

10964

THE
PALISADES
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2002 NUMBER 177

NOWHERE TO RUN

Why Indian Point is a clear and present danger

On Sept. 11th, people all over the world watched in horror as terrorists flew two jets into the World Trade Center towers. Both of those planes flew directly over the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant as they followed the Hudson River south to their targets on the lower tip of Manhattan.

The unthinkable became real on 9/11. Since then, President Bush has warned us that undiscovered cells of the Al Queda network are still active within the USA and are, in fact, focusing their planning efforts on attacks on our nuclear facilities. Every day we hear about a new heightened alert. This is no longer an unthinkable matter of speculation but a truly clear and present danger to us all.

Rockland residents are extremely worried that terrorists will choose Indian Point as their next target. According

to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in case of a major incident at that kind of facility, the "peak kill zone is within a radius of 17.5 miles of the plant" and the "peak injury zone is a radius of 50 miles." Our homes, families, and jobs are squarely in their sights: Palisades is located less than 20 miles down river from the plant.

As the war on terrorism escalates, the terrorists' obvious choice will be to hit us where it will hurt the most. New York City is the seat of global economic and cultural activities that are a favorite target of Al Queda's hatred. An attack on Indian Point would place 20 million people at risk. Eight percent of the population of the United States resides within 50 miles of the plant. Cultural resources of irreplaceable importance would be destroyed. Our magnificent, shining Hudson river, together with the life of all the fish, forests, and birds

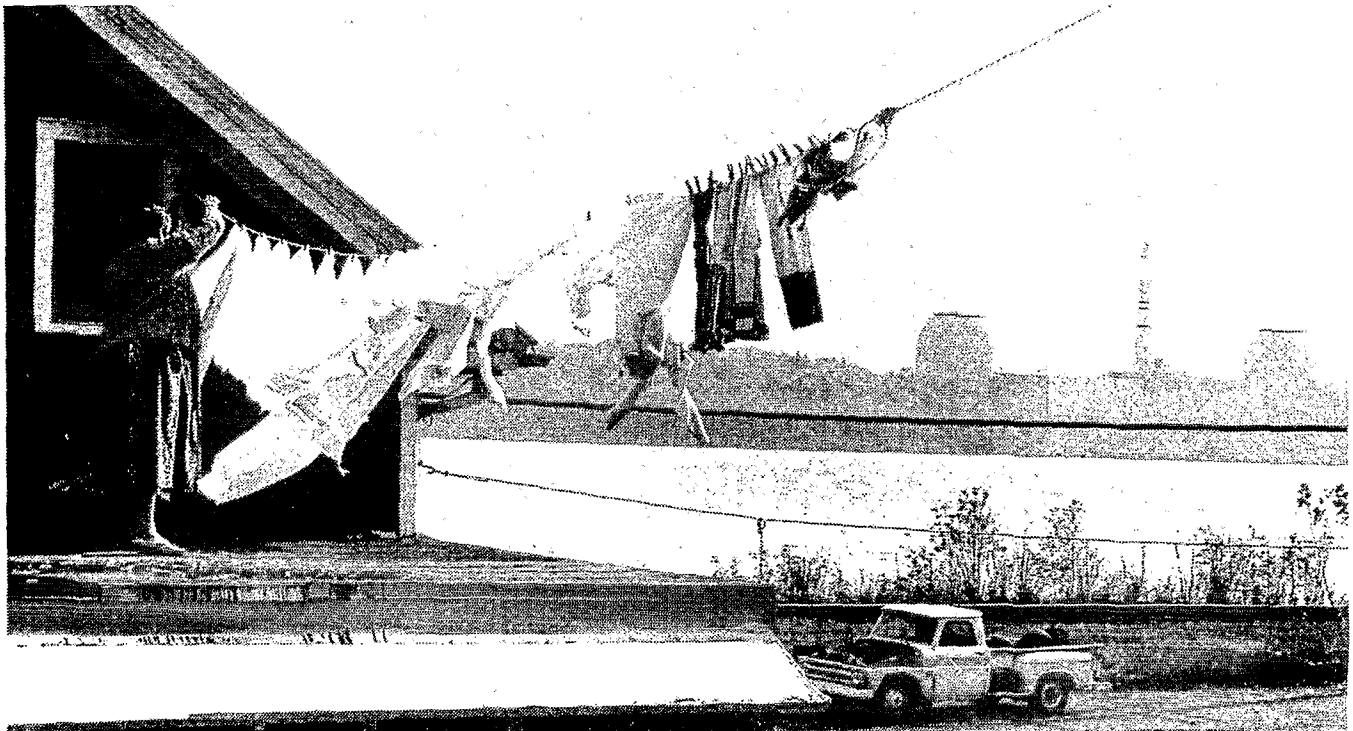


photo ©1976 Judy Tomkins

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NOWHERE TO RUN . . . *Continued from Page 1*

along its banks, all would be poisoned forever, right down to the bedrock.

There is real action that Rockland's residents can take now to protect themselves from these chilling possibilities. Closing Indian Point would immediately reduce the dangerous effects of an attack for those living in the area. According to Dr. Gordon Thompson, a nuclear physicist with the Cambridge, MA-based Institute for Resource and Security Studies, his calculations show that shutting down Indian Point now would, in the subsequent event of a catastrophic radiological incident, greatly diminish the possibility of a meltdown. Moreover, it would reduce the number of acute casualties within a 10-mile radius by 80% within 20 days, and the incidence of long term cancer in a 50-mile radius would be reduced by 50%, even though it could take several additional years to totally decommission the plant.

SECURITY

Were it to be built today, the Indian Point Nuclear Plant could not be sited where it is because, under NRC guidelines, the area is too densely populated. Since it's too late to change history, Indian Point is now a major factor in the future health and safety of the entire tri-state New York metropolitan area.

Even so, there are few apparent protections in place — no Coast Guard boats have been observed patrolling the river in front of it, and no fighter planes seem to be patrolling the airspace above it. Commercial planes can now fly over at any altitude down to 3,000 feet since the 10-mile no-fly zone over Indian Point was eliminated. This was done after the NRC determined that only a 100 mile no-fly zone would provide effective protection. Ground security appears equally lax; only a few weeks ago, the *Journal News* reported that three hunters were found trespassing on plant property, and they were able to reenter the grounds even after they had been expelled.

The buildings are also vulnerable. NRC studies have shown that the containment domes, which are only 3.5 feet thick at the top, would probably not withstand an airplane attack similar to 9/11. At a recent town board meeting, Orangetown councilman Denis O'Donnell pointed out that the smart missiles of today are designed to be able to penetrate 20 feet of concrete. The control rooms and over 1,200 tons of spent fuel rods (which are 30% plutonium), are housed in corrugated steel buildings. Control room security is crucial because if

this room is attacked, the chances of a meltdown are greatly increased. If the water in the spent fuel pool falls too low, the chance of a uncontrollable radiological fire is very high, and such a fire would release a cloud of radioactive steam that would then float over the region.

EVACUATION PLAN

Rockland County has created an evacuation plan for areas designated as being within a 10-mile zone around the plant (primarily Stony Point, Haverstraw, and Clarkstown). Residents of Palisades are outside that zone and are not included. Under the evacuation plan, C. Scott Vanderhoef, the Rockland County Executive,

would have the power to declare martial law. Martial law has harsh implications: Andrew Spano, Westchester's County Executive, has stated that in the event of an evacuation, his county would use force to stop parents from rescuing their children if they were at schools within the 10 mile zone.

