

The Official Newsletter of THE BANNERMAN CASTLE TRUST, INC.

Volume #37

2nd & 3rd Quarter 2014



JANE BANNERMAN March 15, 1910 - May 25,014

It is with great sadness that we inform you that our dear friend and colleague, Jane Campbell Bannerman passed away. Jane was a founding member of The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. and acted on our board of directors as the BCT Historical Advisor. She was full of life and loved to paint and entertain her family and friends.

Neil Caplan, Executive Director of The Bannerman Castle Trust, remembers her wit and charm. "When Jane was 90 years old, she got hit by a taxi. I called her daughter Ann to see how she was doing. She told me to wait a

month for her to recuperate, which I did. When I called her at the hospital, I asked her how she was doing. She replied, "I was a hood ornament for a taxi for 40 feet!" Jane also told the Trust many wonderful stories about life on Bannerman Island.

Jane recalled that in the early 1930s, her fiancé, Charles S. Bannerman took her to the island for a weekend. She decided to paint a small painting of one of the towers that was located near the #2 Warehouse on the dock. She was so excited by the painting and wanted to show it to "Charlie" as soon as possible. When he saw it, he burst out laughing. Jane asked, "why are you laughing at my painting?" Charlie replied, "because you painted the men's latrine!" Jane said she was so mad that she decided she would never paint the castle again. In 1993, Jane started painting Bannerman Castle when she got involved with the preservation of the island. Jane kept that early painting of the small Tower on Bannerman Island. She donated it to The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. and it is on display at The Bannerman Island Gallery in Beacon.

As an artist, decorator, community volunteer, gracious and generous host, and consummate New Yorker, she died at her home on May 25, 2014, at age 104. Born March 15, 1910 in Elizabeth, New Jersey, the daughter of Pauline Darrach and Edward Campbell, she attended Vail-Deane School and Parsons School of Design. Jane apprenticed with the artist, Lucien Bernhard, and worked for Delineator Magazine and McMillan, Inc., and had her own interior decorating firm. She studied Chinese painting with C.C. Wang and was a prolific watercolorist, creating scores of watercolor sketchbooks while traveling to almost every corner of the earth, and all are available for viewing at The New York Historical Society. She was married to Charles S. Bannerman, Esq. from 1938 until his death in 1976. For more than half a century, Jane volunteered at the library for the Hospital for Special Surgery and sponsored children throughout the world through Plan USA. Jane is survived by her daughter, Ann B. Bowes of Danbury, New Hampshire, Ann's partner, Guy Stoye, and many cousins. Her brother, Bradford D. Campbell, predeceased her. The family thanks Jane's caregivers, particularly Shelly Watson, for their loving care. Jane Bannerman is remembered by the BCT with a garden named after her on Bannerman Island.



With Bannerman family members at Jane's 100th Birthday Dinner in Cold Spring





Left: Bear Mt. Carousel Right: With David Bannerman at 104 years young



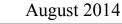


Left: With Parks Commissioner Bernadette Castro Right: With BCT Executive Director, Neil Caplan





Left: On Bannerman Island, 2004 Right: With Evelyn Palen, 2007



Page 2



The Banner Volume 37 August 2014

> 2nd Ouarter EDITORIAL STAFF

Editorial Staff

Neil Caplan Len Warner Robert McKenna Press Representative **D.A.** Associates Web Master John Morzen Website Master **Barbara Gottlock** ART AND DESIGN Coat of Arms Jane Bannerman Castle Illustration E. Virginia Donovan Linda T. Hubbard Photos Wes Gottlock Jane Feldman **Thom Johnson**

The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. **Executive Director** Neil Caplan

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Vice President Treasurer Volunteer Coordinator Secretary Director Director Director

Len Warner Robert McKenna Susan Andersen Barbara Gottlock E. Virginia Donovan Alison MacAvery Michael McCormack John Lanc

ADVISORY COUNCIL



Michael Devonshire Momir Guzijan Thom Johnson John Lawrence Dr. Sheila McManus Frederick Osborn III **Joan Pagones** David Rocco

MISSION

The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. is a not-forprofit "Friends" organization of volunteers working with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Trust is dedicated to bringing together resources and funding to stabilize the buildings on Pollepel Island. The Trust aims to raise awareness and educate the public and government organizations on the value and history of the island. The Trust aims to raise funds for repairing the island, creating a master plan and eventually stabilizing the structures. The Trust is working to make the island safe for volunteers and for the public to enjoy the island as an educational, cultural, historical and recreational facility promoting heritage tourism in the Hudson Valley.

