (Apogee Software) as being fun "because you're stuck in

Barney's castle and have to get out."

Brielle Ewig, age 9, and her sister **Kira** like *Monopoly* (Virgin Games CD) because "you can keep on going."

Perri Gerard-Little, age 9, chose *Jill of the Jungle* (Epic Software) "because it's a girl, not a boy, rescuing everyone," and the game *Starfire* (Silver Lightning Software) where "you use your mouse to shoot aliens."

James Chambers, age 10, enjoys *The Oregon Trail* (MECC Software) in which users relive the exciting days of pioneers and covered wagons. He also likes *Robosport*, "which has different, good games, like Capture the Flag."

Not mentioned by my interviewees were several very good software programs, some for younger children:

Math Rabbit and *Reader Rabbit* (The Learning Company) teach beginning math and reading skills in game format for preschoolers, first, and second graders.

Kid Pix and *Kid Pix 2* (Broderbund) are wonderful paint programs for anyone in elementary school.

Making Music (Voyager CD), for grades two and up, is a collection of games which teaches about musical notation, volume, tempo, and instrumentation.

Prices for all these software programs vary but most are between \$30 and \$60. Almost all of them are available for both PCs and Macs. Educational Resources, (1-800-624-2926) is a good source for the educational programs. Only a computer with a CD Rom drive can play the CDs.

Alice Gerard

 Greetings 

Palisades Bulletin Board

First grader **Tina Cheng** is happy to be back in school after being hit by a pick-up truck on Rte. 340 at the end of September when crossing the road. All Tina's family, friends, and neighbors are happy and relieved that all has turned out so well and that Tina is as fine as ever. During her one-month hospital stay, Tina was visited by her teachers as well as by School Superintendent Dr. Morton Sherman. Teacher Sue Foster was especially helpful to Tina and her family, visiting her home on Swan Street and — when Tina was ready to return to school — offering to ride the school bus with her. But Tina said no, she was o.k. and she is.

Jennifer Hall was recently named "employee of the year" at her firm, The Paddington Corporation, in Fort Lee, N.J. Jennifer is Credit & Payroll Supervisor at Paddington, an importer of fine liquors, which is a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan of London.

Jean-Pierre Jouas, who teaches at the United Nations Elementary School in Manhattan, was pleased to have several of his students participate in the orchestra and in the chorus that greeted Pope John Paul II on his visit the first week of October. Three weeks later, the same young people took part in the program that celebrated the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

Amelia Kidd, age 6, will be dancing as an angel at the annual Coupe Dance Company's production of *The Nutcracker* ballet on Dec. 16th and 17th at Clarkstown South High School.

Palisadians owe a large thank-you to **Richard Vickerman** for stopping a backhoe working south of Oak Tree Road inches above one of the largest natural gas pipelines in the country. When the backhoe operator would not cease, **Richard** called Councilwoman **Eileen Larkin** and other town officials who acted immediately.

Welcome to **Brian Michael O'Connor**, born July 2nd, and congratulations to parents **Diane and Kevin** and sister **Allison** of Horne Tooke Road.

Margaret Umbrino is completing requirements for her Master's Degree in Supervision and School Administration at the South Orangetown Middle School, where Emanuel Kostakis is principal. Four hundred hours of hands-on experience must be gained en route to this degree from Iona College. Margaret has been juggling care of her three children with the books, and expects to get her degree in March of 1996.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING

The Palisades Post Office wants you to remember it's not too early to start thinking about your overseas cards and packages. Mail them early to get them there *on time*. As for your United States mail, the sooner you mail it, the better you can avoid the rush. You mail it on time and we will deliver it on time.

A special Santa Claus mailbox for children will be in the Post Office lobby starting after Thanksgiving weekend.

Happy Holidays from the Palisades Post Office



Palisades Free Library News

January Grand Re-Opening



The new addition is framed and the exterior is in the process of being painted. The landscaping crews and site contractor are just beginning work on the walkways and parking areas. Inside, the library has been gutted and the old walls that wouldn't have supported an increase in books and traffic have been replaced. The building is currently in the process of being rewired and insulated and sheet rocking should begin in a couple of weeks, as well as the installation of the elevator.