Studies done after the Three Mile Island accident near Harrisburg, PA in 1978 show that in a real incident, residents within 100 miles of the incident chose to leave their

homes. Most of us would undoubtedly do the same, causing massive traffic jams and overall panic throughout the region. Anyone who has left by car for their Thanksgiving vacation on that same Wednesday afternoon is well aware of the fact that Rockland and Westchester do not have the road infrastructure or transportation systems to support such a massive evacuation. No actual drill is slated to be conducted of the evacuation plan because officials say it would be too dangerous.

LOCAL POLITICS ARE IMPORTANT

The protection offered by this evacuation plan may sound impractical to many, but it is extremely important politically. The Federal Government requires annual certification of the county's evacuation plan in order for Entergy to continue to operate the plants. If the plan is found inadequate to protect public health and safety, federal law requires the plants to be shut down.

The annual certification process is set up in three stages:

- The County Emergency Services and County Executive must sign off on a check list of items and drills they have completed, declaring that the evacuation plan adequately protects the health and safety of the residents of the community.

❖

**"If the plan is found
inadequate to protect
public health and
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❖

- Governor Pataki and SEMO (the State Emergency Management Office) receive these signed check lists, give their approval, and then send them on to FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency).

- FEMA approves the certification and sends it to the NRC, which then permits the Nuclear Plant to continue operating.

"I would like to see the plant closed"

— Gordon Wren, Rockland's Director of County Fire and Emergency Services

Gordon Wren, Rockland's Director of County Fire and Emergency Services, the man most directly responsible for the design and practical implementation of this plan, has stated that "even though our evacuation plan may be the best in the country, I would like to see the plant closed".

In spite of this, County Executive C. Scott Vanderhoef certified the existing plan and forwarded it to Governor Pataki. Governor Pataki received more phone calls requesting that he not re-certify the evacuation plan than he received on any other issue during his entire term in office. Notwithstanding this, he also gave his approval to the certification. He only asked the NRC to review their standards after he gave them the certification.

Political opposition to approval for existing evacuation plans is gaining momentum in Westchester and Rockland. Assemblyman Richard Brodsky (D-Greenburgh) released a 46-page report in late February outlining major defects in Westchester's plan, and he is calling on Spano and Pataki to rescind their approval of the plan.

Many elected officials in Rockland County have passed resolutions calling for the immediate closure of Indian Point. The Rockland County Legislature voted unanimously in favor of closure. The towns of Ramapo, Stony Point, Clarkstown, and Orangetown, the Villages of Nyack, Pomona, South Nyack, and Wesley Hills, and the Nyack and Ramapo school districts have all passed resolutions to close Indian Point.

The further that officials live from the plant and the higher up in the federal bureaucracy, the more unreal their responses appear to become. James Kallstrom, the New York State Homeland Security Director, speaking at a press conference in Dec 13, 2001 in Westchester County seemed to be baiting potential terrorists into attacking the plant. "Let 'em try," he declared, "This may be one way to flush them out." He went on to downplay the importance of security of Indian Point. "I have bigger fish to fry," he declared. The 20 million

residents living in its shadow might justifiably be wondering what possibly could be bigger than this?

Indian Point supplies only a tiny fraction of the region's energy needs. Rockland County receives none of it. This is an election year and we must exercise our right to vote to elect officials who have clearly stated that they will do everything in their power to protect the safety and health of the community and to immediately close Indian Point. Rockland residents receive no benefit from Indian Point, but are exposed to all its dangers.

We are living in fragile times and you can make a difference. Every effort counts.

— Susan Shapiro

Additional Information

Detailed information about the **Rockland County Evacuation Plan** is available by calling the County Office of Fire and Emergency Services at 845-364-8800. They have a booklet covering all types of emergency preparedness, including weather and fire emergencies as well as Indian Point. The booklet includes a map showing evacuation routes on Rockland's highways.

South Orangetown Schools have prepared a pamphlet about Emergency Procedures that was sent home with every child in November. For those who may have lost their copy, the following important information should be remembered:

1. SOCSO children would be sent home early on their regular buses in event of an evacuation. Parents would be notified by Reverse 911 calls and by e-mail from www.cancellations.com.
2. Our schools would then be used as shelters for children being evacuated from the 10-mile zone. Tappan Zee High School would function as a Public Reception Center for evacuees from other parts of the county.

Make your concerns heard. Call and write County Executive Vanderhoef, Governor Pataki, your Senators, Congressmen, and President Bush. Contact numbers and addresses, as well as other information can be found at www.CloseIndianPoint.com.

More information on Our Website: Go to 10964.com for additional information about this topic, focusing on the economic issues and the availability of potassium iodine to prevent certain kinds of radiation-related illness.

BULLETIN BOARD

On January 30, an out-of-control moving van crashed into the real estate office of former Palisades resident **David Sanders** in Nyack, causing a fire that gutted the entire building. Fortunately, neither **Caroline Tapley**, who also works there, nor David was in the building at the time of the accident, so they escaped injury. They are already back at work in a new location, and can be reached at the same phone number as always. Although somewhat shaken up, Caroline declared that in spite of the calamity, they will carry on with business as usual.

Diana Green will continue with this season's Children's Shakespeare Theater, producing **Much Ado About Nothing**, which will be performed starting May 17. The company will be casting plays for the 2002-2003 season at the end of May. They audition the company first and then open up auditions to new members. For more information or to get on the waiting list of prospective new members, call Diana at 365-9709.

The **Palisades Library** is coming up **Short Again!** The library is continuing its well-attended and wonderful series of short stories read out loud with another free program planned for Monday evening, March 25th at 8 p.m. Listeners have already enjoyed readings by **Didi Conn**, **Lincoln Colwell**, **Lynn MacLaren Sandhaus**, and **Gary Tacon**. This month's readers and stories will be announced soon.

Many Palisades gardens are often shady and woodsy, and finding a good source for local wildflowers and native plants that thrive in these conditions is not always easy. One event nearby is the **Wildflower and Native Plant Sale** held at Westchester Community College in Valhalla on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is a choice and wonderful event where you can buy rarities such as Culver's Root and Wild Columbine and where you can find shrubs that the deer won't eat such as Witch Hazel and Cranberry Viburnum (they're wild, so naturally, only the distasteful ones have survived!). Get there early—all the best plants are gone by 11 a.m. For information call Anne at 914-235-4016, or e-mail her at Amegaro@aol.com.

Flutist **Wendy Stern (Yamin)** is traveling to Melbourne, Australia with the flute quartet **Flute Force** to play at the 11th Annual Australian Flute Festival in early April. Flute Force are featured artists at the four-day event, sharing the spotlight with artists Jaime Martin, principal flutist of the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and Paul Edmund-Davies, principal flutist of the London Symphony Orchestra. For those of us who cannot get there to hear them in person, they have a new CD out called Eyewitness. The album features the talents of Garrison Keillor as a narrator for several pieces.

