

# 10964

THE  
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NEWSLETTER

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## SHAKESPEARE IN PALISADES

ON APRIL 7, 8, & 9 THE CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE THEATRE PERFORMS  
*A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* AT THE PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**S**hakespeare has returned to Palisades! He was here with great gusto in the 70's and, as all things 70's seem to be returning, he's back.

The current Children's Shakespeare Theatre, under the direction of Diana Green, consists of 26 children ranging in age from 5 to 13 from Palisades, Piermont, and Tappan. Casting for this first play was done through a regular audition process following a month of theater workshops during which the children got to know each other and practice some drama skills. After five months of rehearsals, *A Mid-summer Night's Dream* will be ready for production on Friday April 7 and Saturday April 8 at 7 pm and Sunday April 9 at 4 pm.

The Children's Shakespeare Theatre began in 1973 at the home of Jean Brock on Horne Tooke Road. What started as a reading group of a few children who got together to read Macbeth with the aim of seeing a live performance afterwards at the Shakespeare Festival Theater in Stratford, Connecticut, became a 17-member acting troupe by the fall of '73. By the spring of '74 they had prepared not one, but two plays for performance at the Palisades Presbyterian Church, *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Tempest*. Jean directed the production and parents helped out with costume and set construction.

The original group lasted for five years and six plays, and then succumbed to the lack of funding. Some of the original members went on to careers in theater and film when they became adults.

"I was a member of that original group," said Diana



**OBERON** - Joey Cavanagh, **PUCK** - Savannah Green, **TITIANA** - Elisabeth Polk-Bauman, **FIRST FAIRY** - Mary Polk-Bauman

Green, organizer and director of the present Shakespeare troupe, "and this unique experience and happy community of peers was easily the highlight of my childhood. Not only did I learn about acting, develop an enormous vocabulary, and cultivate a more intense appreciation of history, but I became part of a large and long-lasting group of friends. As I grew older and watched my own children grow, I dreamed of recreating the Children's Shakespeare Theatre in hopes of passing onto them and to the children of this community some of the valuable experiences that I had had. In

the fall of 1999 I finally made this dream a reality."

"My primary reason for reforming the group," she continues, "was to give children the wonderful feeling of communal life that seems to be slipping away from us as a society. Children need this experience to keep them in touch with others in these times when competition is fierce and technology isolates us all. They need to learn to build trust between themselves and others and to empathize with their peers."

"The experience of working with a theater company is a wonderful vehicle," she continued. "In their attempts to portray strange and different characters and to grapple with archaic language, the children have to learn to trust that the others will appreciate their attempts and honor them with their attention and sensitive criticisms. This is particularly important when learning and performing Shakespeare's works, as one is essentially learning a new language as well as many new skills. The children embrace this task with great enthusiasm."

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# SHAKESPEARE IN PALISADES *(continued from page 1)*

Future plans for the group include reading plays and attending live performances, as well as additional performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at local schools. The next season of the Children's Shakespeare Theatre will begin in the fall of 2000 with workshops and auditions once again. New members will be welcome at that time.

"We are all proud of the work we have done in preparing for our first production," Diana says, "and we hope that this first season will lay a strong foundation for many more to come."

- Carol Elevitch



**REAR-** Bree Polk-Bauman and Ashley Morales, **CENTER-** Dakota Green, **RIGHT(TOP TO BOTTOM)-** Spencer Martin, Emma Fernberger, Joey Cavanagh, Perri Gerard, Travis Tacon, and Elisabeth Polk-Bauman



Debra Tacon gives direction to Dakota Green, Perri Gerard, and Bree Polk-Bauman



**LEFT TO RIGHT-** Spencer Martin, Emma Fernberger, Joey Cavanagh, Perri Gerard, and Travis Tacon



Savannah Green and Bree Polk-Bauman



Peter Baryshnikov, Savannah Green, and Bree Polk-Bauman

see **BULLETIN BOARD** (page 14) for further information

# ROUTE 303 PROJECT "IS NOT A WIDENING STUDY"

## -- TZ BRIDGE LOOKS LIKE A DIFFERENT STORY

A pre-planning process for Route 303 in Orangetown has begun. The project title is the "Route 303 Sustainable Development Study," and it is something of a joint effort by the Town government, the state Department of Transportation (the notorious "DOT"), and the Metropolitan Transportation Council.

At preliminary meetings at Town Hall late last year, Eileen Larkin and I, speaking for the Palisades Civic Association, sounded a clear call that the hamlets served by 303 do not want and do not feel obligated to have it treated as an access road to the Palisades Center Mall. Many voices from Tappan and Orangeburg supported and elaborated on this theme.

It seems we were heard. Supervisor Thom Kleiner stated clearly at a January 13 meeting, called to initiate the formal public participation process, that "the present study is not a 'widening' study, but rather an examination of the land use and transportation issues that affect residents' quality of life."

Spokesmen for DOT also stated emphatically that they have no intention of widening 303; the themes are safety and "sustainable development." Harry Strate of Wilbur Smith Associates, the consulting firm in charge of the study, said that the "citizens' reaction" to DOT's 303 widening proposal (six or so years ago) and "the subsequent change in direction from DOT indicate the effectiveness of organized community participation."

The Supervisor has named some 30 residents of east-central Orangetown, including Eileen Larkin, to a Citizens Advisory Committee. To start the process, three "Neighborhood" meetings were scheduled in mid-to-late February, seeking "the feedback of

### Another Accident at Rte. 303 and Oak Tree Road:



January 14, between 4 and 5 P.M., a southbound Ford Econoline traveling Rte. 303 (Tappan) slammed into a late model Mercury Marquis automobile broadside. The impact was so intense and violent the Mercury spun counterclockwise out of control, 200 plus degrees, into the nearby Shopping Center's parking area.

photo: Anthony C. Zacharakis

area residents, business owners, and other interested parties." The areas are: "Tappan" from the state line to Kings Highway; "Orangeburg-Blauvelt" from Kings Highway to Greenbush Road, and "Bradley Park" from there to the Clarkstown line.

The future of the 45-year-old Tappan Zee Bridge is quite another matter. Its traffic greatly exceeds its capacity, causing intolerable delays for daily commuters and returning week-enders that get more intolerable every year. Just to keep it "safe" from the effects of metal fatigue and of worms eating away its underwater supports would cost \$1 billion over the next dozen years, John Platt, executive director of the Thruway Authority, told a January 11 "informational meeting" in Nyack.

An I-287 Task Force appointed by the Metropolitan Transportation Ad-

ministration announced at the meeting that it has recommended a "replacement" bridge that would have more lanes and light and/or heavy railroad rails. Although the Thruway Authority is legally independent, Governor George Pataki has stated that he will make the final decision.

As reported in *The Journal News*, any plan will be subjected to intensive and protracted "Environmental Quality Review" including input by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard. The mayors of Nyack, South Nyack, and Grandview-on-Hudson have agreed to work together to monitor and influence the planning and have committed village funds to finance expert consultants and legal action.

A long and bitter conflict looms.

- Andrew E. Norman

# TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE CONTROVERSY



In 1955, New York State officials heralded the opening of the Tappan Zee Bridge with the promise of uniting older communities in Rockland and Westchester counties, a new frontier for suburban development, easier access to the city, and increased property values.

Forty-five years later, the bridge is overcrowded and burdensome, state officials say, handling some 130,000 vehicles a day at 30 percent over capacity and, built at the widest point in the Hudson River, just outside of the jurisdiction of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, prohibitively expensive to maintain.

In January, a task force appointed by the Metropolitan Transportation Administration called for a project to replace the bridge. The new eight-lane span would include tracks for a commuter rail line and a tiered-toll system that would allow discounts to off-peak travelers.

These days the river communities find themselves plunged into murky waters as they await the public release of the task force report that could seal their fates.

New-bridge proponents say that \$4 billion is not an unreasonable amount to pay for the containment of suburban sprawl, a link to the Metro-North Railroad line, and to relieve rush-hour traffic that can create logjams six miles long.

Advocates of repairing the bridge say that preliminary measures should be taken to reduce congestion before plunging the region into a decade of construction woes, including increased noise, commuting difficulties and potential loss of property.

