

THE PALISADES NEWS

Representing The Greater Palisades Area

www.palisadesdc.org

Volume 17 • Number 3 • December 2005

PCA General Meeting NEW LOCATION — Key School Auditorium 5001 Dana Place

- Tuesday, December 6
- 7:30 PM
- Palisades History & Artifacts Roadshow with the National Park Service and PCA Historian Alice Stewart (see below)
- "The Palisades of Washington DC" history book sale (see p. 7)
- Membership Committee update and general membership vote on campaign budget
- Flu shots given by Sibley at 7 PM; \$15 or free with a Medicare card

Learn About, Add to Palisades Lore

The December 6 general membership meeting will focus on the history and pre-history of our neighborhood.

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Raise Voices, Complaints Against Dewatering Facility and Trucking

On October 28, the US Army Corps of Engineers/Washington Aqueduct signed a formal "Record of Decision" that would initiate the process for building an 80-foot dewatering plant to remove residuals collected in water taken from the Potomac River. (The Corps is under an EPA-issued directive to cease its current practice of flushing the residuals back into the river.) The dewatering facility would be located on Little Falls Road behind Sibley Hospital. Residuals would be trucked out via Little Falls Road to MacArthur Boulevard, Dalecarlia Parkway and other Ward Three streets.

Do you live on MacArthur Boulevard?

Do your customers parallel park on MacArthur Boulevard?

Do your children go to school on MacArthur Boulevard, or cross it to get to school?

Do you take leisurely walks in our neighborhood and on MacArthur Boulevard?

Do you value quiet?

Do you value clean air?

Do you think Palisades streets are already in poor shape with regard to potholes and storm water run-off?

Do you think MacArthur Boulevard is already too congested with Maryland and Virginia commuter traffic?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, act now because the Corps decision means a PERMANENT trucking solution. Our streets are already in poor condition and will only worsen with constant heavy trucks. Other costs to be borne by our neighborhood, but not factored into the budget for the dewatering project, include air

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Neighbors from Brookmont, Western Avenue and Westmoreland in Maryland join neighbors from the Palisades, Spring Valley, and Foxhall to protest the Army Corps of Engineers' decision to build an industrial dewatering facility behind Sibley Hospital and truck residuals out through our neighborhoods. Photo by Rachel Thompson.

on the **BULLETIN BOARD**

Saturday, November 19-Sunday, December 18: **Adventure Theatre presents "The Emperor's Nightingale"**, Sat & Sun, 1:30 AM & 3:30 PM, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Boulevard, \$7, 301-320-5331, www.adventuretheatre.org.

Friday, November 25-Saturday, December 31: **The Puppet Company Playhouse presents "The Nutcracker"**, Wed, Thurs & Fri, 10 & 11:30 AM, Sat & Sun, 11:30 AM & 1 PM, Glen Echo Park, see above, \$7, 301-320-6668, www.thepuppetco.org.

Sunday, November 27: **DPW Leaf Collection for areas west of Chain Bridge Road**, rake leaves in tree box for collection the following week, www.dpw.dc.gov.

Wednesday, November 30: **"The Marshall Plan: The Vision of a Family of Nations" panel discussion and exhibit** of the program that transformed Europe after World War II from a continent ravaged by war to one of peaceful, prosperous nations, 5 PM, GW Mount Vernon Campus, 2100 Foxhall Road, Eckles Library Auditorium, 242-6620.

Saturday, December 3: **Art Glass Holiday Open House and Sale**, 3-6 PM, dinnerware, jewelry, sculpture, wall art and more, Glen Echo Park, see above, 301-634-2222.

Sunday, December 4: **"Our Potomac" visual journey and book signing**, 3-4:30 PM, join Potomac Conservancy's Roy Sewall for a presentation featuring photos from his book "Our Potomac: From Great Falls Through Washington, DC", free, rsvp required, Angela Preston, preston@potomac.org.

