

10964

APR. 1980 NO.30

This community newsletter publishes information, events, problems and concerns affecting the people of Palisades. 10964 needs your moral and financial support. Please send a contribution for 10964 to Box 201, Palisades, NY 10964. With your help you'll find 10964 in your mailbox every month.

A CIVIC ASSOCIATION FOR PALISADES? Coping with community problems is a hit-or-miss situation in Palisades. Many people have expressed the need of a central information/action source to consider solutions for existing and new problems. For instance, besides our on-going traffic problems with Rockleigh Industrial Park, we are faced with other new threats.

1. The owner of the property at the corner of 340 and Oak Tree Rd. wants to build a warehouse. Zoned for Laboratory-Office, he needs a variance. At the Mar. 5 zoning board meeting, it was denied only because the warehouse was to be built on speculation. If he comes back with a tenant, the variance will be granted, according to the zoning office.
2. A company plans to build an electronic parts assembly plant on 9W, Palisades. The Town Board approved their application for low-interest financing through the Orange County Industrial Development Authority. This property is Laboratory-Office zoning but by special permit could conceivably slip into an industrial complex extending from 9W to 340 with resulting increase of noise and traffic. These are serious, threatening concerns. Maybe a Civic Assoc. is what we need as the information gathering center to bring people together to pool their ideas and energies and act on problems. There will be an information meeting at the Community Center on Thurs. April 24 at 8 PM. Doug Brunson, a former President of the Piermont Civic Association will tell us what a Civic Assoc. can and cannot do and how it works for Piermont. - *Dossi Thayer*

COPPERHEADS With spring here and summer on the way, it is wise to remember that the copperhead snakes who live in the Palisades area will shortly emerge from the deep dens where they hibernate during the winter. While the reptiles are not aggressive and bites rarely result in death, they are poisonous and a bite could result in severe illness. Precautions should, therefore, be taken and should be taught to children who like to explore the woodlands and the rock talus of the Palisades along the river. "If you see a snake be very careful," advises Jack Mead, director of the Trailside Museum at Bear Mountain. "Keep away from it and let it escape -- which is all it wants to do. And don't ever, *ever* pick up a snake, even if it seems harmless. A baby copperhead may look like a garter snake to a child, but it can bite." This was also the advice of John Serrao, naturalist at the Greenbrook Sanctuary in New Jersey. He warned particularly that everyone should be especially careful of large flat objects lying on the ground -- such as an old piece of plywood -- under which a snake might have crawled for shade during the summer. Normally copperheads go out at night for food and sleep during the day, but they can react quickly if suddenly disturbed. In Palisades there are particular areas where special caution should be used and eyes kept on the alert: woodland paths, fresh water ponds in the woods, ledges and crevices of the Palisades and in the Lamont Sanctuary, old or new stone walls. Forty-five years ago when a bounty of 25¢/head was paid for copperheads, the largest concentration was found in the demolished brick and concrete Standard Oil build- (cont. pg. 2)

LIFELINE FOR WILDLIFE (the only agency of its kind in the County) provides comprehensive, professional, emergency and intensive care for injured and orphaned wildlife. They are a non-profit, tax exempt, organization receiving no grants and no municipal, state or federal funding. Programs are financed entirely through the generosity of private individuals. We are "on the lookout" for: lumber, paint, wire, tools and hardware, fencing, garbage cans, hoses, furniture, rags, blankets, linen, towels, pillows, heating pads and lamps, electric heaters, incubators, bird houses, seed, dog and cat food, minnows, crayfish, wild nuts and fruits, dog kennels and crates, dog houses and pens, airplane shipping crates, cat carriers, aquariums, bird cages, rabbit and rodent cages. We are a small foundation filling an *enormous* need. Every contribution is urgently needed and deeply appreciated. Dedicated volunteers are always needed; inquiries are welcome. All contributions are tax deductible (receipt mailed on request). For further information call C. Nawoichyk (0971), Palisades volunteer. - *Cookie Nawoichyk*

SENIOR CITIZENS The Senior Citizens of Palisades are planning a Rummage Sale for their benefit on Saturday, May 24, from 9 AM to 1 PM. The group would appreciate members of the community saving good used articles of clothing, books, bric-a-brac or any other items which are in good condition and saleable. Further details will appear in the next issue of 10964. - *Laura Ebmeyer*

