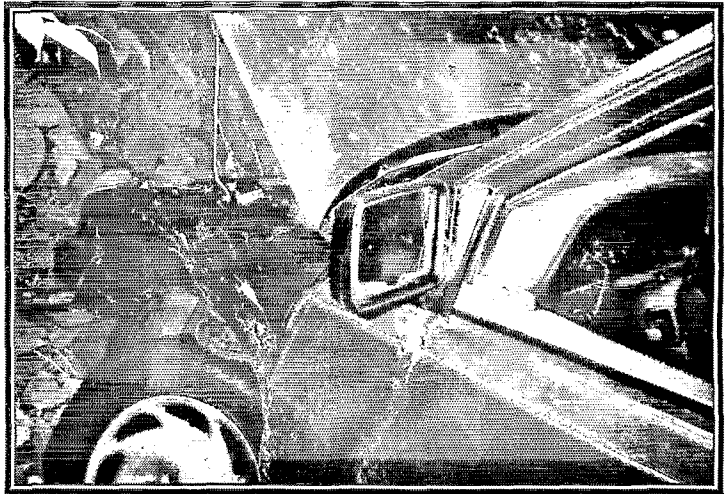


10964

THE
PALISADES
NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2004 NUMBER 186

DANGEROUS INTERSECTION OAK TREE RD & 9W THREE ACCIDENTS IN THREE MONTHS



Holly Seeger has lived at the corner of Washington Spring Rd. and Route 9W for almost 15 years and in the course of that time has seen many accidents occur in the intersection. As a member of the South Orangetown Ambulance Corps since the fall of 2001, Seeger knows what to do in an emergency situation—get out to the scene as fast as possible. When she hears the squeal of brakes and crash of breaking glass it's nearly impossible for her not to rush out her front door to go help. Unfortunately, her caring response is turning out to be a larger responsibility than she ever imagined when she and her husband built their house; this summer alone there have been three accidents in three months.

In May, she was horrified to discover someone she knew quite well inside the wrecked car, one of 10964's longtime editors, Carol Elevitch. As Holly got into the front seat to stabilize her head, Carol asked in a daze,

"What's going on?" She was too stunned to know that as she pulled out across 9W from Oak Tree Rd., a Volvo traveling south had smashed into her, spinning her car around 90 degrees until it too was headed south. Fortunately, although badly shaken up by the impact, Carol has mostly recovered from her injuries.

There were witnesses to it all. Cathy Baruffi of Piermont was driving north on 9W approaching the intersection and remembers firmly resisting the impulse to push through the yellow light before it turned red because her son beside her casually remarked, "Oh Mom, you could have made it!" Just at that moment, Carol's Escort wagon was hit, and the Volvo, with all its airbags popped open, skidded across the lanes to hit Cathy's car as well. According to the police report, the probable cause of the accident was the Volvo driver's "disregard of traffic signal."

continued next page

For Reference

Not to be taken from this room

After Carol's accident on May 29th, the next crash involved a United Water work truck that was hit by another Rte. 9W southbound car speeding through the changing yellow light on July 13th. Holly reports that this truck was carrying several large tanks of gasoline in the back to power a small generator, but fortunately for all involved, these did not explode. The third accident of the summer happened in late August, when Holly was out of town, and also involved a car traveling through the yellow light.

The intersection sometimes seems like a carnival duck shoot and locals are most likely to be hit; hitters are most likely to be from elsewhere. Among the unhappy fraternity of 'hittees' we can include Alice Haagensen, Dorothy Davis, and Charles "Skip" Vezzetti as well as Lamont employees going to and from the observatory. The Ewig's longtime friend Jim Connery who lived in the area for several years used to recommend the following procedure for driving from Washington Spring Rd. or Oak Tree Rd. across 9W: "Stop. Look both ways. Take a deep breath. [but don't go yet...] Make a quick prayer. Then go!"

Greta Nettleton

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Thanks to a conversation with Palisades resident Charles Vezzetti, Superintendent of Highways for Rockland County, 10964 will write to the New York State Department of Transportation requesting a review of the signage on Rte. 9W and a check of the caution interval in both the North and South directions.

We will point out that this intersection is a 'gateway' to and from the Palisades Parkway for Sparkill, Piermont Grandview and Nyack — as well as for Palisades which has 640 households.

Also that on Rte. 9W as one approaches the intersection going north there is a sign reducing the speed limit on the curve before the light and a sign warning a light is ahead.

But no such signs are posted on 9W South before the intersection.



LETTER FROM TOWN SUPERVISOR THOM KLEINER

Dear Palisades Residents,

This November 2nd, all voters will be focused on the Presidential election, which offers possibly the starkest choices in a generation. But for Orangetown residents there is another matter on the ballot that should not be overlooked. A referendum will appear at the very top of the left-hand portion of the ballot to allow us to proceed with Orangetown's first pool and community center. We urge all residents to vote yes to allow this project to proceed.

The Town Board previously authorized a bond for the construction of these facilities on Town-owned land overlooking Lake Tappan. In response to a petition, the Town Board put the matter up for referendum vote on November 2. The Board scaled back the project as much as we could without compromising its quality. Our attempts to reduce costs were difficult because there was nothing elaborate in the building design. Nevertheless, we cut \$500,000 by making the wading pool smaller, eliminating the dive pool (a 1-meter

diving board will be included), and making changes in the community center that do not affect the use of the facility. The community center will still contain a modest stage for performances and concerts in an architecturally interesting building. The final amount of the bond that voters are asked to approve is now \$12.67 million, or a little over \$53 per year for the average Orangetown household.

It has been noted before that Orangetown is the only Town without a municipal pool. While an affirmative vote on November 2nd will remedy this, there's more to it than that. We have the opportunity to create a truly unique facility that will serve all ages. The facility is not extravagant and has been sited to take advantage of a spectacular setting. It will increase property values and will greatly benefit our kids and their kids. It is an opportunity that we simply cannot afford to pass up.

