



# NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2016

VOL.46, NO.1

## Annual Spring Bazaar Set for May 21

For the thirteenth consecutive year, the Block Association is pleased to present the very popular Spring Bazaar, aka the Block Party, the Tag Sale and the Yard Sale. It will be open to all on Sat., May 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on W. 103rd St. between West End Ave. and Riverside Dr. The rain date is Sun., May 22.

The coordinator of the event is, once again, Bob Aaronson, a W. 103rd St. resident. If you have general questions after reading this article and visiting the Block Association website ([w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org)), then call him at (212) 662-4046 or email him at [yard-sale@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:yard-sale@w102-103blockassn.org). As you read about all of the various activities that take place at the Spring Bazaar, please consider volunteering to help one of them run smoothly. Whether you have only an hour to spare or would like to take on a bigger role, we

badly need your help and can guarantee that you will have a lively time with your neighbors!

We're planning on having:

**Vendor Spaces:** De-cluttering? Got valuable stuff to sell? Looking for trades or barterers? More than 1,000 people pass through the event in the course of the day! Vendors sell all kinds of stuff and you'd be surprised how many buyers are looking for just the thing someone is ready to sell. Go to the Block Association website: [w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org) and click on the 2016 Yard Sale tab for an application and detailed information. If you have specific questions that aren't answered on the website, email vendor coordinator Anthony Bello at [vendors@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:vendors@w102-103blockassn.org). Space is limited and vendors are already applying. Don't delay. Do it today!

(Continued on page 3)

FOR BETTER OR VERSE

## Poetry Event to Take Place in May

Did you know that there's an annual poetry event that takes place along the little stretch of Riverside Park that runs between the Riverside Dr. service road and Riverside Dr. proper? In fact, there is. It was organized to honor local poet Franklin Latner, who died in 1999. And this year marks the 18<sup>th</sup> year! Whether you would like to read a poem or listen to others recite, come along and enjoy. The event will take place on Sun., May 1 beginning at 2 p.m. If the weather is poor, the group moves indoors to the lobby of 310 Riverside Dr. If you have questions, please contact organizer Mildred Speiser (212-865-6118 or [ispeis@gmail.com](mailto:ispeis@gmail.com)).



## Annual Meeting Set for March 16

The Block Association will address recent concerns voiced by our members at our upcoming annual meeting, scheduled for Wed., Mar. 16 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Marseilles Residence, 230 W. 103rd St.

The three particular topics that we plan to cover are:

**Vision Zero update:** Since our last meeting, the intersection at W. 96th St.

and Broadway has been reconfigured. Has the work produced the desired results? Could it be further improved? Where else in our area would benefit from taking pedestrian concerns into account?

**Senior Scams:** What are the latest reported cyber-security traps, phone scams, and similar threats that have been identified? Which ones par-

ticularly target seniors? How can we protect ourselves better against them?

**Upzoning:** we've heard concerns over not only the pace of development on the Upper West Side, but specifically about the new heights buildings are reaching and the fact that locations of proposed new or expanded buildings are close to important community resources such as schools. How can we involve ourselves in the approval process? What forums are there in which to address local concerns?

(Continued on page 2)

# Annual Meeting March 16

(continued from page 1)

Invitations have been extended to local elected officials and community leaders. Representatives of the 24th precinct are expected to attend as well. Please come and lend your voice so that we can work together for positive changes.

As we do each year, we will also honor those who have lived in the neighborhood for 50 years or more. As a step toward preserving their memories, each will have been interviewed prior to the meeting. Their memories, in addition to being shared at the meeting, will also be posted at our website. Each honoree will be presented with a certificate and a small gift. So far, we have identified three inductees. If you know someone who qualifies, please email [editor@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:editor@w102-103blockassn.org) or call (212) 865-8524.

Do you have any questions about the neighborhood or what the Block Association does? Do you have a suggestion about how to make the neighborhood safer or more pleasant? Come and share them with us on Mar. 15. The meeting will surely be informative and it's the ideal opportunity for you to learn about the Block Association and weigh in on what's important to you.

For more information about this event contact [info@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:info@w102-103blockassn.org).

## SPRING BAZAAR HELP WANTED

This issue we're looking for several volunteers to help with the upcoming Spring Bazaar (Sat., May 21). In particular, we need people to organize:

- **Publicity** (starts soon, but attendance at the event isn't necessary)
- **Refreshments** (savory foods, desserts, beverages)
- **Entertainment** (we've got a great list of performers from last year to work from)
- **Silent Auction** donations (an army of solicitors or a couple of dynamos will get the job done)

## BLOCK ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

8:00pm  
306 W. 102nd St.