For parents beginning think about summer activities for their children, the Debra Weiss Dance Company is putting together its 9th season doing the **Nyack Youth Summer Theater**. Students in grades 6 – 12 study dancing, singing and acting with professional artists and learn about props and set design; the summer culminates in a full-scale musical revue featuring highlights from popular American musicals of stage and screen. For more information, contact Debby at 353-3860 or e-mail her at dnweiss@aol.com.

Kurt the Repair King, formerly of Rispoli's Hardware Service Department, is back in business with **MOR Power Equipment** located in Palisades at 270 Oaktree Rd. in the back corner of the building where the trucking firms used to operate. Kurt is selling plumbing, electrical, and automotive stock from Rispoli's at a 50% discount. He also specializes in repairs of electrical and mechanical equipment such as lawn mowers and appliances. He repairs screens and has loaner equipment. Open Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Phone 398-7368.

The **Rivertown Film Society** announces its spring series lineup beginning March 9th. This second season includes more, wonderful features with short subjects on Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m. New Sunday matinees will offer 4 classic films for all ages. Tickets are available at the theater box office on the night/day of the screening. Become a member and save on ticket prices. For more information, contact The Rivertown Film Society, c/o Friends of the Nyacks, P.O. Box 120, Nyack, NY 10960. Call (845) 729-1506 or visit www.rivertownfilms.org

EASY GOURMET

A New Take Out Restaurant in Sparkill

Although the Filling Station recently went out of business, the gap they left has been re-filled immediately by another new restaurant in Sparkill, the Easy Gourmet, located at 646 Main St. between My Garden and the Post Office. They offer a modern approach to Italian favorites, ranging from focaccia and hero sandwiches to tofu wraps to Caesar salad to various kinds of pasta and shrimp scampi. Their pizzas come in plain and fancy versions, and they will deliver for free within about 30 or 40 minutes to Palisades.

Call your order at 680-2688, or fax it at 680-2686. They are open 7 days, from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and offer free tastings of their wares on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

JOAN HOOKER P O R T R A I T

As a child, when her little friends were saying they wanted to be firemen or rock stars, Palisades artist Joan Hooker said she wanted to be a painter. The choice came to her through both nature and nurture. Her grandfather, John Folinsbee, was a well-known American impressionist painter whose work is in many prominent museums and is prized by collectors. Her uncle, Peter Cook, Folinsbee's son-in-law, was a portrait painter.

Folinsbee was a member of the New Hope School of American impressionist landscape painting, led by Edward Redfield and centered on the Delaware River town of New Hope, Pa. He was an impressionist but in addition to vivid landscapes, he chose many subjects closer to the industrial age: economic activities, factories, bridges, trains, buildings, and cityscapes. Later he concentrated on dramatic but unsentimental Maine seascapes. Folinsbee was also a sensitive portrait painter and a young Joan Hooker is a subject of several of his portraits.

He painted until he died in the 1970's but resisted the avalanche of abstract styles which came to dominate modern art. He disliked art dealers and critics who pushed painting sales and puffed artistic reputations with bandwagon publicity. "He painted for himself," Hooker said, praising his independent stance. Folinsbee carried on his successful career and presided over a large family despite being confined to a wheelchair by polio at age 14.

As a young girl Joan exchanged illustrated letters with her grandfather. A treasured possession is a scrapbook containing this communication, festooned with color drawings. Many are rebus letters, using drawings to replace words. She and other grandchildren were allowed to watch Folinsbee, who painted every day, all day. His influence on her approach to painting was significant. "The power of expression he achieved in his painting and what it

conveyed to me is undoubtedly the reason I paint," she said. Like Folinsbee, though stylistically distinct, Joan



Hooker paints the real world as she sees it. "I'm basically a figurative artist," she said.

Hooker graduated from Smith College as a major in art history and Italian literature but delayed committing to a painting career. She worked for a foundation making grants to artists, the Museum of Modern Art, the Viking Press and the Book of the Month Club. She

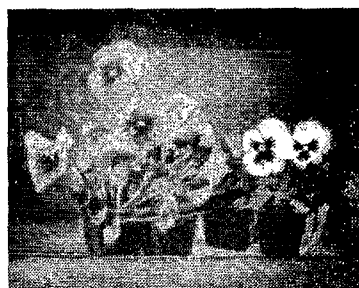
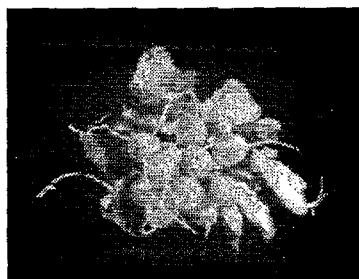
married and raised two daughters.

She attended a program of study at Pratt Institute in illustration in the early 1990's, thinking of returning to work as an illustrator. A teacher told her she might well be better equipped for artistic painting. She took his advice

and returned to painting fulltime after receiving her Master of Fine Arts degree from the New York Academy of Art graduate school in 1993. Since then she has concentrated on still life subjects with occasional forays into landscape painting.

She works in a studio loft in an isolated former factory, which is bathed in northern light from five large windows. All around on walls and the floor, in various stages of completion, are meticulously organized still life oils in vivid colors. She said she envied the camaraderie of the New Hope group of painters who became close friends, shared ideas and often played poker together. "Artists seem more isolated today, often trying to break with tradition to be noticed," she said.

European still life painters are a major influence. "Chardin is king," she said of the French still life genius. She also admires many contemporary artists, particularly those she calls "painterly painters" like American artist Wayne Thiebaud, whose thickly painted, sensual cakes and doughnuts sell instantly for huge prices and are a notable exception in



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CHURCH NEWS

March 28th, Maundy Thursday:

Joint potluck dinner and worship service at the St. Charles AME Zion Church in Sparkill on Maundy Thursday. The dinner will start at 7:00 PM and the service will follow.

March 31st, Easter Services

6:30 AM sunrise service by the river, contact the church for more information. 9:00 AM and 11:00AM services are identical, child care is provided.

Young Adults Reaching Out to the Homeless

All religions are a means, not an end in themselves. They provide the tools to articulate the sacred and are able to weave meaning into life in ways that sharpen

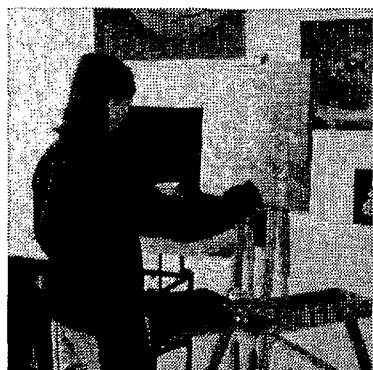
vision for humanity and respect for life. Toward this end, Palisades Presbyterian Church has a youth program that meets every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. with Leah Hauser, our new youth director and seminarian from Union Theological Seminary. The young people in the group meet to discuss religious values in relation to current events and to their personal lives as young adults faced with many different issues every day. The group also does a hands-on mission by participating in the Midnight Run, a program for the homeless in New York City. All year round, over 300 congregations around the metropolitan area contribute to this program by driving into the city with food, blankets, clothing, and toiletries. This program gives opportunities for young adults to engage in service that gives them a different world view as they search for homeless in the city and forge ties of friendship and fellowship with them. It also enables them to have a more critical understanding for social activism and develop a consciousness that it is important for them to become advocates for justice and compassion.

