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# 10964

MAY 1980 NO.31

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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.

## THE HUYNH-DANG FAMILY

Andy Norman contacted 10964 this month because he hopes the story of his family's experience with group sponsorship of Vietnamese boat people will inspire other Palisades residents to become sponsors.

The Normans became actively involved in sponsorship when Bob and Mary Crable of Sparkill approached them with the idea of joining a group of sponsors. The Crables had learned that people with diverse backgrounds can often be more effective in sponsoring refugees than individuals can. Soon there were ten enthusiastic group members: the Crables, the Normans, Celeste Zaferiou (a teacher at Tappan Zee Elementary School), Sister Ellen Rita and Ruth Gerardi (colleagues of Bob's at St. Dominic's), Orangetown County Legislator Ed Clark and his wife Marie (a public health nurse), and Eleanor Utzig (from a county mental health program). As a group, they discovered that the sponsoring process is amazingly simple and informal. All that was necessary was for them to decide the size family they felt they could handle successfully and how many should be employable adults or dependent children. They also determined whether they would prefer working with people of urban or peasant-rural background. After these decisions were made, the group declared itself to the International Rescue Committee in New York and within a week Bob (cont. pg. 3)

## INDIAN POINT-POKER

*We are all involved in a compulsory game of Russian roulette. The probability of nuclear accident is equivalent to having a twenty-barreled pistol -- containing one bullet -- pressed against our heads.*

According to information obtained from Palisades resident Lynn Sykes, a seismologist, the probability of an earthquake occurring (with a greater magnitude than the Indian Point facility is built to withstand) is one in twenty within the lifetime of the nuclear plant (40 years). Lamont scientist Sykes -- whose analyses of the Indian Point situation has been reported in the Press and on T.V. and before governmental hearings -- feels his greatest contribution is to deal in scientific fact and theory concerning the Indian Point dilemma, steering clear of pro and con arguments.

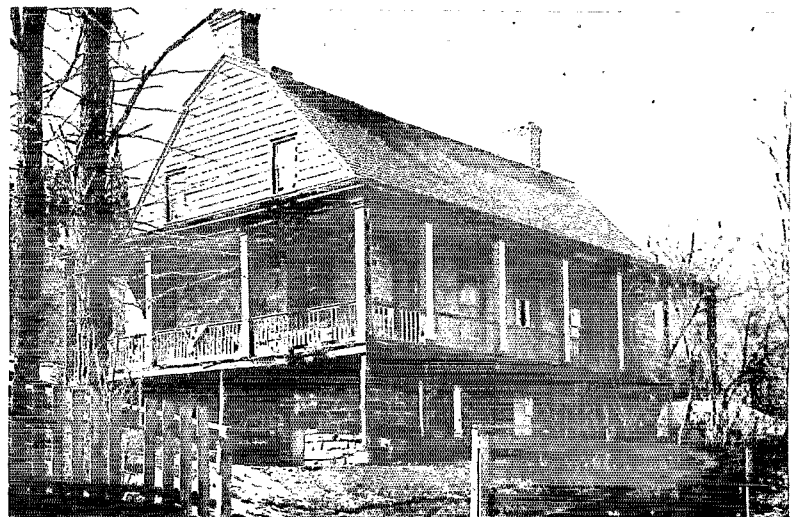
Let's look at the information:  
1) Indian Point is (cont. pg. 2)

