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THE
PALISADES
NEWSLETTER

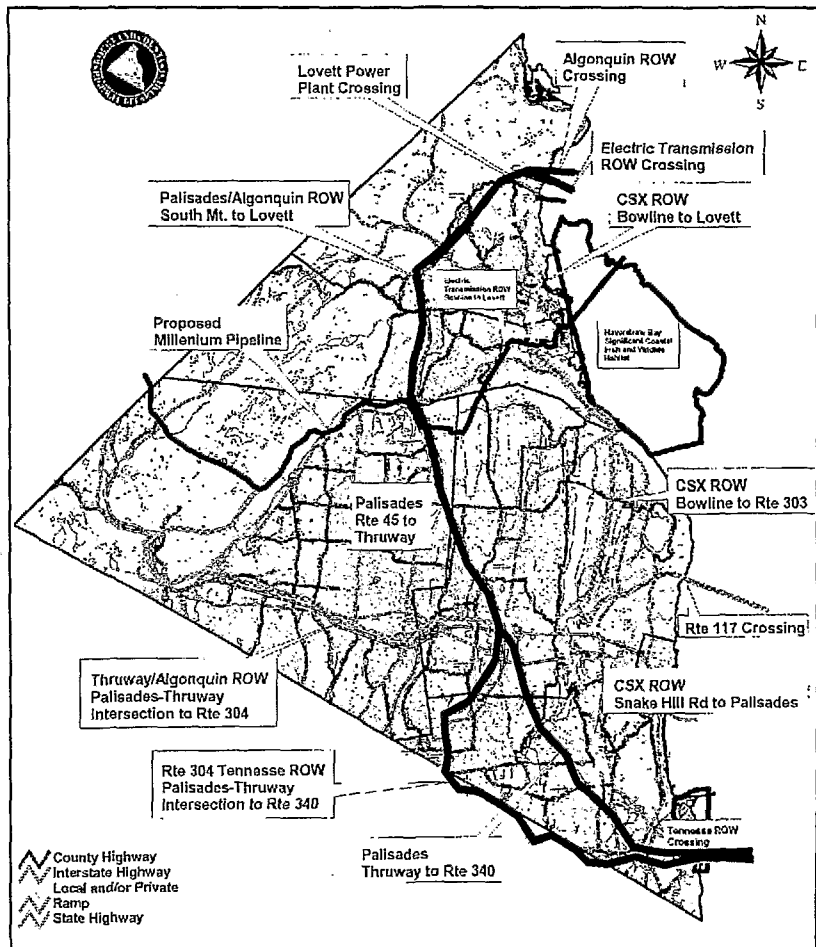
MARCH 2003 NUMBER 180

PALISADES RESISTS
PIPELINE DOUBLE-CROSS

At a meeting of the Palisades Civic Association and the Palisades Community Center on January 28, 2003, an overflow crowd of more than 100 people filled the Old Schoolhouse to hear representatives of the Millennium Pipeline Company describe their project and how it might affect parts of Rockland County. This extraordinary turnout was triggered by recent news that changes in the plans for this project have raised the prospect of construction of a twenty-four-inch diameter pipeline through Palisades across the south end of Tallman Park. It would cross the Hudson alongside the older Tennessee Gas pipeline.

Using computer-generated maps and photographs, two Millennium representatives gave a summary of the project, first proposed in 1997, to construct a pipeline from Lake Erie, across thirteen counties in southern New York State, to the city limits of Mount Vernon, Westchester County. The sixteen miles of pipeline now completed across Rockland County has utilized sections of existing pipelines and installed certain new sections of twenty-four-inch diameter pipe along existing utility corridors, terminating at the Bowline Energy Facility on the Hudson River at Haverstraw. From here, the initial plan called for a river bed crossing to the Croton area and then southward construction twenty-six miles through Westchester County to White Plains. The accompanying map shows a prominent dark line across central Rockland County representing the completed pipeline terminating near the Hudson shore. Initially, nine companies which supply natural gas made agreements to use the completed 425-mile pipeline, capable of delivering 700 million cubic feet of gas daily from Ontario to Mount Vernon. The cost for the construction of the pipeline was estimated at \$700 million. Columbia Gas Transmission, the developer and eventual operator of the line, holds the largest

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Millennium Pipeline Project

Pipeline Double-Cross

Continued from First Page

financial interest in the project.

Many Federal and State agencies are required to review and approve pipeline projects. Until October last year the Millennium plans had apparently satisfied all applicable requirements: those of the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), which included certification for all water body crossings including the Hudson River. Then on October 16, 2002 an obscure state agency, the New York Department of State (NYDOS), filed a legal brief with the U. S. Department of Commerce claiming that the pipeline crossing at Haverstraw Bay was in violation of the Coastal Zone Management act of 1972. Their brief asserts that the construction would damage the delicate ecology of Haverstraw Bay and that there are other reasonable alternatives to this crossing.

The map shows three proposed alternate crossings: at Hook Mountain in Upper Nyack, Piermont Marsh and Tomkins Cove. Although the comparative environmental impact of construction at the three alternative river crossings has yet to be determined, the Millennium Pipeline Company has appealed the NYDOS decision. They assert that they already have the requisite regulatory approvals and argue that the alternate crossings would have strong negative impact on the environment and residents of Rockland County. A glance at the adjacent map shows eight proposed pipeline routes (color coded on the original map) through Rockland County where new pipeline construction could be located, leading to any one of the three alternate crossing locations. Depending on the crossing location and the construction route selected, somewhere between eight to twenty-five miles of new pipeline would have to be constructed in Rockland County. Unavoidably, some of these would pass by schools, neighborhoods, public water wells and at least two major highways.

A report by Millennium Company engineers indicates that the proposed crossing at Palisades is the least feasible of the three alternatives and would create the most serious impacts including the following:

- Permanent clearing and grading along ten miles of Palisades Interstate Parkway thus removing the woodland buffer which screens adjacent residences.

- Construction on private property at ten bridge and ramp areas.
- Permanent tree removal and construction within Tallman Park and Piermont Marsh.
- Construction in the Piermont Marsh, the largest wetland complex on the Hudson River.
- Construction would impact nine municipalities in Rockland County not previously affected by the project.