Supervisor *Thom Kleiner* for
the Orangetown Town Board

YONDERHILL TO BECOME THE NEW HOME OF WELEDA USA



Everyone in Palisades knows Yonderhill. This venerable Greek Revival building on 9W started life in 1859 as a Methodist Meeting House. As such it witnessed much of the history of our hamlet. In 1876, Palisadians celebrated the U.S. Centennial

there with a proclamation from President Grant and lemonade supplied by the ladies. In the early years of the 20th century, the building was used as a location for silent movies. Soon after, it didn't fare so well and in 1920 it was de-sanctified and became derelict. In 1935, Tippie O'Neil bought it as a place of business and auction house. When Tippie died in 1990 the business was continued by John Garrison, Hylda Marshall and Lonnie Garrison. It was purchased in 2000 by Steven Lonsdale, Richard Benizio and myself and we renovated the entire building and rented it to a variety of dealers in furniture and decorations who prospered until 9/11 hurt their businesses.

Soon Yonderhill will open a new chapter in its history as home and headquarters for Weleda, Inc. U.S.A. — a company offering European organic body care products and homeopathic medications. Like Yonderhill, this quality company has a fascinating history of its own.

Weleda sprang into life 85 years ago half way across the world in the alpine town of Arlesheim, Switzerland. This now global company was founded by the Dutch medical doctor, Ita Wegman, and Rudolph Steiner, the renowned Austrian philosopher, to provide unique remedies and body care prepa-

rations. All remedies, as they remain today, were exclusively derived from nature. Weleda spread to the United States in 1922 as an independent licensing operation. At that time, all formulas and products were imported from Germany until World War II made importation impossible; Weleda USA began to plant its own medicinal herbs in upstate New York and Pennsylvania. In 1971, Weleda relocated to Spring Valley, NY harvesting its own bio-dynamic gardens and producing its body care and medicinal products. The natural health food industry grew and Weleda USA, still operating as a small, independent company, needed greater financial support to survive and expand. In 1995, Weleda Switzerland infused new capital into Weleda USA gaining the controlling stake in the U.S. operation. Thus, after 73 years, Weleda became a fully-owned subsidiary of its Swiss parent and a part of the international Weleda Group, with offices in more than 30 countries throughout the world. In 2003, Weleda USA shifted its small, local production to the extensive Weleda facilities in Europe, leading to the importation of all body care products from Switzerland, Germany and France.

Today, the young, dynamic team at Weleda USA is under the leadership of Erk Schuchhardt, President & CEO. He writes: "We are focusing more than ever on spreading the intrinsic wonders of our organic body care products on to consumers in both the U.S. and Canada." Weleda's quality products are currently sold in all natural health food stores and many independent pharmacies and cosmetic stores, as well through the company's website, www.usa.weleda.com. At Yonderhill, Weleda will have a showroom where its products may be purchased. We are happy to welcome Weleda to its new home in our community.

Ernest Quick

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Saturday, Oct. 9	10am – 4pm	Lamont Open House	p. 20
Wednesday, Oct. 13	7:30pm	Community Center Board Meeting	p. 10
Wednesday, Oct. 13	4:30pm	Library Children's Program	p. 11
Thursday, Oct. 14	7pm	Library Children's Program	p. 11
Saturday, Oct. 16	12:30 pm	Palisades Kindergarten Class Photo at Library	p. 9
Wednesday, Oct. 20	7am – 9pm	SCHOOL BOND VOTE at T. Z. Elementary School on Rte. 9W	p. 13
Saturday, Oct. 23	12 – 3pm	Church Harvest Festival	p. 12
Saturday, Oct. 23	10am – 4pm	Nyack House Tour	p. 9
Tuesday, Nov. 2	6am – 9pm	GENERAL ELECTION VOTE at red brick school on Oak Tree Rd	p. 2 & 12
Saturday, Nov. 13-April	2 - 6pm	Cherokee Society at Community Center	p.10
Wednesday, Nov. 17	4:30pm	Library Children's Program	p. 11
Oct. – Nov.	4 – 5:30pm	"Acting Up" at Community Center	p. 10

UPDATE ON INDIAN POINT

The recent 9/11 Commission Report states al Qaeda specifically targeted U.S. nuclear plants. Yet three years after September 11th, Congress has not enacted any legislation to reduce the terrorist threat at nuclear power plants. The Government has done little to improve security at Indian Point—there still is no no-fly zone. A vote by the Senate on the Nuclear Infrastructure Security Act of 2003 is imminent. This bill could be a step in the right direction for improving security at nuclear power plants.

Despite 400 elected officials and hundreds of first responders calling for closure of Indian Point because there is no workable evacuation plan, on July 25, 2004, FEMA determined (based on a drill scenario without a test of a radioactive evacuation plan) that reasonable assurance existed that appropriate protective measures to protect the health and safety of communities around the plant could be implemented in the event of a radiological incident.

In January 2004, the NRC ended the public's right to hearings on safety issues regarding relicensing. Entergy, the company which owns and operates 10 nuclear power plants throughout the country, is on the verge of applying to be relicensed for another 20 years. On September 13, 2004 Citizens Awareness Network's is suing the NRC in Appellate Court to get this rule overturned and reinstate the rights of reactor communities to have open hearings. The Attorneys Generals from the states of MA, NY, CA, NH, WI and CT filed Amicus Briefs.

On August 23, 2004 a federal appeals court decision threw a gigantic roadblock in the way of efforts to create a nuclear waste burial site at Yucca Mountain. This could significantly delay or even derail efforts to move ahead with an underground repository, meaning 15,000 tons of radioactive toxic waste at Indian Point are here to stay. Every day Indian Point continues to operate it produces more toxic waste that cannot be safely disposed.

The NRC has approved the use of Holtec Dry Casks to store "spent fuel" now held in huge pools at the Indian Point plant. The NRC rejected evidence that Holtec Dry Casks were improperly manufactured and that their welding could dete-

riorate, releasing contamination. Entergy plans to place 75 casks on an open air concrete pad the size of a football field on the bank of the Hudson River. **The NRC ignored the concerns raised by Lamont-Doherty earthquake specialists that the system, to be located on the Ramapo fault, is not earthquake proof.** Also, this plan will not alleviate the overcrowded spent fuel pools and potential radioactive fire and only adds another terrorist target.

Six months after a Tuxedo resident, retired Indian Point employee, William Lemanski, raised safety concerns about the computers for the cooling system that could lead to a meltdown, the NRC rejected Mr. Lemanski concerns.

New York State only recently authorized security officers at Indian Point to use deadly force. Prior to this, security officers could not shoot an intruder. For three years Entergy mislead the public claiming they had the best possible security. The current level of security at Indian Point remains inadequate.

