

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2017

VOL.47, NO.4

Great Costumes, Great Food and Great Fun on Halloween

By Jane Hopkins

I HAD A TERRIFIC TIME AS OUR HALLOWEEN PARADE COORDINATOR AGAIN THIS YEAR. There's a lot to do in advance of and during the event, but thanks to an enthusiastic bunch of volunteers, the work is made so much easier. It all comes together on Halloween night, and seeing how many excited, costumed kids attend makes it all worthwhile.



If you can believe it, it all starts in August with an article about the event for our Fall newsletter. Next is a flurry of activity on my computer: emails go out confirming volunteers' participation and publicizing the event, homeowners are reminded to go to town as they decorate their stoops, and the flyer gets printed. Maybe you received one of our e-mail blasts or saw a flyer in your building lobby? Another job in advance is to connect with the NYPD's 24th precinct, alerting them to the event, receiving permission for the temporary street closure, and arranging for delivery of traffic barriers to our site. We start pulling strings to guarantee good weather way in advance as well. Thank goodness the 31st of October was pleasant this year!

(Continued on page 7)

Dark Days Be Gone! Sing in the Light on the 21st!

WE ENJOYED UNSEASONABLY WARM TEMPERATURES FOR A GOOD LONG TIME THIS FALL... until we didn't! That Friday night in November when the mercury dropped into the 20s was as good as a reminder—as was turning back the clocks the week before—that winter was inching ever closer. As a neighborhood, we'll do what we always do to send the short days packing and celebrate the lengthening of the light on Thurs., Dec. 21. We'll carol!

Come join us as we 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 mob.

The group will once again convene in the lobby of 865 West End Ave. 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 indoors for warm cider, light refreshments, and an abundance of conviviality.

(Continued on page 11)

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.

January 9
February 13
March 13

Our Annual Appeal... We Need Your Help

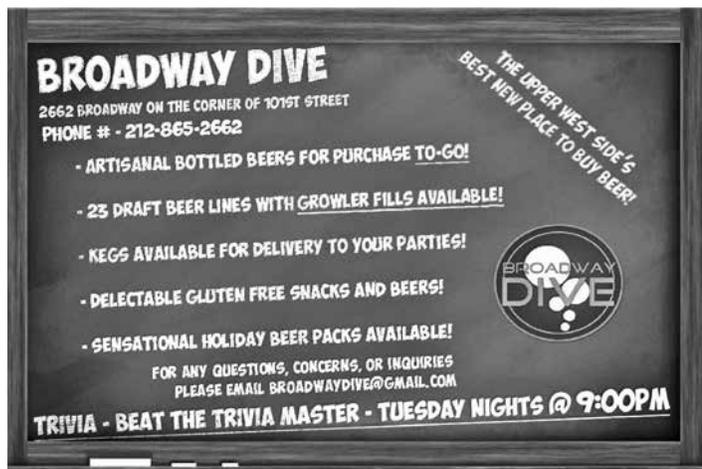
YEARS AGO, RFK PARAPHRASED A CHINESE CURSE: May you live in interesting times. From a Block Association perspective, these are very interesting times, indeed.

We're engaged in an ongoing discussion about the organization's future, particularly about whether to continue to provide guard service. The recent minimum wage hike brought with it a higher guard bill. Consequently, the effort to raise those funds demands ever more effort as well. We polled the community and found that the respondents were pretty evenly split, with the half in favor of keeping the guard also in favor of raising the suggested contribution amount.

If you've ever considered becoming involved in the Block Association, if you'd like your view on the topic to be part of the conversation, if you're a newcomer to the neighborhood with fresh eyes, or a resident of longstanding who can bring the benefit of a historical perspective to the table, now's the time. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month for 90 minutes (except in the summer) and generally restrict our email conversations to the most important of topics.

Correction

WE REGRET TO REPORT that we incorrectly attributed the BAiP article on the very popular Blooming Hour events that appeared in the Fall issue. It was written by Bob Neuman and his byline appears as it should in the version of the newsletter posted at our website. Sorry for the mistake, Bob.



Help Wanted

There are also two particular roles within the organization that need to be filled. Whether you'd like a job that involves just a little time on a regular basis or one that's more labor-intensive but only sporadically, we've got the position for you! See below for descriptions and contact information.

Job & Duties

Co-Treasurer

Weekly mail pickup from our post office box; weekly bank deposit; writing a few checks per month; reconciling the monthly bank statement. Write info@w102-103blockassn.org.

Newsletter Editor

Edit articles for quarterly newsletter; submit to designer; proofread issue before publication. A larger role that includes oversight of process and article assignment is possible but not essential at this time. Write editor@w102-103blockassn.org.

Do the Shuffle! (Alternate Side)

The DOT calendar of parking regulation suspensions is now available. You can find it at the Block Association website by clicking on the Resources tab.

The West 102nd & 103rd Streets Block Association Newsletter

info@w102-103blockassn.org
Hedy Campbell, 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. Phone messages may be left at 212-865-8524. Recent issues of the Newsletter are available online at 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.