We have encountered some unavoidable construction delays due to the necessary structural enhancement of the old building. However, we are all very excited and looking forward to our Grand Re-Opening/Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, 1996. At that time, we will also be picking the lucky winners of the **Challenge Raffle**. Please remember to send in your check to the library as soon as possible in order to guarantee your inclusion in the raffle. Remember, only 350 tickets will be sold!!

Palisades Presbyterian Church

December Calendar

- 17 9:00 am Service
11:00 am Service and Christmas Pageant
4:00 pm Carol Sing (in church)
- 24 11:00 am Service
5:30 pm Family Service; White Gifts*
11:00 pm Lessons and Carols
- 31 11:00 am Service

** Gifts of a new toy suitable for children in hospitals are gathered during the service and later delivered to area hospitals. Please wrap in plain white paper.*



Palisades at a Crossroads

Our community was shocked awake to the dangers posed on our roads recently when a little girl was hit by a truck just after her school bus dropped her off on Route 340. This is the latest in a series of alarming incidents on our roads. Last June a boy was hit by a car trying to pass a stopped school bus on Oak Tree Road. An elderly visitor was hospitalized when a local truck sped around a car parked on a curve on Washington Spring Road and rammed her car. Other members of our community have been traumatized and hospitalized as a result of local car accidents. This summer a neighbor was hit by a car while crossing the street in Piermont. From May, 1994 through October, 1995, sixty-one accidents in Palisades have been reported. Twenty-nine people were injured in these accidents.

Palisades has seen enormous growth in the last decade. Increasingly, the place where we meet is on the roads. If we act as a community and not as isolated units, perhaps we can effectively address these concerns. The purpose of this article is to bring to your attention concerns expressed by residents polled for this article. 10964 invites anyone to respond in subsequent issues.

Commuters: What has attracted many people to live in Palisades is its rural nature. What is attractive can be deceptive. Commuters whiz through our crossroads little realizing the number of people who live here hidden behind the wild tangle of woods. That our roads are dangerous, steep, narrow and winding, is recognized by the recent emergency repaving of Oak Tree Road due to the slippery conditions on the hill which have caused many accidents.

Route 340 is due for reconstruction next year according to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT). Our community must address the issues this reconstruction poses. Does 340 need widening to accommodate the heavier traffic flow to New Jersey? Does 340 need sidewalks for our children's safety? Many residents, while concerned with safety, do not want increased suburbanization, loss of land, trees and the subsequent decrease in property values due to increased volume of traffic.

Do we want to facilitate commuters and truckers? Make our roads busier?

Is an answer to be found by placing more signs designating speed limits and school bus stops? Richie Vickerman who lives on 340 has been monitoring the situation for years, which he describes as "beyond the beyond." Mr. Vickerman would be happy to discuss the road situation with anyone interested. He has been in touch with officials from the DOT and the Orangetown Supervisor's office, as well as local official Eileen Larkin — all have been helpful working on the problems of Route 340. He feels the signs could be better placed and could be more informative. He believes we need greater police presence to catch speeders and help prevent accidents. This view regarding the necessity of greater police presence was expressed by all people polled for this article.

***Members of our
community have
been traumatized
and hospitalized
as a result of
local car
accidents.***

School Buses: All the many children in our neighborhood ride a bus to school. All bus drivers working here report being passed by drivers, sometimes daily, when the bus is stopped and lights are flashing. The South Orangetown Central School District Transportation Department is very concerned about driving conditions as

they hold our children's lives in their hands twice a day.

In light of the two serious incidents that have involved school children, the police and the school recently began Operation Safe Stop. At several designated hot spots in Palisades, including Oak Tree Road and Route 340, police are supposed to monitor and stop speeders.

Bus drivers have forms to fill out about cars that pass them; however, they usually are preoccupied with the children. Parents could help by bringing a notebook to the bus stop and taking down the license plate numbers of cars that go around the bus and giving them to the bus driver. Anyone can call the police to report these incidents. Sgt. Hank Johnson of the Orangetown Police cautioned, however, that whenever you call the police with a problem involving other people, you must be willing to come and sign a complaint.

