

# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2016

VOL.45, NO.4

## Holiday Caroling Brings Light to a Dark Night

THERE'S ONLY ONE GOOD THING about the days growing short and dreary. It means that the Block Association's holiday caroling isn't far away. Every year, we sponsor a festive stroll around the neighborhood, bringing favorite holiday tunes, good cheer, and a blessing for peace to each block. We're always glad to see a big crowd of old familiar faces, and happily welcome enthusiastic newcomers who join the group.

The group will once again convene in the lobby of 865 West End Ave. on Dec. 21 (this year it's a Wednesday) at 7 p.m. Greetings will be exchanged, song sheets distributed (see below for downloading instructions), headlamps turned on, sleigh bells jingled, and, led by the very able and amenable Anthony Bellov and Dayle Vander Sande, off we go on a circuit throughout the neighborhood. After we've brought our joyful noise to each block, we'll repair to the Riverside lobby of the Master Apartments for warm cider, light refreshments, and an abundance of conviviality. Thanks in advance to the board, residents, and management there for making us welcome.

In response to popular demand, we've made the song sheets available at our website ([w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org)). Scroll down to the Calendar of Events section and you'll see the link just below the event info. An illuminated screen and the ability to zoom in and connect with the association and advertisers are three advantages to accessing the digital version.

If you're a caroling regular, we're looking forward to seeing you. If you're a newbie, come join us! For information, write [caroling@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:caroling@w102-103blockassn.org).

## This Year's Halloween Parade Was One of Our Best!

BY JANE HOPKINS

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED in our Halloween Parade. We had a solid turnout of kids, parents, and others who enjoy this annual celebration. They take part in the event by dressing up in costume, or not, and walking around our two blocks and returning to the Block Association refreshment table to sample goodies that are donated by community members.

W. 102nd St. between Riverside Dr. and West End Ave. is closed to traffic and the area becomes a place to visit for a while, talk to friends and neighbors, check out the costumes and decorated homes, have your picture taken or portrait sketched, or bring your children 'round to listen to storytelling. The event lasts about two hours and then folks move on either to put little ones to bed or to chaperone older kids as they tackle serious trick or treating. I had lots of fun as coordinator of the event, reaching out to those who have helped in the past, connecting with newcomers, and being there for "show time!"

Hat's off to those who helped make the event a big success. St. Luke's staff and residents were awesome! They assisted with

setup before the parade by placing barriers across W. 102nd St. and Riverside Dr. to secure the area from through traffic and remained at that location to ensure the safety of neighbors who'd gathered. They also donated large tables for our refreshments, mounted the Block Association banner midblock, baked several trays of decorated cupcakes, and helped with cleanup.

Terence Hanrahan provided direction and hands-on support throughout the evening. The advance team included Bob Aaronson, who placed posters along the parade route to inform neighbors of street

### BLOCK ASSOCIATION

#### MEETINGS

Regular Block Association meetings are held monthly, usually on the second Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m.

306 W. 102nd St.

December 13

January 10

February 14.

(Continued on page 9)

## What's New at the Website

## A Site for All Eyes

**L**ove the neighborhood and wish you had an infusion of news all year round? We've got that! Our newsletter gets the job done four times a year, but our website is where you can go any time for an influx of frequently updated content.

The blog is the best place to read about neighborhood curiosities, old and new. For example, did you know that one of our oldest houses migrated from West End Ave. to W. 102nd St. in 1893? Read Caitlin Hawke's Oct. 12, 2016 blog post to learn more about the quirky, beautiful Victorian house at 302 W. 102nd St.

The blog is also where you'll find the Gallery of Ghouls from our Halloween Parades past and present. Think of it as déjà boo all over again.

At our website, you can also find photos and bios of residents who have lived on our blocks for 50 years or more, a map of the trees that shade our sidewalks, a calendar of alternate side of the street parking holidays, and many more resources.

Finally, the website is a place where you can show us some love. Online donations and membership registrations are easy. Just click on the "Join Us" tab on our homepage.

The welcome mat is out all year round. Come on in and visit our site: [w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org).