Palisadians who remember the harm done to Tallman Park and the Piermont Marsh several decades ago by the construction of the Tennessee Gas pipeline are convinced that the proposed route through this hamlet is the worst possible alternative. Not only does it entail constructing the greatest length of new pipe but would deface the park, blast and scar the magnificent cliffs of the Palisades and damage the ancient (six thousand year-old) Piermont Marsh, the largest brackish wetland in the Hudson River. The marsh today provides habitat for diverse floral and faunal communities that contribute to the productivity of the Hudson Estuary.

This precious natural treasure (one of four sites designated for scientific research only) is a haven for waterfowl and rare species such as bald eagles, peregrine falcons and diamondback terrapins. The Piermont Marsh may well be the most distinguished site of its kind in the nation: it has been designated a Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat (the same designation as Haverstraw Bay); it was named part of the Tappan Zee Scenic District by the State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation in 1988; and is also under the protection of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (HRNERR).

The Millennium speakers showed various features of proposed alternative routes with computer-generated pictures illustrating many of the construction difficulties that would arise if the new river crossings were mandated. At the conclusion of their presentation Eileen Larkin, who organized this meeting and served as its moderator, opened the meeting for comments and questions from the audience.

Anyone who has followed the several years of news on this well-covered project knows that opposition among citizen groups and county executives has been steadily growing in Rockland and even more so Westchester.

ILLEGAL DUMPING ON 9W

During the months of December and January, tons of rubble have been surreptitiously dumped at Kennell's gas station on Route 9W. Backing right by the "No Trespassing" sign, at least three excavating companies have come, sometimes in the early morning hours, to dump tons and tons of dirt, stone, debris and who knows what else, alongside, behind and around the historic gas station. The mounds now reach 9W and are at least an eyesore and at most a potentially dangerous threat to the community.

Luckily neighbors observed the dumping and were able to get license plates from three of the dump trucks. Two of the dumpers are out of state and one is local. The local dumper, Winter Brothers, from Blauvelt, when confronted, said he had heard it was ok to dump here. Heard from whom, we wanted to know. His response was "The guys." Who is spreading this word and why? The case is now in the hands of Orangetown police. If any one sees any dumping please immediately call the police at 359-3700.

The gas station has a long history in our hamlet. Palisades historian Alice Gerard wrote in her article,



The old Palisades Gas Station on 9W

"Palisades in the 20th Century," for Linda Zimmerman's book *Rockland County in the 20th Century*, that between 1920 and 1945 things in Palisades "began to change. Water and electricity came to Palisades in 1920. Route 9-W was put through in the late 1920s. The first cars and telephone had appeared around 1910, but they were so rare that in 1929, when Henry Kennell started a gas station on 9-W, there were only four cars in town. Kennell's gas station survived for nearly 60 years."

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Pipeline Double-Cross

Continued from page 2

Scott Vanderhoef, the Rockland Legislature and governing bodies of fifteen towns and villages in the county have written federal officials opposing the alternate routes. Legislator Ellen Jaffee has called the pipeline route alternatives "...a bad idea." Assemblyman Ryan Karben who attended the meeting released a statement calling proposals to re-route the pipeline "...ill advised and environmentally unsound." Westchester's County executive, Andrew Spano, has been one of the most outspoken opponents of the Millennium Pipeline. His opinion on this project is summed up in this statement, "I am convinced that the Millennium Pipeline is unnecessary and an unacceptable threat to our environment and quality of life." One articulate Westchester resident complained that the Millennium people were trying to create dissension between Rockland and Westchester. He followed with a list of hazards that would result if the pipeline followed the current plan in his county, including endangerment of the Bryn Mawr Siphon, which delivers forty percent of New York City's water, and the risk of contamination of the Croton-on-Hudson

Wellfields, the sole source of drinking water for that village. Another Westchester speaker emphasized that it would be best if the Millennium Pipeline would terminate at Bowline, remarking that there are ten other proposed natural gas delivery projects that could serve the downstate region with much less potential danger. The so called "Bowline Solution" would terminate the pipeline at that facility while increasing its kilowatt output with the use of clean-burning natural gas. This would avoid many objections to the current Millennium plan while giving the region added power to make up for the closing of Indian Point if that should occur.

The decision of the Commerce Department on the state's ruling regarding the river crossing is not expected until the summer at the earliest. Allan Beers, Rockland's Coordinator of Environmental Resources, said it could take more than a year. Whatever the ruling, continuing opposition, especially from Westchester, could delay the project indefinitely. Opponents of the pipeline on both sides of the river are hoping that the project, already years behind schedule, will settle for the "Bowline Solution" or just go away.

by Sam Gerard

CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE THEATRE



Brian Concklin as Romeo, Natalie Korman as Juliet

ROMEO & JULIET

Ancient Grudge Makes Modern Mutiny

The choice of *Romeo & Juliet* as the Children's Shakespeare Theatre's fifth production this past January was a bold one. The play has been so popular for so long that there is little surprise or tension left to it. Much of the poetry verges on cliché – starry eyes and fatal kisses. The scenes on the balcony and in the family vault are terminally hackneyed. What's more, the play is very wordy, with stretches of verbal acrobatics and prolonged passages of comic repartee, sometimes obscure ("Do you bite your thumb at us, sir?" etc., etc.). There are brawls, a party, a couple of duels and no fewer than five on-stage deaths. All this needs great discipline from a large cast, as well as assured choreography. But CST meets the challenges and offers a presentation that is fresh and immediate.

Much of the immediacy has to be due to the lead actors being so close in age to the characters they represent. Juliet, as we are told many times, is not yet fourteen; Romeo is certainly not twenty. For Natalie Korman (12) and Nate Aurell (14), Caroline Iosso (12) and Brian Concklin (14), this is first love, heady and impetuous. They own the poetry. It sings. The other victims of the "ancient grudge" – Mercutio (Chad Milando), Tybalt (Savannah Green), Paris (Harris Tucker) are the lovers' contemporaries, played by the actors' contemporaries. Their futile deaths are wrenching.

For all the tears, there are plenty of laughs in *Romeo & Juliet* and this production makes the very best of them.

Mercutio, played with flair and fluency by Chad Milando, punctuates his outrageous fantasies with bawdy puns. The reverend friar (Simon Howe) comes out with some wicked puns of his own; his, "Holy sh.. Saint Francis," brings down the house. And Juliet's Nurse, with her affectionate teasing, her aches and pains and breathlessness, is a peerless comic character. As played by Courtney Kelly, she steals scene after scene. Her outspoken servant, Peter (Mary Polk-Bauman), is a good match for his employer.