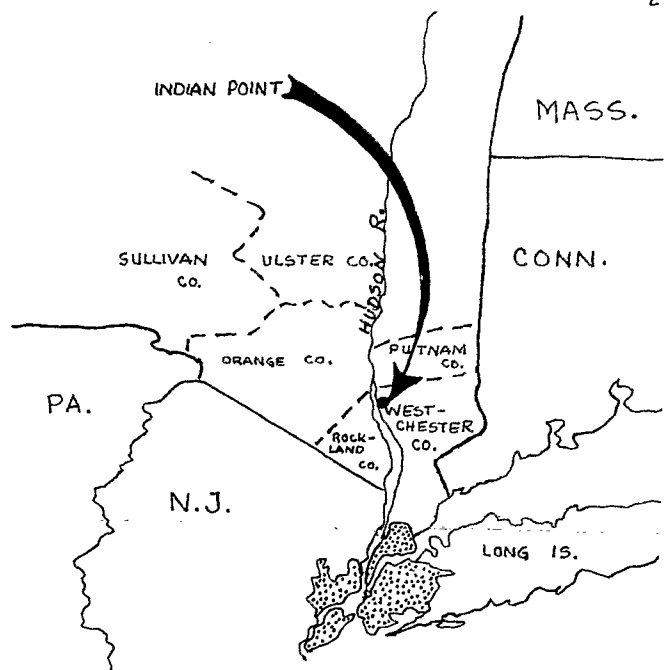
## FIRST EUROPEAN SETTLERS IN PALISADES

In the seventeenth century the land around New York and up the Hudson was handed out by the authorities in New York -- Dutch until 1664, then English -- to large proprietors for token rents. These proprietors often sold and resold the land until finally it ended in the hands of settlers who wanted to live there.

The land along the river which included the site of today's Palisades was first granted in 1669 by New Jersey to a Claude Valott for a yearly rent of twelve shillings, but he soon sold it to a Scottish physician and land speculator named Dr. George Lockhart. Lockhart didn't keep it long either. He obtained patents from New Jersey in 1685 and New York in 1687, and two months later he sold the whole patent -- 3,410 acres -- to William Merritt, a former mayor of New York City for 353 pounds, 15 shillings. On the deed he called himself "George Lockhart of the City of New York"; there is no indication that he ever lived here.

William Merritt, on the other hand, soon built himself a house here, almost certainly the stone house which stands by the river north of the landing, which he called Cheer Hall. This was imposing enough to be chosen by the governor of New York as a place of refuge from a yellow fever epidemic in New York City. Lord Cornbury stayed here for three weeks in September of 1703, meeting with his Council to carry on the business of the Province. He can't have been an agreeable guest. He has been characterized as dishonest and a bigot, and was universally detested. Perhaps this experience was too much for Merritt, for in 1705 he (cont. pg. 4)





(Indian Point-Poker) closer to more people than any of the other 70 plants in the country, and is a mere 17 miles from Palisades. 2) The nuclear plant is built to withstand a magnitude 5 earthquake -- "Not a very big one" says Lynn. The Ramapo Fault -- where Indian Point is situated -- is not an equivalent geological structure to the San Andreas Fault, a more seismically active area. Yet in 1978 a less-than-magnitude 2.9 quake was "very strongly felt around Peekskill and Indian Point, smack on the Ramapo Fault," Sykes says. So relatively small earthquakes can cause a significant amount of unexpected shaking. Earthquakes' shake sometimes exceeds (or is lower than) scientific expectations, based upon a magnitude scale. A mag. 4 earthquake could shake as much as, for example, a mag. 6, resulting in a nuclear accident. Scientists simply can't predict this sort of thing. 3) Winds carrying nuclear contamination down-river may be funneled by the Palisades into our hamlet. 4) Con Ed overbuilds in anticipation of peak (summer) energy usage. Yet electrical consumption over the past few years did not accelerate as predicted. Therefore, Indian Point could probably be shut down without the need to replace it with an additional coal-power plant. Lynn feels "we need not have to make those stark choices." But electric companies find the running of excess capacity nuclear plants more economical than possible supplementary gas or oil purchases to cover peak periods; this cost could be transferred to Con Ed customers. 5) Rockland County, in danger if a nuclear accident were to occur (see map) derives no benefits from the Indian Point facility; the County's residents are supplied by the Orange and Rockland Company. 6) The individuals who regulate nuclear plants are, by-and-large, ex-Atomic Energy Commission people, usually pro

