



WEST 102ND & 103RD STREETS BLOCK ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2023

VOL. 53, NO. 4

Join Us for the 40th Anniversary of Solstice Caroling!

SECONDS DO COUNT! At least they do for those of us who dread the early nightfall that we slog through during November and December! But it's cheering to know that rather than losing a few seconds of light each day, we'll soon be gaining them. Or maybe it's the sound of the Block Association carolers, who will once again mark the winter solstice with song, that gets the job done.

It's wonderful that this neighborhood tradition started four decades ago and is still going strong! Once again, under the good-humored and indomitable batons of Anthony Bellov and Dayle Vander Sande, songsters will make the rounds. When? Thurs., Dec. 21. Where? Gather in the lobby of 865 West End Ave. at 7 p.m. Newly updated song sheets will be provided, or you can find a pdf on the home page of the Block Association website (w102-103blockassn.org). Watch for an email or check the website for updates. For more information, write solstice@w102-103blockassn.org or call (212) 865-8524. If weather requires the event to be canceled, a notice will be posted on the website by 5 p.m. on Dec. 21.

Happy Halloween



A great time was had by all at this year's Halloween Parade and Party. Thanks to Mary Chestaro Coss for organizing and all the volunteers who pitched in to make it a resounding success! Photo: Peter Frishauf

CB7 Forms a Cabinet with Block Associations

By AMY EDELMAN

THIS FALL, COMMUNITY BOARD 7 INITIATED A SERIES of monthly meetings where representatives from UWS block associations can bring neighborhood issues to the CB7 district manager, Max Vandervliet. The newly dubbed CB7 Block Associations Cabinet Meeting is not meant to address policy, but to help ensure the fulfillment of city services, coordinating information among agencies and working together to make the streetscape and public realm as functional, operational, clean, and safe as possible.

Each month, after hearing from the block associations, Max then meets with city agencies and representatives from the offices of elected officials to communicate the concerns that have been raised.

In the first three meetings of the cabinet, among the issues block association representatives brought up were electric vehicles endangering pedestrians, businesses violating sanitation and noise regulations, cars not moving for street cleaning, crime, and a dearth of parking around the police precincts.

At the October meeting, raising the issue of the long-broken sidewalk at 239 W. 103rd St. earned nearly instant dividends. By the end of that week, the sidewalk, which had for years been a tripping hazard and rats' nest, had been sealed up and repaved. (See the photo on page 3.) Thank you, Max and CB7!

This bodes well for the success of this new CB7/block association partnership. If you have neighborhood-related concerns you would like conveyed to CB7, contact cabinet@102-103blockassn.org.



**THE WEST 102ND &
103RD STREETS BLOCK
ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

info@w102-103blockassn.org

Hedy Campbell, editor; Amy Edelman, copy editor; Ariana Koblitz, designer; Terence Hanrahan, advertising manager; Avery Hudson, indexer. 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 and the index 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.



Join Us

www.w102-103blockassn.org

Help Wanted

Write to info@w102-103blockassn.org to volunteer for any of the following:

CO-TREASURER: One of our treasurers is retiring and we need a replacement. Komal Rath, thank you for years of meticulous recordkeeping! Familiarity with Quicken and Access software is advantageous, but not critical; they're not complex programs, and training will be provided.

SPRING-FAIR VOLUNTEERS:

Great news! We have found someone to coordinate our spring fundraising event. But we're going to need lots of other volunteers to help make it happen, especially in the areas of publicity, raffle ticket sales, leafletting parked cars so the owners know the street will be closed, setting up for the event, staffing tables, and helping with cleanup. We'll determine a date ASAP and announce it in the Spring 2024 Newsletter.

GUARD SERVICE MONITOR:

A resident gave us a tip on a reliable guard company. We're looking into whether the company can provide the service we need and whether the cost is manageable. If we decide to go ahead, we'll need someone to review the reports generated so that we can monitor the guard's performance.

Join our email list by going to the Block Association website (w102-103blockassn.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Solstice Caroling

Tues., Dec. 21
7 p.m.
(See page 1)

Spring Newsletter

Early March



BLOCK ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Block Association meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m., via Zoom, and are open to all. Email info@w102-103blockassn.org if you'd like to attend.

Dec. 12
Jan. 9
Feb. 13
Mar. 12

Thanks to New Volunteers

IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, several people have stepped up to help with Block Association initiatives in various capacities. A round of applause for: Lynn Elliot, Shaurya Gaur, Alyssa Morrow, Alexis Offen, and Beth Schachter. A special shout-out to Roberta Belulovich, who has updated our Solstice Caroling song sheets just in time for this year's 40th-anniversary event. Thank you all!

