

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2019

VOL.49, NO. 4

Local Resources for the Hungry and Homeless

By DAYLE VANDER SANDE

OVER THE YEARS, OUR NEIGHBORHOOD HAS BECOME MORE UPSCALE. Many of us enjoy choosing what and where to eat each day and will never know the desperation of being hungry and/or homeless. Yet we are so often accosted by people asking for money or food. What is the right thing to do? Give some change; smile and make an excuse; or ignore the person entirely and walk off? Subway posters recommend donating to organizations dedicated to helping those in need. But do our donations really reach the actual people on the street?



Unfortunately, there are no simple answers, and we each come up with our own guidelines. Truly, none of the choices is purely right or wrong. No matter which action I take, I nonetheless often find myself feeling in a quandary. Here is some information I've found useful in trying to resolve this dilemma. I hope it will be helpful to you as well.

According to the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS), it takes hundreds of contacts by

HOME-STAT outreach teams to help someone off the street. Yet if you suspect that someone on the street needs intervention, call 311 or use the 311 app to alert authorities.

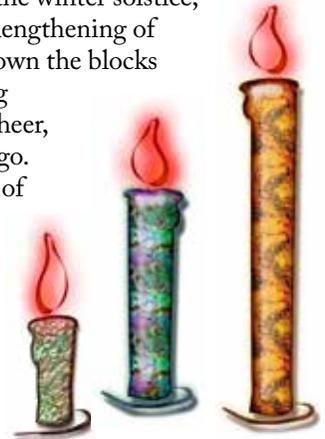
For access to the USDA food stamp program called SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), you can Google ACCESS HRA or call (718) 557-1399 for information. You can also call the Hunger Hotline at (866) 692-3663 or (866) 888-8777 (English or Spanish). The emergency hotline for the Food Bank of New York is (212) 566-7855.

These long-standing programs do tremendous work, but there is an application process, which takes time and follow-up before people receive benefits. In the meantime, when someone is hungry today, immediate solutions are

(Continued on page 7)

Come, All Ye Joyful, Sing to Celebrate the Solstice

IT'S TIME TO SEND THESE OPPRESSIVELY SHORT DAYS packing. On Sat., Dec. 21, the winter solstice, come join us to celebrate the lengthening of the light. We weave up and down the blocks of the neighborhood, bringing favorite holiday tunes, good cheer, and blessings for peace as we go. We're counting on our crowd of familiar faces, and are hoping to welcome enthusiastic newcomers as well. Convene at 7 p.m. in the lobby of 865 West End Ave., where greetings will be exchanged, song sheets distributed, and headlamps turned on. Led by



(Continued on page 2)

Make a Donation That Helps Women and Children in Need

FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS, A NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT and former Block Association board member has worked with the U.S. Department of Justice's New York office in an effort to provide help to the needy at holiday time. This year, the beneficiary of the project is Womankind, which operates domestic violence shelters in Queens and Brooklyn and also offers a variety of additional support services. On Womankind's behalf, the DOJ is collecting donations of small toiletry items that can easily travel with families when they are relocated. Think travel-size shampoo and conditioner, skin lotion, adhesive strips, etc. To make a donation, please mark your package for Camille and drop it off at the lobby desk of 305 Riverside Dr. or call (646) 345-5209 to arrange for items to be picked up.

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. Previous 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

Our security guard makes rounds Monday through Thursday from 6 p.m. until midnight, and on Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. To report neighborhood security issues to the guard or to request his assistance, call him at (646) 772-2240, or call the office of Starr Security at (212) 246-1040.

BLOCK ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Solstice Caroling

Sat., Dec. 21

See page 1

Spring Newsletter

Early Mar.

Annual Meeting

TBD

Spring Planting

TBD

(Continued from page 1)

Sing to Celebrate the Solstice

affable Anthony Bellov and delightful Dayle Vander Sande, off we'll go on a circuit through the neighborhood. When our fingers and toes start to tingle, we'll repair indoors for warm cider, light refreshments, and an abundance of conviviality, thanks to the hospitality of the Master Apartments. You can find our song sheets in the Events Calendar section of our website. Feel free to print a copy in advance, or take advantage of being able to read song lyrics on the illuminated screen of your phone. Some hard copies will be available. 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.



