

10964

The Palisades Newsletter

Holidays 1992 • No. 134

"Shy" and "retiring" are hardly the first words that pop to mind when the name of Eileen Larkin comes up. "Committed," "community-minded" and "combat-ready" are more like it, and enough of these qualities came across to the voters of Orangetown to propel Larkin into public office in the November 3 voting.

Running for the first time, Larkin routed incumbent Pauline Levin for the final year of the late Charles McLiverty's term on the Orangetown Town Board. (The full, four-year term will be up for election next year.) Her election gives Palisades its first Town Board member in more than 20 years, since the retirement of the late Dr. Albert Munson, whose house stood near the present IBM entrance on Route 9W. And her winning margin of well over 3,000 votes is the largest in Orangetown in a long time.

New York City Police detective Bill Larkin and the former Eileen Boyd moved their young family from Riverdale to Iroquois Avenue, Palisades, in 1971, just in time for her to get involved in the village incorporation campaign of 1972.

Eileen served the Palisades and/or Tappan Zee Elementary PTAs as secretary, treasurer and president, and worked strenuously and successfully to save the Palisades school. When the Board of Education decided to sell the TZE property at auction, Larkin was a ring-leader in the petition drive that forced a referendum that saved the school.

In about 1980, Larkin volunteered to head the Palisades Com-

Get Ready Town Hall Here Comes Larkin!

*"Her election gives
Palisades its first Town Board member
in more than 20 years."*

munity Center, which had fallen into serious decline, both programmatically and physically. Under her leadership, activities were revived, the physical rescue of the building began and a responsible and active board was recruited.

By the early 1980s, Larkin and her next-door neighbor, Barbara Olson, had trained themselves to be tenacious watch-dogs, reading the legal notices and attending Town Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board and other hearings whenever Palisades community interests were at issue.

It was they who first sounded the alarm over a proposal to rezone the land at Oak Tree Road and Route 340 for a large, high-density condominium project. When the Town Board voted the rezoning despite the unanimous vote of the Planning Board and the vociferous advocacy of dozens of Palisades residents, the Palisades Civic Association was formed, with Larkin as its president. The Association's lawsuit against the Town was eventually successful, and development of the property for 13 single-family houses instead of over 70 condos began this year.

Over the years of Larkin's leadership, the PCA has succeeded in keeping oversized trucks off Oak

Tree Road (a victory now endangered under new federal rules), securing the best possible zoning conditions for Palisades in the current town master plan, stopping the building of a glass box office building on Route 9W just north of IBM, and monitoring dozens of subdivision and development proposals before the

Planning Board, ZBA and Historic Areas Board of Review.

Meanwhile, Bill Larkin was climbing the responsibility ladder in the NYPD, the four Larkin children were finishing their schooling, and Eileen was moving into a career of her own. Bill now supervises detectives in a large section of the eastern Bronx, Billy is self-employed in the Palisades area, Stephen has graduated from Wheaton College and is teaching English for a year near Prague, Aimee is a senior at Marymount College and Bryan is a freshman at Wheaton. Eileen's Towne & Country wallpaper and interiors shop in Norwood is firmly established and thriving.

Looking ahead to her first year on the Town Board after all those years trying to persuade it from the floor, Larkin says she wants to get to know the whole town the way she knows Palisades and to find ways to enhance the environment, make affordable housing available, and develop programs for young people, especially cultural activities.

"And one thing I certainly want to see is for Orangetown to collect the sewer taxes that Upper Nyack hasn't paid and still isn't paying," she states with vigorous outrage. "That's illegal, it's immoral and it's unbelievable!"

Andrew E. Norman

Colman Leads in Record Palisades Voting As Larkin Breaks Democratic Sweep

Assemblyman Sam Colman led all candidates on November 5, with nearly 70 percent of the Palisades vote. More than 800 cast their ballots in person, topping the 1988 record of 785.

Eileen Larkin was the only Republican to carry Palisades this year, and the first in many years to win a majority in District 12 against serious opposition — 212 to incumbent Councilwoman Pauline Levin's 205. District 50, Larkin's home base, gave her a two-to-one edge, 225 to 112. The combined totals were Levin 317 all on the Democratic line, Larkin 371 Republican, 32 Conservative, 34 Right to Life, 437 total, or 56 percent. Townwide, with well over 1,000 absentee ballots still uncounted, Larkin led Levin by 11,755 to 8,590 (55-45 percent), the widest margin in an Orangetown town board election in many years.

Bill Clinton, the Democratic Governor of Arkansas, swamped President George Bush in Palisades, 55 percent to 33 percent, with retired businessman H. Ross Perot favored by 11 percent (439, 266 and 92 votes). There was one vote for the socialist Workers Party candidate, one for the Libertarian and one write-in for Richard Nixon. Townwide, however, Bush edged Clinton 45 to 42 percent, with Perot at 12.7 percent.

