

10964

FEB. 1981 NO. 38

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.

We are very grateful to everyone who has taken the time to send in their checks and write short notes letting us know they appreciate the efforts of the staff in bringing 10964 to you each month.

We were pleased to receive donations this month from:



Janet and Frank Carlson;
Irine and Marshall Davidson;
Norma and Philip Evola;
Marge and John Fenn; Mimi
Fratkin; Katherine Grotz;
Yolanda and Albon Man;
Marian and Kathleen Martine;
William McDonald; Im Ha and
Taesup Park; Beatrice and

Robert Rasmussen; Yoke May Robinson;
Dossi and Reg Theyer; Jean and Arthur
Twitchell; Marian and Gilbert Weber; J.
Erskine Westervelt.

Please keep those checks and letters coming in. REMEMBER -- 10964 is your news-
letter and only you can keep it going.

TRUCK ACCIDENT ON OAK TREE ROAD

The truck accident on Oak Tree Road on Jan. 14 was a narrow escape for a school bus and three cars which were stopped for the red light on Rte. 340.

The accident happened about 3 minutes before the Jr. High School bus entered Oak Tree Rd. The truck was carrying commercial cleaning chemicals. The sight of it resting about 12 feet in the air on the opposite side of the road should be enough to justify our demands that the 'no through trucking' regulation be enforced by the police department. Parents of school children feel that because school buses are traveling through our area between 7:15 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. a police car should be posted at 9W and Oak Tree Rd. to
(Cont. pg. 3)

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR A VERY SPECIAL "OCTOGENARIAN"

On Jan. 24th at 3 p.m. Mildred Rippey was honored by her children, friends and neighbors at an "80th" gala birthday party at the Palisades Presbyterian Church. Flanked by her three daughters, Jo Cole of Orangeburg, Jan Chesnut of Evanston, Illinois, and Mildred Imady from Kuwait -- Mildred has 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren -- she was indeed "Queen Mum" as her daughters nicknamed her for the day.

Mildred, who was born in Palisades, received loving and admiring testimonials not only from people whose lives she has touched, but from representatives of organizations (The Palisades Library, the Palisades Presbyterian Church) and causes she has generously and faithfully served. Above all, we celebrated Mildred, the steady eye, concerned and open heart, and passionate intelligence that make her unique.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MILDRED!

FAREWELL PARTY FOR PALISADES MINISTER AND HER FAMILY

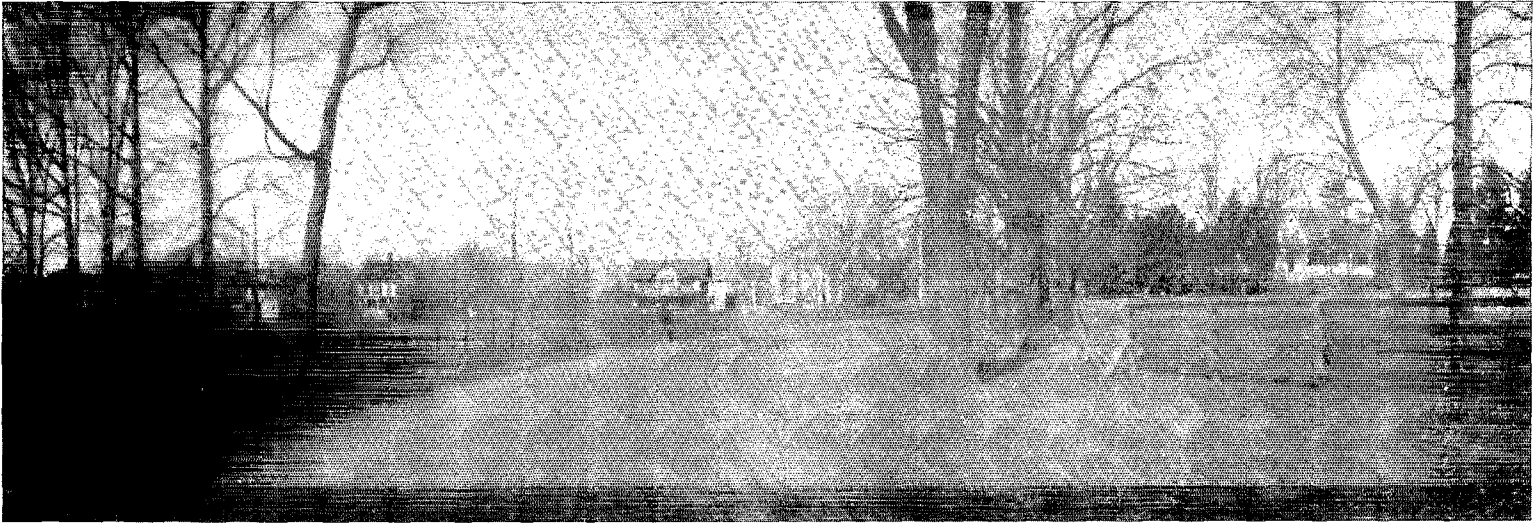
All Palisades residents are invited to a special farewell party at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory (in Lamont Hall) for Fay Ellison and her husband Marvin. St. Valentines Day has been chosen as an appropriate time to convey appreciation to Fay and good wishes to them both.