Help Wanted

IT'S TIME TO CHANGE NEWSLETTER STEWARDSHIP. The current editor's first issue was in 1987! She's facing increasing personal responsibilities, and we need someone new to take the helm in a supervisory way. There's a regular rhythm to much of the coverage, and a dedicated team handles writing, editing, layouts, ad sales, and distribution. The newsletter is the Block Association's only point of contact with every single neighborhood resident. It's a great opportunity to influence the public face of our organization. If you can lend a hand, please write editor@w102-103blockassn.org.

What's New at the Website

By CAITLIN HAWKE

WELL, FOLKS, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT, the dawn is about to rise on Election Year 2020. As they say, "All politics is local." So what's new at the website? Our Resources page now features a list of local elected officials. Go to: w102-103blockassn.org/resources.html to see the listing with access to their websites and email forms.

But that's not all we have online. All year long, the website is a resource for calendar updates on Block Association events, links to other resources, like

alternate-side-of-the-street parking suspensions (the happiest words to those of you doing the parking tango), an archive of past newsletters, and our blog. To receive the blog posts straight in your email, go to w102103blockassn.org/blog and enter your email address at the end of any blog post. You will receive a CAPTCHA message to complete your subscription.

Visit the website and click around. You are sure to find tidbits to enjoy in its nooks and crannies.

BLOCK ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Regular Block Association meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m., 306 W. 102nd St.

Jan. 14

Feb. 11

Mar. 10

A Terrific Halloween Night That Almost Didn't Happen!

By JANE HOPKINS

HOPEFULLY YOU HAD AN OPPORTUNITY to get outdoors and have some fun in costume on Halloween night. Perhaps you were one of the many who came to the Block Association's annual Halloween parade and party, joining family, friends, and neighbors in dressing up in costume and circling our two blocks, admiring the amazing decorations on several brownstones. Once the parade was over, the group crowded the Block Association's refreshment tables to enjoy treats donated by community members.

But this year it almost didn't happen! Weather forecasts on October 31 predicted rain in the evening hours, a major problem for an outdoor event. But I thought, The Greenwich Village Halloween Parade is still on, so why should we cancel ours? So we forged ahead. Happily, that was the right call, because no rain came, and the parade and party were a big success.

A few minutes before the 6 p.m. start time, a sizeable crowd had

already gathered. People milled around, checked out the costumes and pumpkin-festooned homes, and took pictures of one another. Bob Flanagan then got things under way with the aid of a bullhorn, calling everyone together.



Credit: Ozzie Alfonso

Bill and Dolores Weeden returned this year in costume as King and Queen to lead the parade, chaperoning the group, young and old, past artfully decorated homes and generous folks distributing candy. Then the parade ended up

again on W. 102nd St., ready to sample goodies and trick-or-treat up and down the closed-off block.

Three cheers for those who worked both behind the scenes and at the event to bring it all together. The advance team included Bob Aaronson, who placed posters along the parade route to inform neighbors of the planned street closure. David Reich parked his car strategically on W. 102nd St., enabling us to have a prime spot for our refreshment tables.

Many neighbors donated candy, Hedy Campbell baked brownies, and Sue Maderer brought apples from a farmers' market. Sue joined Ginger Lief in running the refreshment tables. Sax Freymann donated an artistically carved pumpkin, which we later gave to St. Luke's for their enjoyment and to show our appreciation for all they do. Their staff and residents were awesome! They assisted with setup by placing barriers across the west end of W. 102nd St. to secure the area from through traffic, and they remained at that location to ensure safety. They also donated large tables for our refreshments, mounted the Block Association banner midblock, baked several trays of cupcakes, and helped with clean-up.

It was a wonderful neighborhood celebration—if you missed it this year, be sure to join us next time!

Two Crimes Leave Us Wondering

IN ONE 24-HOUR PERIOD, two crimes were committed in our immediate area. In the early morning hours on Mon., Oct. 7, a woman was mugged and cut in front of 205 W. 102nd St. (north side of the street, between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave.). Later that same day, at around 9 p.m., a resident of 310 Riverside Dr. was mugged on W. 103rd St. between West End Ave. and Riverside Dr. Security camera footage seems to indicate that these crimes were not committed by the same man.

In response to the evening mugging, our board conducted an analysis of the logs that track the location of the security guard funded by the Block

Association. It revealed that although the guard had recently passed by the location of the crime at the time it was being committed, he was elsewhere along his appointed route.

