

# 10964

## THE PALISADES NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2005 NUMBER 191



Julie Moser



Bobby Frost



Allison Lehrer



David Fowler



Joseph Sormani

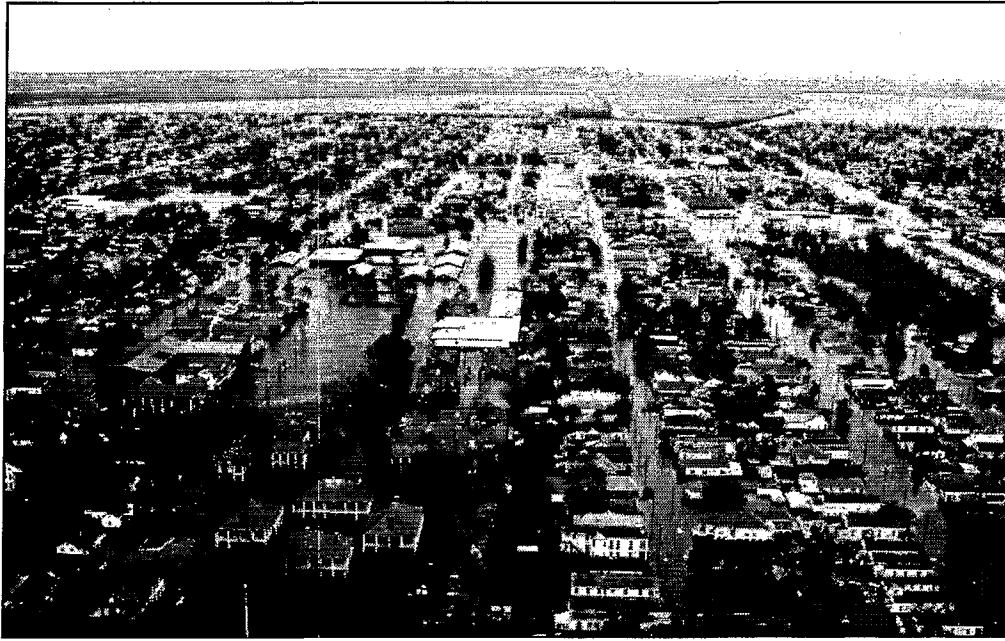
### CLASS OF 2018 KINDERGARTENERS FROM PALISADES



PAINTING BY: LISA POMANN

Palisades Free Library

## LOCAL EFFORTS HELP THE GULF COAST REBUILD



### INTERVIEW WITH REV. TYRONNE EDWARDS OF PHOENIX, LA.

**N**ewsweek Magazine called New Orleans, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, “the lost city.” Lost houses, lost power, lost sewers and mostly lost people – some truly lost, others displaced. The power will go back on and the sewage system will be repaired, but the people are spread far and wide across the country and many of their homes are uninhabitable. Some have insurance, some don’t; but either way there’s a big job ahead for everyone involved in rebuilding one of the most famously eclectic and magical cities in this country.

Nyack’s Mayor John Shields, the Nyack Village Board, the Nyack Chamber of Commerce and a group of concerned residents and local businesspersons decided that sponsoring a “sister” hamlet in Louisiana was the best way to help. The process of selecting a location was complicated by the fact that the first hamlet they approached already had 20 different sponsors. Nyack decided to keep looking.

The answer came in the guise of Rev. Tyrone Edwards, a post-hurricane Katrina visitor to Rockland County for the Volunteer Counseling Service of Rockland’s yearly seminar on Undoing Racism. Rev. Edwards, who is a counselor with the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond in New Orleans, told the story of the near total destruction of the homes in the small hamlet he called home: Phoenix, Louisiana.

Phoenix, located in the Plaquemines Parish, south of New Orleans where the Mississippi River ends and runs into the Gulf of Mexico is a small rural hamlet with one store, one bar, three churches, two cemeteries and a school that served the entire east bank of the Mississippi river south of the city. Residents worked in the area or commuted to New Orleans. Once it was home to approximately 450 people. Currently, it’s home to none.

Phoenix was damaged, not by a levy breaking, but by the storm itself. “The community was totally disrupted,” Edwards said, “Out of the 167 homes we had, only 8 are structurally sound. Water was either over the roof, or in the ceilings of the houses. The water flipped stuff all over the houses. It was not only water, it was a tidal surge. Katrina came over land in Plaquemines Parish, that’s why our community was totally destroyed. In many places there are only foundations to show where the houses were.”

According to Rev. Edwards, the area had not sustained any serious damage since Hurricane Betsy hit in 1965. People weren’t expecting a storm of this magnitude; and were spending time and money renovating their homes. Rev. Edwards himself recently installed new kitchen cabinets in his home. “Lots of people didn’t get flood insurance because it had been so long since there was a problem,” said Rev. Edwards, “but even with flood insurance you don’t get that much, not enough to rebuild.”

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## PALISADES HISTORY

### HISTORIC SNEDENS LANDING HOUSE BUILT IN 1784 FACES UNCERTAIN FUTURE



The Mann house at 139 Washington Spring Road is hidden behind high rhododendron hedges. As a result few people have had a good look at this fine example of the Dutch Colonial style, built with sandstone blocks from the Sneden quarry on the shore of the river. The house was owned for many years by Sheila Converse.

The farmer George Mann, originally of Würtemberg Germany, was one of the early settlers in Palisades. In May 1767 he bought 98 acres of Lawrence land lying to the south of the Big House and the 504 acre Lawrence farm. Five years later he purchased an additional 32 acres of land. George Mann's first house was on a small hill with a fine view, located about 300 yards south of the present Mann house. Here his six children were born.

George Mann built the present Mann house, on the corner of Highland Avenue and Washington Spring Road, in 1784, the year after the declaration of peace with Great Britain. He passed down to his descendants an account of the ploughing of his fields by shot from English cannons.

The house is built in four main sections, two of native sandstone and two of frame and clapboards. The oldest, northern section is now one large room but was originally two rooms, each with its own Dutch door and fireplace. Each entrance is flanked by a two-sashed window of twelve panes each. These are original, as are the double doors and the fine large fireplaces, surrounded by late eighteenth century paneling.

The middle section of the house was added shortly after the main section and is built of the same sandstone blocks. This section, consisting of one room and an entrance door, is set lower than the main section and steps connect the two alongside the fireplace of the older section. The third section of the house was added shortly after the second, both within a period of twenty to thirty years. This frame section has been remodeled with a modern kitchen. However, it contains a copper oval basin and fluted drainboards which are contemporary with the early 1800-1820 addition. The southern frame section is more recent.



PHOTO OF THE MANN HOUSE BUILT IN 1784 TAKEN BY THE LATE ISABELLE SAVALLE CIRCA 1970. THE BASIC STRUCTURE OF THIS HOUSE IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS IT WAS IN THE 1820'S.

George Mann died in 1806 and the house was inherited by his son David (1768-1852). David married Catherine Lawrence, the sister of Jonathan Lawrence who owned the Big House. The ties between the families were close; after Jonathan's first wife died he married David's sister Mary. It was probably David, the father of six daughters and four sons, who enlarged the house.

Upon David's death the house was inherited by his son George, (known to many as Uncle George) who died unmarried in 1886. On Jan. 24, 1871 George Mann sold the house and much of the property to W. S. Gilman, Senior, father of Winthrop Gilman the Palisades historian. Apparently Gilman never lived there; the next tenant we know of is Dr. Henry Smith. Smith sold the land to the artist Churchill Ettinger and his wife Betty, who were living there in the 1940s. When they moved to Vermont, the Ettingers sold the house to Dr. John and Sheila Converse.