VRIESSENDAEL The first settlement hereabouts was "Vriessendael," which David Pieterszoun DeVries established in 1640 in "a beautiful and pleasant place," a meadow on the shore of the Hudson under a mountain. There has always been a tradition that this was in Tappan, including Piermont and the marshes between Piermont and Snedens Landing, although some historians have questioned this. In 1969, however, Reginald McMahon suggested convincingly that it must have been Edgewater, New Jersey, where Revolutionary War maps show that there used to be an extensive marsh and a couple of rivers. He quotes Thomas Demarest as proving that an English *mijl*, or league, was equal to four or four and a half English miles. If one reads the translation of DeVries' account with this in mind, it seems quite clear that his main plantation was near Edgewater, although he also owned the Tappan marshes. "On February 10th, 1640", DeVries wrote, "I began to make a plantation a league and a half or two leagues above the fort [that is, about eight miles above the tip of Manhattan] as there was there a fine location and full thirty-one morgens of maize land where there were no trees to remove... I went there to live, half on account of the pleasure of it, as it was all situated along the river.... The 15th of April I went with my sloop to Fort Orange [Albany] where I wanted to examine the land which is on the river. We arrived at Tapaen [sic] in the evening, where a large flat of about two or three hundred morgens of clay soil lies under the mountains, three or four feet above the water. A creek which comes from the highland runs through it, (cont. pg. 2)

(Copperheads) ings which are still to be found along the new bicycle path. Both Messers. Mead and Serrao emphasized the extreme unlikelihood of a bite, provided proper precautions are taken. In the event of a bite, however, both naturalists urged that rather than trying to draw out the poison by the old incision method, the victim should be taken to a hospital as quickly as possible. - *Margaret Parton Hussey*

ARTS AND LETTERS *Andrea Williams* says she is "studying like mad" -- working in all aspects of watercolor: the human figure, atmosphere (clouds, rain, fog), textures. Recent accomplishments were displayed at a wine, cheese and art show at the Nyack Field House; Andrea was asked to participate along with other local artists. Commissioned to paint houses for several clients as well, our Closter Road neighbor is kept busy. Cartographer *John Tremblay* is designing a general map of the Algerian War for a forthcoming Random House trade book; he continues to work on graphs, diagrams and maps for a Wiley geography textbook, aimed at college students. Our neighbor *Louis Frederick*, as ABC Wide World of Sports associate director, oversaw coverage of his 8th Olympics this year. He is, as this goes to press, returning from Munich where Eric Heiden was speed-skating. While Lou was in Lake Placid, he heard daughter *Glyn Frederick* perform with the Crane School of Music choir; the group was chosen to sing at opening and closing Olympics ceremonies.

[Would you like to be *Arts & Letters* editor? call (2995).]

(Vriessendael) on which fine water mills could be erected. I bought this flat from the Indians as it was only three leagues above my plantation and five leagues from the fort". DeVries made friends with the Indians, and his plantation flourished until Governor Kieft's massacre of Indians encamped near Jersey City precipitated a war in 1643. Before friendly Indians could intervene, the farm buildings and plantation of Vriessendael were laid waste. Discouraged, DeVries returned to Holland, and no trace remains of his pleasant settlement. - *Alice Munro Haagensen*

[This is the second in a series on historic Palisades.]

PEOPLE AND PARTICULARS The Swan Street Webers are busy. First Marion and Gilbert's daughter Ruthie -- married to Patrick Anable and living in Nyack -- had a baby boy, Jason Patrick, on Jan 31. Then Gilbert's across-the-street brother Stanley and wife Virginia returned from Florida after touring from one coast to the other. Finally Marion and Gilbert's daughter Ellen announced her engagement to former Palisades resident James Cauffield (they lived on Dakota St. some ten years ago). Jim, a stage electrician at the St. James Theatre, and Ellen will marry on May 17, at a noon Nuptial Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Tappan. Jim will be backstage when *P.T. Barnum* opens at the St. James next month./The Hines have lost Sammie, their small 2-year old dog with reindeer coloring. Sammie was last seen around Swan Street and the Hines (5450) ask you to watch for her./ Congratulations to Edith Ryan, she made the dean's list at St. Thomas Aquinas College. Edith, who will graduate in 1983, is clearly not Palisades youngest college student

but might well be our most enthusiastic!/*10964* welcomes to Palisades Desiree and Jeff Greene of Washington Spring Rd. and their daughter Heather; Diane and Charlie Langmuir and daughter Mollie of Iroquois Ave., Isabel and Ken Pepper and daughter Jamie, Oak Tree Road, and Murray Roujansky, Oak Tree Road.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Tappan Zee Elementary School Teacher Jane Scott teaches many instruments; her day is hectic as she travels to and from the district schools organizing recitals and giving classes. This lovely lady also has been donating her time twice a week after school to teach string students at TZES -- free of charge!... Ms. Scott's gift of time and effort is accomplishing many things: increased student interest in their instruments, excitement as they all play together (so far about 25 kids have signed up), a more serious approach to their instruments, and stronger motivation... Jane Scott is a jovial, energetic, no-nonsense woman... uniquely dedicated, a rarity in this day. All of us in the community sincerely thank her for her generosity, for Ms. Scott is what education is all about. - *Leslie Hayes*