Become a "FRIEND" or a Volunteer The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. invites you to become a "Friend of Bannerman Castle". Help us preserve the castle. For information call: Neil Caplan, President (845)-831-6346 www.bannermancastle.org

The Banner is published by the Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. All opinions expressed by contributors to The Banner do not necessarily reflect the opinions or official policies of The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc.

The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. POB 843, Glenham, NY 12527-0843

BANNERMAN ISLAND GARDENS DEDICATION HIGHLIGHTS

On June 7th, Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. dedicated five restored gardens to Wayne and Marion Owen, Margaret Bannerman-Betts, Evelyn Owen Palen and Jane Campbell Bannerman. The gardens were restored by our volunteer gardeners, led by Donna Blakemore. The gardens are marked with steel plaques that were donated by members of the board of directors of the Bannerman Castle Trust. The program was started with a message from BCT president, Leonard Warner.

It could not have been a more beautiful day on the island as family members joined in the dedication, Virginia (Bannerman) Betts, and her two sisters. Penny Colby and Martha Shaw, were on hand to talk about their mother, Margaret Bannerman Betts. A step baring Margaret's name was installed to replace the original that Frank Bannerman carved. The new

step was built by BCT Historian Thom Johnson, and was inscribed by Margaret's daughters.

Eleanor Owen Seeland talked about her parents, Wayne and Marion Owen, who were the assistant superintendents of Bannerman Island. Eleanor lived on the island as a child.

Virginia Donovan spoke on behalf of her mother, Evelyn Owen Palen, who also lived on Bannerman Island in 1934 when she put herself through college. She stayed with her brother Wayne and sister in-law, Marion. Evelyn was on the board of the Bannerman Castle Trust.

Ray Armater BCT's Executive Director Neil Caplan spoke Robert A. Doyle about Jane Campbell Bannerman, who had just passed away on May 25th. Jane was a founding member of the BCT, a wonderful painter, and a great supporter of The Bannerman Castle Trust.

> A plaque presented by Barbara Gottlock was also installed on the garden trail for Mark Adams Greenhouses. Every year they donate flowers and plants for the gardens.

The ceremony was highlighted with music from the Kings Highlander Bag Pipe Band, who donated their services for the event and tea sandwiches were provided by The Cup and Saucer Tea Room of Beacon.

A special thanks to Virginia Koubeck, Virginia Donovan, Mark and Sue Adams, Donna Blakemore, Barbara and Wes Gottlock, Thom Johnson, Neil Caplan and the Bannerman Island volunteer gardeners.

NEW EPF GRANT - The BCT has applied for a new EPF Matching Grant for \$500,000 to continue to stabilize the structures on Bannerman Island. We will only need to match \$125,000 for this grant. Your taxdeductible donations are welcome. Please donate by sending your check to The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc., POB 843, Glenham, NY, 12527-0843. Thank You!



The Betts Girls: Penny Colby and Virginia Koubeck



Eleanor Owen Sealand



Virginia Donovan, daughter Caroline and granddaughter.



SAVE THE DATE FOR BANNERMAN 2014 EVENTS



Best Dinner of the Year!

NOT TO BE M



September 13th Hudson Valley Chefs Consortium Presents

Annual Hudson Valley Farm Fresh Chefs Dinner

Five-Course Gourmet Meal Prepared by Five Noted Hudson Valley Chefs **Donation: \$135 general public \$125 BCT members** Reservation required: **Call: 845-831-6346**

September 1st

MEET THE AUTHORS DAY ON BANNERMAN ISLAND -

After a pleasant cruise, enjoy a self-guided tour of this iconic island. Docents will be on hand to enhance the experience. At your leisure, meet and greet authors whose books celebrate the wonderful history of the Hudson Valley. Books will be on hand for sale and signing. Enjoy light refreshments adjacent to the Bannerman Residence before your return trip. Authors Include: Wes and Barbara Gottlock, Thom Johnson, James Holmgren, and Kathryn Burke.

