

10964

MARCH 1979

NO.19

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.

Calendar of Events

- MAR 8 Beginner Bridge Lessons,
Palisades Library, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- 9 Spaghetti Dinner and Court of
Honor, Jr. Girl Scout Troops 37
and 78, Palisades Presbyterian
Church, 6 p.m.
- 11 Community Playgroup's Italian
Dinner, 1:30-5:30 p.m., Piermont
Village Hall.
- 11-17 Girl Scout Week
- 17 John Paulding Engine Co. St.
Patrick's Day Dance, Sparkill
Firehouse.
- Apr 22 Community Center's Annual Wine-
Cheese-Art Event.
- May 19 Community Center's Rummage Sale
and Flea Market.

5) Investigation into the possibility of prohibiting the "Right Turn on Red" sign while heading south on 340.

We will be keeping you informed in future issues as to the further development of events. In the meantime we need your help! We again *urge* that you report any overweight vehicles to the Orangetown Police Department. Remember Oak Tree Road has a 5 ton truck limit. In addition all parents of school age children should be aware that the intersection of Route 340 and Oak Tree Road is used by school buses during the hours of heaviest truck travel and that children also walk along these roads. Our police department is willing to do their part, but they need our cooperation too.

BARBARA HOVSEPIAN

Traffic Problems in Palisades

On Thursday, February 8th, various concerned residents of Palisades met with Police Chief William Crable, Capt. Homer Wanamaker and Traffic Officer, Sgt. Harold Johnson, to discuss the increasing hazardous traffic situation on Oak Tree Road, Route 340 and the intersection thereof. This meeting was precipitated by the recent accidents at the above intersection since September 1978, with particular reference to the last accident which occurred at 11:22 a.m. on Tuesday, January 30th between an illegal tractor trailer and an automobile, whose driver was taken to Nyack Hospital. Further cause for concern has been the increase in traffic along Route 340 and Oak Tree Road and the incidences of speeding as a result.

Chief Crable and his officers were extremely sympathetic and cooperative. They all agreed that the residents of Palisades have an ongoing problem, the ultimate and ideal solution would be the construction of a route through New Jersey from the industrial areas to Route 9W and the Palisades Parkway.

Because of their help, several important developments resulted from the meeting:

- 1) A promised meeting between interested residents, town officials and New Jersey officials regarding traffic problems between the two states.
- 2) More patrol cars on Route 340 and Oak Tree Road, especially during commuting times.
- 3) Replacement of warning signs on Oak Tree Road hill which were destroyed due to several accidents.
- 4) Investigation into the possibility of relocating warning signs to more strategic positions along Oak Tree Road and Route 340.

Yonderhill Dwellers

It's Saturday morning in Palisades and the air is crisp and the sun is bright. Or it's pouring and the fog hangs dank over Route 9W. Or it's hot. Whatever the weather, cars begin to gather early for an auction at the Old Meeting House.



Clockwise from center: Tippy O'Neil, John Garrison, Mrs. George Garrison, Miss Marshall, and Dr. Charlotte Munn O'Neil.

Photo by:
Susan Lynn Preston

They come in great numbers and jam the white building, just past the Triangle, that has housed the Yonderhill Dwellers since 1935. Inside, preparations for the day-long auctions include placing all the chairs, assembling the items to be auctioned and setting out the sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee for the hungry customers.

The auction and the antique business are a fine tradition. They run smoothly and scrupulously because that's Yonderhill's style. "In some cases," says Tippy O'Neil, "we're selling to the second and third generation and the fourth is being introduced in parent's or grandparent's arms."

Tippy O'Neil has been in the antique business since 1930 when, as Dr. Charlotte Munn O'Neil says, "It was either that or the uncertainties of the open road. So, Tippy with \$5.00, a partner, and a few friendly loans, started business on Yonderhill Farm in Mt. Ivy. They then moved to South Mountain Road where, with his partner, they built a couple of houses, which later they sold to buy the church in Palisades."

"I have heard the story," he says, "but think it apocryphal, that two sisters were the last congregants of the church. They hadn't spoken to each other in 20 years but every Sunday went to church, sitting on opposite sides, surreptitiously glancing at each other. When one died, the other had no reason to go any longer. We bought it with the windows out, a heap of rust that had been a furnace, and a leaking roof which caused most of the plaster to fall from the ceiling."

The needed repairs and renovations were done by Tippy, his partner, and a crew of visiting friends. Business continued all during the renovations and a second floor was installed in 1937.

The partnership was dissolved in 1940 making Tippy the sole owner. Shortly after, in 1941, he married Dr. Charlotte Munn who came to appreciate the beauty of antiques and the charm and pleasure of the many artists who were adding treasures to their homes.

At the same time, Miss Marshall and John Garrison, Palisadians by birth, joined Yonderhill and business just about as we know it today, began.

There was a three year hiatus in the auction when John Garrison and Tippy were called to the Army. However, Miss Marshall conducted the business under the aegis of Dr. Munn O'Neil who also continued her psychiatric practice at Rockland State Hospital.