The new owner of the house is fellow Palisadian, Miki Hyun, of Woods Road. She told me that she had no immediate plans for the house, except to preserve it and protect it over the winter. The house has deteriorated in the last few years, and there is a hole in the roof; some renovation inside and out will be necessary in the spring.

We wish her well with her new acquisition. This historic house, one of the oldest in the community, is an important part of our local heritage.

*Alice Gerard*

# LIBRARY NEWS

## PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

Member of the Ramapo Catskill Library System

19 Closter Road

Palisades, NY 10964

Tel: 845-359-0136

Fax: 845-359-6124

pal@rcls.org

www.rcls.org/pal

Library closed:

Christmas, Dec. 24, 25

New Year's Day, Dec. 31, Jan. 1

President's Day Feb. 20

## ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar for the library's annual meeting  
Sunday, January 29th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

## HOLIDAY GIFTS

The library has a number of books, maps and note cards for sale. Book titles include *Historic Houses of Palisades*, *Mary Lawrence Tonetti* and *A Short History of Palisades*. We have large and small Verplanck maps, a map of Snedens Landing, and Anna Gilman Hill spatter print note cards.

## CITY DELIGHTS

The library has memberships at the Museum of Natural History and the Museum of the City of New York. These passes can be reserved for specific dates and are free. Ask at the circulation desk. We also offer coupons for discount theater tickets, both Broadway and Off-Broadway. These are located at the reference desk.

## FALL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

All programs are free. Please register at the circulation desk.

## STORY TIME WITH NANCY RUSSELL

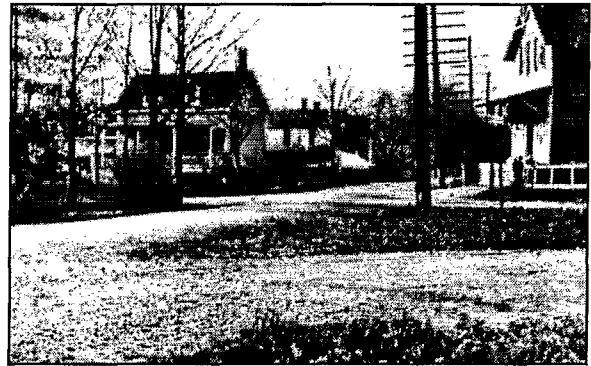
Story time is held on Wednesday at 1:30. This program follows the school vacation calendar and is for ages 3 and up.

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, December 14 – 4:30 p.m. December holiday readings and crafts. Ages 5 and up.

## OUTRAGEHISSSS PETS

Wednesday, January 11 – 4:30 p.m. Children can get up close and personal with a variety of creatures from around the world. Youngsters will be entertained and learn more about the animal kingdom. Ages 5 and up.



THE PALISADES LIBRARY, 1900

## CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR

Wednesday, January 18 – 4:30 p.m. Learn about the Year of the Dog and create a dog to take home. Ages 5 and up.

## SNOW FUN UNLESS YOU COME!

Tuesday, January 24 – 4:30 p.m. Winter time stories and snow crafts. Ages 2 to 4.

## OUTER SPACE OCCASION

Wednesday, February 15 – 4:30 p.m. Soar with space stories and make a far out craft. Watch for Aliens. Ages 5 and up.

## POTATO AND SHAMROCK PARTY

Wednesday, March 15 – 4:30 p.m. Pretend to be Irish and have green fun. Ages 5 and up.

## FOR TWEENS & TEENS

Holiday Card Making

Thursday, December 1 – 4:30 p.m. Make cards using rubber stamps and paper punches. Ages 8 and up.

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Recently, we have added an additional service for children in the library. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lillian Gunther will be available in the Children's Room for students with reference questions, as well as guidance with book selections.

## FREE TUTORING/HOMEWORK HELP

A new program will soon begin at the Palisades Library. High school students will be available to help younger students with homework after school. Students interested in earning community service hours should sign up at the circulation desk. Students wanting help should also leave their names at the front desk.

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# PALISADES CHURCH NEWS

## INTERIM PASTOR RAY BAGNUOLO ORDAINED



e's now, "The Rev." On Sunday, November 13, 2005, Ray Bagnuolo, the new Interim Pastor of the Palisades Presbyterian Church, was ordained by the Presbytery of Hudson River at his home church, South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry, NY. He is the first openly gay person to be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament by our Presbytery, following a thorough examination of his qualifications. He is an advocate of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues and serves as a national board member of "That All May Freely Serve."



THE PALISADES CHURCH

Ray is a native of the Bronx, has lived in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Connecticut and currently resides in White Plains. He was called to ministry after a career in retail sales and marketing as well as serving as a Regular and Special Education Teacher in Ossining Public Schools (a position he still holds). He also serves as a Web Designer for the Presbytery of Hudson River, TAMFS, and other organizations. In addition, he is very proud of participating as a volunteer stage manager for many years in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, cueing the parade into Herald Square.

Many of his supporters from our church, his home church, the Presbytery, TAMFS, Presbyterian Welcome, and others joyously attended his ordination. His family was represented by his mother, Betty, his father, Joe, and his sister, Kathy, all of Tampa, FL.

Among those participating in the Service of Ordination were The Rev. Gail A. Berger, Moderator, Executive Director, Dutchess Interfaith Council, Inc.; The Rev. Susan De George and The Rev. Joseph H. Gilmore, South Presbyterian Church, Dobbs Ferry; Elder Jack Hoffmeister, Palisades Presbyterian Church; The Rev. David Calvin Kingsley, Presbytery of Hudson River; Deacon Lisa Larges, Presbytery of San Francisco; The Rev. David Prince, Interim Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Hudson River; Elder Harriet H. Sandmeier, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Hudson River; The Rev. Angela Skinner, Presbytery of Hudson River; The Rev. Janie Adams Spahr, Presbytery of the Redwoods; The Rev. Mieke Vandersall, The Presbytery of the City of New York; The Rev. Ruth R. Wainwright, Presbytery of Hudson River. In addition, Elder Catherine E. Talbot, South Presbyterian Church, among others already mentioned, served on Ray's Administrative Commission. All the above-named people played a major role in his journey

to ordination. Love, hope, and justice rang throughout the service and reception.

The choir of Palisades Presbyterian Church joined the South Presbyterian Church choir to sing in praise. A sumptuous reception prepared by South Church to mark this most auspicious occasion followed the service.

*Kathi Tiitsman*

**SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION HELD**  
All our friends in Palisades and beyond were invited to our festive, colorful, and flavorful Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 3rd to honor our members of Scandinavian descent. It was a Pot Luck Smorgasbord table with an array of pickled herring, stuffed eggs, assorted cheeses, pork loin with prunes, baked ham, red cabbage, Swedish meatballs, potato sausage, and many more mouth-watering goodies cooked under the direction of Richard Hansen, Nina Prusinowski, Beatrice Rassmussen, Edith Ryan, Kathi Tiitsman, and others. Traditional cakes and cookies rounded out the meal. Music, ornaments were also featured.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

About 25 children aged toddler to 5th grade have been attending Sunday School at 10 A.M. In addition, the families took a hayride and pumpkin picking outing to Demarest Farms.

Preparations are under way for the Christmas Pageant on December 18th. Contact John Guzewich (359-0160) for information and schedule of rehearsals.

### CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

Christmas Eve services: Family Service at 5 P.M.; Service of Lessons and Carols at 11 P.M. Sunday morning service at 10 A.M.

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## ARTS NEWS

### ROCKLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GALA HOLIDAY CONCERT FOR CHILDREN

Sunday, December 18th at 3 p.m.

