

10964

THE PALISADES NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1996 NUMBER 153



*Palisades
kindergartners
who entered
Tappan Zee
Elementary School
in September
(pictured top
to bottom,
left to right):
Jamie Carbone,
Nicholas Nitsagias,
Sarah Kittle,
Briana Ballesteros,
Tommy Griffen,
Stephen DeGiacomo,
Carolyn Poriglia,
Jessica Kramer.
Not present:
Stephen An,
Jennifer Connelly,
Cheney Lonberg,
Stephen Neuendorf.*

WELCOME, CLASS OF 2009!

BUS SAFETY

A PRIORITY FOR

ORANGETOWN

A NEW LAW

On September 9, 1996 a unanimous vote of the Town Board made it a violation of Orangetown law to overtake and pass a school bus which is stopped and has its red lights flashing. The law prohibits passing the bus in either direction until the flashing lights are turned off, and establishes a scale of penalties for convicted drivers.

Penalties include a fine of not less than \$150 for a first conviction under the new law. A third conviction within 3 years carries a penalty of not less than \$750. State law could also impose 5 points on the driver's license for the first offense. Both laws allow for the imposition of jail time in addition to the fines.

A SAFETY INITIATIVE

The school bus law is one component of a comprehensive approach to address issues of bus safety for Orangetown school students. This initiative was prompted by concerned parents who have noticed an increase in the number of drivers who sped by stopped buses in apparent disregard for, or ignorance of the law. Town Supervisor Thom Kleiner, Deputy Supervisor Eliot Tozer, and School Superintendent Morton Sherman collaborated with parents to develop this plan.

Palisades residents have a particular interest in this safety initiative. Our community contains a number of potentially dangerous roads, including Oak Tree Road and Route 340 (scenes of two relatively recent car accidents involving student pedestrians)

and Route 9W. We also provide a direct commuting link to New York City via the Palisades Parkway, and to business and industry along Piermont Road in Rockleigh.

Other elements of the plan were announced at the Town Board meeting. These included a proclamation by Kleiner declaring September 9 as School Bus Safety Day; implementation of a bus-safety poster contest for all Orangetown Middle School students; renewal of the in-school safety awareness program conducted by the Orangetown Police Department using the robotic Buster the Bus, and ongoing publicity about bus safety in order to educate the community about the need for caution and the law on school buses, and to maintain public visibility about this critical issue. In addition, at the September 9 meeting, John Corcoran, a driver on some school bus routes in Palisades, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

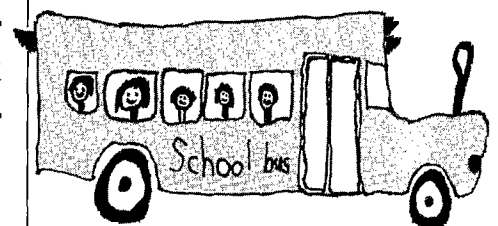
Buster the Bus made his debut at the William O. Schaeffer School on September 11 at assemblies held for second and third graders. Police Officers James Neeck and Robert Smith presented the remote controlled bus as a way to engage children in discussions about bus safety, how to board and disembark from a bus, behavior in emergencies, and other safety related issues. Buster is scheduled to visit other area schools during this year.

Winners of the town-wide poster contest,

open to all Orangetown Middle School students, will be announced

during the first week of December. Themes to illustrate could include "Stop When You See the Flashing Lights on the Bus," "School's Open - Drive Carefully," "Be Aware of the Bus Zone," "Don't Pass the School Bus," "Slow Down By Bus Stops," and "Be Careful When Crossing the Streets," although other themes could be illustrated as well. Posters should be drawn on 8 by 11 or 12 by 18 inch paper, using a wide variety of media. The contest judges include Supervisor Thom Kleiner; Ned Harris, an award winning graphics designer with a specialty in children's art; and James Yarmus, Commissioner of Planning and Transportation for Rockland County. Winning posters will be displayed in Town of Orangetown offices and schools. Combined, the overriding intent of these initiatives is to raise the consciousness of the driving public about the potential danger to children, and of our responsibilities as adults. The new law, and other efforts should remind everyone in our community and elsewhere that our children are precious, and that they deserve to go to school and return home safely. It is incumbent upon each one of us, as adults, to be aware of our children and the buses that carry them, and to drive carefully and safely.

Ellen Chayet Kidd



RESIDENTS FEAR IMPACT OF TRAFFIC ON PALISADES

STOP MALL EXPANSION

During the summer these green and white signs began to appear on lawns in Palisades and throughout Orangetown, signaling the rising opposition to the proposed expansion of the **Palisades Center Mall**—from 1.85 million square feet of gross leasable area to 3.05 million square feet—almost double the size now being constructed by Pyramid Cos. just over Orangetown's border in Clarkstown.

Pyramid states that when the expansion is completed, Rockland County will have the largest retail mall in the country and the 2nd largest overall mall in the country. It will contain 21 movie theaters, 20 fast food restaurants, 15 casual dining restaurants, a 2,100-seat amphitheater to be rented out, a skating rink, and a ferris wheel and Merry-go-round. The complex will contain 23 elevators and 60 escalators and will provide 12,000 parking spaces; Pyramid estimates 20,000 cars will visit the mall daily and they expect special tour buses will travel to and from New York City, Westchester, and elsewhere.

