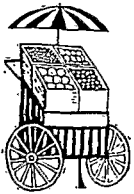


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NONE THE
PALISADES
NEWSLETTER

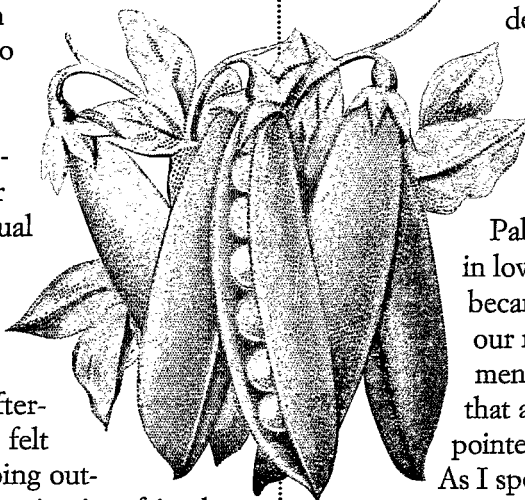
JUNE 1998 NUMBER 162



The Nyack Farmer's Market

One of our area's best kept secrets

On Thursday, June 18th the Nyack Farmers' Market will open its second season with festivities beginning at 10:00 AM. Most people in Palisades, however, never even knew that the first year existed! But it was there, attracting a small crowd of shoppers in the beginning and by the end of the season it was full of hundreds of "regulars." As the Market's co-developer and manager, I was there every Thursday, chatting with shoppers who would remark that they genuinely loved their Thursday ritual of buying fruits and vegetables that were picked the afternoon before, felt happy shopping outside, liked running into friends, and felt their market purchases were special. And by getting to know the vendors who grew or made the food they bought, people felt connected to the food



they ate, and became more aware and sensitive to agricultural issues. I know from the sad goodbyes on our closing day in October that I am not alone in feeling excited about our June opening.

When my husband and I decided, two years ago, to move our family out of Manhattan, we learned about Palisades and fell in love. As we became adjusted to our new environment, the one area that always disappointed us was food. As I spoke to other people, I would hear the same complaint: that fresh produce was hard to come by. While living in Manhattan, for the last twelve years, I was a faithful, weekly shopper at the plentiful



Opening Day Ribbon Cutting, 1997. Carol Baxter, County Executive Scott Vanderoof, Assembly member Sam Coleman, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lorie Reynolds, President Steve Kelly, Nyack Mayor Terri Hecker, Assembly Member Alex Gromack, and Orangetown Town Supervisor Thom Kleiner.

City Green Markets. So we were perplexed that we were now closer to the farms but had limited access to their produce. Confident that there was a need, I set out to open a farmers' market.

Through contacts, I met Miriam Haas who, coincidentally, was also attempting to open a market in Rockland County. She had developed the Ossining

The Nyack Farmer's Market

(continued from page 1)

Market in Westchester eight years ago. Nyack was very interested and the Chamber of Commerce of the Nyacks graciously became our sponsor. We garnered "seed" money from Assembly members Sam Coleman and Alex Gromack, and from the First Union Bank. And the rest, as they say, is history.



Shoppers at High Meadow Flower Farm, Nyack Farmer's Market.

Last year we opened the market with seven vendors; this year we open with fourteen. Returning are: The Orchards of Concklin, Andryshak Farm, High Meadow Flower Farm, Jenny Brook Trout Farm, Concklin Apiaries, Local Tofu, The Pie Kitchen, Dot's Delights, and the Rock Hill Bakehouse. Among the newcomers will be organic produce from D'Attolico Farm, bedding plants and orchids from Blumen Garten Greenhouse, wine from Warwick Valley Winery, and mozzarella cheese, butter, yogurt and ice cream from Joseph Popovitch.

Our goal is also to complement this weekly celebration of local foods with events that are entertaining and agriculturally

and environmentally educational, for young and old alike. Last year children planted seeds, got friendly with fifty slippery night-crawlers, learned how to compost, and took a closer look at how wool rugs are a true agricultural product, beginning with what the sheep ate. Every week, at 10:00 AM, there was a story hour for children and sometimes

a craft, like making leaf rubbings, decoupage or potato stamps. During September's *New York Harvest for New York Kids Week*, the market was buzzing with 300 second graders from the Nyack school district,

and throughout the year we have welcomed dozens of nursery and elementary school trips to the market. I also went to Tappan Zee Elementary and spoke with children about agriculture and how food gets to our tables. A number of Senior Citizen Centers made trips to the market and many families made "market day" an outing by combining it with a ride on the Nyack Trolley. Through the WIC program, a division of the New York State Agriculture and Markets, Food Nutrition Program, 350 eligible families and senior citizens received free coupons to purchase fresh produce. At our first annual Corn Roast, we gave out 200 ears of hot roasted corn and

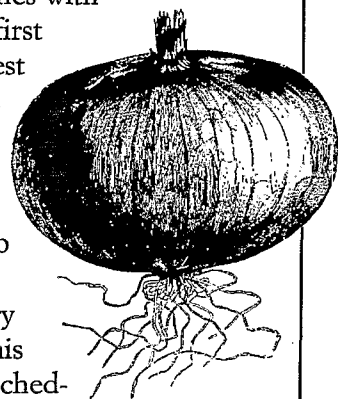
lemonade, and children got to stuff old clothes with straw at our first annual Harvest Festival. Live music has played on many occasions. We also hosted a Nyack Library Book sale. This year we will schedule more of the same.

You can be sure that something will be happening at 10:00 AM.

So now the cat is out of the bag. Thursday is Market day in Nyack, rain or shine. From Palisades, we're only 9 minutes north, located in the center of Nyack, at Main Street and Cedar, in the Municipal parking lot next to the Helen Hayes Theater. We're open 8:30 AM-2:30 PM, June through October. Come up and take a look at our abundant variety of fruits and vegetables, selection of field flowers and giant sunflowers, smoked trout, tofu spreads, lemon bars, and berry pies, cheese, wine and crusty sour-dough bread. And while you're there, see if you can find the Queen Bee in our resident bee hive!