breeder-reactor types. The probability of radiation leakage at Indian Point is a random process -- it could happen the first time, or never. As the Union of Concerned Scientists calls for a shutdown of the facility citing "a clear and present danger," Harvard University physics professor Richard Wilson on the other hand compares, in terms of risk, living within 20 miles of a nuclear plant (albeit not one on a geological fault) for 150 years to residing with a cigarette smoker for 2 months, or having one chest X-ray. But it clearly behooves us all to consider, in a practical way, our proximity to Indian Point and the possibility of lowering that 1 in 20 disaster statistic. For, aside from the health-risks, property values could be affected. Homeowner's insurance plans generally exclude loss-of-property due to nuclear accident. Rockland County is vulnerable; are our politicians attuned to this situation -- are they evaluating it? In Palisades we have a number of world-renowned earthquake-watching researchers along with experts studying Hudson River radiation levels. Are the Town of Orangetown, Rep. Linda Winikow, state officials utilizing the expertise available to them, right in their own backyard? Federal regulatory experts and Con Ed's consultants and attorneys might conceivably have scientific credentials but do they have the personal interest in the Hudson River and its valley-communities? Then again, there may not be an Indian Point nuclear incident within the next 40 years. It's a gamble. And the stakes are high.

LOIS McCOY

PALISADES SENIOR CITIZENS

Our *Rummage Sale* is Saturday May 24 from 9 AM to 1 PM. We would be grateful for any articles in good condition: adult and children's clothing, accessories, jewelry, bric-a-brac, linens, small items of furniture, books, toys and games. Anything you can't use - we can sell! Donations may be left at the Palisades Community Center on Thursday afternoon from 1 - 4 PM on May 22; Friday evening from 7 - 9 PM on May 23. The sale will be held at the Community Center and will benefit our Senior Citizen's group. Refreshments will be served. Thanks for your help in making this affair a success.

LAURA EBMER, PRESIDENT

PLAYS FOR LIVING

Gertrude Macy hopes that a lot of Palisadians will keep Tuesday, June 3, at 3:30 PM open on their calendars so they can attend a play on teenage alcoholism. The play, entitled *Who Says I Can't Drink* and produced by Plays-for-Living, will be presented at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. Look for more detailed information on this in the June issue of 10964.

(Huynh-Dang) Crable and Andy Norman met five members of the Huynh-Dang family at Kennedy Airport.

The family have been with the Normans for the past few weeks but will move to an apartment in Nyack shortly. As the Normans and the other sponsors grew to know the Huynh-Dang's (Cuu, Hao, and Si Hoa Huynh -- named after their father; and Bay and Tam Dang -- named after their mother), they learned that they are children of a Chinese grocer's widow who, with the help of her other nine children, financed the escape of these five. For a considerable sum of money, the Vietnamese granted them the privilege of huddling on a 69 foot boat with several hundred other persecuted refugees. While at sea, they eluded Thai pirates, landed in Malaysia and were transferred to an island off the Malay coast where they survived for over a year on small quantities of rice alongside thousands of other boat people. Eventually, they were transferred to a "transit camp" where conditions were infinitely worse. They endured the "transit camp" for a relatively short time until the Normans welcomed them into their home. Andy says that in spite of their ordeal, "Their spirits are unbroken. They are gentle, graceful, mutually supportive, eager to work and passionate to buy freedom for their mother and as many of their brothers and sisters as possible. They are lovely people and fun to be with."

Since their arrival in March, sponsors and their friends have gathered many items for the family with help from Fay and Marvin Ellison and St. Dominic's Convent. However, they are still in need of practical clothing -- especially raincoats -- that would fit slender five-footers, pillows, blankets, towels, lamps, bureaus, shelves, alarm clocks, bicycles, tools and last, but not least, a television as it is a vital language learning tool for those who reside in a household where the country's native language is not spoken.