For the past several years, the board of directors has been conducting an ongoing discussion of the guard service. Is it necessary? Are we getting good value for the funds we work hard to raise? Should we continue providing the service? Should we seek another service provider? The relatively limited input we've so far received from residents splits about half in favor of maintaining the service, about half opposed.

If you haven't shared your thoughts

on this topic with us, please do. Write to info@w102-103blockassn.org.

At this time of year, many of us are carrying extra cash for holiday shopping, coming home laden with holiday gifts, or staying out a bit later than usual attending holiday events. If you feel concerned for your safety and would like to contact our security guard, please use the following phone numbers: guard's cell phone: (646) 772-2240; Starr Security: (212) 246-1040. These numbers, along with the guard's hours, are also listed on page 2.

Our blocks are usually very safe, and it's easy to be lulled into a false sense of security. Please be vigilant and remain alert to what's going on around you.

On Broadway

By MARK SCHNEIDERMAN

SOON TO OPEN

★ **Mighty Catch**, a Cajun seafood chain, is moving into the former Chirping Chicken space at 940 Columbus Ave., at W. 106th St. Mighty Catch serves baskets of fried and boiled seafood dishes.

OPEN

★ **Peaky Barista**, a family-owned café and coffee bar, is now open on the east side of Broadway between W. 102nd and W. 103rd Sts. I thought the coffee was good.

★ **Moonrise Izakaya**, a Japanese gastropub, at 774 Amsterdam Ave., at W. 98th St., opened last week. It's got cool, spray-painted murals all over the walls.

CLOSED

★ **West End Health & Fitness**, at 752 West End Ave., between W. 96th and W. 97th Sts., closed on September 1. There has been construction in the building for a long time. **Imagine Swimming**, a swim school, appears to be taking over the pool. Note: Your reasonable-cost gym cravings can be satisfied by going to **BodyStrength Fitness**, at 250 W. 106th St., at Broadway. I have 12 unused passes from 2014 and hereby offer them to anyone who wants them. Contact me at trees@w102-103blockassn.org.

ALSO...

★ Construction begins at the former **Marrakesh Hotel**, on the east side of Broadway between W. 102nd and W. 103rd Sts., with asbestos abatement. Toll Brothers, the new owner, connected me with their head of development, Todd Dumaresq. We'll see what he has to say. . . .

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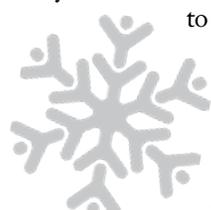
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Shovel off to Buffalo

AREN'T WE LUCKY that we don't get as much snow as they do? Perhaps because we don't get big snowfalls regularly, it's easy to forget what the city requires from building owners when it comes to 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."

The people who manage the larger buildings in the neighborhood seem to

do a pretty good job of staying on top of snow removal. If you're the owner or landlord of one of the smaller buildings, please do your part and keep the sidewalks clear. Residents, try not to get huffy if the snow is still coming down and a sidewalk isn't clear. Of course anyone who's inclined can certainly pick up a shovel and help out by clearing the storm drains and helping create paths at the corners. Anyone trying to cross a street in the neighborhood, especially those with strollers, walkers, or wheelchairs or who have impaired balance, will be eternally grateful. Well, maybe only grateful until the next snowfall.



Meet Your Talented Neighbors

By JULIA C. SPRING

LUMINARIAS ON CHRISTMAS EVE, LNYPL collage workshop, flutists galore—take your pick for the winter months.

ELIZA LANSDALE, MIMI DAITZ, AND BARBARA MORGAN

All three sing with the Riverside Choral Society, which is having its holiday concert at the Church of the Heavenly Rest (at the corner of Fifth Ave. and E. 90th St.) on **Sat., Dec. 14, 8 p.m.** This will be a program of Christmas choral music plus Edward Elgar's "Sea Pictures," to mix things up a little. Tickets, most \$25, are available at riversidechoral.org.

BARBARA MORGAN

In addition to singing, Barbara is a volunteer Riverside ParkTender. She will be setting up luminarias along the paths in the Firemen's Memorial area, **Tues., Dec. 24, 4-7 p.m.**, weather permitting. Her dog, Fanny, will be greeting people as Barbara works.

CAROL WINCENC

Carol, renowned flutist and flute teacher, is celebrating the golden anniversary of her international performance career. Her legacy series:

- Staller Center for the Arts, Stony Brook University, **Sat., Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m.**: Carol performs at the New York Music Consortium for Flute and Piano, where she will premiere two works.
- On **Sun., Feb. 23, 5 p.m.**, Merkin Concert Hall (129 W. 67th St.), she will perform, solo and with

ensembles, modern and old works by Sirota, Sato Matsui, Messiaen, and Bach.