(We are looking for artisans who specialize in natural crafts to do presentations, musicians to perform at the market and environmental organizations to table. Please call Carol Baxter at the Chamber of Commerce, 353-2221, if you would like to be a part of the market or need further information.)

by Carol Baxter Plotkin



On an early spring morning Perri Gerard-Little and I went "Down the Hill" to find Alice Munro

Haagensen, or "Mama," in her sunny flower filled rooms overlooking the Hudson. On the tables, in the bookcases, on the walls, were the fruits of her decades-long labors to chronicle the history of Palisades. Notebooks, books, charts, photographs were neatly and enticingly organized. On the table was her own book, Palisades and Snedens Landing, our hamlet's history book.

How did you come to Palisades?

"Cushman and I first came to Palisades in 1941. We had been invited to tea by Dr. and Mrs. Robbins. He was the Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. They had a beautiful house overlooking the river in Snedens Landing. Later, when we needed a new place to stay, we were persuaded by mutual friends to rent the Robbin's home, as they seldom used it. I thought the house was far too grand for us but the rent was only \$85 a month. I was given a key so I could come and look around. I started in the courtyard to find the door it would open. There were fifteen doors; the key worked in the fourteenth door, the kitchen. We came to live in Palisades a month before Pearl Harbor.

When the Robbins came to visit they stayed with us. After a year or two they said they wanted to sell us the house. We could not afford it on Cushman's medical salary. But the Robbins wanted us to have it so they sold it for much less than its real value. Dr.

ALICE
HAAGENSEN



A LEGEND IN HER OWN TIME

*an interview by
Milbry Polk,
Perri Gerard-Little,
Alice Haagensen's
great grand-daughter,
and Simon Gerard,
her grandson*

Whipple, at Columbia, urged my husband to begin a private practice so he could begin to pay off the house. With his help we were able to buy the house.

What was life like in Palisades then?

The children had lots of friends. The school had two classrooms for eight grades. The parents took a great interest in the school. We ran it. We had meetings and fights about the hot lunches and about the plays. We made all our own decisions about school affairs and the library was completely run by volunteers.

When I first came the library had just stopped being a private charity of the Lawrence family. Lydia Hyde had given part of the Big House for its use. When she died the Library had to move. We made it into a public library and moved it into the school,

which was shared with the kindergarten and hot lunch program. We put cages over the books for protection.

In an emotional meeting we all voted against joining the county library system but it happened anyway. The library became less personally owned by the village, but it worked out for the best.

There weren't many houses on Woods Road then. Cushman planted a line of hemlocks to mark our boundary. Marion Gray, the famous lace expert, used to come and cut her Christmas trees in the Park. One year we noticed a tree missing. The next year we saw a neighbor heading for our trees with an axe. She told us, Marion said there was a nice stand of Christmas trees!

What about the parties?

The Robbins house was a wonderful place to have parties. In the summer we strung Japanese

lanterns along the terrace. We always had a New Year's Eve party with our friends the Nichols. He was the drama critic for the Times. We had lots of interesting guests. Woodie Guthrie and Will Geer came. Justin O'Brien, a Professor of French at Columbia and a leader in the OSS, came to dinner in his uniform. Andre Girard, leader of the French Resistance, came.

Mrs. Tonetti gave wonderful parties at the waterfall, which was approached by a long path



Alice and Cushman

through the woods. She strung lanterns along the path. She had a big fire and would cook dinner for everyone. Once she told a guest, Mr. Colton, the absent minded librarian of the University Club, to put the spaghetti on the fire. He dumped it all out on the fire. She had to begin again.

Mrs. Harkness gave wonderful parties. Her secretary rang us up one day to come to a party at 5:30. I said it was too early and Cushman would not be home. She said well, the Bolshoi Ballet was coming too. Cushman made it home! There was dancing on the lawn and fireworks.

How did you become interested in local history?

Oh, that's easy. When Alice and Karen were seven and ten we went to the library the two times a week it was open. Lydia Hyde invited me to be on the Board. I asked what I had to do. She said, "Nothing, we never have meetings." I soon found myself busy, however, when the Board had to move the Library. I was packing the books when I realized how

much history there was: maps, deeds, notebooks, all collected by Mr. Gilman, and almost unknown. I've been studying them ever since.

In the 1970's we formed a committee to write a book.

Each of us was to take a chapter to research and

Margaret Parton,

the journalist, was to write it. I worked on the story about the Blockhouse that was located near the houses of the Powells and Joe Hyde. It was built during the Revolutionary War as a watch house over the Hudson.

Washington had come to Tappan in 1780 to get it built. At that time Washington had his famous dinner in the Big House with Lafayette and Von Steuben.

I have all sorts of accounts written about the Blockhouse, which was manned throughout the War. One was by Private Joseph Plumb Martin who was

stationed here. During the later years of the war all communications between the British and Americans came through our Blockhouse. This side was called Dobbs Ferry then too. I have a bill from a Sneden to the revolutionary army for rowing soldiers across the River.

Now the Block House is mostly gone. The NY Historical Society excavated it and found artifacts, mostly buttons and tools made of wire. Some of the stones were used by Angie Hyde to build her house.

In the end only Isabelle Savell wrote anything. Her project became a book on the Tonettis. I went ahead and wrote the book we were planning by myself.

How did you meet your husband?

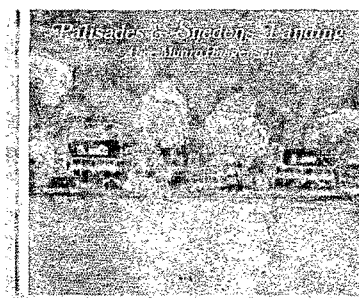
Cushman was from North Dakota. His family came to America from Norway in the 1850's. His father was a country doctor and he and Cushman used to go on calls far out on the prairie in a horse and buggy or sleigh. Cushman did the accounts for his father's practice. Every year his father threw away more

than half the bills because people were too poor to pay. Somehow his father managed to send him to Harvard Medical School.