In the single State Supreme Court contest, usually the fairest measure of basic party allegiances, Democrat Donald Silverman gained 60.4 percent of the vote in Palisades, but only 43.7 percent in Orangetown. Joseph K. West received 30.6 percent (P) and 41 percent (O) on the Republican line and 3.4 percent (P) and 6.2 percent (O)

on the Conservative line. Daniel Flynn, Right to Life candidate, was favored by 5.6 percent (P) and 9.1 percent (O). Over the last four years, the Democratic vote in Palisades for this office has moved up steadily from 53 percent and RTL from 3.5 percent, while the Republican share has slid from 38 percent in 1988 and the Conservative vote has fluctuated from 3 percent and 7.75 percent.

Other Democratic winners in Palisades were Robert Abrams for U. S. Senate (56 percent), and Diana Hess for State Senate (56.5 percent). Republican Congressman Benjamin Gilman lost Palisades for the first time in six years with 48 percent of the vote to Democrat Jonathan Levine's 49 percent and 2.6 percent for RTL candidate Robert Garrison.

The \$800,000,000 state bond proposal was narrowly defeated in Palisades, 200 to 211, while it was being ploughed under countywide, 29,455, to 35,527, with an estimated 7,000 absentee votes yet to be counted.

Andrew E. Norman

Letter to the Editor:

I have been asked by 10964 to check on the status of the golf driving range on route 9W. Accordingly, I spoke to Deputy Town Attorney, Ray Icobelli; Town Code Enforcement Officer, Paul Witte; and Patricia Malesardi, Clerk of the Orangetown Zoning Board of Appeals. Based on what they told me, I submit the following.

C&L Golf Inc. (owned by Mr. Jin K. Shin), the corporation which bought the facility from George Kopek in 1991, has brought suit in New York State Supreme Court to have the purchase nullified. The court has appointed a receiver to run the facility and clear up outstanding building and zoning code violations pending resolution of the litigation.

As of this writing, some of the violations have been cleared up and Mr. Witte is planning to reinspect the premises. What was at one time believed to be an unauthorized, illegal increase in the number of driving stations, is now deemed to be legal by virtue of a 1967 Orangetown Zoning Board of Appeals decision.

One violation which is still outstanding pertains to an unauthorized illegal expansion of the main building which took place some years ago. Mr. Icobelli has informed me that Thomas Ciganek, attorney for Mr. Kopek, is applying to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance to legalize that expansion. A public hearing on the application has not yet been scheduled.

The people of Palisades were very upset last year when Mr. Shin applied for a permit to build a massive two-story facility at the driving range. Through legal action and a vociferous turnout at a public hearing, we managed to have the application rejected. I am not aware of any strong opposition by Palisades residents to the continuation of the existing facility as is, including the illegally expanded building.

Reg Thayer

10964's Annual Holiday Appeal

Please Help Some Rockland County Children Have A Great Holiday

For the third year in a row, the staff of 10964 is organizing a holiday appeal. This appeal was initiated for the first time in 1990 to collect gifts for various families in Rockland County. These families, for one reason or another, cannot afford to provide the fun and excitement of Christmas and Chanukah for their children. We realize that at this time of year there are many organizations who are asking for your help. And, in 1992, it seems as though there are more people in need than ever before. We request your help for these families and children in particular, as they are local families who we know truly appreciate the gifts. You can be assured that any gift you purchase or financial contribution you make will go directly to help a child receive a present for Christmas or Chanukah.

Through working with Jewish Family Services, we have learned that there are many new immigrants to this country living in Rockland County. These people are having a hard time financially and would be forever grateful for Chanukah gifts for their children. Paula Boren (365-1574) and Marika Hahn (365-3317) will be collecting gifts of toys and financial contributions for Chanukah. Please call in advance. All gifts must be received by Monday, November 23, in order to make sure they are delivered by Chanukah.

With the help of Catholic Charities, we have identified children and family situations that we feel would most benefit by our help. The first family is "headed" by a wonderful woman who has helped over 100 foster children over the past 25 years. Many of the kids she cares for are high-risk babies, born addicted to crack or with other physical and mental impairments. She currently has five children under her care. Two of these children, a six year old girl and four year old boy who are siblings, have been under her care since they were born. She is undergoing adoption proceedings for these two and is 99 percent sure these proceedings will be finalized before the end of the year. She also is taking care of a 13 year old boy who comes from a very traumatized background

and a five year old boy who has successfully endured surgery and chemotherapy for liver cancer. On top of all of this, she is just now taking in a newborn boy!

When we asked her what the children would like for Christmas, the requests were very modest... a basketball, doll, Ninja Turtles and other "boy" toys. If you would prefer to purchase clothing for the children, contact Judy Zehentner for sizes and ideas.