- Again at the Staller Center, Stony Brook, on **Thurs., April 16, 7 p.m.**, she will perform mostly modern works, concluding with Andrew Thomas's "A Samba," which features some 30 musicians onstage (mostly flutists!).

DAVID OCHOA

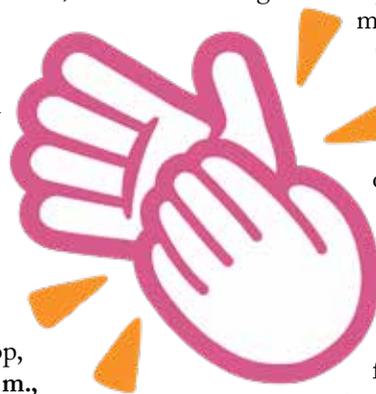
David co-leads a new ongoing collage workshop, **Thursdays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, at the Morningside Heights branch of the New York Public Library, 2900 Broadway, between W. 113th and W. 114th Sts. You do not have to sign up ahead of time, and materials are provided. If you have questions, contact David at woolf61@gmail.com.

BLOOMINGDALE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

BSM, 323 W. 108th St., between Broadway and Riverside Dr., has faculty concerts almost every **Friday, 7 p.m.**, ranging from Caribbean music for two guitars to piano compositions by Brahms and the two Schumanns. A sampling of other events includes a Chamber Groups recital, **Sat., Jan. 25, 5 p.m.**, and the annual Vocal Festival, **Fri., Feb. 28, 4 p.m.** There's a lot more on the website. Go to bsmny.org and click on "Events" and then a given month to view upcoming events.

SENIOR SCENES CALENDAR OF CULTURAL EVENTS

For seniors: **Joseph Beinhorn** sends out an email about eight times a year, listing reduced-price cultural events, many on the West Side.



Generally the drill is to send him a check/SASE and the tickets will be mailed to you or held at the box office. If you are a senior and want to be on Joe's list, email him at josephbeinhorn10@gmail.com. I usually find at least an event or two to attend.

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF NEW YORK

Musical events are ongoing: Soh Daiko drumming, Tachibana Japanese dance, and the twice-monthly New Uke City Strumming Circle for experienced and newcomer ukulele players. The church is at 331-332 Riverside Dr., between W. 105th and W. 106th Sts. Go to newyorkbuddhistchurch.org and click on "Programs & Special Services."

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 2020 Newsletter (or beyond) to creative@w102-103blockassn.org. Do it today, before you forget!



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A Mother-Daughter Perspective on How to Knit Together Community

By CAITLIN HAWKE

IF YOU DON'T YET KNOW BLOOMINGDALE AGING IN PLACE—or BAiP, as most call it—what



Phyllis Sperling, at left, presents the Herman Sands Award to Arlene Seffern. Credit: Ozzie Alfonso

follows is a bi-generational take on this organization. Now 10 years old, BAiP grew out of a partnership between our Block Association and that of W. 104th St. It is run entirely on the power of volunteers and has grown to include groups for tea-tasting, exercise, outings, reading, and stitchery. One of

the stitching groups is led by longtime Bloomingtondaler Arlene Seffern, who is also the mother of a Block Association resident, Laura Carraro.

Arlene has been convening the beginner knitters' group and instructing them on technique since Feb., 2016. And on Oct. 27, at BAiP's big anniversary bash, Arlene was awarded the 2019 Herman Sands Volunteer Appreciation Award for the way she has created a bonded community within the organization.

I caught up with both mother and daughter recently. Arlene raised her family in this neighborhood; Laura has a distinct memory of moving into their Riverside Dr. apartment right in time for the U.S. bicentennial celebrations. Arlene is well into her fourth decade here. Laura, who'd lived as a young mother at 801 West End Ave., left for 27 years, only to return "home" to Bloomingtondale last year to live at 865 West End Ave. Both women love the bustle of the neighborhood, the parks, the people-watching, and the potential to connect.

I first met Arlene in 2014, at one of BAiP's happy hours in Riverside Park. She whispered to me as she was leaving that she was about to turn 80 and her

family was getting ready to celebrate it. I'd had no sense of her age, but, always on the lookout for new volunteers, I wondered, as she sped away up the hill and out of the park, if she might do more with BAiP at some point.