Riverkeeper and IPSEC are calling for the immediate installation of Beamhedge, a relatively inexpensive system that protects nuclear plants from airborne attacks. Beamhedge actually shreds attacking planes in midair.

New York State recently purchased a guard boat to be permanently stationed at Indian Point. Our tax dollars continue to subsidize Entergy, whose Indian Point profits are one million dollars a day.

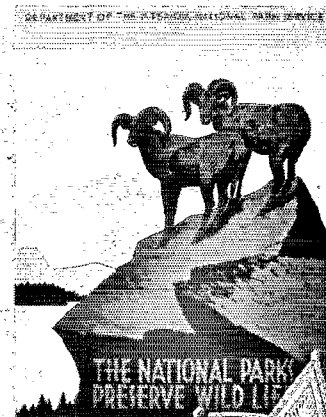
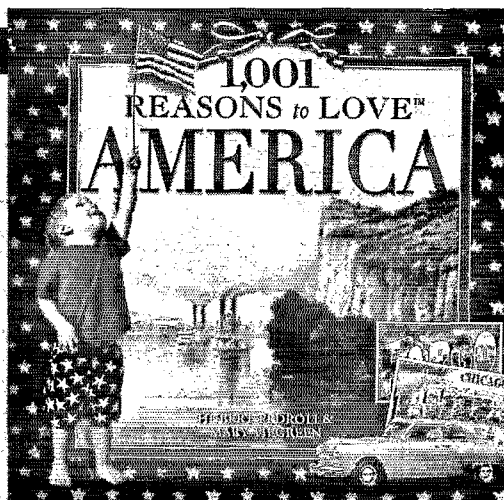
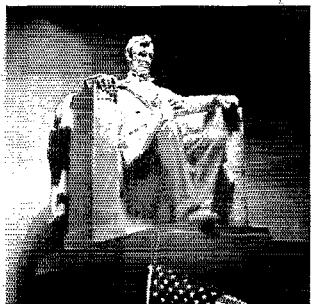
Ed Lyman of the Union of Concerned Scientists found that the potential health consequences of a successful terrorist attack on the Indian Point could cause as many as 518,000 long-term deaths from cancer and 44,000 near-term deaths from acute radiation poisoning, depending on weather conditions.

Entergy plans to place 75 casks on an open air concrete pad the size of a football field on the bank of the Hudson River.

HBO recently aired Rory Kennedy's powerful documentary "Imagining the Unimaginable" about Indian Point and also the emotional Academy Award winning documentary "Chernobyl Heart" directed by Maryann DeLeo, a filmmaker from Pearl River.

Susan Shapiro

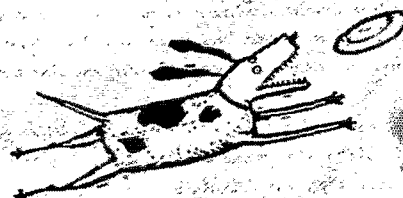
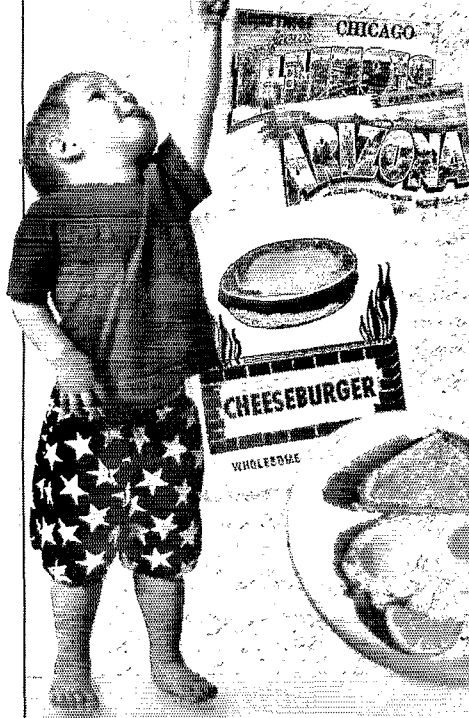
Ed. Note: Entergy web site is www.securevital.org



1,001 Reasons to Love America

The latest book by Palisadians Hubert Pedroli & Mary Tiegreen is an imaginative "encyclopedia"—A to Z—using both humorous and touching words and color photographs to recreate the present as well as the immediate and distant past of America.

Chock full of historical information and interesting facts suited to a game of Trivial Pursuit, this book also serves as an inspiration to discover other things to love about America.



Thunderbird

1001 Reasons to Love™ America
 Hubert Pedroli & Mary Tiegreen
 Stewart, Tabori & Chang, October 2004
 320 Pages, in Color
 Available at your favorite bookstore or online



REALITY BITES

"our FOOD, your FILM"

When filmmaker Steve Manin decided to open up his new video café in Nyack this year, he did not expect to end up in the kitchen too. Although he has had no experience as a chef, his past career is quite a smorgasbord, and includes an MBA, a major business success in automating newspaper Personals ads, the founding of a film and video production company called Legacy, and writing and directing comic documentaries. In the latter category, his biggest success so far has been *Men Are From Manhattan... Women Are From Saskatchewan*, which was picked up by HBO for a slightly cynical Valentine's Day treat back in 1998 and earned favorable reviews comparing it to Seinfeld.

A self-confessed "idea person", Steve observed that many excellent documentaries are being made every year but there are few venues where the public can see them. Not only did Steve want to see more documentaries, he also couldn't find a good sandwich at lunchtime. The two problems clicked—Presto! Open a video café.

The result is Nyack's most interesting new dining venue, Reality Bites. You walk in and order healthy but satisfying food at the counter in back, and if you're not in a hurry, you can settle down on living-room style couches to watch whatever documentary is playing on the three wide-screen TVs arranged around the walls of the seating area while you eat. Before you leave, you can browse the selection of documentaries available for rental to take one home to watch.

In the evenings, the format becomes more organized, and Manin arranges special showings of important, seldom-seen documentaries several times each week. 10964 attended the first of these evening events, *Cannes Man*, directed by Palisades filmmaker **Susan Shapiro**, and the place was

packed with fans and family members. The viewers settled themselves into the comfortable sofas with their wine and snacks in hand while the director introduced her personal cut of a comic documentary/improv exercise that is also available in a horribly bowdlerized version at Blockbuster-type rental stores. In the film, Seymour Cassel, one of John Cassavette's favorite actors, is a smooth-talking Hollywood producer who attends the real Cannes festival where he successfully passes off a goofy cab driver named Frank Rhino as

a hot new screenwriter in order to win a bet. A wide swath of real celebrities jumped right into the game with cameo glee and skill, including Johnny Depp, Jim Jarmusch, Dennis Hopper, Treat Williams, John Malkovich, producer Robert Evans and Lara Flynn Boyle.