If anyone in the Palisades community would like more information concerning children and youth religious education and programs, please contact the church office at 359-3147

– Dae Jung, Pastor

JOAN HOOKER . . . *Continued from Page 5*

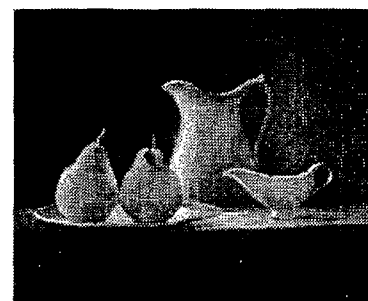
the near monopoly abstract and shock painters have established over contemporary art. Another favorite is Norwegian painter Odd Nerdrum who paints jolting surreal images of humans, isolated and tortured.



She feels strongly that the traditions of representational art, despite being eclipsed by the abstract explosion, must be carried on. A favorite quote about painting came from the French landscapist, Corot: "Beauty in art is truth bathed in an

impression received from nature. While I strive for conscientious imitation, I yet never for an instant lose the emotion that has taken hold of me. Reality is one part of art. Feeling completes it." Hooker believes that representational art is making a comeback.

Hooker and her lawyer husband, Roger, moved to Palisades in 1979 when his job as corporate general counsel brought them to the New York area. They were drawn to Snedens Landing by a friend and fellow artist, Grace Knowlton and bought a house known as Chateau Hash on Washington Spring Road.



Hooker's work has been shown in numerous group shows starting in 1995, and in one-person shows at the Gallery on Second in New York City in 1996 and 1998, at the Old Stone Farm Gallery in Wiscasset, Maine in 1999 and at New York's Allen Shepherd Gallery in 2001. She is working toward a new show next year.

– Nick Ludington

Editor: You can see some of Joan's paintings in color on the 10964 web site, www.10964.org, and more on another site artbackroom.com.

NEWS FROM LAMONT-DOHERTY

It was with great pride that I accepted the Directorship of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory in late 2000, and I am very pleased to offer the readers of 10964 this brief update on activities of your neighborhood Observatory.

I have enjoyed meeting many of you at various social events over the past several months, and hope that we will be able to sustain these useful interactions in the future.

The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, founded in 1949 by Columbia University Professor Maurice Ewing as the Lamont Geological Observatory, has for decades been at the forefront of advances in the earth and ocean sciences. I am pleased to say this leadership continues in these and related fields such as climate prediction, natural hazard assessment and prediction, and research on the Hudson River. And by the way, for the curious who have not yet had the chance to visit our campus, there are no telescopes at this Observatory. We leave the astronomical observations to others and concentrate on the many great scientific mysteries and problems of our very own planet.

We have had many happy and even joyous occasions in the past year, such as the presentation of the Lamont Heritage Award to Lamont retiree and Nyack resident Marie Tharp. In the 1950s, Marie found the first evidence for mid-ocean ridge rift valleys and stood by her finding in the face of long-held deeply entrenched beliefs that the idea of "continental drift" was scientific heresy.

Our annual Open House last October was also very successful despite some disagreeable weather – I hope many of you were able to attend – if not we hope to see you later this year.

Field Research in The Tappan Zee

Our field expeditions in the past year have ranged from the waters off Snedens Landing to the Southern Pacific Ocean and the North Pole.

Using tried-and-true sampling techniques as well as ultra-modern bottom-mapping and precise navigation equipment, Lamont senior scientist Robin Bell and her colleagues have spent many days on small research vessels surveying and performing water and sediment

research in the Hudson River. You may have seen them out there in boats driving back-and-forth – it is for good reason these systematic surveys are described as "mowing the lawn." The boats were towing the precision bottom-mapping sonar very carefully over adjacent

parallel lines. At other times the scientists and crew used "coring" devices to obtain river-bottom sediment samples for later laboratory analysis. Remarkably enough the dynamics of large rivers are not well understood. We are using the Hudson as a 'natural laboratory' to understand processes of global significance. What are the physical controls on sediment transport? How much sediment is resuspended from the river bottom into the water column? And under what circumstances does this happen? How has the river responded to the profound changes in past climates?

Answers to these questions are

important to allow good decisions to be made today about many issues from development of the watershed to strategies for dredging of PCB contaminated sediments.

R/V Maurice Ewing

Our global-ranging research vessel, R/V MAURICE EWING, completed another successful year of diverse oceanographic and geophysical explorations. The 230-foot vessel started the year relatively close to home in Florida, then in between science operations made port stops in Charleston S.C., San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Colon, Panama. She then made a long transit to the Mediterranean to Patrai and Pireaus, Greece where a Lamont natural hazards conference held in coordination with the ship's visit was a widely-covered news event. Departing Greece, the ship's scientific assignments took her through the Suez Canal and Red Sea to Djibouti.

In August while operating in international waters in the Gulf of Aden off Somalia the ship suffered a hostile encounter with a small boat of armed individuals. Although the ship was fired upon, fortunately there were no injuries and no damage. As a result of this attack, the research area was changed to geologically related sites off the coasts of Pakistan and Oman. Then came the events of September 11th and the ship was again diverted from the coast of Pakistan to the Seychelles Islands and finally the West Coast of Australia.



*Lamont's new Director,
G. Michael Purdy*

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PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

Tel: 359-0136

Fax: 359-6124

www.rcls.org/pal

E-mail: pal@rcls.org

AT WWW.PAL/ORG you can access catalogs of the entire Ramapo Catskill Library System, reserve books and other materials from home, search over one million articles from magazines, newspapers, books, travel guides and government publications.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday 1:00-9:00

Friday 1:00-5:00

Saturday 11:00-5:00

Sunday 1:00-5:00

Shorts Grow Legs!

The library will continue its short story readings on Monday evenings. If you missed February 25, keep March 25 in mind. Program to be announced. Refreshments will be served.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Are undervalued Dow Jones Stocks the Iron Girder in a House of Cards? Explore the uncertain marketplace with John Downes, co-author of such best selling books as Barron's Finance & Investment

Handbook and Beating the Dow. Monday, March 18, 7:00 p.m.

College Savings Plan Seminar - \$0 to \$250,000 in 18 years. Win the college savings challenge. Presented by the Dime Savings Bank of Tappan. Sunday, April 21, 2:00 p.m.

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

TAX FORMS

Federal and New York State forms are available at the reference department.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Story times continue at 1:30 Wednesday afternoons. We are having lots of fun with rhymes, songs, and stories presented through books, felt board and puppets. Children must be fully 3 years old or older.

Wednesday, March 20, 4:15 p.m. It's the first day of spring! Come and weave a colorful basket of cloth and paper to put spring things in - great for eggs or to show off a pretty potted plant. For children 6 and older. Sign up at library.

Wednesday, April 17, 4:15 p.m. Farm trip to Duryea Farm of the Fellowship Community in Chestnut Ridge, the only farm in Rockland County with cows, horses, sheep and chickens. We will visit the animals and see the newly born calves and just-hatched peeps (baby chicks). This is a great trip, so come in and sign up early. For children 5 and older. Parents who can drive are needed and welcome. They will enjoy the trip and may bring a younger sibling too.

