

10964

SEPT. 1980

No. 33

This community newsletter publishes information, events, problems and concerns effecting 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 DOBBS' AND SNEDENS' FERRY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

The beginnings of the ferry are vague. We know that Jan Dobbs came to Westchester in 1698 or 1700 and owned property on the shore of the river; and we know that he was a nephew of William Merritt who lived in Cheer Hall at that time. It is likely that he had a boat and crossed the river now and then to see his uncle William; but the first real ferryman, in 1729, was his son William Dobbs.

This seems reasonable when one thinks of the situation on both sides of the river at that time. The Albany Post Road had just been built in Westchester. On this side the Ludlows had built the Big House at the top of the hill, which meant that there would have been a passable road up the hill, and perhaps on to Closter, by which people could have gone to and from the ferry.

Less than twenty years later, Robert Sneden, recently arrived here, began the family connection with the ferry which was to last until 1803. The former Cheer Hall is shown on the Verplanck Map of 1745 as "Sneedings House the fferry." Robert died around the middle of the century, but his wife, Mollie Sneden, survived until 1810. She was a colorful character. Many stories are told of her exploits: she ran the ferry, shot a hundred pigeons with one shot, hid a Tory spy, had a tavern in the former Cheer Hall, and died at the age of a hundred-and-one.

The first boat was a perriauger, or dug-out. Soon there were two boats, one large enough to carry horses and wagons. One of the most spectacular equipages to cross the ferry was Martha Washington's coach in December, 1775, with five or six passengers, a coachman and postillion, and a mounted escort. All roads were bad at that time, but the one down the hill at Snedens must have been almost the worst. (See pg. 2)

THE PALISADES LIBRARY DANCE COMMITTEE

is delighted to report that this year's dance, held on June 7, was a great success. A most enjoyable evening was shared by some 120 people from the community. After the delicious food was devoured, raffle prizes announced, and dance decorations dismantled, the annual benefit raised close to \$800 for the Library. Special thanks go to Bernard and Gayle Jacobs who generously let the dance be held in their home.

JOAN HOOKER

PALISADES SWIM TEAM

The Palisades Swim Team, ably coached by Steve Heinemann and Kathy Larken, won fifth place in the Rockland County Summer Swim League Championships, held on August 7 at the West Nyack Swim Club. Individual medals and ribbons were won by:

GIRLS

Open: backstroke, *2nd place*: Dominique Torres.

8 and under: medley relay, *5th place*: Jennifer Lynch, Nicole Morris, Dawn Sirko, Nicki Tankel. Freestyle, *4th place*: Nicki Tankel. Backstroke, *3rd place*: Dawn Sirko. Freestyle relay, *5th place*: Jennifer Lynch, Nicole Morris, Dawn Sirko, Nicki Tankel.

9 - 10: medley relay, *6th place*: Jill Cederholm, Maura Murray, Tricia Reid, Melanie Tankel. Backstroke, *5th place*: Tricia Reid. Breaststroke, *6th place*: Tricia Reid. Freestyle relay, *5th place*: Jill Cederholm, Maura Murray, Tricia Reid, Melanie Tankel.

11 - 12: medley relay, *5th place*: Jennifer Hall, Hillary Jacobs, Susan LoGerfo, Denise Will. Individual medley, *5th place*: Hillary Jacobs. Breaststroke: *4th place*: Hillary Jacobs. Freestyle relay, *6th place*: Jennifer Hall, Hillary Jacobs, Susan LoGerfo, Denise Will. (See pg. 3)

CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Sept. 3 | Parent/Child Center/Palisades School open for visiting (10 - 12 AM and 6 - 8 PM) |
| 8 | Parent/Child Center programs begin. For information call 5720 |
| 8 to 12 | Registration for Girl Scouts |
| 12 | Friday Open House, Oak Tree Cooperative Playgroup. Old Palisades School (10 AM - 12 Noon) |
| 18 | Palisades Senior Citizens Club Meeting (Palisades Community Center, 2 - 4 PM) |
| 27 | Palisades Pottery Show and Sale at Gerards, Washington Spring Road (2 - 5 PM, Rain Date 9/28) |
| 27 | TZHS Madrigal Singers Garage Sale |
| 28 | Parents 1st meeting Oak Tree Playgroup, followed by Pot Luck Supper -- all welcome |

BOY SCOUT TROOP 54

The scouts in Troop 54 have had a busy time these past few months, participating in area events and also planning and doing troop activities.