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Palisades at a Crossroads *contd.*

Truckers: Route 9W and Oak Tree Road are short cuts for truckers. Anyone who lives along these roads is aware of the large number of trucks using these roads as a short cut between the bridges, particularly at night. Tall trucks have been responsible for ripping electrical wires which cross these routes, causing power outages.

Community action was effective in getting rid of tandem trucking. But how does that translate to the rest of the large trucks? Unfortunately for us, road safety and trucking go hand in hand. Road widening would facilitate both, which in the end may have a negative effect on residents. Lobbying for stiffer fines for heavy trucks on our roads and increased police surveillance — night and day — is one solution.

Bikers: Route 9W has been officially designated as a bike route. While this enhances our rural nature and is aesthetically pleasing, some bikers who ride two and three abreast pose a serious traffic hazard on 9W's narrow, hilly surface. Perhaps posting signs warning bikers to stay in single file and to the side might help if reinforced with police present to ticket offenders. Sgt. Johnson reminds us that bikers are subject to the same traffic laws as motorists. For example, they have the right to go into the road to make a left hand turn. Motorists must be alert to the bikers.

Parking: In the last year, the number of commuters who park their cars on Washington Spring Road for the day has increased. Not only do the cars block the road, they have attracted criminals. Individuals have been observed getting off the New York bus, trying the doors on all the parked cars and eventually getting back on another bus. In the absence of No Parking signs or requirement of permits, there is little we can do about outsider parking; residents, however, should walk.

Movies: Attracted to our bucolic surroundings and proximity to New York, numerous commercials and films are made here bringing in revenue for individuals and the county. However, film trucks block roads (sometimes homes as well). One solution might be to discuss with town officials the granting of film permits that require the company to provide flag men on all roads, not just state roads as now is the case. For the time being, we could request film companies to provide a full-time person to direct traffic.

Pets: The days are gone when pets can freely roam. Over the years, many residents have lost pets on the roads. In the last month alone, there have been at least two pet fatalities. Not only is this a heartbreak for the owners, it is a real threat to drivers. Owners are responsible for their pets' safety, for knowing where they are and, if necessary, for keeping them behind invisible fences in a pen or inside.

To address these concerns as a community, we can become more regulated, install a blizzard of signs, lobby for greater police presence. We can also become more considerate of each other. Recently, for example, on Halloween night, parents were concerned that despite the hoards of little princesses, monsters and ghosts running through the streets, local drivers were driving home too fast.

Even if we can as a community become more considerate and careful on the roads, we still face the problem posed by people who pass through the community. For that, we must turn for help elsewhere. Organizations concerned with road safety include: the New York State Department of Transportation (regional and local office), the South Orangetown Police, the South Orangetown Central School District Transportation office, State Senator Holland, the Town Supervisor, elected officials who live locally, and local advocacy individuals and groups; each has its own agenda and sphere of influence.

While getting one or more of these organizations involved in a specific issue may solve an immediate problem, it may lead to another. It falls upon individuals to negotiate this labyrinth. One avenue suggested by Robert Falk, of the NYS DOT, New City office, is that people concerned with specific road safety issues write a letter to the Transportation Engineer, William Fitzpatrick, NYS DOT, 4 Burnett Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY and/or Senator Holland, both of whom are responsive to these issues. He asks that a copy be cc'd. to him so he can track the request.

The best solution is to build community spirit so that we all feel responsible for what happens here. **10964** is one of the meaningful ways we stay connected as a community. Residents may be unaware of the forum this communication presents. Indeed, **10964** welcomes comments, suggestions, solutions to this problem which can be printed in subsequent issues.

Milbry Polk



South Orangetown School News

New School Policy

On October 2, the South Orangetown Central School District Board approved a policy regarding teaching about religion in the district's public schools.

School Superintendent Dr. Morton Sherman, in a Journal News article on Oct. 22, listed the key points: the proper role of religion in the public schools is in its educational value, not in religious observance nor in religious celebration; parents, clergy and other religious leaders are acknowledged as the primary teachers of religious belief; the schools play a vital role in bringing about an understanding among people of different backgrounds. **10964 reprints here** the entire policy for your information.