During his residency at Yale he got

TB. Many of the interns got it then. After he recovered he took a job as ship's doctor on a Dutch boat called the Rindam.

My father was a professor of



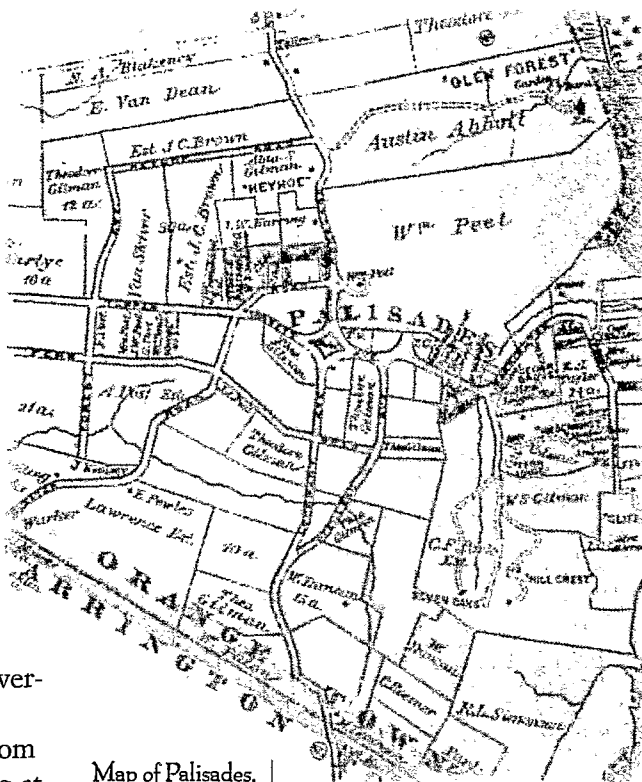
born we moved to a tiny penthouse on East 62nd street with a large terrace. Cushman built a sleeping porch, a dining terrace, and a sitting area with chairs and

How has Palisades changed in the last 57 years?

The ferry was still running in the first years we were here. I once rode on it. We watched it get washed away in the Hurricane of 1944.

What is next for you?

Some time ago I wrote a continuation of my book, about Palisades in the 20th century, and I hope that with Alice's help I can bring it up to date.



Map of Palisades,
1891 From Alice
Haagensen's book,
*Palisades &
Snedens Landing*,
published in 1986.

a hammock and a sandbox for the baby. The view was glorious. The one

Do you remember the sinking of the Titanic?

Oh yes. I was about 12 then. We were living in Madison, and people were talking about it. I remember seeing the plans of the ship.

Transportation was different in those days. Every spring we traveled from Madison to Cape Cod. We went by train, a 36 hour trip to New York, then by carriage to the docks. I remember crossing 10th Avenue. It was

After we married Cushman still needed some rest before jumping back into the grueling hospital routine, so we went to Europe for a year. We could live more cheaply there then, on about \$80 a month. We took the last crossing of the Rindam. It was 1928, and she was about to be broken up. We spent some time in Paris and ended up in Florence. It was a wonderful year.

When we came back to New York Cushman got a fellowship to study cancer at the Memorial Hospital. I worked at the YMCA publications department. We always lived in unusual places because Cushman insisted on sleeping outside. When Alice was



New Books

NEW NON-FICTION TITLES

Beattie, Ann	<i>Finding Your Way Home</i>
Chopra, Deepa	<i>Healing the Heart</i>
DeAngelis, Barbara	<i>Passion</i>
Hemingway, Lorian	<i>Walk on Water</i>
McCourt, Malachy	<i>A Monk Swimming</i>
Sayer, Mandy	<i>Alice</i>
Scully, Julia	<i>Outside Passage</i>
Sheehy, Gail	<i>Passages for Men</i>
Trillin, Calvin	<i>Family Man</i>

ADULT FICTION

Brown, Dale	<i>The Tin Man</i>
Coonts, Stephen	<i>Fortunes of War</i>
Kalpakian, Laura	<i>Caveat</i>
Lamb, Wally	<i>I Know This Much Is True</i>
Laughton, Jane	<i>The Face on the Wall</i>
McCorkle, Jill	<i>Final Vinyl Days & Other Stories</i>
Oates, Joyce Carol	<i>My Heart Laid Bare</i>
Trollope, Joanna	<i>The Best of Friends</i>
Vine, Barbara	<i>The Chimney Sweeper's Boy</i>

Solve It @ The Library

Children of all ages are invited to take part in the library's summer reading program, **Solve It @ The Library**. Participants may enjoy reading books of their choice with the added incentive of receiving a mysterious haunted house poster and adding colorful "sleuth" stickers to it as their reading progresses. They may also add figures to our program display in the children's room. It is a fun and non-competitive incentive to continue reading during vacation. A variety of theme-related activities will be offered during the program.

As school ends, the fun begins; so stop by the library at that time to begin borrowing books and to sign up for programs.

Terminal Tips

We would like to inform our patrons that they may now reserve their favorite books, instructional videos, etc. from any ANSER library.

At PAC Terminal:

1. Search by author, title or subject until you find the book you want.
2. At the screen where there is a description of the book or the screen that lists the libraries owning the book, enter S (Select) and press return.
3. Enter barcode number from the back of your library card and press return.
4. Enter the last four digits of your phone number and press return.
5. Read message and verify that your telephone number is correct by entering Y (Yes) or N (No) and press return.
6. Read the message and press return.

Palisades Free Library Book Club is looking for additional members. We meet once a week at 2:00PM on Thursdays. Friendly and informal. Some authors of books we've read are J. Updike, A. Proulx, A. Trollope, M. Atwood. Call Nancy Hall at 359-6237

Tappan Zee Thrift Shop

The library appreciates all the donations made on its behalf. Our profits are based on a formula of contributions received and volunteer hours worked. Anyone wishing to work at the shop for the library please call 359-0136.