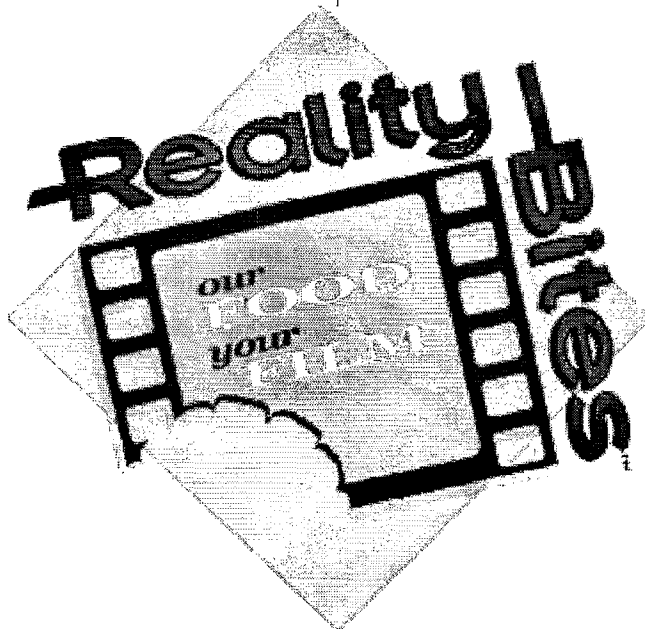
In July, Manin screened *Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism* hot off the griddle the week it was released, and afterwards everyone's blood was boiling. Attendees entered into a lively discussion with filmmaker Robert Greenwald

and heard some surprisingly critical remarks made by WFUV's Rita Houston, who happened to be in the audience.

Meanwhile, Steve Manin's business partner quit the kitchen after the first few weeks, and Manin finds himself putting together sandwiches on top of arranging upcoming showings and notifying interested people about scheduled events by e-mail. Manin is also actively soliciting local filmmakers to submit their work for showing.

For more details, please call 358-8800, drop in at 100 Main St. in Nyack, or visit the website: www.realitybites.net

Greta Nettleton



INNOVATIVE PUBLISHING IN 2004

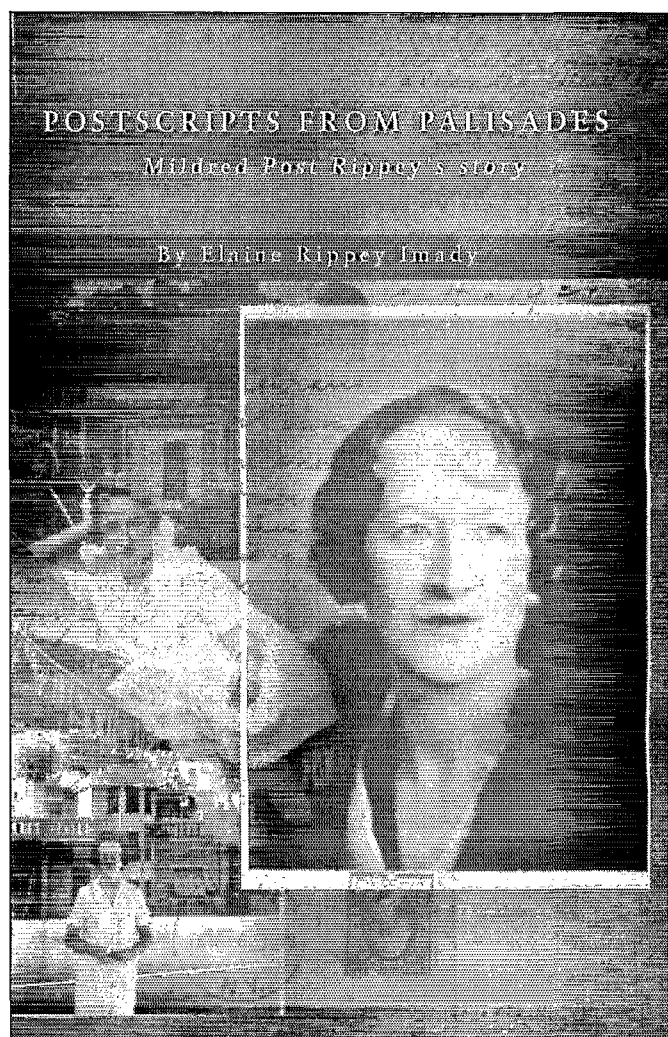
Perhaps you have always wanted to write a book about an obscure subject no publisher is interested in. Perhaps you have written a novel you're sure people would like, or a family memoir, but can't find a publisher willing to take a chance on your work. In the past you had two choices - give up the idea or publish the book yourself at great expense. In 1985 when Alice Haagensen decided to publish 1000 copies of her book, *Palisades and Snedens Landing*, it cost her \$25,000. It turned out to be worth it, in spite of the cost. Today, only five copies of the book are left. Most of us, however, do not have \$25,000 to invest in a book.

Now you have a third choice. A number of Internet publishing companies will work with you to publish your book for a very reasonable cost. The books they print are given an ISBN number and are listed in Books in Print, on Amazon.com, and on the Barnes and Noble web site. Copies are printed as they are ordered by individuals or by bookstores. Your book can be printed in hardcover or in softcover, and the usual size is six by nine inches, the size of many conventionally published books. These Internet companies do a good job - the Authors' Guild uses one of them, iUniverse.com, to publish reprints of out-of-print children's books. They even give royalties to the author.

Some of you may have seen Elaine Imady's book about her mother Mildred Rippey when the Palisades Historical Committee published 100 copies last year. It sold out quickly, and instead of reprinting another 100 copies, Elaine decided to use iUniverse. You can now find the book, *Postscripts from Palisades*, on Amazon.com.

Some of today's best sellers were first published by Authorhouse.com or iUniverse.com. There are advantages to this kind of self-publishing. The author doesn't have to deal with finicky editors, although services like proofreading, editorial advice, and marketing aids are available. Greater control to facilitate marketing is the reason Don Bracken has elected print-on-demand publishing for his forthcoming book *Times of the Civil War*. The book was written as an adjunct to his previously published collection of civil war graphics and the publisher is willing to work in concert with them.