The noble Montagues (Dylan Keegan, Sophia Signorelli) are dressed in red, the Capulets (Chloe Cannon, Elizabeth Umbrino) in blue. Their servants' liveries – slouched caps, slashed sleeves – continue the scheme. The simple and effective backcloth repeats the colors and adds purple, their combination, the color of the Prince (Anthony Cally) and his family or neutral parties.

A particular pleasure of a CST production is, "Who's Who in the Cast." Here we learn about the players' off-stage activities, their likes and loves. Most of them love Shakespeare and the roles they have played in the past. Many of them would like to see more theater in their future. Enthusiasm for CST shines through. CST has become part of the tempo of life in Palisades and environs. Weeks of work by dozens and dozens of children and at least a dozen adults – rehearsing, studying, designing and constructing costumes, painting sets and backdrops, planning lighting and

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SCHOOL NEWS

South Orangetown Central School News

SOCSD Master Plan Update

Since October, SOCSD has been in the process of developing a Master Plan to address the short and long-term impact of our increasing student enrollment on our educational spaces, building renovations, infrastructure needs and athletic facilities. In less than ten years, district-wide we will have an increase of approximately 600 students.

At our December Board meetings, preliminary architectural plans and cost estimates were presented. These extensive and comprehensive plans were designed based on feedback from the Master Planning Advisory Committee, Athletic Facilities Committee, administration, staff, parents and community including architectural recommendations on how to bring our buildings up to state educational standards. This preliminary estimate represented the input from all above groups.

In January, after this estimated cost was reviewed, the Board publicly announced that they would not present a Bond Referendum of this scope and cost to the public. As we continue the Master Plan process, we are currently refining and modifying the plans so that they will reflect the absolute priorities needed to address our enrollment challenges.

The original plan was to present a Bond Referendum to support the Master Plan to the public in March 2003. In early January, we also learned of the extensive mandatory environmental assessments that are necessary for our construction. These assessments will take four to six months to complete. These assessments, coupled with the many major and difficult Master Plan decisions that we have to make, have made it necessary for us to move the Bond Referendum until October or November 2003.

We have identified the key decision points that we need to make decisions on in order to move forward: Whether to make changes to our current Extended Day Kindergarten Program. Since October, the District has been in the process of gathering educational research and public comment on the topic of Full Day Kindergarten.

Renovations to the South Orangetown Middle School and athletic facilities. This also includes the re-location of Central Office to create more educational space.

Renovations to the Tappan Zee High School and athletic facilities. Full space utilization and renovations are needed to create the necessary educational space.

We encourage your involvement and input!

Visit our Website at www.socsd.org

Tune into the South Orangetown School NEWS on Channel 77, Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

E-mail us your suggestions and comments at Masterplan@socsd.org

Events and meetings:

Board of Education meetings:

SOCES PTA - March 27 at 7:30 p.m. TZE

Theater:

SOMS Spring Musical "The Wiz": March 21 and 22 at 8:00 p.m. and March 23 at 2:00 p.m.

TZHS Spring Musical, "Two Gentlemen of Verona": March 28 and 29 at 8:00 p.m. and March 30 at 2:00 p.m.



Xtreme Fun at Tad & Amy Hyde's Ice Rink.

Children's Shakespeare Theatre

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music – culminate in a few brief shining nights. There is a short pause and they begin the process again. *Twelfth Night*, scheduled for May 2 at the Rockland Center for the Arts and May 9, 10, 16, 17 and 18 at Palisades Presbyterian Church is next on the calendar. We can't wait!

by Caroline Tapley

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

UPDATE ON INDIAN POINT

The playing field has drastically changed since the last update and since the Witt report came out. This report was commissioned by Pataki shortly before last year's election. The report cost over \$800,000 and many people expected Witt to stand by the evacuation plan. However, Mr. Witt and his associate, Mr. Williams, carefully studied all the facts, heard testimony from both sides and came up with the conclusion that the radiological evacuation plans for the four counties surrounding the plant does not work.

Witt, Williams and their wives came to a public televised hearing at the Ramapo Town Hall where they heard true accounts as to why the evacuation plan is unworkable. For instance, they heard about the police officers on the Fourth of July getting run over by people leaving the fireworks at RCC and about when a call was made to the terrorist hotline about a plane hovering over Indian Point was answered with, "What's Indian Point and where is it?"

Most importantly, the Witt report concludes that the parameters of the evacuation plan and drills regulating the NRC and FEMA need to be revised and adequately implemented to be workable in a post-9/11 world. Currently, the only requirements under NRC regulations regarding sabotage are the guards' ability to repel four-wheel-drive vehicles and handheld weapons. Congressman Nita Lowey writes, "An internal report by Entergy Corporation, the plant's owner, showed that 81% of the guard force believed that they could not adequately defend the plant against a terrorist attack."

Senators Clinton and Schumer are calling for federalized security for this nation's nuclear facilities. However, neither has called for closure. National security costs would be paid by taxpayers and be an additional subsidy to the private profiteering plant owners.

As I write this article we are on ORANGE Terrorist Alert and we are at the brink of war. There has been renewed chatter by terrorist groups that both nuclear plants and New York City are targets.

The good news is that the Coast Guard has been stationed at Indian Point now that the country is on high alert. Last week SEMO (State Emergency Management Office) and FEMA (Federal Emergency

Management Agency) played hot potato. Neither one wants the responsibility of certifying or not certifying the evacuation plan. By the time you read this, FEMA may have denied certification or certified the plan despite state and local authorities refusing to certify it. FEMA may be suing despite state and local authorities refusing to certify it or FEMA may be suing SEMO.

If FEMA doesn't certify, then Entergy has 120 days to try to fix the plan. Entergy would need to build new highways and bridges, buy dozens of new school buses and hire bus drivers, update outdated communications and technologies, equip and train first responders, do in-depth public education and training and vastly expand the responsive capacity of regional medical centers and reception centers within this 120 day period.