Tuesday, December 6: **PCA general membership meeting**, 7:30 PM, "Palisades History & Artifacts Roadshow", Key Elementary School, 5001 Dana Place.

Wednesday, December 7: **"Stress & Your Heart"**, 1-2 PM, cardiologist Nancy Davenport will discuss overall heart health, with an emphasis on stress and the heart, Sibley's Renaissance Building, Room 2, free, open to all.

Wednesday, December 7: **ANC3D meeting**, 7:30 PM, Sibley Hospital's Ernst Auditorium, www.anc3d.org.

Thursday, December 8: **Friends of the Palisades Library meeting**, 7:15 PM, Palisades Library, second floor.

Friday, December 9: **Bethesda Art Walk**, 6-9 PM, walk or take a free shuttle among Bethesda's many art galleries, includes light refreshments, free, www.bethesda.org.

Saturday & Sunday, December 10 & 11: **Key School Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale**, Saturday 12:30-5 PM, Sunday 10 AM-4 PM, Wachovia Bank parking lot, corner of Arizona Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard.

Saturday, December 10: **Macular Degeneration Programs**,

resource-sharing group for people newly diagnosed with macular degeneration (9:30-10:15 AM), and for those with vision loss due to eye disorders affecting central vision (10:30 AM-Noon), Sibley's Ernst Auditorium, register at 234-1010.

Sunday, December 11: **DPW Leaf Collection for areas east of Chain Bridge Road**, rake leaves in tree box for collection the following week, www.dpw.dc.gov.

Sunday, December 11: **"Storytelling & Crafts"**, 2 PM, holiday readings by professional storyteller Jane Dorfman, Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, free.

Wednesday, December 14: **PCA board meeting**, 7:30 PM, Palisades Comm. Church, 5200 Cathedral Ave., open to all.

Thursday, December 15: **The Eric Felten Jazz Orchestra performs The Duke Ellington Nutcracker Suite**, 8 PM & 10 PM, Blues Alley, 1073 Wisconsin Avenue, reservations required, 337-4141, www.bluesalley.com.

Saturday, December 17: **Friends of the Palisades "Sorting Saturdays"**, 10 AM-Noon, spare an hour once a month to help sort books, no experience required, stay as long as you like, Palisades Library, 282-3139.

Saturday, December 17: **Parent's Day Out**, 2-6 PM, leave your children while you do some kid-free shopping or just relax, \$10 for crafts and snacks, please also bring a non-perishable food donation for SOME, Palisades Community Church, see above, registration required, 966-7929.

Tuesday, December 20: **The Palisades Stamp Club**, 7:30 PM, Palisades Library.

Tuesday, December 20: **The Palisades Book Club**, 7 PM, Palisades Library.

Thursday, December 22-Friday, December 30: **"Alexander Who's Not Not Not Not Not Going to Move" musical**, 1:30 & 3:30 PM, Kennedy Center Terrace Theater, ages 5 and older, prices vary, 416-8500, www.kennedy-center.org.

Sunday, December 25: **DPW Leaf Collection for areas west of Chain Bridge Road**, see above.

Monday, December 26-Friday, December 30: **Adventure Theatre presents "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"**, 11 AM & 1:30 PM, Glen Echo Park, see above.

Sunday, January 1: **Inertiad**, 8 AM, bring your bike, skateboard or other transportation to the CCT bridge crossing the Dalecarlia Aqueduct.

Sunday, January 1: **DPW Leaf Collection for areas east of Chain Bridge Road**, see above.

Tuesday, January 3-Saturday, January 14: **DPW Christmas Tree Pick-Up**, place undecorated, bare holiday trees at the curb, after that trees should be placed with trash on your regular collection day, www.dpw.dc.gov.

Saturday, January 14-Sunday, February 19: **The Puppet Company Playhouse presents "Tales of Beatrix Potter"**, 11:30 AM & 1 PM, Glen Echo Park, see above.

from the.....