Recalling that encounter, Arlene told me that she had recently retired and was looking to meet some neighborhood people. All her friends were still working, and she had a lot of time on her hands. She was doing some traveling and hadn't yet settled into joining a regular BAiP group. But one day, after talking with BAiP's Volunteer Committee, Arlene landed on an idea that would change her life: to create a BAiP group and instruct beginners how to knit—one of her passions.



Arlene stands among attendees at the BAiP anniversary bash. Credit: Bob Lejeune

Arlene said, "The most surprising thing was to find a group of people who were so compatible and became so close and caring to one another as well as to me, and also learned how to knit. The group is now very special to me and expanded my group of friends, which was what I was looking for."

Laura recalls, "My mother always said that it is much harder to make friends when your children are grown, and, while at the time I disagreed with her, I think she was right. The city is very alive with people, and just walking on Broadway in the sea of humanity can make one feel less lonesome, but in some ways the city can be even more isolating than my sleepy little neighborhood in the suburbs where I lived for 20 years. It's extremely hard

to make connections." Laura envisions a day sometime soon when meeting people through BAiP will be just what she needs.

Laura emphasized how this group has benefited not just the group members, but also her mom. "My mother has always been a very independent woman, but now I see a more confident and happy version of herself. When she got up to the podium to accept the Sands Award and made her remarks, I couldn't believe that my mother, who I have always considered shy, was so outgoing, funny, and confident. I'm so glad that she has found her people, and I hope she continues to get more and more involved."

I asked Arlene what she thought Laura would say about BAiP. "Without doubt," she said, "my daughter thinks it is the best thing that has happened in my life in a long time."

But these two women aren't the only happy people in this story. Arlene's group members, who nominated her with full-throated praise and admiration, call her the Knit Guru, an amazing, patient, persevering teacher to many who've never even held needles before. In this well-bonded micro-community within BAiP's larger family, the group is supportive both in and outside of their sessions.

They have a "bad girl chair" that sits right next to Arlene's chair, for the group member who is most struggling to overcome a stitch hiccup. They may have to rename that chair with the next man who joins the group.

They also spontaneously come to one another's aid. When a member recently broke her femur in a subway fall, Arlene's group was there to knit it all back together with genuine TLC.

All this and more is why Arlene received BAiP's volunteer award, but she's too busy to rest on her laurels: In addition to her weekly group, she's got her BAiP Move it to Music exercise class to get to and David Ochoa's BAiP collage group to host.

Caitlin Hawke co-chairs BAiP's Activities Committee, which oversees 75 ongoing groups. To receive more information, email activities@bloom-inplace.org or visit bloominplace.org.

(Continued from page 1)

Local Resources for the Hungry and Homeless

needed. Did you know there are multiple food pantries and free meal resources right within our neighborhood each day of the week?

Holy Name of Jesus Church, 207 W. 96th St., provides shelf-stable foods at their food pantry (lower level of the church) each Monday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (holynamenyc.org/food-pantry) and serves 450 nutritious lunches weekly through a program called the Sandwich Line from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, at their Franciscan Community Center, 214 W. 97th St. (holynamenyc.org/sandwich-line).

Broadway Community (broadwaycommunity.org), 610 W. 114th St., (212) 864-6100 offers extensive food programs, including a soup kitchen Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; its Community Table takes place every second Thursday with four seatings, 12-2 p.m., 2-6 p.m., 6-8 p.m., and 8-10 p.m.; its Supermarket Pantry is open every fourth Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

On Saturdays, St. Michael's Episcopal holds its "Saturday Kitchen," offering free hot meals, 10-11 a.m., at 225 W. 99th St. The Pilgrim Resource Center provides information on other food resources as well as a broad range

of community support programs (saintmichaelschurch.org/venue/reception-room).

St. John the Divine's Cathedral Community Cares program (1047 Amsterdam Ave.) serves breakfast at 10 a.m. and a hot sit-down lunch at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays, as well as a take-away brown-bag meal to approximately 600-700 people per month, distributing more than 26,000 meals per year (stjohndivine.org/education/community; (212) 316-7583).