#### PROKOFIEV'S "PETER AND THE WOLF"

narrator: **Didi Conn**

music director: Dr. Marvin von Deck

at the Rockland Community College Cultural Arts Center

Program also includes excerpts from:

TCHAIKOVSKY'S "NUTCRACKER"

ROSSINI'S "LA CENERENTELA"

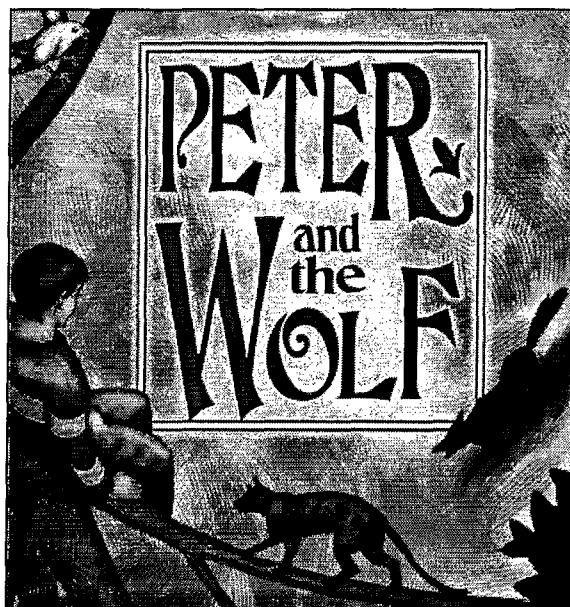
AND 3 GERMAN DANCES BY MOZART

Several lucky children will get a chance to conduct the orchestra!

Tickets available at the door.

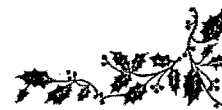
For more information, please call

Jacqui Drechsler 627-3112



AT THE ROCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CULTURAL ARTS CENTER.

NARRATOR: DIDI CONN



### WINTER SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCE

THE CHILDREN'S SHAKESPEARE THEATRE PRESENTS:

## HENRY V

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00 P.M.

January 13, 14, 20 & 21

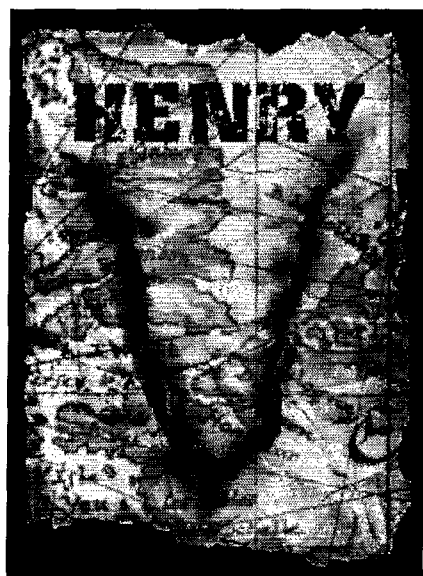
Sundays at 4:00 P.M.

January 15 & 22

at The Palisades Presbyterian Church

Tickets \$10 for adults, \$7 for children 14 and younger.

For tickets and information call: 365-9709



POSTER DESIGN: DAVE GREEN

*Coming Up: Children's Shakespeare Theatre has been invited to perform in Fort Worth, Texas in February, through a group called Imagination Celebration. Stay tuned for more coverage in our March issue of 10964.*

## ARTS NEWS

### YOUNG PALISADES VIOLINIST IN SOLO PERFORMANCE

ROCKLAND COUNTY MUSIC TEACHERS'  
GUILD COMPETITION WINNER



Shelby Yamin, a tenth grader at Tappan Zee High School, made her symphonic solo debut with the Rockland Symphony Orchestra in October in a performance of the second and third movements of Max Bruch's first violin concerto. Rockland Symphony Orchestra founder Edward Simons conducted, and two other young violinists also performed movements from concertos by Brahms and Mozart during the afternoon event, which was held in the auditorium of the Cultural Arts Center at SUNY Rockland (formerly Rockland Community College).

The Bruch concerto is a beloved Romantic favorite for soloists and listeners alike, filled with rich harmonies and spectacular demonstrations of technical prowess and it made for a grand climax to the afternoon's program. Miss Yamin's performance was sensitive, adept, and full of intelligent musical feeling; every element of the concerto's dramatic musical structure flowed from her bow arm. She performed with poise and evident pleasure.



SHELBY YAMIN

In a wonderful closing finale, the three soloists joined forces to play a "duet" by Jean-Marie Leclair (the first great violinist and composer of the French Baroque) rewritten with a third part by Maestro Simons. The young artists put aside their solo brio for the moment to blend their tones perfectly into an ensemble sound that was as sweet as it was precise, a perfect approach to presenting this lovely 18th century miniature. The piece seemed far too short—they could have played it two or three more times, and the audience would still have shouted for more. As it was, the young artists received a standing ovation in recognition of their accomplishments.

*Greta Nettleton*



In other musical news, Luba Mason appeared at a glittering benefit at RCC's Cultural Arts Center for the Elmwood Playhouse's Renovation Fund on November 30 with Dick Voigt's Big Apple Jazz Band. Luba grew up in Palisades on Swan Street and now is a major Broadway singer and actress (currently starring as Velma Kelly in CHICAGO). Elmwood will use the funds to renovate and expand its playhouse, celebrating its 60 years of history with a drive to achieve new levels of excellence.





# BULLETIN BOARD

DECEMBER 2005



ocal artist **Grace Knowlton** is prominently featured in the November issue of *House & Garden* magazine. Known primarily for her large spherical sculptures, Ms. Knowlton is also a painter and photographer whose work has been part of many major exhibitions and permanent collections including the Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, New York.

**Judy and David Englander** are the proud grandparents of Nathan Isidore Field. Nathan, their first grandchild, was born August 8th to Emily Englander Field and her husband Marc.

**Karen Asche**, who grew up in Palisades, was married at the end of August to Tom Doyle in parents Sheila and Thane's garden gazebo. The couple hosted a fun-filled garden party for family and friends, a number of whom came from California where the couple lived for many years. Karen and Tom both work in marketing and now live in New York City.

The New York apartment of up-and-coming interior designer **Ernie de la Torre**, a recent addition to the Palisades community, will be featured editorially in the January issue of *Elle Décor* magazine.

**Mary Ann Brueckner** retired October 1st after twenty-seven years of employment at Lamont-Dougherty Earth Observatory where she worked as a library specialist. Mary Ann is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren.

Another girl joins the Breer clan. **Sabella** gave birth to a daughter on October 31st. Sabella, who is the youngest of Frannie Breer's four daughters, is a successful songwriter and lives in New York City with her husband.

Potter **Sylvia March** will once again offer a selection of her work for sale just in time for the holidays. Sylvia received her early training in Japan from master potters. She's located at 224 route 9W (across from the old gas station). Stop by from 11:00 to 6:00 on December 3rd and 4th and 10th and 11th for a look. Sylvia gives pottery classes Tuesday and Friday at 4:00 P.M. and Sunday at 3:00 P.M. for both children and adults. Call 845-359-3767 for more information.

Kudos to **Don Bracken**. His book, *Times of the Civil War*, which the *Charleston Mercury* called a very important addition to the study of the Civil War, came close to making Amazon.com's bestseller list. Don was interviewed on WREL radio in Lexington, Virginia on December 8th. His book is available on all internet sites and in selected bookstores.

**Lamont-Dougherty Earth Observatory** has announced plans for the construction of a new state-of-the-art geochemistry research building. It is being funded by an \$18 million gift from Gary Comer, founder of Land's End catalog company, with additional funding to be raised by Columbia University. Comer's interest in global climate and environmental change grew out of his love of open ocean sailing. The 63,000 square-foot building will incorporate environmental elements and will be designed to harmoniously respect the surrounding area. Groundbreaking is scheduled for September 2006 with completion expected by November 2007.