Even though the expansion would be "vertical" and "upward" (adding two floors to the original "footprint"), by law Pyramid was required to submit a new Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Study to the Clarkstown Planning Board and the Board was required to hold hearings allowing input from the public. Pyramid's Draft Impact Study and the public hearings in July and September were the first step in a process which will end in a vote by the Clarkstown Planning Board to approve or disapprove the expansion.

PYRAMID'S IMPACT STUDY CALLED FLAWED/ INCOMPLETE BY TOWN, COUNTY, NY STATE DOT NEW IMPACT STUDY DEMANDED

At this point in the process, the Orangetown Town

Board, Rockland County and its agencies, and the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT), have reviewed Pyramid's Impact Study and, finding it flawed, asked for a new study. The Clarkstown Planning Board will consider their recommendations as well as the input from public hearings and make a determination after Oct. 7. Town and County reviews of Pyramid's study raise the question of whether the expansion's negative effect on Orangetown and Rockland outweigh the benefits—a question, Town and County officials say cannot be answered unless there is a proper impact study conducted by Pyramid and reviewed by independent experts chosen by the Clarkstown Board.

TOWN OF ORANGETOWN

Traffic Generated by Pyramid's Expansion: Orangetown Supervisor Thom Kleiner, in an interview with **10964**, stressed the fact that the traffic study done by Pyramid was inaccurate. Orangetown's Task Force, appointed by Supervisor Kleiner, commissioned an independent expert, Jeffrey Zultan, whose study shows that with expansion, total traffic generated by the expansion

ORANGETOWN STUDY: VEHICLE TRIPS

	1.8 million sq.ft.	3.05 million sq. ft.	% increase
Average weekday	50,050	74,550	49.0
Peak hour - avg. weekday	4,425	6,665	50.6
Peak hour - Saturday	5,580	7,797	39.7

Mr. Zupan, an engineer and transportation consultant, used the Institute of Transportation Engineers authoritative source, Trip Generation, published in 1991.

will increase almost 50%—not the 15% claimed in the Pyramid study. The study (see above chart) shows the number of Vehicle Trips generated by a mall the size of the presently approved plan, 1.8 million square feet, and the number of vehicle trips which would be generated by a mall at the expanded size of 3.05 million square feet.

Traffic Concerns in Palisades: The primary concern of Palisades residents is the impact of substantially increased traffic in our area along Rte. 303, Rte. 340, Rte. 9W, Palisades Parkway and Oak Tree (*cont. on page 13*)

BULLETIN BOARD

CRISTINA BIAGGI, having passed the test for fourth degree Black Belt of Tae Kwon Do, is now entitled to be called "Sa bum nim" ("Master") an honor won by few. On June 24, she underwent the rare privilege/challenge of the grueling test before six Korean grandmasters, 15 Black Belt "assistants"—who are there to attack with grabs, kicks, punches, chokes and to hold a lumber yard-full of boards for the test-taker to strike and break with feet and hands—and guests. The "test" itself was composed of the performance of more than 20 forms and included a creative form originated by the seeker of the degree.



NORMAN GALINSKY began teaching classes in Tai Chi and Chi Kung at Rockland Center For The Arts this September suited for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Classes are held on Thursdays both morning and evening; call the Center at 358-0877 for times and available space.



Palisades potter **JANE HEROLD** is also teaching at the Center this fall. Her advanced Pottery class is held on Wednesdays (7-10pm) and the beginner and intermediate class on Thursdays (7-10pm). Call the Center for available space.



ANN WELSH, former Palisades Postmaster, writes she enjoyed working at the Palisades Post Office for the last 7 years and thanks everyone who sent her wishes for a speedy recovery from her car accident injury. Ann has taken a position closer to her home and is almost completely recovered.

MORE GRADUATES

Congratulations to recent college gradu-

10964 welcomes news items from Palisades residents "to pin up" on the Bulletin Board. Please write us at P.O. Box 201 or call a staff member.

ates **KATHERINE BERNICK** (*cum laude* from Colgate University), **EMILY ENGLANDER** (Washington University), **LARA GALINSKY** (Wesleyan University), **BRIAN LARKIN** (Wheaton College) AND to **GABRIEL ESTADELLA** who graduated high school in May from Dwight Englewood.



Kudos to **JESSICA ANDREA RUIZ**—a June Tappan Zee High School graduate and member of the National Honor Society throughout her high school years—who has begun a double degree program for a BA in Music Studies and Music in Clarinet Performance this fall at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles. In May she also graduated from the Manhattan School of Music Preparatory Division where she had studied music in an all-day-Saturday program for four years as a clarinet student of Ricardo Morales, the First Clarinetist of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Honors given her at graduation were the Peter Lewis Silver Memorial Scholarship Award, the Parents' Association Scholarship Award and, as winner of a concerto competition, she was chosen to perform the Carl Maria von Weber 1st Clarinet Concerto with the school orchestra.

A member of the New York Youth

Symphony, Jessica performed in numerous concerts in Carnegie Hall and Queens College from 1994 to 1996, and was also a member of the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program. Both the orchestral and chamber music programs are made up from some 100 young classical musicians chosen by competitive auditions who are given tuition-free professional training.

PALISADES POST OFFICE NEWS

The new Officer in Charge at the post office, **ANDREW BOZZONE**, informs us of the following changes designed to increase the level of safety and security of commercial airlines which carry U.S. mail, changes which will benefit the traveling public, postal employees and postal contractors. Effective August 16, **all domestic stamped items and all international mail weighing 16 ounces or more** must be presented for mailing to a retail clerk in a post office and should not be dropped in a street or lobby collection box. (Letter carriers, however, can accept domestic stamped mail weighing 16 ounces or more in person from known customers, as long as it is accepted at the customer's residence or business).

