

10964

The Palisades Newsletter

May 1993 • No. 136

The Trucks of Spring ↕ ↗ ↘ ↙ ↘ ↗ ↘ ↙

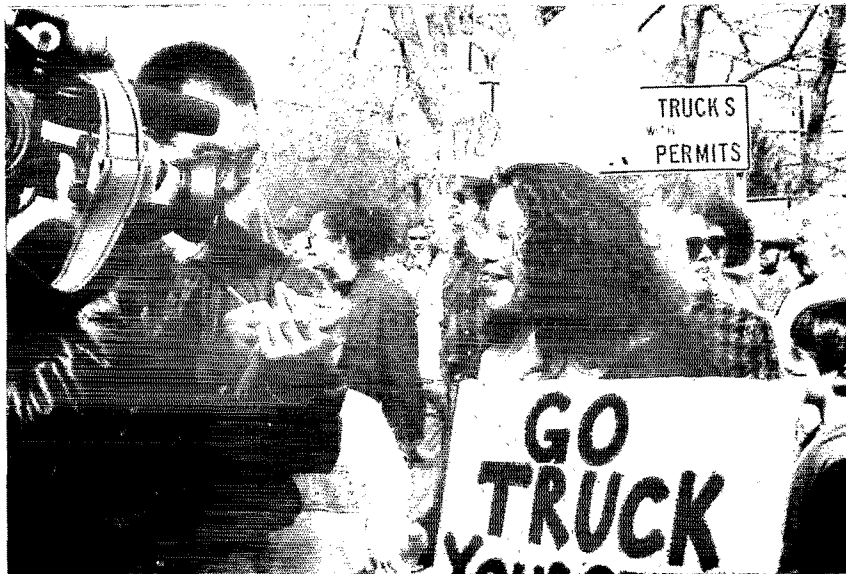
↙ ↘ ↗ ↘ ↙ ↘ ↗ ↘ ↙ The Spring of Trucks

Are we here to make the world better for trucks, or is it possible for reasonable people to believe the opposite and make that belief the basis of public policy? This question has consumed the energy, time and wits of many Palisadians this spring: tandem trucks on Oak Tree Road, overweight trucks on Oak Tree Road, widening Route 303 to speed the world's trucks. These subjects also consumed the bulk of Supervisor Roger Pellegrini's evening at the Community Center on March 25, the first of a series of Palisades Civic Association "Get to Know Your Public Officials" Thursday forums. By the time this issue of 10964 is published, Assemblyman Sam Colman and Council member Eileen Larkin will also have held sessions. Police Chief Homer Wanamaker, Administrative Lt. John McAndrew

and Council member Niel O'Sullivan will be the PCA's guests at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 6, and a lively discussion of truck-limit enforcement on Oak Tree Road is guaranteed. State Senator Joseph Holland will be the guest on May 20.

Meanwhile, on March 15 the State Department of Transportation approved an application by Consolidated Freightways to use tandem trucks on Route 303 and Oak Tree Road. The ruling overrode the strong

opposition of the Palisades Civic Association, a hard-hitting action group led by Jocelyn DeCrescenzo and Janis Cavanagh, with help from Dossie Thayer, and solid bipartisan support from all our local public officials. The Orangetown Town Attorney's office has been directed by the Town Board to appeal the DOT ruling, and an "Article 78" appeal will probably have been filed by press time, with no court action for at least six to eight months.



Jocelyn DeCrescenzo is interviewed by Channel 9. Photo by Diana Green.

The Civic Association spearheaded a successful fight to stop the tandems in 1984, but the trucking industry succeeded in getting federal law radically changed in 1990. The new rules allow the seven types of so-called "special dimension vehicles" (in layman's language "very big") to travel on any road between an Interstate Highway (such

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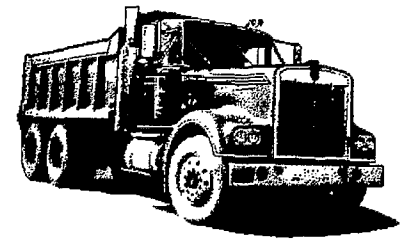


The Tandem Truck Demonstration



The demonstration which was organized against Consolidated Freightways on March 27 clearly showed that Palisadians will not sit idly by while our peaceful little hamlet is overrun by the "lords of progress!" Some 250 residents showed up that Saturday morning, brandishing signs and chanting "Consolidated has to go!" The event was documented by Channel 9 and Channel 7 News, as well as by reporters from all of the local papers including The New York Times. It was a very satisfying and exhilarating morning, but we also must remember that it was only the first step in a long battle to come. The fight must go on! We have to win this one to insure that we can always enjoy the quality of living that we came seeking when we found Palisades. — Diana Green

...Trucks of Spring



as the Thruway) and a terminal if other large trucks are allowed on those roads, unless the actual dimensions of the SDVs create special safety problems.

The fact, as anyone who has met a tandem turning from 303 into Oak Tree Road can testify, is that they create monster hazards. We hope to help the Town prove that DOT failed to consider necessary evidence and acted contrary to law, fact and reason.

A different set of people from DOT have been holding a series of informal discussions of plans to "improve" Route 303 a few years from now.

The initial plan showed a wide four-lane roadway, with wide shoulders on both sides and extra lanes at some intersections, from the New Jersey Line to Clarkstown, where a raised center barrier was installed a year or two ago. This would have required taking land from a number of residential and business properties and the replacement of the Washington Street overpass by a much wider span.

Palisadian Bernard Albin, long-time chair of the Town Architectural & Community Appearance Board of Review (ACABOR), and Danforth Toan of Tappan, the long-time chair of the Historic Areas Board of Review, have been pushing (with full PCA support) for a redesign of the stretch from Oak Tree Road up to at least King's Highway as essentially a wide two-lane roadway, with wide shoulders and a low median that would give way to turning lanes at appropriate intersections.