**Lamont's Open House**, first started more than fifty years ago, was held this year on Saturday October 1st. More than 3,000 attended the festivities.

**Christina Biaggi's** impressive sculptures speak volumes. Her recent show at the Ceres Gallery in Manhattan (October 5 to 29) was titled: *Disasters: Recent Giant Collages*. The paper-on-wood constructions featured were, "Election 2004," 16 feet by 5 feet; "Tsunami," 14 feet by 5 feet; and "The Have Nots," (New Orleans) 4 feet by 2 feet.

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## BULLETIN BOARD

Potter **Jane Herold** will hold her annual holiday pottery sale on Saturday and Sunday of the first two weekends of December, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day. There will be lots of new pots, including teapots, bowls, pitchers, covered serving dishes, and some really big vases. Jane has been invited to be one of four Americans to attend the International Woodfire Conference in Mashiko Japan next spring, where she will present a slide show and exhibit her work. She and her work were also recently featured in an article titled "A New Definition of Useful" in Studio Potter Magazine.

**Correction:** Due to a typo 10964 incorrectly printed last month's, SIMON SAYS recipe. We regret if someone's Apple Crisp was a bit more crispy than usual. Below is the correct recipe.

### APPLE CRISP 6 servings

6 tart apples  
3/4 cup sifted flour  
3/4 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup white sugar  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
grated nutmeg  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
6 tablespoons butter  
1/4 cup or more chopped nut meats  
Whipped cream or ice cream



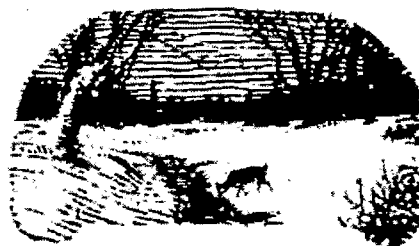
1. Preheat oven to moderate (350° F.).
2. Peel, core and slice the apples into a bowl. Add 3/4 cup of the sugar (1/2 cup white, 1/4 cup brown), the spices and lemon juice. Mix lightly and pour into a buttered one-and-one-half quart casserole.
3. To make the topping, mix together 3/4 cup flour, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 6 tablespoons butter. Blend to a crumbly consistency. Add the 1/4 cup chopped walnuts and sprinkle over the apple mixture.
4. Bake 45 minutes, or until the apples are tender and the crust is nicely browned.
5. Serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

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Stained glass artist **Harriet Hyams** has a show at the Blue Hill Center located on Orangeburg Road starting December 1st and running for six months. Harriet's most recent commission was to create the windows in the Jewish Chapel at West Point.

Welcome to new neighbors **Anne Donahue** and **Joseph Bargman** who recently moved to 5 Closter Road accompanied by Muddy, their standard poodle.

Kathleen Sykes



## LIBRARY NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

### NEW NONFICTION

Ackroyd, Peter - *Shakespeare: The Biography*  
Allen, John L. - *Opus Dei*  
Breyer, Stephen G. - *Active Liberty: Interpreting Our Democratic Constitution*  
Briggs, Julia - *Virginia Woolf: An Innerlife*  
Chessler, Phyllis - *The Death of Feminism*  
Didion, Joan - *The Year of Magical Thinking*  
McCourt, Frank - *Teacher Man: A Memoir*  
Roth, Henry - *Redemption*  
Rowley, Hazel - *Tete a Tete*  
Sheldon, Sidney - *The Other Side of Me: A Memoir*  
Spurling, Hillary - *Matisse, the Master*

### NEW FICTION

Auster, Paul - *Brooklyn Follies*  
Barnes, Julian - *Arthur and George*  
Brookner, Anita - *Leaving Home*  
Godwin, Gail - *Queen of the Underworld*  
James, P.D. - *The Lighthouse*  
Kadare, Ismail - *The Successor*  
Karon, Jan - *Light from Heaven*  
Lively, Penelope - *Making It Up*  
Lurie, Alison - *Truth and Consequences*  
Perry, Anne - *Xmas Guest*

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## BLUE ROCK SCHOOL RECIPIENT OF ORANGE & ROCKLAND GRANT TO SUPPORT INTERGENERATIONAL POETRY PROGRAM



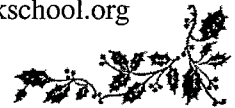
**B**lue Rock School, located in West Nyack, N.Y., is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a \$1,000.00 grant from Orange & Rockland. The grant will be used towards Blue Rock School's Intergenerational Poetry Program in which students from grades three through seven visit seniors at The Thorpe Senior Citizens Center in Sparkill, holding workshops for the children and the seniors in which they explore the art of poetry and share an opportunity to learn from each other. Gerald McCarthy, poet and Professor of English at St. Thomas Aquinas facilitates the workshops with the seniors and Blue Rock Students.

"Both the seniors and the students relish their shared time together. We find that these intergenerational sessions are fulfilling for the elders in that the children's spontaneity and curiosity brings them great joy. The children, in their turn, benefit from being in the presence of people who have had several decades of life experience," said Caty Laignel, Blue Rock School Director.

The Intergenerational Poetry Program will culminate with a printed anthology of the students and seniors writing in addition to a community reading at the Hopper House Art Center during the week of March 27, 2006.

Blue Rock School, "Where Every Child Is An Honored Student," is an independent day school spanning pre-K through sixth grade. Blue Rock School offers small classes with an intimate and nurturing environment and a balanced academic curriculum emphasizing math, children's classic literature, music, science, art, drama, foreign language and movement. At Blue Rock School children learn through discovery and hands-on experience.

For more information contact Blue Rock School at 845-627-0234 or visit [www.bluerockschool.org](http://www.bluerockschool.org)



## PALISADES POST OFFICE NEWS

### "REMEMBER THESE SHIPPING GUIDELINES"



After you've selected and wrapped your gifts, you can purchase **Insurance\*** offered at the time of shipping, available either online or at your Post Office. It's a lot of assurance for a little extra cost.

#### Packaging Tips:

- Wrap all items separately.
- Cushion your contents on all sides with bubble wrap or newspaper.
- Seal all packages with strong tape.
- Don't use string or wrapping paper on the shipping box.

Ship without worry.  
Visit [usps.com/clicknship](http://usps.com/clicknship).



Mary, Subu, Bernie, Brian, and Debra--  
Wish you the best for the Holidays!!

No matter where you're shipping gifts this holiday season, we have a service to get them there.

- **Express Mail®** service\* delivers overnight – guaranteed – 365 days a year to most U.S. cities, even on Christmas Day. From \$13.65.
- **Priority Mail®** service delivers in 2-3 business days, on average. From \$3.85.
- **Global Priority Mail®** service designed for delivery in 4-6 days to over 51 countries. From \$4.00.
- **Global Express Mail®** service designed for delivery in 3-5 days to nearly anywhere in the world. From \$15.50.
- **Global Express Guaranteed®** service\* delivers in 1-3 days to over 190 countries. From \$24.00. International delivery by FedEx Express®.

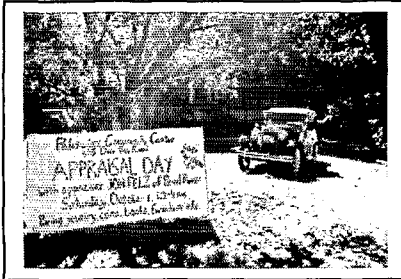
Need it there fast? Learn more at [usps.com/clicknship](http://usps.com/clicknship).