All international mail weighing 16 ounces or more mistakenly deposited in collection boxes will be returned to the sender. The only exception to the return policy are one-pound items destined for delivery within the local overnight delivery area where transportation is provided by truck. Postage on an item improperly deposited in a collection box may be used when the item is re-mailed at a post office.

Domestic Express Mail collection procedures are not affected by these changes."

IN THE MAIL

*From Palisadian Eileen Larkin,
Councilwoman, Town of Orangetown:*

"I am sure all of you know about the Pyramid Mall's plan to build the 2nd largest mall in the United States. When I first read this, I suggested to the Supervisor that Orangetown investigate whether or not we will be affected. As a result the Town sent a memorializing resolution to the Clarkstown Supervisor asking for a copy of the latest draft environmental impact statement. The most significant part of this statement was the traffic study. It did not include all of Route 303, and what impact, if any, traffic from the mall would have on other of our roads such as Western Highway, Rte. 340, etc. We are now part of this project and any future studies will include our roads. For most of the summer I have been watch-

ing the destruction of our majestic Palisades Parkway in the name of safety. The State Department of Transportation is responsible for maintenance, while the Palisades Parkway Commission, under the directorship of Mr. Binnewies, oversees projects because it owns the property. I have asked for a public meeting to discuss this project as it affects our portion in Rockland and I feel we will no longer travel a beautifully treed parkway, but one that is going to look more like the Long Island Expressway. The vast difference in the Parkway in Rockland is that homes back on to it. When the trees are removed for 8 or 10 feet of blacktop and another 4 feet of blacktop, homes will be exposed to more noise which will dramatically affect health and real estate values. The entire stretch of the Parkway will be blacktop. There have been more accidents on the New Jersey portion since these changes have occurred.

I encourage you to come to this meeting when it is scheduled and express your concerns. As someone whose property backs on to the Parkway, I know full well the increased noise level coming from the increased volume of traffic. There has never been a noise decible test done on the Parkway. Of course, rumor has it that this new 8 foot wide breakdown lane is really a prelude to a 3rd lane on the Parkway to accommodate the traffic to the Palisades Mall.



The Town Board passed legislation which now allows homeowners to put a satellite dish up to 1 meter on their homes without getting a permit and commercial establishments can install dishes up to 3 meters with certain restrictions.



Please come to our Town Board Meetings. With the exception of holidays, we meet every Monday at 7:30."

KATHERINE WINSHIP FLANZ

A ten year resident of Palisades, Katherine Flanz, 48, died at her home on Washington Spring Road on May 31 after a long illness. Following her attendance at Vassar College, Katherine received a B.A. from New York University and a Master of Social Work from Fordham University, and consequently served as a Child Care Worker at the Boston Center for Blind Children, a Social Case Worker, a Program Specialist for Children and Family Services at the Westchester County Department of Social Services, and as Director of the Yonkers Center of Planned Parenthood. In 1986, she enrolled in the Ph.D. program at the School of Social Work at Columbia University where she taught a course in social policy. Her concerns extended to a keen interest in nature and she maintained memberships in the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society.

She is survived by her husband Lynn R. Sykes, Higgins Professor of Geological Sciences at Columbia University, parents Dr. Gisbert and Beth Winship Flanz of Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, brothers William of Hong Kong and Richard of Oneonta, NY, and a sister Elizabeth F. Macaulay of Franklin, MA. At a memorial service on June 5, her family asked that donations be made in her memory to either United Hospice of Rockland County, Planned Parenthood of Westchester and Rockland, or Grace Episcopal Church.

JOAN BRACKEN

On June 17, Joan Bracken, a 20 year resident of Palisades, died at Nyack Hosital at age 60. A former director of utilization review and medical staff coordinator at Rockland Psychiatric Center in Orangeburg, she had retired in November 1994.

Born in Canada, Joan was valedictorian at Lorraine School of Nursing in Pembroke and graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill. Her master's degree in public health administration, also magna cum laude, was received from Pace University in White Plains. She was founder of the Nurses Action Group at Rockland Psychiatric Center, a former board member of the Palisades Library, and an artist and author. Her studies have been published in the Journal of Psychiatry.

She is survived by her husband Donagh J. Bracken, and two sons, Charles and Donald, both of White Plains; a brother, Terrence O'Neill of Pembroke; a sister, Patricia O'Neill of Pembroke; and a brother, Ronald O'Neill of St. Catherine's, Ontario. The family asked that memorial donations be sent to Rockland Family Shelter, 300 N. Main St., Spring Valley.

The Board of Trustees would like to extend its sincere thanks to the community for its patience and support during the entire renovation project.

PALISADES FREE LIBRARY



On Saturday, June 15, the community of Palisades celebrated the renovation of its beloved library as well as the people who contributed the half million dollars and countless hours of volunteerism necessary to make the expansion a reality. The afternoon ceremony included speeches by noted children's author Betty Miles, County Executive Scott Vanderhoef, and Supervisor Thom Kleiner. Former Board President Dan Martin, an invaluable part of the planning stage, opened the program with an overview of the construction project. Current President Larry Bucciarelli, the driving force during the construction phase, was unable to speak due to the untimely passing of his father. Bob Williams, Treasurer, provided the crowd with a history of the fundraising efforts and praised architect Michael Esmay for his expertise in preserving the character of the library. The ceremony culminated with Dorothy Davis' dedication of the Norman Family Children's Room.