Whatever their positions, both sides agree on one thing: there is no clear-cut answer, no easy way out.

## Groups Respond To Task Force Report

### Concerned Citizens For Responsible Riverfront Development

In a letter to *The New York Times*, Orangetown Supervisor Thom Kleiner wrote: "Gov. George E. Pataki has indicated that he will have the final say on the future of the Tappan Zee Bridge and whether a replacement bridge is needed. The governor has shown sensitivity to the environmental needs of the river and its environs, but now he must ensure that any decision regarding the future of the bridge be the product of full public participation by the residents of the river villages and their elected representatives."

"Before a replacement bridge is a *fait accompli*, we should be assured that the alternatives available to reduce congestion in the region have been considered and exhausted."

In a telephone interview last month, Mr. Kleiner said: "The I-287 Task Force recommended in their preliminary

conclusion that a replacement bridge was probably needed because of structural deficiencies on the bridge and the inability to address congestion issues. Those of us in local government and in community groups here and across the river felt it was premature because, one, we didn't have all the information and, two, we haven't seen the task force report, based on a report by Vollmer Associates," a consulting firm in Manhattan.

Paul Feiner, the Greenburgh Town Supervisor, agreed. "We're basically trying to persuade the governor to slow down the process and let the Nyacks and Greenburgh hire an independent consultant who would review the need for a new bridge," he said. "I think that the decision should be made by elected officials instead of by three appointed members of the New York State Thruway Authority."

To that end, Mr. Kleiner, Mr. Feiner, and local residents including George Sherman in South Nyack have created a bipartisan coalition of elected officials and citizens from both sides of the river, of which Mr. Sherman is the de facto head. The group, Concerned Citizens for Responsible Riverfront Development (CCRDR), held a meeting in Nyack to voice their concerns in January, and a second is planned, perhaps as early as this month.

"The goal is really to get more information, to make sure that there is a need for a new bridge, to look at all the impacts of a new bridge on condemnation, aesthetics, the impact on biology and waterlife," Mr. Feiner said.

Their group's request is threefold, said Mr. Kleiner, comprising:

- \* an independent engineering study to verify the results of the thruway's own structural analysis of the bridge;
- \* the governor's exhaustive consideration of congestion-lessening techniques, including mass transit, the re-opening of the West Shore rail line and variable toll-taking, and
- \* the alternative of a tunnel underneath the river.

"I think that we all have to recognize that it's not only a local issue, but a regional one and while local residents must have complete information and be completely part of the process, we need to recognize that these are difficult transportation issues and that we have to come to a consensus on them," he said. "I have to emphasize that it's very difficult without having the information," he added. "We have to make sure that this is not just an excuse to widen roads and allow for more capacity."

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# NEW MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING ON ROUTE 9W

**A** 17,000 square foot medical arts building designed by architect Kier Levesque, of Nyack is being built on a one-acre lot at 348 Route 9W, squeezed in between the Rockland Country Club and the grounds of the IBM Executive Conference Center. Called The Interactive Healthcare Sciences Center or IHSC, the new facility will offer both standard and alternative medical approaches to clinical evaluation, counseling and treatment. The owner and managing director of the Center is Dr. Albert Mark Markarian, a metaphysician, who also owns Kalman Advertising in Fort Lee, NJ.

The building permit was issued in June of 1999, according to Orangetown tax assessor Brian Kenney. Dr. Markarian and his wife Rose have owned the property for the last eleven years. The previous owner was Donald Knight, who put the land and a small house on it up for sale after he retired and moved to Florida. According to Andy Norman of the Palisades Civic Association, the Markarians submitted a plan for the new building to the ZBA about seven or eight years ago, which the Civic Association "fought all we could".

At first, the permit was turned down because the building could not fit on the lot without a variance allowing a buffer zone of 50 feet along the north boundary next to Rockland Country Club, rather than the 100 feet required. The Markarians appealed all the way to the NY State Supreme Court to win permission to build with the 50 foot buffer under a "grandfather" clause, since they had owned the property before the wider buffer was required. Andy Norman also stated that no mention was made in the original building plans of the substantial amount of rock and earth removal that has since taken place.

When contacted by phone, Dr. Markarian emphasized

that he has always wanted to build in Palisades because he likes the area, and he hopes to have a positive relationship with the community. According to Dr. Markarian, Palisades "is where Mr. and Mrs. America make a place for themselves -they are the backbone of America and that's why this is the perfect place for this Center. From a metaphysical point of view, we appreciate the people in this town."

Dr. Markarian's own clinical practice focuses on the mind-body connection with an emphasis on spiritual values; he received his early training in a 2-year program at The College of Divine Metaphysics in Indianapolis, Indiana during the 1970s. Since then, he has worked to join together with other people interested in the spiritual aspects of the mind-body connection and alternative medical methods. This process of institution-building has culminated in the creation of The Interactive Healthcare Sciences Center. The IHSC has a board of trustees, but Dr. Markarian is the sole investor, in order, in his words, "to control its integrity."

When completed, the IHSC will offer the services of 24 physicians and practitioners, who are currently being hired by medical director Dr. Robin Leder, MD. Areas of specialization mentioned by Dr. Markarian include diet, homeopathic medicine and spiritual meditation, as well as the services of specialized surgeons and primary care physicians. In addition, a large seminar room seating more than 100 people is being built, where public seminars on health and psychological issues will be held. Dr. Markarian visualizes a substantial program of community and charitable outreach "as an experiment" through a separate nonprofit arm of his organization, called "The Human Enterprise".

- Greta Nettleton

## TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE CONTROVERSY - contacts, phone numbers, websites

**Thom Kleiner, Orangetown Town Supervisor**  
914-359-5100, ext. 261 (work)  
914-359-TKTK (home)

**Paul Feiner, Greenburgh Town Supervisor**  
914-993-1540 (work)  
914-478-1219 (home)

**Concerned Citizens for Responsible Riverfront Development**  
George Sherman: 914-727-2075

**Federated Conservationists of Westchester County**  
Maureen Morgan: 914-762-5512.

**Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition**  
Robert Bradbury: 914-359-1373

**Tri-State Transportation Campaign**  
Jessica Astrof: 212-268-7474

**[www.tzinfo.org](http://www.tzinfo.org)**

A calendar of forthcoming meetings, regularly updated information, "action alerts" and a list of government contacts.

**TZInfo mailing list**

People can join the TZInfo mailing list by sending a blank e-mail to [tzinfosubscribe@topica.com](mailto:tzinfosubscribe@topica.com). Updated information will be e-mailed daily to subscribers.

# DONALD FRAZIER TAPLEY

**D**onald Frazier Tapley did more than live in Palisades for nearly 40 years. He enriched it, and his death on December 16 leaves us wondering, "Whom do we turn to now?" Ann Tonetti said it to me so very, very well: "Donald was the protector of the community." We have had Donald to give us advice and reassurance, care and careful referrals, as well as friendship and fun and his gentle, sly humor, for all these years. Without him, we feel lonely and lost and more than a little scared.

Donald Tapley was born in 1927 in the little town of Woodstock, New Brunswick, where his father worked for the railroad. His mother's family, "Loyalists" as they called themselves, had moved up in the wake of the American Revolution. Woodstock was in the heart of potato country, near the Maine border. His grandmother decided he should become an historian, but he was inspired by an uncle who practiced old-fashioned birth-to-death medicine in the next town. When he graduated from Acadia College in Nova Scotia, Donald managed the leap to the University of Chicago Medical School, followed in 1953 by internship at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, where he began to immerse himself in endocrinology, and particularly the fascinating hormones produced by the thyroid gland. He received post-doctoral fellowships at Johns Hopkins and then at Oxford University, where he met and wooed Caroline Southall.