The second family is also in a difficult situation. This mother takes care of eight children entirely on her own, four of them are her sister's children whom she has now adopted. These children range in age from 10 to 18, are all in school doing well and making great progress in spite of their circumstances.

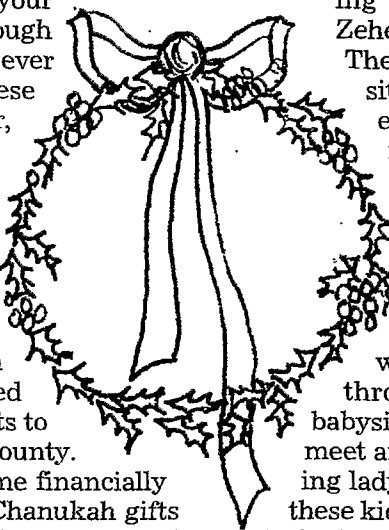
The mother is a lovely woman whom we have gotten to know through the last two appeals. She babysits during the day to make ends meet and is a very caring and hard-working lady. She has been through a lot with these kids and appreciates anything we can do for her. Again, we have a list of the children's sizes and ideas for "fun gifts" that they would certainly enjoy.

If you would like to purchase a toy or article of clothing for one of the families above, contact Judy Zehentner (365-0521), who is coordinating the purchase of the gifts. All new presents must be delivered to Judy, Diana Green, Lori DiGiacomo or Gina Vermandel by Tuesday, December 15.

If your schedule does not allow time for extra shopping, please send a check to 10964 indicating that it is for the Holiday Appeal. All funds will be used to purchase gifts we have not received or will be used for grocery store gift certificates for the families.

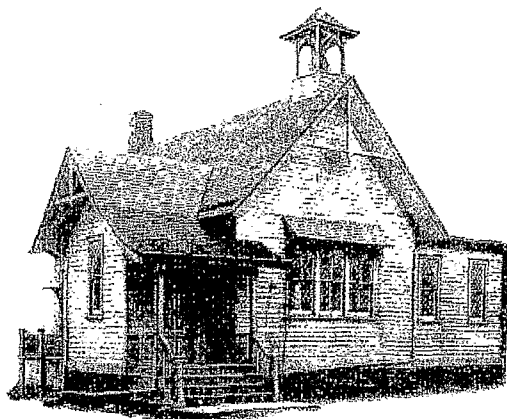
Thank you for all your help. The past two years have been very successful and we hope this year will be even better. If everyone does just a little bit, we can help make this a better holiday season for some terrific kids.

Judy Zehentner



Marika Hahn

Palisades Community Center



Halloween Party

The large turn-out for the Community Center's Halloween Party indicates how much the community looks forward to what has become an annual event here in Palisades. It is a great opportunity for neighbors, friends, adults and children to gather for an evening of fun and games. With the absence of its original organizers, I was pleased that we were able to "pull it off" with the help of our friends. Jocie De-Crescenzo must be credited for not only sharing her artistic talents but also for helping to put it all together. Those who gave up their time to aid in set-up and various other duties throughout the evening included: Barbara Solomon (balloon lady), Maria Hrynenko and Linda Jouas (food service), Tony Gerard (chef extraordinaire), Jim McCauley (popcorn maker), and

Jerry McCauley (raffle table). Others called into service were Uma Shah and Lori DiGiacomo (apple bobbing), Judy Zehentner (bean bag toss), John Phillip Jouas and friend (manning the new and improved-thanks to Jimie D-"Get the Ghoul"), John Converse (fire keeper), with Andy Norman and friends on clean up. Special thanks to David Seeger for coming up with a loooong story to amuse the kiddies. Good job, everyone!

Our appreciation goes out to Table Set, located in Piermont, for its generosity in giving us the lovely candles, and to E. & F. Florist, also of Piermont, for donating the beautiful floral arrangement for the raffle. Congrats to the winners! We hope you all had a good time and that the tradition can be continued next year. Any volunteers?



David Seeger Tells a Ghost Story.
Photo by Jerry McCauley

Holiday Bazaar Date Set

Saturday, December 5, from 1 to 5 p.m. has been set aside for the Palisades Community Center Holiday Bazaar. Anyone wishing to rent a table to sell crafts, collectibles or food stuffs, please contact me by November 28. Santa has promised to stop by again this year with little treats for the kids, and the tree out front will be lit at 5 p.m. to end the festivities. Hope to see everyone there.

