

# 10964

THE  
PALISADES  
NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2000 NUMBER 171

Palisades Free Library

## Welcome Class of 2013

Twelve of the twenty one Palisades children who began kindergarten in the South Orangetown School District this September gathered at the Palisades Library to have their picture taken.



*Front Row, left to right: Jordan Dubbs, Michael Anderson; Middle Row, left to right: Venita Ren, Emily Funk, Dominic Nemesdy, Brian O Connor, Samuel Hyde; Back Row, left to right: Savannah Smith, Kate Plotkin, May Adzema-Herold, Allison Kroenert, Amanda Kramer. Not pictured: Jessica Arias, Yvonne Cheng, Steven Cheng, Colby Cohen, Jeremy Kayas, Leonard Minuto, Alexandria Nelson, Joshua Panter, Jinseob Yoon*

# ALICE HAAGENSEN

## Celebrates Her One Hundreth Birthday

Alice Haagensen, who was born on August 22, 1900, celebrated her one hundredth birthday this summer on Metoxit Point, on Cape Cod, across Waquoit Bay from the house that she was born in. For fifty years she and her husband Cushman Haagensen, a cancer surgeon, lived in Palisades in the house at the end of Woods Road now owned by the Lonbergs. Shortly after moving here in 1941, she became interested in local history and in 1986 she published *Palisades and Snedens Landing*, the definitive history of our community. She was the founder of the Palisades Historical Committee and continues to serve as a resource when people have questions about the past. She now lives in an apartment in her daughter Alice Gerard's house, at the end of Corbett Lane. Although she has difficulty both seeing and hearing, she still goes for walks, enjoys life and her family, and has an excellent memory. When asked to share her experience of the last one hundred years for readers of 10964, she wrote the following.

### A PERSONAL VIEW OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

I have lived through the whole of the twentieth century and can look back on momentous changes. In my childhood, the first ten or fifteen years of the century, daily life was much like that in the nineteenth century. We had no

transportation except trains, boats (the nicest), horse-drawn vehicles, and our feet. We had no electricity, no radio, TV, movies, or super market. We made our own amusements: reading, walking, sailing and playing games.

In the small village on Cape Cod



where we spent our long summers - four months or more - we must have lived as we would have 100 years before. We had running water and a flush toilet - the only one in the village - only because we had built a large tank in the attic and pumped a thousand strokes every day to fill it from our well. Today it is hard to imagine a family of seven with only one bathroom. My father and older brother chopped wood for the kitchen range, which heated water and

cooked our food. My father, with help from all the children, grew all the vegetables we ate and we all fished, caught crabs and dug clams and mussels. We had ice only when there had been a cold winter. Other summers we had a round cellar under the kitchen, reached by a trap door in the floor, where we kept perishables. Kerosene lamps and candles provided our only light in the evenings.

In Madison, Wisconsin, where we lived in the winter, we had many of the same lacks, although we had stores to supply food and "help" from a couple of German or Scandinavian farmers' daughters. To allow for the two more added to our family, we had one full bathroom and one lavatory with toilet and washbowl. And we had gas lights. There were of course no school buses, and we often walked to school between six-foot drifts of snow.

I still go back to Cape Cod every summer, as do my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, living in the house my husband, Cushman, built for us, enlarging it as our family grew during his lifetime. Now we have to take turns. All the descendants of my brothers and sister do the same, living in their own houses and sharing as we do. I am the only one of the second generation left, but there are lots of third, fourth and fifth generations and even two sixth-generation babies. Children continue to sail and

swim and walk and catch crabs and dig clams, just as we did. They have warm relationships with family, friends, and the place that give them a sound foundation for their whole lives.

When we first came to live in Palisades, sixty years ago, things were very different from today. Houses were for rent or sale at prices which seem ridiculously low to us nowadays. Many people who lived here didn't have much money; a number were artists, writers, and theater people. The village had an intimate feeling - everyone knew each other and helped each other out. Children spent afternoons after school playing unsupervised in the village and in the woods. Everyone swam at the Waterfall and attended the yearly tennis party; more people did their own home repairs and took care of their own gardens than today.

The library, which had been supported so far by members of the Lawrence family, was orphaned when the last Lawrence patron, Lydia Hyde, died. After



Alice and her great-granddaughter, Peri Gerard-Little.

being run for several years by volunteers, it had a chance to join a larger library system, but at an emotional meeting the library board, of which I was a member, decided to continue alone. A few

months later the board changed its mind, attracted by the many advantages of membership in the Ramapo-Catskill Library System.



Alice as child with brother.

The school, like the library, was one of our great concerns. My two daughters, like all their friends, went to the public school in the village. It was governed completely by ourselves, with a well-attended meeting every spring, and a board of directors whom we elected. The "Old School" to the south of Oak Tree Road was left to the kindergarten, hot lunches, and for a time the library, while the "New School" across the road accommodated eight grades in two classrooms. Eventually the school was first incorporated into the South Orangetown School District, and then closed. We lost any kind of direct control over our schools.

My lifetime has spanned the First World War, the market boom, when everyone was rich, the crash, the Depression, when everyone was poor, the Second World War, the wild sixties and the Vietnam War. Looking back on the century I have a feeling of cautious optimism. Women and blacks have made great advances. No longer is communism a men-

ace; instead we are trying to help them. The United Nations has some influence, and I hope will have more. The warring parties in Ireland and Israel are negotiating instead of fighting.

I must say I am worried about the great population increase all over the world. Another thing I worry about is babies. Nearly every mother has a job and many of them have to go back to work and leave the baby with a caregiver. Since the early years of a child's life are important for future development, this may make trouble later. I also worry about the computer. It has been around for only about twenty years, and already it is involved in almost every facet of life. As time goes on, I expect the whole world will be dependent on computers and thus a virus could cause a huge disaster.

I now live in a sunny apartment in Alice's house, filled with



Alice on her one hundredth birthday with young relative.

plants and flowers and with views of the river from every window. I enjoy writing about the past, and, since there are few people my age left in the village, being an authority on early days. One of my greatest pleasures is seeing my two talented daughters, my six interesting grandchildren, and my six unusually attractive and intelligent great-grandchildren.

# YONDERHILL

## Rises Again

*by Milbry Polk*

*Photographs by Mary Tiegreen*

"N ever in our wildest dreams did we ever think we would own Yonderhill," mused Ernest Quick one late August morning sitting amidst an antique tableau in the main room of the antique shop. "Richard and I trained under Tippy," (O'Neil, longtime proprietor of Yonderhill and renowned auctioneer and antique dealer). "He was remarkable. So when we purchased Yonderhill, which we now call Yonderhill Associates to keep the name alive, we wanted to continue that quality look he was known for."

The building on the corner of

9W and Closter Road was built in 1859 as a Methodist meeting house. But by the early 1900's its flock dwindled and the building had been abandoned by the time it was purchased by O'Neil in 1935. Over the years Yonderhill became known as one of the pre-eminent antique auction houses in the New York area. Generations of Palisadians, not to mention legions of folk from New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, were entertained by Tippy at his regular auctions, and by the way learned a tremendous amount from him as they furnished their homes with his chosen antiques.