DOT has been chipping away at its original plan, and has definitely recognized that 303 in Tappan is not the same kind of truck route that it

is in Orangeburg and Blauvelt. There is much still to be done, but there has been definite progress.

On a not unrelated front, the Town Board recently adopted an ordinance creating Historic Roads and protecting them against heedless alterations and corruptions as broadly specified in the law. The PCA and the Palisades Historical Committee are busily preparing applications to have the Town so designate the full length of Oak Tree Road and Washington Spring Road as well as Closter Road.

Those who noticed that County Cleanup Day went by (April 17) without a call from the Civic Association: take heart! We will have our own special cleanup day in June at a time to be announced. This year we expect a big, happy, festive turnout. —

Andrew E. Norman
President, Palisades
Civic Association



Eileen Larkin is interviewed by Channel 9 while Bob Schelin, Andy Norman and John Murphy look on. Photo by Diana Green

A Report from Palisades Own Councilwoman ★ Eileen Larkin ★

High Density Housing is emerging as the latest threat at Town Hall. At issue is a request by the McGee Brothers to have a portion of their property in Blauvelt changed from our current "Multiple Family Residence"

which allows a maximum of 6 homes per acre, to a new designation of "Clustered Multiple Dwellings" which would allow up to 12 houses per acre. If the Town Board allows this to happen *anyplace* in Orangetown, a terrible precedent is set. A future request to cram a dozen homes into a single acre couldn't be denied anywhere in town, including **HERE IN PALISADES!**

I continue the fight against tandem trailers on Oak Tree Road, and the thoughtless widening of Route 303. On both these issues the Town Board is united, and we are preparing an Article 78 proceeding against the state, as well as working with our state legislators in a

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Palisadians Report on Tandem Trailer Issue



This is a report on our participation in the effort to overturn the recent N. Y. DOT decision permitting tandem trailers on portions of Rte. 303 and Oak Tree Road. After hearing Orangetown Supervisor Roger Pelligrini publicly announce that the Town will initiate a lawsuit against the DOT to overturn the decision, we met first with Ed Clark of the County Legislature and then with John Grant, the County Executive, and urged them to take steps to have the County join forces with the Town in pursuing the litigation. Mr. Clark expressed doubt that the County could participate in such a lawsuit. Mr. Grant's office reported back to us that, since no County road is involved, the County does not have legal standing to pursue such a lawsuit (Rte. 303 is a State highway and Oak Tree Road is a Town road). Both Ed Clark and Mr. Grant strongly support our cause but we do not know whether they can give us much real

help. We also met with the N.Y. State Assemblyman, Sam Colman. We told him that Mr. Pelligrini had informed us that Sen. Alfonse D'Amato had managed to get a reversal of a DOT decision in a similar situation in upstate Tonawanda, N.Y. Mr. Colman agreed to contact Mr. D'Amato in hope of getting his help in our situation. He also said he would contact the DOT. Ed Clark is also trying to find out more about the Tonawanda situation. Prior to the recent N. Y. DOT decision, Orangetown Detective Sergeant Harold Johnson wrote a letter

to them expressing opposition to tandem trailers on Oak Tree Road for safety reasons and reminding them that he had asked them "numerous times" for demonstrations so he could study the actual movements of the tandem trailers on Oak Tree Road. Even though officer Johnson is Orangetown's traffic expert, the DOT never saw fit to either arrange for the demonstrations or respond to his letter. This is all very disturbing. Federal regulations say that there are only two grounds on which the DOT can prohibit tandem trailers,



Our children take a stand! Photo by Diana Green

safety and engineering. By authorizing tandem trailers on Rte. 303 and Oak Tree Road, the DOT is saying they are safe but at the same time they are planning to spend \$67 million to widen Rte. 303 because it is dangerous. At this point we are somewhat pessimistic, but we will continue our efforts. Please phone 359-3207 if you have any questions. — Reg & Dossi Thayer

totally united, bi-partisan front against these incursions into our neighborhoods. This united front started with the tenacious opposition of the Palisades Civic Association, whose efforts cannot be over-emphasized. This was the grassroots fight that brought me into public life in the first place.

My first few months on the Town Board have been busy, informative, and exhilarating. As I learn about every nook and cranny of town government, I am serving on several commissions of particular interest to Palisades including the Shade Tree Commission, Historic Area Board of Review, Justice Court and Cable TV Commissions.

I chair a "Gripe Night" once every month at Town Hall, where all citizens can quietly bring up problems in an atmosphere free of the intimidation of regular Town Board Meetings. Listening to problems and questions raised by any citizen of the Town is the most rewarding part of the job for me. Feel free to call me at home (359-6589) or at my store (201-767-3444). If you leave a message, I'll get back you as soon as possible. My thanks to all my Palisades friends and neighbors for their support and encouragement during the first quarter of my first year in office !!! — Eileen Larkin

South Orangetown's Proposed School Budget



Palisades Free Library

New Non-fiction

Ashe, *Days of Grace*
Davis, *The Bowiers ...*
Halberstam, *The Fifties*
Kennedy, *Riding the Yellow Trolley Car*
Murphy, *Forbidden Fruit*
Shilts, *Conduct Unbecoming*
Spark, *Curriculum Vitae*

New Fiction

Bradford, *Angel*
Brink, *Cape of Storms*
Clark, *I'll Be Seeing You*
Cornwell, *Cruel and Unusual*
Deighton, *Violent Ward*
Dunne, *Season in Purgatory*
Elkins, *Old Scores*
Fielding, *Tell Me No Secrets*
Harrison, *Bodies Electric*
Harvey, *Wasted Years*
Hassler, *Dear James*
Isaacs, *After All These Years*
Kingsolver, *Pigs in Heaven*
Lehrer, *Blue Hearts*
Ludlum, *Scorpio Illusion*
Parker, *Paper Doll*
Turow, *Pleading Guilty*
Woods, *Virgins of Paradise*

Summer Reading Game

Palisades Free Library will be offering a feast of activities once again this summer. The Summer Reading Game, entitled "Book Banquet," will offer a variety of activities to whet the appetites of young readers and listeners. Watch the library, the post office bulletin board and your mailbox for our summer menu. Come feast on books!