FALL EVENT

The Library will hold a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 20th from 1 to 4 pm. In addition to the usual bulbs, there will be a thrift sale (donations of fall/winter clothing in good condition can be coordinated by calling the library at 3590136), baked goods, cider and pumpkins for sale. Special activities for kids will include pumpkin painting and hayrides.

PRESCHOOL STORY HOURS

On Wednesday, September 11, Palisades Free Library will welcome children ages three to five for Story Time. Beginning at 1:30, the program will continue for approximately 1/2 hour and will feature stories told in many ways: through books, flannel board, puppets, songs and finger play. Let the library know if you are planning to attend. Telephone 359-0136.

CRAFTS PROGRAMS FOR OLDER CHILDREN

Palisades Free Library will be offering after-school craft programs for school-aged children this fall. If your children would like to participate, please call the library at 359-0136. Sign-ups are a must.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23 - AGES 7 AND UP

Just in time for United Nations Day (October 24th)! Children may make one or more flag pins to wear on a jacket, cap, or shirt. This activity asks for some finger facility and the results are worth the effort.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH - AGES 6 AND UP

Just in time for Halloween (October 30th)! Children may make a decorative ghost garden to take home. Try to scare up a little time for this fun project.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH - AGES 6 AND UP

Just in time for Thanksgiving (Nov. 28th) and the holidays to come. Children may make a decorative candle holder using natural materials.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH - AGES 7 AND UP

Just in time for December holidays! ... but beautiful any time of the year, this project asks for nimble fingers. The result is a folded paper star whose geometric patterns are beautiful wherever light shines through a window.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH - AGES 5 AND UP

Just in time for Jingle Bells season! This project will produce a finger-knitted necklace with a great, shiny bell on it.

TAPPAN-ZEE THRIFT SHOP

The Tappan-Zee Thrift Shop is an important source of income for the Palisades Free Library. Volunteers are **URGENTLY** needed. Even 3 hours a month would be helpful. Anyone wishing to contribute time as a regular or substitute worker may call 359-5753.

When donating articles, keep in mind seasonal clothing in good condition, household items, toys, small pieces of furniture, etc. Donations are tax deductible. The Tappan-Zee Thrift Shop is located at 454 Piermont Ave., Piermont.

Phone: 359-5753. Tues., Thurs., Fri., and Sat. 10 am to 4 pm.

LIBRARY HOURS

<i>Mon. - Wed.</i>	<i>3 pm to 9 pm</i>
<i>Thurs.</i>	<i>10 am to noon & 3 pm to 9 pm</i>
<i>Fri.</i>	<i>3 pm to 5 pm</i>
<i>Sat.</i>	<i>11 am to 5 pm</i>
<i>Sun.</i>	<i>1 pm to 5 pm</i>
<i>Closed</i>	<i>{ Oct. 14th - Columbus Day</i>
	<i>Nov. 27th - Thanksgiving Eve Day</i>
	<i>Nov. 28th - Thanksgiving Day</i>



New Books



ADULT NON-FICTION

ARMSTRONG	IN THE BEGINNING
BERNSTEIN	HIS HOLINESS
BUCHWALD	I'LL ALWAYS LOVE PARIS
CUSSLER	SEA HUNTERS
FRASER	FAITH & TREASON
GOULD	FULL HOUSE
MOYERS	GENESIS
REITMAN	BAD BLOOD
STORR	FEET OF CLAY

ADULT FICTION

ATWOOD	ALIAS GRAC	LECARRE	TAYLOR OF PANAMA
CLARK	MY GAL SUNDAY	PERRY	WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE
DIDION	THE LAST THING HE WANTED	PIERCY	CITY OF DARKNESS, CITY OF LIGHT
FOLLETT	THE THIRD TWIN	PUZO	THE LAST DON
FORSYTH	ICON	STEEL	SILENT HONOR
FRANCIS	TO THE HILT	THEROUX	MY OTHER LIFE
GIFFORD	SAINTS REST	TUROW	THE LAWS OF OUR FATHERS
GRAFTON	M IS FOR MALICE	WIDEMAN	THE CATTLE KILLING
HIGGINS	YEAR OF THE TIGER		

BUILDING REORGANIZATION PLANNED: PUBLIC INPUT NEEDED

For the past few years, the South Orangetown School District has been considering a number of ways to prepare for the increased enrollments in the elementary schools, which is projected to rise 26% between 1997 and the year 2000. The current SOCES (South Orangetown Community Elementary School) model places pre-kindergarten and transitional kindergarten at the Palisades School; kindergarten and first grade at Tappan Zee Elementary; grades 2 and 3 at William O. Schaeffer; and grades 4 to 5 at Cottage Lane. Students in grades 6 to 8 currently attend the South Orangetown Middle School, with Tappan Zee High School for students in grades 9 through 12.

In 1994, the Building Utilization Study Team (BUST) was organized to review over 30 options for reorganization and use of buildings. Over the past summer, the architectural firm of Glynn Spillane Griffing, and the construction management firm of J. Michael Orifici & Associates were hired to develop facility plans, and provide cost estimates for 4 selected reorganization options. At the Board of Education meeting on September 9, consultant reports revealed that the 4 reorganization options, using 3 elementary schools, present virtually the same costs.