An equally large part of the Yonderhill persona was Palisadian John Garrison. He began working for O'Neil when he was a teenager in the early days of the business. Over the years John became respected in his own right for his considerable knowledge and sage advice. John and his wife Jill even lived upstairs at Yonderhill for a time. John's sister-in-law Loni Garrison later joined the team and soon was as known for her knowledge of antiques as for her gracious welcome to everyone who crossed the threshold. Miss Marshall who kept the business running, rounded out the team.



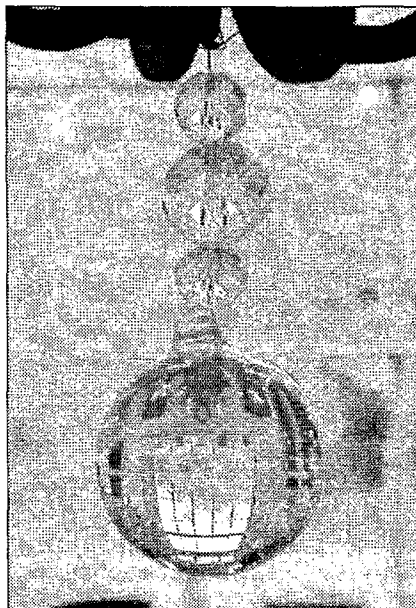
*Left to right: Steven Lonsdale, Ernest Quick, Dominick Marangi, Michele Fox, and Richard Benizio*

The nineties saw change at Yonderhill. Due to Tippy's long illness the auctions ended in the late 80's. Tippy, and then later John, and recently Miss Hylda Marshall, passed on. Loni had the sad job of closing down the business leaving a hole in the heart of the community.

Yonderhill had been such a presence in Palisades for nearly three quarters of a century that it was with some trepidation that neighbors waited to see what business could possibly replace it. It was unthinkable to many that the building could house anything but an antique shop. So the news that long time Palisades' residents Ernest Quick, Richard Benizio, and Steven Lonsdale, bought the building was received with great joy and relief. The three had known the Yonderhill team for several decades, live next door and are all in the antique business themselves. But purchasing the building was just the beginning. The first task that faced the trio was bringing the building into the 21st century.

**Milbry Polk:** When did your interest in antiques begin?

**Ernest Quick:** Richard and I moved out from New York in 1968. Our first home was the little studio beside Tippy's house, on Closter road (now Wayne



Garrison's house). Then we bought the house next door to Yonderhill in 1972. We attended all the auctions, which was a terrible thing to do because it was so easy to get our purchases home! I wanted to learn to be an auctioneer so Rich and I went to hundreds of auctions and it sort of took. My first auction was at the Museum of American Folk Art and it has taken off from there.

**MP:** Thank goodness it did! We all remember the wonderful and highly entertaining job you did as auctioneer for the Library last year. Tell us what you plan for Yonderhill Associates.

**EQ:** Well our first task was to restore the building as it was in bad need of repair. A building like this can suddenly start teetering and Yonderhill was at that point. We caught it just in time. After we bought the building last January we began the huge task of bringing the old church into the 21st century. We had to put on a new roof and redo the electricity—imagine it was only 60 amps! A lot of the work was like archaeology. Steven discovered a cast iron garden bench buried in the

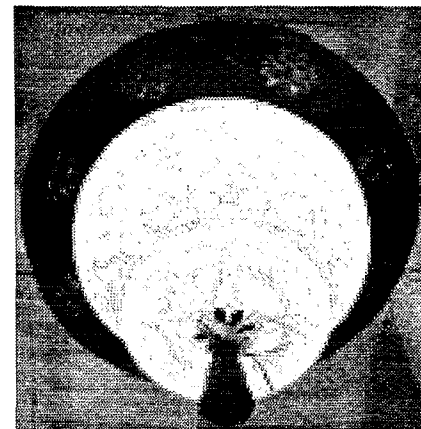
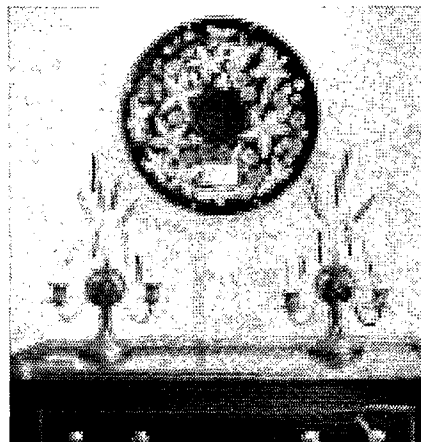
back and we uncovered some vintage photos of the place. We even found Tippy's marriage license. Steven pulled up the plywood on the stage and found that the original flooring was a beautiful pumpkin pine. And the cabinet shop in the back, which was buried under years of vegetation, yielded a trove of 18th and 19th c. wood: veneer, inlay, and carved pieces of furniture.

**MP:** You have done a wonderful job of restoring the building and it is terrific to see it filled once again with elegant antiques. What are your specialties?

**EQ:** After we bought the building we began to think about what should be in it. We decided we wanted to invite other people in here to sell antiques. We asked Dominick Marangi from Blauvelt who has had a lot of experience in the antique business and Michele Fox, who specializes in antique textiles to join us.

**Dominick Marangi:** I studied interior design at Pratt Institute and now specialize in 19th and early 20th century American and European decorative furnishings. Lighting is my specialty. For six years I ran the Antique Garage Sale in Valley College. I also exhibit at the Antique and Artisan Center in Stamford. Michele Fox

*Continued on Page 16*

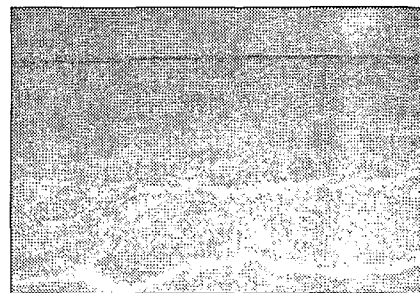




# I s s u e s      W a t e r

## The Water's Tale

*By Helena Power*



I grew up in an industrial town in Northwestern Pennsylvania. On Sunday afternoon all ten of us piled into the Chevy wagon for a ride. On these trips I played a daydreaming game called This is My House. I imagined myself pulling into the driveway of a house we passed on the ride. I thought about each room and imagined the way the light might slant into each of them. I thought about myself in that place and what my life could be.

Now after living a peripatetic life in rented apartments in New York City, rented houses in several states and in Haiti, I live here in Palisades, New York with my husband and our son in our first home. Tucked into a corner west of route 340 and just north of the N.J. border we live in a little yellow house, a cottage really, which was built in 1937.

In my game I only imagined the house, not the neighborhood or the people, but I have learned that these things make a place home too. On my son's 5th birthday this year neighbors dropped by all day to wish Liam Happy Birthday. The Burge, Prisco, Smith, Gensel, Kim and Perez families made Liam feel special. Christopher Perez, Liam's best pal lives just a line of bushes and a shout away.