Fay, who graduated with high honors from Union Theological Seminary, came as minister to the Palisades Presbyterian Church in June, 1975 and served not only as pastor to church members, but as counselor and friend to many Palisades residents who were not

(Cont. pg. 4)

CALENDAR

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|-----|----|--|
| Feb | 1 | "Eight Sensibilities" -- exhibit of works by contemporary artists: last day Feb. 15th (at Thorpe Intermedia Gallery, Sparkill) |
| | 5 | Edmund Battersby (pianist) performing (Montclair State College, Montclair, N.J., 8 p.m.) |
| | 8 | ROCKLAND CENTER for the PERFORMING ARTS (Member Exhibit Opens, 4:30 p.m.) |
| | 10 | Home Health Care Course (discussion and demonstration) at Palisades Presbyterian Church (8-10 p.m.) \$2 fee |
| | 12 | Senior Citizens (Community Center, Oak Tree Rd., 2 p.m.) |
| | 14 | HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY ♥♥♥ |
| | 14 | Farewell Party for Fay and Marvin Ellison, Lamont Hall (5-7 p.m.) |
| | 17 | Home Health Care Course (Palisades Presbyterian Church (8-10 p.m.)) |
| | 17 | Palisades/Sparkill T-Shirt League Registration (American Legion Hall, Rte. 340, 7:30 p.m.) |
| | 17 | ROCKLAND CENTER for the PERFORMING ARTS (Senior Citizens Gallery Visit) |
| | 20 | ROCKLAND CENTER for the PERFORMING ARTS (Combined Literary/Film Program, 8 p.m.) |
| | 21 | SQUARE DANCE for Brownies, Scouts and Cadettes (St. John's Church Hall, Piermont) |
| | 21 | GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE begins -- through Mar. 5th |
| | 26 | Senior Citizens (Community Center, Oak Tree Rd., 2 p.m.) |



1903 view of Rte. 9W going North, near present-day Palisades Triangle.

"ROCKLAND" (NOW PALISADES) AFTER THE REVOLUTION

In the early nineteenth century Rockland became a busy hamlet. There had been a sandstone quarry behind the Voris house, or Pirate's Lair, south of the landing, since 1700. Now there were twenty-five men working in quarries. Farther south, near the waterfall, was a bone factory, called on old maps Carbonville. The story is that the many horses and mules that dropped dead on the streets of New York every day were loaded into scows and brought to the factories, all necessarily isolated because of the stench, the meat removed, and the carcasses boiled and ground up for bone meal.

Miss Emma Coates (granddaughter of Capt. Larry Sneden and daughter of Capt. William Coates, both ferrymen) wrote in 1903 in "The Story of the Ferry":

"Captains Peter Van Orden, John Willsey, Sr. & Jr., John Vooris, and Peter Dobbs, resident here, owned and commanded vessels engaged in river traffic or voyaging to Virginia for pine wood and oysters. Shipbuilding was an important industry at Snedens Landing. Timber was cut on the hills, brought down to the landing, sawed by hand in saw pits, and made into the fine sloops which were launched at high tide from the ways in the shipyards in

front of the William Sneden house and south of the Ferry House.

Among the vessels launched here were the "Accomodation", a sloop of 60 tons; the "Benjamin Franklin", still in service from Yonkers; the "Chief", a schooner of 160 tons and very fast; and the "Bravo", of like size in 1844, the last vessel built here."