RELIGION POLICY STATEMENT

The South Orangetown Central School District recognizes that it serves a diverse community and that this community is enriched by its diversity. This policy is meant to be sensitive to individual beliefs and respectful of established law, as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. *"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

In keeping with our goal of promoting self-respect and respect for others, students in South Orangetown should learn to understand the importance of upholding these constitutional rights for both themselves and others.

The proper role of religion* in the public schools is in its educational value and not in religious observance nor in religious celebration. It is not the function of schools to select from among the great diversity of worship forms but to offer opportunities to teach about religions as they occur naturally in the curriculum. According to the Supreme Court, the Establishment Clause forbids not only state practices that aid or prefer one religion over another, but also those practices that aid all religions and thus endorse or show preference for religion over non-religion.

Parents, clergy, and other religious leaders are acknowledged as the primary teachers of religious belief. The schools can, however, play a vital role in bringing about an understanding between and among people of different backgrounds and can be invaluable in teaching our children about the beliefs of all,

religious and non-religious alike. Each person is free to choose or reject any belief he or she wishes without interference from either government or other members of the community. The choices made by each person and family are entitled to the greatest respect.

The public schools must exercise the utmost care to do nothing that would inhibit or denigrate the religious or non-religious beliefs of the families or children in their care. All staff must maintain a position of neutrality in their presentations about religion. They may not indoctrinate students with any religious creed, deny any religious creed, nor favor religion over non-religion. Children should not be put in embarrassing nor uncomfortable positions because of their family's choice.

GUIDELINES

Teaching About Religions

A. The school's approach to teaching about religions shall be academic, objective and never devotional. Religions should be taught about as they are pertinent and relevant to the curriculum. Teachers will provide opportunities for students to initiate communication (such as art work, writing, artifacts and discussion) about their lives, which may include families' religious holidays and traditions. Instruction in social studies, literature, music and art may include religious themes and ideas as they occur in the curriculum. B. Subject matter content shall not be included nor excluded from the curriculum to accommodate the religious views of a particular group. C. Religious holidays may be noted or recognized but shall not be observed or celebrated in the schools. The significance of holidays may be discussed as questions from the children arise.

Displays

A. Common Display Areas: Common display areas in each school may be used as educational tools. During the school year, displays in the corridors or display cases may reflect the civic, cultural and religious aspects of what we are about as a community and as a nation, as well as regular curricular study. Any displays teaching about religions shall not be based on a holiday calendar. Displays shall be pertinent and relevant to the academic curriculum and shall be temporary. B. Classroom Displays: Classroom displays

Continued on page 10



Fourth World Conference of Women in Beijing, China



On November 19 at the Palisades Church, Cristina Biaggi gave a talk, with slides, about her attendance this past September as an unofficial delegate to the Fourth World Conference of Women. The conference, whose organizing body was the United Nations, was attended by 5000 women who were official government delegates representing 187 countries. Unofficial women delegates to the conference numbered 31,000 and were made up of representatives from church groups, health organizations, educational institutions, and a wide variety of non-governmental and "grass-roots" bodies.

The pervasive theme of the ten-day conference was the concern about violence. Throughout the conference, these concerns about violence against women, against children, against the earth, against all life threatened by pollution, and against all humans suffering from violent economies, were discussed in workshops, tribunals and plenaries. The ways in which violence manifested itself in a wide variety of countries and cultures was brought together, at the end, by the official United Nations delegates in recommendations to be brought before the U.N.

Among the most moving topics discussed and shared by women from all countries were those to do

with women in poverty (70% of the world's poor are women) and the facts brought forward that the chief victims of armed conflicts are women and children.

In a speech before the conference delegates, Hilary Clinton spoke of the importance of "grass roots" efforts by women and what they have accomplished. The "Women in Black," for example, — who hold silent protest marches — began in Argentina in a Buenos Aires square to call attention to the disappearance of husbands, sons, and fathers under restrictive regimes and have now spread around the world to other countries. Nairobi, representing the women's groups in Africa which have formed to educate against the cultural and tribal practice of female mutilation (130 million women have suffered genital mutilation), reported on progress in their countries since the last world conference in 1985.