In 1994, when we moved in, we collected the requisite data on all the usual things, radon, lead,

etc. The house inspector even told us to keep an eye on the fireplace as it leaned a little. Because we are on a private well, we checked the water. Tests came back fine. Shortly after moving in, we learned through our neighbor, Paul Prisco, that monitoring wells had been set up in the Rockleigh Industrial Park in New Jersey which borders this part of Palisades. There was no furor over this; in fact it was hard to generate much interest and tests on our water came back ok. By this time I was pregnant, and to be on the safe side, drinking bottled water. Early this year, Paul Prisco and Richard Vickerman noticed an article in the Bergen Record about a major toxic site in Northvale. There was no information about this in our local media nor was anything posted in the Town Hall at Orangetown. There is no mandatory notification on environmental issues between New York and New Jersey.

I was not alone in my concern and knew that it needed to be addressed through community and civic organizations. I was familiar with the Palisades Civic Association because we had worked to resolve a problem with noise and lights from the new Takasago building in the Rockleigh Industrial Park. We discussed our situation with the water at the Palisades Civic Association board meeting. Eileen

Larkin, Andrew Norman, and members of the board came to our aid and advanced our case to Thom Kleiner and the Town Board. As with the Takasago issue, residents from Palisades and members of the Palisades Civic Association attended these Monday meetings and after petitioning the Town Board the water was tested in a comprehensive way. It revealed none of the VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) present at the Northvale site, at that time. It did indicate the presence of radon in the water of private wells. While there is a clear standard for radon in the air, there is no established standard for radon in water. Judith Hunderfund with the Rockland County Health Department has said that the EPA and the New York State Health Department have no plans to create a guideline for radon in water, as there appears to be no health risk.

For the time being immediate fears have been allayed. However, the situation in Northvale remains serious; the number of excavated barrels containing toxic →

### **Palisades Civic Association Meeting, October 19, 7:30 pm, American Legion Hall, Route 340**

In the past, the Palisades Civic Association has successfully challenged zone changes and Town decisions which could have significantly changed the character of Palisades. Co-Presidents Eileen Larkin and Andy Norman have called a meeting to address current issues concerning Palisades.

[See Bulletin Board, p. 12, for more information]

# I s s u e s   S - p a c e

## Citizens Unite for Open Space

In June, a group of citizens presented the Town Board with a vision for Open Space protection in Orangetown. It identified two major green belts, the Palisades Highlands and the Hackensack Riverway, both of which traverse Orangetown from north to south and take in every one of Orangetown's hamlets, from Pearl River to the Hudson River.

The proposal calls for the town's acting to prevent the break-up and loss of these critical green belts by: 1) accepting gifts of land or conservation easements from landowners; 2) purchasing land or conservation easements from owners.

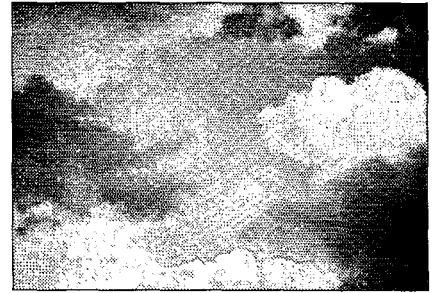
Purchasing land for open space is costly, but the costs of not doing so are higher. It is an economic fact that new development never pays for itself. Additional services, infrastructure and schools to meet the demand of new development add to the tax burden for all taxpayers. The loss of natural buffer zones for noise, air and water purification, and increases in crowding and traffic, take their tolls on our health and well being as well as our pocket-books.

This is a critical time in Orangetown. Decisions are being made by our five-member Town Board and their zoning and planning board appointees that will determine our future. We can act and act together to let them know how important a unified, comprehensive Open Space plan is for Orangetown. Being surrounded and blessed with natural landscape, Palisades' residents are bound to appreciate it. Now is the time to protect it.

*Gina Ironside, Co-chair,  
Orangetown Citizens for Open Space*

**Orangetown Citizens for Open Space** is a newly-formed, town-wide organization dedicated to moving ahead now to develop a comprehensive Open Space plan such as the green belt proposal.

Inquiries, comments, contributions and requests for information on donating land or easements are welcome at: Orangetown Citizens for Open Space, P.O. Box 598, Orangeburg, NY 10962, or by telephone: 359-1713.



### Editor's Note:

#### "The Palisades Triangle"

In about 1980, the wooded area known as the Palisades Triangle – approximately 3 acres bounded by Closter Road, Oak Tree Road, and Route 9W -- was purchased from the Ratcliff family for \$50,000 in order to preserve it as a "green belt." \$37,500 came from a New York State grant and \$12,500 from Palisades' residents.

The money was donated to the Town of Orangetown who then purchased the land and designated it as a Town Park to be preserved in its natural state forever.

→ *Issues: Water (Continued)* material with VOCs present is over 750. There are approximately 29 homes in our neighborhood with private wells, the rest of the neighborhood and most of Palisades is serviced by United Water. United Water wells numbers 16 and 20, located behind the William O. Schafer school in Tappan, are a source of part of the water used by residents who subscribe to United Water in Palisades. Private well owners and United Water subscribers alike have reason to be concerned.

I think about leaving this community to go somewhere where concerns like this don't exist. Is there such a place? Probably not. For now we will stay; Orlando lends us tools, Doris gives encouragement and advice about our garden and Liam and his pal Chris are signed up for t-ball in Spring. This is My House has become This is our home, Our community, Our responsibility.

# Jane Herold Living with Pottery

by Caroline Tapley

Mid-morning at Jane Herold's. She has been up since 5, out on the river with the Piermont Rowing Club, and by 11 needs a pause. She brews tea in a grey and brown teapot the size of a grapefruit. The visitor is invited to choose a mug from the selection on the kitchen shelf – not an easy choice, with so many subtle variants on the theme on hand. The tea is without a hint of bitterness, round, but not bland.

What she eats off of and drinks from are very important to Jane. She grew up in a family "almost obsessed with eating and dishes" – there were at least twelve china patterns in the house,

different plates for different foods, from bowls for pasta to luster dishes used only for dessert. Her mother used to photograph the holiday table because, for her, the food and the setting of the table were art. Jane's aesthetic answers are different from her mother's, but food and what it is eaten from are central. The pots she makes are made to be used, to be set on the table, to be baked in, served out of. They are sturdy and comfortable. If they are beautiful as well – which they are – it is because of their proportion, energy and usefulness. Their beauty is a natural consequence.