NEW ADULT NONFICTION

Angelou, Maya	<i>A song flung up to heaven</i>
Byron, Christopher	<i>Martha, INC</i>
Caro, Robert	<i>Master of the Senate: the years of Lyndon Johnson culture</i>
Chen, Da	<i>Sounds of the river</i>
Feklisov, Alexander	<i>Man behind the Rosenbergs</i>
Harris, Warren	<i>Clark Gable</i>
Klein, Joe	<i>The natural</i>
Rees, Sian	<i>The floating brothel</i>

NEW ADULT FICTION

Beattie, Ann	<i>The doctor's house</i>
Davidar, David	<i>The house of blue mangoes</i>
Flanagan, Richard	<i>Gould's book of fish</i>
Kunzru, Hari	<i>The impressionist</i>
Lasser, Scott	<i>All I could get</i>
Lessing, Doris	<i>The sweetest dream</i>
Littell, Robert	<i>The company</i>
Logan, Chuck	<i>Absolute zero</i>
Marion, Stephen	<i>Hollow ground</i>
McBride, James	<i>Miracle at St. Anna</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>Atonement</i>
Mukherjee, Bharati	<i>Desirable daughters</i>
Norman, Howard	<i>The haunting of L</i>
O'Brien, Edan	<i>In the forest</i>
Oe, Kenzaburo	<i>Rouse up, o young men of the new age</i>

TAPPAN ZEE THRIFT SHOP

The library appreciates all the donations made on its behalf. The thrift shop welcomes clean, seasonal clothing as well as small household items. Donations are accepted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10:30 and 3:30. Anyone interested in volunteering a few hours a week to this wonderful organization should call the library at 359-0136.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP - OR BUILD

Our community seems to be suffering from an epidemic of unawareness about the local building code and the area covered by the Palisades Historic District. During the last two months, three people in Palisades have appeared before the Historic Areas Board of Review because they began construction without getting approval from the Orangetown Building Department and the HABR. In two cases, stop work orders were imposed, significantly delaying completion of the work.

Most people know that you need a building permit to enlarge your house, but there is real confusion about how far you can go with smaller alterations and repairs. Therefore, it seems worthwhile to provide some information on the kinds of house alterations that require permits, as well as to clarify exactly which houses in Palisades are within the Historic District. Anyone who lives within this district needs to appear in front of the HABR and also needs to obtain a permit from the Building Department if they wish to make alterations or repairs on their house.

The borders of this map show the area covered by the Palisades Historic district.

The following list includes some of the exterior alterations requiring permits from and inspection by the Orangetown Building Department.

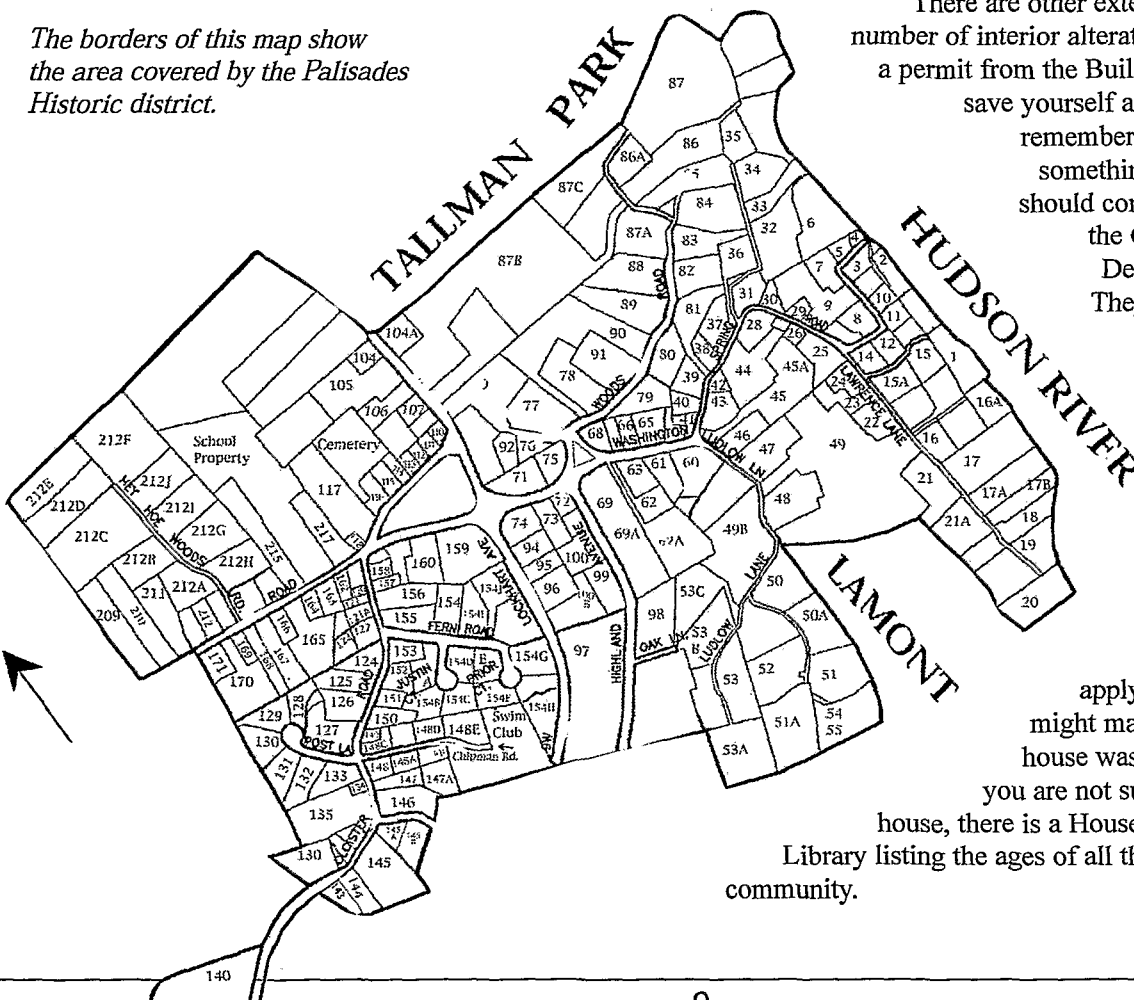
- 🏠 Replacement of any window, even one the same size.
- 🏠 Replacement or repair of framing or of roof or wall sheathing.
- 🏠 Replacement or repair of an outside deck.
- 🏠 Replacement or repair of roof shingles or wall siding if the house is in the Historic District and was built before 1918.
- 🏠 Construction of a shed with a floor area greater than 100 square feet.
- 🏠 Construction of a fence over six feet tall.
- 🏠 Installation, repair or replacement of a retaining wall more than two feet in height.
- 🏠 Changes in the grade of the property more than two feet in height.

There are other exterior alterations and a number of interior alterations that also require a permit from the Building Department. To save yourself a lot of trouble, please remember that before changing something in your house, you should consult the inspectors at the Orangetown Building Department (359-8410). They will be glad to give you information you need.

The map above shows the boundaries of the Palisades Historic District. If you live in the Historic District, more stringent rules

apply to any changes you might make, especially if your house was built before 1918. If

you are not sure of the age of your house, there is a House File in the Palisades Library listing the ages of all the older houses in the community.



PAT WALSH

Words written in memory of Pat Walsh by Cristina Biaggi and read by Cristina's daughter, Diana Green, at Pat's funeral.