GUARD SCHEDULE

Rafael Hernandez makes rounds Monday through Saturday from 6 p.m. until midnight Monday through Thursday and from 7 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.

BLOCK ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS

Solstice Caroling

Thurs., Dec. 21

Spring Newsletter Distribution

Mar. 2-4

Annual Meeting (tentative)

Tues., Mar. 20

Spring Tree Well Cleanup & Planting

TBD

Spring Yard Sale

Sat., May 18

The Demise of the 872 Ginkgo: Not Greatly Exaggerated

DESPITE OUR COLLECTIVE BEST EFFORTS, THE GINKGO TREE that was ring-barked in March of 2015 by a resident who didn't care for the smell of the nuts as they were left to rot on the sidewalk each fall didn't make it. We have been notified by the restitution coordinator of the NYC Parks Dept. that the case has been referred to the Law Dept. and the perpetrator, who wasn't aware that security cameras had recorded both his first trip out of his building with his ax as well as his return trip, is being held responsible for the loss of the tree, totaling \$18,200.

Self-centeredness can be costly, to be sure. Grabbing a broom every day or two probably would ultimately have been less time consuming than

navigating the legal process has been. Approaching neighbors to organize a rotation to sweep up for a couple of weeks once a year when the nuts were falling would have been a good solution. Asking the Block Association for help connecting with neighbors was an option as well. That's what we're here for! Someone could have been paid \$20 a day to sweep up every day for a month each fall for 30 years for what this act of vandalism will cost the ax-man.

On the up side, the maliciousness of one man's act was countered by the generosity of another's. Costello, one of our most dedicated local green thumbs, spent hours researching the best method of healing the tree. He then went out with salve and tools and did

everything that could be done to give it a shot at recovery. Thanks, Costello, and to all who went by with words of encouragement.

Although destroying a healthy tree only took a few minutes, the aftermath has been slow going. It took time to determine whether the tree would recover, which would determine whether the culprit would be liable only for damaging the tree or for the full value. It will take additional time for the lawyers to now do what they have to do. And then it will take more time until the dead tree is removed and a new one is planted. Sadly, it will take even longer for the replacement sapling to reach the maturity that the ginkgo had attained.



“DeAnna D. Rieber adds value to any Upper West Side seller or buyer with her award-winning sales expertise and her decades of community service as the West 75th Street Block President and Board Member for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Association.”



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Meet Your Talented Neighbors

By JULIA C. SPRING

In addition to the wide range of performances, publications and exhibitions you'll find below, we'd like to mention that the Bloomingdale School of Music, just a little to our north, hosts a free concert every **Friday from 7 to 8 p.m.** See below for some of the upcoming programs.

BLOOMINGDALE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Upcoming performances by faculty members include duos for guitar and piano by Italian composers (**Dec. 15**), a string trio concert of music by women composers about water and life (**Jan. 12**), 17th-century English folk music (**Feb. 9**), and French music for winds and piano (**Feb. 16**). The school is located at 323 W. 108th St.

BETSY GOLDBERG

Betsy has a gouache painting in a show entitled "Art as Sanctuary" mounted by the New York Society of Women Artists. Until Jan. 3, it will be on exhibit daily (**9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**) in the Living Room Gallery of St. Peter's Church (619 Lexington Ave., entrance on E. 54th St.).

BILL WEEDEN, DOLORES McDOUGAL

This couple appears in the second season of the comedy series "Mr. Student Body President" on the go90 app. It takes place in a high school where Bill plays the assistant principal and Dolores the student council adviser; both received Streamy "Best Ensemble" awards. Dolores also starred in the film "Light Fantastic," filmed decades ago but shown publicly this year for the first time since 1964 at Anthology Film Archives. Bill's musical "Move It and It's Yours," had a successful October reading at the York Theatre.

DEB RABBAI

The Upper West Side's own fully improvised musical comedy award show **BROADWAY'S NEXT HIT MUSICAL** returns in January. The first act features Phony Award-nominated songs based on your suggestions. The second is an improv musical based

on the winning song chosen by the audience. The cast features some of the best New York improvisers, including Deb. Performances are **Fri., Jan. 12 and Sat., Jan. 13, at 7:30 p.m.** at The Triad at Stage 72, 158 W. 72nd St. Find tickets (\$15-\$35, not including a two-drink minimum) at brownpapertickets.com or 1-800-838-3006.

KATE McLEOD

Here's the synopsis of Kates's short play "Tea Time." Harry is desperately trying to hold things together as a frenzy overtakes his group of worn-out actors. Script improvisations? Why not? Relations between cast members? Of course! A deadline? Yes! The clock is ticking as the time to record this radio play evaporates. It will be performed **Thurs., Feb. 1, at 9 p.m., Sat., Feb. 3 at 1 p.m., and Sun., Feb. 4 at 6 p.m.** as part of the New York Theater Festival Winterfest at Hudson Guild, 441 W. 26th St. (between Ninth and Tenth Aves.). See the New York Theater Festival website for tickets (\$23 each).