David Sanders Awarded GRI Designation

Palisadian David Sanders has been awarded the GRI designation by the New York State Realtor Institute. He received this honor after successfully completing 90 hours of specific education outlined by the National Association of Realtors. David is a Real Estate Broker for Helen Skjerding Real Estate in Piermont. Congratulations, David!

The South Orangetown Central School District's proposed budget for next year was developed by committees in each of the district's schools. Our basic theme is to focus our efforts on children. Everything in this budget must support the high expectations we all have for our schools.

Because we believe that the best decisions for children are made at the building level, with teachers, parents, administrators, staff, and residents working together, we established building budget committees. At the High School, the Budget Committee included students. The committees met over a period of several months - after school, in the evening - central office administrators met on Saturdays and over vacation. Each committee discussed the needs of its own building; then the committees met together to go over the budget as a whole and to ask questions. Committee recommendations are reflected in the budget, both in spirit and in dollars. The line-by-line budget (available in district libraries and at each of our schools) is divided by sections: each of the schools has its own budget, and there are separate pages for such district-wide expenses as transportation and curriculum planning.

The end result is a budget that we believe is very good for our children and for our Community. We estimate that taxes will be raised 1.6% for the average homeowner - \$40 on a house assessed at \$200,000. This represents a net decrease in taxes, over the last three years, of \$24.

How did we arrive at a budget that gives our children what our teachers, parents, and administrators feel they need at a price our residents can afford?

There are three important factors. First, our planning was zero-based. Nearly every line of the budget began with zero, rather than last year's number. Each item had to answer the question: does this help our students learn?

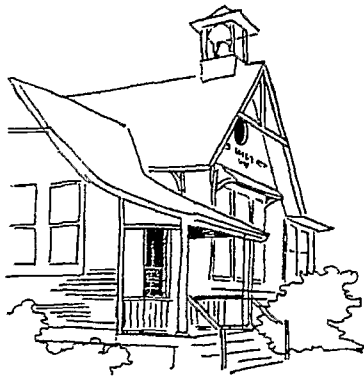
Second, and very important, is the reallocation of funds, away from administrative expenses and toward schools. A page of our budget brochure, which you'll receive in the mail, shows that both percentage of funds and actual dollars in the central office and custodial, maintenance, and transportation lines have decreased. This means more dollars are available for our schools.

Third, we were able to apply surplus funds from this year's budget to next year's proposed budget in order to lower taxpayer impact. At the same time, we have kept funds in reserve in order to have dollars available again next year, and, perhaps, to diminish district indebtedness, eliminating costly interest charges.

The budget as we have proposed it makes it possible to make necessary improvements in the areas of science and technology, to keep class size effective, to provide professional development for our teachers, to improve teacher evaluation and student assessment systems, and to have the highest expectations for our students and our staff.

We're all proud of this budget—of what it does for our children, and that the estimated tax increase of 1.6% is the lowest of all the Rockland County school districts.—Thank you for your encouragement and support.

— Mort Sherman, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools



Palisades Community Center News

PCC Board Members Honored

In appreciation for their 10 years of service, the Community Center board honored **Linda Jouas** and **John Converse** at its last meeting. Believe me, more than a commemorative plaque and flowers (for Linda) are deserved for these devoted board members. Linda has held the office of treasurer and has been invaluable not only as an exacting record keeper but a mainstay and level head on the board. John has held several offices during his time on the board including four years as its president. His dedication and love for the center is evident by his actions, ie: giving up part of his Christmas vacation this year to refinish the floors. I must add at this point, that while working on the floors, a couple with two young children stopped in and took a look around. The family was visiting from Florida and the father wanted to show his children where their grandfather had gone to school. His gratitude and pleasure in seeing the place so well taken care of made the job lighter. Thanks again to John and Linda!

RUMMAGE SALE JUNE 27

Two Events Planned for June

The 3rd annual **"FUN RUN"** has been set for June 12. Last year brought out approximately 15 runners, while the year before we had close to 40. We hope to start advertising a bit earlier this year so that everyone interested will be notified far enough in advance to reserve the date. Anyone interested in running or with suggestions please call me at 359-1026.

FUN RUN '93 June 23

Again, for the 3rd year, we are planning a **"RUMMAGE SALE"** scheduled for June 27. Kindly think of us when you do your spring clean-



Linda Jouas and John Converse with their plaques commemorating their 10 years of service to the Palisades Community Center. Photo by Janis Cavanagh

ing and give us a call with any saleable items you wish to discard. This event has been very successful for the Center for the past 2 years due to the generosity of our donors. The first year we raised over \$900 and the second year (which was a 1 day sale) added \$600 to our account. Thanks to all those who gave in the past.

The Palisades Civic Association, in cooperation with the Community Center has scheduled a number of town and state officials to join us for informal information meetings on Thursday evenings throughout the months ahead. Mr. Pelligrini was the first of many to attend. Please check the post office and /or the front door of the Center for the upcoming dates. If you are interested in using the Center or have any questions/suggestions please feel free to call.