*Below is a pre-1900 photo of the 1884 Townsend house, which was moved from West End Ave. to its current location at 302 W. 102nd St. (right) in 1893.*



## Help Children in Need Have a Happier Holiday

**F**or the 16th year in a row, thanks to the dedication of one of our board members, the Block Association will join with the U.S. Department of Justice's New York office in an effort to provide holiday toys and gifts for victims of domestic violence who live at the Henry Street Settlement shelter. Hundreds of toys, books, and small gifts, both new and gently used, are donated, collected, wrapped, and delivered through this annual project. A wrapping party is held at DOJ, and gifts are delivered to the shelter by Santa and Mrs. Claus. To make a donation, please mark your package for Camille and drop it off at the lobby desk of 305 Riverside Dr. by Dec. 12. Or call (646) 345-5209 to arrange for them to be picked up or find out how else you can participate.

### BLOCK ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS

Solstice Caroling  
Wed., Dec. 21

Annual Meeting  
March, date TBD;

Spring Planting  
April, Date TBD;

Tredanari Bench Dedication  
Date TBD

Yard Sale  
Sat., May 20

## The West 102nd & 103rd Streets Block Association, Newsletter

Published four times each year. Hedy Campbell, editor; Jacob Gross, associate editor; Brad Spear, designer. Comments and questions related to the Association or Newsletter are welcomed. Address letters to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1940, New York, NY 10025. Email may be sent to [editor@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:editor@w102-103blockassn.org). Phone messages may be left at (212) 865-8524. Recent issues of the Newsletter are available online at [w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org).

**EMAIL LIST** The Block Association maintains an email list to notify residents about important matters that arise between issues of the Newsletter. You can join the list by sending your email address, full name, home address (with apartment number), and phone number to [email@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:email@w102-103blockassn.org).

**GUARD SCHEDULE** Your contributions to the Block Association provide funding for our street guards.

Rafael Hernandez makes rounds Tuesday through Saturday; Roy Chavarriaga is on duty Sunday and Monday. Guards patrol weekdays from 5 p.m. until midnight and from 6 p.m. until 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. To report neighborhood security issues to the guards or to request their assistance on the street, call the office of Starr Security at (212) 767-1110.

## Last Call for Memorial Bench Donations

We are happy to report that we're just \$325 short of our goal to fund a bench in memory of Block Association founders Len and Cherie Tredanari. When we published our Fall issue, we were still \$1,125 short! Are there a baker's dozen of you who remember them fondly enough to spend \$25 to create a permanent recognition of their more than 50 years of service to our neighborhood? If you haven't yet contributed, now's the time. Contributions of any size are welcome. One way or another, the bench will be fully funded. A bench has been designated (at W. 103 right by the stairs down into the park) the wording for the plaque is in progress, as are plans to

schedule a date for the formal installation come spring.

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 submit.

If you would like to make a donation by check, please contact the Conservancy at (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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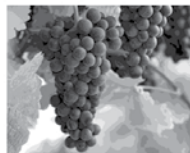
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## HELP WANTED

We're looking ahead to our Spring Bazaar (Sat., May 20). We'll need people to organize the following aspects of the event:

- **Publicity coordinator:** you'll be in charge of sending notifications to various websites, social media, and other media outlets; round one targets potential vendors; round two publicizes the event. All of the work is done in advance; attendance at the event is not a requirement.
- **Vendor coordinator:** this is largely an administrative job that requires answering questions, recording vendor applications and payments, determining locations for vendors, and assigning vendors their spots on the day of the event. Being available for a couple of hours on the morning of the event is necessary. Former coordinator Anthony Bello will provide training.
- **Refreshments coordinator:** arrange for food and beverages that can be sold on the day of the event, determine pricing, and create signage. Volunteers are available to solicit bake sale donations, purchase items at Costco, and staff the table the day of the event. Attendance on the day of the event is helpful but not required.

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# Meet Your Talented Neighbors

By JULIA C. SPRING

Concerts (holiday, Valentine's Day, string trio, and dissident songs), improv, a play, a documentary, teen jams, and art in real life and online are available to brighten the winter. Events are listed below in roughly chronological order. Anthony Bellov tells me that two people who read the Fall newsletter came to his Halloween concert and other neighbors mentioned it, so we know that this column does bring results!