ANTHONY BELLOV & DAYLE VANDER SANDE

The Bond Street Euterpean Singing Society, of which Anthony

and Dayle are members and founders, is performing **Wed., Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.**, at the Merchant's House Museum (29 E. 4th St.). *Love in the Parlors — A Valentine in Concert* will feature lush, romantic songs by Brahms, Duparc, Dvorak, J. Strauss II, and others in an historic setting. Performances sell out so reserve by calling 212-777-1089 or visiting merchantshouse.org.

MARK STEINBERG & SERENA CANIN

The Brentano String Quartet (Mark Steinberg and Serena Canin, violins) will perform works by Beethoven and Stephen Hartke in the Music Mondays series at Advent Lutheran Church (2504 Broadway at 93rd St.) on **Mon., Mar. 26 at 7:30 p.m.** Doors open at 6:45, tickets are free.

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 Winter 2017 newsletter (or beyond) to creative@w102-103blockassn.org. Do it today, before you forget!

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DAYCARE - OVERNIGHT

Pixels and Paint at BAiP's Clothesline Show

By CAITLIN HAWKE

WITHIN BAiP'S MEMBERSHIP NOW MORE THAN 1,200 STRONG — there are a lot of gifted amateur artists. It makes sense that we'd have four different art groups up and running (watercolor, photography, art on paper, and collage), all led by people who wanted to share their passion with others nearby. When watercolor group moderator Carolyn Kirkpatrick proposed the idea of a "clothesline" art show, in which works are suspended from lines rather than mounted on walls, it seemed like a great goal. But where to have it?

Because we knew how community-minded Hostelling International New York community leaders Emily Gallagher and Ben Puterbaugh are, and how dedicated to experiential travel the hostel is, we tried them first. They loved the idea, and offered to host the show during the month of October in order to coincide with their inaugural participation in Open House New York, a citywide celebration of architecture, urban design, and New York City in which 250 buildings open their doors to visitors for tours, talks, and other events.

That's how we came to mount a Fall art show at the hostel, which ran from Oct. 12 through Oct. 22. It included works representing our neighborhood submitted by 22 members from all four of BAiP's art groups. Hostel guests

often hit the major tourist stops in the city but don't linger locally to discover what's right nearby. This show brought depictions of our community to the hundreds of travelers who pass through the hostel each month, giving them a taste of Bloomingdale.

The four BAiP groups participating in the show were:

- **Photography**, led by Ozzie Alfonso since April 2010. It is one of BAiP's oldest and largest living-room groups. You can see nearly 75 different galleries by BAiP's photo group at bloominplace.org/photography.html. Maybe you've also seen the great shots Ozzie took for our website (w102-103blockassn.org)?
- **Watercolors**, headed up by Carolyn Kirkpatrick since June 2013. She now co-leads it with Christine Campbell, and the group toggles between painting in a community rooftop lounge or in Riverside Park, depending on the season.

- **Art on Paper**, led by Ruth Kozodoy, who convenes a small group of BAiP members in her home. Each month she sets out a still life, and members, each in his or her own medium, create something,

whether a drawing, a collage, or a pastel, while enjoying the company.

- **Collage**, led by David Ochoa. David launched a collage workshop for BAiP at the hostel over the summer. Given their enthusiasm for shellac and decoupage, BAiP's collaging group for adults has just relaunched at the Bloomingdale branch of the New York Public Library every Monday afternoon and David welcomes new members. Please email activities@bloominplace.org if you are interested to learn more.

If you have an art group leader lurking within, we'd love to start a TriBloomingdale art group that draws neighbors of any age from BAiP as well as the two neighboring block associations. Email charwke@bloominplace.org with your idea.

Visit the Block Association Website

w102-103blockassn.org

History, events, resources, local eats, neighbors of longstanding, alternate side of the street parking, photo galleries, membership portal, and more. Between newsletters, it's all there online, just waiting for you.

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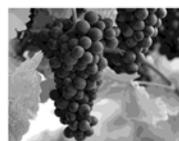
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Networking for Neighborhood Entrepreneurs

By CAITLIN HAWKE

THREE YEARS OLD AND GOING STRONG, Networking in the Neighborhood (NITN) is a group of local sole proprietors working from home. They convene on the first Friday morning of the month to discuss challenges and joys of entrepreneurship. They assist one another with resources such as web design, social media, and billing platforms, as well as with avenues for client and business development.

The whole idea, hatched by leader Harriet Hoffman in 2015, is to bring these business people together — hyperlocally. This group is part of the so-called "TriBloomington Initiative," which pools together members of the W. 102nd and 103rd Sts. Block Association, the W. 104th St. Block Association, and Bloomington Aging in Place. (TriBloomington also hosts a brisk walking group on Sunday mornings to members of these organizations. Write to bloomingtondaletriowalk@icloud.com for more information.)