Global Priority Mail® service		Global Express Mail® service		Global Express Guaranteed® service		Priority Mail® service		Express Mail® service			
DECEMBER	14 International & Canada	15	16 International	17 Canada	18	19 International	20 Canada	21 National	22 Local	23 National	24 Local

Fall Newsletter  
Issue 2  
2005

# Palisades Community Center News

675 Oak Tree Road



## Our Year in Review...

And what a year it has been! Many of you have re-energized the Community Center's use and have been a vital part of events hosted or produced by the Center. Not only did we have our annual flea market in the spring to mark that time of year where we need to do some serious spring-cleaning, but we also rented the space out for many special occasions and entertaining needs. You would be amazed at the talents of those who indeed saw the potential in the Center's space. Among other things, the Center has been transformed into a warm inviting living room, garden wedding receptions, a music hall and, of course, numerous delightful children's parties. Come in and be inspired by our blank canvas for your next function.

*Palisades History Day* rang in the beginning of the summer and became a true coming together of old and new, past and present. The Palisades Historical Society and Palisades Civic Association all are in agreement that this type of event should happen again but not necessarily on an annual basis. I have reprinted my thank you note from the 10964 in this newsletter so that it can be read in its entirety. This fall, our first ever *Appraisal Day* was held with antique specialist Jon Felz from Pearl River. One of the many interesting items brought in was a circa 1860 original American Flag appraised at about \$15,000 depending on auction demand.

The day attracted the seasoned collector to the novice dabbler bringing with them beautiful porcelain, Greek tiles, lamps, paintings, copper pots, and more. But, what truly tied it all together was the awe-inspiring 1930 GM Model A classic that was brought in by our very gracious neighbor, **Gary Kenny**.

The most recent event was quite a remarkable community experience in the true spirit of giving. A fundraising event in support of the victims of Hurricane Katrina was held on October 9th. **Laraine Slavitt** was instrumental in this event and we thank her, wholeheartedly, for taking it on!

Currently, we are diligently working on creating a Center that is well maintained and aesthetically pleasing to our community. With the help of **Henry Ottley** we will embark on tasteful signage for the building as well as addressing some of the much-needed repairs. Giving us a welcome boost in this direction a very warm thank you goes out to **Diana Green** and **Gordon Carpets** for the material and installation of new carpets in our main entrance, at no charge. We hope to see you at the Center and welcome any feedback you wish to give.

May your holiday season be merry and bright!

-Michèle Balm, PCC Board President

## A Palisades History Day Thank You



On behalf of the Palisades Community Center Board, I would like to take a moment to thank those who worked so hard on making *Palisades History Day* a success. The planning and undertaking of producing this event took a group of people who not only knew the history of Palisades but who were not daunted by creating such a production. The day brought in close to \$2,500, a fundraising event success! Also, some of you became first time PCC member, which entitles you to discounts in renting the building.

The diligent attention to historic detail and the actual creating of the panel exhibit showcasing the time line of Palisades from 1500 to the present, was a labor of love for the Palisades Historical Society and in large part due to Alice Gerard and Mary Ellen Ledwith's powerful energy. We thank them for providing our entire community with a permanent Palisades historical exhibit.

A fantastic father daughter team created the Cemetery tour: Carol and Bill Knudson. They spent countless hours going through the cemetery and library to find interesting facts about those who are so peacefully laid to rest there. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts for allowing us all to discover this unique Palisades piece of history.

Tasks such as making the wonderful large signs as well as signs for the cemetery stones, researching/buying and selling old fashioned candy for the candy store, to buying flowers at the flower market in the Bronx at 2 o'clock in the morning, to lending DVD projectors, tents, karaoke machines, and hanging curtains/panels, to cleaning the Center inside and out. These were all done quietly, efficiently, and knowing that it would all come together as a cohesive whole.

The movie component to the exhibit was also a labor of love by Palisadian Susan Shapiro as well as myself. On behalf of all of the sponsors of the event, I must thank Susan Shapiro for her commitment to the project and creating a wonderful archival documentary, which hopefully will be Part A of more parts to come. Robert Pechin, Director of Digital Services, from Ascent Media in Northvale came to the rescue making all the copies of the 2-disc DVD set. We thank him and Mark Jeffers, Vice President of Ascent Media/East Coast Sales for their wonderful support. We hope you will consider purchasing this amazing documentary, which brings to life a personal retrospective of Palisades in the early years as reflected upon by

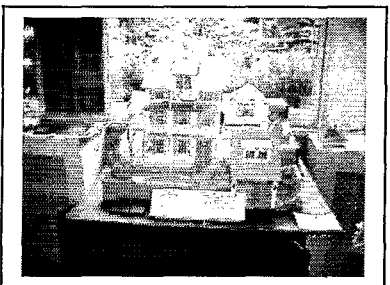
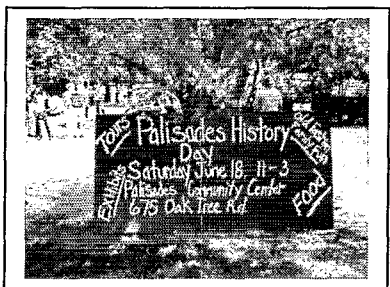
many including Bill Knudson, Alice Gerard, Joe Hyde, Albon Man, Dorothy Thayer, Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg. Please call 359-3776 or email [miepbalm@aol.com](mailto:miepbalm@aol.com) if you would like to be placed on the list to obtain a set in the near future.

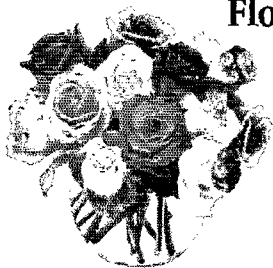
It was our pleasure to welcome Town Supervisor, Thom Kleiner, who gave the Center a Proclamation Document to officially make June 18<sup>th</sup> Palisades History Day. The beautiful document will be hung at the Center for all to see. Eileen Larkin spoke on behalf of the Palisades Civic Association about Andy Norman's dedication to our community as well as to the Center. A plaque will be placed at the Center in honor of his memory.

There was one more component to Andy Norman's legacy. When I wrote to Abigail Norman, who is one of Andy's four daughters inviting her and her siblings to come to the day's festivities, we also made a plea for re-energizing our capital improvement campaign that was suffering from some serious malaise. For the past three years we have been trying to keep the Center in good standing financially. However, the building is old and does need serious repairs, a new roof, a new gutter, new ceiling tiles, bathrooms, as well as a myriad of other things. We received a letter back from Abigail and with it came a check from Andy Norman's foundation for the unbelievable amount of **\$25,000!!** We are off to a great start and will make improvements so that our community can utilize this building efficiently.

At the end of the *Palisades History Day*, as we listened to the school bell ring in memory of Andrew E. Norman, it made all those present reflect about how wonderful it is not to forget the past but to embrace it and to make our newer community have a real sense of pride and commitment to the historic Palisades buildings and grounds that are there for all to use.