On February 12, Congressman Elliot Engel held a summit conference with the chairman of the NRC, Nita Lowey, Sue Kelly, Maurice Hinchey, the four county executives (Vanderhoef, Spano, Bondi and Diana) and Governor Pataki. Engel's office has also invited the NRC to this region for a public hearing in the near future.

What needs to be done now is for everyone who cares about this issue to write and call FEMA and the NRC not to certify an unworkable and an unfixable evacuation plan immediately.

by Susan Shapiro

FEMA: Acting Regional Director
Joe Picciano
26 Federal Plaza, N.Y., N.Y. 10278
212-680-3611
joepicciano@fema.gov

Chairman Joe M. Albaugh
500 C Street
SW Washington, D.C. 20472
202-566-1600
joealbaugh@fema.gov

NRC: Chairman Richard Meserve
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
301-415-1759
opa@nrc.gov

XTREME TRAINING GROUND

There is a new tenant in the commercial space vacated by the late Rispoli's Hardware store. It's hard to miss the bright red Marine Corps flag draped in the window. Park in back! commands another sign. The next window over beckons customers with painted-on phrases describing what kind of an experience awaits you —"teeth grinding" "gut wrenching" "muscle crunching"—whoa, is Disneyland's Space Mountain lurking in the mysterious black space behind? Several Palisadians are regulars, including Skip Panettiere, Holly Seeger, and Grace Ryan, so 10964 visited the Wednesday 9:00 a.m. leg workout class in early February for an extreme workout—just how bad could it be, if people are paying to go and the place is still in business?


Owner Tom Jimenez welcomes walk-ins and so we walked right in early enough to chat about his workout philosophy. Mr. Jimenez quickly clarified that he is not an ex-Marine, he's still and will always be a Marine. He is short and extremely well-muscled and his brusque manner owes a lot to his military training. Nevertheless, he smiles quickly and projects a sincere desire to bring the benefits of strength and discipline to all the miscellaneous civilians who might wander in through his doors. In fact, everything about the program is based on boot camp. "Life is like a war, and you gotta be prepared," he stated earnestly. "You gotta strip out the weakness and replace that with strength."

While I've never seen a boot camp, it struck me that the class aesthetics owe more to the Limelight than to Camp Lejeune. All surfaces are painted black, and a very high-quality sound system takes pride of place in front of the class workout area. The music is Xtremely loud during the class, which is high energy right from the first minute to the last, a sweaty hour and ten minutes later.

The crowded class is tough and most of the participants are trim and in good shape already. They dress well and look good. There are a lot of Mercedes and high-end SUV's out back. Tom starts by shouting at everyone to quit talking and MOVE!, MOVE! As arms and legs start to droop, he bellows over the throbbing music with all the compassion of a drill sergeant, "If you don't want to feel that pain, don't come back here! ONE! TWO!" Some regulars in the back really get into the shouting, and shout back with gusto like real boot camp recruits.

Satisfied customers swear by the workout's effectiveness. Each day focuses on a different muscle group, so that you never get bored, and it is an effective way to burn off a lot of calories and inches, based on personal testimonies. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, the routine incorporates punching bags and kickboxing, and Tom is very willing to help people who are unfamiliar with this

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1st month FREE during renovation

AT THE ESPLANADE AT PALISADES,


WE'RE SETTING THE STANDARD FOR ASSISTED LIVING FOR SENIORS.

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- * Community café
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Visit our sprawling 22-acre wooded campus and experience first-hand why so many seniors consider the Scharf Family an integral part of their family.



Artist's Rendering



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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Max Seeger, Cameraman

Every other Monday night Max Seeger shows up at Orangetown Town Hall at seven o'clock, carrying a TV, a video camera, a tripod, a bag of wires and cords and a crate of other equipment needed for the task before him. He spends a half hour setting it all up and then videotapes the first two hours of the regular Monday night Town of Orangetown meeting. The tape he makes is shown, unedited, from eight o'clock to ten the next night, Tuesday, on cable channel 66. Because of Max's work, the many people too tired or too busy to attend Town Meetings can now keep up with what's happening in Orangetown.

Max is fifteen years old, a tenth grader at Tappan Zee High School. He learned his camera skills from his father, producer David Seeger. It was his mother Holly who heard at the end of the summer that Mike Maturo, who had been videotaping Town Meetings, was off to college and that the town needed a new cameraman. Max was willing to try. He has his own video camera and was already working on a skateboarding video starring his friends.

The first time Max did the job, at the beginning of September, his father came along and they used two cameras. After that his mother drove him but he worked alone. Max says, "My father didn't push it on me, but he helped when I needed it. As I did more, I learned." It was a different kind of filming from the skateboard movie because he had to zoom in and out to capture the changing speakers. At first the necessary wiring seemed complicated, but now he has no problem with it.

Max feels the films are better now than they were in the beginning. At first, the sound was connected to the camera and people who spoke at a distance were sometimes not loud enough. Now the sound is connected to the microphone at the front of Town Hall where people stand to speak and sound quality is greatly improved.

Occasionally people get too close to the microphone and are too loud. When that happens Max signals Supervisor Thom Kleiner, who asks the speaker to move away a bit.

Max has good equipment. He shoots on a DV camera, with a DV tape and then dubs it out to VHS format. The next morning he checks the tape over to make sure everything has worked and the tape is shown that night.



Have Camera & Skateboard will Travel.

Anyone who has attended a Town Hall meeting knows that the meetings do not generally end by 9:30, so you really have to go in person to see everything that happens. But if you can't or won't go, Max's work will give you important information about the issues discussed. It also serves as a record for the town.

Max has enjoyed getting to know Thom Kleiner. Besides the Town Hall meetings, Max worked with Thom to make the Rockland Psychiatric video that has been shown several times on television. In that one he had a chance to edit as well as shoot.

He has also recorded several Governmental programs and a large meeting on the Tappan Zee Bridge issue, which is currently being shown on cable TV. Max works as a volunteer on all of these projects.

Suzanne Barclay, from Thom Kleiner's office, comments that, "Max is doing an excellent job (with essentially no assistance from us). It is enormously helpful that he videotapes the meetings. You'd be amazed at how many people actually tune in!"

When asked if he likes being a cameraman and what his plans for the future are, Max says, "Yes, I enjoy shooting. I want to do what my dad does. He edits, shoots and produces; very few people can do all that." Orangetown is lucky to have found Max Seeger, and Max is acquiring valuable practice for his chosen future career.

by Alice Gerard

LIBRARY NEWS

PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

Member of Ramapo Catskill Library System

Tel: 845-359-0136

Fax: 845-359-6124

Email: pal@rcls.org

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday – 1:00-9:00 p.m.