On April Fool's Day in 1945, Tippy was hit in the throat with a piece of shrapnel and couldn't speak for five months. Not disheartened, however, "I couldn't wait to get back to work," he came home and within days John Garrison also returned. Both have been at Yonderhill ever since.

The scope of business spans the years. The day we interviewed him a man had come in to show him a photo of a Breton costume Tippy had sold him 30 years ago. Not one to miss an opportunity for some sly good humor, Tippy told us the man is a folk dancer and lends the costume to his favorite gal partners.

Cartoonists have often featured Yonderhill auctions in their jibes; a famous Wortman in the vestibule even has the name "Yonder-

hill Dwellers" in the corner, testimony to the wide identity of the auctions and the O'Neils.

On the subject of auctions, Tippy says he doesn't get attached to things he has and is able to sell them for two reasons: "Once you have the beauty of it in your head what else matters, and once it's sold you no longer have to dust it."

The auction business is active, as it always has been for Yonderhill, because more people are becoming aware of the beauty of old things and many feel that they are a good investment. Furthermore, there is that intangible of owning some beautiful piece of old wood -- glowing warmly with the patina of time. Apparently Tippy has a good supply of those objects stored in houses around the area. He says he built the building on the South side of Oak Tree Road because he had two mantles he didn't know what to do with so he made a home for them.

Not every object is a work of art, however. On a recent Saturday, Tippy paid a woman in the front row 5¢ to take away a pair of crutches he hadn't been able to sell. However, on the same day he sold some lovely Condon plates, two Sheraton mirrors, several pair of brass candlesticks, chests, tables, tapestries and crystal.

When Tippy takes a break from auctioneering, John Garrison takes over. Between them and the other familiar people at Yonderhill it is a special place to be on Saturdays -- both to bid and a little bit to be entertained.

Auctions are every 3 to 5 weeks and exhibit days are on Thursday and Friday before the Auction. Regular business hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 till 5:30 p.m. Call, or stop in to get on the mailing list.

HOLLY M. REDELL

Palisades Free Library

The Palisades Free Library held its Annual Meeting on January 28th. Residents of the community gathered to listen to selected readings from the narrative poetry of Heinrich Heine performed by Harry Davis, and to Mildred Rippey's lively and witty poetry. Robert Burcaw, William Eberle (incumbent) and Andrea Williams (incumbent) were elected to the Library Board of Trustees. Copies of the 1978 Annual Report were distributed and are still available at the desk. Spirits and hors d'oeuvres, courtesy of Jack Algert and Karen Jefferies, were enjoyed by all.

Story Hour for pre-schoolers (3-5 yrs) will continue on Thursdays from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. The Palisades Library Program "Thank-Goodness-It's-Thursday" for elementary school children started Thursday, March 1st at 3:45 p.m.-5 p.m. and will continue through the month of April.

Learn Bridge while playing. A minimum of 10 Bridge lessons given by Mrs. Edward Kolb will begin on Thursday, March 8th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Library. Register now, as these sessions are limited to 20 people. The fee is \$10.

BEATRICE AGNEW

Palisades Triangle

We've done it! We are happy to report that because of generous donations from all parts of Palisades (plus Tappan, Grand View, New York City, Brooklyn, Maine, Alpine and Tenafly, New Jersey, Canada, and Washington, D.C.) we have exceeded our goal and contributions are still coming in!

We expect to give pro-rate refunds to all donors after turning over \$12,500 to the Town and paying our legal and postage expenses.

Contributions have been received from well over 100 individuals, plus six organizations (Friends of the Palisades Free Library, Lamont, 10964, West Hudson Environmental Assoc., Palisades Community Center Youth Group, and Oak Tree Cooperative Play-group).

Because of delays in the processing of the paper work it was necessary to request a two-month extension of our option to purchase the property. This was very kindly granted by the owners of the property. We expect to finalize the project by the new deadline, April 15th.

This project is a beautiful example of the determination of the people of Palisades to preserve and *improve* the quality of our community. Let us always work together for our common aims.

PALISADES TRIANGLE COMMITTEE

Lamont

A moderate-size earthquake lasts about five seconds. During those five seconds the quake is shown as oscillations on a graph paper on a recorder drum of a seismograph. The paper on the drum is changed every 24th hour. It takes about a minute to change the paper. There have been 26 earthquakes recorded in New Jersey since 1737. One of them struck near Princeton at 11:31 a.m. on January 30, 1979. The seismograph at Princeton University would have been able, better than any other seismograph in New Jersey and New York, to pinpoint the quake's epicenter, the depth of the quake, and whether it was a strike-slip or dip-slip type of quake -- information important for better prediction of future earthquakes in our area. But the earthquake of January 30, 1979 was not picked up by the seismograph at Princeton. The Princeton University scientists missed it because they were busy changing the graph paper on the recorder drum of their seismograph.