If you have any useful items you could donate, contact the Normans (2155). If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, the Normans or the Crables (0394) will be glad to advise you. Sponsorship is not financially draining as Medicaid along with other Federal and County agencies cover all major expenses. What is required of a sponsor is time and energy and a tremendous capacity to care for others. While considering the pros and cons of sponsorship, Andy would like people to keep in mind that, "There are thousands of wonderful people suffering and dying in camps in Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, waiting for sponsors to set them free and enable them to live again. Few if any of our immigrant ancestors stood in more desperate need."

KATHY POPPEN

#### NEWS FROM LAMONT

Item: The titanic sank on April 14, 1912, somewhere south of Newfoundland, and it's been sitting on the floor of the ocean, 2 1/2 miles down, ever since. Bill Ryan means to find it. Bill, a marine geologist and former Palisades resident (now of Nyack), and Columbia University, will provide the technical support and equipment needed to find the luxury liner and then photograph it. Whose Big Idea was this anyway? It seems some Texas "good oil boys." adventurers at heart, want to find the Titanic and then make a TV documentary. So they contacted Bill. It all sounds easy but there's a reason why 68 years have passed without any luck. According to Ryan, the research team will face "... hostile ocean and atrocious weather" among other dangers. What's in it for Bill? The opportunity to build new improved sonar devices which will become the property of the Lamont lab, and the chance to participate in a truly Great Adventure. The project gets underway in July. Happy Hunting Bill!

Item: Congratulations to Dennis Hayes who has just been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for his project "Global Study of Oceanic Depth Anomalies." The Guggenheim Foundation annually honors a few proven scholars and artists from all fields of science and the arts throughout the U.S. and Canada. There are over 3000 applicants each year and less than 300 are chosen to receive this prestigious prize. Lamont, Palisades, and Washington, Kansas are very proud of Den... and so am I!

LESLIE HAYES

#### MEMORIAL DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Monday, May 26th from 8-10:30 AM at the Palisades Presbyterian Church parish house. Come early -- before the Memorial Day Parade and Flag Pole Ceremony. Mark your calendar for this traditional Palisades event. (Watch for newspaper announcements and Post Office posters for Parade and ceremony times).

#### SCHOOL VOTE

May 7 is Voting day for 2 So. Orange-town Board of Education trustees -- one to represent Palisades and one to represent Orangeburg -- and on next years budget as prepared by the Bd. of Education and the new Supt. of Schools, Dr. Olcott. Candidates for trusteeship are John Kriz, incumbent (resident of Palisades), Sylvia Baumel, incumbent (resident of Orangeburg), and Benjamin Roujansky (resident of Orangeburg). All residents who are citizens and 18 are eligible to vote. Don't forget MAY 7, 1-10 PM, at TAPPAN ZEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (on Rte. 9W).



PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

*Spring Plant Sale* on Saturday, May 10 again coincides with Mother's Day weekend -- and it becomes very convenient to give her a gift of a plant or flowers. The sale begins at 10 AM and continues until 2 PM, and in case of rain will move to the Palisades Community Center. Seedlings, flowers, plants, vegetable flats and a great variety of growing things for your home and garden will be on sale. Donations of baked goods, plants or seedlings are welcome and may be brought to the library on the day of the sale. Come out and buy your Mother's Day plant, look over the table of used books, have lunch, meet your neighbors and take home some gourmet baked goods.

*Annual Dance - Save the date -- June 7.* If you missed it last year, don't miss it this year. Look for your invitation in the mail. BOB BURCAW

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The results of the March 19th Library Budget Vote showed an overwhelming support for the hamlet libraries -- 529 yes, 60 no. The tally for Palisades and Piermont was 242 yes, 30 no. Such a warm affirmative response is most gratifying.

\* \* \*

Wm. D. Cabin, Executive Director to Lieutenant Governor Cuomo, may be contacted for pamphlets containing toll free numbers for Federal, State and New York City Offices. These lists may help you in cutting through bureaucratic red tape.