I am also using iUniverse to publish a book about the French archaeological site of Glozel. It will give the history of the controversial site and the story of my and Sam's



involvement with it over the last 50 years. The book, titled *Glozel: Bones of Contention*, will be finished by the end of this year and should appear on Amazon.com by next February. I had several reasons for choosing print-on-demand publishing. My subject, although important to me, is so obscure that I would have had difficulty finding a publisher. I wanted the information in print, and I did not want to make changes at the request of an editor who did not understand the subject.

Are you ready to become an author? If you search for print-on-demand on the Internet, you will find many sites devoted to this kind of publishing. It's fun to check them out.

Alice Gerard

FEELING A BIT PEEVISH?

We all have little things that bug us. As I grow older I become less tolerant of annoyances and irritations in my day, less willing to let them go by unrecognized for the pesky pains they are. Am I turning into a crotchety old crank, a demanding diva? Or am I evolving into a righteous citizen who deserves some courtesy? This is the philosophical issue I put before you, thoughtful readers, to contemplate in the privacy of your own kitchens.

Give you an example from my own trove of tics (I'll have to be circumspect, because when I get my gripes going, there's no stopping me). All righty then, here's one of my big ones: People who block the box at the Palisades Post Office. There. I said it. It REALLY gripes my gut! I hate it when I have a letter or two to mail, and I'm on my way somewhere in my car, and I pull around to the box, only to find that someone has parked there. Parked there! This space is not for parking, folks! Yeesh, this makes me sore!!

Okay, I get the fact that parking spaces are few and far between at our beloved little p.o., but that's life, folks. Do we want to deforest the triangle to allow more spaces? NO! Are we going to "pave Paradise, put in a parking lot"? Of course not!

What if all the available parking spaces are taken? Horrors!! My goodness, we might have to wait 60 seconds or even 120 seconds before someone emerges from the p.o. ! Let's face it, folks, people are not going into the post office to have lunch. They will come out.

A small but helpful step would be if, after they have

exited from the post office, people would not read their mail while sitting in their cars. Just this modest consideration would move things along a bit.

And please do not block the box after p.o. hours, either. Do not park there in the evening or overnight!! My husband likes to get in the car at about midnight with a fistful of enveloped, stamped, addressed bills to be paid, only to find a car is parked right smack in front of the letterbox! It's the only car in the area at that time of night. The person has his or her pick of spaces. Why would anyone choose to park in that one spot and block the box? I just don't get it!

So let's make a pact, shall we? How about some forethought, a little patience, a crumb of courtesy? All together now:

Don't block the box!!

Okay. I feel much better now that I've vented. You'll feel better, too, once YOU vent. We would love to have you contribute your personal assortment of nettlesome nuisances. Perhaps we can actually fix a few by such airings out, and at the least, we can have fun reading about each other's betes noires, eh? So send to me, your Resident Crank, your irritating irks, your hackle-raising hassles, your dander-upping disturbances, and we'll publish it in our next issue. It'll be fun for you and you'll feel SO MUCH BETTER FOR IT!!!

I believe it was the journalist William Safire who actually named his pet, Peeve. Gosh, I wish I'd thought of that.

Leslie Price Hayes



PALISADES POSTAL NOTES

Palisades residents who remember Rosamond Fuller Kenison and her husband Alphonse may need to be reminded that Rosie Kenison's brother was R. Buckminster Fuller. This summer the U.S. Postal Service honored the achievements of Bucky Fuller by issuing a 37¢ stamp bearing a representation of him from a cover of *Time* magazine. Fuller used to visit the Kenisons in Palisades.

An enlargement of that stamp is in the display case to the left of the post office window. The inscription on the back of a sheet of 20 Fuller stamps reads as follows:

Renowned as the mind behind the geodesic dome, R. Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983) was an inventor, architect, engineer, designer, geometrician, cartographer, and philosopher. His pioneering solutions to the world's problems reflected his commitment to using innovative design to improve human lives.

Mary Whatley, Palisades Postmaster, welcomes two new members to the team at the post office—Subu and Vashta.



BULLETIN BOARD



Attention Palisades Kindergarten Parents

On Saturday, Oct. 16, 12:30 p.m. at the Palisades Library, 10964 Newsletter will take a group picture of all Palisades Kindergarten children (the class of 2017!) which will be published in our December issue. Gerry Miras, photographer. For information call Carol Elevitch, 365-3772.

Harriet Hyams

In 1998, the two wet stained glass windows were installed in the Jewish Chapel at the West Point US Military Academy in West Point, NY. Harriet Hyams, the artist for the windows, was honored at their dedication this September 19. At 32 feet in height, of antique glass, painted and sandblasted, the windows depict David and Joshua in an expressionistic symbolic way.

Simon Gerard Offers Art Instruction



ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Drawing, painting and sculpture explored with fun, instruction in technique, and a little art history.

PAINTING FOR ADULTS

Small classes with a lot of freedom and a thorough technical foundation. Call 365-6312. Simon has 24 years of teaching experience.

Geraldine Miras

An exhibition of Gerry's photographs taken on her many travels: "Children Around the World." At the Blauvelt Library through Oct. 25.

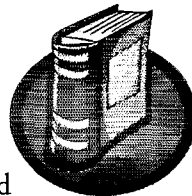
Luke Bucciarelli

Congratulations to Luke Bucciarelli (15). On July 31 Luke earned the distinction of becoming an "Adirondack 46er," a goal he had been working towards for the past four summers. To become an "ADK 46er," an elite accomplishment, one has to summit all 46 of the mountains in the Adirondacks over the elevation of 4000 feet. Luke will be attending The White Mountain School in New Hampshire this year as a sophomore.

Don Bracken

DON BRACKEN'S NEW BOOK *TIMES OF THE CIVIL WAR* IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 2005 RELEASE. HE WRITES...

"It was a war of 10,500 conflicts, and among them, 384 major battles. Spread over twenty six states, the American Civil War lasted for four sanguinary years. The book focuses on the intensity of that war viewing those major battles as they unfolded through the objective eyes of today's historians and the absorbing, sometimes myopic eyes of the correspondents and writers of the *New York Times* and the *Charleston Mercury* who were there. *Times of the Civil War* also features several original on-site sketches of



battles and happenings by artists for *Harper's Weekly* and *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* providing the reader with snapshots of that war that cameras of the time could not capture."