PRESIDENT'S DESK



A neighbor from Cleveland Park observed to me that the Palisades Citizens Association “has always been an organization that punches above its weight.” I and many others have always thought of the Palisades as a heavyweight class neighborhood, but it is important to take a moment and salute the issues the PCA is active on and the volunteers who

make it all happen. There is a lot on our all-volunteer plate, and we should both thank PCA volunteers for their hard work and make an individual commitment to make a contribution.

One major initiative for next year will be to further build our membership under the leadership of Caroline Ervin. Being a member provides a host of benefits, including:

- Advocacy: Our bylaws charge the PCA to protect the interests and rights of residents and businesses. This includes alerting the District bureaucracy of our concerns, such as paving, continuing with the renovation of Palisades Park, and making sure violators of DC construction and zoning codes are held accountable.

This also includes weighing in on issues ranging from the transportation of Washington Aqueduct sludge to making sure Sibley Hospital expansion plans are transparent and responsive to neighborhood concerns.

- Community Events: Members can participate and attend PCA events such as Family Night at the Fire Station, The July 4 Celebration, and PCA regular meetings at the Rec Center

the first Tuesday of every month. One idea that we hope to revive is an Easter Egg hunt at the Rec Center, which would be a great neighborhood event for parents and their kids.

- Community Involvement: PCA members have a wide range of opportunities to become involved in the Palisades community through the PCA, from serving as a board member to helping tend the MacArthur Boulevard medians, to helping out at events and monthly meetings.

- Communication: Members receive this newsletter, which is a great way to keep abreast of community events and issues. The PCA is proud to have supported important projects such as Alice Stewart’s history of the Palisades, which is available for sale (and while I am at it, an excellent Christmas gift!).

There are many ways you can make a contribution. You can serve on Caroline Ervin’s membership committee, get plugged in via the Palisades listserv on the web, or volunteer for the July 4 Parade & Picnic, to name only a few options. We are also searching for a new newsletter editor. For more information, please call PCA Administrator Anne Ourand, 363-7441, and she can put you in touch with the right people. Together we can protect the unique quality of life here in the Palisades, continue to improve, and have a neighborhood that is the heavyweight champ of DC.

A great example of Palisades neighbors coming together continues to be our fundraising appeal to support the neighborhood coalition Concerned Neighbors. Concerned Neighbors works to address the Washington Aqueduct’s plans to truck water residuals through our neighborhood (see page 1). To date, we have raised over \$12,000 from more than 150 neighbors.

—Spence Spencer, PCA President

Palisades Lore, continued from page 1

Alice Stewart, author of the just-published history of The Palisades, will talk about her book and sign copies for sale.

In addition Nancy Kassner, Archaeologist for the City of Washington, and Stephen Potter, Regional Archaeologist for the National Park Service National Capital Region, will examine and identify artifacts found in this area. The purpose is to gain a better understanding of our heritage.

Please bring in your treasures (both isolated objects and larger collections) such as pieces of pottery or glass, Civil War relics, or arrowheads, and any information which you have about when and where they were found. This knowledge will be

recorded and the objects photographed, with your permission, which will help to provide a fuller historic context for the people who occupied this area long ago.

The Palisades is known to be rich in cultural resources. Residents here have found a variety of artifacts while digging victory gardens in World War II and even earlier, and many artifacts have been found in connection with additions to old buildings or with new construction. This is a unique opportunity to have your artifacts identified, in writing, and for us to contribute to what is known about past settlement and land use.

—Alice Stewart, PCA Historian

ART IN THE PALISADES

Scooter Flaherty will be showing his smaller paintings at the post office during December and January.

Flaherty lives in the Palisades and makes a living as a general contractor. Miraculously he finds time to make paintings full of the light and color of the Palisades.

—*Sheila Rotner*



committee report: PALISADES COMMUNITY FUND

At its October 26 meeting, the Palisades Community Fund (PCF) recommended funding for two grants.