— Janis Cavanagh 359-1026



Get to Know Your Public Officials

At the Community Center on Thursdays at 8 p.m..
May 6: Police Chief Wanamaker & Others
May 20: State Senator Joe Holland

Snedens Landing's William Diederich: Profile of an Architect-Artist

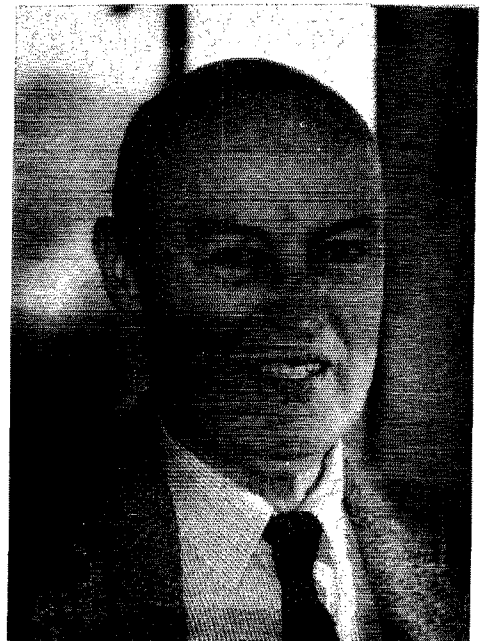


Photo by Joe Wilder

In their serendipitous winding down to the Hudson River, the secluded lanes of Snedens Landing have long inspired creative artists, thanks to the vision of Mary Lawrence Tonetti, who many years ago established an enclave for them here. Snedens continues as an oasis for artists today, as seen in the presence of such residents as Architect/Artist William Diederich, who lives with his musician wife in a gray

frame house of his own design not far from the Palisades Presbyterian Church.

A slender, soft-spoken cosmopolite, Diederich first settled in Snedens in the 1950s. He and his family have moved away to New York three times and returned three times, all the while hanging on to their house here, filling it in their absences with tenants "sometimes wonderful and sometimes terrible," while grappling with the problems of commutation — "there's no good solution to the problems of where to live."

Their latest return nearly four years ago followed his completion of eight years' work as an

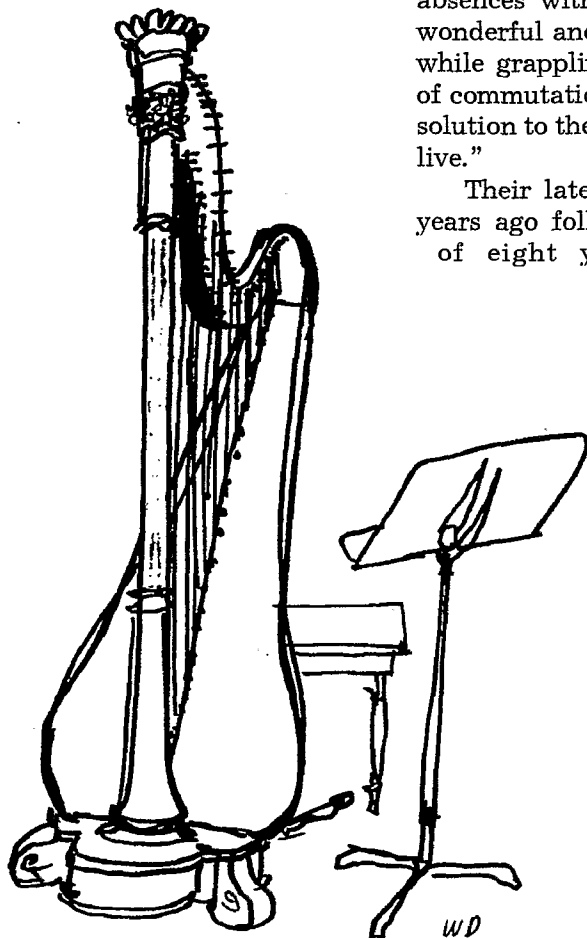
architect with the New York City Housing Authority, where he was involved with the design and renovation of low-cost housing. The field work took him to areas of stark contrast with bucolic Snedens. "The city owns lots of real estate in the worst neighborhoods of Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx," he recalls, and he and his colleagues "al-

ways traveled there in pairs."

Of New England and German stock, the 72-year-old Diederich was born in Kingston, N. Y., and considers himself "an old Woodstockian." He speaks with a slightly foreign accent, a consequence of living as a boy with his mother in France and not returning to the United States until he was 14 years old. He has maintained his ties with France throughout his life.

After graduating from the Columbia University School of Architecture, Diederich (known as Chappy to his intimates) worked in several architectural firms "mostly designing houses and a few office buildings." He has also practiced freelance. He explains that he designed his house here to be "simple and conventional to keep costs down" and to cope with the demands of three growing children. In Palisades he also designed three contemporary houses in a cluster on Horne Tooke Road near its junction with Closter Road just beyond the overpass of the Palisades Interstate Parkway.

Some time ago Diederich, a warm and likable man, submitted some of his drawings to *The New Yorker*, which has used them sprinkled amid textural material. "I get a residual of about \$3.25," he adds with a self-deprecating laugh. As for the changed look of the magazine in recent months under its new leader-



ship, he likes its "visual enlightenment." In a more general comment on the art scene, he confesses to feeling that the current recession it is experiencing might be "good" because "it has become so inflated."

Presently Diederich is absorbed in painting water colors. He works in an upstairs skylighted studio which had been the bedroom of one of the children. He sees this preoccupation as a "progression" from the line drawings he enjoyed doing as an architect. He used to do drawings with magic markers, he explains, but unfortunately "they look fine" while they're being executed, but "two or three years later even the black lines fade." His goal is to have a show sometime in the future but now "I seem to be avoiding it." A few years ago he had a show, mostly of his drawings, at a gallery across the river in Hastings.

The white walls and uncluttered space of Diederich's living and dining rooms effectively display his work and that of relatives and friends, including a painting of Milton Avery. On the mantel are a delicately wrought metal cutout of polo players and a bronze knight from a chess set done by his father Hunt Diederich, a sculptor, who also created the geometric silhouette on a nearby wall. Diederich père's work runs the gamut from railings for great estates and gates to weather-

vanes, birdhouses, and lions and tigers from the Central Park Zoo done under the aegis of the WPA. The Whitney Museum of American Art honored him with a retrospective in 1991.