Book titles (so far): Bannerman Castle, Dodendal, New York's Palisades Interstate Park, Lost Towns of the Hudson Valley, Lost Amusement Parks of the Hudson Valley, Lost Amusement Parks of New York City, Hudson River Bridges, Playland (at Rye)

For Reservations call Zerve: 1-800-979-3370

A Summer Season of Special Events and Tours to the Hudson Valley's Bannerman Island

Bannerman Island Special Summer Events -

August/September/October 2014 - <u>www.bannermancastle.org</u> -Wine and Cheese Tour, Meet the Authors, the Annual Hudson Valley Chefs Consortium Farm Fresh Dinner, a concert version of the hit musical Brigadoon, a patriotic concert tribute to the Hudson Valley's Civil War Volunteers, 3rd Sunday Music Tours, and more, on The Hudson River...

Programs include a cruise to and from Bannerman Island on the Bannerman Castle Trust's motor vessel, *The Estuary Steward*, and a self-guided tour on Bannerman Island. Advance booking required for all tours. Boats depart weekends from the historic river towns of Beacon and Newburgh, NY.

Make your reservation at ZERVE.com or call 855-256-4007.

Upcoming Events:

This Friday, <u>August 8th</u> - Wine and Cheese Cruise to Bannerman Island. Enjoy this Wine and Cheese Cruise and tour of Bannerman Island with wine, cheese, wraps, salads and desserts **catered by Loughran's Irish Pub of Salisbury Mills!** This cruise and tour is a mini-fundraiser for the Bannerman Castle Trust and begins at 6:00 p.m. at Torches Dock, Newburgh. *The Estuary Steward* will cruise to Bannerman Island where you will depart for an hour self-guided tour on the island. Afterward, you will board the *Steward* again and cruise south enjoying your wine and cheese as you pass Breakneck Ridge and Storm King Mountain. The boat will cruise to Cold Spring, then come back to the island for a short rest break before returning to Beacon. **6:00 p.m. departure from Newburgh \$75.00 — members \$5.00 discount.**

Monday, Labor Day, <u>September 1st</u>, **2014**—*Meet the Authors Day* on Bannerman Island . After a pleasant cruise, enjoy a self-guided tour of this iconic island. Docents will be on hand to enhance the experience. At your leisure, meet and greet authors whose books celebrate the wonderful history of the Hudson Valley. Books will be on hand for sale and signing. Enjoy light refreshments adjacent to the Bannerman Residence before your return trip. Authors include: Barbara and Wes Gottlock, Thom Johnson, James Holmgren, and Kathryn Burke. Book titles : Bannerman Castle, Dodendal, New York's Palisades Interstate Park, Lost Towns of the Hudson Valley, Lost Amusement Parks of the Hudson River Bridges, Playland (at Rye). (Please note: Authors are subject to last minute changes) — 12:30 p.m. departure from Newburgh. \$35.00

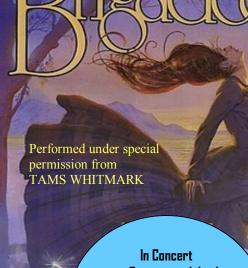
On Saturday, <u>September 13th</u> please join us for our favorite event of the year, the annual *Chefs Farm Fresh Dinner* on Bannerman's Island. Presented by Hudson Valley Chefs Consortium. Fivecourse gourmet meal prepared by five noted Hudson Valley chefs. Limited seating. Reservations are advised. **Donation \$135.00**

August 8th Wine and Cheese Cruise

The *Estuary Steward* cruises to Bannerman Island for a tour. Guests board the *Estuary Steward* on a cruise toward West Point. Includes wine, wraps, salads and desserts onboard.

Catered by Loughran's Restaurant.

Limited Seating for 35. Donation is \$80.00 general public and \$75.00 for BCT members



on Bannerman Island September 21st Book and Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and Music by Frederick Lowe Original dances by Agnes DeMille

September 21st

Just Off Broadway, Newburgh's premier theatrical group, returns to Bannerman Island with a stunning concert version of the Broadway classic musical, Brigadoon on September 21st.