Summer Schedule

Mon - Wed	3pm to 9pm
Thu	10am to-noon 3pm to 9pm
Fri	3pm to 5pm
Sat	11pm to 5pm

Closed Sundays June 21st thru Sept. 6th

BULLETIN BOARD

Dave and Diana Green, with their children Dakota and Savannah, are moving in July to Charlotte, North Carolina. Diana, who grew up in Palisades, worked with the 10964 staff for several years before she became too busy teaching. She has also served as a trustee of the Rockland Center for the Arts. Dave will continue his graphic arts work in North Carolina and Diana will continue to teach.

Photographs by **Erin White**, who lives on Century Road in Palisades, were shown at the New City Library in a special exhibit from April 21 to May 30. Erin is a senior at Rockland Country Day School in Congers.

Denise Warner, another Palisades resident, is a senior dance major at Allentown College. In 1997 she choreographed a show called *Unusual Suspects*, presented at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Festival of

the American Dance College Festival Association in March, 1998 at the University of Maryland at College Park. Her future plans include graduate school and choreography.

NET NEWS: A new web site, www.scorecard.org, will give information about polluters in your area when you type in your zip code.

Palisades Presbyterian Church News

ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 13, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

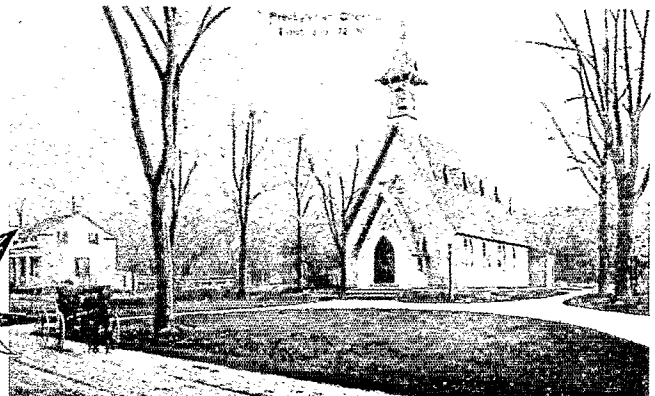
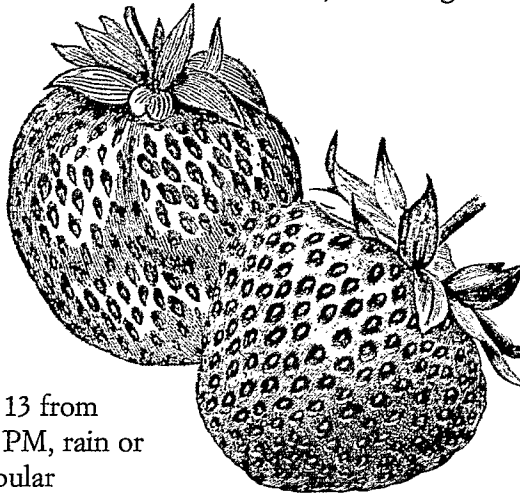
On the manse lawn, Washington Spring Rd, opposite the church

Palisades Strawberry Festival

The Palisades Presbyterian Church holds its annual Strawberry Festival on

Saturday, June 13 from 2:00 until 6:00 PM, rain or shine. This popular

community-wide event will again be held on the lawn of the manse at 124 Washington Spring Road. Strawberries, shortcake, ice cream, balloons, and much more. Old fashioned fun for all!



The Church in 1900. From Alice Haagenzen's book, *Palisades & Snedens Landing*

A Busy Month for the Palisades Presbyterian Church

A trip to the Broadway production of Walt Disney's *The Lion King* highlights a busy month for the Palisades Presbyterian Church. On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, several young people who have completed the church's communicants program will join the church. This year's is the largest communicants class in the nineties.



Palisades Presbyterian Church. September 6, 1919

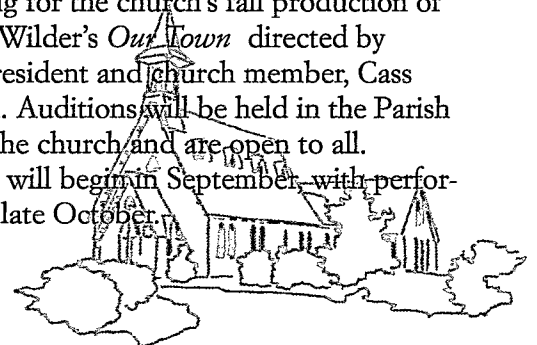
A special worship service will be held on Sunday, June 7 at 11 AM which will use dramatic themes, musical styles, choreography and puppetry techniques based on *The Lion King*. Children will play a central role in performing *The Little Sparrow's Great Idea*, an allegory set in the skies over a parched African landscape. The story, symbolic of the importance of sharing, was written by Rev. Robert Chase, the church's pastor. The service will take place under a tent in the church's backyard.

One hundred members and friends of the congregation will be traveling to Broadway's New Amsterdam Theatre on Thursday night, June 18 to see *The Lion King*.

"This is not just a fun event," says Rev. Chase. "The play contains significant cross-cultural elements and important ecological lessons presented in an innovative artistic manner. The combination of puppetry and human performance used in the production is deeply

symbolic of our responsibility to be co-creators with God."

The month concludes on June 30 at 7:30 PM with casting for the church's fall production of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* directed by Palisades resident and church member, Cass Ludington. Auditions will be held in the Parish House at the church and are open to all. Rehearsals will begin in September, with performances in late October.



The Palisades History Club

On January 21 Alice Gerard talked about her new book, *Adventures from the Past*, as one of the Palisades Library afterschool programs for children. The young audience seemed so interested in local history that at the end of the program she asked how many would like to join a History Club. Almost everyone there signed up.