On September 24, after obtaining public input and discussion about the various reorganization plans, including the SOCES model, the Board of Education voted to reconfigure the elementary schools in this manner: one school for pre-Kindergarten through grade 3; a second for Kindergarten through grade 3; and a third school for all district students in the fourth and fifth grades. The actual school facilities designated to house these students, and geographic distribution within each K-3 school, remains to be determined. It is expected that the reorganization will be implemented in academic year 1998.

W.O. SCHAEFFER SCHOOL IS PARTNER WITH LINCOLN CENTER IN PILOT ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

In 1975, the trustees of Lincoln Center created the Lincoln Center Institute to support arts education in the community. The Institute now runs a successful outreach program that links the wealth of artistic resources available at Lincoln Center with nearly 300 schools in the New York metropolitan area—each year, approximately 100,000 students take aesthetic education classes based on the Institute's program as part of their regular classroom activities. However, the reach of this program is somewhat limited because involvement depends on the

individual initiative of each classroom teacher, who must decide to attend workshops on his or her own time in order to become a part of the program, and because the only students who benefit are those whose teachers have chosen to participate.

Recently, the Institute has sought to expand the impact of its arts education model. A pilot program has been developed for three focus schools in which every teacher and every student takes part in the Institute's arts education program. The goal of the project is to create a dynamic model for successful arts education that could be adopted by schools all over the country.

W.O. Schaeffer School was greatly honored to be chosen to participate in this program in the fall of 1994 (along with P.S. 191 in Manhattan and City Island School), based on its long association with the Lincoln Center Institute, on its successful program involving senior adults in the classroom, and on the strength of interest shown by the four WOS teachers who enrolled in the program during the summer of 1994. WOS first became a part of the Lincoln Center Institute program about 15 years ago, thanks to the efforts of one of its teachers, Valerie Beckman. Now retired, Ms. Beckman is the Lincoln Center Coordinator for the South Orangetown school district. Continued participation during chronic school district budget struggles has been assured because of strong backing from Palisades school board representative Geraldine Miras and Superintendent Morton Sherman.

According to WOS Principal Dr. Marianne Tully, the greatest successes of the program can be seen in the excitement that her students have shown in the course of their learning experience. They have seen the process of creation that makes a work of art come into existence, and they have learned how to participate in the artistic experience by watching intelligently. As they develop their skills of perception, they also learn to make the feelings, ideas, and joy inherent in the aesthetic experience a part of themselves. Dr. Tully's hope is that this seed, planted at a young age, will flower for every child into a desire to make art, whether it be theater, music, paintings or ballet, a part of their life well into the future.

Parental support for this excellent program has come in several ways. For families with students enrolled at WOS, the school holds an annual community arts event to introduce the parents, grandparents and siblings to the program by means of a short performance and participation exercise. Thereafter, the parents are encouraged to support their children's interest in the arts by taking them to galleries and performances, by arranging lessons in a child's area of interest, and by focused listening to favorite music at home.

GRETA NETTLETON



ART NEWS

THEATRE

HELEN HAYES PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The opening production of this long-awaited theatre in Nyack is *Abyssinia*, a powerful new musical, running through Oct. 13. The Center's second production, *Angel Street*, a classic spine-tingling thriller, opens Nov. 8 and runs to Nov. 24.

OCT, NOV, DEC, CHILDREN'S SHOWS:

October: *Beatrix Potter*, two stories performed by the Hudson Vagabond Puppets; Oct. 12 at 11 am. *Babes in Toyland*, an updated production of the holiday classic; Oct. 26 at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.

November: *Wallace and Grommit*, two clay-animation films by Oscar-winning animator Nick Park; Nov. 16 at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. *Turkeys and Touchdowns*, a

new holiday musical show; Nov. 23 at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.

December: *The Christmas that Almost Wasn't*; Dec. 7 at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. *Charlotte's Web*, the classic E.B. White story; Dec. 21, 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. *Tom Chapin*, the Pied Piper of children's music; Dec. 28 at 12:30 pm.

Admission charge is \$6 per ticket.

The Performing Arts Center is located in the former Cinema East movie house which has been refurbished and now holds 653 seats in two sections; the first 18 rows are Section A, the last four rows, Section B. For reservations or information for all shows call 358-6333 or 358-2847.

ACTOR'S CREATIVE EXPERIENCE

A.C.E., in association with the Helen Hayes Performing Arts Center, announce the opening of their Performing Arts School (acting, dance, voice, play production) for children and adults, for professionals, beginners, and self-development. Call 353-5825 for information.

ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE

The Playhouse's first offering of the 1996-97 season—and the opening of their 50th anniversary celebration—is *The Sisters Rosenzweig* by Wendy Wasserstein, currently showing and playing through Oct. 12. Following this, the Playhouse will present *Company* by Stephen Sondheim and George Furth opening on Nov. 15 and running through Dec. 14.

For reservations and information, call the Playhouse at 353-1313.



THE ARTS

ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Center continues the celebration of its 50th anniversary year with an exhibit entitled *The Studio and The Set*, a showing of Rockland County artists who work in film. The exhibit opens on Oct. 13 with a reception from 1-4 pm and continues through Nov. 15; gallery hours are 10 am-4 pm weekdays and 1-4 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Participating artists will hold a panel discussion on Oct. 13 at 3:30 pm about their role in making films.

For more information about the exhibit or available October and November workshops in the arts, call the Center at 358-0877.

HUDSON VALLEY CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

The Museum now has permanent space at 21 Burd Street, Nyack and offers young people, ages 1 through 12, exhibits and programs (some hands-on) related to the arts and sciences. For information about museum hours and reservations for a special birthday party room, call 358-2191.