The Nyack House

A RENOVATION AND RESTORATION HOUSE TOUR

Blue Rock School offers a unique Fall house tour, on **Saturday, October 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

On the tour are eight uniquely renovated and restored homes in Nyack, including the extraordinary Gothic Cottage style Hand Mansion on Franklin Avenue. Other homes include a Hudson River waterfront gem, built in 1840 and decorated in a French New Orleans style and several Victorian era homes.

Proceeds from The Nyack House tour will support the expansion of Blue Rock School by adding two large classrooms that will provide more space for their early childhood program, after-school program and summer program. All programs are open to the community-at-large and serve the need for quality child care in a safe and creative environment.

Ticket Price: \$25 in advance; \$30 day of tour (includes admission to a reception—location to be announced). Tickets are available now. For more information or to reserve a ticket call Blue Rock School at 845-627-0234.

PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Another summer has come and gone and once again we are looking forward to the many wonderful days of autumn ahead. This fall the Community Center is privileged to have not one but two theater groups utilizing our building. As mentioned in previous issues of 10964, Andrea Pecorino is once again offering her "Acting UP" theater classes for teens. Her fall workshop runs 9/20 to 11/23 Mondays and Tuesdays from 4-5:30 pm. If you would like to discover the world of acting, please call Andrea at 845-558-7616. We are also honored to have Diana Green and her illustrious Shakespeare group rehearsing for yet another great year of classic drama in Palisades.

We are delighted to have with us again this year the Cherokee Nuyagi Keetowah Society. The Keetowah society will be inviting all those interested to come and experience the traditional Cherokee religion of celebrating the new moon of each month. Starting on 11/13/04 thru 4/9/05, one Saturday of each month from 2-6pm there will be singing, instrumental and dancing in a traditional Cherokee ceremony. Come, bring a simple meal and help us celebrate. All those interested can contact the Keetowah society at (212)724-2398 or Patrick Jones at 348-0446.

The Palisades Community Center along with the civic association and in conjunction with the Palisades historic society will be hosting a Palisades Historic day slated for March of 2005. We hope to plan a day that is full of wonderful memories and historic facts. This day will be a great undertaking for our newly formed committee. This will indeed be a community wide effort. We would like to reach out to the community and ask that any interesting stories, pictures or facts about Palisades that you would

like to share with us, please send to Eileen Larkin at ILEENOG@aol.com, or Susan Dillon at Dilloncody@aol.com, or Michele Balm at MiepBalm@aol.com. It is sure to be an interesting and educational day for all!

It is our hope that the community center will bring together and strengthen the bonds that many small towns possess. In order to keep our building maintained and provide more programs and events we need your support. Please become a member of the Palisades Community Center by sending a small membership fee of five dollars to The Palisades Community Center P.O. Box 222 Palisades, NY 10964. Your continued support is critical to keep our building in operation.

The board wishes to thank Ed Richardson, our vice president, for solely orchestrating all maintenance of the building and grounds this year. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication! We also would like to thank Joe Tonetti and Associates architects PC for drawing up the plans for our soon to be handicap ramp. Thank you for all your help!

There is a board meeting slated for October 13th at 7:30pm at the community center. Anyone interested in attending please feel free to drop by! In closing we hope to see this great space getting the attention it deserves. It is one of the cornerstones of this great town. Let's not let it lie to waste. If anyone is interested in any of the above events or wants to use the Community center please call Eileen Larkin at 359-6589.

*Susan Dillon
845-359-0348
Dilloncody@aol.com*

PALISADES FREE LIBRARY NEWS

Member of the Ramapo
Catskill Library System
Tel: 845-359-0136
Fax: 845-359-6124

LIBRARY HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs. 1:00-9:00
Friday 1:00-5:00
Saturday 11:00-5:00
Sunday 1:00-5:00

Closed November 24-25 for Thanksgiving

CITY DELIGHTS

Why not visit the **Museum of Natural History** this fall? Stop in and borrow our free family pass – good for 2 adults and 4 children. The pass checks out for two days and may be reserved.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS FALL 2004

Children entering kindergarten are eligible for library cards. Come to the circulation desk to register for a card and sign up for our fall programs.

PRESCHOOL EVENING STORYTIME

Teddy Bear Pajama Party

October 14, Thursday, at 7:00

Bring your teddy and wear your pajamas to a bedtime storyhour.

PROGRAMS FOR AGES 5 AND UP

Halloween Haunting

October 13, Wednesday, at 4:30

Spooky stories and creepy crafts.



THANKSGIVING HARVEST

November 17, Wednesday, at 4:30

Learn about the first Thanksgiving and make a turkey.

HOLIDAY HAPPENING

December 15, Wednesday, at 4:30

Celebrate winter holidays and make a holiday craft.

READERS PLUS

Are you interested in reviving the **Book Club** or starting a chess, bridge, knitting group? Please call the library.

TAPPAN ZEE THRIFT SHOP

The thrift shop is always in need of seasonal clothing, tools, works of art, games, toys, books and small household items. No bowling balls, computers or wedding dresses

need apply. The thrift shop is Rockland's number one spot for Halloween costumes. All donations support local organizations. Anyone willing to volunteer at the shop for 3 to 4 hours a week on behalf of the library please call 359-0136.

NEW NON FICTION

Bloom, Harold
Breslin, Jimmy
Chopra, Deepak
Gross, Terry
Hersh, Seymour
Mayes, Frances
Orlean, Susan
Pellegrino, Charles
Reichl, Ruth
9/11 Commission

Where Shall Wisdom Be Found
The Church That Forgot Christ
The Book of Secrets
All I Did Was Ask
Chain of Command
Bringing Tuscany Home
My Kind of Place
Ghosts of Vesuvius
The Gourmet Cookbook
9/11 Commission Report

NEW FICTION

Amidon, Stephen
Banks, Russell
Drabble, Margaret
Jin, Ha
Mills, Mark
Nguyen, Kien
Oates, Joyce Carol
Ozick, Cynthia
Pamuk, Orhan
Roth, Phillip
Spark, Muriel
Trevor, William
Updike, John

Human Capital
The Darling
The Red Queen
War Trash
Amagansett
Le Colonial
The Falls
Heir to the Glimmering World
Snow
The Plot against America
The Finishing School
A bit on the Side
Villages