NITN members range in age from their 30s to their 70s. Clearly there is no bad age at which to strike out on your own. All it takes is a great idea and a bit of know-how to bring that idea to the marketplace. But it can get lonely, and it can be hard to find time to network. Yet any entrepreneur will tell you: networking is essential to success.

Harriet says, "I started this group because after years of networking all over the city, I felt the time had come to 'act locally.' Plus I wanted to meet neighbors (and potential clients) who were, like me, mostly working from home. Older adults are now one of the fastest-growing age groups represented in the small business, or sole proprietor, economy. People are living longer and want to continue to work. Some of the businesses represented in our group are web design, freelance

writing, legal, mortgage banking, real estate, videography, photography and more, and my business — Make the Right Choice — helps people understand and make the most of their Medicare and Social Security benefits. NITN members have become a community within our community, helping each other with contacts and business problems and getting together for coffee in between meetings."

Monthly NITN meetings are always very local, last about 90 minutes, and the agenda always includes time to network as well as a more in-depth presentation from someone in the group. One recent topic was harnessing the potential marketing power of social media. Another session looked at best practices for client billing.

If you can tear yourself away from your great new standing desk or bear to step out of your slippers and head out one morning a month, this group is now welcoming new members. Chances are you'll only have to walk a block or two to meet up. For more information, please send an email to: bloomingtondalenitn@gmail.com.

Do the Right Thing: Shovel Your Sidewalk!

WITH THE FIRST SNOWFALL JUST BEHIND US, it's a good time for us to refresh our collective memory about the regulations for clearing snow from the sidewalks. Here's what the Dept. of Sanitation website says: "Every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant, or other person having charge of any lot or building must clean snow and/or ice from the sidewalk within four hours after the snow has stopped falling, or by 11:00 a.m. if the snow has stopped falling after 9:00 p.m. the previous evening." So, try not to get huffy if the snow is still coming down and a sidewalk isn't clear. And of course anyone who's inclined is welcome to pick up a shovel and help out. Clearing the storm drains and helping create paths at the corners earns extra points on the good karma scale. Anyone trying to cross a street in the neighborhood, especially those with strollers, walkers, wheelchairs or impaired balance for any reason will be eternally grateful. Well, maybe only grateful until the next snowfall.

98th Street Potters HOLIDAY SALE

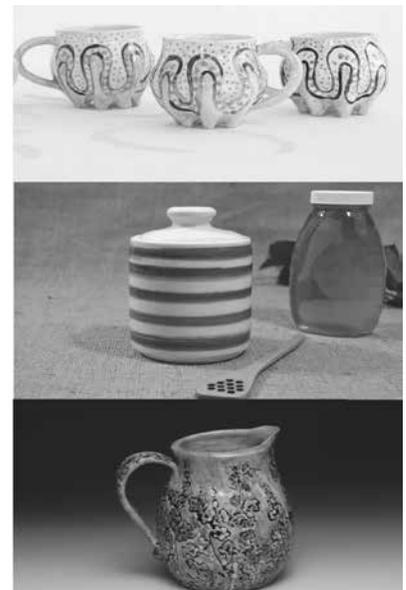
Ceramics made by local artists to grace your table and give as thoughtful gifts.

Dec 14, Thursday	5pm - 8pm
Dec 15, Friday	4pm - 9pm
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200 W. 98th St., NYC 10025
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Work by Alison Ostergaard,
Alicia Benoist, Barbara Beck and
Edith Gwathmey

www.98thstreetpotters.com
212-724-1828



Neighbors Get Down & Dirty at Fall Mulching

ON SAT., OCT. 14, A HANDFUL OF NEIGHBORS turned out to pitch in as we readied our tree wells for winter. We spread mulch over 15 tree wells and planted 200 tulip and daffodil bulbs. Thanks to Temma, Ferenc, Pat, Terence, Bettina, Cynthia, Celia, and Michael who were all a big help in making it happen. And thanks to Moe and Eddy, staffers at 878 West End Ave., and the residents of that building, who graciously allowed us to commandeer their sidewalk space. As promised, we're awarding extra points for the five and under participants (and their siblings), several of whom attend neighborhood schools. Come spring, we'll see the fruits of our labor in healthier trees and the joyful, colorful bloom of tulips and daffodils.

On a related note, I learned an important lesson: Shop local! Bulbs at our local plant and flower stores are priced better than they are on Amazon.

(Continued from page 1)

Great Fun on Halloween

About an hour before the parade begins, we start set-up. Job one is the closure of W. 102nd St. at Riverside Dr. to traffic. Then the bright green Block Association banner is hung and tables are brought out so we can begin to organize trays of candy, apples, brownies, other baked goods, beverage, napkins and decorations, all donated by neighbors.

The witching hour begins right around 6 p.m. when participants gather at the corner of W. 102nd St. and West End Ave. The anticipation mounts until the moment when the parade begins. It travels up West End, turns left to go down W. 103rd, makes another left to snake back along the Riverside Dr. service road, where all eyes were drawn to oversize Halloween masks decorating the fence and foliage, then one more left to go up the hill on W. 102nd St. Along the way, neighbors greet trick-or-treaters with cheers, well-wishes, and goodies. Parents and their children gather to visit for a while, show off their costumes, check out the decorated homes, and enjoy activities like not-too-spooky story time. Two hours later, it's as if nothing ever happened!