-MB





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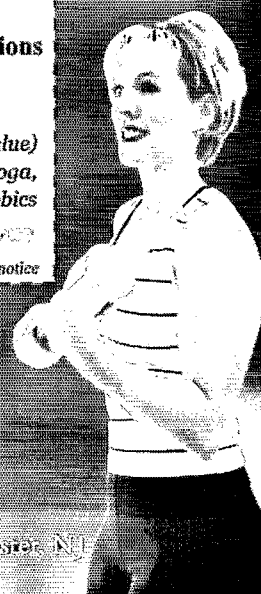
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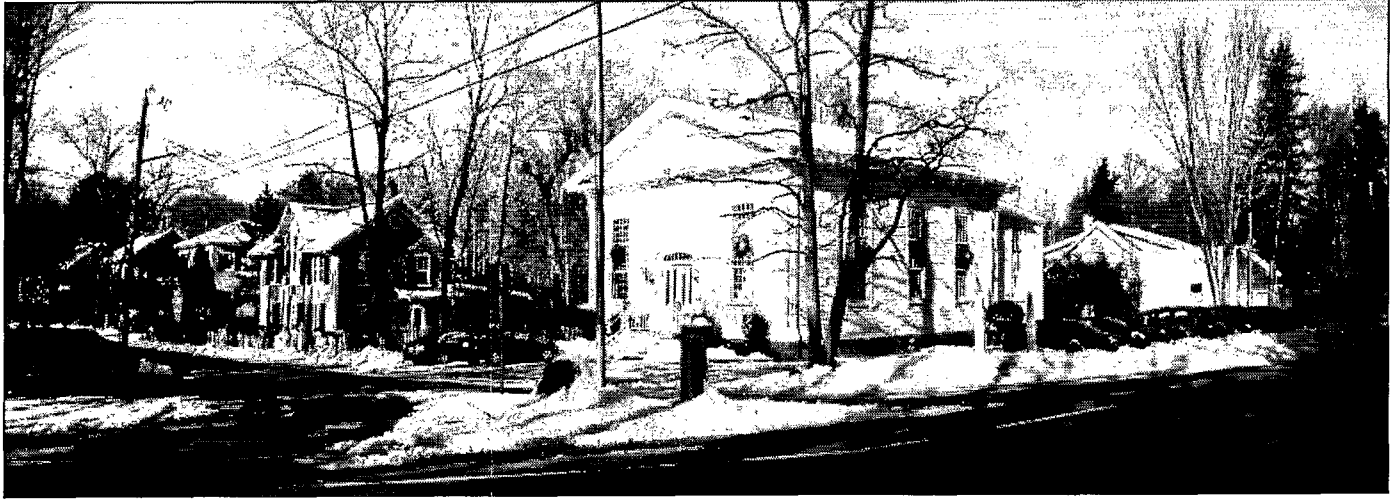
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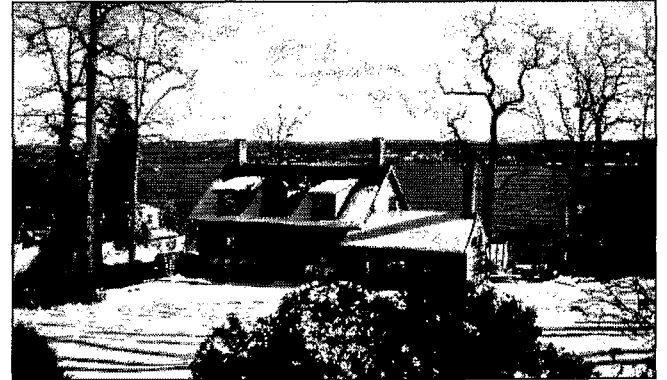
## DECEMBER IMAGES OF PALISADES



ROUTE 9W AND CLOISTER ROAD.



A SNOWY WINTER MORNING.



SNEDENS HOUSE OVERLOOKING A CHILLY HUDSON RIVER.



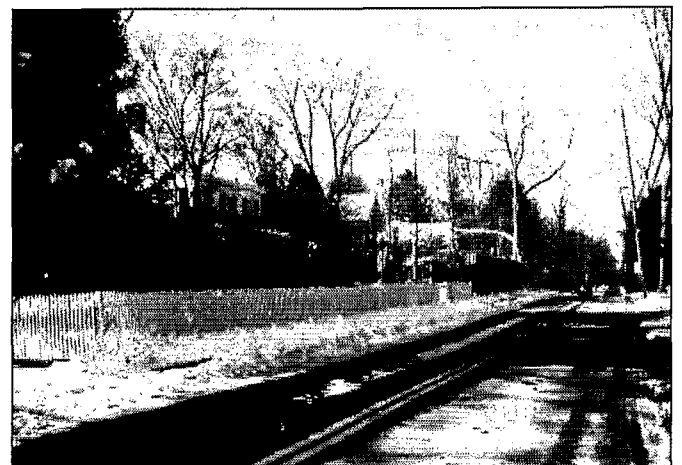
CHILDREN ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL PASSING BY THE OLD COUNTRY STORE.



A HOME DECORATED FOR THE HOLIDAYS ON CLOISTER ROAD.



THE PALISADES GAS STATION AWAITS A NEW LIFE.



POST HOUSES ALONG OAK TREE ROAD.



### Thinking of the holiday season making you blue?

Join us for some lighthearted singing at the annual Palisades Caroling/Sing Along event. It all began in 2003 when Palisades families were moved to do something for the elderly and infirm members of our community who were home alone for the holidays. Realizing that being sung to by young children will lift anyone's spirits, the idea caught on and soon enough we had close to 25 kids! We're still looking for more! Adults and kids alike, come join us this year on **Friday, December 23, 2005 in front of 11 Horne Tooke Road at 4:30 P.M.** We will go around that neighborhood as well as walking to the group home on Oak Tree Road to bring the residents some much needed holiday cheer. Around 6 p.m. we will walk to the Community Center where hot chocolate and other goodies will be waiting to wrap up our sing-along. Who knows, there may be a surprise visitor like last year to sing more songs to?! One never knows ... Music will be provided. Any questions, please feel free to call 359-3776.



*A hip Santa and hot chocolate  
with lots of goodies made  
everyone smile!*

### *JUST IN... ..*

*Our Annual Town Meeting will be held on Thursday Evening, January , 2006, at 8PM. The Town Supervisor will be invited to join us and give us an update on all the most recent current town events and issues. Jot down the date and consider being an active and informed member of your community!*

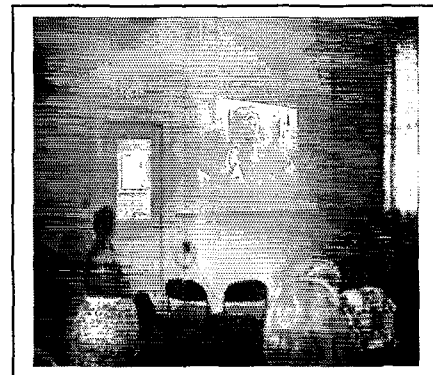
### *GREAT GIFT IDEA...*

#### *A LIVING HISTORY: Palisades Movie Part I*

*Don't forget that you can still order the Palisades History Movie DVD set. The cost for the 2-disc set is \$40, if you buy two sets it will be \$35. We must have requests of 50 sets before we can order additional sets. So the sooner we know who wants them the sooner we can make additional copies.*

*Here are three ways of reserving a set:*

- 1. At the Palisades Library there is a sign up sheet.*
- 2. Email [miepbalm@aol.com](mailto:miepbalm@aol.com) to reserve a DVD set*
- 3. Call 359-3776 and talk to Michèle in person!*



### **Palisades Community Center Board 2005**

We are seeking possibly two new candidates for the Board. Let us know if you are interested by emailing [miepbalm@aol.com](mailto:miepbalm@aol.com)

The following members are part of the Palisades Community Center Board:

Michèle A. Balm, *President*

Edward Richardson, *Vice -President*

Linda Jouas, *Treasurer*

Carol Knudson, *Corresponding Secretary*

Virginia McCauley, Henry Ottley,  
Tony Gerard, Sheila Chin, *Board Members*

Eileen Larkin, *Marketing Coordinator*

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## Special Thanks to These New PCC Members!