Wagons of produce came from all around the surrounding country and waited in a line which extended halfway up the hill, to load (them) on the ferry. The goods shipped included lumber, dairy products, and garden produce, especially straw berries. Besides lumber for building, so many cords of firewood were needed to stoke the fireboxes of boats and trains, that forests were leveled for miles around; photographs of the village toward the end of last century show great open vistas where the trees have since grown back. "High Gutter Point," near the state border, was one of the pitching points where logs were thrown over to the ships waiting in deep water below.

At the landing there was a dock five hundred feet long, a great warehouse, several little stores, and at least one tavern. This was the heyday of the village commercially; but steamboats and trains eventually completely superseded the sloops, and quiet fell on the landing.

Alice Munro Haagensen



View of the Landing, 1903, showing few trees.

PALISADES SENIOR CITIZENS

The PALISADES, SENIOR CITIZEN Group ended the year 1980 with a terrific holiday party. We were very fortunate to have Harry Davis entertain us at this event. Harry did the Festival of Lights for us using the Menorra with all it's candles for each day of the celebration, and explained each phase of the ceremony. It was most impressive. He then entertained us with lullabys, folk songs, drinking songs, and ended with Ave Maria. We are most grateful to him for making this affair the wonderful one it was. We had a grab bag and as usual the gals got the men's gifts and the men got the ladies gifts, but all of this is accepted with good humor and I'm certain a lot of exchanging went on. The Girl Scouts followed with a very amusing skit that required many changes of costume. It is so nice to have the blending of the young in age and the young at heart, and these young people come through all the time with programs for us. Our table groaned with goodies and punch, and the place was decorated for the holiday. It was very pretty indeed.

Throughout the years, we have been most fortunate to have our neighbors volunteer their help to make our meetings informative and pleasant. This is the time to thank all those who have helped us during the year past. Nancy Hall and the Girl Scouts under her guidance, Edith Ryan, and all the friends who baked cakes, gave us treats and made us happy. There are others who prefer to remain anonymous, they know who they are and so THANK YOU to them also.

Our group wishes everyone a most Happy, Healthy 1981. By this time you all know that we meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 2 p.m., except for July and August. The meetings last 2 hours and are held at the Old School House on Oak Tree Rd. known as the Community Center. Join us sometime; we really enjoy ourselves and you will too. We do not stand on any formality, no applications or any other information is necessary

LAURA E. EBMEYER
PRESIDENT

BURGLARY FOLLOW-UP

We had hoped to report that no burglaries had occurred since January's issue. However, on Sunday Jan. 11th -- sometime after 3 a.m. -- a resident of Rte. 340 was burglarized. An ambulance had been called to the house in the middle of the night and while the owners were away at the hospital the house was broken into. It is felt that whoever committed this crime saw the resident leave with the ambulance. The front door was kicked in and gold and silver were removed. We are arranging for someone from the Eyes of Orangetown, a group of concerned citizens who work with the Police Dept., to come and speak at the Community Center. They will give advice and answer questions on how to watch for possible suspects. The date and time will be posted at the library and post office.

Please do not hesitate to call the police (359-3700) if you feel a neighbor is being burglarized.

EILEEN LARKIN

"THANK YOU, PALISADIANS"

The happy sound of laughter and cheerful chit-chat echoed through the rafters and around the room as people gathered to play games together at our Community Center. The bridge group, oblivious to the rattle of Boggle dice, bided vigorously and played with obvious enjoyment. (A special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Turoff for their kind donation of two Boggle sets. The game will certainly be a great boon to our game nights -- a boggle-boon -- for it is a particularly fine group game that appeals to many age groups.) Another good neighbor, Tyra Scrinivasan, came in to show us a game she has invented. (Next time around, she'll be in to show us how to play the game.) Dominoes got under way and so did Scrabble Crossword. The Backgammon set awaited players, but the Boggle Table just couldn't pull itself away.

The evening was highly successful, but more than that, great fun. So, too, the Aerobic Dance enthusiasts were organized the next evening. Names up to 15 were gathered and despite the lack of a leader, on our own, we did 15 to 20 minutes of exercise. We all felt extremely healthy and toned up even from that short stint! The folk dancers were not to be left out, despite an ailing leader. Leah Dalto pitched in and we managed to teach a delightful folk dance to those who came out for action.

It was certainly encouraging -- and from the expressions of enjoyment -- I'm sure that each successive week will bring out more and more to participate.

The Community Center's Board of Directors also thanks you and invites you back again! Don't forget. WEDNESDAYS -- GAME NIGHT (7:30 - 10:00); THURSDAYS -- AEROBIC DANCING (7:30 - 8:30) and FOLK DANCING (8:30 - 10:00).