The event couldn't come together without the help of a great group of

volunteers. First among them are the staff and residents of the St. Luke's residence. Thanks to director Ray Dooley's commitment to community, they always show up in force. They set up the traffic barriers for us and deter drivers from trying to sneak around them, they lend us the tables, they contribute home-baked cakes and cupcakes and help us with clean-up.

Some of the others who are key to this event are Terence Hanrahan, co-chair of the Block Association; Bill and Dolores Weeden, who returned in costume to lead the parade; Bob Aaronson, who handled notification of neighbors of the street closures; David Reich, who strategically parks his car just so he can then move it right before the event and provide us with a prime spot for the refreshments table; Barbara Morgan, who created and installed the movie-set worthy decorations along the Riverside Dr. service road; and Janet Harvilchuck, who returned this year in costume to read stories to children gathered around her.

Jill Chase, Hedy Campbell, and Deborah Lott all contributed crowd-pleasing baked goods. Sue Maderer brought apples from a farmer's market and collected cash donations in support of various Block Association initiatives. Camille Colon donated cookies and napkins and was in charge of photocopying our publicity flyer. Jill Chase, Block Association co-chair Cynthia Doty, Bob Flanagan, Laura Hanrahan, Celia Knight, and Sue Maderer all stayed with me to help manage the crowd at the refreshments table. Sax Freymann donated one of his signature pumpkins as a table decoration; we were pleased to regift it to St. Luke's to show our appreciation for their support. And there are always a handful of anonymous donors to thank: those who drop off candy for distribution at the parade to my lobby in advance.

For those of us living in this neighborhood, especially the parents of young children who are able to introduce their children to Halloween in a safe, festive setting, October 31 isn't only a day about accumulating candy. It's also about community spirit, costumes, and fun. Thanks to all. See you next year.

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Step Into Another World at Sun-Chan, Just Around the Corner

By KATE MCLEOD

WHERE CAN YOU FIND SALTY, SWEET, TEXTURED, CRISP, and satisfying food steps from your apartment? Here's a hint: visualize a homey setting filled with homesick Japanese students from our local university.

Yes, it's our own Sun-Chan, which is as good as ever even after its prolonged Con Ed-related closure. Originally known as Jo-An, the proprietor changed the name after her husband returned to Japan some years ago. A 17-year run for a restaurant is remarkable in New York City where the failure rate is about 80 percent!

The extensive menu is inspired by the owner's origins in Nagoya, in the center of Honshu, Japan's main island. It's the country's third largest city, both ancient and modern. It has a history that dates back to the rich Edo period, and is now both an industrial port and home to a Toyota plant. The food and *izakaya*, a pub-like, casual atmosphere, have always been the draws here.

Sun-Chan's informality worked to our advantage one recent evening when we were engaged by not one, but two sake craftsmen. Masa Takeshita, who produces sake in the Shimane province in Japan, and Brian Polen, who is one of the masterminds behind Brooklyn Kura, were animatedly discussing their craft and invited us into their conversation. Takeshita, whose family has run a sake business for 150 years, says that his Kakeya sake gets its character from making small-batch, handcrafted,

unpasteurized sake using only fermented rice and water. Sake, he told me, is 80 percent water, so the quality of the water is key to the flavor of both local and imported sake. Polen, who is in the process of building Brooklyn Kura's facility in Bushwick, expects to begin selling sake as soon as the factory is finished. Although these two sake brands were the focus of our conversation, Sun-Chan has an extensive library of sakes, as well as Japanese beers from which to choose. When it isn't busy, the servers will bring a tray of sake cups to your table so you can select exactly the cup that pleases you most.

Dishes that are perfect accompaniments to sake include Sun Chan's Nagoya chicken wings and Nagoya specialty *hitsumabushi*, rice, eel and seaweed eaten with Japanese condiments. Sushi and grilled meats are also sure bets at Sun-Chan. They have udon and soba, stir fry and tempura. I'll admit that I stop short of anything more adventurous than eel, so in the sushi category I'd steer you toward the selection of special rolls. The Basic Roll is just the thing if you're looking for something salty, sweet, textured, crisp, and satisfying. How this little restaurant manages its extensive menu

must be like pondering how to get as many of your high school friends as possible into a phone booth!

As for the atmosphere, you either get it or you don't. There's sometimes a jam at the entrance, with a line of customers waiting to be seated. While Sun-Chan employs about ten people, all of them as helpful as can be, acting as hostess is not a primary role for any of them. Did you know that there's a sign-up sheet right past the drape that separates the door from the restaurant? Find it and put your name on it if there's a line. Then remember that patience is a virtue here. Perhaps you might like to order a cup of sake while you wait!