Cristina reported that the conference was an extraordinarily positive experience for the women who attended. Her slides and those taken by Catherine Allport of *Newsweek* were strong pictorial evidence of the formidable spirit of the women at the conference, especially those from developing countries who were striking in their vitality and determination.

Carol Elevitch

ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Exhibitions

The Rockland Sampler; sculpture and paintings. Sunday, Dec. 10 through Jan. 7.

The Rockland Connection, Part 1: Yesterday; sculpture, painting and mixed media. Sunday, Jan. 21 through Feb. 18. Hours for both exhibitions are Monday through Friday, 10 am - 4 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 1 - 4 pm.

Pottery Sale

Faculty and student work.
Friday, Dec. 8 (7 - 9 pm); Saturday, Dec. 9 (10 am - 5 pm); Sunday, Dec. 10 (12-5 pm).

The First World Conference of Women (1975), held in Mexico City, was attended by 3,000 women; the Second Conference, (1980) held in Copenhagen, was attended by 8,000 women; the Third Conference, (1985), held in Nairobi, was attended by 16,000 women. The 1995 conference attendees numbered 36,000. The next World Conference of Women is scheduled for 2005 and will be held in Canada.

Rosemary R. Jennings, Ph.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

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127 So. Broadway
Nyack, NY

School News *Cont.*

which are about religions shall be curriculum-based and may come from work produced by students or other appropriate resources and may include exhibits borrowed from cultural or educational institutions. Displays may remain in the classroom only for as long as they are relevant to the curriculum.

Ceremonies and Holiday Parties

A. No religious ceremonies shall be conducted in school during school hours.

B. Religious ceremonies after school hours or off school premises shall not be sponsored by the school.

C. School-sponsored ceremonies including commencement, awards programs, banquets, sporting events, and inductions shall not include any religious activities. D. Religious holidays may not be celebrated at school parties.

School Programs and Performances

A. School programs and performances shall not be designed to foster a religious belief nor shall they be designed in such a way that they can be construed as a religious service or religious celebration. B. The inclusion of religious literature, music, drama, and art in school programs and performances is allowed only if presented objectively for the purpose of developing artistic understanding and appreciation. C. School performing groups may not participate in religious services under the auspices of the school.

Privacy

Individuals shall not be induced to disclose their personal religious preferences nor beliefs nor those of their family members.

Student Absences/School Scheduling

A. Students will be excused for religious observances (Policy JED, November 15, 1993). B. School scheduling should reasonably accommodate religious observances in the community.

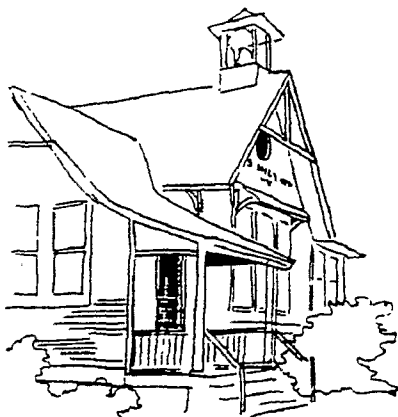
Federal Equal Access Act

Student religious clubs and activities are accorded the same access to public school facilities as other non-curricular student clubs and activities. Student religious clubs may function during the non-instructional time allotted to other non-curricular student clubs (F.E.A.A.).

Evaluation

The Board of Education shall evaluate this policy on an annual basis.

** "No simple definition can describe the numerous religions in the world. For many people, religion is an organized system of beliefs, ceremonies, practices, and worship that center on one supreme god, or the deity. For many others, religion involves a number of gods, or deities. Some people have a religion in which no specific god or gods are worshiped." (World Book Encyclopedia, 1991)*



The Newly Renovated Palisades Community Center

is Available Full-Time

For Meetings, Parties, Classes and Events.

Contact Caroline Tapley at 359-3533

During Business Hours, Except Monday.

Serving Palisades for 25 Years!