A month later, on February 21, the group met on a Saturday afternoon at the library and then walked to the Palisades Cemetery to explore one aspect of the past. The children were joined by some interested parents and neighbors, many of whom had never visited the cemetery before. It is a fascinating place, with some sandstone tombstones dating to the early 18th century. Molly Sneden's old tombstone has been replaced by a modern granite slab, but Jonathan Lawrence's weather-beaten slab is still there, as well as many others with familiar names in Palisades history: Nicholas Gesner, Winthrop Gilman, Jesse Trenchard,

Laura Ebmeyer, and Mildred Rippey. One tombstone belonging to a little Cisco girl, way back in the corner, was brought here from Skunk Hollow a few years ago. The children explored, looked for the oldest tombstones, and made a few rubbings.

The second history club meeting, on March 28, was a journey of exploration down what may have been the original road from the river to the top of the hill. A small group of five adults and five children met at the Palisades Church at 2:00 on a warm

Saturday afternoon; two more people joined later. This was a complicated trip to arrange because we needed permission for the group to pass through the backyards of seven different properties on its way down to the river.

Sam Gerard has been researching the possibility that the first road ran along the north side of the stream which runs straight down the ravine behind a number of the houses on Washington Spring Road, instead of making S turns as it does today.

He explained to the group that there were several reasons for believing this: firstly, in early times people always found that the easiest route across rough country and over steep inclines was to follow the rivers and streams that had cut through them. These waterways had already created the gentlest natural slopes through such areas. There is also documentary evidence suggesting that the present Washington Spring Road was made during the Revolutionary War. In a letter to George Washington, General Anthony Wayne recommended building a blockhouse and a cannon emplacement (redoubt) to protect Sneden's Landing against the British. He also proposed putting militia troops to work improving the road to the ferry for ease of transporting heavy military equipment. The layout of the



present winding road is the logical way to effect this improvement. A map included with General Wayne's letter showed the existing 1780 road going straight up the hill from the Hudson, presumably alongside the stream.

Further indirect evidence is found in two early maps that show the partitioning of Robert Sneden's estate after his death in 1766. Of the 120 acres along the river, his widow, Mollie, and eldest son, Dennis, retained about 20 acres north of the road to the river. The remaining 100 acres, south of the road, was divided among the remaining five Sneden brothers. Two maps dated 1822 and 1837 show this dividing line which coincides with the location of the stream, and which therefore must show the position of the pre-revolutionary road.

More evidence is given by Winthrop Gilman, the well known 19th century Palisades historian. He states that in the mid 1800's local tradition held that the original road to the river followed along the north side of the stream.

The History Club made their way down the hill along the north side of the stream through brush and briars, looking for clues which would show the most likely location of the old road. They stopped at the historic Washington Spring, half way down the hill, not for a drink, but for frog watching. Farther along, the location of the blockhouse on top of the steep hill to the north was pointed out. Then, following the stream to a hill directly above the old ferry landing, they stopped to explore the site of the Revolutionary War redoubt which is said to have mounted two cannon. Below the redoubt, at the base of the slope was seen the remains of a bridge foundation where the early wagon road probably crossed the stream to the south for a brief stretch to avoid an impassable defile on the north.

At the river shore, some 200 yards north of the present dock the group saw a huge rock pile that probably marks the location of the ferry dock at the time of the Revolution. Then, to show that historical field work is not just a lot of tough trekking, history club members young and old enjoyed lemonade and snacks at the river's edge (as can be seen in the above photo).

by Sam & Alice Gerard

SOUTH ORANGETOWN SCHOOL NEWS

NEW SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTED

Welcome to the new Superintendent, Ms. Eileen Gress. Ms. Gress, who will assume the position on July 1, comes to South Orangetown from Darien, Connecticut, where she has been superintendent for the past five years. She has also served as assistant superintendent and superintendent of the Westborough Public Schools in Massachusetts and superintendent of the East Haven (CT) Public Schools. A native New Yorker, Ms. Gress began her education career as a junior high and high school math teacher.

Ms. Gress is currently pursuing her doctorate in Educational Administration at the University of Connecticut. She also holds a Masters in Curriculum degree from the University of Rochester, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Brooklyn College.

Upon her appointment, Ms. Gress was quoted as saying "... I look forward to coming to South Orangetown. It is a community of wonderful people who are truly committed to providing their children with the best education possible." We look forward to seeing her in our District as well. The community was invited to welcome her at a reception on Wednesday May 27 at Tappan Zee High School.

SCHOOL BUDGET AND SCHOOL BOARD VOTE RESULTS

The South Orangetown School Budget for academic year 1998-1998 was approved by voters on May 19, by a vote of 1,226 to 1,064.

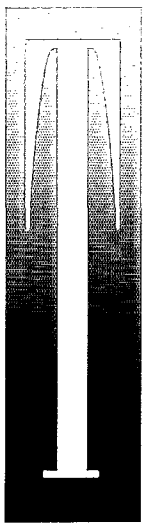
In the Board of Education election, however, Palisadian Gerry Miras lost her seat to Cee Guarino of Tappan by only 67 votes out of the 2,255 cast for the Palisades seat. In the 40 years since the Gentleman's Agreement has been in place, Palisades is the only hamlet that has lost its representation on the Board of Education.

We know that the community joins the staff of 10964 in extending our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Gerry for her 15 years of hard work and dedication to our children. We wish her well.