Donald returned to New York to start as an assistant professor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (Columbia Medical School), flew back to England to marry Caroline, and took up residence in a too-small house in Tenafly. When their first child, Katherine, was two and their second, Elizabeth, was nearly finished gestating, they had dinner in Manhattan with the young sister of a friend of Donald's mother. Judith Platt (for it was she) recommended that the Tapleys call Annie Gugler and ask if anything was available in Palisades. Mrs. Gugler showed them the outside of Chateau Hash, one of several houses owned and rented by her brother, Joseph Tonetti, and assured them that there were more than two bedrooms. That was good enough. They moved in during the spring of 1960. Their third child, Sarah, was born and there was a year back in Oxford before they moved uphill to the house now occupied by the Booses, then in the mid 70s to the Katzenbach house on Woods Road, and four years ago to the Laundry, just up the road from Snedens Landing.

Donald began his involvement in community affairs, like so many before and after him, by serving on the board of the Palisades Free Library and as its president. This came at a critical time, for the board of the struggling Orangeburg Library conceived a bold plan to convert it to "the Orangetown Public Library" and then absorb the Palisades, Tappan, and Blauvelt Free Libraries into it. Donald worked



in the successful political battle to defeat the Orangeburg putsch. He helped convert the newly created Orangetown Library District into what it still is today, an instrumentality not to destroy the hamlet libraries but one to support them with a district tax.

In 1972, Columbia promoted Donald (or, as his professional associates called him, "Don") to the most prestigious of all teaching positions, the Professor of Medicine. That same year he was one of the organizers of the group that persuaded the South Orangetown Central School District to sell the original Palisades school building for \$1 to the Palisades Community Center, which he helped establish. Donald served on the boards of the PCC and also of the Palisades Civic Association for many productive years, characteristically volunteering in times of crisis.

Meanwhile, his medical career progressed apace. He became acting dean of P&S in 1973 and dean the following year. In a decade he more than doubled the medical school's endowment as well as its federal research funding and its alumni support. The teachers he recruited and inspired raised Columbia's official ranking to one of the top three American medical schools, a position it has retained. He reinvigorated the university's Schools of Nursing and Public Health, instituted a Faculty Club, founded and edited journals, published research papers on thyroid hormones, and organized and edited the famous "Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons Complete Home Medical Guide," the substantial proceeds of which go to P&S's scholarship fund.

In recent years, while continuing to teach and do research, Donald was "promoted" (according to the university) or "kicked upstairs" (according to him) to a vice presidency for the Health Services Division, comprising medicine, nursing, public health, and the Audubon Biomedical Science and Technology Park, New York City's first "research park," which he helped plan and bring to fruition.

He served for the last ten or more years as a member of the Orangetown Historic Areas Board of Review, the boards of the historic Morris-Jumel Mansion (near Columbia's medical center), the O'Connor Hospital in Delhi (near the Tapleys' Catskills retreat), and the Hudson Riverkeeper.

Donald Tapley was as reliable as a friend as he was as a teacher, leader, and citizen. He made sure his friends and

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## LYNN SYKES HONORED FOR WORK ON PLATE TECTONIC THEORY

Three scientists whose work during the 1960s helped establish geology's unifying theory of plate tectonics received the 2000 G. Unger Vetlesen Prize at a Columbia University ceremony held on January 24 in the Low Memorial Library Rotunda. William Jason Morgan of Princeton University, Walter Pitman, III, and Lynn R. Sykes of Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (and a Palisades resident) shared one of earth science's premier honors, each receiving a commemorative gold medal and a third of the \$100,000 in prize money.

The Vetlesen Prize, which recognizes "achievement in the sciences resulting in a clearer understanding of the earth, its history, or its relation to the universe," is awarded by the Trustees of Columbia in association with the Georg Unger Vetlesen Foundation.

The theory of plate tectonics has revolutionized the study of the earth's crust and deep interior, providing a cohesive framework for investigating and understanding the formation of mountains, volcanoes, ocean basins, midocean ridges and deep-sea trenches, the configurations of continents and oceans in the geologic past, the evolution of both climate and life, and the distribution and concentration of petroleum and other natural resources.

"The development of plate tectonic theory certainly warrants a Nobel Prize," said Dr. Marcia McNutt, president-elect of the American Geophysical Union. "There is no doubt that it ranks as one of the top ten scientific accomplishments of the second half of the 20th Century." The Vetlesen Prize was established in 1959 to "rank in dignity and significance with the Nobel prizes," which do not recognize achievement in the earth sciences.

Dr. Sykes has made his career at Columbia and Lamont-Doherty, where he is Higgins Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences. Firmly committed to the application of basic research to societal needs, he now concentrates on earthquake forecasting and prediction, the seismic character of tectonic plate subduction, and the seismological verification of underground nuclear test ban treaties.

The Federation of American Scientists presented him its Public Service Award for working to revive scientific and public interest in a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. Dr. Sykes has testified before Congress six times as an expert on nuclear test verification.



## ELLEN GALINSKY'S NEW BOOK, ASK THE CHILDREN

In the 25-year-long debate about work and family, children's voices have been rarely heard - until now. For her new book, *Ask the Children: What America's Children Really Think About Working Parents*, local resident Ellen Galinsky, president of the nonprofit Families and Work Institute in Manhattan



surveyed 1,023 children in the third through the twelfth grades nationwide, as well as 605 parents, to investigate what works in managing work and family life from the perspective of both. Said Galinsky, "My goal in writing *Ask the Children* was to reframe how we think and how we manage the decisions that working families make every day."

Because life today has changed faster than our views about how we should live, Galinsky writes, many debates miss the mark. "In the national conversation we've been having in this country about work and family life, having a working mother is seen as being either good or bad for children, but when we ask the children, we find that working in itself is not good or bad for children - it is how children are parented that makes the difference." *Ask the Children* probes this issue by asking children to assess how they are being parented based on 12 parenting skills that research indicates are linked to children's healthy development, school readiness, and school success. These include, "raising me with good values," "being someone I can go to when I am upset," "spends time talking with me," "appreciates me for who I am," "is involved with my school or child care" and so forth.

This study found no differences in the assessment given by children who have employed mothers and mothers at home. Galinsky writes that this result confirms several decades of research that indicates that you can't tell very much about how a child will turn out simply because his or her mother works. What does matter is how children are being parented -- what values their parents have, how they connect to their children, and whether the children are priorities in their lives.

Despite this research, Galinsky writes in *Ask the Children*, the debate about whether maternal employment is good OR bad for children rages on. In this debate, she says, everyone loses. Mothers at home feel put down, and feel as if they are the mop-up-act at school. Yet when they go to the proverbial party and are asked what they do, guests often turn away to talk with someone "more interesting." Employed mothers also

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neighbors felt free to call him for medical consultation concerning big and little problems. His diagnostic instincts were uncanny, and his referrals were brilliant. His warmth and humor were unfailing.

A story that well signifies what was so special about Donald concerns that marvelous, almost mythical lady, Marian Powys Gray, who came from England in the early 20th century to live directly across the street from the Palisades Presbyterian Church. In her

later years - her many, many later years - she became physically and finally intellectually infirm in many ways. But she knew who she was and she knew what she loved, and high on her list were her house and garden. The day came at last when she collapsed, was found in desperate condition, and was rushed to the Presbyterian Hospital. Word quickly reached the Dean that a neighbor of his had been brought in, in a clearly terminal state.

Donald went immediately to her

floor and summoned the doctors in charge. "Get her home!" he said. "She wants to die at home. I promised her." They objected; they protested; they could keep her alive only if they kept her in the hospital. "Get her home," said Donald. "Now!" And she was taken home, and laid on her favorite couch. "Thank God!" she said, and died soon after.

She had placed her trust in the right man.

- Andy Norman

# ELLEN GALINSKY

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feel put down. They feel that they are seen as sacrificing their children at the altar of their own materialism and success, seen as missing the important moments with their children. Writes Galinsky, "The decision whether to work or not, and how much to work, is an important personal one. If one side is pitted against the other, we are left with a society that does not value mothering in any of its forms as much as it should."

And, she writes, it is not just mothering that matters; fathering is very important to children too. The national conversation about work and family life focuses on mothers. Yet in finding after finding in *Ask the Children*, the importance of fathers is very evident. For example, children were asked if they had too little, enough, or too much time with their mothers and fathers. Children are more likely to say that they have too little time with their fathers (35 percent) than their mothers (28 percent).