Bannerman Island is the perfect setting for the magical Scottish village of Brigadoon that appears once every 100 years. Performed in the garden overlooking the "Tower", Brigadoon should not be missed! The performance is directed by professional theater veteran Joyce Presutti, who along with her husband, run *Just Off Broadway* at the Westshore Station Theater in Newburgh. **Tickets are \$65.00 per person. Includes a cruise to and from** the island on *The Estuary Steward* and a self-guided tour of the island. Departs Beacon at 3:00 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. **RESERVATIONS ADVISED.** CALL: 845-831-6346

On Sunday, <u>September 21</u> — Enjoy a fantastic concert version of the Broadway

musical, *Brigadoon* performed by Newburgh's premier theatrical company, *Just Off Broad*way directed by theater veteran, Joyce Presutti. Brigadoon is set in the highlands of Scotland and appears once every 100 years. You won't find a better setting for this classic musical than in the garden at Bannerman Island overlooking the ruins of Frank Bannerman VI's Scottish Baronial Castle. Come join us for a romantic evening on Bannerman Island and help us continue to bring theatrical shows to the island. Tickets are **\$65.00** and include a cruise to and from the Island on *The Estuary Steward* and a self-guided tour of the island.

On Saturday, October 18 — (rescheduled from July)

Enjoy a patriotic benefit concert tribute to the Hudson Valley's Civil War Volunteers

through ballads, stories, poems and campfire songs. *Rally Round the Flag*, performed by the 77th New York Regimental Balladeers, Civil War reenactors. Come experience songs of the Civil War era as the Balladeers volunteer their talents to benefit Bannerman Island. This is a terrific program and it is the first time that a reenactor troupe will perform on the island. Refreshments will be available. Tickets are **\$35.00**. Additional donations will be welcomed. **Boat** <u>departs</u> from the Torches Dock, Newburgh at 11:00 a.m. and the Beacon Institute Dock at 12:30 p.m. The benefit is part of the Third Sunday Music Tour.

Third Sunday Music Tours: Bring your own lunch, enjoy a self-guided tour, and music on the island. In town for the 3rd Sunday of the month? Just hop onboard The Estuary Steward and ride over to Bannerman Island where you can enjoy a self-guided tour and a live music concert. This tiny jewel in the setting of the Hudson Highlands exhibits rich history and *beautiful scenery* and will provide a wonderfully enriching day for the whole family. The whole experience lasts two and a half hours. .Tickets are \$35.00. August 17, 2014; September 21, 2014 (this performance only has a departure time of 10:00 a.m. from Torches Dock, Newburgh, NY, 12:30 p.m. departure from Beacon); October 19, 2014, 11:00 a.m. departure from Newburgh, 12:30 p.m. departure from Beacon.

Book now for the experience of a lifetime!

If you are looking for an adventurous outing, come to one of the Bannerman Castle Trust's special events on Bannerman Island this summer. All events are mini-fundraisers to help with the preservation of Bannerman Castle on Pollepel Island.

Buy tickets to any two events and save \$5.00 per ticket. Make your reservation at ZERVE.com or call 855-256-4007. The Island is also available for private event rentals. Contact Neil Caplan at 845-831-6346. www.bannermancastle.org

August 2014

PHILIPSTOWN GARDEN CLUB PLANTS BABY CHESTNUT TREES ON BANNERMAN ISLAND

Six years ago, the Garden Club of America charged each of its clubs from Maine to Hawaii with creating a tree project for its centennial celebration in 2013. The Philipstown Garden Club (PGC) decided to plant chestnut trees, a dominant indigenous tree throughout the Hudson Valley before the chestnut tree blight that decimated the tree along the Appalachian Corridor throughout the northeast by 1950.

Dr. Craig Gibbon, the chestnut tree expert in Lasdon Park, Katonah, NY, gave us eighteen non-blight resistant seedlings. At the time of this donation, six years ago, disease resistant seedlings were not available, although we presently have two blight-resistant (B3-F3) chestnut seedlings growing at a nature center in the Catskills.