ESTELLE SOLLISH
PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

(Trucks)

insure that no illegal trucks come through. This car should also be posted during the hours in the afternoon when the children are returning home. I had the experience of riding up Oak Tree Road with 4 tractor trailers behind me one afternoon about 4 p.m. They made a right turn from Rte. 340 to Oak Tree Rd. and proceeded east to 9W. I tried to prevent them from turning but they just waved me off. I do have pictures of them.

Parents with children riding school buses are requested to please send letters to Linda Winikow, Dr. Olcott, the South Orangetown School Superintendent and Town Supervisor Joe Collello asking that a patrol car be posted during the times that the school buses are in the area. A terrible tragedy could occur if one of these trucks loses their brakes while coming west on Oak Tree Rd.

EILEEN LARKIN

Residents of Palisades were saddened to hear of the deaths of two community members this past fall, Joseph Freil and Donald Redell, and wish us to offer condolences to their families. They shall be missed.

ARTS AND LETTERS

AUDREY DOWLING opened "The Dowry", a shop featuring Antiques and Country Furnishings and housed in The Federal House at 118 Main Street in Tappan on Jan. 20th. This store is the first project to issue from what Mrs. Dowling describes as her love affair with the village of Tappan. And the elegant brick building off the Village Green is a perfect home for the small but very special collection to be found there. Each piece has been personally chosen so that there is a diverse assemblage of antiques, art objects and country furnishings from middle 18th to middle 19th century. Outstanding among them is a beautifully crafted blanket chest from James McNeill Whistler's family home in Connecticut. There are a few exceptional oriental rugs of unusual design and color as well as some oriental paintings, one life sized of a Chinese lady (Chien Lung, mid 18th cent.). There is a lovely Lincoln Rocker that invites sinking into and an octagonal Viennese Vitrine with a cleverly concealed lift and many other pieces to admire and enchant. Mrs. Dowling, who is also in the process of restoring other properties in Tappan, is enthusiastic about "small towns attracting their own citizens to return to village life." She has already been given two awards by the Tappan Historical Society including their highest Fellowship Award for her outstanding contribution to the historical ambience of the town. (The Dowry also accepts Furniture and Articles of the period on consignment and will be open most days from 12 to 4.)

JOAN BRACKEN has an article published in the December issue of the "Journal of the American Geriatric Society" entitled "Pneumonia and Psychotropic Drug Use." Joan, who is a nurse and also chairperson of medical care evaluation studies at Rockland Psychiatric Center in Orangeburg, based her article on a study involving 30 patients over 65 which was done at the center.

EDMUND BATTERSBY, pianist, will perform Schubert, Beethoven, Chopin and Schumann at Montclair State College, Feb. 5th at 8 p.m. in Montclair, New Jersey.

THORPE INTERMEDIA GALLERY (Rte. 340, Sparkill) has currently on exhibit a show entitled "Eight Sensibilities" which features painting, sculpture, and mixed media works by eight contemporary artists (Joanna Pousette-Dart, Cletus Johnson, Don Johnson, Mary Shaffer, Steven Siegel, Craig Stockwell, Sylvia Stone, and Susan Yelavich). Through Feb. 15th.

ROCKLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS sends us news of the following events in February: Member Exhibit Opens (Feb. 8th, 4:30 p.m.); Senior Citizens Gallery Visit (Feb. 17th); Combined Literary/Film Program: Grace Paley-Reading, Ellen Hovde-Film (Feb. 20th, 8 p.m.). For more information call the Center at 358-0877.

LYNN AUBREY SEIDLER

(Ed. Note: If you have notices for this column, please call Lynne at 1481 or mail a note to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, NY)

(Farewell) members of the church. During her time here, Fay gave generously of her wide talents -- working in all areas of women's concerns, active in the Hudson River Presbytery, serving on the Board of Trustees at Union Theological Seminary, and speaking throughout the country representing women in religion and an attitude toward social concerns. While special tributes will be paid to Fay, special congratulations will be offered to Marvin on his recent appointment as Associate Professor at the Bangor Theological Seminary in Bangor, Maine, where the Ellisons and their daughter Beverley will move in February.