## JOHN REINER & LOUDON WAINRIGHT III

John's *Tree Man*, the award-winning documentary about François, our neighborhood Christmas-tree seller, featuring music by Loudon, will be distributed **this holiday season** on Netflix and iTunes.

## ELIZA LANSDALE, BARBARA MORGAN & MIMI DAITZ

All three are performing in the Riverside Choral Society's *A Christmas Rose* concert at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin (145 W. 46th St.) on **Sat., Dec. 17, at 8 p.m.**, featuring Haydn's *Missa Cellensis* and Colin Britt's *I Wonder as I Wander*. Go to [riversidechoral.org](http://riversidechoral.org) for more information and to purchase tickets (\$25, \$35, \$75).

## LIZ QUELER & SETH FARBER

Early in 2016, Liz created Urban Garage for garage-deprived New York City teenagers into pop, rock, blues, and country music. Liz, singer, songwriter, and guitarist, recruited her husband Seth, pianist and conductor, to join in a playing and performance lab for these young musicians. The West End Lounge provides a lit stage along with piano, drums, amps, and PA system. The monthly jams are open to any teen, and anyone can join the audience. Each event is improvised according to who shows up. The evening starts with an open mic for teens to perform prepared songs. Then Liz mixes and matches kids on various instruments and vocal parts, guiding them through the experience of performing as a group. The next Urban Garage is **Sun., Dec. 18, at 5 p.m.**, at the West End Lounge (955 West End Ave.). There will be another on **Sun.**,

**Jan. 15, at 5 p.m. Open mic sign-up starts at 4:30.** There is a table minimum of \$15, which goes to the Lounge. If you have any questions, contact [urban-garage@gmail.com](mailto:urban-garage@gmail.com).

## BETSY GOLDBERG

Betsy's *Small Oils on Wood* will be exhibited at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism (15 W. 86th St., 2 fl.) until **Jan. 7, 2017**. The gallery is open **Wed., 5-8 p.m., Fri., 2-5 p.m., and Sat., 12:30-2 p.m.** (Call ahead during business hours to ensure the gallery will be unlocked: 212-724-7000, ext. 10). Betsy's paintings were also recently included in a group show sponsored by the New York Society of Women Artists at George Billis Gallery. See her work at [betsygoldberg.com/paintings](http://betsygoldberg.com/paintings).

## DEB RABBAI

The Upper West Side's improvised musical comedy awards show, *Broadway's Next Hit Musical*, with Deb as a cast member, returns from out-of-state for New York City performances. The first act features Phony Award-nominated songs based on audience suggestions. The second act is a fully improvised musical based on and including the winning song. Every part of the performance is based on audience ideas. Performances are on **Fri., Jan. 6, at 7 p.m., and Sat., Jan. 7, at 9:15 p.m., at Triad Theater (158 W. 72nd St., 2 fl.)**. Ticket information will be on [broadwaysnexthitmusical.com](http://broadwaysnexthitmusical.com).

## KATYA & JOHN REDPATH

Katya and John present a free musical evening, *Dissident Songs in Seven Languages*, in their home (300 Riverside Dr., apt. 2A) on **Sat., Jan. 7, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.**; the program will start at 8 p.m. Sisters Sasha (Brooklyn artist) and Katya (manager of a Vermont farm) Chavchavadze share their unique family collection of resistance, exile, and revolution songs, started by their grandparents from Russia and Georgia who settled in New York City in 1927. RSVP to [katyaredpath@mac.com](mailto:katyaredpath@mac.com) or by calling 646-682-9235. 25 person limit.

## TISA CHANG

The Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, of which Tisa is Artistic Producing Director, celebrates its 40th year with the premiere of Damon Chua's *Incident at Hidden Temple*. The play focuses on China in the 1940s using the Flying Tigers squadron as the historical setting. It shows the critical role played by US pilots during WWII in the lives of three Chinese women, and demonstrates how the US lost its leverage in post-war China. Performances are from **Jan. 21 to Feb. 12** at the Clurman Theatre (410 W. 42nd St.). For \$39.25 preview tickets (Jan. 21-25 only), apply the discount code TRHiddenPR at [telechargeoffers.com](http://telechargeoffers.com). For regular tickets (\$66.25), visit [telecharge.com](http://telecharge.com). For opening night tickets (Jan. 26), group bookings, and student matinees, please call 212-868-4030 or e-mail [info@panasianrep.org](mailto:info@panasianrep.org).