❀ 1970-1995 ❀



Music Don't miss the wonderful CoffeeHouse Concerts at the Center usually every third Saturday night from 8 to 11 pm (December 16th & January 20th). Admission is pretty cheap and kids get in even cheaper. It's a really great evening!

Kleiner Buries Supervisor Cassidy in Democratic Sweep of Palisades

*“Charlotte Madigan,
who stunned all
local political
observers by
upsetting ...
Addy Ducey,
carried Palisades
320 to 201”*

Democrat Thom Kleiner, a newcomer to Orangetown politics, crushed incumbent Supervisor Jack Cassidy in Election Districts 12 and 50 by 432 to 122 for the one-term incumbent. The Grand View resident's 78% of the Palisades balloting outpaced his unprecedented townwide victory margin of approximately 3-to-2. Roger Pellegrini's top percentage in Palisades was 71% in 1989.

Kleiner amassed 403 votes on the Democratic line and 29 on a new Independent Party line that endorsed Republican candidates for all but one of the countywide races and Democrats for the Orangetown offices. Cassidy garnered 104 Republican votes, 15 Conservative, 9 Right to Life and none on a new Freedom Party line that endorsed the whole Republican slate.

The top Republican vote-getter in the hamlet was former Town Justice Margaret Garvey, who easily won a full term as County Family Court Judge, a post to which she was appointed early this year by Governor George Pataki after the death of Judge Bernard Stanger. In Palisades, Democratic County Legislator Bruce Levine of Ramapo defeated Judge Garvey by only 8 votes, 277 to 269.

Charlotte Madigan, who stunned all local political observers by upsetting veteran Deputy Town Clerk Addy Ducey for the Clerk's office being vacated by Patricia Haugh of Sparkill, carried Palisades 320 to 201, four times her townside winning margin.

Basic party strengths can be assessed by the vote to reelect Supreme Court Justice Albert M. Rosenblatt. Palisades gave him 304 votes on the Democratic Row A (59.3%), 142 on the Republican Row B (27.7%), 18 Conservative (3.5%), 12 Independence (2.3%), and 4 Freedom (.8%). His only opponent, Right to Life nominee Terrence (sic) Dwyer, received 33 votes (6.4%). This shows gains of 3% for the Democratic Party and 1.7% RTL from last year; losses of 8% Republican and 4.5% Conservative, and a switch of 3% to the new minor parties.

No reliable figures were available at 10964's deadline for Palisades absentee votes or for overall town and county results. It is reliably reported, however, that Democratic Town Council candidate Maryanne Portoro narrowly lost to R-C-RTL newcomer Denis O'Donnell, with Democrat Edward Fisher being easily reelected and incumbent R-C-RTL Councilman Gerald Walsh finishing fourth.