BLUE HILL CULTURAL CENTER

Now showing in the atrium and lobby exhibition space in Blue Hill Plaza are paintings and sculpture by three artists of international reputation; Paulette Bensignor, Patrick Mateescu and Radu Serban. The exhibit continues through Oct. 15 and may be viewed Monday through Saturday, 8 am-5 pm. For information call 359-1584.

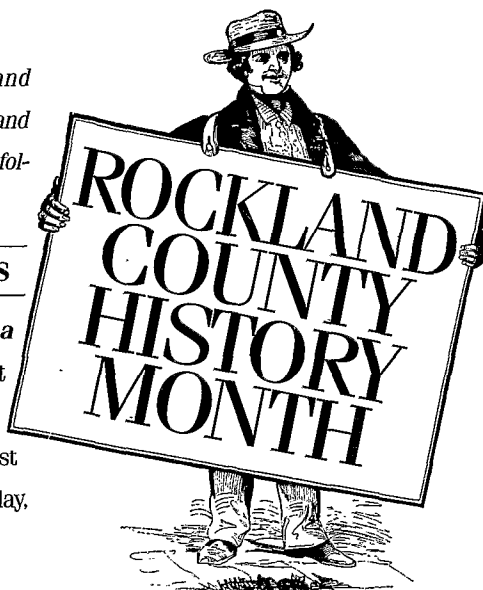
The Historical Society of Rockland County has named October as Rockland County History Month and scheduled the following events:

EXHIBITIONS AND MAIN EVENTS

Rockland Farms: Portraits of a Vanishing Era: A photographic exhibit capturing the hard work, tough decisions and personal rewards of farming in the last decade of the 20th century. Opens Tuesday, Oct. 1, 5:30-7:30 pm. Free admission.



Historical House Tour and Reception. The Houses of South Mountain Road: Rockland's Artistic Legacy. Offering a rare look at some of the homes of well-known artists who settled against the backdrop of High Tor Mountain. Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 am-4 pm. Call 634-9629 for reservations.



Raíces/Roots: A Celebration of Latino History and Culture in Rockland County. A day-long conference in Haverstraw exploring issues of diversity, race, community and culture within Rockland's Latino communities. Exhibitions feature photographs, music and Hispanic foods. Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 am-4 pm. Free Admission.



TOURS AROUND ROCKLAND

Walking and Talking in Pearl River: Sunday, Oct. 12, 1-3 pm. Fee. Reservations required.

Hops and History on the Hudson. A river tour aboard the historic *Commander*; refreshments include ales and lagers from award winning Mountain Valley Brew Pub. Sunday, Oct. 20, 1-4 pm. Fee. Reservations required.



Other activities during October include: **Reminiscences from Rockland's Family Farmers**, a gallery talk with refreshments (Wednesday, Oct. 16, 5:30-7 pm); **Tours of the Jacob Blaauvelt House**, guided tours of the 1830's restoration with Hudson Valley furnishings and demonstrations of domestic skills and crafts (Sundays, 1-5 pm, ongoing throughout the year). **In Search of the Lenape: the Delaware Indians Past and Present**, an exhibition about Rockland's first residents, the Lenape Indians (Tuesdays through Sundays, 1-5 pm through Nov. 10); **All for Naut**, a children's Halloween story hour event, refreshments (Wednesday, Oct. 30, 4-5 pm); Call The Historical Society of Rockland County at 634-9629 for information and reservations.



PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER



Available days and evenings
for meetings, parties, classes and events.
Contact Caroline Tapley at 359-0013.



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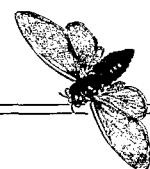


Although quite a few of us were not yet living in Palisades in 1979, it can be said with certainty that millions of our neighbors moved in exactly in that year--that is to say--millions of 17-year locusts. This year, the mature insects (which are really cicadas) emerged around Memorial Day after 17 years grubbing for sap underground. During a single 48-hour period, in obedience to some unknown signal, millions upon millions of cicada nymphs pushed their way out of millions of small, perfectly round holes in the ground, crawled up the trunks of trees nearby, and after breaking free from their nymphal cases, stretched out their new wings to take flight for about a month of free flight to mate and lay eggs.

The red-eyed adults soon filled the air in many parts of Palisades. They were not graceful flyers; during their romantic forays, they lumbered along in a straight line until they hit something and fell to the ground, after which they relaunched themselves in another direction. By mid-June, the normal summer woods noises were drawn out by an intrusively loud, high-pitched mechanical whine that sounded as if large electrical turbines from the Hoover Dam had been suddenly installed in backyards all over town.

Having found their mates, the females laid eggs that produced hatchlings, which fell to the ground and then burrowed back into the dirt. By the first of July, not a single living cicada could be found, and all that remained of the awesome activity were a few dried nymphal cases, still clinging to the undersides of leaves and twigs. The hatchlings' hidden development will go on, out of sight and out of mind for almost two decades, until those lucky ones that don't get paved over will burst out again in 2013 for their own brief fling in the sunlight.

GRETA NETTLETON



FALL TICK ALERT

The American Lyme Disease Foundation has put out a special alert announcing two tick-borne diseases which have been identified by new testing techniques and whose symptoms differ from Lyme disease:

HGE, caused by a type of bacteria (*Rickettsia*); symptoms may include a high fever, severe headaches, and occasional vomiting. It is treated with tetracycline or its analogues; amoxicillin is useless against the *Ehrlichia* bacteria.