## ANTHONY BELLOV & DAYLE VANDER SANDE

The Bond Street Euterpean Singing Society, of which Anthony and Dayle are members and founders, is performing **Tue., Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.**, at Merchant's House (29 E. 4th St.). *Love in the Parlors—A Valentine in Concert* will feature lush romantic songs by Schubert, Beethoven, Strauss, and others. General admission is \$40; \$30 for museum members. Performances sell out so reserve by calling 212-777-1089 or visiting [merchantshouse.org](http://merchantshouse.org).

## DORIS STEVENSON

On **Fri., Feb. 24 and Sat., Feb. 25, at 8 p.m.**, Doris, violinist in a string trio, will perform Beethoven and Dvorak at Bargemusic, located at Fulton Ferry Landing near the Brooklyn Bridge. Tickets (\$35; seniors \$30; students \$15) may be purchased at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

## SUSAN C. DESSEL

Artist susan c. dessel (who lowercases her name deliberately) has contributed, by invitation, her drawings based on the life of Martha Gruening to the Dangerous Women Project, an

(Continued on next page)



# On Broadway

BY KERSTIN HASENPUSCH AND AND JACOB GROSS

★ **Grand Metro Housewares**, the longtime house and hardware store on the east side of Broadway between W. 95th and W. 96th St., has closed. The only sign posted on the window gate directs customers to World Housewares and Hardware on the west side of Broadway at W. 99th St.

★ The sandwich store **Lenwich** opened on the west side of Broadway between W. 96th and W. 97th Sts., as we reported it would in the Fall issue.

★ There is a new chapter in the perennial saga of what will inhabit the **Metro Theater** space. As announced by Councilman Mark Levine, the gym chain **Blink Fitness** will be leasing the space on the east side of Broadway between W. 99th and W. 100th Sts. But before you purchase a membership, we recommend you take a wait and see approach; since the theater closed in 2005, there have been various plans announced for the space that all fell through, including a community theater space, a combined restaurant and movie theater, and a Planet Fitness gym.

★ **Lava Kitchen**, a Chinese restaurant that calls itself "the real taste of China," has opened on the east side of Broadway between W. 100th and W. 101st Sts.

★ **Empire Szechuan**, the Chinese restaurant on the east side of Broadway at W. 100th St., which closed in February after a duct fire, has work permits and a "For Lease" sign posted on its windows. No other details are available at this time.

★ **François**, our tree man, is back in his usual spot selling Christmas trees on the east side of Broadway between W. 102nd and 103rd Sts. François was the subject of the documentary *Tree Man*, made by neighborhood resident Jon Reiner with music by resident Loudon Wainwright III. The film is being released this month on Netflix and i-Tunes.

★ We continue to receive word that the shuttered Japanese restaurant **Yakitori Sun-Chan**, located on the west side of Broadway between W. 103rd and W. 104th Sts., will reopen in the near future. The restaurant closed in April due to a gas line issue.

★ An unspecified grocery will be opening in the space formerly occupied by D'Agostino on the southeast corner of Broadway and W. 110 St., as announced by Assemblymember Danny O'Donnell. No other details are available at this time.

## Meet Your Talented Neighbors

(Continued from previous page)

initiative of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. From **International Women's Day**, Mar. 8, 2016 through Mar. 8, 2017, curated materials are added regularly as the Project explores the "dangerous women" theme through global creative writers, academics, journalists, commentators, and artists. Also at the site is background on Martha Gruening, a pioneering suffragist,

lawyer, journalist, and civil rights and peace activist. A slideshow of dessel's drawings is at [dangerouswomenproject.org/2016/10/24/martha-gruening](http://dangerouswomenproject.org/2016/10/24/martha-gruening).

### CHARLES WUORINEN

*Brokeback Mountain*, an opera composed by Charles with libretto by Annie Proulx, aired on PBS in the early fall. The music, libretto (which ranges from terse and funny to elegiac), and set interacted in a way I really enjoyed. Look for rebroadcasts on PBS.