Their contribution to Scout-o-Rama, held at the RCC Fieldhouse, was an obstacle course set up and manned by the boys. It was one of the most popular activities and drew large crowds of participants.

In June the scouts went to the Camporee, held at the Anthony Wayne area of the PIP, where they joined with other troops from the Shatemuc District in demonstrating their cooking skills.

The troop has remained active during the summer by camping at a site set up on a nearby mountain where the boys have been working toward their skill awards and merit badges.

During the fall the scouts will participate in another Camporee which will stress survival. They plan to continue their monthly camping trips and also take trips to nearby places of interest. One meeting each month will be devoted to fulfilling the requirements of a specific skill award or merit badge.

Several of the boys are new scouts and it would be a good time for other boys who would like to join to attend the meetings. The troop meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 in the auditorium behind the Orangeburg Library on Greenbush Road. If anyone would like more information about Troop 54 you may call Sam Paster, Scoutmaster, at 9460.

CAMP OUT, JOIN THE FUN!

GIRL SCOUTS

Troops for Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts, and Cadettes will be forming in the South Orangetown area during the week of Sept. 8 - 12. Notices regarding registration day will be distributed through the Tappan Zee Elementary School and the South Orangetown Middle School.

Brownies are girls in 2nd and 3rd grades.
Junior Girl Scouts are girls in 4th, 5th, & 6th grades.

Cadettes are girls in 7th, 8th, & 9th grades.

The program, geared to the ages of the girls, includes outdoor activities, crafts, games, trips to local places, and just plain fun. Junior Girl Scouts work on merit badges, in addition to these things, and do overnight camping. Cadettes do more advanced camping and trips, explore the business world and become more involved in service to the community.

Cost is approximately \$5 to register, 25¢ a week dues for 30 weeks, and a uniform supplied by the parents. Troops meet either after school or in the early evening, once a week. There are extra activities on Saturdays, about every 6 - 8 weeks.

If you belonged to a troop last year, one of your leaders will get in touch with you by telephone.

You will be glad to know that the leaders involved last year are planning to continue: Rose Krupansky, P.J. Mouquian, Vic Nawoichyk, Carol McGann, and myself.

If you are a new prospective member, be sure to pick up a registration notice at school.

Leaders, assistant leaders, and just plain occasional helpers (for things like transportation, cookie sale, telephoning, special projects) are needed for all troop levels. Training is available from Girl Scout headquarters, and the local Leaders Club meets about one night a month for interchange of ideas and information. For an interview, please telephone Nancy Hall at 359-6237.

NANCY HALL

(Ferry)

At the beginning of the Revolution, most of the Snedens were Tory sympathizers. Robert even became a pilot for the British war-ships. The local patriotic committee issued a proclamation forbidding all the Snedens but John to "keep ferry." Mollie and her unmarried son Dennis moved to New York, and most of the others went to Nova Scotia. John stayed here and undoubtedly ferried many of the patriots who crossed and recrossed the river when conditions permitted. He also served at times as pilot on American war-ships.

ALICE MUNRO HAAGENSEN

Note: Copies of the Verplanck map of 1745 can be obtained at Dossi Thayers Bazaar in Palisades and at Clausland Bookshop in Piermont.

Editors Note: Mrs. Haagensen, a long-time resident of Palisades and member of the Palisades Free Library Historical Committee, is completing a book on the history of Palisades and generously shares portions of it each month with the community of Palisades -- through 10964.

THE PALISADES FREE LIBRARY

Reversal of driveway direction: the community has found the present entrance and exit route into and from the library yard both inconvenient and dangerous. After consultation with the Rockland County Highway Dept., the Orangetown Highway Dept., and the Traffic Advisory Board, the Board of Trustees is announcing that the directions will be reversed as of Oct. 6, 1980. From that date, patrons of the Library must drive in via Oak Tree Road and drive out via Closter Road.