Two other ancestors of William Diederich were leaders in the arts: his great-grandfather William Hunt Morris was a prominent American painter, and his great-granduncle Richard Hunt Morris was an architect who designed "cottages" for the Vanderbilts and their ilk in Newport, as well as an addition to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The latter gentleman is mentioned in Isabelle K. Savell's *The Tonetti Years at Snedens Landing* as "progenitor of the renaissance in American architecture."

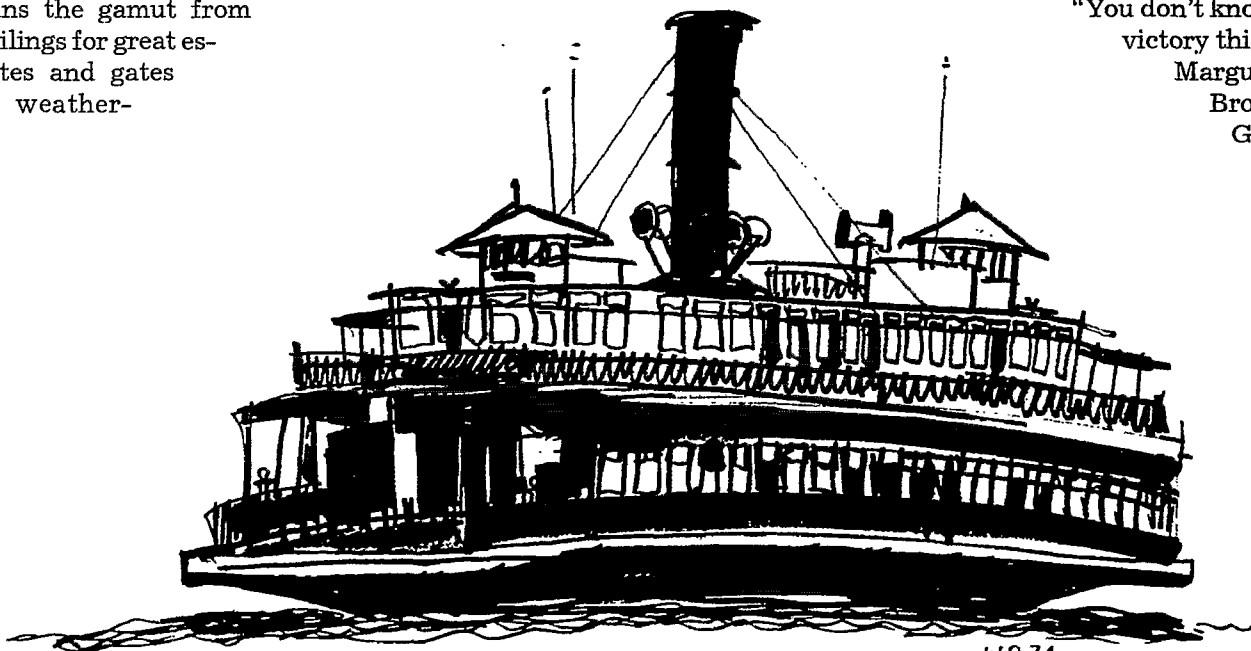
The east end of the Diederich's living room is dominated by three beautiful harps and an upright piano, testaments to Margaret Ross Diederich's talents as a harpist. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, she describes herself as a studio musician who does commissions for film scores and television recordings. Although music is her métier, she grew up surrounded by artists drawn to the gallery that her mother,

Marguerite Zimbalist, ran from her living room in New York City during the Depression. It was a lifeline for many of the most promising artists of the era, who were happy to be paid \$10 for a painting. This attractive couple observed their fiftieth wedding anniversary in January, planning to wait until warmer weather for a celebration. But they failed to appreciate the conspiratorial "genius" of a daughter who rounded up 80 relatives and friends for a party at Anthony's restaurant in Piermont, which was "a total surprise." Their family consists of daughters Lynn and Susan; a son, Michael (Gaby), and a granddaughter Alana, who lives in Spain.

On the day of this interview, the Diederich's immersion in the arts was taking a back seat to their concerns about Tina, a beguiling puppy, part German shepherd and part collie, that they had recently adopted from an animal shelter. They had enlisted the aid of a professional dog trainer to help Tina lose some neurotic behaviors resulting from early abuse. To their surprise and delight their somewhat gangly pet, big for the age of three-and-a-half months, had come quietly into the living room and lay at their feet without barking during their conversation with a stranger. "It's astounding," her mistress happily exclaimed.

"You don't know what a victory this is." —

Marguerite
Brown
Gundlach



© The New Yorker

WD 74

One of the first people we met when we came to Palisades to live fifty years ago was Bob Hauser, the garbage man. He was a big handsome open-faced man, who played the trumpet in a night club on weekends, and during the week often stopped to chat as he picked up the garbage.

He told us about his family; his wife, Doris, didn't want him to make a life of just playing the trumpet - wrong life style, and not enough fresh air - and his three fine boys who were spaced seven years apart so they would have only one in prep school or college at once. They all became successful professional men. I remember particularly Roger, the judge.

And in return he took a great interest in our affairs, and made many a memorable observation, which became part of his legend.

When Bill Plagemann first came here and Bob learned that he was a writer, he said, "Do you know Mrs. Antrobus? She's a writer too and a pretty good one. (Of course I only see what she throws out)."

At the house of Helen Miles, who was attractive and public spirited, but who disliked housekeeping, he said, "Doris asked me the other day what people in Snedens were like, and I said 'nice but dirty.'"

When Mrs. Geddes Smith left her Christmas wreath up till March, he left a note on it. "It is later than you think."

He used to discuss his religious doubts with Bess Bonbright, Ferd Eisemann's sister-in-law, who lived with Ferd and Katherine in the Bungalow.

He talked about everything with my husband, Cushman, but often came back to the subject of cancer, which had taken his father, another fine big garbage man.