### Share Your Event

*Do you have an upcoming publication, release, concert, exhibition or other arts event, physical or virtual? Let me know. Send questions or notices for inclusion in the Spring 2017 newsletter (or beyond) to [creative@w102-103blockassn.org](mailto:creative@w102-103blockassn.org). Do it today, before you forget!*

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# Las Palomas: A Mexican Trove on West 100th St.

By DAYLE VANDER SANDE



I wrote this review two days before Thanksgiving, reflecting on what I am thankful for. Living in Bloomingdale, which I consider to be the best neighborhood in which to live in all of Manhattan, I am thankful for the leafy parks, beautiful landmarks, diverse and sociable neighbors (many of whom work hard to organize active Block Associations like ours), affordable ethnic restaurants, and not least of all adding to our brand of Upper West Side charm, a culture of mom and pop shops. We see all too often that small businesses close “overnight” when faced with escalating costs. Patronizing these businesses will help ensure they remain a part of our Bloomingdale identity.

One of the shops I love to frequent is easy to miss: Las Palomas Mexican Grocery, located at 219 W. 100th St., just east of Broadway. It has been there for about seven years, and it is owner Leticia Martinez’s first such venture. Leticia is delightful, always with a smile and time for friendly conversation. She hails from Puebla, a region about 80 miles southeast of Mexico City. In her corner kitchenette, she makes Puebla specialties, a cuisine known for using poblano peppers (named for the region), avocados, *nopales* (cacti), a cultured sour cream, and *cotija*, a savory white cheese. She has a rather large menu of items made to order: *tortas* (sandwiches), *quesadillas*, *sopes* (tortillas served flat with meat or beans and sour cream), homemade masa flour tortillas called *picaditas* (much like *sopes*), *tacos* (very different from the Tex-Mex kind), and *tamales* (on Saturday only). I promise you that after a single bite of any dish, you’ll make Las Palomas a favorite food stop.



The store itself is tiny and a little overwhelming with its overcrowded shelves and close quarters of boxes as you walk in. What you see is literally what you get: the store has no storage basement, so all the stock is kept in this one room. Take your time and ask questions, and you’ll find everything you could want. This is a foodie’s dream: a resource right in our neighborhood to get Mexican products not easily found in our neck of the woods or perhaps elsewhere in the city.

What always catches my eye first is the variety of dried chili pepper pods available—*ancho*, *chile mulato*, *chile arbol*, and *chile chipotle*. Leticia can help you mix these to make your own mole sauce. Some special products include Mexican cinnamon, dried avocado leaf, epazote leaf, laurel, and dried medicinal herbs such as *arnica*, *marrubio*, *majorana*, and *cota de caballo*. Hard-to-find items such as *ojas de tamales* (dried corn husks for making tamales), various types of chorizo, canned foods such as pumpkin flowers, prepared *mole* pastes, *pan dulce* (dessert bread), fresh cacti, poblano peppers, and tomatillos make me want to roll up my sleeves and

cook up an authentic gourmet Mexican feast from scratch. Perhaps you’ll be motivated to do the same!

Las Palomas Mexican Grocery, 219 W. 100th St., 212-729-3469; hours: Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sun., 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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# TriBloomingtondale: What's in a Name?

BY CAITLIN HAWKE

Bloomingtondale is the historical name for our neighborhood and the "Tri" comes from the joint effort of three community organizations: our Block Association, the W. 104th St. Block Association, and BAiP (Bloomingtondale Aging in Place). The TriBloomingtondale Initiative offers activities led by neighbors for members of all three organizations. For instance, say you are a sole proprietor working from home and you would benefit from a group of other entrepreneurs with whom you could share best practices and resources. Okay? Guess what: TriBloomingtondale has that! It also has several outdoor groups and of course there's room for more ideas from you. We think it is a great way to co-create our community.