In addition, it's not quality time or quantity time: both make a difference. In the debate about work and family life, people argue about which is most important. But *Ask the Children* reframes the question, looking at how much time children report spending with their parents, as well as what happens in this time (the activities

that parents and children do together, whether the time is rushed or calm, and whether children feel that their parents can really focus on them when they are together) and finds that all are important to how successful children feel their parents are in managing work and family life.

Another finding: children are affected by how their parents work. She identifies the four aspects of jobs that do make a difference: 1) having a job with reasonable demands; 2) having a job that permits parents to focus on their work; 3) having a job that is meaningful, challenging, and provides job autonomy and opportunities to learn; and 4) having a workplace environment with supportive relationships where parents don't feel they have to choose between having a job and parenting. Parents who work in these environments are in better moods and have more energy for parenting which, in turn, affects their interactions with their children, and children's development. On this basis, Galinsky makes many practical suggestions for how to manage family in ways that affect children's development more positively.

When parents come home from work stressed, on the other hand, children worry. According to the study, one third of children (32 percent) worry

about their parents often or very often. If one includes the children who say they sometimes worry about their parents, the percent goes up to two-thirds of children who worry. And if given one wish to change the way their mothers' or fathers' work affects them, the largest proportion of children wish that their parents would be less stressed and less tired. Interestingly, when asked what they think their children would wish for, only 2 percent of parents correctly guess that work stress is on their children's minds.

A final finding provides food for thought: Most children do not give their parents very high marks for knowing what is really going on in their lives. Furthermore, most want better communication. Galinsky writes that though some people confuse "asking the children" with abdicating to children, this should not be the case. Adults need to remain the adults, using information from children rather than turning things over to them. When children are listened to and respected, they feel that the adults in their lives are "there for them." As one child put it: "Listen to what your kids say, because you know, it's very important. And sometimes a kid can have a great idea and it could even affect you."

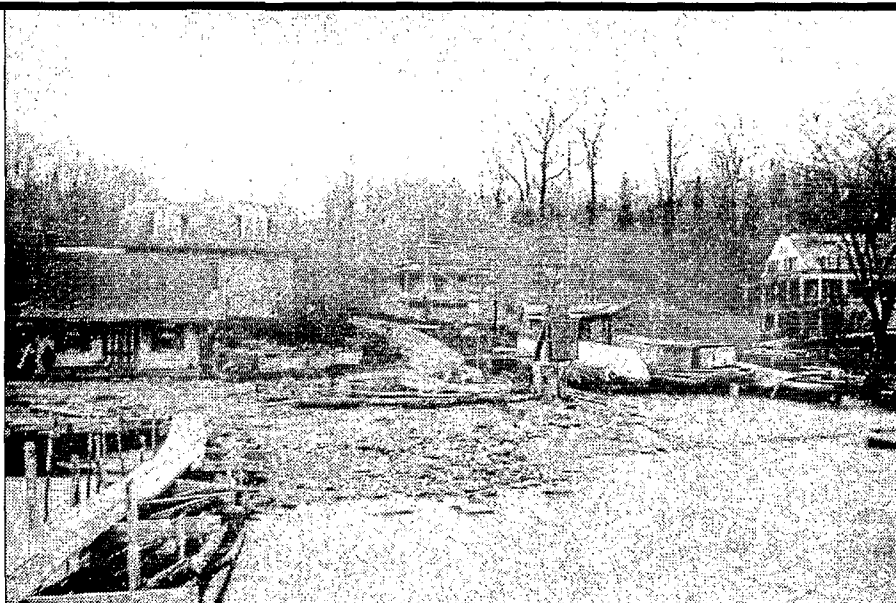


# A Ferry Tale - Part Two

Part One of this article (appearing in the February, 1998 issue of 10964) dealt with the history of the Dobbs Ferry-Snedens Landing ferry operated for more than two hundred years by six generations of the Sneden family, arguably the oldest, continuously run family business in the U.S.

Part two follows the story of the ferry after the last of the Sneden ferry-men in 1903 and tells of its final years of operation which ended in 1946. In the present article, information on the Snedens Association Inc., the group that ran the ferry in the later years, derives from the records and files of the organization preserved by Palisades historian Alice Munro Haagensen. I am also grateful to Mrs. Haagensen for sharing her recollections of various events mentioned in this narrative.

The Hudson River was important as the prime avenue of travel and commerce in this area until the last half of the 19th century when its dominance was gradually taken over by the railroads which were built along both sides of the river. By the early years of the 20th century, most residents of Palisades wishing to travel to New York City would take a trip similar to that described by longtime resident Mildred Rippey in the recent book, *In a Simpler Time* (published by the Palisades Historical Committee and available for sale at the library). Mildred recalled that in 1910, "...When we wanted to go to New York City"...the Jersey Northern Railroad from Piermont "...passed through many small towns on the trip to Jersey City, the terminal. At Jersey City there were ferries with their evocative tarry smell: the Chambers Street Ferry and the 42nd Street Ferry. This was the usual way to commute



Snedens Landing about 1903

to the City in those days and was as fast (or faster than) commuting today."

However, for people living along the west bank of the Hudson near Snedens Landing there was an even better way, providing one didn't mind a sometimes damp fifteen minute crossing of the river in an open boat to the Dobbs Ferry railroad station. From there, the New York Central would take them to Grand Central Station in another forty-four minutes. When Captain Coates retired in 1903 he sold his boats (presumably a "sailboat and heavy row boat" mentioned in the reminiscences of Anna Gilman Hill in *In a Simpler Time*) along with the ferry business to Lavinus D. Hill. At about this time, Mrs. Mary Lawrence Tonetti, by then the owner of a mile of real estate along the river at Snedens Landing, had begun to rent a number of her sixteen houses to her artist and writer friends during the summer months. She encouraged Captain Hill to continue the ferry operation for the convenience of her "summer colony" and their visitors by allowing

him to use the ferry house and dock space on her property at the landing. The photograph of Snedens Landing taken about 1903 shows a boat building shed on the right of the road and on the left, the ferry house and narrow plank dock which extended out about one hundred feet from the shore.

After fifteen years of rowing and sailing passengers across the Hudson, in 1918, either by reason of fatigue or increasing ferry business (or both), Captain Hill acquired a motor launch about thirty feet long called the *Katydid*. A photograph shows the captain and his craft ready to take on passengers at the end of the pier (at high tide). Elizabeth Sergeant writing in *Historic Rockland County* in 1959 recalled, "If the tide was high it was easy to embark from the dock. If low, you had to start in a rowboat over the mud flats and transfer to the anchored motorboat. As the Hudson waves grew high and boisterous in October, service stopped, the dock was dismantled and the boat beached for the winter."

(continued on page 10)

## A Ferry Tale - Part Two (continued from page 9)

### The Association

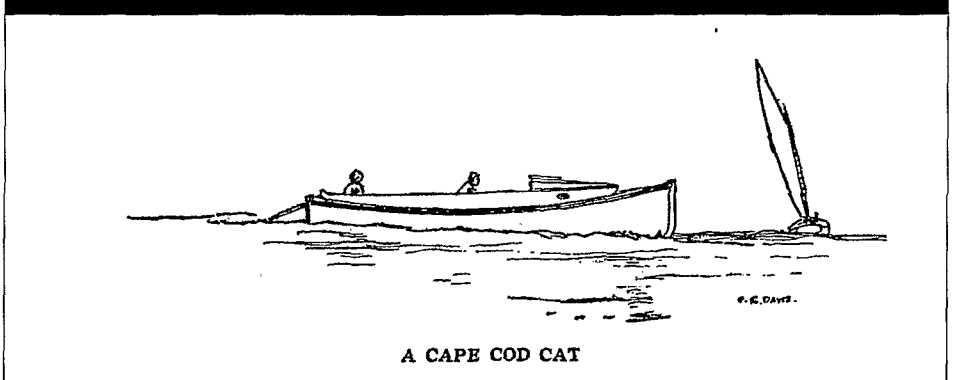
When Captain Hill retired after 24 years as ferryman, both the *New York Times* and the *New York Herald Tribune* editions of May 13, 1927 carried reports of the event and noted that the 229 year ferry operation would be continued by the newly formed Snedens Landing Association Incorporated. Did I mention that Mrs. Tonetti had friends and tenants who were writers?