Once we heard Bob's truck going into the Katzenbach's next door. Something was going on, lots of manoeuvring, doors slamming, then came a great burst of piano music. We asked Bob about it later, and he said, "When I move a piano, I play it."

Another piano story was of Bob and Aaron Copland, then living in the

Palisades Fifty Years Ago



Bob Hauser with his trumpet



François Tonetti's *Primitive Life on the Hudson*, Paris salon of 1911 and now buried in Snedens.

Ding Dong house. Dick Salmon told it.

"I don't remember much about the Copland - Hauser episode except that when Bob was gathering up the left-over caviar and such, he heard Aaron banging away upstairs, playing a few bars over and over again. Bob was annoyed. Something was wrong. A sharp should be a natural. A flat should be a sharp. Bob listened until he couldn't stand it any longer and went upstairs where Copland was still experimenting with sharps, flats, and grace notes.

"As I was told by someone, lost to a faltering quantity of brains, Bob said in effect, 'Mr. Copland, it's all wrong, let me have a whack at it.' He did, and what Bob slung at the black-and-whites remains as part of the Appalacian (sic) Suite. Don't quote me. 'I gin it to you as it was gun to me,' as Uncle Remus said."

A friend of mine who knew Mr. Copland told me to write him about it, and according to his reply, dated July 16, 1980, there was *something* in it.

"Dear Ms. Haagensen: I have been searching my memory in connection with the incident described in your letter. I have only a vague recall which makes me think something of the sort actually happened. If said garbage man actually suggested a solution to a musical problem which I accepted, I would be mildly amazed. I undoubtedly thanked him for his suggestion, but I have no memory whatever of having accepted the same. — Yours sincerely, Aaron Copland"

One of the Tonetti stories was of how he helped Mrs. Tonetti bury one of her husband's sculptures, *Primitive Life on the Hudson*. It was an oversized Indian with a dead deer over his shoulder, a fish in his hand, and a naked figure - a dead enemy? - sprawled at his feet. Mr. Tonetti had died, his New York studio was dismantled, and Mrs. Tonetti had no place for it. So she and Bob took it to pieces, brought it out to Snedens, and buried it.

After years as a "Purveyor of Rejected Merchandise," as Bob termed himself in a farewell letter, he retired, and a few years later, went to the
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...50 YEARS

hospital with the cancer he had dreaded for so long.

But he refused to give in. Cushman went in often to see him in the hospital, and one time he found Bob driving the nurses crazy by imitating a mouse's squeak and begging them to find it. Another time Bob, as a special favor, told Cushman where "Primitive Life" was buried. (Bill Bloor, the then treasurer of Columbia University, was so charmed by the picture of the sculpture that he suggested digging it up, putting it together, and putting it on the University campus, preferably in place of a Henry Moore which Bill detested. We thought the Tonettis would not want it, however.)

My most lasting memory of Bob Hauser is of looking out on a moonlit Christmas Eve some years ago and seeing the fine big figure of a man standing in the middle of our snowy courtyard playing "Good King Wenceslas" on his trumpet.

— Alice Haagensen

ART NEWS



Scholarship Deadline: May 6 is the deadline for the \$1,000 New York State Senate arts scholarship administered by the Arts Council of Rockland. To qualify you must be a graduating Rockland County high school senior, have demonstrated proficiency in some area of the arts, plan to continue studies in that art, and have applied to a New York State post-secondary program. Call Pat Dennis, 426-3660 for an application and information.

Rockland Center for the Arts Exhibition of student art work: opens on May 2 and continues through May 20 (oil painting, water colors, crafts, quilts, ceramics). At opening on May 2 from 2 to 5 p.m. student pottery will be sold. Admission free.

Members Art and Photography Exhibit: opens on June 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. and continues through June 21 (work in a variety of media by members of the Center, including many residents of Palisades). Admission free.

Summer Day Camp: Session I from June 29 through July 22, and Session II from July 27 through August 19 specialize in the visual and performing arts with field sports and swimming. For ages 5 through 13, 3 days a week (Tues., Wed., Thurs.).

Summer Art Classes: begin last week in June. For a free brochure on the Summer Day Camp or Summer Art Classes, call the Center at 358-0877. The Center is located near the intersection of Rte. 303 and Rte. 59.

4th Annual Palisades Arts Fair

Saturday, September 18, 1993
Palisades Presbyterian Church
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Now is the time for all artistic Palisades residents and friends to plan for the Arts Fair. Previous years have proven to be successful for the artists—to meet others, to sell their works and to be inspired. It is also a great time for all the neighbors and friends to see what really goes on behind closed doors. A wide range of arts is represented: stained glass, photography, sculpture, painting, jewelry, clothing, baked goods, face painting, music, furniture, pottery. Lunch will be available, too! All those wishing to participate and all those wanting to help make this exciting event happen please call: Diana Green 359-8137 or Milbry Polk 365-0297. See you all there!



Palisades Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 2 and May 16, Carolyn Fish of the Rockland Family Shelter will conduct workshops on domestic violence at 12 noon.

Sunday, May 23, Special choir performance of Schubert's Mass at the 11 a.m. service. Chancel Players: *Save Me a Place at Forest Lawn* with Sally Green and Maryann Garland at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 31 Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m.

Saturday, June 12 Annual Strawberry Festival from 3 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 16 Theater Benefit at Elmwood Playhouse, *110 In the Shade* starring our own Jack Hoffmeister.

All Star Circus and Parade Coming to Piermont

On Saturday, May 22, New York State's famous *Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus* visits Piermont for a special one day engagement. Circus greats—zany clowns, amazing animals, breathtaking aerialists and acrobats—will perform a dazzling All Star Circus to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the American circus, and the 10th anniversary of Vidbel's. If you associate the circus with large arenas, it's time to experience up close the sights and sounds of an old-fashioned traveling tent circus. Vidbel's striped big top will set up along the Hudson River in Piermont. Showtimes are at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. Admission free for children under two. Seating is limited. Advance tickets may be purchased at some of the stores in Piermont or for more information call the Piermont Community Playgroup at 359-9174.