Here are some Hot Lines you may find useful:

800-638-2666	Consumer Product Safety Commission
800-523-2929	Solar-Hot-Line
800-424-9393	Auto Safety Hot-Line
800-621-0477	Appliance Hot-Line
800-323-4180	Travelers Hot-Line
800-424-9312	Moving Hot-Line
800-638-6700	Education Hot-Line (information on federal grants for undergraduates)
800-424-8576	Hearing aid Hot-Line

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For Photography buffs: We are pleased to inform our readers that the "Lem Britter Memorial Fund" has just purchased a new Encyclopedia of Practical Photography (14 vols.) and a superb volume of photographs by Eliot Porter: "Intimate Landscapes." BEATRICE AGNEW

PALISADES COMMUNITY CENTER

*Art, Wine and Cheese* - The Annual Art, Wine and Cheese Festival will be held on Sunday, May 4 from 2 - 5 PM. Judging from past successes this is expected to be an enjoyable and entertaining afternoon right in your own Palisades Community Center. Artists exhibiting will include the well-known Rockland County watercolorists Edwin Dahlberg and Beverly Bozarth Colgan, as well as our own

Palisadians Simon Gerrard and Ray Bernick. Mr. Dahlberg's work has been reproduced in many books and publications, including Norman Kent's *One Hundred Watercolor Techniques*, and is the subject of the film "Edwin L. Dahlberg Paints a Watercolor On Location." In addition, Potters Alice Gerrard, Christine Sirko, Sylvia March and photographer Bill Sullivan will exhibit their work. Varied and interesting wines and cheeses will be served. There will be a special tasting of selected New York State wines.

\* \* \*

Don't forget the Soccer Clinic for boys and girls ages 7 - 12 on Saturday mornings May 10 and 17, at 10 AM. Call Shawn Frederick for details.

\* \* \*

Estelle Sollish is our new program coordinator. If you would like to serve on the program committee, please contact Estelle or Irene Frederick. If you wish to rent the building for a private party, it is available to members for a donation of \$5 per hour. Call Judy Englander (8098) for reservations.

JANE SCHWARTZ, JUDY ENGLANDER

(Settlers) sold the patent for eighteen hundred pounds to John Corbett, who had been a ship's captain. The deed showed that Merritt had built several buildings on the property and had a working farm. Captain Corbett died in 1717, but his wife survived him for a long time, and entertained the surveyors and others who came to discuss the boundary between the provinces. That is probably why the name Corbett's Point clung to the Landing until after the Revolution. Their daughter Mary inherited the patent, and we are pretty sure that she and her husband Henry Ludlow built the "Big House" opposite the antique Shop in about 1729; but in 1749 they started selling land and moved back to New York. This marked the end of the era of great proprietors, and the beginning of a real community.

ALICE MUNRO HAAGENSEN

ARTS AND LETTERS

Musical selections from the Renaissance through the Baroque will be performed by Jackie Dreschler, flutist, on May 4 at 2 PM at St. Paul Episcopal Church in Spring Valley and on May 18 at 2 PM at the Upper Saddle River Library.

\* \* \*

Paula Babalis is booking new and talented entertainment for "Nick Vanoff Presents The Big Show" on NBC, Tuesday nights.

\* \* \*

'Her' comes the judge -- watch your May TV listings for Marie Fenton Griffing as a judge for the "Ms. Photogenic USA" beauty pageant in Las Vegas sponsored by Merv Griffin Productions for Metromedia.