What You Missed

The October 19 meeting held to discuss the current by-laws and upcoming election brought out exactly six people with two others sending written considerations. In order to run a more palatable election, we are asking those interested in a seat on the board to write us by December 1. Although nominations will still be taken from the floor, we are attempting to notify members of the candidates before the January meeting. A change in this approach will be at issue at the meeting. A letter announcing the date of the meeting, various issues to be decided, a list of candidates and a proxy slip will be sent to all current members in late December.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Janis Cavanagh
359-1026



Palisades Free Library

Library Has Received \$15,000 Grant

The Palisades Free Library has received a \$15,000 grant from the New York State Department of Education. According to Librarian Beatrice Agnew, the grant monies will be utilized to provide library access for the handicapped or disabled. She told 10964, "We were all very excited to receive our confirmation letter last month from State Senator Joe Holland, who went all out to help us obtain this grant. There are still quite a few procedures that need to be completed before the library actually receives the monies, but this notification is certainly welcome news that all is going well."

Building Expansion

According to Beatrice, the library's Board of Directors has been working closely with the architectural firm of Michael Esmay over the past several months to revise the plans originally presented to the community early last year. The revised plans are very near completion, and the Board looks forward to presenting them to all Palisadians for their review and comments.

Storytime Continues

Children ages 3 to 5 are invited to attend storytime on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2 p.m. They will experience stories told through the medium of songs, finger games, flannel board, hand puppets and, of course, our fine collection of picture books. We will be working to engender wholesome feelings in the children about themselves and their home library.

Programs For Older Children

Wednesdays at 4:15 p.m.

November 18: Potato printing holiday cards. Children will be making cards for their own use and will also enjoy a display of wonderful cards created by a professional potato printer. PLEASE SIGN UP.

December 9: Making winter candle holders from natural materials. PLEASE SIGN UP.



Library Hours (Winter)

Mon-Thurs: 3-9 p.m.
Thurs: 10 a.m. to noon
Fri: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sun: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Holidays (Closed)

Thanksgiving Eve Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Eve Day
Christmas Day
New Year's Eve Day
New Year's Day

New Fiction

Brookner, *Fraud*
Cook, *Terminal*
Dunaway, *Borrowed Lives*
Fraser, *Wives of Henry VIII*
King, *Delores Clairborne*
Lindbergh, *Names of the Mountains*
Michener, *Mexico*
Mortimer, *Dunster*
Ng, *Bone*
Patterson, *Degree of Guilt*
Singer, *The Certificate*
Updike, *Memories of the Ford Administration*

New Non-fiction

Brazelton, *Touch Points*
Carter, *Turning Point*
Freed, *Photographs*
Gleick, *Genius*
Greider, *Who Will Tell the People*
Hazan, *Essentials of Classic Italian Cooking*
Mellow, *Hemingway*
Miller, *Theodore Roosevelt: A Life*
Paglia, *Sex, Art & American Culture*
Reynolds, *Hemingway: The American Homecoming*
Taylor, *The Anatomy of the Nuremberg Trials: A Personal Memoir*
Vidal, *The Screening of History*
Wyden, *Stella*



Palisades Presbyterian Church

Residents of Palisades are invited to take part in church sponsored activities described below.

Thanksgiving Giving

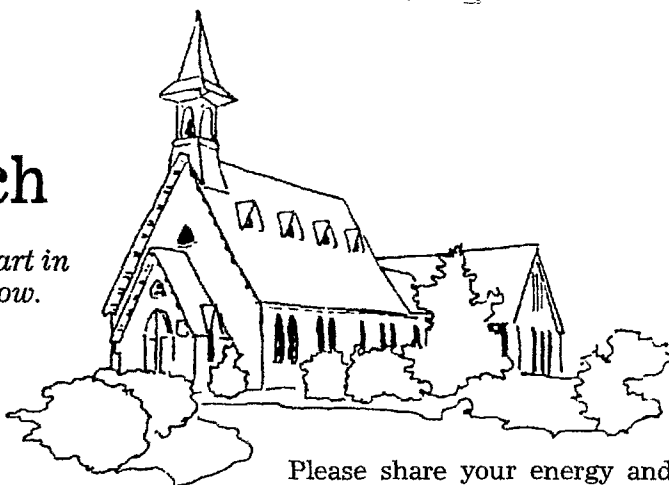
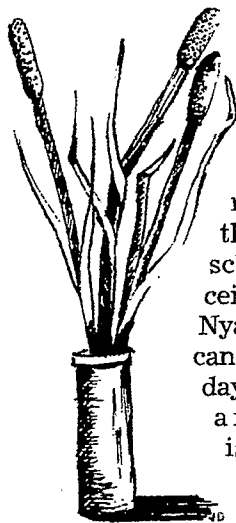
The church will be transporting food suitable for a Thanksgiving dinner to senior citizens in Harlem again this year and welcome your contributions. Dry and canned food can be delivered to the church office Tuesday through Friday mornings before November 22. If you would like to contribute a turkey or other perishables or have any questions, please call Dorothy Davis at 359-1752.