Sun-Chan is located at 2707 Broadway, between W. 103rd and W. 104th Sts.; (212) 749-5008. The restaurant is open for dinner daily from 5:30 until midnight. Credit cards are accepted on the premises, but delivery is cash only.



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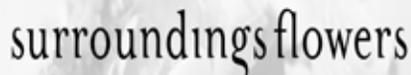
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On Broadway

By KERSTIN HASENPUSCH

Although there continues to be an alarming number of vacant storefronts on Broadway, the good news is that there's been a little surge in activity along the side streets!

Open



★ **Surroundings Flowers**, on the southwest corner of W. 102nd St. and Broadway, has joined Winston Flowers, a florist with seven retail shops in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The company prides itself on sourcing flowers directly from local farms and the best global growers and specializes in floral design, weddings, special events, garden design, corporate services and unique home decor.



★ **Serafina**, an international chain of Italian eateries that serves thin-crust pizzas and homemade pastas, has opened its tenth Manhattan restaurant in the old Toast location on the west side of Broadway at W. 105th St.

★ **Guacamole**, a Mexican restaurant, bar and grill has opened on Amsterdam Ave. and W. 97th St. in the space that in the past several years has housed a series of Mexican restaurants, most recently Chicojulio.

★ **98th Street Potters**, located at 200 W. 98th St., on the south side of the street between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave., features handcrafted ceramics made by local artists. A holiday sale will take place between Dec. 14 and 17.

★ **HearUSA**, a hearing aid store, has opened on the southwest corner of W. 109th St. and Broadway.

★ **Military Workout** at the UWS Community gym on the south side of 106th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave., offers workouts for \$5 each. You pay as you go and there's no contract required.

★ **Peng's Spa and Taiji Body Work**, offering massages, acupuncture and reflexology, has opened on the south side of 102nd St. between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave. where a dry cleaner used to be. This is the seventh shop in the chain, which offers 30-, 60-, and 90-minute massages complete with hot rocks.

Expected to Open Soon:

★ An outpost of the popular **Drybar** chain is moving in on the north side of W. 99th St. between Broadway and West End Ave., right around the corner from Starbucks. The salon is known for providing a high-quality wash and blowout.



★ **H Mart**, a Korean/Asian supermarket chain, is opening soon on the southeast corner of W. 110th St. and Broadway in the space formerly occupied by a D'Agostino grocery store.

★ **Mama's Too**, on the east side of Broadway between W. 105th and 106th Sts., of the Mama's Pizzeria chain is open for business.

★ **Max Juice and Salad** is opening one store up from Mama's Too.

Moved:

★ **Cohen's Fashion Optical** has moved from the west side of Broadway bet W. 96th and W. 97th Sts. to the southeast corner of Broadway and W. 99th Street.

Closed:

★ **Joon**, the fish store on Amsterdam Ave. bet W. 97th and W. 98th Sts. has closed after many years in the neighborhood.

★ **Sookk**, the Thai restaurant on the east side of Broadway and W. 102nd St., after a temporary closure last summer, has closed for good.

★ **Turkuaz**, the Turkish restaurant on the west side of Broadway and W. 100th St., known for good food and belly dancing, closed after many years.

★ The deli on the south side of W. 96th St. between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave. (by the bus stop) has closed.

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A Jewel in Our Crown: Quality Ready-made and Unique Custom Pieces Close to Home

By DAYLE VANDER SANDE

NO DOUBT WE IN BLOOMINDALE deem our neighborhood the crown of the Upper West Side. It is only fitting, then, that we be privileged to have the Jewel Boutique, one of New York City's most well-known jewelry stores, within our treasured confines for 11 years now. You must have noticed it as you've walked on the east side of Broadway between W. 97th and W. 98th Sts.

What sets the Jewel Boutique apart from other such businesses is the custom work by designer Harmeet Singh. A Sikh from Punjab, who began his trade with his father's business in Kuwait before coming to America and gaining 30 years' experience working in various jewelry stores all on the Upper West Side. As a designer, he creates "timeless, custom jewelry." Some designs could be called "whimsical," with unique detail and flair—at times delicate, at times bold—but always standing out with an element of the unexpected that will surely grab attention on the wearer.

Singh sources his stones from the Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase, a long-established international trade show held annually in that city. Some of the shop's most popular stones acquired there include aquamarine and Paraiba tourmaline (a rare gemstone) from Brazil, sapphire from Thailand and opal from Australia, which is so often requested of Singh, that he happily claims the informal title, "The Opal King of New York." As you browse the cases, the stones sparkle and shine in brilliant colors and prismatic flickers, somewhat reminiscent—to me at least—of a candy shop. The visual effect of the beautifully displayed pieces delights the senses well beyond that of the eye. The special array of materials is striking as well. One popular design is named the "From Out of This World" ring, because it is made with the rich

jet-black of actual meteorites!

The workmanship of each piece employs the most advanced technology available today. Singh uses software to transfer his designs to a computer, then realizes them with 3D printing, creating a wax cast at his offsite workshop. Then your preferred metal, whether gold, silver, or platinum, is poured into the mold, and the piece is produced, either ready to wear or to be set with stones. The precision of this work produces amazing detail that must be seen to be believed.