HEALTH In Palisades, on April 19, the Palisades Presbyterian Church will sponsor a family health screening, from 11:00 to 2:30, free to residents. The screening will include measurements of height and weight, blood pressure testing for hypertension, urine testing for diabetes, and a health-hazard appraisal. Early detection of health problems has changed the prognosis of many diseases and has contributed to better living. So stop by, and bring your children too, on the 19th. It's free! - *Virginia W. Barrett, RN MED, Myra B. Richardson, RN MPH*

LIBRARY THANK-GOODNESS-IT'S-THURSDAY: April 3 - Celebrate Easter with us. Bring and decorate your own eggs. Registration is required by Apr. 1. Ages: 6-11. \$.25 each child; 10 - Mr. Jerry Prior, magician extraordinaire, will perform for us today. Registration by Apr. 8 required. \$.50 fee; 17 - Today become a puppet maker. Perhaps like Geppetto's puppet, Pinocchio, yours will come to life too. Ages: 6-11. Please register by Apr. 10 for Apr. 17 and 24 programs. Fee: \$.50; 24 - We will complete our puppets today and begin creating puppet plays for them. Storytime will continue throughout April for children 4 and 5 years old. Thursdays - 3:00-3:30 PM. *Peter and the Wolf* will be performed by musicians from SUNY Purchase Campus. In addition to the musical presentation, there will be a dance portion featuring student dancers choreographed and directed by Patricia Wilde Bardyguine, presently director of the American Ballet Theatre. The dual program is scheduled for Sunday, Apr. 27, 2 PM in Dunn Hall, St. Catherine's School, Western Highway, Blauvelt. Admission Free. - *Beatrice Agnew*

FOLK DANCING What's this Folk-Dance thing in Palisades? It's a great way for the entire family to spend Saturday night, go home invigorated. Jeff and Garry teach new dances every week and review them during the following three sessions. It's held Saturdays 8-11 PM nearby, at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. General Admission is \$2.00, \$1.00 for students and senior citizens. Refreshments are served. - *Jeffrey Weissel*

LAMONT LOG Dennis Hayes and Marcus Langseth, scientists at Lamont and residents of Palisades, recently attended a meeting in Houston, Texas, to re-assess scientific objectives of the Ocean Margin Drilling Program (OMD) which has received so much press and media publicity. There were scientists from all over the country, representatives from the major oil companies, and representatives from the National Science Foundation at this meeting. The projected funding of OMD is \$700 million over the next ten years and involves equal contributions by the National Science Foundation and the major United States oil companies. The Ocean Margin Drilling Program addresses questions regarding the earliest formation of the continental margins and should provide useful information in assessing the oil and gas potential in the deep waters off the East Coast of the U.S.A. The drilling will be done aboard the government-owned *GLOMAR EXPLORER*, and an important element of the work will be geophysical studies and sample analyses. Although the program will focus on passive continental margins, it will also investigate other basic scientific problems as paleo-oceanography, genesis of the ocean crust, and formation of deep-sea trenches. Because OMD will likely involve deep drilling in a few locations, an element of the scientific community believes that continuation of work on other important scientific problems, requiring many holes in many locations, will be temporarily set aside. The purpose of the Houston meeting was to attempt to develop a scientific plan that would satisfy both the academic community and the oil companies, and which would be plausible within the time and money framework of the project. - *Leslie Hayes*



T.Z.H.S. NEWS During the past month, Tappan Zee High School has seen quiet, peaceful days in almost every aspect, with the athletic dept. an exception. Sports activities included a tragic wrestling defeat to Suffern: 39-12, in which, prior to the event, the team members shaved their heads to "psych" the opposition. This loss moved TZ into second place in the RCPSAL. In basketball, TZ defeated Nanuet and won their division, but did not win the championship because of Spring Valley's unbeaten winning streak. Swimming for TZ continued to do well, as usual, winning the section 9 (Rockland, Westchester, Orange, and Ulster counties) championships and the RCPSAL at West Point. - *Ivan Gilbert*

GALLEY As a child, Connie Price ate this dish with roast pork or beef. She assumes it is German in origin for her French mother and father lived near the Franco-German border, in the line of numerous invasions. Surrender your palate to:

CONNIE'S CABBAGE

- 2 lbs. red cabbage, washed, cored and cut into 1 or 2 inch squares
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons plain red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon caraway seeds which you may crush or leave whole
- salt
- boiling water



Cover cabbage with boiling, salted water, cook about 8 - 10 minutes. Drain well. Melt butter in pot. Do not brown, add vinegar and seeds, add cabbage and toss well. Goes well with pork, beef or game.