TriBloomingtondale Networking in the Neighborhood (NITN), headed by Harriet Hoffman, meets the first Friday of every month. An expert networker and sole proprietor herself, Harriet founded this group with an understanding of how crucial a resource peers have been to the success of her businesses. A wise entrepreneur never stops networking. But an added benefit to networking close to home is adding a much-missed social component. It's a win-win. Now with about 30 members who run the gamut from web designers and artists to account-

ants and consultants, NITN has an impressive range of local sole proprietorships and talent represented. In the monthly meetings, members help each other grow their business contacts. And they discuss technologies and practices such as billing policies, dealing with client expectations, or the use of social media to increase business. This group is always open to welcoming new neighbors who are sole proprietors—generally working from home—to expand the networking potential. If you or someone you know is working in the immediate vicinity and would like more information, see below to connect to this group.

TriBloomingtondale Brisk Walking is a year-round group that heads out early Sunday mornings with walker and park-lover extraordinaire Teresa Elwert. The members vary each week, but there are about 10 walkers on any given Sunday who head out for an hour at a clip of 3.7 mph. The group is open to neighbors of all ages willing to walk at this pace. See below to join.

Ice skating and birdwatching are also offered as seasonal tri-organizational outings. Four spring birdwatching sessions in Central Park were incredibly well-attended and appreciated, thanks to the passion and knowledge of neighbor Miriam Rakowski.

Migration seasons provide the best opportunities to see a variety of birds. To indicate an interest in future outings, contact us at the email below.

And for all you winter-lovers yearning to hit the ice, neighbor and skater Miriam Duhan leads a weekly outing on Wednesday mornings to Lasker Rink in the northeast corner of Central Park. The group often connects with travelers staying at the youth hostel on Amsterdam Ave. and W. 103rd St. as a way for the visitors to experience the beauty of Central Park with locals. If you are interested in receiving information about the Wednesday morning outings, contact us.

So there you have it: TriBloomingtondale in a nutshell. We would love to launch a TriBloomingtondale reading group, evening walking group, or meet-up at the Riverside Park dog run. If you would be willing to lead, please let us know.

A loose advisory group from each organization consists of our own Hedy Campbell, together with Mary Koval from 104th St., and me, Caitlin, from BAiP. If you have an idea or want more information about the current groups, send an email to [chawke@bloominplace.org](mailto:chawke@bloominplace.org). For more information, see [w102-103blockassn.org/tribloomingtondale-initiative.html](http://w102-103blockassn.org/tribloomingtondale-initiative.html).

## Alternate Side Parking Is in Effect. Or Is it?

Before Mayor Bloomberg launched 311 in 2003, and even before we all started looking everything up on the Internet, the Block Association began publishing the NYC Department of Transportation calendar of alternate side parking holidays in its year-end-issue. In fact, we sometimes published a map of the neighborhood as well. Readers could pull it out, stick it on the fridge or bulletin board, and put a magnet or pushpin or sticky note to mark the spot where they'd left their cars. Sad but true, if you're a regular street parker, it starts to blur together and you sometimes forget where you last left your wheels. Has anyone invented an app for that yet?

These days, instead of printing the calendar, we direct you to our website ([w102-103blockassn.org](http://w102-103blockassn.org)). Click on the Resources tab and you'll find a link to the DOT website with the year's exceptions enumerated. No new parking holidays were added to the 2017 calendar, alas.



# BAiP Cited for Outstanding Community Impact

By CAITLIN HAWKE

For the last seven years, the volunteers who run Bloomingdale Aging in Place have had their heads down concentrating on connecting older neighbors to one another. The result is not something anyone imagined at the beginning: a committee of neighbors helping neighbors, a roster of 1,200 activities a year led by 80 volunteer group leaders, meals and happy hours in the neighborhood, an informative series of panel presentations, and an array of community offerings such as flu shots and farm-fresh food bags.

The sum, it seems, is greater than the parts, because on Oct. 5 at a cer-

emony in Hunter College's Roosevelt House, Bloomingdale Aging in Place received the 2016 Joan H. Tisch Community Health Prize "for outstanding accomplishment in the field of urban public health." Ceremony participants all attested to BAiP's accomplishments, the vital role it has been playing in our neighborhood, and its novel model. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, a champion of BAiP since her days as an Upper West Side City Councilmember, spoke from the heart about BAiP, calling for more resources such as meeting space for BAiP and similar grassroots organizations. Other

ceremony participants included Hunter president Jennifer Raab, Roosevelt House director Harold Holtzer, and selection committee member Lilliam Barrios-Paoli.