Pat was my great love. She wasn't always easy to live with - nor am I - we had some spectacular fights over the almost 17 years we were together. But even when I HATED her I always LOVED her - and now I am left with two very special pieces of her - Noah and Aidan whom I will treasure and take care of until my dying breath.

Pat was a wonderful combination of Irish/Italian but she had a difficult childhood. Her mother died of tuberculosis when Pat was 4 years old. Her father brought her up as best as he could - he himself was abandoned by his own mother when he was 3 years old and contracted polio (she was too poor to take care of him) and so he grew up in an orphanage for crippled children. Pat's father did his best but she basically brought herself up.

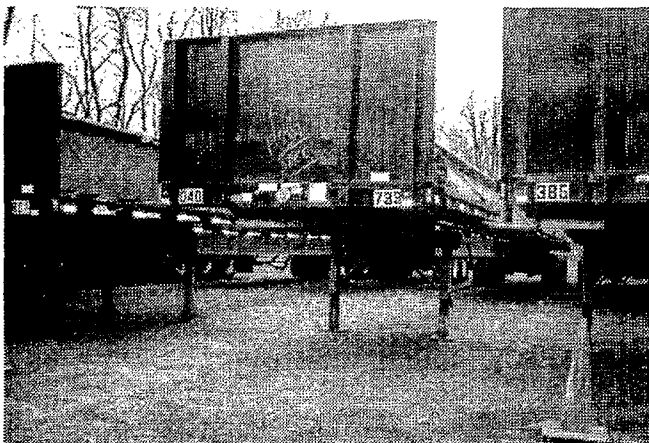
She was the first in her family to get a Masters degree. In fact she had two. She was awarded a Masters degree in Media Studies from the New School of Social research in NYC. Together we made several videos about women and about animals, one of which was aired on T.V. Her second

Masters was awarded from NYU from the School of Social research. In 1997 Pat was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and in 1999 she received her degree in Social Work from NYU. After that she was employed as a social worker by Alternative to Domestic Violence in Hackensack, N.J. where she became a treasured employee. She was an extremely giving and compassionate person and her clients and colleagues LOVED her. Her career there was brief but very meaningful.

In 1990 Pat had her twin sons Noah and Aidan - her special legacy whom I have now adopted. Pat was very accomplished. She was a runner and in 1992 she successfully completed the NY marathon. We also climbed several mountains together including Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa, Mt. Shasta in California and Popocateptl in Mexico. She had terrific acrophobia which makes this accomplishment even more powerful. She was also a costume designer and designed several memorable costumes for the boys for Halloween and for their performance in the Children's Shakespeare theater of Palisades. Last but not least she was a very funny person with a marvelous sense of humor.

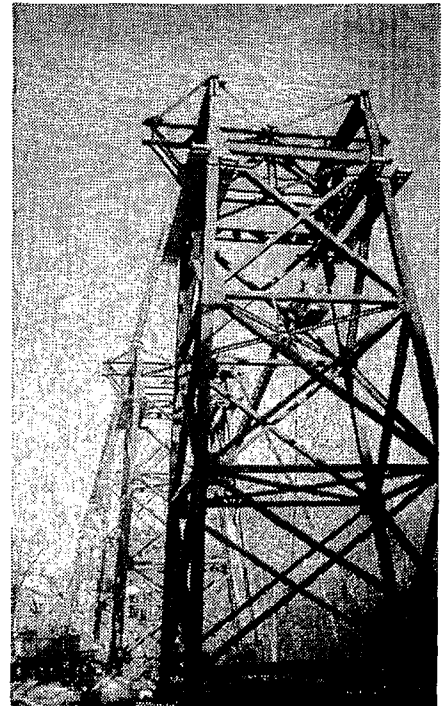
Pat died on November 16 at 12:10 p.m. at home.

SIGNS OF LIFE AT THE SPARKILL VIADUCT



A crowd of girders, no doubt fallen into a sound slumber after months of waiting in limbo, is lined up at the 9W Golf range, ready to span those gaps. Can't you hear them snoring softly?

The towers for the new Sparkill Viaduct are still the best-looking installation sculpture around, standing in line like rusty soldiers waiting for some orders from someone!!! Anyone!!!



ALL ABOARD FOR THE ART&ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW

Even before the doors opened on Sunday, January 27, there was a long line of people outside Yonderhill (formerly Yonderhill Dwellers, now Yonderhill Associates, run by Messrs. Quick, Benizio and Londsedale). There was still a line, though a shorter one, when the doors closed. Best guesses are that at least 800 people from Rockland, Westchester and Bergen Counties brought their treasures, their maybe-treasures and their old and intriguing possessions to the Antiques Appraisal Day, sponsored by the Rockland Center for the Arts. Every item had a story with it—found in an attic, bequeathed by a great-aunt, brought by a bride from the South, purchased for a dime at a flea-market. The appraisal fee: \$15 for one, \$25 for a maximum of three.

The three appraisers – William Stahl (Sotheby's, Manhattan), Ronald Bourgeault (Northeast Auctions, Portsmouth, NH) and Jane Willis (Appraisers Association of America) – sat at a long table in Yonderhill's newly restored second-floor room. Sunlight streamed in from the big southwest window behind them; high-intensity lights provided any extra illumination needed. A mind-blowing variety of objects was presented to these experts: a water-color of a shipboard scene, an oval oil portrait of a saint, a gold repeater-watch, a blue cut-glass lamp (this was trundled by in a child's cart), a wind-up telephone...the appraisers gave each as it came a close and informed inspection, listening to the story and sometimes contributing to it. And then the result: "A nice piece, worth probably \$500 to \$750", or sometimes, much less, or, in the case of a pair of early 19th century portraits, much more. Many participants were happy, some undoubtedly disappointed, but a spirit of cheerfulness and camaraderie prevailed.

The evening before, there was a benefit party attended by 150 people, offering expert appraisals, a demonstration by Rubens Teles and James Adams on "The Magic of Faux Finishes." and delicious food catered by the Baker's Wife of Tappan. All in all, these two days constituted an entertaining, enlightening and very successful benefit for the Arts Center—and a welcome surge of activity at Yonderhill.

– Caroline Tapley



Ernie Quick (seated) and Dominick Marangi (standing) lent their whole-hearted support to the Rockland Center for the Arts fundraiser at Yonderhill.

SOUTH ORANGETOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL NEWS

Board of Education meetings:

March 11 and March 25

All begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held in the Board Room at South Orangetown Middle School (SOMS), 160 Van Wyck Road, Blauvelt. For meeting information, call 680-1012.

PTA meetings:

SOMS PTA: March 20, 7:30 p.m. at SOMS

TZHS PTSA: March 26, 7:30 p.m. at TZHS

Coffee Hour with the Superintendent:

March 13 at 9:30 a.m. in Board Room at SOMS

Parents and Educators in Partnership (PEP):

"The Transition Process"

March 12 at 7:30 p.m. in SOMS library. For further information call 680-1020.

Family nights:

March 8: SOCES PTA family fun night for elementary children at SOMS

March 14: SOMS PTA Roller Skating Party for middle school children 3:30 p.m. in SOMS gym

Kindergarten Registration:

March 19: Names beginning with A-G

March 20: Names beginning with H-M

March 21: Names beginning with N-Z

Registration will be from 5:30-8:30 p.m. each night in the South Orangetown Middle School cafeteria. The Middle School is located at 160 Van Wyck Road, but please use the Erie Street parking lot entrance. For further registration information, call 680-1300.