The Association had a Board of Directors and the usual officers elected by the members who comprised most of the property owners and residents of Snedens Landing, initially twenty-five families. Mrs. Tonetti bought all of the boats and equipment belonging to Captain Hill and turned them over to the Association. She also turned over her own boat, the *Katama*, a twenty-three foot Cape Cod catboat brought down from Martha's Vineyard. She gave the Association the use of the ferry house as a residence for the boatman and had her property adjacent to the dock set apart for use of the Association, separated from the road by a fence, and posted with a "No Trespassing" sign.

The first boatman was hired at the end of April, 1927 and fired in June for drunkenness. The next boatman was captain George C. Armstrong who held that position until 1932. The records of the Snedens Landing Association say very little about the ferry boats themselves except for occasional mention of engine repairs and other maintenance costs. It seems that the catboat *Katama* replaced the *Katydid* by 1928 because of the latter's ancient and unreliable engine. But the *Katama* apparently had periods of "down time" also. Richard



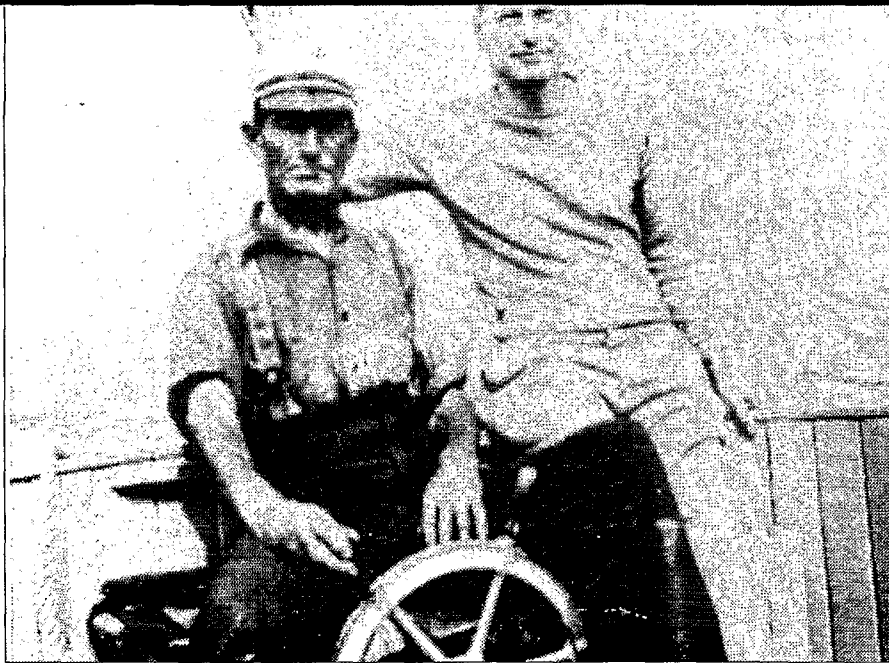
Captain Coates and the ferry, *Katydid*



Like the *Katama*

Salmon, one of the regular ferry passengers, recalls that Captain Armstrong sometimes had to take passengers across in a large rowing skiff. He needed to have the passengers seated so the boat would be properly balanced and had no qualms about ordering such distinguished persons as Thomas W. Lamont, head of the firm of J. P. Morgan, in a rough voice saying: 'you sit there!', along with some choice expletives. The ferry clientele sometimes included celebri-

ties and people well known in their professions. When Captain Hill was accused of assault for forcibly restraining a local resident from taking the ferry's oars, it was the eminent barrister Lloyd Garrison who wrote his defense brief. Other regular ferry passengers were Katharine Cornell, the Broadway actress, Pare Lorentz, documentary film maker, and Ernest Angell, a well-known lawyer. Others who came to the Landing for short or long periods and probably made use



Captain Rudd Sneden and Archer Stansbury  
aboard *Katama*, 1936

of the ferry included John Dos Passos, Marcel Duchamps, John Steinbeck, Laurence Olivier, Vivien Leigh, and Noel Coward.

A typical Cape Cod catboat is shown here with its mast and rigging removed looking much like the *Katama* would have looked on the Hudson. Such a vessel with an inboard engine was an ideal craft for a Hudson River ferry. With her shallow draft of about two feet the catboat was able to navigate the shoal waters off Snedens Landing while her broad ten-foot beam made the vessel extremely stable even in a strong northeaster. The small forward cabin or cuddy gave protection for a few passengers in stormy weather, those in the large cockpit were handed oilskins. A photo taken aboard *Katama* in 1936 shows salty-looking Captain Rudd Sneden at the wheel along with Archer Stansbury, a Palisades resident.

From the start, the Association began the operating season at the beginning of May and ended it in October. However, during a few lean years in the 1930's they shortened the season to reduce costs. The annual cost of operations for the average five-month season ran about \$1,500 which included the boatman's salary of \$1,000. Income was made up of annual membership fees of \$10 per family plus ticket sales. These included fifty-trip season tickets (good for family, guests and servants) at \$15, individual commutation tickets at \$12 per month, and single trips at fifty cents each way. The official annual treasurer's reports generally showed a positive balance of less than twenty dollars. Barry Faulkner wrote a memoir, published as *Mary Lawrence Tonetti* by the Palisades Historical Committee, which explains this miracle of bookkeeping: "...Mrs. Tonetti, while she lived, maintained the ferry

making up the growing deficit from her own pocket."

A brief write-up in a 1932 issue of *The New Yorker* describes the early commuter scene at the landing as: "...a gallant little company who come trailing down the hill sleepy-eyed in the morning, shoes unlaced, neckties in hand, yelling for the captain to wait." Barry Faulkner's book describes a similar scene: "Embarkation on the ferry when Mrs. Tonetti decided to go to town was a time of nervous suspense. She was often late and the anxious commuters, fearful of losing their trains, presently would hear shrieks from the hillside and upper-story windows, 'wait for Mrs. Tonetti! She is on her way!' Then the majestic woman would climb aboard, settle her flopping hat, and imperturbably finish buttoning up her dress." Isabelle Savell, whose husband had been president of the Association in the 1930's, wrote in *The Tonetti Years at Snedens Landing* about a spectacular scene at the rickety ferry dock. In the fall of 1931, Mrs. Tonetti's son Joe was married at Cliffside, the Lawrence family home. A yacht lay offshore waiting to take the newlyweds on their honeymoon. As the wedding party moved downhill they encountered numerous well-wishers offering glasses of champagne. A substantial crowd had pushed their way out on the shaky dock to toast the married couple when slowly, grandly, ineluctably, the whole dock began to sink. Apprehension turned to laughter when they realized the water was only two or three feet deep as the chiffon-clad bridesmaids waded ashore through the mud, champagne glasses held high. Mrs. Tonetti, who had watched it all from shore, was

(continued on page 17)

# BULLETIN BOARD

## Lamont-Doherty Public Lecture Series - 2000

Lectures take place in the auditorium of the new Morell building at 2 pm. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

**March 26:** Paul Olsen,  
*The Beginning of the Age of  
Dinosaurs in Eastern North  
America.*

**April 16:** Charles Langmuir,  
*Earth and Humans: A Planetary  
Perspective.*

**May 7:** Gregory Mountain,  
*Beneath the Seafloor: The How  
and Why of Scientific Ocean  
Drilling.*

## Polk's Folly:

*Polk's Folly: An American Family History*, by William R. Polk (Doubleday; \$29.95) has just hit the bookstores as well as the Palisades Library, and has gotten favorable reviews from *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. Written by Palisadian **Milbry Polk's** father, the book chronicles the history of the Polk family since they first put down roots in some unpromising colonial swampland in 1680. Illustrious forbears include President James K. Polk, ranked by historians as one of the best American Presidents, and the author's brother, George Polk, a journalist murdered in Greece in 1948.

**Jacquelyn Drechsler** will be playing Mozart's D Major Flute Concerto with the North Jersey Symphony at 3 pm on Sunday March

12 at the Tenaflly Middle School in Tenaflly, New Jersey. The concert is under the direction of Dr. Marvin Von Deck. Tickets are \$12 in advance from Jacqui (359-3112) or at the door.