Babesiosis, a malaria-like illness caused by a protozoan parasite; symptoms usually begin about a week after being bitten and include a gradual onset of malaise, fatigue and loss of appetite followed by fever, drenching sweats, muscle pain and headaches. Treatment includes quinine and clindamycin and must be carefully administered under a physician's supervision.

The foundation's bulletin asks readers to note that the above underlined symptoms normally do not occur with Lyme disease but that Lyme, HGE and Babesiosis are all carried by the same species of tick and it may be possible to contract several of these diseases from one tick bite. Anyone developing these symptoms should see their physician immediately.

FIGHTING TICKS WITH FALL CLEANUP

Ticks and their primary hosts (mice, chipmunks, voles, and other small mammals) need moisture, a place away from direct sunlight, and a place to hide. The clearer you can keep the area around your house the less likely your chances of being bitten by a tick. Even though ticks are most abundant in wooded areas, they can also be found in residential areas near these woods. There are a number of measures you can take to greatly reduce the possibility of being bitten by a tick—aside from the usual ones of wearing protective clothing (light-colored, long-sleeve shirts and pants tucked into boots or socks) and an insect repellent containing DEET on bare skin and clothing (do not apply to hands or face and use with caution, especially on children).

Keep your property clean. Remove leaf litter and brush as far away from your house as possible. Prune low-lying bushes to let in more sunlight. If you live in the woods

consider cutting down some of the smaller trees, and rake up any leaves in areas you or children may frequent. This should be done every fall because ticks prefer to over-winter under leaf-litter.

Landscape plantings. Deer (and hence ticks) are attracted to a variety of plants, bushes, etc. planted near houses. Check with your local tree nursery to find out what plantings will not attract deer.

Woodpiles are a favorite harborage for mice and other small mammals which carry infected ticks. Keep your woodpile neat, off the ground, and in a sunny area or under cover where it remains dry.

Gardens (especially perennial) should be cleaned up every fall. Foliage left on the ground over the winter months only provides shelter for small mammals that may act as hosts for immature ticks.

Stone walls on your property should be avoided because they attract small mammals and increase the potential for ticks, especially in certain parts of the northeast.

Lawns, especially shaded ones, may support tick populations in highly endemic areas. Keep lawns mowed on a regular basis and trim the edges. Avoid thatch build-up where mice and ticks may over-winter by mowing field areas in the fall, preferably with a rotary mower.

Natural Predators. Removal of brush piles, etc. will reduce snake habitat (a natural predator of mice).

Chemical Controls. The use of insecticides is the best way to control ticks. Three pesticides to consider include chlorpyrifos (Dursban), carbaryl (Sevin) and cyfluthrin (Tempo), the latter being available only from specialists in pest control. Apply in late May (to control nymphs) and September (to control adults). These insecticides do not remain in the environment for an appreciably long time and have been approved for use by federal and state officials. Consider hiring professionally trained persons, perhaps through a tree company, to apply insecticides.

§ § § § § § § § §

For further information contact the American Lyme Disease Foundation, Inc., Mill Pond Offices, 293 Route 100, Suite 204, Somers, NY 10589 (914) 277-6970.

Road which was not considered in Pyramid's Draft Study. The study did not extend into Orangetown even though Palisades is in the path of cars, delivery trucks and tour buses traveling from New Jersey and New York City who must pass near or drive through our community to reach the mall.

Palisadians also share the concern of Piermont and Nyack residents who fear the impact of increased traffic in their communities as well as the effect it will have on still unresolved plans for the Tappan Zee Bridge which will have to accommodate an increase in traffic traveling across it from Westchester.

Effect on Palisades Area Roads: In discussing Palisades' particular concerns, Kleiner said the town's studies show that there is no doubt Orangetown's roads will be heavily traveled if the expansion is approved. He called our attention to the following:

- As Pyramid's study states, only 29% of the total customers who will use the expanded Mall will be from Rockland County. This means the remaining will travel from other places and use the Palisades Parkway, NYS Thruway, Routes 9W, 303, 304, 340 and 59 and the Garden State Parkway.

- Orangetown's Task Force points out that Pyramid's Impact Study estimates that 1 in 7 vehicles will travel Rte. 303 to reach the mall, yet the study fails to analyze the impact of expansion on any intersection on Rte. 303 south of the Clarkstown border.

- If Pyramid's request for expansion is approved, it will put increased pressure on the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) to widen Rte. 303, a plan they have considered for many years.

Supervisor Kleiner concluded by saying, "Short of building more space—more roads, wider roads, or perhaps widening only intersections—I don't know how the increase in traffic can be addressed."

The Town Board passed a resolution in June, offered by Councilwoman Eileen Larkin, which strongly requests that the Clarkstown Planning Board consider the impact of expansion on traffic, air quality, and the quality of life of Orangetown residents, as well as the impact on governmental and volunteer services including police, fire, highway and ambulance. It further requested that the Town of Orangetown be included in the planning and SEQRA process.

ROCKLAND COUNTY AND NY STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Rockland County Review of Pyramid's draft study was accompanied by a summation from Rockland County Executive Scott Vanderhoef who agreed with the review of nine key county departments. He called the study "fundamentally flawed" because of its lack of critical detail regarding potential adverse impacts and specific information that is required to determine mitigation and safeguards.

He went on to say that "the best alternative, in my view, is to ask the developer to withdraw its request for expansion at this time and complete the mall as has been previously approved. This would allow the County of Rockland to experience the opened Palisades Center's actual impacts before reviewing a request to nearly double its size."