**We are so pleased to welcome and thank our newest PCC members:**  
*Michael and Angelo DiMeglio, Edith Ryan, Joanna Lo, Laraine Slavitt,  
Alice Gerard, Jackie and Dan Martin, Nina Prusinowski, Milbry Polk,  
Philip Bauman, Mary Ann and Hannes Brueckner.*

Here are just a few small reasons to become a member of the Palisades Community Center: You become a more active member of your community. You receive members' only discounts toward rental of the center. Last, but not least, the Palisades Community Center is a not for profit organization which means any and all dues and/or donations made to the Center are tax deductible! So what are you waiting for? Become a member today! Fill out form below. Checks should be made payable to the Palisades Community Center and mailed to the address listed on the left hand side of this page, attention: Linda Jouas, Treasurer.

### PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBER(s) NAME(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER:

\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL:

\_\_\_\_\_

Check if we can place you on our email mailing list: ☐ YES  
☐ NO

ADDRESS:

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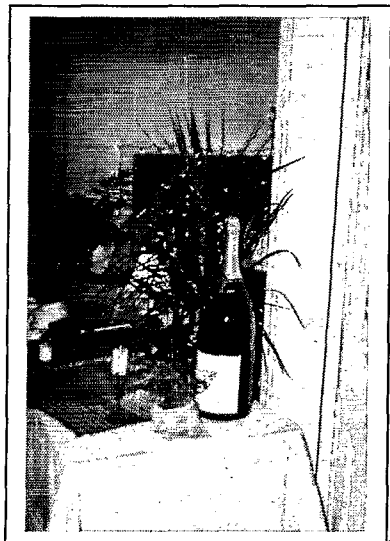
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Membership Dues for 2005 are as follows:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 = General Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 = Friend (5% discount on rental of building)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 = Close Friend (10% discount on rental of building)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 = Best Friend (15% discount on rental of building)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 = Life Long Friend (20% discount on rentals and copy of DVD\*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 = Angel (25% discount on rentals and copy of DVD\*)

\* DVD Pending availability

\*\*\*\*\*



## CHINESE GIRLS' 10TH REUNION

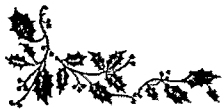


THE GIRLS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT ARE: CATE (HOPE'S FRIEND), SUSAN, SOPHIA, ZOE, ZOE'S SISTER LEXI (SITTING ON TOP), DANA, HOPE AND MARINA. (CATE AND LEXI ARE NOT PART OF THE ORIGINAL GROUP)

PHOTO BY: NEIL CHAN

**B**uilding a house on Woods Rd. and moving to Palisades has been a wonderful experience for our family. It provided us with a terrific location in which to host our tenth year Chinese Girls' Reunion, held on October 9, 2005. Our trip to China in 1995 to adopt the girls was arranged by Spence-Chapin in Manhattan. Every year, the original group of eight families who traveled together (as strangers!) meet in a different home to celebrate the adoptions of their daughters. This year, six of the eight girls attended, and we decided to honor Joe Hyde's stone house through the hosting of this special event. The girls had a wonderful time investigating the unusual stonework and climbing around what is surely one of the most unique structures on Woods Road.

*Joan Lehman  
Jerry Lieberman  
Dana Mei Lehman*



### PALISADES CHURCH NEWS

#### GIFTS FOR HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5



One of the most enduring missions shared by the Palisades Church and the community is the giving of gifts on Christmas Eve for hospitalized children in Harlem. The practice inherits from our liaison with "127th Street" following the death of Martin Luther King.

Gifts, holiday wrapped and marked age and gender suitability, will be gathered at the Family Service on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. and taken immediately after the service to "Youth for Seniors" headquarters on 139th Street. They will be distributed, bedside when possible, by Howie Friedman and his youngsters during Christmas week.

*Dorothy Davis*

## SCHOOL NEWS

### OUR PALISADES SCHOOL BUILDING NOW HOME TO THREE TENANTS

#### CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT CENTER, BOCES, AND THE FRED S. KELLER SCHOOL SHARE SPACE



Several years back, the South Orangetown Centralized School District moved its Early Childhood Intervention program over to the William O. Schaeffer School in Tappan.

The empty space left behind in the Palisades School building has been filled by renting it to two non-district educational programs, and BOCES uses the remaining space.



THE PALISADES SCHOOL

#### WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT CENTER?

Palisades parents who remember the Oak Tree Playgroup may be curious about who is filling their shoes, now that the venerable cooperative drop-off playgroup founded back in the 1970s is no more. The Children's Enrichment Center, a nonprofit, private pre-school, moved from Blauvelt to its current location in the Palisades school building five years ago, and currently accommodates 70 children under the guidance of 11 teachers. CEC Director Joanne Volpe tells us that her program is designed to prepare the children for kindergarten through structured activities. Children aged 2 - 5 spend two to three hours each day in games designed to be fun as well as instructional. During the summer, CEC offers a separate pre-school summer camp program that emphasizes art and music. She still has openings for children of interested parents—call 398-3370 for more information.

#### CEC PARENT AND CHILDREN CREATE BEAUTIFUL IMAGES TOGETHER



LEFT: BECKY JEWETT. RIGHT: VANESSA MALHAME. PAINTINGS CREATED IN COLLABORATION WITH ARTIST AND CEC PARENT LISA POWERS POMANN DURING THE SUMMER SESSION



These two gorgeous paintings are the fruit of a collaboration between local artist Lisa Pomann and several children attending the Children's Enrichment Center [located in the same building as the Fred S. Keller School] in Palisades during this past summer. They were painted on wood and then hung in the school's gym to add some needed color in that room. Lisa and her husband Bob are former Palisades residents, having spent weekends in Palisades for approximately 8 years. They recently made a permanent move down the road to Piermont with their child Sam, now 4 years old. Sam attended the Children's Enrichment Center last year and also collaborated on the "Bug" painting.

Lisa studied fine art in the US and Europe, and received a masters degree from Tisch School of the Arts/NYU and Bachelors degree from Parsons. Her professional background includes work as an art director at The New York Times, Newsweek, Time Warner and MSNBC. Currently she is a graphic designer/mom working from home. Bob has a full service audio post-production facility in Manhattan that he started over 20 years ago.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

## WHO IS FRED KELLER?



while back, driving on Oak Tree Rd., I noticed a sign at the Palisades elementary school announcing that it is now to be known as the Fred S. Keller School.

Who? I made the mistake of asking a 10964 staffer that question.

"Why don't you find out who he is and write an article about it?" she asked.

A lesson learned?

The first thing I learned about our school building was that the South Orangetown Central School District now rents out the classrooms in Palisades for three outside programs that share the building: a BOCES (Board of Cooperative Education Services) unit, the nonprofit Children's Enrichment Center nursery school, and the Fred S. Keller school for young children with special needs.

Jeannie F. Speckman, the Assistant Executive Director of the Fred Keller School explained that the program is based on the work of Fred Simmons Keller (b. 1899) a psychologist and believer in applying the science of behavior in education. In a very small nutshell it means controlling behavior through reinforcement. The Center has 18 special needs children. Groups are small and a high teacher-child ratio allows for individual attention. With its headquarters located in Yonkers, the Fred S. Keller School was established in 1986 as the first fully implemented Comprehensive Application of Behavior Analysis to Schooling, or CABAS® preschool. Children who attend Keller schools range in age from 2 to 5 years old.

A belated welcome to Fred S. Keller staff and children from 10964!