Friday – 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Saturday – 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday – 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Closed Easter Sunday, April 20th

Board Meetings

The Palisades Library Board of Trustees meets six times a year. Meetings are open to the public. Please call the library to verify date and time. Any resident wishing to address the board should notify it for inclusion on the agenda (359-0136).

Board of Trustees

Mary Anne Baumgold

Don Bracken

David Gottlieb

Marika Hahn

Albert Hyde

Dr. Nadine Keegan

Paul Papay

Some Interesting Statistics for 2002

Library Holdings 21,878

Visits by Patrons 11,707

Items Circulated 20,900

Registered Patrons 1,097

Reference Questions 5,075

Use the Library from Home

Reserve a book yourself. We will be happy to show you how to look for materials on our online catalog, which includes the holdings of all the RCLS libraries. Access the Palisades Free Library web page at www.rcls.org/pal, click on "library catalog" and search for desired items. Click on "place a hold" and follow directions.

Children's Programs

Story Time for youngsters age 3-K continues every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. We are having fun with rhymes, songs and picture books. Come along and join our happy crew.

March 20, Thursday, 4:15 p.m. Join Barbara Wegren for an African Grab Bag program. Children will learn a little bit about African clothing, toys, and schools from objects chosen from the grab bag. Program will include a story and typical east African snack. Sign up at the library.

March 26, Wednesday, 4:15 p.m. Hand Puppets. Children in kindergarten and up will have a wonderful time creating their own hand puppets: a clown, a dog, themselves or whatever they imagine. Your child will not only have fun making puppets, the fun will continue at home. Sign up at the library.

April 9, Wednesday, 4:15 p.m. Children in kindergarten and up can design their own faux Stained Glass design that can be displayed in the window for many to enjoy. (Note: This is a completely safe project. No glass will be used.) Sign up at the library.

New Materials at the Library

DVDs

Amelie

Changing Lanes

American Studies

Gosford Park

Seamstress

Insomnia

In the Bedroom

Iris

The Royal Tenenbaums

The Sopranos

Unfaithful

Widow of Saint-Pierre

Books on CD

Abraham

American Studies

Balzac and the Little Chinese

Blessings

Child of My Heart

Hateship, Friendship, Courtship

The Piano Teacher

July, July

The Lovely Bones

Seek My Face

Longitudes & Attitudes

Jeffery Sachs To Head Columbia Earth Institute

Harvard University Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs was named director of the Columbia University Earth Institute, effective July 1, 2002. Sachs, who serves as an economic advisor to governments in Latin America, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia and Africa as well as to the United Nations, is widely considered one of the most important economists in the world.

The Columbia Earth Institute operates at the leading edge of study of Earth with physical, biological, and social scientists working together to broaden understanding of Earth's complex systems to enhance its sustainability. Talking with Columbia's scientists shortly after announcement of his appointment, Sachs said that the Earth Institute, in combination with his recent appointment as special advisor to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, seemed to provide an excellent way in which he could advance his work in the most meaningful way. "The Earth Institute has the many components needed to address pressing sustainability issues. When I spoke with Annan about my inclination to make the move to Columbia, he was extremely enthusiastic. He realizes that the Earth Institute can provide us with the intellectual guidance to deal with tricky sustainable development problems."

Sachs has become professor of economics, international and public affairs and health policy and management at Columbia. His public health projects will include working with programs to investigate the causes and health effects of toxic levels of arsenic in the well water in areas of Bangladesh and with the school's international HIV/AIDS initiatives.

Public Lecture Series

All Lectures at 3:00 P.M., Monell Building Auditorium
Admission is free, light reception to follow.

Sunday, March 30, 2003

Plumbing the Depths: Volcanoes as Windows into the Deep Earth

Marc Spiegelman, Professor, Earth and Environmental Sciences Professor, Applied Physics/Applied Math, Columbia University

Volcanoes are a fundamental feature of plate tectonics

and provide some of the most important clues to the composition and processes occurring deep within the Earth's interior. Marc Spiegelman will explore the ways in which scientists combine field exploration, modern chemical analysis and high-performance computer modeling to reveal the behavior and structure of the global volcanic system.

Sunday, April 27, 2003

Farms, Plagues, and Climate

Bill Ruddiman, Alumnus, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Professor Emeritus, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia

Humans began to interfere with greenhouse gas concentrations several thousand years ago, far earlier than previously thought, mainly as a result of agriculture. Pre-industrial emissions from farming seem to have been large enough to stop a glaciation that would have by now developed in northeast Canada. The more recent outbreaks of bubonic plague that occurred in the Middle Ages killed so many people that abandoned farmlands reverted to forest. As a result, enough carbon dioxide was pulled out of the atmosphere to help the climate system nearly slip back into that long-overdue glaciation. Bill Ruddiman will look at some of the ways in which farming and plagues have affected Earth's climate.

Sunday, May 18, 2003

Tree Ring Lab

Panel Presentation

The widths and other characteristics of annual rings of trees can reflect the temperature, precipitation and other environmental variations as trees grow. In this panel discussion, scientists from the Observatory's Tree Ring Lab will discuss how they establish accurate climate records and learn about past environmental changes by studying the rings of trees centuries to thousands of years old.

Sunday, June 8, 2003

The R/V Maurice Ewing

Panel Presentation

Acoustic research has allowed scientists to map the ocean floor and has contributed more to understanding

Gas Station Dumping on 9W

Continued from Page 3

Henry Kennell Jr. remembers that the first location of the gas station "was near the Rockland Country Country Club. In 1939 my father moved to the present location. When the tank field pulled out in 1936, the land became available and he bought it from the Tonettis. In 1973 the gas station became a movie set location. Lots of films and commercials were shot there. I can remember *Boys Driving around in Cars*, *Comedy Central*, *So Fine*, *The Equalizer*, *Sleighground* and others. Also for years my mother ran the little fruit stand at the gas station selling things from our orchard, which was right across the street. She sold apples, flowers, and eggs. Later in the 1990's a hot dog stand moved in. We even had a belly dancer come for the opening."