Register to Vote!

The Budget and School Board Trustee vote is May 21. If you are not registered to vote in school elections, please do so at the Kindergarten Registration at the sites noted above. For further information, call 680-1011.

Community Blood Drive:

March 21, 3:00-8:30 p.m. at Tappan Zee High School

Tappan Zee High School Musical:

"No, No Nanette" March 22 at 8:00 p.m., March 23 at 8:00 p.m. and March 24 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

The Generations Café, exclusively for Senior Citizens, will serve tasty treats before the show on March 24 at 1:00 p.m. For further information, call 680-1600.

In the Palisades School on Oak Tree Road, the South Orangetown Central School District's **Family Resource Center (FRC)** is in its second year. The director, Margaret A. Umbrino of Palisades, has expanded its programs to include weekly Baby'n Me, Story Hours, Sing-a-longs, Movement and Yoga classes, Parent Workshops and Support programs. For a monthly calendar of events, please call 365-4277.

This was the best year ever for the **Lend-a-Hand Coat and Blanket Drive**. Palisadian Margie Goldstein and her family led the drive, which collected over 1,800 coats, 300 blankets, hats, mittens, boots and 120 bags of food. These items went directly to individuals who needed the coats and filled the orders requested by 15 organizations.

The community is invited to donate their used K-8th grade books, reference books, books on tape, multicultural, and Software or CD ROMS to the annual **Circle of Books**. The community is welcome to choose free books and the remaining books will be distributed to schools in need. The collection of books will be April 8-11 at William O. Schaefer School in Tappan. April 15, is the "pick-a-book day, from 2:30 - 6:30 at WOS. For further information, call 359-9232.

Summerstage, the summer theater and art day camp program, will celebrate its tenth year this summer! Sponsored by the school district, this program run by director and choreographer Wendy Taucher, provides students with great exposure to the performing arts.

The South Orangetown Early Childhood Program housed in the William O. Schaefer School announces openings in its integrated pre-school class for 4-year olds. The class will contain nine children with special needs and nine without special needs. For further information, call Joyce Seery at 680-1325.

The Annual **"Project Graduation"** committee is beginning its donation request drive. Project Graduation is designed to give graduating seniors a safe, non-alcoholic night after graduation. The committee is looking for donations from the community for raffle and door prizes. In the past, donated items have ranged from free gift certificates to computers to a car for a lucky graduate!

TWO FROM PALISADES ARE INTEL SEMI-FINALISTS

Two Palisades high school students, Michael Barak and Charles (Chuck) Rosenwasser, were among the five Rockland semi-finalists in this year's Intel Science Talent Search. Both winners are students at Tappan Zee High School. The prestigious competition, formerly sponsored by Westinghouse, is open to high school students all over the United States. Each semi-finalist wins \$1,000 and in addition TZHS receives \$1,000 per semi-finalist to support its math and science programs.

Michael Barak is already attending college at Cornell University, having skipped his senior year at Tappan Zee. According to one of his mentors at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Dr. Yochanan Kushnir, Michael has been a weather buff since way back. He got started with his study when he attended one of Lamont's public lectures several summers ago about the risks of severe storms for New York City. He completed his research on "The Effect of North Atlantic Oscillation on Atlantic Hurricanes" with the support of the New York Academy of Sciences and Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Mike utilized data in scientific weather databases, his knowledge of statistics, Excel, and MATLAB software to show that tropical cyclone occurrence in the Gulf of Mexico and along the Eastern Coast is related to a weather phenomenon called the North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO). By reorganizing data from NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), he was able to emphasize the connection, making the influence extremely clearcut. Dr. Kushnir praised his former student, saying that "he did a really good job with the data and the statistical analysis, and deserved the honor he won."

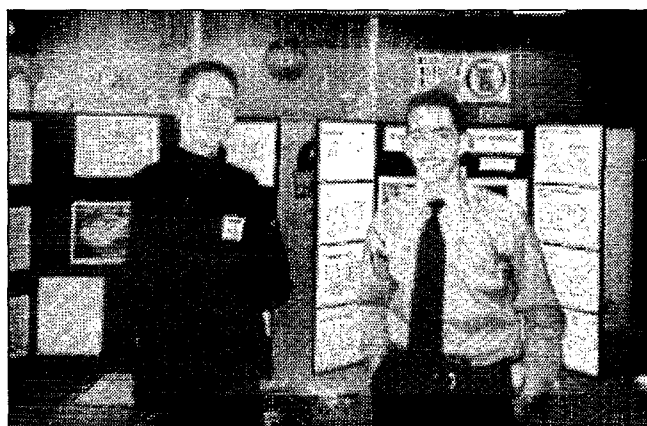
Charles (Chuck) Rosenwasser's winning research project was inspired by his interest in bioengineering. Titled "The Inflammatory Effect of Titanium Distal Radius Plates on Canine Tendons," the research established that titanium and titanium alloy implants have excessive inflammatory effects when used to treat bone fractures in the distal radius when compared with more rigid stainless steel implants. Over a period of two summers Charles worked with two surgical residents to test the three kinds of metals as repair materials for fractures by photographing and measuring inflammation in samples taken of tendons and soft tissue under the mentorship of his father, Dr. Melvin P. Rosenwasser. Chuck is applying to Stanford and Duke, and plans a career in bioengineering or medicine.

Both students are among a group of twenty-five TZHS students in the Science Research Program, which is operated under the auspices of SUNY Albany. It is run at Tappan Zee High School in grades 10-12. College credit is given for participation in this research program. The students work individually with a mentor, who is a professional scientist and the class meets every other day with their Science Research teacher, Mike Francesco. "The students also meet individually with me in biweekly conferences throughout 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, in which I assess how their research is going," says Mr. Francesco.