The Hardy Recreation Center in the southern end of the Palisades offers tennis courts, a playground, after school programs and playing fields. Over the past five years, in partnership with the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and with previous grants from the PCF, the Friends of Hardy have overseen the design, layout, purchase and installation of new equipment and regular maintenance of the Hardy playgrounds. In the past twelve months, the grounds surrounding the Center have undergone a facelift, paid for by DPR, including a new fence and gates for the playground, and re-surfacing the sidewalks and play areas. PCF unanimously recommended funding the request of \$1,860, or 2/3 of the total cost, to supplement this with landscaping, which was not included in the DPR funds. In addition to improving the appearance to the entrance, this should help preserve the new surfaces.

The December 2005 meeting of the Palisades Citizens Association will be devoted to Palisades History (see p. 1). An exciting part of the meeting will be an “Artifacts Roadshow” wherein neighborhood residents will be asked to bring to the meeting artifacts they have found on their properties; experts will be on hand to identify and photograph the items. The National Park Service will then plot the information on a GIS map, showing the distribution of artifacts and documenting the Palisades’ rich history

of occupation by Native Americans and role in the Colonial and Civil Wars. PCF unanimously recommended a grant of up to \$1,000 to pay for a mailing to over 2500 households to promote the broadest possible participation in this meeting.

—*Nancy Hammond,
Chair, PCF*

July 4 2005 Tent Sponsors

Ann Hand, 333-2979
 Bedrock Management, Buffalo Billiards, 337-5550
 Blacksalt, 342-9101
 Café Ettore, 244-0054
 Chryssa Wolfe & Hanlon Design Build, 244-2942
 CVS, 965-6546
 Grand Lodge F.A.A.M. of DC, 686-1811
 Institute for Spiritual Development, 362-2456
 MacArthur Liquors, 338-1433
 Makin & Assoc. of Remax One, 678-2697
 Safeway, 337-5649
 Sibley Hospital, 537-4000
 Whole Foods, www.wholefoods.com

Parade Patrons

Capital Antiques, 966-4887
 DC Living Real Estate, 337-0501
 Dennis O’Leary DDS, 966-8108
 Dorothy Holland Lessard, 362-8454
 HD Johnson, 244-6555
 Howard Eales Inc., 363-4088
 Listrani’s, 363-0620
 Mauck, Zantzing & Associates, 363-8501
 Our Lady of Victory, 337-4835
 Parker’s Exxon, 337-3144
 St Patrick’s Episcopal Church, 342-2800
 St Patrick’s Episcopal Day School, 342-2804
 The UPS Store, 966-4434
 Barbara Zuckerman

Raise Voices, continued from page 1

pollution from dust and diesel particulate matter, and the noise of heavy trucks lumbering down MacArthur Boulevard, Dalecarlia Parkway and elsewhere.

The Montgomery County Planning Commission and the Montgomery County Council offered to help the Corps locate a site in the county, closer to the Beltway that would remove trucks from residential streets. This offer was rejected. We all recognize the Aqueduct's requirement to observe EPA regulations, but the Aqueduct staff and the Corps must also recognize and address the legitimate concerns of the rate-paying public whom they serve, and the neighbors with whom they live and work.

It is time for the Corps to take seriously the concerns of the DC and Montgomery County governments and citizens, and to work with them to find a permanent solution that would be protective of the Potomac River and the community.

We need to halt the Corps' plan now. Please write, call and email the following representatives with your concerns:

Tom Jacobus
 Washington Aqueduct
 5900 MacArthur Boulevard
 Washington, DC 20016-2514
 202-764-0031
thomas.p.jacobus@usace.army.mil

Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton
 2136 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington DC 20515

And the following, all of whom can be reached at:
 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
 Washington, DC 20004

Kathy Patterson, Suite 107
 202-724-8062
 Fax 202-724-8118
kpatterson@dccouncil.us