Regular Block Association meetings are held twelve times a year, usually on the second Tuesday of every month.

**April 12**  
**May 10**  
**June 14**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tues March 16**  
Annual Meeting  
Marseilles Residence  
230 W 103 St

**Date TBD**  
Spring Tree Well  
Cleanup and Planting

**Sat May 21**  
Spring Bazaar

## CORRECTIONS/ADDENDA

There were several errors in the Winter issue of the newsletter. Please accept our apologies.

Sharp-eyed reader Robert J. McDermott caught a mistake in the caption below the historical photograph on page 2. He correctly points out that two of the townhouses at the far right in the ©1891 photo are, in fact, the existing buildings at 870 and 872 West End Ave. Thank you, Robert.

On page 8, the caption below the photo of Block Association and BAiP board member Dorothy O'Hanlon misidentified one of the people depicted. At the far left was Ruth Finkelstein, associate director of the Columbia Aging Center. The caption has been corrected in the version of the newsletter that is available at the Block Association website.

In the Meet Your Talented Neighbors column on page 3, the date of a screening of neighborhood documentary Jon Reiner's film *Tree Man* was correct, but the day of the week was wrong. The presentation was on Sun. Dec. 20. If you missed the event, and don't want to wait until the film's national release next holiday season, go to [treemanfilm.com](http://treemanfilm.com), where you can buy the DVD.

Also, the Cushman/Sorkin family (in 865 West End) was inadvertently omitted from the list of contributors on page 10.

## TUNE IN TODAY!

Our website is full of useful information, tributes to neighbors of long-standing, a calendar, tips about our Spring Bazaar and resources for a green neighborhood. In the blog, you'll find photos of our events, vintage pictures of Bloomingdale, and much more.

Between issues of this newsletter, why not have a look for the most up-to-date information: [w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org)

To receive blog posts straight into your email inbox, subscribe at: [tinyurl.com/102-103blog](http://tinyurl.com/102-103blog).

# Spring Bazaar May 21

(continued from page 1)

**Live Music:** Do you play an instrument? Love classical? Pop? Jazz? World? Would you like to be a presenter? Contact [music@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:music@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Split-Pot Raffle:** Last year's winner took home almost \$1,000! We'll be selling raffle tickets on street corners in the weeks preceding the event as well as on the day of. Buy early and often! It's not too soon to start thinking of how you'll spend your winnings.

**Refreshments:** To keep our visitors and vendors well fed we always offer a variety of refreshments, much of them homemade. It's an opportunity to share the goodies you make or bake. If you (and a friend?) would be willing to coordinate the refreshments table, put in an hour or two serving at it, have resources or ideas for this aspect of the event, or plan to donate, contact either [bakesale@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:bakesale@w102-103blockassn.org) or [food@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:food@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Fun Family Activities:** Face-painting, caricaturists, and on-the-spot poem writers are just a few of the special attractions we've had in the past. It's all part of the atmosphere. Let us know what you'd like to see and do and/or how you'd like to interact. Send ideas to [yardsale@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:yardsale@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Silent Auction:** Residents and neighborhood establishments donate all sorts of items designed to slake your thirst, satisfy your food appetites, provide services, and deliver unique experiences (a few days at your weekend house, tickets to a sports event or a performance, or a gift certificate you're not likely to use, for example). If you can contribute an item or are willing to help solicit donations from local merchants that you patronize regularly, please send a message to [auction@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:auction@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Community Table:** If you want to part with something that may be of value to others., like new or gently used toys, games, CDs/DVDs, art, crafts, or household items in good working order (but no books or clothing, please)

donate it at this table and we'll offer it for sale. You're not "throwing it away;" you're helping the Block Association raise money. Beginning Mon., May 2, you can drop items off with the doorman at 240 W. 102nd St. between the hours of 8 a.m. and midnight. We'll need staffers to sort and price merchandise and to work at the table the day of the event. To volunteer, or for more information, please email [commtable@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:commtable@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Recycling:** We'll be accepting textiles (used clothing, curtains, linens, throw rugs, etc.) for recycling and providing information about recycling options, in general. Electronics recycling is now the responsibility of building owners and managers, but if you want/need extra help, let us know by contacting [ewaste@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:ewaste@w102-103blockassn.org).