Other than purchasing a new bauble, there are many other reasons to pay a visit to the Jewel Boutique. Repurposing jewelry is a large part of Singh's business. Perhaps you have inherited some jewelry and would like to reuse the stones in a custom-created piece to wear. Or you may need a piece resized or broken parts recreated or repaired. Do you have a wristwatch that needs repair? The Boutique does that too. Or have you lost a cherished earring? Singh can produce an exact replica. If you own a business, wouldn't a pin with your company's logo be a good gift for a valued employee?



Stop in for a look. As brilliant as are his designs and the atmosphere he creates, Singh, himself, is extremely pleasant to talk with, which is true of his staff, as well. With the holidays around the corner and Valentine's Day only a handful of weeks away—or for some other upcoming special occasion—the Jewel Boutique will help you find or create that perfect gift from the heart.

The Jewel Boutique is located at 2586 Broadway; telephone (646) 684-4888; url tjbnyc.com. The store is open daily except Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Association Founders Honored in Riverside Park

That's the beginning of the inscription on the plaque that marks the bench in Riverside Park that was recently dedicated to Cherie and Len Tredanari. The Treds, as they were so fondly known, were among a small handful of residents who pooled their energies in 1971 to found the organization, including its two biggest events, the annual block party and Halloween parade. It was a pleasure to honor their contribution on the afternoon of Sat., Sept. 16, with a small gathering in the park at which the bench was officially dedicated. Friends and family members, including their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, remembered them with affection, prompting some tears as well as some chuckles.

Thanks go to Ted and Asya Berger, who proposed the idea soon after Cherie's death in 2015 and followed through to make the idea a reality, including hosting a lovely reception at their home following the dedication. Thanks to the family for providing the Tred red that Len and Cherie made every year and shared so generously. Thanks to Terence Hanrahan, who spoke on behalf of the Block Association, which spearheaded the fundraising effort. Thanks to Hedy



Campbell for securing the Parks Dept. and NYPD permits required for the event, and to David Reich for providing the sound system and consequent tech support. And of course thanks to the Riverside Park Conservancy for graciously answering question after question as we found our way through the process.

“For what they gave our neighborhood...”

Go by and have a look at the bench. Have a seat on it for a couple of minutes. Say thanks to them both for laying the groundwork that helped make our neighborhood what it is today. And, as you consider their contribution, maybe take a moment to identify how you, too, can make an impact. Home is where the heart is. Putting our hearts into where our homes are, as the Tredanaris did for more than 50 years, is worthwhile as well.

(Continued from page 1)



Caroling Dec 21st!

In response to popular demand, we've made the song sheets available at our website (w102-103blockassn.org). Scroll down to the Calendar of Events section and you'll see the link just below the event info. A pdf on an illuminated screen and the ability to zoom in 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.

An Alarming Incident Takes Place in Broad Daylight

Just after we sent the Fall issue of the newsletter off to the printer, we got word of a carjacking that took place early one Monday morning in front of 250 W. 103rd St. Here's what happened:

A driver pulled up to double-park in front of the building. A second car, with two people in it, pulled in behind the first car. One of the people in the second car, presumably the passenger, jumped out of the car, ran up to the driver of the first car, and waved what appeared to be a police badge at the driver while ordering the driver out of the car. After the driver complied, the car thief got in the car and sped away, as did the second car. The driver of the first car called the police who had no knowledge of any police action taking place and took the car owner's report.

Although we see this sort of thing in cop shows on TV, don't be fooled. It seldom happens for real.



THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

RESIDENTS

235 W. 102 ST.

Antonino
Awner
Baxter
Berens
Cox
Davis
Ehrhardt
Epstein/Eden
Fair/Guide
Kirkpatrick
Knight
Kooij
O'Hanlon
Rabbai
Rabinowitz
Stevenson
Timperley
Williams
Wilson
Zetlan
Zinsser

240 W. 102 ST.

Cope/Becker
Eisenstadt
Fishman
Flanagan/Hopkins
Kalish
Kojima
Nissenbaum/Kim
Riehl/Hartsough
Stern
Worman/Chun

247 W. 102 ST.

Dunn

252 W. 102 ST.

Eastman

254 W. 102 ST.

Sagi/Moshier

307 W. 102 ST.

Zakaria/Throckmorton

308 W. 102 ST.

Hollings

310 W. 102 ST.

Albert

311 W. 102 ST.

Doyle/Lauren

313 W. 102 ST.

Betts

315 W. 102 ST.

Hansen Doeden
Knox
Saltzman
Weil

320 W. 102 ST.

Brail

250 W. 103 ST.

Agathocleous
Katzner
Mulkin/Robertson
Rahmani
Soskin
Sue/Lin
Wall
Weinstein/Meislin