The Honorable Anthony A. Williams, Suite 600
mayor@dc.gov

Robert C. Bobb, Suite 310
 Deputy Mayor/City Administrator

Linda W. Cropp, Suite 504
 Chairman, DC Council
cropp@dccouncil.us

Kwame R. Brown, Suite 406
kbrown@dccouncil.us

Carol Schwartz, Suite 404
schwartz@dccouncil.us

David Catania, Suite 110
dcatania@dccouncil.us

Phil Mendelson, Suite 402
pmendelson@dccouncil.us

—Spence Spencer, PCA President



Concerned Neighbors including the Palisades Citizens Association/ANC 3D demonstrate against the Army Corps of Engineers plans to build an industrial facility behind Sibley Hospital and bring 20-ton truck traffic into residential neighborhoods including Palisades. The demonstration took place on Wednesday, October 26 during morning rush hour in front of the Washington Aqueduct Facility at 5900 MacArthur Boulevard. Photos by Rachel Thompson.

neighborhood NOTICES

PCA Membership Update: We welcomed 3 new memberships and registered 86 renewals in October. Check your mailing label to see if your membership has expired and if so, please send your dues (\$15 individual, \$25 household, \$50 sponsor, \$100 patron, \$300 life), made out to PCA, PO Box 40603, WDC 20016. Thank you for your continued support.

Mohican Swimming Pool, with its newly renovated backyard and picnic area, is accepting applications for the 2006 season. The pool is located at 7117 MacArthur Boulevard and admissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. For an application or more information, visit www.mohicanpool.com or email mohicanpool@yahoo.com.

Ten thousand pounds of books, backpacks, school supplies and clothes were collected and delivered to Anniston Elementary School in Gulfport, Mississippi on October 4, 2005. About 65-70% of the donated items came from the collection at Key school, pictured below, and the rest from a combined cub and

girl scout collection in Crownsville, Maryland. In addition cash donations of over \$2000 were received which defrayed the travel costs. The balance was donated to the Anniston PTA.

The 2 trucks pulling trailers were emptied by the Gulfport Fire Department. All of the backpacks have been distributed to some very happy children. The books are being catalogued and put on library shelves, into classrooms and home to children, many of whom lost everything. We are still collecting cash donations; checks can be made payable to Anniston Elementary School PTA and sent to me at 5525 Hawthorne Place, NW 20016.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this important effort.

Julie Koczela, julie.koczela@verizon.net

The new, blue street sign in the 4900 block of MacArthur Boulevard is an **honorary street designation sign for Sergeant John Ashley** of the Metropolitan Police Department, who died in the line of duty in May 2004. Because he conducted speed enforcement on MacArthur Boulevard, a number of

people in the community thought it would be fitting to remember Sgt. Ashley's service and sacrifice with an honorary street designation. There is also a very handsome memorial stone placed in the median strip of MacArthur Boulevard and Ashby Street.

There was a record crowd on Sunday, October 30 for the **Fall Palisades Park Cleanup**. Certainly the beautiful weather was one reason that more than 40 community residents

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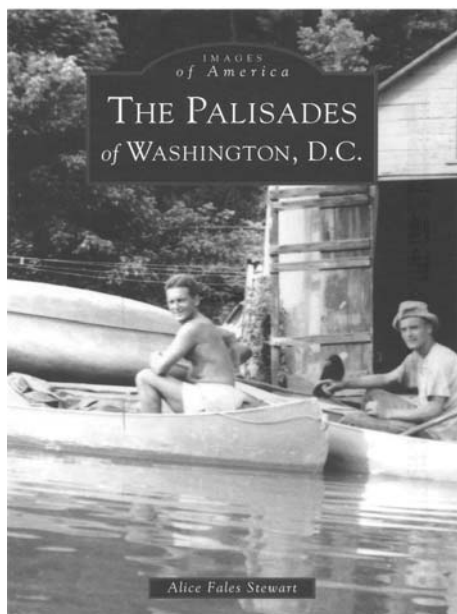


Notices, continued from page 6

(including many NEW faces) turned out for our twice annual park cleanup. We were able to de-litter the entire park, cut back the landscaped gardens along the playground and mulch for the winter, weed and clean the area around the fountain, and most importantly, reclaim the community gardens. The community gardens have been cleared and plots are once again available for planting and tending. If anyone is interested in maintaining a plot in the community gardens they should contact Lindsey Truitt at lindseytruitt@verizon.net.