Ten year old **Hayden Panettiere**, a local Palisades resident, is nominated for the 2000 Grammy Awards, in the category, BEST SPOKEN WORD ALBUM FOR CHILDREN. Her narration of *A Bug's Life Read-Along* is produced by Walt Disney Records. Hayden plays the voice of Princess Dot in the hit film, *A Bug's Life*, and has been acting since she was eight months old. She has performed in numerous commercials, Prime-time, and is currently a regular on *Guiding Light*. She plays the role of Suri in the film, *Dinosaurs* to be released in March, and across from Denzel Washington and Wil Patten in the upcoming film, *Remember The Titans*, opening in theatres in September. Hayden is the only child to be nominated in this category for this year's Grammy Awards! Congratulations!

## The Palisades Library

**The Spring Plant Sale** has been scheduled for **Saturday May 13**, the day before Mother's Day. We are hoping that Palisades gardening enthusiasts will pitch in to help us make this plant sale measure up to our traditional level of excellence. We especially need people to contribute interesting plants from their own gardens for the sale. For those who have lots of plants but who can't put them in pots, we

are planning to send out "diggers and potters" who can do this for you.

Please contact Greta Nettleton, 359-0513 if you would like to help.

**Baseball Opening Day** is April 8 at the American Legion Field on Rte. 340 in Palisades. Call Joe Checchi (365-3282) for information about late registration for children's divisions ages 5-12 or the starting time of the ceremony.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Palisades School

On February 7, The South Orangetown Board of Education authorized Superintendent Eileen Gress to enter into an agreement with The Children's Enrichment Center to lease space in the Palisades School for \$15,000.00 per year. The new group, which provides morning and afternoon programs for 2, 3, and 4 year olds, is presently housed at the Orangetown Jewish Center in Orangeburg. They will use the front entrance and occupy the front office and two classrooms.

The Palisades Pre-school and Transitional Program will move to the Schaefer School in Tappan. For further information, call the School District at 680-1050.

The **Palisades Pre-School** will be honoring its 20th anniversary and youth art month with a children's art show on Saturday, March 25 from 10 to 12 noon. The public is invited to attend and view Palisades youngest artists. Call Joyce Seery at 365-4260 for further information.

# BULLETIN BOARD

SOCES-PTA is planning **ECHO-FEST 2000** to be held on May 13 at one of the elementary schools. Anyone who is an environmental advocate or professional who would like to participate in this event, call Carol Plotkin at 398-1231

## **Lincoln Center Program**

### *STILL PART OF ARTS CURRICULUM IN ORANGETOWN SCHOOLS*

South Orangetown schools are still as committed as ever to the Lincoln Center arts education program, according to Assistant Superintendent Sandra Kolk. Although William O. Schaefer School is no longer a Lincoln Center Focus School, the district actively participates in the program, and it has developed an "equity of opportunity" strategy to ensure that every child in the 1st grade at Tappan Zee Elementary gets a chance be a part of this exciting arts education experience. In the future, the district plans to cover all the classes in grades 3 and 5 as well.

Sandra Kolk said that SOCS D was disappointed to be told by Lincoln Center that WOS was being dropped as a focus school. Two years ago, Lincoln Center recast its focus school requirements according to an urban "magnet school" model; they now require 100 percent teacher participation, which WOS could not guarantee.

Bridget Doherty, the SOCS D curriculum coordinator for art and music, emphasized that the district is very supportive of arts and music education. This year, there are four 1st grade teachers at TZE in the Lincoln Center program, and music

instructor Regina Melvin, also a Lincoln Center teacher, will work with the other ten 1st grade classes, so that all 14 classes can participate. Ordinarily, children in classes taught by nonparticipating teachers do not get a chance to get in on the action. WOS has eight active teachers, Cottage Lane has six, and one teacher in the Middle School, who works with five classes, also participates.

The intergenerational program is based at WOS, and is actively seeking additional seniors-retirees with free time might find this a very rewarding way to learn about the arts and spend some quality time with a lively group of children.

During the 1999 - 2000 school year, SOCS D children will get a chance to see or do at least one of five different programs: "Three by Merce Cunningham" danced by the Cunningham Repertory Group, a Beethoven Septet in E flat, played by the Siba ensemble, an adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet" performed by the Hangar Theater, "The Beloved Dearly" a play written by Doug Cooney and directed by Elizabeth Swados, and a visit to the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Bridget Doherty is looking for additional parental involvement to support arts education, and would welcome any volunteers who would like to get involved.

- Greta Nettleton

**An Open house/Pottery Sale** will be held on March 24, 25, and 26 from 1 - 4 PM at The Pottery, 67A Ludlow Lane, studio of Jane Herold, the well-known local

potter. Displayed will be her latest creations, featuring a new glaze made from ashes and clay as well as a new firing technique. Lots of old familiar things will be on hand as well. Call 359-5421 for further information.

## **LYME DISEASE VACCINE**

As we know, Palisades is a Lyme disease-endemic area. Because I work outdoors most of the year, live in the woods, have outdoor pets, and find ticks on myself constantly, I figured I was probably at high-risk for contracting this disease. I decided, therefore, to check out the new Lyme disease vaccine and see what protection it might offer. Actually, simply living in Palisades puts us all at high risk and makes us candidates for the vaccine.

The vaccine was approved by the FDA in December, 1998 and is being marketed by SmithKline Beecham as LYMERix. It is considered to be safe, effective, have no serious side effects, and is recommended for people aged 15-70 years who live, work, or vacation in endemic areas. It has not been tested on, and is therefore not recommended for people outside this age range, pregnant women, and individuals with chronic arthritis.

The vaccine is administered as a series of three shots at 0, 1 and 12 months. It is said to be 46% effective the first year and 76% effective the second year, after the final dose. (Diagnostic criteria used in the study were extremely strict and the question has been

*(continued on page 14)*

# BULLETIN BOARD

raised whether an over-reliance on serology may have led to an under-diagnosis of true Lyme disease.) It is not known how long this three-shot series remains effective, but it is anticipated that an annual booster shot may be required. Follow-up trials are underway to determine both the safety of such a regimen and, presumably, the threshold antibody level necessary to confer protection. Another unanswered question, and therefore a concern, is whether the vaccine changes the clinical presentation of infection, making vaccine failures difficult to detect.

Those who opt for the vaccine are urged to consider it a supplement, not a replacement for standard precautions against and early diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases. In other words, wear protective clothing, check yourself for ticks, and be alert for signs of Lyme disease. LYMERix offers no protection for other tick-borne diseases. The vaccine may interfere with laboratory testing for Lyme disease, but the Western blot test will differentiate between vaccine- and disease-induced antibodies and is the serologic test of choice.

I realize this quick review is not

the complete story, by far; it is merely the information I found about the vaccine that affected my decision. I may get the vaccine eventually, but will probably wait until the optimal dosing schedule and long-term safety data are available. In the meantime, I'll continue to be careful but I have no intention of avoiding the garden, the woods, or any of the other wonderful places where ticks abound.

- Cellen Wolk

## SHAKESPEARE IN PALISADES (continued from page 2)

Would you like to be a part of this exciting new Palisades project?