Volunteers are needed for our annual food collection at Grand Union on Saturday November 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. About 16 people will be needed (4 for each of 3 two-hour shifts plus others to transport the food to Rockland County Community Action Council ROCAC). These collections have been very successful. In each of the past several years, we have collected over \$1,000 worth of food. Please sign up by calling the church office. As a volunteer you can help make Thanksgiving for some of the hungry people in the county become a reality.

Year-Round Giving

Safe Haven, the feeding and supervision program for Nyack elementary school children, began on November 16. Directed at children whose parents leave for work in the morning before they go to school, the children walk to Nyack Center where breakfast is served and they get to talk or play games with the adult volunteers.

Volunteers are needed every morning from 7 to 8:15 a.m. when the children are picked up by school buses. The program receives the full cooperation of the Nyack Public School District. If you can help supervise the children one day a week or even one or two days a month, you are needed. The need is large and the rewards are tremendous!



Please share your energy and love with these children. Call Jane Sherman at the Nyack Center at 358-5364.

Rockland's Sister Cities is sending material aid to Nicaragua to the coastal cities wiped out by a recent tidal wave. They need kitchen items, building material (tar paper, shingles) and anything that a home which has been destroyed could use. You may leave items for Nicaragua at the church office clearly labeled "Nicaragua" or call Hazel Kim for pick-up of bulky items at 359-0118.

Food Cupboard needs continue so every week we take non-perishable food items in our food cupboard to give to ROCAC in Nyack and Haverstraw. Welcome items include: infant formula (iron fortified) and infant cereal; fruit juices; cereal; rice; beans; canned vegetables, and canned meats.

People go hungry in Rockland County and what you give does alleviate hunger at least for a while. All contributions can be left at the church office.

Special Events in December

December 13: A Holiday Literary Celebration, Readers Three, by Arlene Dahl, Bob Heitman, and Frank Platt for the benefit of the Palisades Presbyterian Church. Sunday, 5 p.m. Please see the enclosed circular for details.

December 20: Children's Christmas Pageant. Sunday, 11 a.m.

December 24: Christmas Eve Services. 5:30 p.m.; Dramatic readings and Christmas carols. Those who attend are asked to bring a new toy wrapped in white tissue paper. These "white gifts" are delivered to children in a Harlem hospital following the service. 11 p.m.: Lessons and carols.

Regular church services are held at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. Sunday School classes for ages 3 to Jr. High begin at 10 a.m. The church office is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Telephone 359-3147.

This Holiday Season

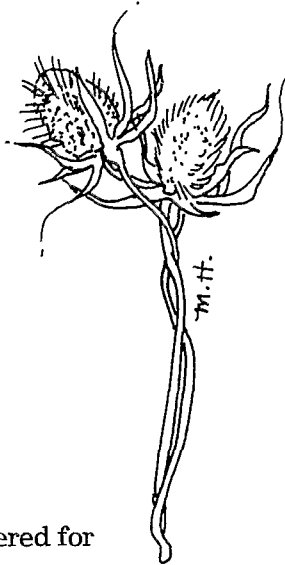
—well lit,
well, remove the lid,
open the letters
in response to the help wanted classified;
I am the man
expert in the field
over ten years experience
in life, in real,
this holiday season
give me a place
where I can produce,
do the things which will pay
the rent the mortgage,
toys to my children
this holiday season.

I have cast my ballot
one thousand and one times
with a twenty-nine cent stamp
enclosed with my resume
with a salary history,
with a list of references as I wish to be considered for
the position of...
as advertised in the New World Order
and I promise this time;
I will not sell loans to those
who forget to build
I will not sell arms and ammunition to those
who forget to spare the civilians
I will not sell my country and my government to those
who remember to pay me for my treason
I will stop selling
whatever is left of me.

I need a candle for this holiday season
and when I do start working
after this holiday season,
I will only sell drinking water
and I won't remind you that
you forgot to pay.
I will give you things
which you can use, goods
which will improve
the quality of your life.

Pray for me
this holiday season!

Kevork K. Kalayjian



November? November?

What is November?
Is it only a Month?
Or maybe just Fall?
Is it only a big bunch
of leaves that have
fallen down from trees?
Or how about playing?
Don't you like to play out-
side and have some fun?
So what I think is, that
November is everything.
November could also be a
fun time to read and write.
There's so many things
that November could be,
you just don't know what
November really is.

Thank you for reading.

The Christmas Wildflower

(The Star of Bethlehem)

Your namesake once led the Wisemen
Onward through the wondrous night;
Guiding with celestial splendor
To that celebrated site.

Did you then spring up in glory
On the day the Child was born?
Filling gentle air with fragrance
On that ne'er forgotten morn'?

Starlike flower, heed our passion,
Edge our path to Heaven's door;
Fill our yearning with sweet triumph
Give us joy forevermore.