But times change. The owner of the hot dog stand moved on to open a restaurant in Nyack. The gas station was leased to Jerry McSpirit who had his own troubles with the community because of the large number of broken down cars he had on the lot. Finally about four years ago Kennell put the gas station up for sale and the gas tanks were removed. Today he has a buyer who would like to turn the building into a pastry shop. The sale was about to go through when the dumping occurred.

The question remains, why dump here? The Orangetown Police officer in charge of the investigation wondered why, with so many legitimate land fill areas available, would someone want to risk illegally dumping? Mr. Kennell said he does not believe anything toxic has been mixed in but testing needs to be done. Joseph Winter Brothers and DeCatripi of Englewood have both agreed to remove what they dumped but the biggest culprit, N. Cole Trucking, is registered in Delaware. To get them to clean up Kennell would have to press charges and go to court, an action that could take up to a year. So, he has magnanimously decided to personally pay for the removal in the interests of moving forward with his sale.

We need all neighbors to be vigilant to protect our community. We don't live in isolation. What happens on 9W affects the community as a whole.

by Milbry Polk



Palisades Library News

Continued from Page 9

Adult Fiction

Boyle, T. C.
Drop City
Buchan, Elizabeth
Revenge of the Middle- Aged Woman
Busch, Frederick
A Memory of War
Dreyer, Eileen
With a Vengeance
Duisberg, Kristin
The Good Patient
Erdrich, Louise
The Master Butcher's Singing Club
Gordimer, Nadine
Loot and Other Stories
Gruber, Michael
Tropic of Night
Moses, Kate
Wintering: A Novel of Sylvia Plath
Pearl, Matthew
The Dante Club
Pyper, Andrew
The Trade Mission
Schupack, Deborah
The Boy on the Bus
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Adult Non Fiction

Atkins, Dr. Robert
Atkins for Life
Bizot, Francois
The Gate
Goldhagen Daniel
A Moral Reckoning
Lewis, Bernard
The Crisis of Islam
MacMillan, Margaret
Paris 1919
Miller, Sue
The Story of My Father
O'Falain, Nuala
Almost There
Orman, Suze
The Laws of Money, the Lessons of Life
Sontag, Susan
Regarding the Pain of Others
Theroux, Paul
Dark Star Safari

CHURCH NEWS

Of Flues, Reeds, Bells and Bees Palisades Church Gets Its Belfry and Organ Back

When the 138-year-old church steeple was restored, the French-style pipe organ was restored as well. Although the instrument had been tuned regularly, because of the pipes' tightfit below the church bell they could only be removed for cleaning when the steeple was being worked on.

Petty Madden, the company that originally built the organ, suggested that certain pipes that were open at the top be mitered - cut at a 45° angle - so that their openings would face sideways. This would prevent debris from falling into them, the cause of premature dissonance, without changing the quality of the notes. In addition to cleaning out debris, a gigantic beehive, three feet by five feet, was removed. Over the past thirty years since the organ was installed, the church belfry has been plagued by swarms of bees; while colonies were exterminated, the hive had been inaccessible.

Beyond tuning, some of the special stops had ceased to function properly; the trumpet, for example, was too loud and could not be used. Some of the mixtures were out of balance and have now been enhanced so that each note has three or more balanced overtones. With the bell tower now restored, the danger of the bell crashing through the roof is gone; the ancient cross that had graced the top of the steeple has been put back and the organ -throaty, melodious and strong - is poised for years of musical action.

Church Hosts the Midnight Run, Friday, March 21

Twice a year the church participates in the Midnight Run, a mission to homeless people living on New York City's streets. Church members and friends make some 150 sandwiches that are put in bags along with fruit, a cookie, a hardboiled egg and juice. Coffee and chili are also offered as well as underwear and socks, a bag of toiletries (deodorant, soap, mouthwash, toothbrush, toothpaste, razor and washcloth) and warm clothing. Everything is donated by church members and friends. At least fifteen people are needed to make sandwiches; others to bake or bring cookies and still others to bring fruit and hardboiled eggs. Clothing is definitely a community affair. Clean underwear (jockey-type shorts) and white athletic socks should be new, while pants, sweat-



Palisades Presbyterian Church, 1900

shirts and coats can be used but must be clean.

Please take clothing to the church starting March 7 and pin the size on the outside so that they can be easily sorted. Dressy clothing is not appropriate; the recipients need good protection from the fierce weather - denim jeans, hooded sweatshirts, large-sized sneakers, warm coats and jackets are the most practical. Toiletries should be travel or sample-sized. Donations of money are welcome; checks should be made out to Palisades Presbyterian church with the notation, Midnight Run, and sent to the church office.

The Midnight Run started years ago when concerned commuters from the South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry asked homeless people in Grand Central Station what they needed. They began distributing bag lunches but soon discovered the need was greater so they started going to street corners and church steps at night where homeless congregated. Clothing and soup were added. Today churches throughout Westchester, Rockland, Orange and Putnam counties drive vans to the city three nights a week. What was once a mission project of the Dobbs Ferry church is now an independent, 501c3 organization headed by Dale Williams, who was himself once a homeless person.

BULLETIN BOARD

One of the best-kept secrets in town is **David Seeger's Emmy** at the last awards ceremony. A producer and director, David won in the category of **Best Sports Show** for ABC's *Wide World of Sports*. David has won two Emmys previously, once for *Monday Night Football* and again for a Special, ABC's *Athletes and Addicts*. His most recent work was the opening sequence for the 2003 *Super Bowl*.

The Rainbow Room on New Year's Eve, New York's quintessential nightspot, is where **Philip Galinsky** and his samba band led revelers into 2003 on the strike of twelve. Philip, a skillful musician and aficionado of Brazilian music, recently formed Samba New York. He has played at Mardi Gras in Rio and San Francisco's Carnival.

Welcome home to Freya Englander. The daughter of David and Judy, Freya returned in the fall from two years teaching in Japan and had just taken a job as a Japanese community representative for Liberty Project, a social service agency set up after 9/11. Her older sister Emily, a recent bride, lives in Boston and is employed as a project manager for a computer consulting firm.

Young **Don Bracken** made his comedy debut in November at Stand Up New York, a supper club in Manhattan. His character, Mr. Happy, was subsequently booked for four more dates at the club, the most recent on January 30. Additional dates to be announced.