* * *

Library Hours

Winter schedule will take effect
Sept. 2nd: M-W: 3-9 PM; Th: 10-12 AM
and 3-9 PM; Fr: 3-5 PM; Sat: 2-5 PM.

BEATRICE W. AGNEW, LIBRARIAN

PALISADES SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The first meeting of the Palisades, New York Senior Citizen Group will be held at the Community Center, Oak Tree Road, Palisades, N.Y. on Thursday, September 18. Meetings open at 2 PM and usually close after 4 PM. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, except November and December. Everyone is welcome, the only requirements are that you are of the age and a resident of the town of Orangetown.

Our meetings are lively, we have good discussions and on occasion we have guest speakers, films and entertainment. Coffee "and" is served (you help yourself) and on special occasions we have home made cakes and lots of goodies. Anyone can afford the dues which cover the cost of the coffee "and."

Literature which is supplied by different agencies throughout the State and County are distributed to the members and keeps us on our toes since it spells out benefits to Senior Citizens. There is also a 10% discount card which can be used locally and most places in the County. Everyone likes to cut back expenses and this helps. Discounts are available on some of the bus systems, all this information is available and discussed at our meetings.

Come and meet your neighbors and enjoy a few hours away from home, the welcome mat is out.

Hope to see you very soon, attend one of our meetings, have a few laughs and experience the great gift of LOVE which we all share.

Laura Ebmeyer, President

TAPPAN ZEE HIGH SCHOOL MADRIGAL SINGERS

are planning a tour to Europe next summer. The group is composed of seventeen singers who sing music from the Renaissance period. Members of the group are selected by audition. Three of the current members of the group are residents of Palisades: Chris Landriau, John C. Anderson, and Ivan Gilbert.

Planning has begun already because of the many things which must be done before the tour can begin. Several meetings have been held to discuss itinerary, the possibility of entering choral competitions, and, probably the most important and difficult task, how to raise a large amount of money for each member of the group.

To start things off, the Madrigal Singers are planning a garage sale on September 27. The sale will be conducted in the T.Z. High School parking lot. The Madrigal Singers would appreciate any donations of articles to be sold at the sale. If you have anything you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, please feel free to call Chris at 4342, John at 5898, or Ivan at 7048.

(Swim Team)

13 - 14: individual medley, 1st place: (new record) Mary Pat Gaffney. Freestyle, 1st place: Mary Pat Gaffney. Butterfly, 1st place: (new record) Mary Pat Gaffney. 15 - 18: medley relay, 2nd place: Kathy Larken, Nancy Hudson, Dominique Torres, Jan Weigl. Individual medley, 5th place: Kathy Larken. Backstroke, 2nd place: Dominique Torres; 6th place: Nancy Hudson. Breaststroke, 2nd place: Kathy Larken. Butterfly, 3rd place: Kathy Larken. Freestyle relay, 3rd place: Kathy Larken, Nancy Hudson, Dominique Torres, Jan Weigl.

BOYS

Open: Freestyle, 1st place: Steve Heinemann. Individual medley, 3rd place: David Reid. Freestyle, 2nd place: Steve Heinemann. Backstroke, 1st place: Brian Reid. Butterfly, 3rd place: David Reid.

8 and under: Freestyle, 5th place: Ricky Cederholm. Backstroke, 5th place: Ricky Cederholm.

9 - 10: medley relay, 3rd place: Mark Bachrach, Clayton Jacobs, Steve Larkin, Eric Morris. Individual medley, 4th place: Steve Larkin. Freestyle, 5th place: Eric Morris. Breaststroke, 4th place: Steve Larkin. Butterfly, 5th place: Steve Larkin. Freestyle relay, 3rd place: Mark Bachrach, Clayton Jacobs, Steve Larkin, Eric Morris.