For an added bonus, at 11 a.m. a spectacular Circus Parade will roll and rumble down Main Street in Piermont. Come one, come all!

The Slow Down Café

Palisades resident Virginia Dare, originator and organizer of the Slow Down Cafe, an eco-coffeehouse, tells us that live music (jazz, folk, rock and reggae) is performed twice each month at the cafe on a Saturday evening at 8 p.m. Virginia herself can often be heard singing and playing folk favorites as well as her own compositions. The Slow Down offers refreshment as well as entertainment in a candle-lit, non-toxic environment and is located in the Nyack Center on S. Broadway and Depew in Nyack. Check the Palisades Post Office bulletin board for the performance schedule.

Save Outdoor Sculpture Project - Volunteers Needed -

The Arts Council of Rockland, Art in Public Places Committee, and the Historical Society of Rockland, are all working in conjunction with the Lower Hudson Conference as local sponsors of *New York Save Outdoor Sculpture*, which will document all public outdoor sculpture in the region this summer. The project is part of a state-wide and national effort sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of American Arts; the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Properties; and the New York State Association of Museums to inventory all sculpture in the country.

Included in the survey will be architectural works, funereal art, contemporary and environmental works, as well as better known public sculpture that commemorates our region's history. The works do not necessarily have to be publicly owned - there is also an interest in private collections. The sculpture can

be found in parks, cemeteries, corporate and governmental office parks, church yards, and at schools, malls, and other public buildings, as well as in front of private homes.

Volunteers will be needed to conduct the survey of area works and will be trained by a state coordinator. There is a need for people who are interested in field work, as well as those who like to conduct secondary research.

Training will be conducted in June and will also include volunteers from Westchester, Putnam, Ulster, Dutchess and Orange counties. Volunteers will have a choice of training dates and locations. Anyone interested in participating or having questions may call Pat Dennis at the Arts Council of Rockland, 426-3660. Any prospective volunteer wishing to speak with the state coordinator may call Valerie Balint at (518) 273-3400.

ARTS CALENDAR

May 1 through June 15: Art Exhibit of work of Patricia Nix and Anthony Toney at Blue Hill Cultural Center in Blue Hill Plaza (Orangeburg Road in Pearl River). Mon. through Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

May 1 and May 8: Poetry workshops for aspiring poets at New City Library, 1 to 3 p.m. workshops are free. Call 634-4997 for information.

May 2: Final concert of Bach Festival, 8 p.m., Nyack Center. Call 358-4261 for information.

May 1 through May 23: Penguin Repertory Theatre presents *My Italy Story* by Joseph Gallo. Call 786-2873 for information.

May 11: Arts Council of Rockland reports findings of studies regarding the future of the arts in Rockland County. Participation welcome. Call for reservations at 426-3660.

May 21 through June 19: Elmwood Playhouse in Nyack presents *110 in the Shade*, a musical. Call 353-1313 for reservations.

18th Annual Golden Harvest Art Exhibit

Rockland Senior Citizens of at least 60 years of age are invited to exhibit their original art work in the *18th Annual Golden Harvest Art Exhibit* at the Loughheed Library of St. Thomas Aquinas College, Route 340, Sparkill, New York. The exhibit will open on Wednesday, June 23 with a public reception on Sunday, June 27 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Artists interesting in submitting work for the exhibit may call Pat Dennis, Arts Council of Rockland, 426-3660, for guidelines and complete information.

Rock & Roller

ANDY BOOSE

Young Andy Boose is back in Palisades for a short while before he begins a national tour with his band The Vestrymen. He took time out from a busy practice schedule to talk to Milbry Polk about his music career and his forthcoming album Ruby Ranch Meets The Plastic Hassle.

MP: Let's start at the beginning, when did you first get involved in music?

AB: Originally, I took piano lessons from Victor Powell and Gail Hyde. My mom made me. When I was a kid (about 11), I was in a band called The Sting Rays with my brother, John, Nik Elevitch, Philip Galinsky, and Eric Morris. We stayed together in various forms until I was 17. I started on the drums and then moved to guitar. We played a few parties and up at Lamont, but mostly we just practiced. Most of us are still in music. Phillip Galinsky has just been accepted at Wesleyan's Ethnomusicology Program. Nik Elevitch plays drums in a band in Boston; my brother, John, plays drums in a band from Connecticut. Eric, the only one not playing music, is writing a book on Bobby Seale and the Chicago 7.

I went on to college at Amherst where I joined a band called The Distractions. We played a lot of parties around New England and made a lot of money. We'd rehearse once a week and play on the weekend. I'd make \$100. When I was a sophomore, I joined The Vestrymen, a group of UMass and Amherst students. By my junior year, we had a

contract with a record company in New Jersey — Absolute A Go Go — and we made the album, *The Vestrymen*. Between my junior and senior years we went on a sweaty summer tour of the eastern half of the United States. Unfortunately, Absolute A Go Go Records fell victim to the recession, and we were forced to look for another label.

We floundered for a few years trying to get going again and sent demo tapes out to a lot of companies. Then we hired a lawyer in Boston who liked the music. He turned out to be instrumental in getting us a deal with Los Angeles-based Vertebrae Records. The Ruby Ranch album was recorded in December '92 and will be released on April 27.

MP: What is the Ruby Ranch?

AB: We all lived in this infamous, red, ranch-style house in Amherst which was known for the "Ruby Ranch Semi-formals" and other strange events. This album is a sort of farewell to those days.

MP: How would you describe your music?

AB: All of our music is original rock and roll. I guess we are considered alternative music, in the same genre as Nirvana and REM, but our roots

are in bands like the Beatles, the Stones, and the Beach Boys.

MP: Which musicians have inspired you?