Michele and Robert Foothoraps are the proud new parents of son **Ross**, their first child, who was born in October. The Foothoraps moved to Palisades close to three years ago. **Blake and Susanna Tovin** are also celebrating a new arrival, the birth of their daughter **Isabelle** in December. They are recent residents as well.

Thane and Sheila Asch have just returned from a three-week trip to Madagascar and the Seychelles sponsored by Harvard University. Thane, a naturalist to the core, relates, "It was a wonderful experience for learning about the planet." They even got to see lemurs, monkey-like creatures found primarily in Madagascar.

Michele Fox and her husband Peter have just moved from Palisades to Upper Grandview. Michele is an antique textiles dealer who had, until recently, exhibited her wares at Yonderhill.

We're pleased to report **Cornelius Geary and his wife Leslie** have taken their home off the market and have decided not to move.

Dr. Nadine Keegan and David Gottlieb were voted in as new trustees of the Palisades Free Library at a recent meeting. Nadine, an anesthesiologist and mother of four children, has lived with her husband in Palisades for the past three years. David and his wife have been area residents for six years and have three-year-old twins. Davis is a photographer with projects ranging from street photography to documentary assignments.

The Garden Conservancy is sponsoring a local garden tour on May 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the gardens of Judy Tomkins and Richard Tanner among those on view.

The Clara Johnson house on Washington Spring Road just off 9W, unloved and unoccupied for seven years, will soon have a new owner according to a realtor at Mason Samet.

Adzema/Herold Art Show

Robert Adzema and Jane Herold will show watercolors and pottery in a joint show at the Valley Cottage Library gallery space. Robert's lively and fresh paintings include many local scenes, including Piermont Marsh, Lamont's Rose Garden and views of the Hudson River. Jane who has been making wood-fired pottery in Palisades for over 20 years will have large oval dishes, serving bowls, large jars, dinnerware and, of course, mugs on display. Her most recent work includes glazes made from locally dug clay and clay bodies mixed from local materials. Both artists produce work that is meant to be lived with, offering little moments of beauty to be noticed in the midst of life, making each day a little richer and warmer. The show will be up through the end of March. The library is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Wings Trust Awards

In 1993 **Milbry Polk and Leila Hadley Luce** founded Wings Trust, a not for profit organization that focuses on preserving the archives of women explorers, identifying significant past explorers and promoting contemporary women explorers. **Congratulations** are in order for **Milbry Polk** who has just been named one of

BULLETIN BOARD

Women's Enews' 21 Leaders for the 21st Century. Recognized for her work as an author and activist, she will be honored on **May 20**.

Palisades Community Center

The members of the Palisades Community Center elected four new directors at the annual meeting on January 28. **Michele Baum, Susan Dillon, Henry Ottley and Edwin Richardson** were chosen to join **Janis Cavanagh, Virginian McCauley Cook, Tony Gerard, Linda Jouas** and **Andrew Norman** on the board.

John Converse, long-time board member and president, died last year. **Mitchell Warner**, a devoted director who gave beyond the call of duty to safeguard and improve the building, did not stand for reelection.

Treasurer **Linda Jouas** reported that the rental income of the last four years had paid for major repairs and left enough money in the bank to complete the job. The Center is at last healthy and ready to serve the Palisades community.

by Andrew Norman

March and April Programs

Now that the Center is available for outside use, the board has appointed **Eileen Larkin** as program coordinator. Over one hundred people recently attended a combined Palisades Community Center and Palisades Civic Association meeting. She is working on the following upcoming events:

Knitting classes from February 12 to March 19 conducted by Cheryl Peyton; call 398-1096 if you are interested in attending.

A Defensive Driver Course at the Center. This two-part course, to be held on a Monday and Tuesday, will be conducted by the Licata Management Corp. You can save up to 10% annually on your car insurance for three years and reduce up to four points on your license. Fee is \$35.00.

A Blood Drive in conjunction with the Hudson Blood Services is in the works. A date has not yet been set. Please contact Eileen at 359-6589 if you are willing to donate blood.

Sometime in April, Supervisor Thom Kleiner and the board will hold a **Town Meeting**.

Please note. The building is available for meetings, parties, yoga classes and the like. If you are interested in reserving the Center please call Eileen at 359-6589.

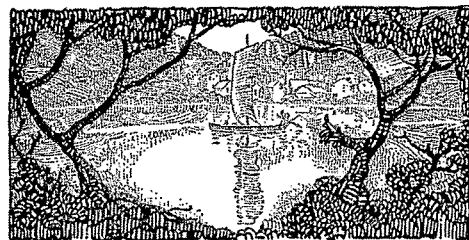
The Palisades Civic Association

All of us involved in the Association would like to extend our thanks to the elected officials who attended the presentation by representatives of the Columbia Gas Company on the **Milennium Pipeline**. These include Supervisor Thom Kleiner; Marie Manning and Dennis O'Donnel of the Town Council; James Dean, Highway Superintendent; our new Assemblyman Ryan Karben; Joe O'Brien sent by Representative Eliot Engel and Legislator Ellen Jaffee. A special thank you to Bob Beckerle, Director of the Engineering Department who provided a screen and to Skip Vezzetti for the maps. Thanks too to Senator Hillary Clinton who sent Ken Macintosh from her Albany office to meet with Sam Gerard, Georgia Lipsett and myself to hear our concerns.

The town will have passed its **new master plan** by the time you read this. The planner hired by the town has recommended we remain a single-family hamlet.

We need your support if we are to continue to hold meetings and to send out mailings. The cost of a mailing to Palisadians is over \$200.00; a permit now costs \$150.00. **Please join the Palisades Civic Association** by sending a \$5.00 membership fee or a contribution to P.O. Box 222, Palisades, N.Y. 10964. Our funds are running low and, without your support, we will have to consider disbanding the Civic Association.

by Eileen Larkin



New Town Ordinance

The Town of Orangetown has recently passed a **new property maintenance law**. Among the dictums, it prohibits the storage of business-related equipment and dumping or storing debris and litter. It also prohibits front porches being used as storage of household equipment. It requires properly maintaining and landscaping premises including repair of hazardous walks and steps, crumbling brick or stone and peeling paint. It states that vacant structures must be maintained in good repair and, unless physically impossible, dumpsters not be placed in the front yard.