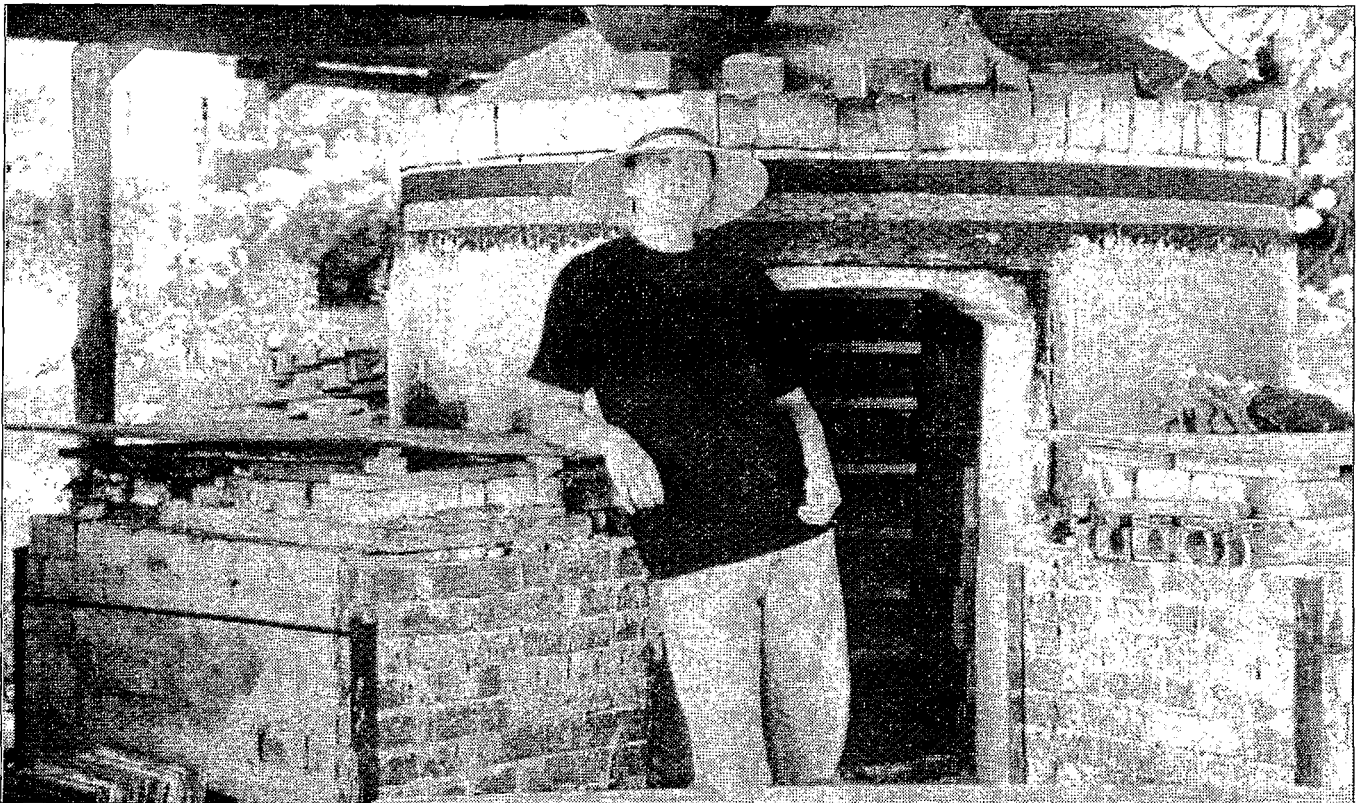
Born in Connecticut, Jane

applied to Sarah Lawrence College for a reason that now seems to her somewhat flippant: the school took people a year earlier than others did. She didn't register for pottery courses her first semester, having got it into her head that these classes were for artists only. But by the second



semester, she had begged and pleaded her way into the class taught by Sylvia March. There she learned essential techniques and also, most importantly, that making pots is a reasonable way to live your life.

Jane was passionate about pottery from the start. But she was





also interested in biology and animal behavior – and unsure of what her next step should be. Sarah Lawrence, though, was one of the few places that offered both art and science, so her junior year found her back there -- this time with purpose. She worked hard, getting to the pottery before her first class, feeling happy when something worthwhile had been done by nine o'clock, and graduated in 1977 with a split major: biology/ethology and pottery

After college, Jane worked as studio manager at the Old Church Cultural Center in Demarest, N.J., and made pots in the dining room of her apartment. Then, at a pottery show where she, Sylvia March and Alice Gerard were exhibiting their work, she met Grace Knowlton, artist in many media. Grace offered her studio space and a place to live. Jane set up on her own, and worked for about a year – long enough, she says, to know that she didn't know what she was doing. She needed the immersion in the field that an apprenticeship would give. But at that time U.S. pottery was much influenced by the Japanese aesthetic and way of working. Jane felt that this was not for her. What was, was the work of the English potter, Michael Cardew. His pots spoke to her. If she was going to be in an apprentice's position, not an easy place to be, then it should be with the best. Writing to Cardew after attending a workshop of his in Maryland, she asked if she could work as an

apprentice at his pottery, Wenford Bridge in Cornwall. The answer was an uncompromising "no."

But Jane bought a ticket to England anyway.

She spent that summer walking the North Cornwall footpaths and waiting for Cardew to make up his mind to take her on. He procrastinated. A decision would have to wait until

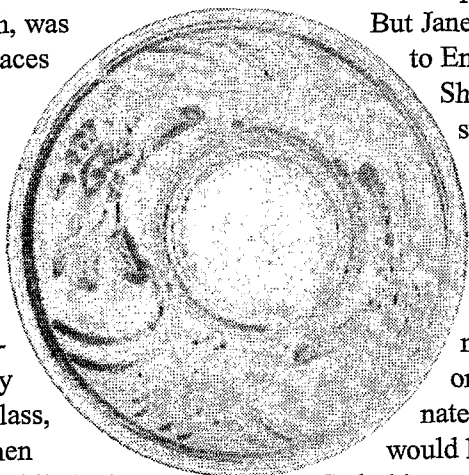
Seth, his son and partner in the pottery, returned from the States. "When Seth gets back . . ." In October, when it was getting chilly on the footpaths, Seth came back and Michael Cardew took on Jane as an apprentice. Believing that "persistence is the only virtue the gods reward," he could do no less.

At Wenford Bridge, everything was done from the ground up – mixing clay, making glazes, cutting firewood, baking bread, growing vegetables. Pots were thrown on a kick-wheel, fired in a wood-burning kiln. Jane fell into this life, she says, as though she had been waiting forever for a sensible world to emerge from chaos. Here, it was completely normal to care about the plate she ate off. It was reasonable, even healthy, to travel with your own mug.

A year and a half after she started work at Wenford Bridge, Michael Cardew had a stroke and died. Jane stayed on at the pottery for several more months, travelled for eight weeks in Spain, then returned to the U.S. The studio and the little house at Grace's were still available to her and she was back at her wheel within a month. That was twenty years ago. Since then, for Jane, Grace has been both a patron and an aesthetic touchstone. In a world where so much is slick or pretentious or merely pretty, her work has been a benchmark.

Jane's studio was once the manure-shed for Grace's barn (Jane laughs: "I like to say that I work in a s--t-house"). There are no distractions – no radio, no color, even. Just plain clay-splashed walls, shelves of drying pots and a foot-operated wheel. When she steps through the door,

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she has a sense of being "right with the world."