Ellen Chayet Kidd

Gerry Miras

ROVING PHOTOGRAPHER



These pictures of children around the world, taken by Palisades resident Gerry Miras, have been exhibited at the South Orangetown

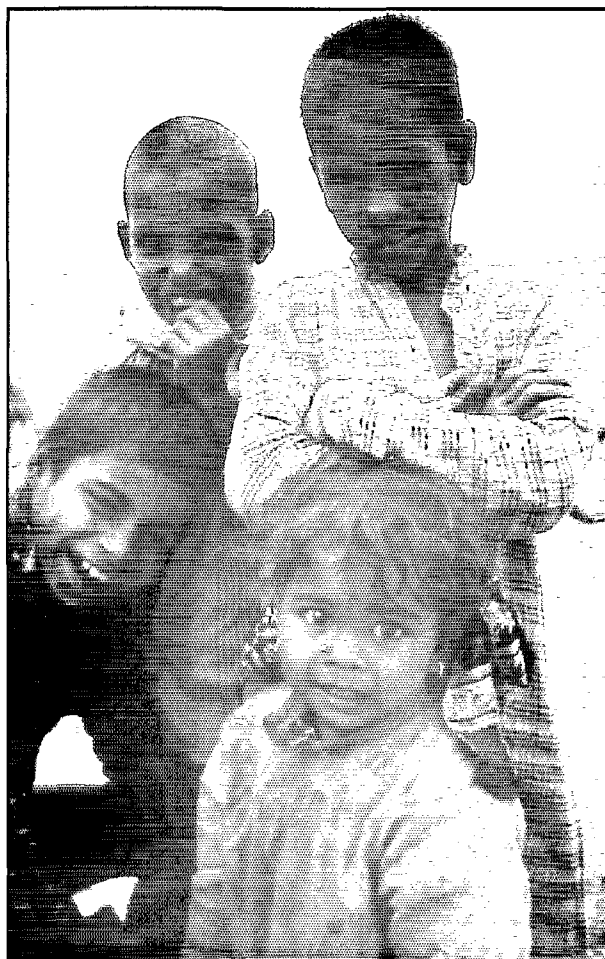
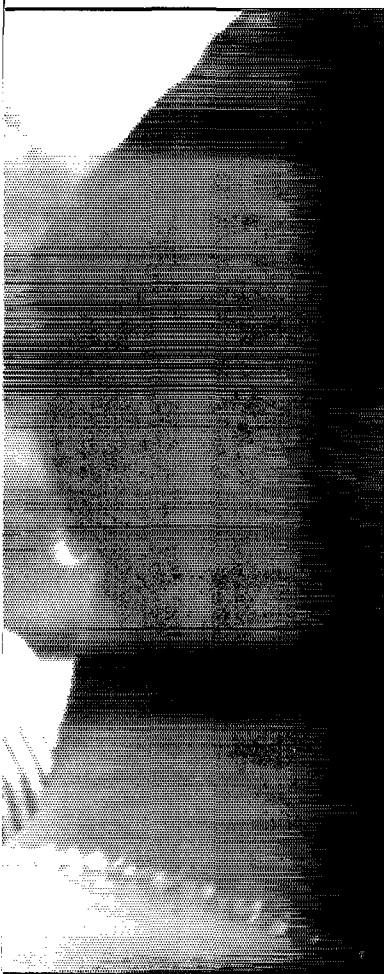
Board of Education gallery, the Palisades Library, and (some) at the Tappan Library.

The pictures come from Turkey, China, Japan, Nepal, Morocco, and India, all countries Gerry has visited in the last six-




Children





teen years. She has made five trips to China, the first in 1982 and the last in 1996, and comments that many changes have taken place during that time. In 1990 she spent three weeks in Turkey, traveling by bus from the Russian border to the Bosphorous. She comments that Japan, which she visited in 1987, has a finished look compared to China but that children are very much loved in both countries.

Gerry is particularly interested in the way people live and work. She composes the picture in her mind before she takes it and says that the kind of camera doesn't matter, it's all in the mind. She may take eight to ten rolls of film on each trip, about 300 pictures, and cull them down to 140 pictures: ten may be of children. These are her favorites. 

of the world



Restaurant Review

By Jocelyn DeCrescenzo

You needn't go far afield if it is exceptional food you want in an entirely esoteric environment. Rarified it's true, but not so much that you can't breathe. And, if food is a joy to be shared by all of the senses, then the **3B Restaurant in Nyack** is, indeed, the place to be. I walked in and a table was found for me immediately by the large plate glass windows which front Main Street. The polished crystal glasses sparkled and the ice cubes tinkled with perfect pitch. The ice shot through with anticipatory light, throwing flashing prismatic rainbows on the cozy terra cotta colored walls. And I thought really, if it was a different, hotter time of year, that clear cold water would be gone just as soon as I had looked at it. White paneled wainscoting gleamed softly in the candlelight and the stiff white tablecloths and napkins smelled ever so slightly — dryly — of starch. Made me think of my first true love and the secret satisfaction I got from ironing his double stitched, tailored shirts. Well, the silverware was heavy and shiny, the weightiness alone foretold a fantastic meal to come. And come it did.

Chef-proprietor Tony Gerson has been honing his considerable culinary skills for the past 18 years, working his way through the ranks at a number of restaurants in the metropolitan area. Approximately 10 years ago he, with his half Japanese wife Summer and their then two year old daughter April, sold every thing they owned — everything — to be able to go to France and study at *Ecole de*

Gastronomie Française Ritz Escoffier in Paris. While there, he developed a fine appreciation and respect for "La Technique," the critical culinary basis from which all cuisine emanates. He graduated with honors. From Summer, who was brought up in Japan, he has learned much of Asian cuisines. Her influence is felt most delightfully in the serene, tranquil atmosphere. Airy and spacious yet somehow very intimate, this 75 seat restaurant satisfies almost all of my instincts for pleasure.

The seasonal menus (which change regularly) show off to perfection Tony's unique fusion of contemporary French cuisine with a Japanese/Asian twist. At a very reasonable price (approximately \$4.00 for soups and salads to \$10.00 for the Grilled Lamb Chops) the lunch menu is served Wednesday through Sunday from 11 AM to 3 PM and offers such specialties as Baked New Zealand Mussels with Wasabi Mayonnaise or Grilled Portabella Mushrooms with Yakidofu, Eggplant and Zucchini, for starters. Any manner of deliciously filled crepes stuffed with Grilled Vegetables or Spinach and Wild Mushrooms; Boursin, Gruyere or Bleu Cheese. Perhaps Ostrich Burgers or Pasta with Seared Tuna and Bok Choy would appeal to you. For lunch or Sunday Brunch, the menu is elegant and composed.