Attrition has reduced the original 18 young trees to just a few. The Philipstown Garden Club has been carefully placing the remaining nondisease trees in well-protected areas and Bannerman Island was our top choice because of its ideal location for TLC (tender loving care) and lack of predators such as deer.

The trees were planted by Anne Osborn and two members of the garden club in the Wee Bay Gardens at Bannerman Island.

BANNERMAN ISLAND GARDENS

by Barbara Gottlock

Donna Blakemore, the Bannerman Island Gardens Coordinator, has applied to Monarch Watch to have the island designated as an official Monarch Butterfly Way Station. This designation would mean that the island meets the criteria set forth by Monarch Watch.

The island's gardens are large enough, have enough sunlight each day and contain plants that attract and shelter the Monarchs. Hundreds of millions of Monarch butterflies migrate from eastern North America to Mexico each fall. Way Stations provide shelter and food for the Monarchs during both their breeding and migration periods. When you visit Bannerman Island be sure to keep an eye open for the butterflies that visit us as well. And don't forget to bring your camera!

Looking for Something Unique and Special!

Try chartering *The Estuary Steward* for a party or wedding on Bannerman Island. We can accommodate small parties up to 44 people or weddings up to 88. Enjoy a cruise on the river to celebrate a birthday! Have an office party! Or, even a family reunion! Call Neil Caplan for rates: 845-831-6346

Bannerman Island Haunted History Tours Beacon-Newburgh, NY

Beacon-Newburgh, NY Mystery surrounds this site built by Frank Bannerman IV in the early 1900s. Now a majestic ruin along the banks of the Hudson River, the island is thought to be haunted by Native Americans and Dutch settlers. Join us for a history tour that includes many local legends and hauntings on Bannerman Island. Bring a flashlight! September 6, 20 and 27 October 4, 11 and 18. \$35 Call Zerve to Reserve:



Anne Osborn and Philipstown Garden Club on Bannerman Island



THIRD SUNDAY MUSIC SELF-GUIDED TOURS August 16th THE JUDITH TULLICK BAND September 21st THADDEUS MAC GREGOR

<u>Check Out New Island Tours in 2014</u> Bannerman Summit Hikes

Friday Nights May—June Departs Newburgh at 6:00 p.m. July through September – Departs Newburgh at 12:00 noon

Bannerman Eco Hudson Valley Nature Museum Tours September 14 and October 12th

Call 845.831.6346 for reservations.

Bannerman Photography Overnight Photo Shoot with Thom Johnson — June 14th Call Thom for details at 914.739.2289

Photography Workshop with Robert Rodriguez September 24th Call Robert for details at 845.531.4961

<u>2014 Kayak Tours May through October</u>

Storm King Adventure Tours www.stormkingadventuretours

August 3rd	10:00 a.m.	Sunday
August 23rd	2:00 p.m.	Saturday
September 13th	10:00 a.m.	Saturday
September 21st	2:00 p.m.	Sunday
-	Call: 845.534.7800	-

Hudson River Expeditions www.hudsonriverexpeditions.com

August 2nd August 10th August 23rd

9:00 a.m. Call: 845.809.5935

2:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m.

Saturday

Sunday

Saturday

Mountain Tops Outfitters

www.mountaintopsonline.comAugust 16th10:00 a.m.SaturdaySeptember 14th10:00 a.m.Sunday.Call: 845.831.1997

October 20th





BENEFIT CONCERT

'Rally Round the Flag' — A Bannerman's tribute to the Hudson Valley's Civil War volunteers in ballads, stories, poems and campfire songs. **Includes Cruise and Tour** Donation: **\$35.00**



'Discover the Mystery, Explore the History'

onboard The Bannerman Castle Trust's new vessel, *The Estuary Steward.* Your Bannerman Island adventure begins at the Newburgh or Beacon waterfront every Saturday and Sunday, May through October. *The Estuary Steward* departs at 11:00 a.m. from Torches Dock in Newburgh and from the Beacon Ferry Dock in Beacon at 12:30 p.m. Book your Bannerman Island walking tour directly online by going to **www.bannermancastle.org**