**Volunteer:** As you can see, we need all sorts of volunteers to make the day successful. In addition, we'll also need able hands to help distribute flyers, coordinate publicity, and help with set up and clean up. Give us an hour or two of your time and we'll give you all the appreciation you could want and the sense of well-being that can only be gained from contributing to one's community. It's also a great way for teenagers to get a taste of community service, perhaps earning needed hours for school. To sign up, send email to Bob Aaronson at [yardsale@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:yardsale@w102-103blockassn.org) or call him at (212) 662-4046.

## Sprucing Up the Tree Wells Takes Work!

*Can You Help?*

**E**VERY YEAR, just after the weather warms up and the trees begin to bloom, a cadre of neighbors sets out to tidy up the tree wells. Once the wells are cleared of debris, then the fun begins. A variety of flowers and greenery go in next, and the entire neighborhood gets to enjoy the results of the effort well into the fall.

There are a variety of tasks that need to be accomplished in order to pull the event together. Some are taken care of well in advance of the event, which usually takes place in late April or early May. Some jobs need to be done just before the designated day. Publicity flyers are printed and posted, and emails are sent out. Volunteers are recruited, and a tally of tree wells to be planted is calculated. Plants and mulch are purchased accordingly. Then the tree wells destined to enjoy a day at the spa are marked. How do we choose which tree wells get planted? If someone volunteers to be in charge of watering the plants, we're happy to provide them. The morning of the event, volunteers are greeted, materials are distributed, and the transformation begins.

The Block Association has earmarked funds for the event. And we've got a good list of helpers from past years. Without a coordinator, however, the event can't take root and blossom. If you would like to learn more about what's involved, please contact [info@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:info@w102-103blockassn.org).

### STREETSCAPE



Looking north on Broadway from the southwest corner of W. 102nd St. in 1937. Photo from the Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, The New York Public Library. Thanks to resident blogger Caitlin Hawke for unearthing it!

# Mezzogiorno is Now Open

By Kate McLeod

**G**IVEN HOW SPARE AND MODERN the atmosphere is at Mezzogiorno, which recently opened in the former Indian Café space on Broadway and W. 107th Street, the great warmth you feel the minute you are greeted and shown to a table comes as a happy surprise. The long, dark wooden bar and the framed collages that populate one side wall are a perfect foil to white subway tiles and industrial vents. The openness of the enclosed sidewalk cafe area makes it easy to imagine how lovely it will be to dine there when springtime arrives. In the meantime, a visit to this fresh, new space is ever so pleasant. Comfortable banquettes and chairs at marble-top tables added to my enjoyment of what turned out to be a really delicious meal. Although a brand-new and welcome addition to our neighborhood, Mezzogiorno had been open for business in SoHo since 1987. That location is now closed, and it remains to be seen whether celebrities like Bono, Claes Oldenburg, and Matthew Modine, who frequented the Soho location, will follow.

So many of the appetizers on the menu looked tempting! Prosciutto with caramelized pear, *vitello tonnato*, vegetable croquettes with goat cheese, and mixed antipasto were hard to skip. My artichoke and parmesan flan was served on a piping hot plate with whole artichokes on the side. The texture and combination of parmesan and artichoke flavors was pleasing and unusual and almost filling enough for a meal. The flan had a somewhat more custardy consistency than the flan I am used to, which is more like a *crème brûlée*, but I had no complaints. My companion's chick pea and avocado salad, a brilliant combination of chick peas, avocado, and celery, was flavored with lemon and mint. The composition was visually pleasing, and the texture and flavors were remarkable together. Prices for appetizers range from \$11 to \$16.

Three classic Italian soups, minestrone, *pasta e fagioli* and lentil, are offered after the antipasti along with some delicious sounding other salads with names like Chiatigiana (frisée, pancetta, croutons, asiago cheese, poached egg),

Costa Smeralda (lettuce, radicchio, crab meat, avocado, shrimp), and Contadina (mesclun salad, sliced pear, walnuts, white truffle, and pecorino cheese). Soups are \$9 and salads range from \$13 to \$16.