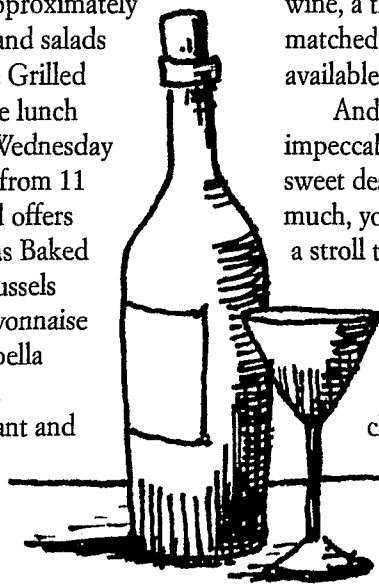
I know that when I have heard people say to me "presentation is everything," I get a slightly queasy sensation in the pit of my stomach, the implication being that the meal will be anything but enjoyable. Not only is the presentation at 3B a feast for the eyes, but, the food itself is magnificent. Dinner could start with

Oysters on the Half Shell with Daikon Wasabi Puree and Salmon Roe, or Jumbo Shrimp with Crabmeat and Golden Osetra Caviar. Perhaps Cream of Mushroom Soup with Poached Oysters is more your style. Entrees range from Roast Free Range Chicken with the most drippingly delicious sauce and Portabella Risotto or, Baked Whole Bronzini with Capers and Brown Butter to Sautéed Loin of Veal with Shitake Mushrooms or Wild Boar Chops. Appetizers, soups and salads are priced between \$5.00 and \$10.00, with entrees priced between \$18.00 and \$25.00. From start to finish, an entirely mouth watering evening. For those of you who get off on a good wine, a thoughtful wine list well matched with the extensive menu is available.

And, when the fantastic food, impeccable wait staff and not too sweet desserts to die for are too much, you can stretch your legs with a stroll to the large fish tank which fills part of one wall.

There swim exotic electric blues with fancy long anteater snouts and striped clown fish which will really make you laugh.

Startling darting zebra fish and tiny itty-bitty little fish trailing names much too long for their size. Rest your eyes and your mind. Treat your taste buds. Dare to be delinquent and delight yourself!



Don't worry, all of you who love your pasta and more. **Valdostana Restaurant of Tappan** is moving closer to home. As of the first week of June their new location, formerly "Madrid," will be even easier to get to and you will feel good being environmentally conscientious using less gas to get there and back. And, you won't have the hassle of parking in downtown Tappan!

THE PAST PRESERVED

Jonathan Lawrence Jr. is the only Continental Army veteran whose remains are buried in the quiet Palisades Cemetery. Nearly all of the monuments in the historic section where Lawrence is buried are made from either local sandstone (Lawrence's is) or unfinished marble. They have varying degrees of weather and atmospheric damage. The Lawrence stone has lost some of the inscription and it has fallen over.

Since 1982 a volunteer group called P.L.O.T. (Palisades Lot Owners Tribute) has taken on the work of removing the intrusion of mature casual growth trees that have dislodged and broken many monuments, and the mowing and other maintenance of the grounds. Recently we were approached by activist/historian/author Alice Munro Haagensen asking if we might take on the project of replacing or restoring the Lawrence monument and carrying out a re-dedication in the future. We were pleased to accept the responsibility.

With the assistance of Trinity Church personnel in N.Y.C. we have located what may be the only restoration company skilled and experienced in monument restoration, and we have concluded that restoration was much preferred over replacement with contemporary stone. The monument has been transported to the restoration company and is being evaluated as this is being written. We expect the cost to be in the \$2,000 to \$2,500 range. The work will be done and a public re-dedication ceremony will take place later in this county bicentennial year. Tentatively the Sunday before Veteran's Day in November. You are invited!

The ongoing work carried out by P.L.O.T. is financed solely by contributions and we pretty much use all annual income as we go about routine tree removal and grounds care. We could really use your financial support in carrying out the Jonathan Lawrence monument project, from restoration to ceremony. If you wish to help, checks can be made to P.L.O.T. and mailed to P.L.O.T., P.O. Box 1, Palisades, N.Y. 10964. If you mark your check or envelope "Lawrence" the money will be earmarked for restoration only. This could be the beginning of an ongoing project to rehabilitate this lovely old cemetery.

Submitted by Lee Sneden,
President of P.L.O.T.
He can be reached at
914/368-0243
or by mail to
P.O. Box 295,
Tallman, N.Y. 10982



A REPORT FROM REG: THE ROUTE 9W BUS SHELTERS

Since the publication of my article in the April issue of 10964 the following has occurred regarding the bus stop shelters.

On April 24 I met with Deputy Supervisor Elliot Tozer, Irwin Cohen of the County Highway Department, and Michael Calise of the engineering firm of Caruso and Horowitz, P.C. The meeting took place at the location of the shelters (9W and Oak Tree Road).

Mr. Cohen reaffirmed that the county will do the site preparation and laying of the concrete foundation slab, assisted by Mr. Calise's firm, all of which will be paid for by the county.

On May 11 I was told by Jimmy Dean, Orangetown Highway Superintendent, that the Red and Tan Bus Line (which will be paying for the lumber and materials other than the concrete slab) wants to locate the shelter serving south-bound buses a few feet to the south of the previous location to give the buses a bit more space for stopping for pickups (for safety reasons). Mr. Dean also told me that once the shelters have been built the Town will maintain them. Also, if litter becomes a problem (which is likely) the Town will provide trash cans and pick up the trash twice a week. I asked him to instruct the Town's snow plow crews to avoid blocking the shelters with plowed snow.

As previously reported, it is expected that each shelter will have a window on the side toward oncoming traffic.