11 - 12: medley relay, 4th place: Donald Douglas, Brooks Jacobs, Greg Olson, Steven Sirko. Freestyle relay, 4th place: Donald Douglas, Brooks Jacobs, Greg Olson, Steven Sirko.

13 - 14: backstroke, 6th place: David Reid.

15 - 18: medley relay, 2nd place: Robert Neuendorf, Brian Reid, Bill Ryan, Tom Ryan. Individual medley, 4th place: Tom Ryan. Freestyle, 1st place: Robert Neuendorf; 6th place: Bill Ryan. Backstroke, 1st place: (new record) Robert Neuendorf; 4th place: Brian Reid. Breaststroke, 1st place: Bill Ryan; 5th place: Tom Ryan. Butterfly, 1st place: (new record) Robert Neuendorf; 6th place: Bill Ryan. Freestyle relay, 3rd place: Robert Neuendorf, Brian Reid, Bill Ryan, Tom Ryan.

At the Swim Team Party on August 7, Coach Steve Heinemann commended everyone on their tremendous effort this summer. He urged team members to swim competitively this winter. Those who are not yet in high school should consider the South Orangetown team which swims at the Middle School in Blauvelt, the Dolphins team which swims at Rockland Community College, or other teams in the area.

NANCY HALL

Karen Thayer Reina and Charlie announce their twins, David and Elizabeth (born June 18) are doing well -- as are grandparents, Reg and Dossi.

OAK TREE COOPERATIVE PLAYGROUP

Now that the long, full days of summer vacation are over, and older children are back in school, many small people are lonely and bored. Oak Tree Cooperative Playgroup offers a gently structured, relaxed and creative environment, in which your pre-schooler (aged two through kindergarten) can learn and grow with her/his peers. Presently located in the old Palisades school, on Oak Tree Road, Palisades, we are open every day from 9 AM to 4 PM and offer a wide range of personalized activities to stimulate the young mind and body, at minimal cost. Emphasis is always directed at developing individual skills and interests.

Anyone interested in discovering more about our program is invited to our Open House, on Friday, Sept. 12th from 10 AM till 12 Noon, or to call 359-3472 or 358-9469, to arrange a convenient time for you and your child to visit the group.

On Sept. 28th, at 7 PM we will hold our first Parent's Meeting and Pot Luck Supper of the season, and all are welcome to attend.

UNCLASSIFIED

If at any time you do not receive your copy of 10964, call Jane Bernick (8382).
* * *

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 October issue is September 10.
* * *

Thanks to Blythe and John Finke, and Percy and Grace Hill for their contributions to 10964 this month.

10964
Box 201
Palisades, NY 10964

CLASSIFIED

POTTERY SHOW AND SALE -- Saturday, Sept. 27th at the Gerards (Washington Spring Road) from 2 - 5 PM. The work of four local potters, Sylvia March, Christine Sirko, Alice Gerard, and Jane Herold, will be displayed. (Rain date - Sept. 28th).

CLOSTER PLAZA TRAVEL -- Closter Shopping Center. Dale Botwin and a highly experienced staff to serve all your travel needs. Please call home (914)359-6080 or office (201)768-8405.

PROFESSIONAL BEAUTY CONSULTANT -- Glamour and skin care taught by Justyn Vreeland, consultant with renowned cosmetic company. For free facial call (2313).

FOR SALE: Fender Telecaster with electric bass and case. Excellent condition. \$200. Mulligan (6576).

FOR SALE: Yamaha 30-watt bass amplifier. Excellent condition. \$125. Mulligan (6576).

FOR SALE: 1975 Pontiac Safari 9 passenger wagon. White, red interior. Excellent body, tires, needs motor. A steal at \$850. J. Clarkson (7149).

CLASSIFIED ADS are free. Send yours to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, N.Y. Donations requested from businesses.

10964 STAFF

Carol Elevitch/Editor; Marilyn Solimine/ Assoc. Editor; Jane Bernick/Treasurer; Joan Tankel/Fundraising; Lois McCoy/ Founder-Consultant.

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 9
Palisades, NY 10964

Resident
Palisades, NY 10964