FORTHCOMING DVDs

The Agronomist
Before Sunset
Bus 174
Master and Commander:
The Far Side of the World
Fahrenheit 9/11
I'm a Born Liar
I'm Not Scared
Intermission
Love Me if You Dare
The Mother
My architect

The Passion of Christ
People Say I'm Crazy
The Return
Since Otar Left
Sister Helen
Son Frere
Spring, Summer, Fall
Strayed
To Be and to Have
and 23 "classics not to be missed"

PALISADES CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Our organization is still active, attending and monitoring Town Board Meetings. Memberships are always welcome (\$10.00 per person for a year). Please drop a check to Palisades Civic Assoc., P.O. Box 222, Palisades

Palisades has been spared the current rash of zone changes that are occurring throughout the town. The latest zone changes are for senior housing. These will be built in Pearl River and along Veterans Memorial Highway. Many seniors do attend the Town Board Meetings asking for this type of multiple family residences. These homes are not inexpensive and the cost to maintain them is of concern to some people. The taxes are based on the assessed valuation and could range as high as 8 to 10 thousand a year, depending on the costs which range from \$235,000 for a garden apartment to \$500,000 for a large town house in a gated community setting.

The Rockland Psychiatric Center (RPC) property has been purchased by the town and as most of you know, plans for an aquatic center and community center will be put before voters on November 2nd for approval. The cost to "build" these facilities is close to \$14 million dollars. Estimated taxes based on a home assessed at 200,000 is \$65.00; based on interest on the long term bond it is estimated these facilities

will cost close to \$21 million dollars to build.

The above figures do not include the yearly costs to maintain these two facilities. Currently the Town Board is working on the 2005 budget for the Town and these two facilities represent 3% of the budget only for the bonding.

On November 2nd, this bond will be on the ballot. Please take the time between now and then to become more involved with this issue. The Town Board will have released their 2005 budget by then and we should know what our next tax increase will be. The Town's bonding is affected by the purchase of the RPC site, over 7 million dollars; the pool if approved by another 14 million dollars, and expected improvements to the Town's sewer treatment plant, which is expected to be in the millions of dollars.

*Eileen Larkin
President*

Palisades Civic Association

PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

WORSHIP SERVICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. service

This fragrance-free service is without choir but in most other aspects it is similar to the later service.

11:00 a.m. service

This service offers the full choir for an anthem, hymn leadership and sung responses in various parts of the liturgy. Children leave for Church School during the service, and childcare is provided for infants and toddlers. A coffee hour is held in the Parish House directly behind the Sanctuary following the service.

Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month at both services and is open to all regardless of denomination.

HARVEST FESTIVAL, SATURDAY,

OCTOBER 23

The second Harvest Festival, set for October 23 from 12 to 3 p.m., features a potpourri of foods, goods and services for sale all related to autumn, the often all-too-quick season in New York State. There will be homemade jams, jellies, relishes, syrups, flavored vinegars, pickles and more plus baked goods.

Lunch will be available and will include a variety of ethnic soups including homemade Won Ton, Hungarian Goulash and Canadian Pea soups plus a lovely salad and fresh bread.

In addition to the Goods for Sale table, there will be a raffle of special items such as collectibles and treasured junkie as well as services donated by members and local friends.

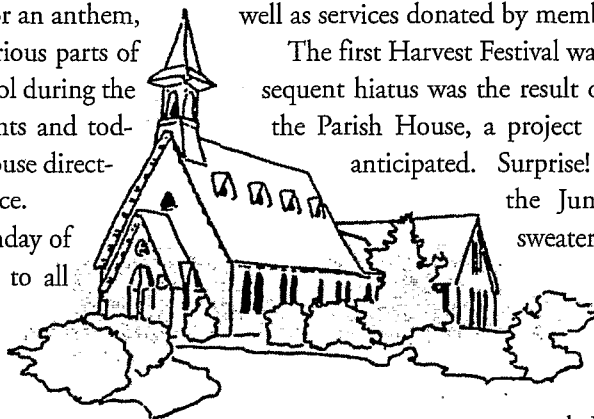
The first Harvest Festival was held two years ago; the subsequent hiatus was the result of installing a new kitchen in the Parish House, a project that took much longer than anticipated. Surprise! The Harvest Festival is like the June Strawberry Festival with sweaters.

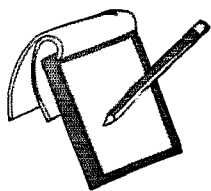
Donations of foods, services (fine art, car washing, a picnic...whatever) and items for sale are encouraged.

If you wish to donate some-

thing please call the church office (845-359-3147) and let them know as soon as possible.

The last Harvest Festival was a huge success, and we are looking forward to an even better event this year. Please come.





A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



Dear Community Members,

On Tuesday, August 31, 2004, the South Orangetown Board of Education convened to listen to public input, complete its review and discussion of the Facilities Master Plan, and to finalize the scope and amount of this Plan. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Board unanimously passed a resolution to place a Bond Referendum before the voters, on October 20, 2004, in the amount of \$25,273,000. Taking escalation of construction costs into account, this amount represents a decrease of approximately \$ 7 million dollars from the Bond amount that was placed before the voters last November, 2003.

WHAT WILL THIS PLAN ACCOMPLISH?

- Allows the District to keep up with current and projected enrollment growth, which has increased by 903 students over the past 10 years, and is projected to increase by an additional 686 students between now (2003 - 2004) and 2014. This means our current K -12 enrollment of 3,398 students will grow to 4,084 students in 2013 - 2014.
- Adds classrooms district-wide to maintain current class-size guidelines, given our current enrollment projections.
- Alleviates overcrowding in classrooms and hallways.
- Provides dedicated space for specialized educational programs.
- Provides sufficient space to accommodate growing enrollments in music programs.
- Provides adequate space to accommodate school lunch program at the middle and high schools.
- Utilizes middle school space efficiently by consolidating central office and renovating office space to create classrooms.
- Athletic field improvements for increased safety for student and community use.
- Improvements to fields for support of physical education instruction, practices, competitive athletic events, and modified sports.
- Addresses compliance issues related to the Americans With Disabilities Act and the New International Building Code.