The bureaucracy moves very slowly, but I do believe we are making progress. I will prepare another status report for the next issue of 10964.

by Reg Thayer

ArtNews

jocelyn decrescenzo



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Readings, Writings and Rhetoric II, Jocelyn

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July 9, 23, 30, August 6-August 13:

Jazz in the Garden Concert Series

August 1-23: Curator's Choice;

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August 29-September 27: Fifth National

Juried Show "Small Matters of Great

Importance," Curator: Paula Madawick,

Juror: Vivien Raynor

September 12: Bi-Annual Garden Walk Fundraiser

September 18, Friday 7:00 PM: * Readings,

Writings and Rhetoric III, Jocelyn DeCrescenzo

October 3-October 25: Contemporary Works

by Paul Bochner and Tony Oursler

Life Drawing Workshops Continues Tuesday

at 7:30 PM.

*This reading is made possible, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Program. In Rockland County, these funds are administered by the Arts Council of Rockland under the Community Cultural Grants Program

ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The center welcomes its new School Director, Randee Smith Nguyen, who began in February. Ms. Nguyen founded the Playwrights Horizons Theatre School in 1987 with Artistic Director, Andre Bishop. She has spent 17 years developing and producing new work on Theatre Row, and has developed theatre school programs for the two leading developmental theatres - Playwrights Horizons and The Ensemble Studio Theatre, where she is also a playwright member.

This year the Center will be sponsoring its first Advanced Student Exhibit which opens June 6 and runs through June 20. Gallery hours are: Monday - Friday 10 AM - 4 PM and Saturday and Sunday from 1 PM - 4 PM. Admission is free.

The Summer Semester begins July 6 and runs through August 14. Classes range from beginning and advanced levels in Painting, Ceramics, Writing, Glass Bead Making, Computer Art and Photography. There are all day programs for children ages 6 - 9 and 9 - 13 on Mondays and Fridays. Call (914) 358-0877 for our free brochure.

ART STUDENT'S LEAGUE

For those of us interested in fresh air and art, we are very fortunate that the Art Students League of NYC has opened a branch right here in Rockland County. In 1995, the League received generous gifts of property and funding from the family of the late artist and League instructor Vaclav Vytlacil for the establishment of the Art Students League's School of Painting and Sculpture. Located at 241 Kings Highway in historic Sparkill, NY, this program is operated by the Art Students League of New York City. Ric Del Rossi instructs Painting Outdoors from May 1-June 30. Daniel Dickerson instructs Painting Outdoors from July 1-August 31. Kenneth McIndoe also teaches Painting Outdoors from September 1-November 30. Rhoda Sherbell instructs Outdoor Sculpture from June 1-August 28. For more information call (914)-359-1263. Ask for artist and instructor Andy Lukach who is the director of the Sparkill branch and he will be glad to give you more details.

MUSICAL NOTES

Possessing a seriously sweet voice, master of the beat Palisadian John Ballesteros and his group Bápídrú continue to beguile audiences. With musicians who are simply the best of the best, this ensemble features the astonishingly beautiful, soulful voice of singer Miche Braden. Leaving you in a swoon like a Victorian lady whose stays are laced too tight, Miche will take your breath away. John also plays with two members of this group — pianist/arranger Aziza Miller and upright bassist Peter Dowdall — at Miriams (358-1249) on alternate Thursdays. For private bookings or updates on where you can hear this group, call John Ballesteros, Sound, Sealed, Delivered at 398-1328.

For a different kind of Jazz, a wailing, deep down dirty, funky rag-tag funeral New Orleans kind of experience, check out the superlative saxophonist Erik Lawrence who invites special guests to sit in with him at the Coven Cafe in Nyack on every 2nd-4th Thursday of the month. The cover is only \$5.00 and the pleasure is immeasurable. (Just make sure you wear clothes that don't matter as the cigarette smoke might get to you!). Call the Coven at 358-9829 for more information. Or E-mail Eric at eflatbflat@aol.com. Erik will also be playing at Bella's Cafe on May 22 at 8:00 PM. He has also booked the Rockland Jazz and Blues Society Summer Jazz Festival for Sunday August 22 when he will be playing with name artists and area musicians. Erik will be gigging in Central Park with the well known poet Frank Messina on June 13th and 14th. This appearance is part of a huge "beat" poetry marathon. Be there or be square baby and bring your sunglasses!

Flutist Jacquelyn Drechsler is in the process of organizing a concert/extravaganza for the near future at Carnegie Recital Hall. For more information you may call her at 359-3112.

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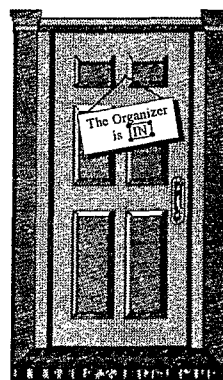
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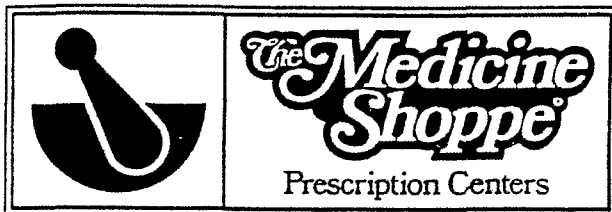


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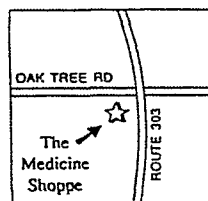
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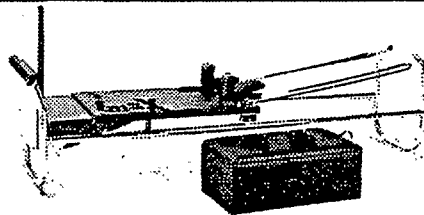
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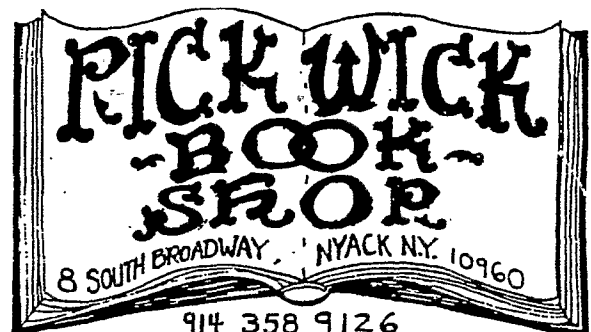
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