*Gerri Miras*



## SCHOOL NEWS—THE OFFBEAT STUDENT REPORTER REPORT

### TAPPAN ZEE GYMNASIUM SINKS INTO GROUND



As of October 1st, the Tappan Zee Gymnasium is no more. The legendary structure that has been the home of the Tappan Zee Dutchmen for so many years sunk into the ground Sunday at 3:30 A.M. EST. Dudley Juvenile and his friend Dick Delinquent were, for some reason, at the school at that time and witnessed the whole thing. They refuse to explain why they were there, but they did give authorities a very detailed account of what happened. Dudley's description was, "...Uhhh," and Dick said, "It...um... fell down."

Mystified as to how it happened police called in forensic scientists to examine it. After a week of investigation, they came up with a theory: "It was either an underground cave that collapsed and made the gymnasium sink, or there are giant alien tunnel borers living under the school."

Yesterday, the town had a bond vote as to whether they should replace the building. Seventy-five percent voted "no" and furthermore, decided to cut out gym altogether because, "Gym was never that important anyway," according to one South Orangetown resident. While they were at it, the voters cut out music and art as well. "It's not worth it. Can you believe these activities cause us taxpayers \$2.45 extra on our taxes?! Anyway, I'm sure the kids are happier since they don't have to get bogged down by all those 'extra curricular activities'."

However, someone stood up right before the bond was passed and pointed out that Gym is state mandated. Gym will now be held on the Tappan Zee High School parking lot, "temporarily." There is now no more junior parking. To add to the junior class's problems, the landlord of the mini mall where CVS is announced that any illegally parked cars in his parking lot will immediately be beamed into outer space.

*Alexander Lalire*

# HURRICANE RELIEF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

According the Rev. Edwards, most of the people – now scattered from Texas to Boston – will return to Phoenix. They are “waiting for electricity and sewers to be up and running. Then we’ll put up trailers and we can start to work on our community.” Many people, he predicted, will not be able to afford to rebuild, so will wind up living in trailers instead of houses.

Despite the damage to his town, Rev. Edwards does not sound like a defeated man. He is ready to rebuild his town and is even positive on the subject of government aid, an often controversial subject. “The government is doing as much as they can do with the resources they have,” he said, “It’s a slow process.”

People up here don’t have a clue how bad it is there,” Mayor Shields said. The goal is to raise money for the people of Phoenix for at least a year, starting with a fundraiser this past November that raised \$25,000. “Instead of giving cash,” Mayor Shields said, “they’ll buy the things they need to rebuild, and we’ll provide the money to pay the bills.”

David Mooney, a displaced New Orleans guitarist and leader of the David Mooney Quartet, performed at the Nyack fundraiser. He said that he wonders what will happen to the music, so essential to the fabric of New Orleans life, with so many of the local musicians scattered all over the country. “Music has always been an offshoot of the tourist industry; when the tourists are back in town, then we’ll see what happens.” Mooney transplanted his family to Brooklyn for the time being. He knows their house is ok, but the neighborhood was “pretty devastated, with lots of garbage, dead animals and no trash pickup or traffic lights.” It will be awhile before he returns home, but in the meantime he’s enjoying some time in New York.

If you’d like to make a donation to help rebuild Phoenix, LA; send a check to the Nyack Hurricane Relief Fund, c/o Mayor John Shields, 9 North Broadway, Nyack, NY 10960.

*Marjorie Galen*



NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, AUG. 2005

## FROM A BALL OF YARN, A BEAR IS BORN IN PALISADES



EVERY TEDDY BEAR IS ONE-OF-A-KIND.



ong-time Palisades resident Joan Salomon is launching a new undertaking. Knit with Love is her tiny teddy bear studio where she designs and hand knits unique, one-of-a-kind teddy bears. Each bear is made using the finest, most beautiful yarns, many of which are hand dyed or hand painted. Arms and legs are fully jointed. Attention to the smallest details such as embroidered pads on hands and feet, real functional buttonholes and buttons on sweaters, and imported glass eyes result in heirloom quality bears that are adored and coveted by all who own one. The end product is a teddy who is truly "knit with love".

Joan was taught how to knit at age five by her mother, and has been involved with needles and yarn ever since. She spent many years as an animal artist and is also an experienced visual merchandiser. Recently she taught knitting as part of the South Orangetown Elementary Schools after-school program. She resides in Palisades with her husband, her cat, Webster D., and her red toy poodle, Ivy.

For more information please call Joan at 845-558-1534 or email [joansalomon@verizon.net](mailto:joansalomon@verizon.net). Beginning in December you may view some of her bears for sale at her new website: [www.knitwithlove.net](http://www.knitwithlove.net).

Michele Balm



## LIBRARY NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

### FORTHCOMING DVDS

2046

*The Beat that My Heart Skipped*

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

*Grizzly Man*

*The Hired Hand*

*Jojo's Circus*

*Keane: Strangers*

*March of the Penguins*

*Red Eye*

*Sky High*

*The Staircase*

*and 4 Anime Series*

### STAY AT HOME DELIGHTS ON THE INTERNET

We subscribe to a number of databases that can be accessed from home. **Rosetta Stone** is a 24-language learning program. **Heritage** and **Proquest Ancestry** offer genealogy research. **EBSCO Masterfile** provides full text for nearly 1,860 journals. National Newspaper indexes America's top five papers: New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Christian Science Monitor, Los Angeles Times and Washington Post. Medical information is available on the **Health and Wellness Resource Center**.

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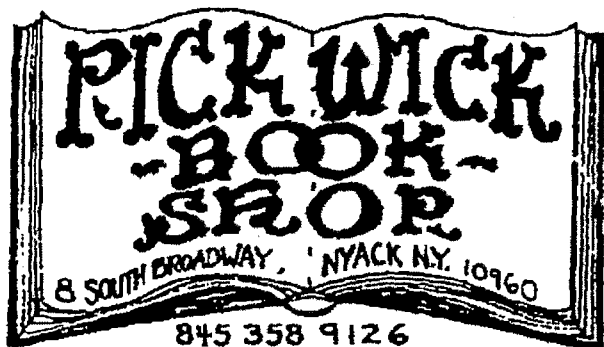


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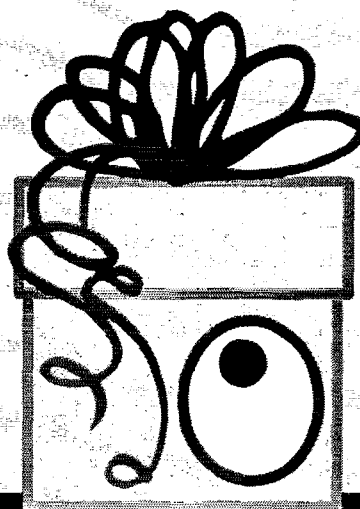
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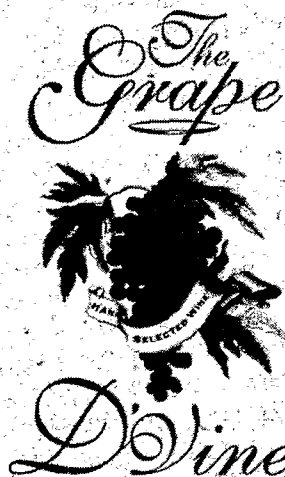
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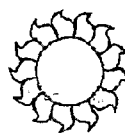


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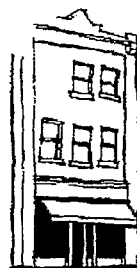
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This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. In order to keep 10964 coming out regularly, we welcome volunteers to assist with writing, photography, layout and editing. Please drop us a line if you would like to submit material or try your hand at helping to produce an issue. Financial contributions can be sent to 10964 Newsletter, P.O. Box 201, Palisades, NY, 10964. With your help, we'll be able to put 10964 in your mailbox four times each year from October through May.

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