By now, most neighbors know that our Block Association together with the W. 104th Street

Block Association spawned BAiP in 2008. While it is incorporated as a non-profit, BAiP is an outlier thanks to its grassroots nature and all-volunteer approach. At the ceremony, former Block Association chair and BAiP's founding chair, David Reich, acknowledged that.

"BAiP doesn't provide services," said Reich. "Rather, it helps its members connect in meaningful ways and provide neighborly assistance to each other. Every day, we observe that being actively involved with each other is a great way to improve our health and quality of life."

Recently, *New York Times* columnist David Brooks scolded the baby boom generation, writing that "The great challenge of our moment is the crisis of isolation and fragmentation, the need to rebind the fabric of a society that has been torn by selfishness, cynicism, distrust and autonomy." And while we all can reflect on the potency of his words, the example of BAiP's neighbors at work is in fact quite different and perhaps one to be emulated.

To learn more or to join in, visit the BAiP tab on our website under "Resources" or go straight to the BAiP site: [bloominplace.org](http://bloominplace.org).

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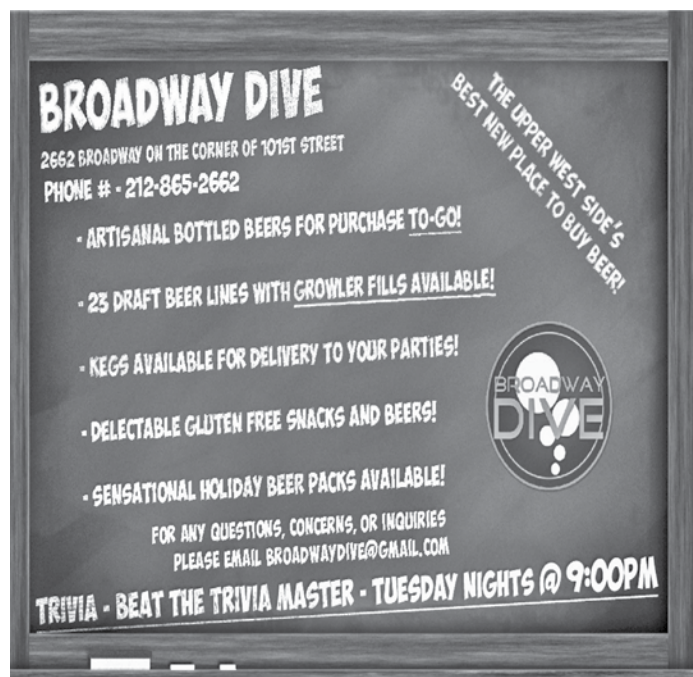
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# This Year's Halloween Parade Was One of Our Best!

(Continued from page 1)

street closures on the 31st. David Reich parked his car strategically on W. 102nd St., enabling us to have a prime spot for our refreshment tables. Bob Flanagan distributed posters to neighborhood buildings and outdoor locations publicizing the event and requesting donations for the refreshment table a few days before the event. Barbara Morgan decorated the fence and foliage along Riverside Dr. with her creations.

Bill and Dolores Weeden returned as King and Queen to lead the parade. Cynthia Doty, Laura Hanrahan, Ginger Lief, Sue Maderer, and Anne O'Loughlin took charge of the refreshment tables. Sax Freymann donated an artistically carved pumpkin, which we later donated to St. Luke's for their enjoyment in appreciation for all they do.

Janet Harvilchuck read stories from Halloween books loaned by Hedy Campbell. Alan Smith and Bill Anderson became part of the entertainment as folks walked by 308 W. 103rd St. for a



scary Halloween welcome. Joshua Albarran offered portrait sketching. Many

donated bags and bags of candy. Hedy Campbell baked brownies which were a definite crowd pleaser, as was a cake brought over by a neighbor we know only as Eleanor. Sue Maderer brought apples from a farmer's market and Deborah Lott contributed home-made baked goods. Ozzie Alfonso and Barbara Boynton took photos of the event for our Winter Newsletter and website. Look for the 2016 Gallery of Ghouls, the photo recap of the Halloween parade, on our website, courtesy of Caitlin Hawke. Cash donations support various Block Association initiatives.