254 W. 103 ST.

Doherty
Feldman/Hasenpusch

303 W. 103 ST.

Frishauf/Rice

305 W. 103 ST.

Bertin

307 W. 103 ST.

Bridger/Paul

312 W. 103 ST.

Aaronson

Rabbitt/Feidner

316 W. 103 ST.

316 W. 103 Owners Corp

Kleidon/Ahmed

854 West End Ave.

Wald

855 WEST END AVE.

Ausubel
Huey
Seitchik/Titzhen
Solowiejczyk/Porjesz

858 WEST END AVE.

Regensburg

865 WEST END AVE.

Axelrod
Beels
Beels
Blumm/Snell-Blumm
Carroll/Bartlik

Chase

Currin

Cushman/Sorkin

Davidge/Lott

Koplow

Krasner/Perchower

Lowenthal

Mao

Nye

Yi/Yui

Zakrzewski

868 WEST END AVE.

Hewitt

Rotenberg

Waller

870 WEST END AVE.

Wuorinen

875 WEST END AVE.

Babush/Catalano

Beilenson

Borinstein/Vartanian

Canin

Canin/Sauer

Drath/Sieger

Eisen/Dworkin

Fricke/Klimley

Gorelick

Groszof/Fisch

Hochman/Reid

Issacharoff

Keane

Lasher

Leiman

Levin

Levine

Levine

Lohr/Trucco

Malatsky

McDermott
Meyer
Pommer
Rogers
Rosenfeld/Stein
Schwartz/Naegele
Seaman/Dapre
Stein

Straw/Gubitosa

Ward

Yahr/Delcolle

878 WEST END AVE.

Adams

Dubin

Frizell/Smith

Gross/Ochshorn

Kendall

Lansdale

Lawrey

Orr/Robbins

Posner

Sagalyn/Hack

Schachter

Skomorowsky/Marratto

Stearns

Winograd

884 WEST END AVE.

Aaronson

Carponcy

Cary

Colas

Cutler/Young

Davis

Dispenza

Falk

Fisch/Irizarry

Kozodoy

Marsted

Pines

Yin

885 WEST END AVE.

Bernstein/Bowen

Brown/Gruber

Friedman

Goldberg

Goldstein/Roney

Hanna

Sherman/Chafetz

Spring/Miller

Stokinger/Maas

Tolkow/Woodbury

Weiss

299 RIVERSIDE DR.

Alamo

Bauchner/Weil

Dane

del Alamo

Flateman/Goldstein

Guarino/Arlotta

Gwathmey

Healy/Emery

Holtz/Horowitz

Kastanis

Leidner/Ruden

McLean/Wang

Moore

Reich/Dessel

Seidel Field

Shear

Tedoff
Titowsky/Price
Toub/Pagano
Wagner/Cecil
Wang/Sedlis
Wong
Zaner

300 RIVERSIDE DR.

Abramski

Alfonso/Gouck

Bauman

Burger

Butera/Warren

Chapple

Cherry/Hudson

Coffman

Corcoran

Davenport/Miller

Edelman/Gold

Faux/Willig

Forbes/De Prenger

Greenwald/Struhl

Greiper/Mojarro

Halberstam/Cohen

Jannicelli

Johnson

Kowal/Paul

Levit/Ehrlich

Livingstone

Lupatkin

Maderer

Malpica

McLeod

Meer

Mills

Piken

Rack/Agnew

Rasmussen

Redpath

Reich/Greenberg

Reiner/Lally

Rocks

Schiff

Seget/LaBasse

Simon

Sinaiko

Smith/Castellano

Smith/Silverman

Themm/Clevenger

Thomas

van Schaardenburg

Vaz/Moebius

Vernacchio

Weissberg

Zyberman

305 RIVERSIDE DR.

Avidon

Borrell

Chang/Abuba

Colon

Danzig/Minerva

Denny

Doty

Gold

Hoffman

McGinn

Minerva/Danzig

Peracchia

Pozen/Bulmon-Pozen

Wiedt

310 RIVERSIDE DR.

Bien
Brown
Cooper
Douhey
Hagiwara
Huber
Hugus
Kostelanetz
Maffei
McKinney/Chin
Piper
Ralph
Speiser
Steinhauer
Wagner
Woodward
Other
Budow
Turk
West

LANDLORDS/CO-OPS

235 W. 102 St.

240 W. 102 St.

247 W. 102 St.

252 W. 102 St.

254 W. 102 St.

314 W. 102 St.

235 W. 103 St.

250 W. 103 St.

308 W. 103 St.

309 W. 103 St.

315 W. 103 St.

317 W. 103 St.

319 W. 103 St.

856 West End Ave.

858 West End Ave.

866 West End Ave.

868 West End Ave.

872 West End Ave.

875 West End Ave.

884 West End Ave.

300 Riverside Dr.

310 Riverside Dr.

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98th Street Potters

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Lauren Stahl, Healing Arts

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Thanks so much!

Names of those who are paid up through the previous quarter appear above.

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Please use the enclosed envelope to send your contributions to:

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Or contribute online at w102-103blockassn.org