My companion was delighted to discover that her favorite pasta was on the menu: homemade black linguine. This rendition came with spicy tomato sauce and shrimp and it was visually stunning and absolutely delicious. Mine instantly became one of my all-time favorites; it was small pasta pouches filled with cheese and pear served in a light butter sauce. I'm salivating just thinking about it as I write. All of the pastas sound wonderful: wild boar ragout, mushroom ravioli, clams with olives

and tomatoes. It doesn't do service to the rippling Italian language to call them out in English. The Italian names — *trenette*, *fazoletti*, *focchetti*, and even *pappardelle* — have so much more music in them. It is worth a trip to the

website just to read the brunch, lunch, and dinner menus. Secondi, or second courses, include fish, seafood, beef, and veal all prepared in interesting ways. They range in price from \$18 to \$27. Daily specials range in price as well. At lunch, a two-course prix fixe meal is offered for \$19. Brunch is served from noon to 5 p.m. on weekends (\$11-\$15). A gas pizza oven is on the premises, which the owners hope to soon replace with a wood-fired oven. Meanwhile, there is no sign of pizza on the menu.

The restaurant has an extensive wine list by the bottle and a good selection of wines by the glass for \$9 and up. Mezzogiorno is located at 2791 Broadway, on the west side of the street between W. 107th and W. 108th Sts.; telephone (646) 895-9624. Reservations are accepted by phone or via Open Table. For delivery, call (212) 334-2144. The restaurant is open from Sun. through Thurs., from noon to 11 p.m. and on Fri. and Sat. from noon to midnight. All major credit cards are accepted.

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# Solstice Singers Succeed: Days Start Getting Longer!

By Hedy Campbell

**L**AST YEAR, WHEN MORE than 100 people—easily 25 percent more than have ever participated before—showed up for our annual caroling event, I thought it was a fluke. But it happened again this year! I guess people really enjoy walking the blocks of our area with their neighbors, reveling in the festivity of the season, and kicking the darkest night of the year to the curb. It probably didn't hurt that this was the 30th anniversary of the event. Nor did the unusually mild temperatures deter anyone.

As we walked, we blessed each block by singing "Dona Nobis Pacem" and other seasonal favorites, pausing along the way to allow residents to lean out their windows and cheer us on. In order to share the spirit of the season with François, our very own Tree Man, we made sure to stop on Broadway, just

across from his outpost by the paint store. He came across the street and beamed as we tunefully wished him well. As always, our three-part round rendition of "The 12 Days of Christmas" outside of 300 Riverside Dr. was a crowd pleaser.

Thanks to Anthony Bellov and Dayle Vander Sande for ably leading us around our circuit. Thanks to the co-op board, management, and residents of 310 Riverside for allowing us to stage our post-caroling refreshments in the Riverside lobby as they've done for so many years running. Thank you to David Reich for the loan of his hot plate, and to Mildred Speiser and Nancy Wight for babysitting the pot while the cider warmed. Nancy also baked delicious ginger cookies that helped chase the chill away.

This year the winter solstice falls on

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Wed., Dec. 21. Perhaps you'll join us as we walk and sing again. Come fall, check the Block Association website for confirmation of the date, keep your eye out for a festive flyer in your building lobby, or look for an announcement in the Winter issue of the newsletter.

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# On Broadway

By Kerstin Hasenpusch

- ◆ **Brooklyn Industries**, on the south-east corner of Broadway and W. 99th St. has closed. If you liked the store, you can still shop at the Chelsea, Village, SoHo, or Brooklyn locations.
- ◆ **Empire Szechuan**, on the east side of Broadway between W. 99th and W. 100th Streets, is closed following a Feb. 2 fire that broke out in the ductwork before the restaurant had opened for the day. When we went to press, it was unclear whether the restaurant would reopen.
- ◆ **Carmel Car Service**, whose offices occupied the upstairs floors, has relocated and is still in full operation.
- ◆ **NYCity Blinds**, another beautifully designed store by no other than Karim Rashid, who was described by *Time* magazine as the “most famous industrial designer in all the Americas,” will finally open its doors early this month on the west side of Broadway between W. 101st and W. 102nd Sts. NYCity Blinds is a window treatment and accessories showroom that already has a location on the Upper East Side.
- ◆ Just one block over on Amsterdam Ave., **Mokja**, a Korean restaurant that

has a location in Astoria has opened on the west side of the street between W. 101st and W. 102nd Sts. The authentic Korean food at the Queens location has been highly rated. The shop is open for lunch and dinner every day. You can get 10 percent off delivery at [mokja101.com](http://mokja101.com) or by calling (646) 964-4296.

◆ **Bellmarc Realty**, on the west side of Broadway between W. 102nd and W. 103rd Sts. has closed and moved to Chelsea.

◆ **A beauty parlor** is to open in a couple of weeks on the west side of Broadway between W. 103rd and 104th Sts., in the previous location of Bob's Frame Shop.