To wrap up, Halloween on W. 102nd and 103rd St. is all about costumes, candy, cupcakes, and community spirit. Thanks to all who participated!

## And Now, a Word from Our New State Senator

By JACOB GROSS

Although all eyes were focused on the presidential election this year, there were also races for several local elected offices in our neighborhood. Most of our incumbent representatives handily won re-election: Senator

Charles Schumer, Congressman Jerrold Nadler, and Assemblyman Daniel O'Donnell. However, there is one new face among the crowd of regulars: Mari-sol Alcantara. She won the State Senate seat vacated by Adriano Espaillat, who

has been elected to the U.S. Congress.

Alcantara won a very competitive four-way primary in September for the Democratic Party nomination, defeating Micah Lasher, the former chief of staff to Attorney General Eric Schneiderman who was endorsed by the *New York Times*; former City Councilman Robert Jackson; and local activist Luis Tejada.

Born in the Dominican Republic, Alcantara came with her family to America at age 12. She is a longtime labor organizer, and in 2011 defeated an 18-year incumbent to become female district leader in Part D of Assembly District 70 in West Harlem. Alcantara will now represent State Senate District 31, which includes Northern Manhattan and parts of the west side down to Hell's Kitchen, including our blocks.

We reached out to Senator-elect Alcantara about her plans for our neighborhood: "I could not be more excited and proud to be your State Senator. As your senator in Albany, I will work relentlessly to not only ensure your voice is heard, but to bring back much needed resources to our community. I am eager to open up my district office where I will make sure my doors are open to all members of the W. 102nd & 103rd Streets Block Association. I look forward to collaborating with the association as we work together for the progress of our community."

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Robbins

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Boris  
Pacher

### 307 W. 102 ST.

Zakaria/Throckmorton

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Hollings

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Donnelly

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Albert

### 311 W. 102 ST.

Doyle/Lauren

### 313 W. 102 ST.

Betts

### 315 W. 102 ST.

Hansen Doeden  
Keane  
Weil

### 320 W. 102 ST.

Brail

### 250 W. 103 ST.

Bergmann  
Katzner  
Kay  
Rahmani  
Soskin  
Tauro

Weinstein/Meislin

### 254 W. 103 ST.

Feldman/Hasenpusch

### 303 W. 103 ST.

Frishauf/Rice

### 305 W. 103 ST.

Bertin

### 307 W. 103 ST.

Bridger/Paul  
Tredanari

### 308 W. 103 ST.

Ian

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Aaronson

### 316 W. 103 ST.

Kleidon/Ahmed

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Ausubel  
Friedman  
Henwood  
Holt  
Seitchik/Titzhen  
Solowiejyk/Porjesz

### 858 WEST END AVE.

Regensburg

### 862 WEST END AVE.

Hewitt

### 865 WEST END AVE.

Axelrod  
Baker  
Beels  
Carroll/Bartlik  
Chase  
Currin  
Cushman/Sorkin  
Davidge/Lott  
De Paoli  
Hanrahan  
Krasner/Perchower  
Lowenthal  
Mao  
Nye  
Sands  
Yi/Yui  
Zakrzewski

### 868 WEST END AVE.

Rotenberg  
Waller

### 870 WEST END AVE.

Wuorinen  
875 West End Ave.  
Babush/Catalano  
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### 878 WEST END AVE.

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Stearns  
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### 884 WEST END AVE.

Carponcy  
Cary  
Colas  
Cutler/Young  
Davis  
Fisch/Irizarry  
Kozodoy  
Pines  
Wallach  
Yin

### 885 WEST END AVE.

Bernstein/Bowen  
Brown/Gruber  
Fortunato/Moore  
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Kronenberg  
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Dane  
del Alamo  
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Healy/Emery  
Holtz/Horowitz  
Kastanis  
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Hecht  
Hoffman  
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Pozen/Bulmon-Pozen  
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### 319 W. 103 ST.

### 855 WEST END AVE.

### 864 WEST END AVE.

### 866 WEST END AVE.

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