JACQUELYNN WEBSTER-ANDERSON

CALENDAR

May	4	Art, Wine, Cheese (2-5 PM) Palisades Community Center
	7	Jackie Dreschler (2 PM) St. Paul's, Spring Valley
	7	School Vote (1-10 PM) Tappan Zee Elementary School
	10	Library Plant Sale (10 AM-2 PM) Palisades Library
	10	Soccer Clinic (10 AM) Palisades Community Center
	17	Soccer Clinic (10 AM) Palisades Community Center
	18	Jackie Dreschler (2 PM) Upper Saddle River Library
	24	Palisades Senior Citizens Rummage Sale (9 AM-1 PM) Community Center
	26	Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast (8-10:30 AM) Palisades Presbyterian Church
	26	Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony (check Post Office for time and place)
June	3	Plays-For-Living (3:30 PM) Palisades Presbyterian Church
	7	Palisades Library Dance

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

My husband and I go to the Tappan Zee Thrift Shop frequently. Here we are helpfully aided by gracious volunteers, chief among whom is Mrs. Stanclift. If we go there often it is a rare occasion when we do not find at least one item which is most useful in our home. Just think about the inconvenience and the impersonal treatment, not to mention the waste of energy going to a department store, where the prices are obscene and the lack of attention paid to the customer is atrocious. To find bargain *trendy* clothes at the Thrift Shop requires *vigilant browsing* and one only has to inspect our closets to testify to this fact. We already have clothes for a lifetime, bought under the most relaxing circumstances. Who could resist 1) a Pierre Cardin velvet smoking jacket, 2) a pure cashmere overcoat, 3) a beaver lamb fur coat, 4) elegant evening skirts and blouses to match? Not to mention all those staples, e.g. ties, slacks and skirts for work and comfortable clothes for gardening and relaxing around the house. In these days of escalating prices who needs *department stores*? SHEILA ASCH

[T.Z. Thrift Shop hrs.: Tues. and Thurs. 10 - 4; Sat. 10 - 4.]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks to Blythe and John Finke, Yolanda and Albon Man for their contributions to 10964 this month.  
\* \* \*

Writing contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Send your story or announcement to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, N.Y. for consideration. 10964 reserves the right to edit material submitted for publication.

Deadline for June issue is May 10.  
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If at any time you do not receive your copy of 10964, call Jane Bernick (8382)

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Used Rollfast (girl's) bike. \$20. (4657).

FOR SALE: Head Yahoo 2 skis with Salomon 444 bindings, 170 cm, \$225. Nordica Boots size 9 1/2, \$50. K2 Poles, \$25. All equipment used once. (2074).

FOR SALE: Hearthside Stoneware: 10 dinner plates, 9 soup bowls, 8 dessert bowls, 9 cups, 9 saucers, 8 cake plates, salt and pepper set, gravy bowl and saucer, 1 large meat platter, 1 medium platter, cream and sugar set, 3 large bowls, \$50. (5188).

FOR SALE: '72 Capri. Completely restored body, rebuilt engine, fog lights, new MacPherson struts, shocks, brake linings, battery. \$1250. (2074).

WANTED: Day worker with references, 1 day a week. Halman (6834).

WANTED: Softball equipment (bats, balls, gloves), basketball, matchbox toys, cars, trucks for summer program for emotionally disturbed children. Karen Brown (2451) in PM.

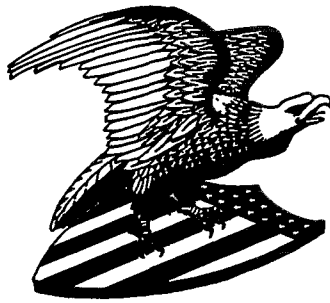
JOB WANTED: Will baby sit, take care of pets, do light housework. Available week nights and most weekends. Angela Man (0915).

WANTED: The Sting Rays Rock Group made up of Philip Galinsky, Andy Boose, Eric Morris, Nik Elevitch and John Boose will perform at parties and anything else. For details call (7154).

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

10964 STAFF

Carol Elevitch/Editor; Kathy Poppen/Assoc. Editor; Jane Bernick/Treasurer; Jeanne Boose/Classified; Joan Tankel/Fundraising; Lois McCoy/Founder-Consultant.



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