West End Presbyterian Church (westendchurchnyc.org), 165 W. 105th St., (212) 663-2900 requests donations of food for their program, In Jesus's Name Food Pantry; Southern Baptist Church hosts a food pantry (12 W. 108 St., (212) 678-9769), and Trinity Lutheran Church



OPEN YOUR HEART TO THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS

as well as the immeasurable generosity of volunteers. Donating time, money, or food goes a long way toward alleviating that sense of helplessness we so often face.

See below for a list of Bloomingdale food pantries, soup kitchens, and other community services. Feel free to make copies of it so you can distribute it whenever you come across someone in need of it. You can also access this information by clicking on the Resources tab at our website, w102-103blockassn.org. There, you'll be able to print the information in business-card form. We're also working on a plan to make pre-printed cards available. See the Spring issue of the newsletter or check the website in coming weeks for details.

Enjoy all the warmth and comfort of the holiday season. But please remember that hunger and homelessness know no season.



Trinity Lutheran Church (trinitylutherannyc.org/en; 164 W. 100th St., (212) 222-7045) provides snacks to children at their after-school program and provides meals for their Trinity Place Shelter residents (trinityplaceshelter.org), as well as a Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas-morning breakfast for the community at large, which serves hundreds.

FOLD HERE



W102-103blockassn.org

Bloomingdale neighborhood centers offer hot meals each day of the week. See the reverse for schedule and locations.

Food Pantries and Other Resources

Holy Name Food Pantry, W.96/Amsterdam (lower level) Mon, 11-3
Broadway Community Table, 601 W.114, 4th Sat, 11-4
Hunger Hotline (866) 692-3663 or (866) 888-8777 (Eng/Span)
Food Bank of New York emergency hotline (212) 566-7855

HOT MEALS in Bloomingdale

MON: Soup Kitchen, Broadway Community, 601 W.114; 10-3
TUE: Sandwich Line, Franciscan Community, 214 W.97, 11-2
WED: Soup Kitchen, Broadway Community, 601 W.114; 10-3
THU: Sandwich Line, Franciscan Community, 214 W.97, 11-2
2ndTHU: Broadway Community Table, 601 W.114; Noon-10pm
FRI: Soup Kitchen, Broadway Community, 601 W.114; 10-3
SAT: Saturday Kitchen, St. Michael's Church, 225 W. 99, 10-11
SUN: Cathedral Community Cares, St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam, 10am breakfast; 12:30pm lunch; brown bag meal

Where There's Smoke, There's Fumo!

By ALEXIS JAMES WAGGONER

IN RECENT MONTHS, FUMO has become our Sunday-night go-to dinner spot. On Sundays, pasta bowls are \$10, which means our family of three (our child shares with us) can dine very reasonably! But cost is far from the only reason we frequent Fumo.

I stopped in for the first time shortly after it opened for a last-minute dinner on a Saturday night. I didn't think my husband and I would get a spot without a reservation. When does that happen? Yet I was pleasantly surprised to find that we could be seated right away. A couple of weeks later, when we walked in, we were told we'd need to wait for 20 minutes. Lately, however, things seem to have evened out a bit, and while it's always busy, we've rarely had to wait at all.

Although I keep meaning to try the pizza, instead I am drawn in by

the pasta every time! My absolute favorite is the spaghetti funghi, which blends pasta, Marsala cream, truffle oil, and wild mushrooms. It's creamy but not overly rich, with just the right amount of truffle oil. I've ordered it more often than I should admit, but I can also speak to the deliciousness of several other menu items, including the kale Caesar salad and the rigatoni with shrimp and broccoli. A neighbor swears by the fried baby artichokes, the calamari, the rice balls, the oven-roasted branzino with baby spinach, and the parma pizza (with prosciutto, arugula, parmigiana, Fontina, and truffle oil). There are vegan options as well, including spaghetti with cashew-nut pesto. Pizzas are big enough for two people to share as a light dinner.

The waitstaff is always more than accommodating. The servers don't bat an eye when my four-year-old orders the penne pomodoro ... without the pomodoro sauce! When she asks for

"special" oil to accompany her bread, it appears in a flash.

I've also gotten dinner delivered from Fumo. It's been just as tasty as when we've eaten at the restaurant. Overall, I can't say enough good things about Fumo!