☐ Yes! I would like to support the Children's Shakespeare Theatre  
(please make checks payable to *Wings Trust*, a 501 (c) 3 tax deductible organization)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$20    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ other    \_\_\_\_\_ I would like my  
contribution listed in the program

☐ Yes! I would like tickets for ☐ Friday, April 7 at 7:00 PM  
☐ Saturday, April 8 at 7:00 PM  
☐ Sunday, April 9 at 4:00 PM  
\_\_\_\_\_ adults (\$5 each)    \_\_\_\_\_ children / seniors (\$3 each)

☐ I may be interested in enrolling my child and would like more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail to:

**Children's Shakespeare Theatre**  
**P.O. Box 558**  
**Palisades NY 10964**

**Thank you for your support!!**



# PALISADES FREE LIBRARY NEWS

Tel: 359-0136

Fax: 359-6124

www.rcls.org.pal

e-mail: pal@rcls.org

## New Adult Non-Fiction

Armstrong, Karen	<i>Battle for God</i>
Burroughs, William	<i>Last Words</i>
Carper, Jean	<i>Your Miracle Brain</i>
Da Chen	<i>Colors of the Mountain</i>
Dershowitz, Alan	<i>The Genesis of Justice</i>
Fox, James	<i>Five Sisters:</i>
	<i>The Langhorne Sisters of Virginia</i>
Kiyomaga, Bine Cody	<i>My Spy: Memoir of a CIA Wife</i>
Shapiro, Sydney	<i>I Choose China</i>
Weil, Andrew	<i>Eating Well for Optimum Health</i>

## New Adult Fiction

De Mille, Nelson	<i>Lion's Game</i>
Dexter, Colin	<i>The Remorseful Day</i>
Doctorow, E. L.	<i>City of God: A Novel</i>
Grisham, John	<i>The Brethern</i>
Medwed, Mameve	<i>Host Family</i>
Thomson, Rupert	<i>The Book of Revelation</i>
Toscana, David	<i>Tula Station</i>
Truscott, Lucian K.	<i>The Boys of St. Julien</i>
Updike, John	<i>Gertrude and Claudius</i>
Yoshimura, Akira	<i>On Parole</i>

## New Adult Books-on-Tape

Balzac, Honore	<i>Cousin Pons</i>
Begley, Louis	<i>Mistler's Exit</i>
Berger, Thomas	<i>Sneaky People</i>
Erickson, Carolly	<i>The First Elizabeth</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>
Harr, Jonathan	<i>A Civil Action</i>
Haruf, Kent	<i>Plain Song</i>
Irving, John	<i>The Cider House Rules</i>
Jhabvala, Ruth Prower	<i>Heat and Dust</i>
Kingsolver, Barbara	<i>The Poisonwood Bible</i>
Krakauer, John	<i>Into the Wild</i>
Lamb, Wally	<i>I Know This Much Is True</i>
Maugham, W. Somerset	<i>Of Human Bondage</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>Amsterdam</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>Enduring Love</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>The Innocent</i>
Quindlen, Anna	<i>One True Thing</i>
Rendell, Ruth	<i>Going Wrong</i>
Sobel, Dava	<i>Galileo's Daughter</i>
Woolf, Virginia	<i>Mrs. Dalloway</i>

## Members of the Board of Trustees

Greta S. Nettleton, President  
Nicholas Ludington, Vice President  
Lisa Rinehart, Secretary  
Theresa A. Graves, Treasurer  
Carol A. Heinemann  
Albert T. Hyde  
Henry Ottley  
Uma C. Shah  
Judith W. Umlas

The Palisades Library would like to thank outgoing trustees Lynne McLaren Sandhaus and Ellen Chayet Kidd for their dedicated efforts over the past four years.

We welcome two new trustees to the library board, Tad Hyde and Judy Umlas.

## Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 1:00-9:00

Friday 1:00-5:00

Saturday 11:00-5:00

Sunday 1:00-5:00

Closed Wednesday, April 19 at 5:00 PM for Passover

Closed Sunday, April 23 for Easter

## Electronic Reference

Patrons may ask brief reference questions via our web page. Click on "E-Mail Us." Reference staff will e-mail an answer. Please limit questions to those satisfied by short, factual answers.

## New! Receive Reserve and Overdue Notices via E-Mail

You will receive faster notification of materials you have on reserve and are alerted earlier that overdue fines are mounting. Click on "Notices via e-mail" to register.

## Internet Training

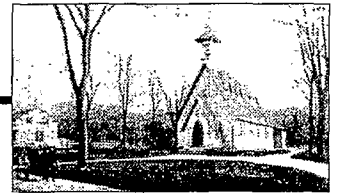
The library is offering free non-technical orientation sessions on how to use the internet. Basic familiarity with computers is required. Please register at the library or call 359-0136.

## Reading Club

The Reading Club meets monthly. If you wish to join, please call Ms. Joan Sanders at 623-8262.

(continued on page 16)

# Palisades Presbyterian Church News



The Session has approved the hiring of Mr. Bill Stivale to conduct a renovation/restoration survey of both church buildings (Sanctuary/Parish house and Manse). The survey should take approximately three months to complete. The report will prioritize necessary renovation and restoration projects for the two buildings and provide the Session with a long-range plan. Mr. Stivale is well known in his field and he works primarily with religious institutions, including Union Theological Seminary and most recently First Presbyterian Church in Goshen.

## Upcoming Special Services:

March 8th, Ash Wednesday: 7:00 AM and 8:00 PM

April 20th, Maundy Thursday:

time and location to be arranged

April 23rd, Easter Sunday:

6:30 AM Sunrise Service

(location to be arranged, please call ahead)

9:00 and 11:00 AM identical services

## Regular Worship Schedule:

Sunday Morning Services: 9:00 and 11:00 AM

(Child-care provided at the 11:00 service)

## Healing Services:

led by the Rev. Lee Hancock, will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

## Sunday School is as follows:

Ages 3-6: Sundays at 10:00 AM

Grades 2-5: Wednesdays, 4-6:00 PM

Grades 6- 12: Sundays, 6-7: 30 PM

## Other Regular Programs:

Tae Kwon Do: Mondays & Thursdays from 5-6 PM

Care Givers and kids: Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Bible Study: Wednesdays at Noon

Morning meditation: Fridays at 6:30 AM (follows the Lectionary)

Daisy Troop: 1st & 3rd Wed. of each month at 1:30 PM

Please check with church to verify events and times. The office phone number is 359-3147. Church office hours are 9 AM to 1 PM on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

## PALISADES FREE LIBRARY NEWS

(continued from page 15)

### New Juvenile Books-on-Tape

Anonymous	<i>Go Ask Alice</i>
Byars, Betsy	<i>The Summer of the Swans</i>
Forbes, Esther	<i>Johnny Tremain</i>
L'Engle, Madeleine	<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>
North, Sterling	<i>Rascal</i>
O'Dell, Scott	<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
Patterson, Katherine	<i>Jacob I Have Loved</i>
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Hatchet</i>
Rawls, Wilson	<i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>
Rowling, J. K.	<i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</i>
Sachar, Louis	<i>Holes</i>
Taylor, Theodore	<i>The Cay</i>
Tillage, Leon	<i>Leon's Story</i>
White, E. B.	<i>Stuart Little</i>

### Tax Forms

Both federal and state tax forms are available and may be downloaded via the internet. Reproducible forms can be photocopied at \$.10 per page.

### Children's programs to be announced.

The **Spring Plant Sale** has been scheduled for Saturday, May 13th. See Bulletin Board (page 12) for more details.



# A Ferry Tale - Part Two (continued from page 11)

helpless with laughter.

Through the nineteen thirties and forties there were six different ferrymen, the most memorable being Joe Niero who was also an expert stone mason and Mrs. Tonetti's most able house fixer-upper. Joe still worked in Palisades in the 1950's and many of us have heard the story of how Joe tried unsuccessfully to save the *Katama* in the 1944 hurricane only to have her sink at the mooring. He then had to swim ashore amid the crashing waves. The boat was raised and back in business for the following season.

The fortunes of the Snedens Landing Association waxed and waned in the decade before World War II. In 1932 the membership had grown to 57. That year, the published ferry schedule shows the ferry making six trips to Dobbs Ferry on weekdays and seven on Saturdays, the most ever. By the following year the Board of Directors had to reduce the number of trips and cut the annual membership fee in half to encourage greater membership. No doubt the completion of the George Washington Bridge in 1931 made a radical change in the way people traveled to and from New York City. Bus travel had come to Palisades. In this regard the records of the Association contain copies of letters allegedly exchanged between Mr. Charles Whitney of Palisades and Rockland Coaches Inc. Having known Charley Whitney, I can believe that the letters might be genuine.

Rockland Coaches

Gentlemen:

I have been riding your buses for the past two years and the service seems to be getting worse everyday. I think the transportation you offer is worse than that enjoyed by the people of 1000 years ago.

Very truly yours,  
Charles Whitney

Mr. Charles Whitney

Dear Sir:

We received your letter of the first and believe you are somewhat confused in your history. The only transportation 1000 years ago was on foot.