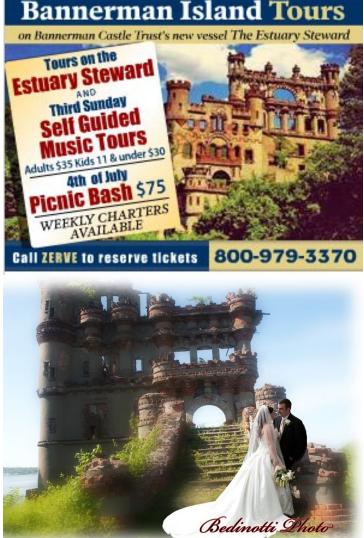


Photo is Photoshopped

Have your Wedding or Engagement Photo Shoot on Bannerman Island For information call Neil Caplan at: 845.234.3204

The Banner

August 2014



BOY SCOUTS RECEIVE RECOGNITION AT GARDEN DEDICATION

Eagle scouts David Sager and Brandon Fiege received awards of appreciation at the Garden Dedication on June 7th for their outstanding eagle scout projects on Bannerman Island. David Sager built much needed wood steps going to the Wee Bay, as well as headed a crew of scouts to clear brush at Bannerman Island. Brandon Fiege built four incredible wood benches that enhance the island. Both scouts were supervised by BCT Historian and Advisory Council member, Thom Johnson. Thom presented the awards. Our sincere thanks to David, Brandon and all of the scouts who worked on the projects. Job well done!

IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE DO SO ASAP, AS WE DEPEND ON YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

THE ESTUARY STEWARD TO RECEIVE NEW ENGINES

The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. received a grant from The Hudson River Improvement Fund for \$10,000 to replace the engines on our tour boat, *The Estuary Steward*. We will be upgrading the current 135 Mercury engines to Mercury Valero 150 four stoke engines. The engines cost \$27,000. The Trust has raised an additional \$11,000 to replace the engines. The engines have come into White's Hudson River Marina and will be replaced within two weeks. The BCT will pay off the remaining \$6,000.

We would like to thank White's Hudson River Marina for all of their help.

You can help by sending a donation for "New Engines" to The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. POB 843, Glenham, NY 12527-0843, or you can make a donation on our website at: www.bannermancastle.org.



Swarn Irm of Beacon Bannerman Island Tour Packages Get \$5 off room rate and \$3 off two Bannerman Island Walking Tours. Call us at: 845.831.6346

BECOME a BCT "FRIEND OF THE CASTLE" or a BCT SPONSOR!

Join The Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc. You will also receive a subscription to the BCT newsletter, *THE BANNER*, along with a friendship card. **DONATE ONLINE AT www.bannermancastle.org**

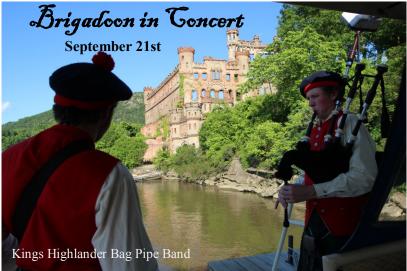
I WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF *"THE BANNERMAN SUPPORT SYSTEM"* and make a tax-deductible donation to the Bannerman Castle Trust, Inc.

\$ 25.00 Individual Friend	\$ 2,500.00 Freshman	\$ 2,500.00 Freshman Sponsor	
\$ 40.00 Family Friend	 \$ 5,000.00 Junior Spo	onsor	
\$ 50.00 Institutional	\$10,000.00 Senior Spo	onsor	
\$100.00 Sustaining	Your Donation	\$	
\$500.00 Contributing	Renewal Friend	Yes No	
	New Friend	Yes No	
NAME:	COMPANY		
ADDRESS	CITY	STATEZIP	
E-MAIL:	PHONE:	CELL:	
	<i>Te to:</i> <i>CASTLE TRUST, INC., POB 843, G</i> can charge your donation to your cred		
Visa N	lasterCard	Discover	



The Banner THE BANNERMAN CASTLE TRUST, INC. POB 843 Glenham, NY 12527-0843 (845) 831-6346

STAMP





MEET THE AUTHORS DAY! September 1st

ISLAND DINNER

September 13th

September 21st

BRIGADOON in Concert

RALLY ROUND THE FLAG

October 18th



Attorney General's Office, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

ROSE HARVEY