The NY State Department of Transportation (DOT) released a report on September 15 stating traffic on state and local roads would increase substantially because of the proposed mall expansion. DOT's recommendation was that major road work must be completed by Pyramid before the Clarkstown Planning Board could approve the 1.2 million-square-foot expansion plan for the Palisades Center.

The report called on Pyramid to expand the traffic study to include Route 59 west to Route 304 in Nanuet and east to Highland Avenue in Nyack. To the north, DOT said, traffic should be studied on Route 303 to the intersection of Lake Road and south to Oak Tree Road, near the New Jersey border.

CLARKSTOWN PLANNING BOARD RESPONDS TO DOT

Clarkstown Planning Board Chairman Rudolph Yacyshyn was quoted as saying the New York State DOT report was a major development. "Traffic is definitely the overriding issue," he told a *Journal News* reporter.

In an interview with **10964**, Chairman Yacyshyn advised that after Oct. 7 Pyramid will be asked to respond to all concerns. Pyramid's replies will be passed by the Board to independent experts and the result will be a Final Draft Impact Study which will be opened to public hearings once again.

Mr. Yacyshyn seemed knowledgeable about the concerns of the "southern Orangetown" communities regarding traffic impact on Rtes. 303, 340, 9W, Oak Tree Road, the Palisades Parkway, and the Tappan Zee Bridge—as well as

other issues to do with the impact the expansion would have on small business in our area. A professional town planner, now retired, he has spent the last 10 years of his 30 year career dealing with the question of the mall which he said began in 1988 when the Clarkstown site was rezoned.

ROCKLAND COUNTY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Some Palisadians—like Dossi and Reg Thayer, the first to display a sign in Palisades and the people to call if you want a sign—joined the Rockland County Civic Association when Pyramid decided to expand. RCCA was formed to register opposition to the mall's expansion and takes the position that "A mall this size does not belong in a community such as Rockland and will, in fact, be a detriment to the quality of life valued by its citizens." RCCA's studies show the mall will be more than three times the size of the Nanuet Mall...equal to 32 football fields.

RCCA's Review of Pyramid Study: Although RCCA reviewed Pyramid's Impact Study considering Rockland County and Clarkstown in particular, their own studies of traffic impact and business loss if the expansion is approved is pertinent to Palisades and our area. Their findings also point out the incompleteness and inaccuracy of Pyramid's draft study.

Traffic: Pyramid's current estimates predict 20 million visitors a year to the mall if expansion is approved and RCCA says the impact on secondary roads surrounding those adjacent to the mall has not been addressed by the Pyramid study. Traffic increase will also severely impact on air quality throughout the county; noise barriers, essential to protecting surrounding neighborhoods from noise exceeding government acceptable levels, cost millions of dollars and have not been included in the Pyramid study.

Business Loss: Pyramid Company malls are known

to destroy most businesses within a 20 mile radius. The town and county would suffer a loss as a result of a transfer of taxes and jobs when businesses along Route 59 are negatively impacted. The threat to businesses in Nanuet, Nyack, Orangetown, Suffern and Spring Valley is real. Also, Clarkstown will receive a miniscule percentage of the county sales tax, but will carry the full expense as far as services to the mall are concerned.

Other Issues: *Crime:* Clarkstown Chief of Police predicts at least a 25% increase in crime which will necessitate a minimum of 6 additional full-time police officers and 1-3 new prosecutors. The District Attorney has expressed serious concerns about maintaining security at the mall and courts and prisons, already working at full capacity, would require expansion and additional judges and prison guards. Clarkstown would most probably have to switch from volunteer fire and ambulance services to paid personnel, since the increased demand on them would be too great. *Taxes:* Clarkstown homeowners will see NO RELIEF in their property taxes, since Clarkstown is predominantly a "Homestead" town. Tax relief will go mainly to commercial properties. [The Clarkstown Superintendent of Schools subsequently testified before the Planning Board that because of a NY State Aid formula which caps aid to schools, Clarkstown schools will receive no extra tax revenues from the mall.] *Quality of Life Issues:* Noise and air pollution concerns have not been addressed in Pyramid's study. The mall is on a toxic landfill and will vent methane gas and hydrogen sulfite from the lamp posts in the parking lots.

The RCCA recently joined the Southern Clarkstown Civic Association and other concerned groups who have been fighting the mall for 10 years. The organizer, Shirley Lasker, asks any residents or groups who wish to help to call 627-0432.

Carol Elevitch



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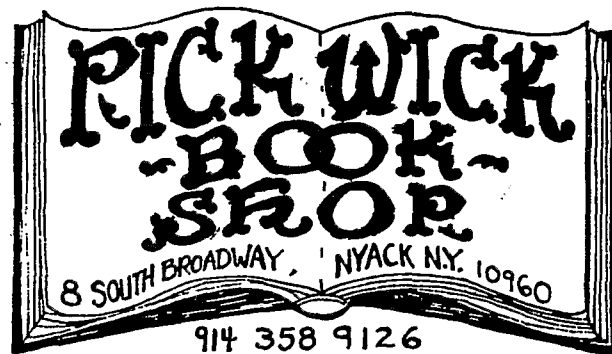
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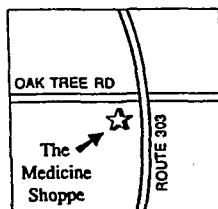
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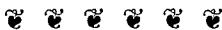
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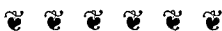
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