Bette Castro

A Memoir

Peter Powys Grey 1922-1992
Marian Powys Grey 1882-1972

Peter Powys Grey died in New York city on October 6 at the age of seventy. Both Peter and his children, Katherine and Christopher, spent much of their childhood and youth in Snedens Landing. Throughout his life Peter returned frequently, sometimes to his mother's house, often to visit friends. He rarely missed the Normans' Christmas caroling or Cristina Biaggi's New Years masquerade.

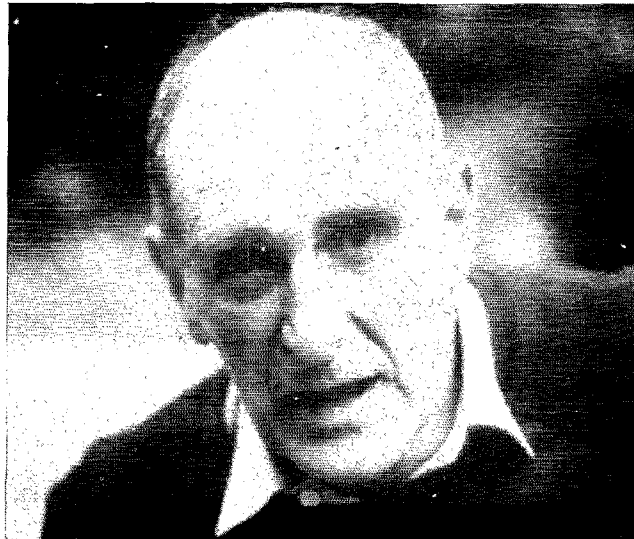
As was recalled in one of the many tributes during his memorial service at St. Clement's Church, in the days of his youth Snedens Landing was a kind of Camelot - once he danced with Vivien Leigh; he sailed with Laurence Olivier. He wrote poetry, made gardens, and for a time considered a career as a puppet master. He was a fine athlete. He played tennis with some heavy competitors and won the Snedens trophy at least twice, much to his mother's pride and elation. In her time, Marian played a sturdy game of tennis herself, but I should like here to keep her in place, something that was never easy.

Peter went to Exeter and Harvard, but having come from a literary family, the Powys, of Dorset, England, and remotely William Cowper and John Donne, he brought to his education a predilection for literature - a love of words, as was simply said at the memorial. One of his idols was the literary critic, F. O. Matthiessen,

in John's exuberant prose, his wild imagination, the eccentricity of his novels. I have often thought Peter must, in many ways, have resembled his Uncle John.

Peter and his first wife, Ty (Tyler) Grey lived in the house to the immediate East of Marian's. Their children grew up there. During these years, Peter was special

assistant to the President of American Express. Later, he worked for the Chamber of Commerce. It was at this time he initiated a program for gardens in the vacant lots of Harlem, a project in which he was himself a chief gardener. Two years ago when the Palisades Church resumed outreach to 127th Street, Peter went along on one of the runs. He was grieved at the abandoned gardens and proposed to revive the program. It did not happen, but for the time, he had the dream. Peter always led with his



Peter Grey

Photo by Lynn Hunt Diederich

whom he followed in life - and death. I think it is fair to say that all his life, Peter was a keeper of the Powys flame. He was especially dedicated to the perpetuation of his uncle's, John Cowper Powys' literary fame. He rejoiced

heart. His head was hard put to keep up with it.

His second marriage, to Tillie Tompkins, also ended in divorce. Tilly, in a letter read at the memorial, recalled how wonderful he was with her children, especially

with Norman. Given Peter's encouragement and with his own courage, Norman gained a fame of his own, swimming in the Special Olympics. No one around at the time Peter and Normie together discovered the language and music of the whales is likely to forget it. It was a kind of communion.

Peter's love of nature and art, his concern for young poets, his work with the Samaritans are his best tribute. He had a gift for friendship and a genius for awakening in others the curiosity and fervor he himself brought to living.

A few days before Marian Grey died, Bruce Langford, then the pastor across the road, was sitting at her bedside when she discovered her feet to be out from under the blanket. She stared at them for a minute or two and then pronounced a blessing on them. "Oh, you beautiful feet! All the wonderful places you have taken me!" Her benedictions were legion, her imprecations at least occasional. There could have been only one Marian Grey in real life and fiction could not do her justice.

Emily Marian Powys was born in Dorchester, England to Mary and Charles Francis Powys, a country vicar. She was the seventh of eleven children, all of them of exceptional talent. Marian taught herself typing and shorthand in her mid-teens, but she viewed it even then as an adjunct

to a career in lace. In the lore of lace and lace making she found a lifetime work and "an escape from the homelife." She studied the laces of England, then of the European continent. As Peter suggests in a memoir of his mother, the Art Nouveau movement no doubt provided a congenial climate in which lace making could flourish as an art.