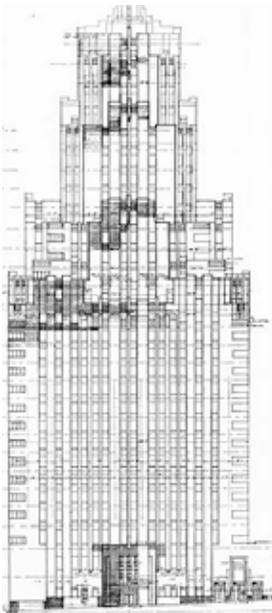
Fumo is at 2791 Broadway, between W. 107th and W. 108th Sts. (There's also a location at 1600 Amsterdam Ave., at W. 139th St.) It opens at 11 a.m. daily for lunch and dinner; brunch is served on weekends. Menu prices, other than the Sunday pasta-bowl special: appetizers and salads \$9-\$20; pastas \$15-\$19; pizzas \$13-\$17; protein-based entrees \$16-\$25. Specialty cocktails, wine, and beer are available. Credit cards are accepted. Delivery is available, and reservations are accepted. Phone (646) 588-0256 for more information.

The Master Apartments Turns 90!

IT'S UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT

A BUILDING to open presents and blow out candles on a birthday cake! So how does one properly mark such a milestone? Board members, residents, and staff at 310 Riverside Dr. figured it out and celebrated on Sun., Oct. 20. (The building's actual opening ceremony took place on Oct. 17, 1929.)

Speeches are an important part of any significant occasion, of course. Remarks and anecdotes were shared by co-op board officers Wendy Balter and Monty Freeman. Then, Freeman, resident and building histo-



rian Mildred Speiser, and project manager Randy Freeman unveiled a commemorative panel on which text and vintage photos celebrate the building's rich history. Finally, they led a toast in the building's honor.

In addition, the building was treated to extensive coverage in the October issue of *Habitat* magazine. The article included discussion of the building's history as well as the intricacies of maintaining and preserving it. The text is available at the *Habitat* website (<http://habitatmag.com/Archive2/370-October-2019/>)

The-Legacy-Stewards-at-the-Master-Apartments);

regrettably, the accompanying photos are only visible in an actual hard copy, which can be ordered online.

Next time you walk by the building (the northeast corner of W. 103rd St. and Riverside Dr.), make sure to whisper, "Happy Birthday!"



JAMES PEREZ

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It's Easy Being Green Group Hosts Events, Publishes Newsletter

IN JUST THE FEW MONTHS since it formed, the TriBloomingdale group with the catchy name It's Easy Being Green has made progress in its effort to raise awareness about the impact of climate change. In October, the group hosted a tour of the Sims recycling facility in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, and in early November, it sponsored a talk by Riverside Park Conservancy president and CEO Dan Garodnick. You can find more information about the group, including a link to its latest newsletter, at our website. Click on the Resources tab, then choose TriBloomingdale Initiative and scroll down. To inquire further or join the committee, write to *ItsEasyBeingGreen.UWS@gmail.com*. While you are on the website, check out the other offerings in our TriBloomingdale Initiative, where we join forces with the W. 104th St. Block Association and BAiP to bring a broader community together.



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Do the Shuffle! The Alternate Side Shuffle!

The DOT calendar of parking regulation suspensions is now available. You can find it at the Block Association website (w102-103blockassn.org) by clicking on the Resources tab or go to NYC DOT Alternate Side Parking, www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/motorist/alternate-side-parking.shtml. For a PDF 2020 Calendar go to www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/asp-calendar-2020.pdf

2020 Alternate Side Parking Suspension Calendar

Date	Holiday
Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 6	Three Kings' Day
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
Friday, January 24	Lunar New Year's Eve
Saturday, January 25	Lunar New Year
Wednesday, February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 17	Washington's Birthday (Pres. Day)
Wednesday, February 26	Ash Wednesday
Tuesday, March 10	Purim
Thursday, April 9	Holy Thursday
Thursday-Friday, April 9-10	Passover (1st/2nd Days)
Friday, April 10	Good Friday
Wed-Thurs April 15-16	Passover (7th/8th Days)
Thursday, April 16	Holy Thursday (Orthodox)
Friday, April 17	Good Friday (Orthodox)
Thursday, May 21	Solemnity of the Ascension
Sunday-Tuesday, May 24-26	Idul-Fitr (Eid Al-Fitr)
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day