◆ **Ollie's** will be opening by the end of March, on the west side of Broadway between W. 103rd and W. 104th Sts. After a complete renovation of the interior and exterior, we can look forward to a restaurant that seats about 40 in yet another sleek interior design addition to the neighborhood. Takeout and home delivery will, of course, be available as well.

◆ **Andrade Shoe Repair**, with Anthony back at the helm, has moved one block south, on the east side of Broadway, to between W. 104th and W. 105th Sts.

## 2015 FINANCIAL REPORT

By Sue Maderer, *Treasurer*

Your Block Association had a slight (2.3 %) increase in total income and an 11% increase in expenses for the year 2015. Overall, we had a slight loss for the year, about \$425. We have had a number of new contributors (thank you all!), but again the total number of contributors compared to the population of our neighborhood is dispiritingly low. Newsletter advertising (thank you, Jane Hopkins) decreased this year but that was mainly due to an unusually high number, the result of a color ad, last year. The income from ads paid for the costs of three of our four newsletters. Our yard sale showed an increase this year, and we were grateful to receive a contribution from a film shoot. Security guard costs have remained stable even though we did get a slight increase in cost.

### Income

Individual Contributions	\$22,400
Building Contributions	14,000
Spring Bazaar	6,300
Newsletter Advertising	3,300
Other Income	5,300
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$51,300</b>

### Expenses

Guard Service	\$39,700
Printing	4,000
Dues & Contributions	5,200
Operating Expenses	355
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$51,755</b>

### James Perez

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**TRIVIA - BEAT THE TRIVIA MASTER - TUESDAY NIGHTS @ 9:00PM**

# TriBloomingdale: It's a Trifecta of Community Spirit

By Caitlin Hawke

For a little more than a year now, TriBloomingdale has been going strong. What's the "tri" for, you ask? Three community organizations—the W. 104th St. Block Association, BAiP (Bloomingdale Aging in Place) and our group—have come together to sponsor this small but growing local initiative so that neighbors can mix, mingle, and share common pursuits.

For example, our neighborhood is teeming with sole practitioners and entrepreneurs working from home. For these folks, TriBloomingdale's **Networking in the Neighborhood (NITN)** is an ideal meet-up where they can come together to share experiences, business practices, and strategies for client development. Founded by Harriet Hoffman with a mission to help local entrepreneurs support each other in growing their businesses, NITN has an active member list of about 30 people, with an average of between 15 and 18 attendees at the monthly gatherings. Harriet, who runs a successful consulting business that helps people make Medicare and Social Security benefits decisions, is also an expert networker. She reports that in addition to the monthly meetings, NITN members are also regularly getting together one-on-one for coffee to get further acquainted and discuss their individual challenges.

If you have a business you run out of your home or are a sole practitioner, please know that NITN welcomes new participants!

The other year-old TriBloomingdale offering is **Teresa Elwert's brisk Sunday walks**. An avid walker and lover of the outdoors, Teresa reports that it is "a thriving activity" with 28 people on the distribution list. On a cold January Sunday, her group turned out ten walkers, a typical number. These walkers walk fast, and they have fun, often stopping for a post-walk pick-me-up when they can sit a while and continue to get to know each other. Teresa says that "many people

like that part of the walk as much as or more than the walk itself."

And that is just the point. TriBloomingdale's aim is to connect neighbors from all three organizations. People who once just passed on by while doing errands on Broadway now know each other by name. Maybe they've shared stories over a long, fast walk; or perhaps they've shared tips for how to best manage clients. One thing is for sure: they all tried TriBloomingdale—and they've stayed for the company!

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*Look for news about TriBloomingdale occasional ice-skating outings with Miriam Duban. We'll post them on the Block Association's homepage. To sign up for any of these three offerings, send an email to [chawke@bloominplace.org](mailto:chawke@bloominplace.org) and specify which group appeals to you. The leaders will reply with information about how to join the group.*

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# MEET YOUR TALENTED NEIGHBORS

*Springtime music and art on offer by and for our neighbors.*

By Julia C. Spring

## NER & BOBBI BECK

Stop by the St. Agnes Library (444 Amsterdam Ave. between W. 81st and 82nd Sts.) and check out recent artworks and photographs by Ner and Bobbi Beck in the library's gallery space. Each artist will also be having a solo exhibition. Ner's photographs of *Found Faces and Window Reflections* present a series of strange and wonderful observations of our city streets, mostly on the upper West Side. They will be on display from **Mar. 4 to Apr. 27**. Bobbi's intricate *Autobiographical Artworks* combine her daily life experiences with many of the emotions we all confront daily. Bobbi's artwork will be shown from **May 5 to June 28**. Library hours are Mon.-Wed. 11-6, Thur. 12-7, Fri.-Sat. 10-5. For more information about the Becks' work and exhibits, they may be contacted at [ner.beck@verizon.net](mailto:ner.beck@verizon.net) and [bobbi.beck@verizon.net](mailto:bobbi.beck@verizon.net).