SWIM CLUB Palisades Swim Club memberships are available. Please call Marie Firestone (0599) for information. The swim club offers tennis, a children's pool, an adult's pool, shuffle board, table tennis, swimming lessons, tennis lessons and a competitive swim team for boys and girls ages 7-18. - *Bill Larkin*

BASEBALL Late registration for the Palisades-Sparkill Baseball League is still possible for boys and girls (junior or senior division). Call Don Bracken (1765) or Bill Larkin (6589). Registration fees are \$15 per child with a maximum per family of \$25. Please return last year's uniform and receive your refund. - *Don Bracken, Bill Larkin*

NOTICE If you are sending your child to a private school next year, you must submit a written request for transportation by Apr. 1, the day you receive this newsletter, to the So. Orangetown School District. This cut-off date will be "strictly adhered to, and enforced," according to the administration office.

PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER Last month it was suggested in 10964 that there be a revival of folk-singing nights in Palisades. Bill Printz and Lara Babalis have agreed to lead a Community Folk Sing on Wed. Apr. 23 at 8 PM. Everyone's invited, please come. The Palisades Soccer Club, which plays in the Bergen County Amateur Soccer Assoc. will hold a soccer clinic on two Saturday mornings in May, the 10th and 17th at 10 AM. The sessions are open to boys and girls ages 7-12. A \$1 donation per session to the community center is suggested. Please call Shawn Fredrick with questions and reservations (3194). Our annual Art, Wine and Cheese Festival is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 4. Many thanks to all those who have sent in their 1980 dues. Please let us know how you'd like to see the building used. - *Judy Englander*

SUGGESTION BOX

If the cross-walks were clearly defined at the 9W-Oak Tree Road Intersection, traffic would be more aware that pedestrians cross there. And the cross-walks should be located on the north side of the intersection, a safer side because it is further away from the downgrade. Painted cross-walks would also guide our children and others to cross on that safer side. - *Floyd McCoy*

Write to 10964, Box 201, and share your ideas.

SUPPORT YOUR NEWSLETTER 10964 is in need of funds. As the issues carry more news and information, printer's costs accelerate in addition to the expected inflationary rise in charges. We want to continue to bring you a larger newsletter but can do so only with your help. Please send your checks today to 10964, Box 201. The staff, and the community, thanks Dennis and Leslie Hayes, Lynn Sykes, Dossi and Reg Thayer, Carol and George Vlahos for their contributions.

CALENDAR

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| April 3, 10, 17, 24 | Thurs. children's activities | | Library |
| 5, 12, 19, 26 | Folkdancing | 8:00-11:00 | Church |
| 19 | Health screening | 11:00- 2:30 | Church |
| 24 | Civic Assoc. Information Meeting | 8:00 | Community Center |
| 27 | <i>Peter and the Wolf</i> | 2:00 | (See Library Article) |

SCOUTS Feb. 26 Pack #57 celebrated Scouting's 50th anniversary at their Annual Blue and Gold Dinner held at St. John's Church in Piermont. Both parents and scouts enjoyed a variety of home cooked dinners. On March 4 the entire Troop traveled to the General Motors Plant in Tarrytown and were treated to a very interesting guided tour of the plant. The Pinewood Derby was held on March 25. Each scout built his own race car for entry in the Derby.
Chris Sullivan

STAFF WANTED 10964 seeks three individuals to oversee *Arts and Letters*, *Galley* and *Suggestion Box* columns. You would be responsible for writing and submitting typed copy once a month. Also desperately needed: person with copy-editing expertise. If interested call Carol Elevitch (2995).

CLASSIFIED Ads are free. Send yours to Box 201 or call Jeanne Boose (7154). Donations requested from businesses or non-Palisadians.

CLASSIFIED



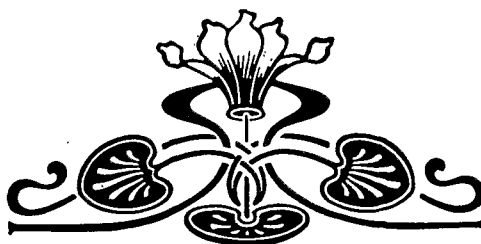
FOR SALE: Acoustical ceiling tile, tricycle, \$5. McCoy (4744).

FOR SALE: brand new Sears hot water heater thermostat (6589).

FOR SALE: Realistic Stereo/turndtable, 2 speakers, dust cover, hardly ever used, \$100. 3 bikes - lady's full-size coaster bike, girl's Schwinn coaster bike and spider bike. Scott (2165).

IF AT ANY time you do not receive your copy of 10964, call Jane Bernick (8382).

FOR SALE: '71 Vega. Good running condition. \$400 (3207).



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