Date	Holiday
Friday-Saturday, May 29-30	Shavuot (2 Days)
Friday-Saturday, July 3-4	Independence Day
Thurs-Sat, July 30-Aug 1	Idul-Adha (Eid Al-Adha)
Saturday, August 15	Feast of the Assumption
Monday, September 7	Labor Day
Sat-Sun, Sept 19-20	Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 28	Yom Kippur
Saturday-Sunday, October 3-4	Succoth (2 Days)
Saturday, October 10	Shemini Atzereth
Sunday, October 11	Simchas Torah
Monday, October 12	Columbus Day
Sunday, November 1	All Saints Day
Tuesday, November 3	Election Day
Wednesday, November 11	Veterans Day
Saturday, November 14	Diwali
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day
Tuesday, December 8	Immaculate Conception
Friday, December 25	Christmas Day

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

RESIDENTS

235 W. 102 ST.

Antonino
Awner
Baxter
Cox
Danenhower/Samuels
Davis
Fair/Guide
Kirkpatrick
Knight
Mallow
Martinez
O'Hanlon
Scott
Spital
Timperley
Van Buskirk
Williams
Wilson
Zetlan

240 W. 102 ST.

Cope/Becker
Fish/Davis
Fishman
Flanagan/Hopkins
Kalish
Kennedy
Pierce/Phillips
Riehl/Hartsough
Worman/Chun

247 W. 102 ST.

Robbins

253 W. 102 ST.

Cook/Biggs

307 W. 102 ST.

Zakaria

308 W. 102 ST.

Hollings

310 W. 102 ST.

Albert

315 W. 102 ST.

Doeden Hansen
Keane
Knox
Saltzman
Weil

320 W. 102 ST.

Brail

250 W. 103 ST.

Agathocleous
Katzner
O'Brien

Rahmani

Soskin

Sue/Lin

Wall

Winick

254 W. 103 ST.

Doherty
Feldman/Hasenpusch

303 W. 103 ST.

Frishauf/Rice

305 W. 103 ST.

Bertin

307 W. 103 ST.

Bridger/Paul

308 W. 103 ST.

Ian
Verzar

312 W. 103 ST.

Aaronson

316 W. 103 ST.

Kleidon/Ahmed

855 WEST END AVE.

Ausubel
Crain
Huey
Solowiejczyk/Porjesz
Titchen/Seitchik

858 WEST END AVE.

Regensburg

865 WEST END AVE.

Axelrod
Beels
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Carroll/Bartlik
Chase
Cushman/Sorkin
Davidge/Lott
Hewitt
Koplav
Krasner/Perchanok
Mao
Nye
Rabolt/Harris
Sands
Wight
Zakrzewski

868 WEST END AVE.

Rotenberg
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875 WEST END AVE.

Appelbaum/Slusky
Beilenson

Borinstein/Vartanian

Canin

Canin/Sauer

DeCurtis

Eisen/Dworkin

Felton

Fricke/Klimley

Gillman

Grosch/Fisch

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Issacharoff

Kreeger

Levin

Levine

Lohr/Trucco

Malatzky

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McDermott

Rogers

Rosenfeld/Stein

Smith

Stein

Straw/Gubitosa

Ward

Yahr/Delcolle

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878 WEST END AVE.

Adams
Barrett/Dubitsky
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884 WEST END AVE.

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Colas
Davis
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Fitzgerald
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299 RIVERSIDE DR.

Alamo
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Corcoran
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Faux/Willig
Forbes/De Prenger
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Halberstam/Cohen
Jannicelli
Johnson
Kowal/Paul
Levit/Ehrlich
Lipton/Sussman
Livingstone
Lupatkin
Maderer
Malpica
McLeod
Mills
Nierenberg
Parker
Rack/Agnew
Rasmussen
Reich/Greenberg
Reiner/Lally
Schiff
Seget/LaBasse
Simon
Sinaiko
Smith/Castellano
Themm/Clevenger
Thomas
van Schaardenburg
Vernacchio/Valsamis
Weissberg

305 RIVERSIDE DR.

Avidon
Borrell
Colon
Danzig/Minerva
Doty
Gold

Hoffman

Kamoon-Bergwerk/

Bergwerk

McGinn

Pozen/Bulmon-Pozen

Symons

310 RIVERSIDE DR.

Bien
Brown
Cooper
Huber
Hugus
Kostelanetz
Maffei
McKinney/Chin
Mortel
Swingle
Wagner
Woodward

OTHER

Diamond
Barden

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250 W. 103 St.
308 W. 103 St.
309 W. 103 St.
315 W. 103 St.
316 W. 103 St.
317 W. 103 St.
319 W. 103 St.
321 W. 103 St.
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Names of those who are paid up through
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