## DORIS STEVENSON

This neighborhood pianist is again performing in the *Masterworks Series* at Bargemusic, on **Sat., Mar. 26 at 8 p.m. and Sun., Mar. 27 at 4 p.m.** The chamber trio will perform Schubert, Britten, and Tchaikovsky. Tickets (\$35, seniors \$30, students \$15) must be bought in advance through the Bargemusic website or Brown Paper Tickets (800-838-3006). Bargemusic is located at the Fulton Ferry Landing under the Brooklyn Bridge.

## BETSY GOLDBERG

Betsy has recently launched her own website ([betsygoldberg.com](http://betsygoldberg.com)) where you can see many of her paintings, as well as find information about her upcoming show, planned for **May and June**, at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, 15 W. 86th St. She invites neighbors to visit the website for specifics on this and other events, and to enjoy the online exhibit of her artwork. A number of her paintings have an upper West Side location.

## ANTHONY BELLOV & DAYLE VANDER SANDE

The Bond Street Euterpean Singing Society—Anthony and Dayle, founders and members—is performing on an early June evening (probably **Fri., June 3 at 7 p.m.**). *Midsummer Serenade: Music to Greet the Solstice* will include classic and undeservedly forgotten art songs about nature and sprites by some of the great composers of the 19th century. They will be sung around the piano in the Merchant's House (29 E. 4th St., between Lafayette St. and the Bowery) landmark Greek Revival double parlor, New York City's only intact and authentic antebellum home. General admission is \$30; \$15 for museum members and seniors. Children 12 and older are welcome. Confirm the date and reserve tickets (performances sell out) by calling 212-777-1089 or visiting the Merchant's House website.

## MARY JO PAGANO

The Chamber Music Center of New York, which Mary Jo founded, will present a concert of chamber orchestras on **Sun., June 5 at 7 p.m.** at the Riverside Theatre (enter Riverside Church at 91 Claremont Ave.). Admission is free. Chamber works by Beethoven and Borodin will be performed by the youth and teen students of the Chamber Music Center. Additional details can be found at the Chamber Music Center's website.

## Share Your Event With Us.

*Do you have an upcoming publication, release, concert, exhibition or other event coming up? Let us know. Send notices for inclusion in the Summer newsletter to [creative@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:creative@w102-103blockassn.org).*

## MARV SCHOENBERG

Marv, who is a baritone in the New York City Gay Men's Chorus, sends us information about the ensemble's spring concert, *Big Gay Sing: Mind the Gap*. It's a cheeky over-the-top sing-along to all things British—Queen, Adele, the Spice Girls, Dusty Springfield—featuring a flamboyant tribute to the late great David Bowie. *Sing* will be performed at NYU's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts (566 LaGuardia Pl. at E. 4th St.) on **Fri., Mar. 18 and Sat., Mar. 19 at 8 p.m.**, then on **Sun., Mar. 20 at 3 p.m.** Tickets are now available for sale on the Skirball website. Try using the discount code GMCFRIEND; you might be able to get discounted tickets (\$63 for orchestra, \$54 for parterre, and \$39 for balcony).

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## Memorial Bench Project Progresses

Our plan to adopt a bench in Len and Cherie Tredanari's names is moving ahead! A bench has been identified (on the west side of Riverside Dr. by the W. 103rd St. stairs), and now all we have to do is raise the \$3,500 adoption fee. If you'd like to make a contribution using a credit card, go to the Riverside Park Conservancy website and click on the green donation bar. Then click on the special donation option. Once you've specified your donation amount, check the box that says "My gift is in honor or memory of someone." Fill in "Len and Cherie Tredanari." In the "Please send notification of this gift to:" box, please enter Ted Berger, 303 W. 103rd St., New York, NY 10025; 212-222-9236. Fill in your billing information, then click on submit. If you would like to make a donation by check, please

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contact the conservancy (212-870-3070 or [mail@riversideparknyc.org](mailto:mail@riversideparknyc.org)). If you have questions about the project, please email [tedsberger@aol.com](mailto:tedsberger@aol.com).

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