Jane once made a bowl big enough to bathe in. A photograph of her in this giant of a pot was featured on her early announcements. Nowadays, she still makes some big pieces, such as the three-foot covered jars that stand like sentinels behind the studio. But most of her pots are smaller pieces – bowls, pitchers, teapots, platters, beakers, mugs. Many of these are decorated with sli-combing or with brushwork in browns and soft blues on a white ground. A new glaze she is experimenting with introduces greens and grays. Jane also makes dinnerware to order (a place setting consists of two plates, a bowl and a mug). The colors are neutrals with nothing retiring about them – honey,



taupe, a brown so dense that it is all but black. A small showroom close to the studio has samples of

her work.

Usually four times a year, but more often if she has been especially productive, Jane fires up the wood-burning kiln that she made with a friend's help. It is a domed structure, made of fire-brick and concrete -- "yards and yards of concrete mixed by hand," Jane remembers, ruefully. A firing takes two cords of wood -- slabs or offcuts of pine -- and twenty-one continuous hours of stoking to get and keep the white heat (2400 degrees Fahrenheit). The night that the fires are lit is one of hope and wishfulness, even prayer. Anything is possible.

Jane's work is not for the mass

market but for a limited number of like-minded people. These people "found" her, she isn't sure how unless it was by word of mouth, and many of them have become steady customers. Three times a year – in the spring, the fall, and before Christmas – the pottery holds an Open House.\* But people are welcome to call (359-5421) and come by any time. When someone who has bought a

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bowl comes back six months later, needing all new dishes, Jane knows she has succeeded in touching a sensibility.

It seems unlikely, perhaps, but Jane and her husband, the artist Robert Adzema, met at the now-closed Cat Club in New York City, where the big bands played for dancing on Sunday nights. But Jane loves to dance – anything from the waltz to the jitterbug – and that night she asked him to do the Lindy with her.

Robert's studio in Palisades is only a few yards from Jane's. Here, he makes what, for lack of a better word, one has to call sundials – sculptures in bronze or steel or cast concrete that tell time. His watercolor paintings, landscapes and studies of rocks, are done outside. Living and working in such proximity, they were able to share

*\* Next Open House: December 2-3 and 9-10*



the parenting 50 - 50 when their daughter, May, arrived five years ago. The fourth occupant of their spaces is charming Jack, possibly a Czechoslovakian circus dog, certainly a gifted performer of all manner of tricks.

Both Robert and Jane teach at the Rockland Center for the Arts in West Nyack, Jane for eleven years now. Some of her students return semester after semester; some of them have gone on to teach themselves. There is a real sense of community; the students trust one another with their struggles, always very visible in pottery class. Jane finds it particularly gratifying when a student pursues something she would have liked to have done herself.

Jane says that her work is a consuming effort to ensure beauty and pleasure in everyday living. One could add that even washing her dishes is a sensuous experience. A way to live a life.



# IN THE FOOTSTEPS of the Goddess: Personal Stories

Edited and Illustrated by Cristina Biaggi

A Review by Milbry Polk

Palisadian Cristina Biaggi's new book is the latest in her work devoted to understanding and interpreting Paleolithic and Neolithic religious practices and beliefs. She brings to it her own scholarship as a prehistorian, her success as an artist and sculptor, and most importantly her open-minded quest to pursue a subject that is only just beginning to get the attention it deserves: the interpretation of the lives of our ancient ancestors.

The Paleolithic period of human development is believed to extend back as much as 50,000 years, followed by the Neolithic period which lasted between 7,000 and 2,500 years before the present. One of the defining features of these time periods was the widespread predominance of belief in a supreme female goddess. With the end of the Neolithic, religions and society changed. One aspect of this was that the supreme divinity assumed a male persona.

Obviously this dramatic change in belief systems reflected a radical shift in the way humans perceived their world. In simplistic terms, the archaeological record indicates that the period when the Goddess religion dominated society was earth-oriented, egalitarian and matrilineal as evidenced by a flowering of the arts, agriculture and a non-aggressive settled society. The later post-

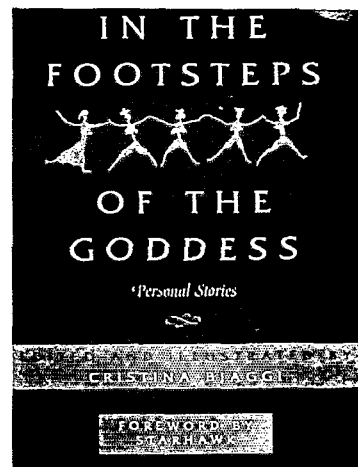
Neolithic society was patrilineal, had a preponderance of sky gods, and greater societal emphasis on war and conquest.

That we know anything at all about this ancient period of time is in large part thanks to the

**...the archaeological record indicates that the period when the Goddess religion dominated society was earth-oriented, egalitarian and matrilineal.**

remarkable scholarship of a formidable archaeologist, Marija Gimbutas. Gimbutas was in the forefront of scholarship regarding the art, language and belief systems of the various Goddess religions. Cristina was fortunate to have had Marija Gimbutas as a mentor and friend before Gimbutas' untimely death. It was with Gimbutas's encouragement that Biaggi undertook her

first serious research on prehistory, which culminated in *Habitations of the Great Goddess* (Knowledge, Ideas and Trends, Inc., 1994). This book examined sanctuaries in the Orkney and Shetland Islands (in northern Scotland) and Malta, which although separated by thousands of miles, exhibited many similarities, thus reaffirming the widespread and homogeneous nature of the Goddess religious system.



In her new book Biaggi has turned her eyes from the ancient past to the present. In *In the Footsteps of the Goddess* she has assembled testimonials from a wide variety of individuals, women and some men – artists, environmental activists, editors, writers, therapists, teachers, scholars, actors, poets, historians, musicians, from across the United States, Europe and Australia -- who have experienced a personal connection to the ancient religion of the Goddess. In all cases this experience has enhanced their lives leading to "transformation and self-fulfillment." What Biaggi's work has done is point to universal truths in the human experience – and, more importantly, show that there are many paths open to us to help us understand who we are and what our place is on this earth.

The book includes a world time-line of the Goddess religion, a glossary of terms and a suggested reading list. This is a subject all of us need to explore further – at the least to have a better understanding of who we are and to expand the horizons of our lives.

In the Footsteps of the Goddess: Personal Stories, Cristina Biaggi, Ed.; published by Knowledge, Ideas and Trends, Inc., Manchester, Conn., 2000; ISBN 1-879198-30-4 \$20.

# BULLETIN BOARD

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING:

October 19 at 7:30 pm at the American Legion Hall on Route 340. Co-Presidents **Andy Norman** and **Eileen Larkin**, encourage all Palisadians to attend and bring issues of concern to the community. Among the issues scheduled to be discussed: the impact of traffic on Oak Tree Road (if Lowe's complex is built on Rte. 303), plans for Rte. 303 improvements, the new master plan and changes to existing zoning codes. Orangetown Town Board members have been invited to attend as well as candidates running for election in November.