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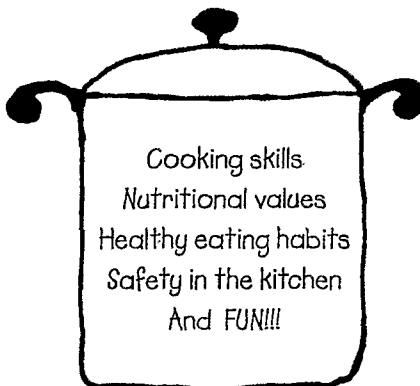
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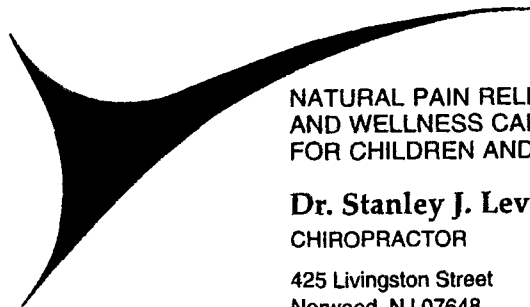
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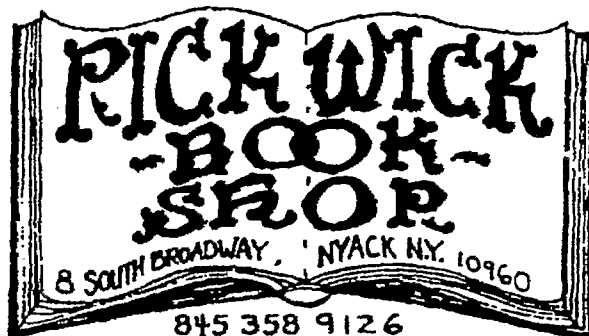
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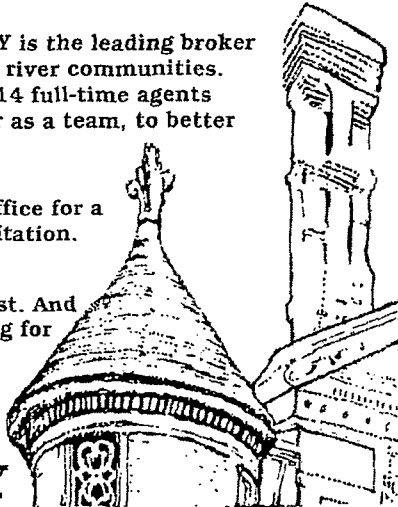
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Palisades Presbyterian Church

Continued from Page 12

Preparations start about 6:00 p.m. Going on the Midnight Run is an opportunity to meet the homeless first hand. Teenagers that go often find that the experience adds a new dimension to their lives. Our van usually pulls into Palisades about 3:00 a.m. If you want to participate by going on the run, preparing food or helping with the set up, please leave your phone number on the sign-up sheets on the church bulletin board in the Parish House. We need all the help we can get.

Palisades Presbyterian Lent and Easter Services

The 40-day season of Lent begins on March 5, with Ash Wednesday. There will be two services at Palisades Presbyterian Church that day: 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. On Palm Sunday, April 13, services are at

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. On April 17, the church will observe Maundy Thursday commemorating the last supper of Jesus and his disciples and host the AME Zion church of Sparkill in a joint service starting at 8:00 p.m.

At 6:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday, there will be an outdoor sunrise service at the home of Nick and Cass Ludington on Ludlow lane to celebrate the Resurrection. At the end of this short service there will be a potluck breakfast, a far from humble experience. Easter Sunday services on April 20 are at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The church choir will perform special selections from the ever-glorious "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah. The 11:00 am. service will be followed by an Easter-egg hunt on the back lawn and a special coffee hour.

by Henry Shaw



ABOUT 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades and welcomes any and all types of community involvement. Please send ideas, items for publication, offers to join the staff, and financial contributions to: 10964, P.O. Box 201, Palisades, NY, 10964.

With your support, we can put 10964 in your mailbox four times each year from October through May.

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Jane Bernick, Jocelyn DeCrescenzo, Carol Elevitch, Alice Gerard, Mary Ellen Ledwith, Greta Nettleton, Susan Shapiro, Kathryn Shattuck Papay, Milbry Polk, Caroline Tapley, Mary Tiegreen, Robby Whitstock, David Wolk & Cellen Wolk, Treasurer: Susan Gersony.

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Xtreme Training Ground

Continued from Page 7

to learn the ropes. The back room holds the usual gym workout machines including some treadmills, and a very efficient coat rack/cubby area even offers towels neatly folded for customers' use. During the week, there are classes every day at 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. with additional sessions in the evenings and on weekends.

by Greta Nettleton

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

Continued from Page 10

Earth's physical history, natural hazard potential and climate systems than all other scientific technology combined. Acoustic surveys have revealed the globe-encircling volcanic mid-ocean ridge system, earthquake-producing boundaries of crustal plates, drowned shorelines and submarine landslide deposits. Join crew members of the R/V *Maurice Ewing* for a look into the ocean deep.

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TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE UPDATE

When the Tappan Zee Bridge opened in 1955 it had an average 18,000 vehicles crossing daily; today that number has expanded on peak days to 170,000. In April 2001, the N.Y. State Thruway Authority and the Metro-North Railroad formed a partnership to sponsor a study of regional transportation needs and mobility within the Tappan Zee Bridge corridor extending between the exchanges of Suffern and Port Chester. Its purpose is to identify and evaluate alternative proposals to the bridge's replacement and their environmental impact. Three five-hour Public Scope meetings in Westchester, Rockland and Orange counties were held in January to solicit public comment on this issue. Following the last meeting, a public comment period will be open for a minimum of 45 days.

Timothy Kenna, currently a post-doc in the geochemistry department at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory involved in the study of sediment and contaminant transport in the Hudson River system, was asked by director Mike Purdy to be a member of the Tappan Zee Bridge Environmental Review Stakeholder Committee. He attended the January 15 meeting and reports that there were about 100 to 150 people in attendance. "The meeting was an opportunity for the public to go on the official court record with their comments and concerns regarding the Tappan Zee Bridge/I-287 corridor. Representatives from the NYSTA/MTA were available for informal discussion and questions in a second room during the Scoping meeting that was not part of the official record."