- Supports grade level team teaching.
- Preserves the integrity of our schools.
- Enhances safety through upgrades and replacement of life safety systems, i.e. public address systems, fire alarm systems, etc.
- Promotes student and staff health through upgrade and replacement of ventilation systems.
- Provides for upgrades and replacement of obsolete building systems such as heating, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical that have exceeded their useful life.
- Improves energy efficiency.
- **Maintains Educational Excellence!**

UNDERSTANDING THE COST

The actual cost of the project to district residents is calculated on the assessed value of your home, and is expressed as a tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed home value. Assessed value is not market value, meaning it is not the price you could get for your home if you were to sell it. It is the value of a taxable piece of property as determined by the town's assessing practices, and the value which is used to determine the amount you pay for property and school taxes.

The total cost of the project will be financed by issuing public bonds. Cost information on the proposed capital facilities project and the estimated tax impact to homeowners is based on the following underlying economic assumptions:

Total Project Cost: \$25,273,000

Term: 20 years

Assumed Interest Rate: 4.5%

State Aid: 31.7% on eligible project costs

Assessed Value of Your Home	Taxable Amount (without STAR)	With Basic STAR	With Enhanced STAR
\$150,000	\$109.50	\$82.18	\$62.91
\$200,000	\$146.00	\$118.62	\$99.41
\$250,000	\$182.50	\$155.12	\$135.91
\$300,000	\$219.00	\$192.00	\$172.41

Note: Estimated cost is based on the 2004 tax rate information provided by the town assessor.

Continued next page

Continued from page 13

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The District has one of the highest Moody's Financial ratings for a school district in Rockland County. This translates into savings to the taxpayers because the District will be able to obtain a lower interest rate.



The Grape D'Vine
JOE PRINTZ / PROPRIETOR
845-EL9-2141
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AVERAGE ANNUAL COST

The bond will cost on average \$0.73 per \$1000 of assessed value. This amount may then be reduced by tax exemptions from the BASIC STAR and ENHANCED STAR programs. Please visit our **Bond website @ www.socsd.org** to get more information on how to calculate your tax rate. [See Table on page 13]

IMPORTANT BOND REFERENDUM DATES:

October 6, 2004: Bond Hearing - 7:30 p.m. in Board Room

October 13, 2004: Superintendent Coffee Chat - 7:30 p.m. in Board Room

October 13, 14 2004: Voter Registration - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. & 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

October 20, 2004: Bond Vote - 7:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m.

For more information, call Terry Campanella, District Clerk at 680-1013.

We hope you will attend one of our meetings or information nights, watch our cable TV program, channel 77 every Thursday from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 PM, or visit our website often before the vote so you will be able to make a well-informed decision the polls on October 20th.

Sincerely,

Joseph Zambito, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools



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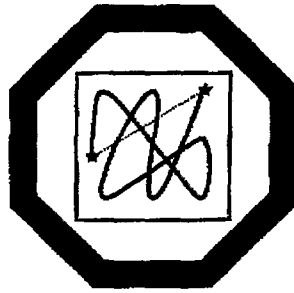


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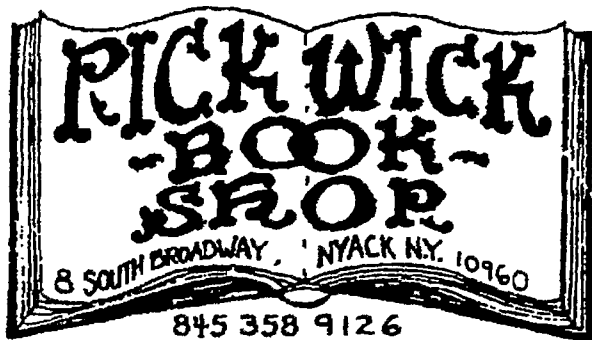


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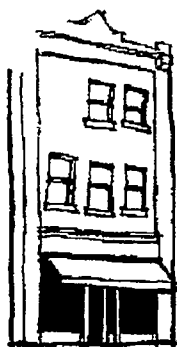
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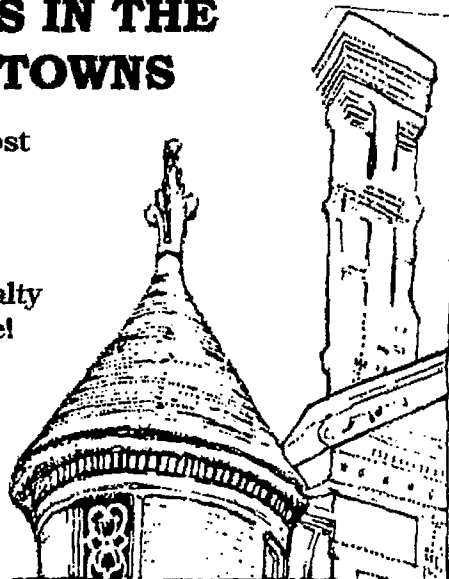
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CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful for a generous contribution received from Morrie and Marianne Brown.

EDITORS AND LAYOUT PEOPLE NEEDED

In order to keep 10964 coming out four times a year, we need more volunteers to assist with layout and editing. Let us know if you have either of these skills and would like to help us.

10964 Newsletter
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ABOUT 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964** needs your moral and financial support! Please send a contribution to **10964**, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, New York, 10964. With your help we'll be able to put **10964** in your mailbox four times each year from October through May.

10964 Staff Members

Carol Elevitch, Alice Genard, Leslie Price Hayes, Mary Ellen Ledwith, Greta Nettleton, Kathryn Shattuck-Papay, Milbry Polk, Susan Shapiro, Kathleen Sykes, Caroline Tapley, Mary Tiegreen, Robby Whitstock, and David Wolk.

Treasurer: *Susan Gersony*

Editor this issue: *Carol Elevitch*

Design and layout this issue: *Angela M. Escalante*

LAMONT OPEN HOUSE

LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY



RESTLESS EARTH

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2004

10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Located on a 157-acre campus on the Hudson River, the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) is the only research center in the world examining the planet from its core to its outermost atmosphere, across every continent and every ocean. From global climate change to earthquakes, volcanoes, shrinking natural resources, environmental hazards and beyond, LDEO scientists continue to provide the basic knowledge of Earth systems that must inform the wise stewardship of our planet.

Open House programs and campus maps available at welcome tent #1 near geoscience building.

Exhibits, walking tours, special children's activities.

Refreshments available.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Palisadians should park at the IBM conference center on Rte. 9W. Shuttle buses to Lamont Palisades campus are continuous from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.