AB: As a kid I loved Kiss, but *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* has influenced my music more than anything else. I've listened to it all my life and even, I'm told, in the womb. I like the Kinks, Jimi Hendrix, and Dinosaur Jr., a band from Amherst.

MP: Sounds like a lot is happening in Amherst.

AB: Yea! We just played the Northampton Loud Rock Festival. Lots of bands are getting signed up in Amherst. *Billboard* calls it the next Seattle.

MP: What is happening now with The Vestrymen?

AB: Once the album comes out we will tour the US and, hopefully, Europe in the fall. We'll be playing at CBGB's in New York on May 5 at 10:30 p.m. (corner of Bowery and Bleeker). Right now, we're filming a video in Boston. Our record contract includes a second album, so we'll begin work on that in the fall.

On April 27 our album will be released on CD and cassette. Around here you can get it at King Arthur's Sound Scene in Northvale. It will also be in Tower Records and other major music stores.

MP: How do your parents feel about your music profession?

AB: My parents have always been supportive. They come to our shows and are proud of the fact that I have the guts to go for it. They just hope I don't starve. Music is my life.

To find out where the Vestrymen will be playing in the future, call Andy at 359-7154.

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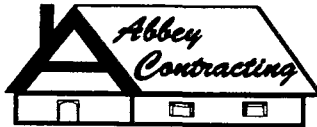
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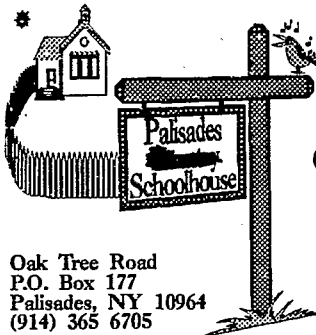
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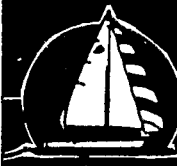
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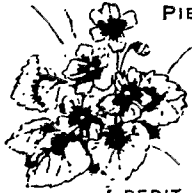
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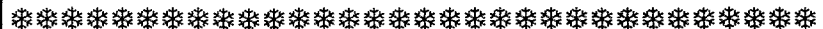
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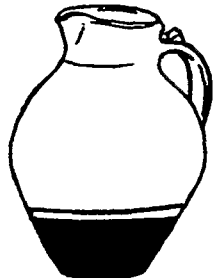
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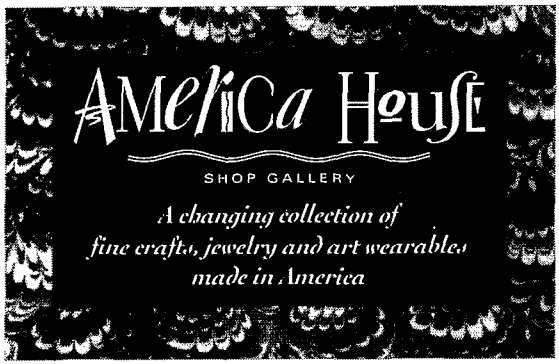
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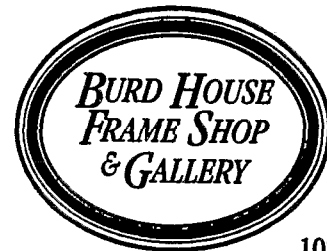
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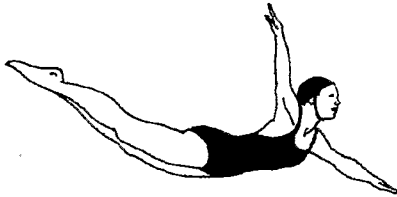


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Palisades Swim Club

Are you making plans for this summer? Why not spend June, July and August right here at home with us at the Palisades Swim Club? We're a family-oriented small club of just under 200 families from Palisades and its surrounding areas. In addition to our kiddie pool, pool, swim lessons, and a competitive swim team, there are tennis courts and tennis lessons for all to enjoy. For more information about joining the club this summer, call Barbara Loweree at 359-3935 or write to the Palisades Swim Club, P. O. Box 192, Palisades, New York 10964.



ABOUT 10964

This community newsletter publishes news and information of interest to the people of Palisades. **10964** needs your moral and financial support! Please send a contribution to **10964**, Post Office Box 201, Palisades, New York 10964. With your help we'll be able to put **10964** in your mailbox six times this year from October through June.

The Following Staff Members Worked On This Issue:

Paula Boren, John Converse,
Lori DiGiacomo, Jocelyn DeCrescenzo,
Carol Elevitch, Alice Gerard, Diana Green,
Kevork Kalayjian, Gina Vermandel
and Judy Zehentner

Page Design by John Converse
Drawings by William Diederich,
Andrea Williams and Marika Hahn



Contributions: We are most grateful to the following Palisadians for their generous contributions to **10964**: Grace E. Batchelder, Marie H. Firestone, John and Margaret Kalaydjian, Robert G. Stevens and Mrs. William J. Murray. — Thank you very much.

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Beat the Summer Blahs

Anyone interested in getting their children into a summer theater group which might perform a few short pieces by the end of the summer, please contact Diana Green (359-8137) or Annie Gerard (365-1383). We will have an organizational meeting sometime in May.

People Who Do: *We will be reinstating a column, beginning next month, about people in the community who do interesting things and would like to share them. The column will be called "People Who Do" and there will be a small donation per line or paragraph, (still to be decided), for the benefit of 10964. If you would like to have space in next month's column, please call Milbry Polk (359-3819) or Annie Gerard (359-3261). Below is a sample of the kind of thing you might see in the future.*

Three New Cooking Classes Offered This Summer

Do you know what French King Louis XIV's reaction was to his first pineapple? * Have you ever smoked a shrimp or marbled a quail egg? Would you like some new ideas for summer entertaining?

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* **Answer:** "Pained Surprise!" He greedily bit into it with the skin on and severely cut his lip. Pineapples were out of fashion in France until the next regime.