PCA membership fee is \$5.00 per person to cover the cost of mailings. To show your support, please mail your membership fee to P.O. Box 222, Palisades, NY 10964.

## The CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE

**THEATRE** has started its second season with rehearsals at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. A performance of *As You Like It* has been scheduled for the first two weekends of March. For further information contact **Diana Green** at 365-9709.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE** for **William Hunt Diederich** ("Chappy") will be held at the Palisades Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 29th at 3 p.m.

**PIERMONT ROWING CLUB** made three wins on Sunday, Sept. 17 at a Mystic Seaport meet: in the quads, one men's boat took first (Andy Harnett, Mike Brennan, Lincoln Colwell, Michael Furrhman) and one women's took third (Gayle Fitzpatrick, Joyce Griggs, **Jane Herold**, Bronwyn Woodhead); in the women's double, **Milbry Polk** and **Nina Prusinowski** took second. Clubs participating in the meet were from the Tri-State area, including Croton, New York, Norwalk, Conn., Rutherford, New Jersey and the U.S. Coast Guard.

President Peter Fernberger says the season only ends when the river freezes over. Meanwhile the Piermont Rowing Club plans to enter yet

another meet at the end of October in Philadelphia.

**PEOPLE TO PEOPLE:** The employees of the **Palisades Post Office** thank Palisades residents for their generous contribution of 500 lbs. of food during the recent food drive. It was given to



Left to Right: Helen Douglas, Officer In Charge, Deborah Bozzone, Rural Carrier.

"People to People," an organization located in Nyack. The food was shared with fifteen pantries in the county.

**PALISADES SCHOOL:** The S.O. School District has filled the red brick Palisades school building with three new programs – (1) The South Orangetown Family Resource Center. Palisadian **Margaret Umbrino**, who has teaching certificates in Elementary Education and Secondary Education, as well as Administration and Supervision, has been named Director; (2) SEEC, a school district program providing child care before and after regular school hours; (3) Children's Enrichment Center, a privately run, non-profit pre-school. Palisadian **Isabel Ballesteros** will be teaching two year olds in the afternoon. *All programs are funded either by grants or by families who participate in them. For further information see Palisades School Programs, page 14 of this issue.*

As the school year ended, a farewell party was

Tree Playgroup, which served more than 750 children in the Palisades School over a period of 20 plus years.

**LAMONT OPEN HOUSE** will be held Saturday, October 7, 10 am to 4 pm -- among the exhibits and explorations are: the origins and predictability of earthquakes, uses of seismology, effects of El Niño and La Niña, results of global climate change, stories embedded in tree rings, corals and Deep-sea sediment cores, and the condition of the Hudson River.

A perfect family outing, hands-on children's exhibits and concession stand lunches will be available. Parking provided at the IBM Conference Center with shuttle buses to the Lamont campus. Call 359-2900 for further information.

*The inaugural meeting of the Lamont-Doherty Alumni Assoc. will be held on Oct. 7 at 4 pm in the Monell building auditorium.*

**TIME CAPSULE:** On July 4, 2000, after much travail and with cheers from bystanders, **Burke Anderson, John Converse and Carl Kister** unearthed the Palisades PTA Children's Bicentennial Time Capsule buried July 4, 1976. In it was found, among other artifacts placed there by grades K through 3, some 50 signed messages telling what they hoped to be when they grew up: Actress, Airline Reservationist, Artist, Baseball Player, Bicycle Racer, Boxer, Carpenter, Doctor, Engineer, FBI, Fireman, Football Player, Geologist, Gymnast, Hockey Player, Horse Trainer, Mechanic, Motor Cycle Stuntman, Nurse, Mother, Oceanographer, Policeman, Psychiatrist, Race Car Driver, Scientist, Singer, Soccer Player, Teacher (Acrobatics, Art), Tennis Player, Veterinarian. One eight year old seer predicted: "I think we will be living in an automatic world and on the moon."

But there were other messages -- as Hillary Lo writes in a piece titled **TIME TOLD ME**. 'Late in July this year I returned to visit my family in Palisades and meet up with two friends from early school days, Gina Olson and Nancy Vlahos. Although we had moved from Palisades, we had all kept in touch throughout the years and planned, this time, to visit Tanglewood together. But first I had a surprise for them -- I took them to the



Left to Right: Hillary Lo, Gina Olson, and Nancy Vlahos.

Palisades Library where, as my mother had told me, the contents of the Time capsule were stored.'

"We looked through everyone's slips of paper...and when we looked at Gina's and read what was written, we all laughed, nearly cried, and agreed that this was a wonderful, special thing ... included on Gina's slip of paper were these words: 'May 7, 1976 ... 'My friends are Nancy and Hillary'--

(and it looks as though they always will be!)"

**NYACK FARMER'S MARKET\*** ends its fourth season on Thursday, Oct. 26 offering a wide selection of locally grown fruits, vegetables, organic produce, honey, pies, baked goods, wine, flowers, bedding plants, bread, and salsa and chips. The Harvest Festival on Thursday, Oct. 13 from 10 am to 1 pm will feature children's activities, a juggling workshop with the Jovial Juggler, music by the Uncle Brothers, and more.

The Farmer's Market is open rain or shine every Thursday in the municipal parking lot on the corner of Main Street and Cedar Street, 9 am to 2:30 pm. For information call the Chamber of Commerce at 353-2221.

*\*A member of NY State Farmer's Market Federation, an organization that supports NY State grown produce. It is one of 266 that are in operation state-wide. Farmer's markets have been instrumental in revitalizing downtown areas in jeopardy because of suburban malls and are a valuable outlet to enable the continuation of small family farms.*

#### **BUS STOP SHELTERS**

Thanks go to the (Continued on next page)



*(Continued from previous page)*

approximately forty people who worked on the two bus stop shelters on Rte. 9W and Oak Tree Road:

- Palisadians **Joe Tonetti** who designed the shelters, and with **Henry Ottley** oversaw their construction; **Frank Valerio** who provided roofing for the west-side shelter; and **Larry Bucciarelli** who was in charge of demolishing and removing the old structures.

- BOCES instructors Gary Laurence and Robert Columbo and their students who built the west-side shelter in their workshop.

- Town of Orangetown. John Giardiello, Director of Buildings, Planning, Zoning and Enforcement, and James Dean, Superintendent of Highways -- whose men prepared the sites, laid concrete foundation slabs, transported the west-side shelter from BOCES, and built the east-side shelter on site.

- State and County. New York State Dept. of Transportation who researched the sites and granted the permits; Dr. James Yarmus, Director of the Rockland County Dept. of Transportation and Planning, and Irwin Cohen who worked actively on the permitting process.

- Red and Tan Bus Lines President William Schafer who has offered \$3,000 toward the construction of the shelters.

Finally we thank Town Supervisor Thom Kleiner for his support, Deputy Supervisor Eliot Tozer who coordinated this effort, and **Reg Thayer** who kept at it to the end.