Jimmy Ervin, Chair, Friends of Palisades Park, jervin@total-velocity.com

Get your copy of **The Palisades of Washington DC**, a history of our neighborhood initially written by Harold Gray and recently updated by PCA Historian



Alice Stewart. Books will be available at the December 6 general membership meeting; a portion of the proceeds benefits the PCA. To order by mail, complete the form below and mail it, along with a check payable to Alice Stewart, to: 5031 Eskridge Terrace NW, WDC 20016-3444.

Family Night is 5-Alarm Success

PCA's Family Night at the Fire Station, an event co-hosted by the local firefighters and the Palisades Citizens Association, was once again a terrific evening. Family Night, this year on October 23, has become a favorite fall tradition here in the Palisades. A delay in turning back the clocks added to an unusually warm evening in which families with children of all ages ate, drank, danced, climbed on fire-trucks and enjoyed each other's company.

Firefighters Brett Sutor and Mike Skahill were the driving force behind barbecuing 250 pounds of pork, 100 pounds of chicken and 40 pounds of beef. Neighbors rounded out the meal with side dishes and desserts. Everyone had plenty to eat, and there were even leftovers! New to the menu this year was Starbuck's coffee -- in the past several years, a hot drink would have been most welcome.

The children had a ball climbing the trucks, decorating cookies, making necklaces and most importantly, going through the haunted forest walk organized by very ambitious and creative students and teachers from the Lab School. Thanks to Judy Kirkpatrick and her team for this special treat.

Everyone enjoyed the rousing bluegrass music by Bob Perilla and his Hillbilly Band. If you loved them, you can catch them every Wednesday night down at Madams Organ in Adams Morgan.

This year's raffle raised \$376 to help offset food costs. We thank our donors for making the raffle possible: Blacksalt, Marvelous Market, Potomac Video and Starbucks Coffee.

Thank you to everyone who helped, especially event organizers Eliza Dunn and Leslie Archer. It truly is a wonderful community event, and we are so thankful to have such a devoted group of fire fighters at Engine 29 who make it all possible. We look forward to another great night next year!

—Anne Ourand, PCA Administrator

I would like _____ copy/copies of The Palisades of Washington DC. A check for the amount listed below is enclosed (DC sales tax and postage and handling are included in the prices). Delivery is free on orders of 5 or more copies.

1 book	\$22.80	5 books	\$107.50
2 books	\$45.00	6 books	\$129.00
3 books	\$67.00	7 books	\$150.50
4 books	\$89.00	8 books	\$172.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone and/or email for questions: _____ email: _____



Prepare for the Holidays in the Palisades

Key School Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale

Saturday, December 10, 12:15-5 PM ♦ Sunday, December 11, 10 AM-4 PM

Wachovia Bank Parking Lot

To help sell trees (kids get community service points), call Pete Larkin, 244-9152.



Lion's Club Christmas Trees

December 3-18 ♦ MacArthur Boulevard Safeway Parking Lot

Monday-Friday, 3-9 PM, Saturday & Sunday, 10 AM-7 PM

Supports vision care mission, 966-4418.

The Palisades Citizens Association Membership: Individual: \$15; Household: \$25; Sponsor: \$50; Patron: \$100.

To join, or for additional information, contact Administrator as listed below.

The Newsletter of The Palisades Citizens Association is published October-June by The Palisades Citizens Association, P.O. Box 40603, Palisades Station, Washington, DC 20016.

Material must be submitted to the editor by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the next month's edition.

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**THE NEWS
PALISADES**
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All email addresses are firstname.lastname@palisadesdc.org.

Administrator: Anne Ourand, 363-7441, palisadesdc@hotmail.com, www.palisadesdc.org.