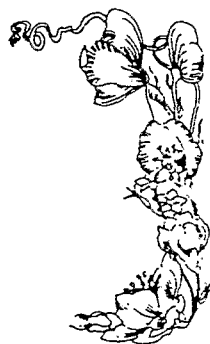
Andrew E. Norman



AUBREY
FLOWERS, LTD

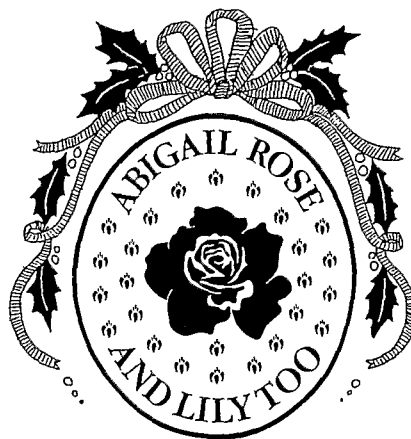
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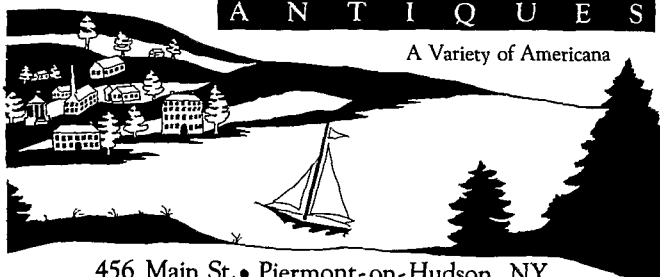
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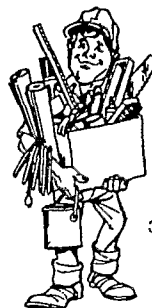
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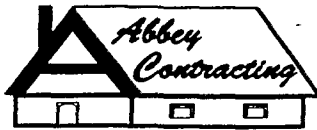
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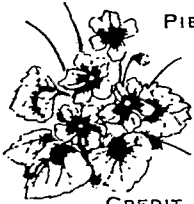
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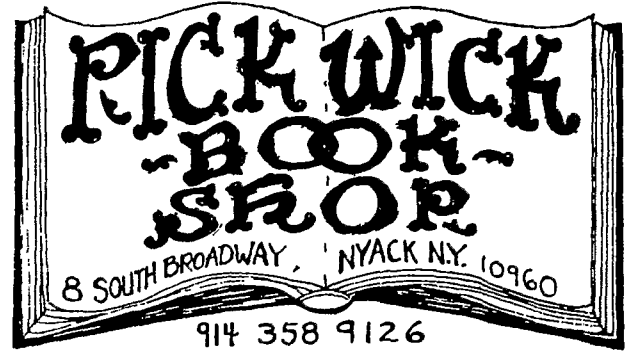
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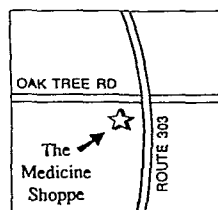
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Correction

Alice Haagensen writes to amend some of the facts given in a short article in the April issue of **10964** on the origin of the name for the skating ponds in Tallman Park. She collected the information from the children involved many years ago. The two connecting ponds in what used to be the Standard Oil property, and is now Tallman Park, were christened *Wahpahwegea* by the children who used to skate there in the 1940s (ages about nine to fifteen). The letters of the name came from the first letters of the children's last names.

W - A - H - P - A - H - W - E - G - E - A

Bev and Elizabeth **Walden**, children of Howard and Jo Walden, who lived next to the church.

Hassan **Ali**, whose father worked for Mr. Jennings on Woods Road.

Joe and Francy **Hyde**, children of Lydia Tonetti Hyde on Woods Road.

Margery **Price**, daughter of Harry and Connie Price, who lived near the corner of Route 340 and Oak Tree Road.

Aldy **Aldrich**, son of Tom and Helen Aldrich, who lived in the Bungalow.

Alice and Karen **Haagensen**, children of Cushman and Alice Haagensen, who lived at the end of Woods Road.

Mac **Whitney**, whose parents Charles and Jean lived on Woods Road.

Susan **Ettinger**, daughter of Churchill and Betty Ettinger, who lived in what is now the Converse house.

Pat **Gregory**, son of Horace Gregory and Maurya Zaturenska, who lived on Closter Road.

Tommy **Ettinger**, Susan's brother.

Clay **Aldrich**, Aldy's brother.

About 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964** need 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 five times this year from October through June.

The Following Staff Members worked On This Issue

Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, Carol Elevitch,
Alice Gerard, Diana Green, Nancy Hall,
Greta Nettleton, Judy O'Neil-Castagna,
Milbry Polk, and Gina Vermandel

Page Design by Alice Gerard
Drawings by Andrea Williams
and Marika Hahn
Computer Consultant Annie Gerard

Donations for our publication were received from Diane Dunleavy Donnelly and John Donnelly, Jeffrey and Lynne MacLaren Sandhaus, and Sue and William Walther. Many thanks for your support!

School Board Meetings

Dec. 4: Athletics Committee Report (discussion); Alumni study (information).

Dec. 11: C.A.R. (Comprehensive Assessment Report) Assessment; Tri-State Consortium (information).

Dec. 18: Executive Session.

Jan. 16: Foreign Language Committee (information).

Jan. 22: Regular Meeting, agenda not set.

Jan. 29: Executive Session.

All School Board meetings are held in the South Orangetown Middle School and begin at 7:30 p.m.