### SCHOOL NEWS

Over the summer, administrators, teachers, and staff of Tappan Zee Elementary and William O. Schaefer exchanged buildings to accommodate the integration of the S.O. Early Childhood Program (formerly housed in the Palisades School) into the elementary school system. Schaefer School now houses Pre-K, T-K, K, and first grades; second and third grade is in Tappan Zee Elementary.

All elementary schools began the school year with new playgrounds and the Elementary PTA Garden Team, including Palisadian **Jackie Martin**, spent long hours creating, planting, and maintaining gardens at each of the schools. These gardens are not only beautiful, but will be used by some

teachers for classes. All K-12 classrooms received new computers this summer thanks to the passing of the budget vote in May.

**Ethan Scher** is President of the Tappan Zee High School PTA and **Carol Baxter Plotkin** is President of the SOCES (Elementary) PTA. **Carol Elevitch**, a supporter of public education for many years, was recognized as a Distinguished Community Member by the South Orangetown Central School District.

Mike Peeples, of Tappan, won the Tappan seat on the Board of Education. Board meetings are held on Mondays (Oct. 2, 16, and 23) at 7:30 pm at the S.O. Middle School in the Board Room. All are welcome.

**Goblins Gathering** on Saturday, Oct. 28, 11 am to 3 pm at Schaefer School in Tappan. This fall family fun festival will feature Steve Max the Simon Says Guy, games, crafts, challenges, costume parade, face painting, food, music, fortune telling, just to name a few. Proceeds will benefit Elementary School PTA projects. For further information call Carol Plotkin at 398-1231.

**Tappan Zee High School Home Coming** is Saturday, October 14 with Kick Off at 1:30 pm at Tappan Zee High School.

### PALISADES SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- *South Orangetown Family Resource Center.* A place where parents of young children can learn about the school district and child-related services in and around our area. It will have a reading and lending library of child development books and other materials. For information, call 365-4277.

- *SEEC.* An extended hours school program run by the school district which provides childcare before and after school. The afternoon program is housed in the Palisades School, the morning program in Cottage Lane School in Blauvelt. For information call Director Eileen Miranda at 365-4260.

- *Children's Enrichment Center.* A not-for-profit, non-denominational cooperative preschool (formerly in Tappan) provides pre-school education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. For information call Administrative Assistant, Diane Ruggerio 398-3370.



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# Palisades Free Library

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www.rcls.org/pal/

E-mail: pal@rcls.org

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## Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 1:00-9:00

Friday 1:00-5:00

Saturday 11:00-5:00

Sunday 1:00-5:00

Closed Monday October 9th for Columbus Day

Closed Wed. & Thur. Nov. 22nd & 23rd for

Thanksgiving

## Mark Your Calendar

Gerry Miras' retrospective slide show of six visits to China from 1982-2000. Sunday, October 15th at 2 PM.

## Children's Programs

Storytime for children ages three and up will take place on Wednesdays at 1:30 PM beginning September 13. This special time for children includes rhymes, finger plays, songs, games, and of course, stories. These are told through various media including picture books, felt board, and table puppets.

Please note: Children must be fully three to attend. If they are not of age by September 13, they may join the group after they turn three. Please register at the library.

On October 18, Wednesday, 4:15 PM children may make a

Halloween Garden-in-a-Pot, complete with pumpkin and ghost. Any age K-6 could enjoy this program. Come to the library to sign up.

November Thanksgiving theme program to be announced. Check at the library in late October for details.

Please note: Although all children are welcome to sign up for Palisades Free Library programs, in the case of oversubscription, preference must be given to Palisades' residents.

## New CD-ROMS for Youngsters

Thanks to a generous grant from Assemblyman Samuel Colman, over 50 new CD-ROMS for children have been added to our collection and may be borrowed from the library.

## Books on Tape for Adults and Young People

Don't have time to read? Check out our recorded book collection. Listen at home or in your car to our more than 400 titles.

## Reading Club

The reading club meets monthly. If you wish to join please call Ms. Joan Sanders at 623-8262.

## 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.

*(Continued on page16)*



(Continued from page 15)

### New Adult Nonfiction

Stephen Ambrose	Nothing like it in the world
Martin Amis	Experience
Jacques Barzun	From dawn to decadence
Carol Beckwith	African ceremonies
Roger Kahn	Head game
Stephen King	On writing
Malachy McCourt	Singing my him song
William S. Pollack	Real boys don't cry
Anna Quindlen	A short guide to a happy life
Margaret Salinger	Dream catcher
Judith Viorst	Suddenly sixty
Tom Wolfe	Hooking up
Bob Woodward	Boom

### New Adult Fiction

Margaret Atwood	The blind assassin
G. H. Ephron	Amnesia
Molly Giles	Iron shoes
Noah Gordon	The last Jew
Ha Jin	The bridegroom
Jane Hamilton	Disobedience
Josephine Humphreys	Nowhere else on earth
Kazuo Ishiguro	When we were orphans
Doris Lessing	Ben, in the world
Gore Vidal	Golden age
Barbara Vine	Grass hopper
Lulu Wang	The lily theater



Yonderhill (Continued from page 5)

and I are here daily from 11-7.

**Michele Fox:** Two years ago I moved from Manhattan into the Captain John house in Sneden's Landing. For the last 20 years my specialty has been American textiles. I have a large collection of quilts, blankets, vintage American flags and country carpets such as rag and braided as well as American Indian rugs.

**MP:** Ernie what do you and Rich and Steven plan to do here?

**EQ:** Eventually Rich and I will have our American and English 18th and 19th century furniture and decorations displayed in part of the upstairs. But we still have restoration work to do there. Steven will have his photography studio upstairs too. You know he photographs for quality catalogs such as the Smithsonian, and has a long standing association with Christie's. He plans to continue that work and expand his advertising photography here.

One exciting plan we have is to take Yonderhill into the 21st century by selling antiques over the Internet through on-line auctions run by Sotheby's, Amazon, and Ebay. Because we are an associate of Sotheby's we already have credibility as reliable and trustworthy dealers. With Michele's husband Peter, we plan to take antiques on consignment (for the normal consignment fee). We will take care of listing the items on the Internet and monitoring the auctions. Then we handle the financial transactions and ship the items out. For this part of the business we will use Miss Marshall's old office as headquarters.

While Tippy, John, Loni, and Miss Marshall brought Yonderhill to Palisades, it is clear the new team of Ernie, Rich, Steven, Dominick, and Michele are continuing the special sense of place it has been. The double doors are once again open welcoming one and all inside to search for treasure and build the friendships so integral to the Yonderhill experience.



# Palisades Presbyterian Church News, Fall 2000

## Worship Service Time Announcement!!

The Session has voted to continue the summer schedule of one Sunday morning service at 10:00AM through the fall. This schedule will continue until Advent (the first week of December). At that time the Session will evaluate the change and decide whether to remain with one Sunday morning service or return to two services at 9:00AM and 11:00AM.