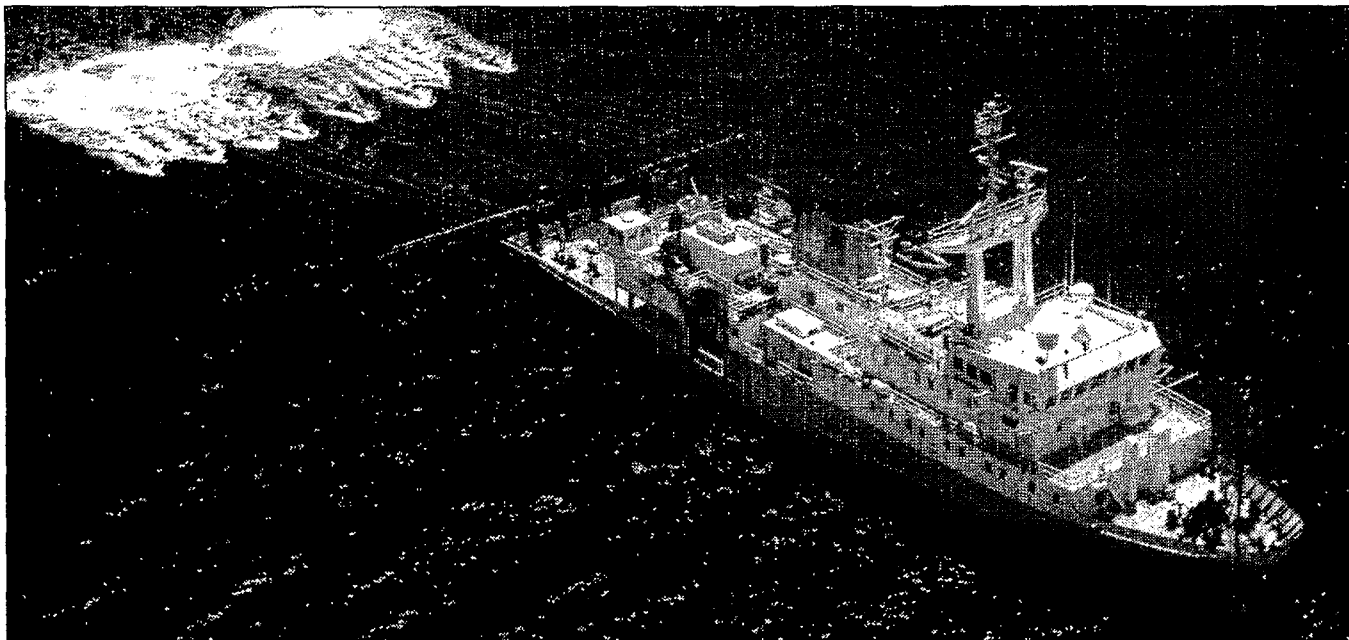
"Both Mike and Chuck worked very hard throughout their sophomore and junior years to complete their research," Francesco continues. "They were each doing topics in which they had intense interest and motivation. The written quality of their final research papers was excellent. 'I am proud of both Michael Barak and Chuck Rosenwasser,'" said TZHS principal Lynn Trager. "They worked hard, took an academic challenge to explore areas beyond the regular scope of a high school curriculum and they deserve all of the recognition that they are now receiving. I would also like to credit Mike Francesco who developed the science research program, held the student participants to high standards and helped guide their work. All deserve accolades."

On February 9th, Rosenwasser was a speaker at the first annual Westchester-Rockland Junior Science & Humanities Symposium at IBM in Armonk, New York. This is another competition at the regional level that could take him to the level of national competition for additional scholarship funds. All 25 of the Tappan Zee Science Research Program students will present their research and plans at the 6th annual TZHS Science Symposium to be held on Wednesday evening, April 24th, at Tappan Zee High School.

— Carol Baxter



Intel Science Talent Search Semi-finalists Mike Barak and Charles Rosenwasser. Both are Palisades residents.



Lamont's research vessel R/V Ewing, towing a set of 20 airguns in the Gulf of Corinth, Greece last year. Using compressed air, the airguns create a sound wave which bounces off the ocean floor and underlying layers to be picked up by a 3-3/4 mile long hydrophone array "streamer" also being towed by Ewing. The sound waves picked up by the hydrophones are then converted by computer into images of the ocean floor and subfloor.

In all, despite the difficulties due to the pirate attack and changed plans due to world events, it was a successful year of R/V EWING expeditions with participation by scientists from Lamont, the University of California, University of Hawaii, University of Miami, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the US Government.

Arctic Ocean Discoveries

Several Lamont staff, led by cruise Co-Chief Scientist and Lamont Professor Charles Langmuir made a range of important discoveries about the Arctic Ocean floor while on a research cruise last fall. The expedition was made aboard two icebreaking research vessels, the United States Coast Guard Cutter HEALY, and the German Icebreaking Research Vessel POLARSTERN. Contrary to their expectations, the scientists found evidence that the Gakkel Ridge, the world's slowest spreading mid-ocean ridge, may be very volcanically active. They also believe that conditions in a field of undersea vents, known as "black smokers" could support previously unknown species of marine life. Ice conditions allowed them actually to steam to the North Pole where they disembarked and took large numbers of photos of each other!

G. Michael Purdy, a marine seismologist, was, prior to accepting the Directorship of Lamont, the Director of the Division of Ocean Sciences of the National Science Foundation, and prior to that was Chairman of the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He earned the B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Imperial College, London and Ph.D from Cambridge University. He may be contacted at director@ldeo.columbia.edu.

Future Public Events on campus

Sunday Public Lecture Series

The Observatory will again offer a "Public Lecture Series" in the spring of 2002. The lectures, which have been very well attended in the past, will be held in the Monell auditorium at Lamont on Sundays starting at 2:00. Please visit our website

<http://www.ldeo.columbia.edu/news> for details about the series as they become available.

Annual Open House

Watch for announcements in late summer of Lamont's annual Open House which will be held on a Saturday in October. Lamont's Open House, as many 10964 readers will know, has been held annually for decades. It is the only day of the year when displays and exhibits are prepared for the general public. It is a fun and educational day attended by thousands of visitors.

*— By G. Michael Purdy, Director,
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory*

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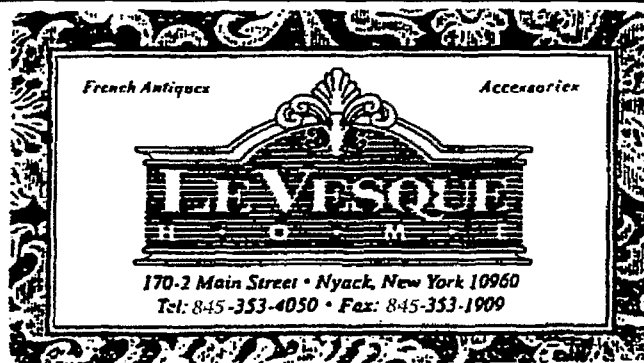
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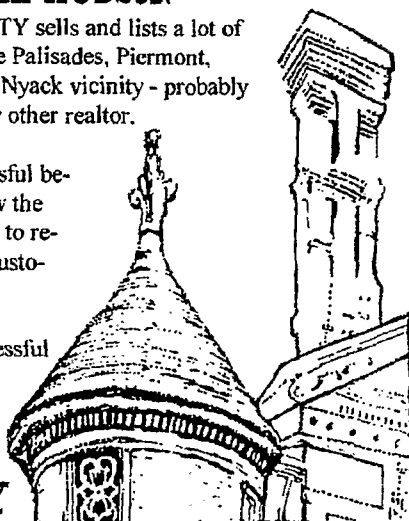
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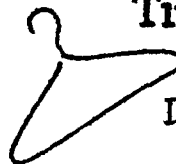
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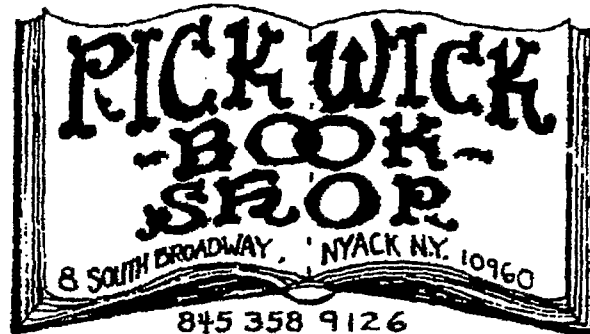
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10964 depends on your support and financial contributions are welcome. We are particularly hoping to hear from anyone interested in writing or editing—no previous experience is necessary! Please send ideas for articles, items for publication, offers to join the staff, and checks to: 10964 Newsletter, P.O. Box 201, Palisades, NY 10964

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