It will be a St. Valentines Day gala to remember, Feb. 14th from 5-7 p.m., with drinks, hors d'oeuvres and music. Those who plan to attend or wish to contribute should call one of the following committee members: Dallas Abbott (4139), Sue Alison (0809), Robert Burcaw (1399), Mary Francis Murphy (2009). Ample parking space will be available at the Seismology Building on the grounds of the observatory.

BOYS AND GIRLS 'LITTLE LEAGUE' BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Palisades-Sparkill T-Shirt League has scheduled registration for spring play on Tues., Feb. 17th, 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Rte. 340.

Parents are needed for coaching and assisting. Please contact Bill Larkin (6589) for information or to lend a helping hand.

GIRL SCOUT NEWS

Cadette troop 46, which meets at Christ Church Hall in Sparkill, presented a play "How Boots Befooled the King" for the Senior Citizens Club of Palisades at their December holiday party. The play, a comedy, is based on an old folk legend. It tells the story of how various suitors try to outwit the king, and win the hand of a beautiful princess. There was a second performance of the play on Jan. 22nd for parents and families of the Scouts.

The spring cookie sale will be from Feb. 21st through Mar. 9th. Cookies cost \$1.50 per box; there are seven kinds to choose from. We hope the community will support their local Scouts by buying one or more boxes when a Scout calls at your door.

There will be a square dance for Brownies, Scouts, and Cadettes at St. John's Church Hall in Piermont on Saturday, Feb. 21st. Troops from Palisades, Sparkill, Orangeburg, and Blauvelt will participate. Families and friends of the Scouts are invited as well.

The Cadettes (girls in Junior High School) went to Camp Addisone Boyce in Tompkins Cove on Saturday, Jan. 24th, for Winter Games, including fire building, log sawing, and emergency rescue operations. They met with girls from all over Rockland County in this event.

NANCY HALL

SPECIALTIES

CLOSTER PLAZA TRAVEL, Closter Shopping Center. Dale Botwin & Bobbi Ross will efficiently serve your travel needs. Call Office 201-768-8405 or our homes: 914-359-6080....914-268-7972.

WE INVITE YOU TO BROWSE through our collection of crystal, china, and collectibles, gourmet foods and accessories, silk flowers and more. 'Floreyer Fresh' and 'Baroness' collection silk flowers are better than fresh. There is no charge for flower arrangement on Valentines Day or any day. Bring your own container or buy one of ours.

At Familla we sell best for least.
FAMILLA! 34 Orangeburg Shopping Center (new section). 359-9098.

SPEAK TO A PROFESSIONAL before you plan a renovation or addition to your home or office. HABITATION, INC. offers full consultation, space planning, general contracting and interior design services. We are specialists in custom kitchen and bath design as well. Speak with Sylvia Devan or Donna Meyer. 359-3656.

POSTER PRINTING. Call Johanna Lo. 7144.

GOING TO ST. CROIX -- "Lady of Lorient," a beautiful 29' sloop makes trips to Buck Island. Capt. Francis Smilowitz (Estelle Sollish's son-in-law) owns and operates this service which offers full or half day sails as well as sailing lessons. Contact Capt. Smilowitz, P.O. Box 3384, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00820 (809-778-1345 or 773-3434).

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Dear 10964:

You requested information on recent burglaries in Palisades. Around Thanksgiving time, 2 Honda ATC 90's (three-wheel motorcycles with wide tires) were stolen from the Anderson's garage on Rte. 9W. Both are red, but one has a repainted front fender (red paint doesn't match). Reward offered for recovery!

BLYTHE AND SHELDON KNAPP
359-4225 or 429-2940

SPECIALTIES ADS offer special services. CLASSIFIED ADS list items for sale, exchange, jobs wanted, houses for sale or rent, etc. Ads are free for Palisades residents. (Donations requested from businesses). Send yours to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, NY.

UNCLASSIFIED

10964 welcomes news items, notices of births, marriages, awards, and any and all accounts of events which are important to you. Please call a staff member with your announcement or drop a note to 10964, Box 201, Palisades, NY. Deadline for March issue is February 10. (10964 reserves the right to edit material for publication.)

If at any time you do not receive your copy of 10964, call Eileen Larkin (6589).

10964 STAFF

Carol Elevelitch/Editor; Marilyn Solimine/ Assoc. Editor; Eileen Larkin/Treasurer; Marlene Barba, Joan Bracken, Chris DiCarlo, Lynn Seidler, Joan Tankel
Lois McCoy/Founder-Consultant; Rusty Lotti/Lay-out.

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