In 1913 Marian and her brother, John, by then a well-known author and lecturer in America, together rented an apartment in Greenwich Village. Marian's sec-

Theodore Dreiser, a close friend of John's, each loaned her \$500 toward the opening, in 1916, of the Devonshire Lace Shop on Washington Square. The shop's first client was Mrs. J. P. Morgan, Jr.

In one location after another the shop flourished until Marian retired in 1945, by then one of the foremost authorities on lace. In 1946 she was appointed consultant to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 1952 Marian Powys's lace collection was given a spectacular exhibit at the Tibor de Nagy Gallery in New York. In 1953 she published

Lace and Lace Making, a veritable bible on the subject. In 1982, ten years after her death, Peter Grey mounted a lovely exhibit of his mother's collection, *Lace and Pearls*, at a midtown gallery just off Fifth Avenue.

Marian bought the cottage on Washington Spring Road in the early "twenties." She was a superb natural gardener. Even in old age, when she was crippled with arthritis, she could do more gardening with the aid of her two canes than most of us can manage on our hands and knees.

She was a casual housekeeper, an ardent conversationalist. To visit her always became an occasion: there might be dust in the glass and dregs in the sherry bottle, but the toast was exuberant and you damn well drank it.

It cannot be said that Marian was the most attentive of mothers. A few

distinguished women of Snedens had a hand in the care and feeding of Peter, but Marian assuredly

Continued On Page 10



Marian Powys making the lace of her native Devonshire.

retarial skills recommended her to August Heckscher, who encouraged her to teach and lecture on lace (after working hours). He and



Marian Grey and Jack Millet

nourished his soul. She gave him a love of nature, of books, of music. Besides the conventional holidays, she celebrated, now and then, an odd one that popped up in her memory. One May Day she orchestrated a Maypole Dance with Peter and chums hoofing it around the pole. Joe Hyde says the spectacle backed up cars all the way to 9W.

Among favorite "Marianisms": When she was charged \$30 for the removal of a dead elm tree: "It's a terrible price to have to pay for the loss of a friend." Of her callers, late on in life: "Oh, I have many visitors. The trouble is most of them are under the age of nine."...And very late in life, to Donald Tapley, magisterially, "I appoint you my personal physician."

Marian died in the early spring of 1972 at the age of 89. She died in the house she loved with Peter reading at her side.

Dorothy Davis

Arts Calendar

November

- 1** through Jan. 25; Blue Hill Plaza, Pearl River, exhibits 3 French artists exhibited; Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 4** through Nov. 30; Rockland Community College (RCC) Ceramics and Jewelry Exhibit, some for sale. 356-4650, x 4268.
- 8** through Dec. 13; Hopper House in Nyack exhibits 35 original Edward Hopper drawings. Call 358-0774.
- 13** Antrim Players present *Lend Me A Tenor* through Dec. 5. Call 354-9503.
- 19** RCC Players present *The Miracle Worker*, 8 p.m. 356-4650.
- 20** Elmwood Playhouse in Nyack presents *84 Charing Cross Road*, til Dec. 12, for reservations call 353-1313.
- 21** Rockland Camerata Concert, Purcell's *Ode on St. Cecilia's Day (1692)*. St. Paul's Methodist Church, 8 p.m., Nyack.
- 5** Rockland Opera, Bass baritone William Walker, 8 p.m., Cultural Arts Center, RCC: 352-8568.
- 5** New York Philomusica Concert, Nauraushaun Presbyterian Church, 8 p.m., 359-5660 or 359-1790.
- 5** St. Paul's Festival of the Arts. Ars-Viva Women's Chorus, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, South Nyack. 358-4660.
- 6** Handmade holiday gifts for sale at Rockland Center for the Arts, 1 to 4 p.m.; call 358-0877.
- 12** The Christmas Story. Music from the Middle Ages. 8 p.m., Cultural Arts Center, RCC. 574-4000 x 4218 or 4232.

For Children

- Nov. 22** Kidfest '92, The Paper Bag Players (skits, music, dance, mime, painting, drawing, audience participation); 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Ages 4-9. Lafayette Theater, Suffern. 368-5151.
- Dec. 6** *The Beatles and Broadway Be-Jazzed* with pianist John Lampkin, vocalist and music group. Ages 7 and up. 2 p.m. Finkelstein Memorial Library. 352-5700.
- Dec. 29** Hudson Vagabond Puppets present *The Snow Queen*, Cultural Arts Center of RCC, 2 p.m. 359-1144.

December

- 3** Susan Reed, folk artist and singer, 7:30 p.m., Valley Cottage Library.
- 5-6** Rockland County authors and artists who published in 1992 will exhibit and autograph their books at Hopper House in Nyack, 1 to 5 p.m.; also Dec. 12-13.