But the Lamont seismology group, under the direction of Lynn Sykes of Palisades, didn't miss it. There are 10 revolving drums covered with graph paper in the Lamont seismograph room, each receiving through telephone lines the wiggles and shakes of a seismometer somewhere in the Lamont network, which stretches from Buffalo to Princeton to the Adirondacks and Vermont and to the Caribbean, Iran and the Soviet Union. All 10 drums recorded the earthquake which struck near Princeton at 11:31 a.m. on January 30, 1979.

It was a scientific coup for Lamont seismologists as everyone knows who reads newspapers, listens to radio or watches T.V.

GOESTA WOLLIN

Palisades Community Center

At the February meeting five residents were welcomed as Board members. Many thanks to those who have earned a well-deserved rest from monthly meetings.

1979 promises to be a healthy, happy and we hope a some-what wealthy year for the Center. Healthwise, the structure is sound. Another room has been redecorated and the original hardwood floor is currently being uncovered and restored. Happiness means seeing the building being enjoyed by the residents of Palisades. Have you noticed that the lights are burning almost every evening? Birthday parties are in vogue on the weekends and a wedding reception is coming up. Being a non-profit organization wealth is out of the question. However, sufficient funds to keep the building in good repair plus insurance and utilities are a must. Our goal this year is to paint the outside of the building. It will take about \$2,000 to do a first-class job.

The Center is in need of large plants either hanging or standing. As always, we are open to suggestions. Let us know what types of activities interest you or if you would like to use the building for a private "something".

We sincerely hope that you have replied to our Annual Membership Appeal.

EDITH RYAN

* * *

The Youth Committee of Palisades will meet at the Community Center at 8 p.m. the first Monday of each month. For further information call Myra Richardson (1963).

Brownies and Girl Scouts

Girl Scout week is Sunday March 11 through Saturday, March 17. Brownies and Scouts are reminded to wear their uniforms to school on their troop meeting day, and also to wear uniforms when they attend religious services that week.

The two Junior Girl Scout troops, #37 and #78 are joining together for a Spaghetti Dinner and Court of Awards presentation on Friday, March 9, 6 p.m., at the Palisades Presbyterian Church Hall. The girls will prepare and serve the dinner, provide entertainment, and receive the merit badges they've earned so far this year. Parents, families, and friends are invited to this gala event. For further information call Melanie Moran (2741) or Nancy Hall (6237).

NANCY HALL

John Paulding Engine Company

The John Paulding Engine Company (Sparkill-Palisades Fire District) is holding its annual Fund Drive by running a raffle in connection with its St. Patrick's Day Dance to be held Saturday, March 17 at the Sparkill Firehouse. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 each. For additional chance books or more information about the dance, call Chief John Streppone (6326)

BARBARA HOVSEPIAN

Community Health News

Recently we received an inquiry regarding medication procedure from a Palisades resident who had a history of high blood pressure. Medication was prescribed to control the pressure and was to be taken on a regular daily basis. The person, however, did not understand the need for medication on days when the pressure was normal, and therefore had been taking it irregularly.

This is an example of one of the many misinterpretations of medication regime. A medication prescribed for a chronic condition is planned to aid in maintaining a control of that condition through continued regular use. Safe medication practices should include: discarding expired medications (see data on bottle), only taking medications prescribed for you, taking medication for the prescribed period of time, being informed about all medications taken including side effects, keeping your physician informed about your response to medications, and taking only the prescribed dose (i.e. if one is good -- two is *not* necessarily better!).

Information on medications is available at the library, and from a variety of health personnel in the community. Please call (1963) or (6427) if we can be of assistance in providing information or referring you to an informative source.

VIRGINIA W. BARRETT, BS RN
MYRA B. RICHARDSON, RN MPH

Correction

With reference to our Community Health News column, Rockland County Guidance Center for Women is now called *Rockland County Guidance Center* and their telephone number is 359-9390.

Barbara Hovsepian/Editor; Paula Silverman/Associate Editor; Holly Redell/Contributing Editor; Jane Bernick/Treasurer; Jeanne Boose/Classified; Hope Schwartz/Business Manager; Johanna Lo/Layout. Published monthly except July and August. Deadline for APRIL issue is MARCH 10th.

10964
Box 201
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Little League Baseball

An early registration for Little League and Babe Ruth Baseball will be held this year at the American Legion Hall, Route 340, March 10th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DON BRACKEN

Classified

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE. SEND YOURS TO BOX 201 OR CALL JEANNE BOOSE (7154). DONATIONS REQUESTED FROM BUSINESSES OR NON-PALISADIANS

FOR SALE - Antique brass and Oak coat rack. Approx. 32" wide x 7 1/2 feet high. \$95. Tankel (5635).

FOR SALE - Large Tiffany Style Shade, fruit design. \$75. Tankel (5635).

TONY Gerard is available for interior painting over the next three months (4338).

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.

FOR SALE - Head Arthur Ashe Competition 2 tennis Racquet, 4 3/8L. New with cover. \$45. Ryan (3215).

PIANO Technician, repairs. Call Sean Fredericks (3194).

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

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