Very truly yours,  
Rockland Coaches

Rockland Coaches

Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of your letter of June 8th and think that if you will read the Bible, Book of David, 9th

## SNEDEN'S ASSOCIATION, Inc. Rail and Ferry Schedule

Effective May 2, 1932  
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

To New York			From New York		
Leave Snedens Landing	Leave Dobbs Ferry	Arrive Grand Central	Leave Grand Central	Arrive Dobbs Ferry	Leave Dobbs Ferry
7.50	8.13*	8.56 A.M.	A.M. 8.45	9.31	
8.55	9.18*	10.03	9.53	10.39	
10.20	10.43	11.32	P.M.		
		P. M.	3.55*	4.36	
3.50	4.14	5.02	5.05*	5.40	
5.10	5.29*	6.13	6.06*	6.43	
	or 5.40	6.27			
6.20	7.10	8.00			

SATURDAY

7.50	8.13*	8.56 A.M.	A.M. 8.45	9.31
8.55	9.18*	10.02	9.53	10.39
10.20	10.43	11.32	P.M. 12.19*	12.56
12.30	12.57	1.48 P.M.	1.28*	2.07
1.40	2.05	2.53	3.06*	3.45
3.15	3.38	4.36	5.05*	5.44
5.10	5.29*	6.13		
	or 5.40	6.27		

SUNDAY

9.15	10.03	10.50 A.M.	A.M. 8.45	9.31
11.00	11.47	12.34	10.40	11.25
12.30	12.57	1.49 P.M.	P.M. 12.17	1.02
5.00	5.29*	6.13	4.36	5.21
	or 5.40	6.25	5.38	6.21
6.00	6.25*	7.05		

\*Express.

N.B.—New York Central clocks and time-tables operate on Eastern Standard Time, one hour slower than Daylight Saving Time. [over]

Boat leaves immediately after arrival of train.

## Rail and Ferry schedule 1936

Verse, it will show you that you are the ones confused in your history. You will find that Aaron rode into town on his ass. That, gentlemen, is something I haven't been able to do on your bus in the last six or seven months.

Very truly yours,  
Charles Whitney

By 1946 World War II was over and America was undergoing great changes. It seems that it was no longer a time for quaint little ferry boats. The sad final letter in the Association file is one sent out by the Board of Directors to the membership dated June 5th, 1946. It began: "Due to insurmountable difficulties the Snedens Association Inc. is not able to operate the ferry this year." It ended with the hopeful note that "...should the Association care to reorganize, the boat will again be available."

I think it's time we take them up on that offer.

- Sam Gerard

# TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE CONTROVERSY (continued from page 4)

## **The Tri-State Transportation Campaign**

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign is also urging caution, said Jessica Astrof, a representative of the group, which bills itself as "an alliance of public interest, transit advocacy, planning and environmental organizations working to reform transportation policies in the New York/New Jersey/Connecticut metropolitan region."

The task force's "long-term recommendation is replacing the Tappan Zee Bridge and putting rail or some form of transit on the bridge," Ms. Astrof said. "Our main concern is that there is no transit plan at all. A transit plan needs to come first. No one has determined whether there is money for the trans-Hudson rail, whether it would attract enough riders to be cost effective."

She continued: "The agency should implement variable tolls and also revitalize the West Shore rail line and exhaust those options first before we start talking about a multi-billion dollar bridge. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has refused to invest in the West Shore line even though elected officials are calling for it. It would only cost the MTA \$150 million to pay for its part of the share, and a new rail line could cost in the billions, on top of what it takes to build the bridge. It makes a lot more physical sense to implement cost-effective options now."

## **The Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition**

The Tappan Zee Preservation Coalition was formed 16 years ago specifically to ensure that a new bridge would not be built parallel to the old bridge, said Robert Bradbury, a member of the organization, which includes several Palisadians. At press time, the group was in the process of deciding what their official position should be, he said.

"It's obvious that there is really no way that the present bridge is going to remain," Mr. Bradbury added, noting the

expense of maintaining the bridge and the marine bore infestation in the wood pilings on the bridge's western slope. "It's not a well-designed bridge. But we're adamant that if a new bridge is built, the old one will have to come down."

## **Federated Conservationists of Westchester County**

Maureen Morgan of the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County preferred to take a more philosophical approach to the issue of a new Tappan Zee Bridge while she awaits the release of the task force report.

"We've been working on issues in Rockland for the last five years, leading the opposition to the HOV lane on I-287 a year and a half ago," said Ms. Morgan, who lives in Ossining. "We had a light-rail conference and almost immediately it was clear that this bridge was not able to have any mass-transit facility on it. This makes us realize that there is no way in the world that that bridge is going to be saved."

"We have two issues here," she continued. "First, it's a very unreliable bridge in terms of transportation. You cannot tell how long it will take you to get across it. You cannot rely on that bridge. Second, there are the structural issues. The thruway engineers say these are issues that cannot be completely addressed. It's like putting money into an old car: it's eventually going to break down."

"A new bridge is really a rare opportunity to give mass transit a major boost in the region, which will be a plus in reducing air pollution for the long term," she said finally. "We're entering a very interesting period right now. We should look at it as a time when you can really make a change."

*-Kathryn Papay*

## **SAVE THE DATES**

**March 21 at 7 p.m.:** Chamber of Commerce of the Nyacks general membership meeting and panel discussion on "The Tappan Zee Bridge? Nyack Needs to Know," with Thom Kleiner and others. Nyack Seaport, 21 Burd Street, Nyack, (914) 353-2221 or coc@spyral.net.

**March 23 at 7 p.m.:** Public forum to examine the I-287 Task Force Report and to discuss the future of the Tappan Zee Bridge, sponsored by Assemblyman Alexander Gromack, Assemblyman Sam Colman and Senator Tom Morahan. Rockland Community College, (914) 634-9791.

**March 24 at a time to be announced:** Representative Benjamin Gilman will lead a town meeting on transportation issues. Information can be found on the TZInfo Web site or by calling George Sherman (*see page 5*).

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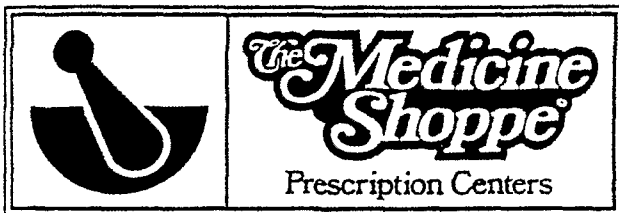


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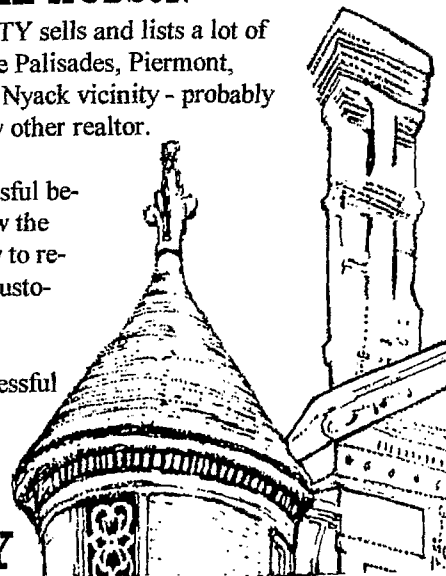
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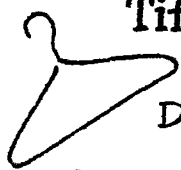
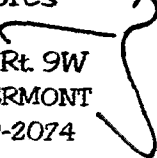
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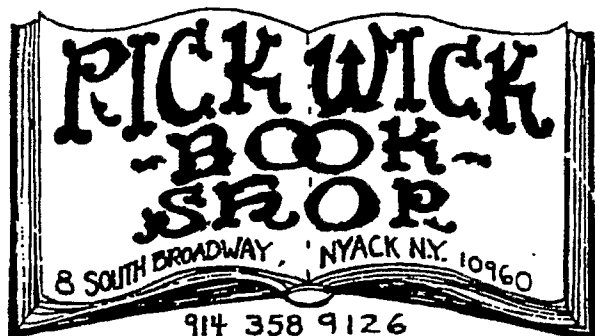


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