In addition, several alternative type services are being considered and planned (ideas include evening Vesper services or early morning services on a monthly basis, prayer or special music services). New services will be announced in future Pal Pres. Publications or you can contact the church office for information.

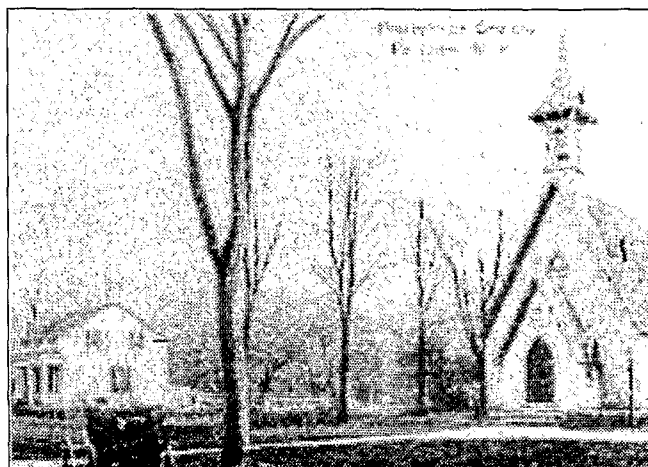
## Sunday School Schedule:

The Sunday School program also has new times. Sunday School for pre-school through 5th grade will take place Sunday mornings during the service. Classes started on September 17th. Children are excused from the worship service after the children's message (approximately 10:15AM) and will attend their classes in the Parish House as the service continues. The youth group (P.Y.O.C., 6th through 12th graders) met on the evening of September 17th to plan their meeting time and upcoming activities. Please contact the church for more information.

We need Sunday School teachers and child care volunteers. You can sign up for a single week, a month, or whatever time you can contribute. Please contact the Rev. Jung or the Chair of the Christian Ed program, Jack Fuller, for more information.

## Midnight Run:

Last June the PPC joined South Church in Dobb's Ferry in a "Midnight Run"- a program that distributes food and necessary items to the homeless in New York City. Starting this fall, Palisades will sponsor a



midnight run every other month on a Friday evening. The next Midnight Run will be in November- contact the office for the confirmed date. There are several ways to participate:

1) Donate items such as light blankets, heavy sheets, socks, underwear, shorts, jeans, t-shirts, sweat-shirts and sneakers. Also needed are toiletries (small toiletry items from hotels are very useful!). Items can be dropped off at the church.

2) Participate in one of two teams: the first team will meet at the church at 6:00PM to make sandwiches, drinks, pasta salads, and pack individual lunches. The second team will go to the city to deliver these goods to the homeless.

3) Contribute money to help pay for food and supplies for this program.

## Stained Glass Window:

The stained glass window in memory of Helene Stansbury is near completion. The Willet Stained Glass Studio in Philadelphia expects to install the window around the middle of October. A dedication of the window will take place within a few weeks of the installation. Please contact the church office for a confirmed date.

## Other Fall Events:

**Oct. 1st:** Potluck luncheon after the church service; **Nov. 2nd:** "Christian Skate night" at the Montvale Roller Rink. Call office for time and ride information; **Nov 13th:** Fall Flower Arranging Workshop, led by Ann Gray; **Dec. 3rd:** Advent Wreath Making potluck dinner.

Pastor:	Rev. Dae E. Jung
Secretary:	Marie Sullivan
Office phone:	359-3147
e-mail:	daejung7@aol.com

— Mercy Garland



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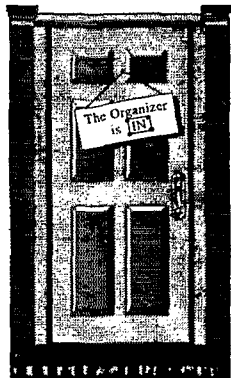






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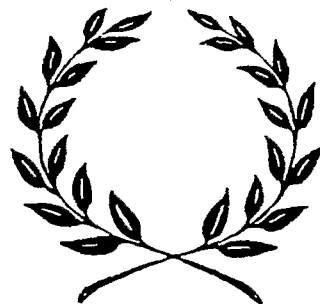
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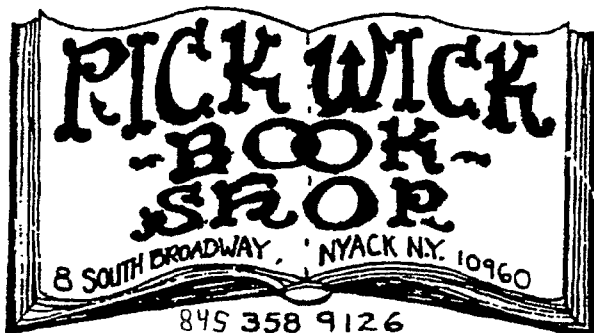
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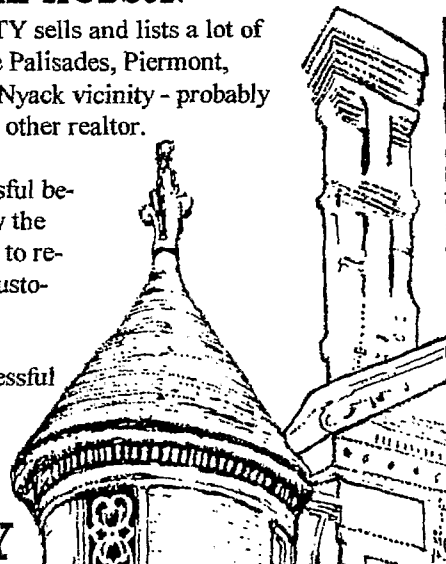
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## ABOUT 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. 10964 needs your support and contributions are welcome. Send ideas, items for publication, offers to join the staff, and financial help to 10964, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, New York, 10964. We hope to be able to put 10964 in your mailbox four times each year from October through May.

### 10964 Staff Members

Judy O'Neil Castagna, John Converse, Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, Carol Elevitch, Alice Gerard, David Gottlieb, Tad Hyde, Ellen Chayet Kidd, Greta Nettleton, Andrew Norman, Katherine Papay, Carol Plotkin, Milbry Polk, Helena Power, Holly Seeger, Susan Shapiro, Caroline Tapley, Mary Tiegreen, Robbie Whitstock, Cellen Wolk.  
Treasurer: Susan Gersony.

**Editor/Coordinator for this issue:** Carol Elevitch

**Design & Layout for this issue:** David Wolk

### Contributions

We are grateful for contributions from Anna and Sofia Baryshnikov, Polly Cameron, Nicholas Ludington, Kate and Lilly Plotkin, Simone and Sophie Signorelli.

**10964 Newsletter**

**P.O. Box 201**

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Palisades, NY  
10964**



### A Teahouse in the Middle of West Lake in Hangzhou, China

On Sunday, October 15th (2 pm at the Palisades Library), Gerry Miras will show color slides of the many different parts of China she has visited during her six trips between 1982 and 2000. The photo above is a sample of her work.