Cultural Events in the South Orangetown Schools

The month before the winter break will feature several interesting cultural activities to which the community is invited.

Friday, November 20 and Saturday, November 21. Scenes from Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed by Jean Brock. Tickets are \$5.; senior citizens admitted free of charge. T. Z. High School Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, November 24. The Hudson Vagabond Puppets will hold open rehearsals during the school day at the middle school. Call 365-4251 for information on seating.

Tuesday, November 24. Thanksgiving Concert. No charge. T. Z. High School Auditorium. 8 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16. High School Winter Concert. No charge. T. Z. High School Auditorium. 8 p.m.

Thursday, December 17. Cottage Lane Winter Concert. No charge. T. Z. High School Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Friday, December 18 and Saturday, December 19. *The Nutcracker* will be performed by a newly formed student dance company directed by Linda Carillo. A donation of \$5. is requested to help launch the fledgling troupe. T. Z. High School Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday.

Come see how talented our children are!

Geraldine Miras

Rockland Center for the Arts

Art School Offers Wide Array of Classes

Spring comes early to Rockland Center for the Arts in West Nyack. The spring semester at the Center's Art School begins Monday, January 25 with more than 50 courses in painting, drawing, ceramics and a wide array of offerings in the fine and decorative arts. Classes in writing, Tai Chi, fencing, and acting are also available.

More than 500 children and adults take classes at the Center each semester. Most courses meet once a week for 10 to 12 weeks. Short-term workshops in skills such as enamelling, basketry and flower arranging are available on Sundays or weekday evenings.

Call 358-0877 for a free brochure listing spring course offerings. The Center is located near the intersection of Routes 59 and 303, a few minutes from the Palisades Parkway (exit 5 north or 8 east). The Center is fully wheelchair accessible.

Noteworthy Palisadians

The work of artist Cristina Biaggi is being shown at the Ceres Gallery, 584 Broadway, Suite 306, New York City through December 5. The central focus is an earth structure suggestive of termite hills and similar to sacred buildings found among the Dogon of Western Africa. The piece is also meant to recall the archetypal sacred world mountain (*the axis mundi*) common in the mythology of many cultures. The walls of the gallery exhibit black and white drawings that surround the main piece and act as borders protecting the central creation.

Cristina Biaggi has spent several years exploring the interconnection between all living things. Her interests in animal rights, women's issues and ecology are intrinsic to her artistic perspective and have manifested themselves in many ways. A logical extension of her beliefs is the use of natural materials to express her ideas. One of the motivating factors in creating this earth piece was to bring awareness of the importance of other creatures in "our" world.

Piermont Holiday Festival

The Piermont Business Council will sponsor its sixth annual Holiday Festival on Sunday, December 6, from noon to 5 p.m. Visitors will share the sidewalks with clowns, jugglers, a giant teddy-bear, Frosty the Snowman, and a magician. Live music will be provided by a trombone quartet (led by Joe Alessi, first trombone of the New York Philharmonic) and by members of the cast of *Crazy for You*. Jonathan the Storyteller will be on hand to entertain the children and there will be a very special puppet show.

Young and old will enjoy performances by the Rockland County Pipers and by a troupe of Morris dancers wearing the traditional bells and ribbons. A horse-drawn surrey will transport shoppers across town to see Santa. At dusk, the town's tree will be lit and the songs of the season will sound out merrily.

Refreshments of all kinds will be served on the street, as well as in Piermont's duly celebrated restaurants. Visitors can add to the spirit of the day by bringing cans or boxes of food to help supply the Emergency Food Cupboard of the Rockland Community Action Council. For more information, call Linda Majors at 359-3212.

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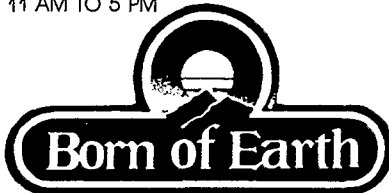
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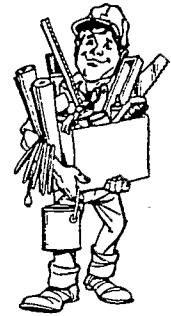
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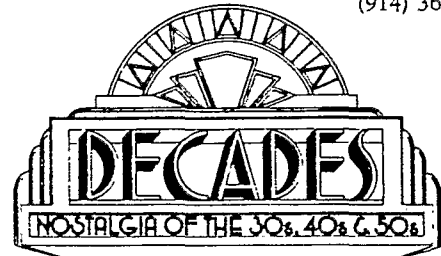
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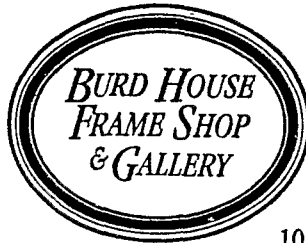
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