What's New at the Website

- You'll find a link to the newly released NYC DOT Alternate Side Parking Suspension Calendar in our Resources tab.
- We announced in the last issue of the newsletter that video recordings of our monthly board meetings are now available for viewing at our YouTube channel. You can also livestream the meetings there. You'll

find the link to the channel under the Resources tab at our website. (If you'd like to attend the Zoom meeting, please send an email to info@w102-103blockassn.org and you'll receive the link.)

- In addition, at the suggestion of a resident, we are going to begin posting the agenda for each upcoming monthly board meeting

at the website as well. You'll find it on the home page under the Calendar Items.

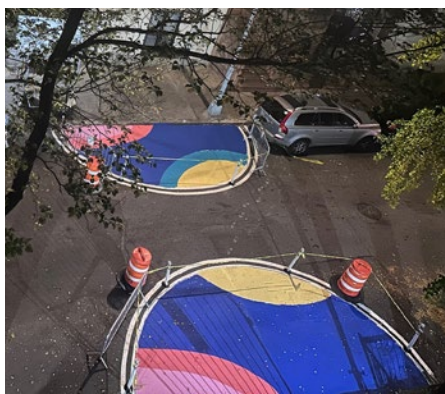
- The newsletter index is newly updated. Volunteer Avery Hudson also continues to travel back in time and has included 2012. Click on the Quarterly Newsletter tab and you'll find a link to the index at the top of the page.

A Street Transformed

The Open Street, West End Ave. to Amsterdam Ave.

By PETER FRISHAUF

KEY FEATURES: 6,200 square feet of new public space, protected by safety stones and planters. Shortened crossings (up to 50%) for safety of walkers and those with mobility issues. Mid-block hugs provide safe, pleasant crossings between the sidewalks and street. Public art created by neighborhood youth. Cleaning of public spaces and planter maintenance by the Horticultural Society of New



A pair of hugs viewed from the top floor of a NYCHA row house. Photos: Peter Frishauf

York (the Hort), under contract with DOT.

For a complete history of how our Open Street has evolved, go to parktopark103.nyc/about/history.

Peter Frishauf is volunteer coordinator for Park to Park 103, and a director of the Block Association. He may be contacted through the website.



Crossings 50% shorter for walkers; high-visibility intersection for drivers



The new Marseilles and Purple Circle parklet

Repaired



This is not a plain old sidewalk. Well, it is, except to anyone who's walked on the north side of W. 103rd St. between West End Ave. and Broadway in the last couple of years! Because the buildings by that stretch of sidewalk are owned by the city, and because there were questions about the integrity of the infrastructure below the sidewalk, despite the best efforts of many people, including City Council Member Gale Brewer and our own Cynthia Doty, the sidewalk there had been in terrible disrepair for an extraordinarily long time. Thanks to the efforts of the new CB7 Block Associations Cabinet Meeting, our sidewalk is back in business (see article on page 1).

Photo: Hedy Campbell

Give to a Child in Need

ONE OF OUR RESIDENTS and a former board member has a long history with the Department of Justice's annual toy drive and has asked us for our support. We're happy to give it and hope you will be as well. Please donate new or gently used toys for children residing in a women's shelter. Items should cost no more than \$20 and be suitable for children up to the age of 16. Donations of gift-wrapping paper are also welcome. Items can be marked for "Camille" and dropped off at 305 Riverside Dr. between now and Fri., Dec. 22. There will be a gift-wrapping party on Sat., Dec. 23, and anyone who would like to join is welcome. If you have any questions, please feel free to call (646) 345-5209 and leave a message.



Wait Till You See What Happens Come Springtime!

By ELIZA LANSDALE

WE WERE VERY PLEASED to participate this fall in the city's Daffodil Project—a living memorial to the victims of 9/11 and COVID-19, a celebration of parks equity in New York City communities, and a catalyst for citywide civic engagement, joining the call to get 1% of the city's budget to be allocated to our parks.

Thanks to neighbor Ira Gershenhorn, we received a stash of bulbs in September, and I coordinated giving them out to various residents. Aside from planting bulbs in four tree wells around the neighborhood, I handed out about 200 bulbs to 10 of our neighbors. Thanks to all who got out a trowel and made our sidewalks

more attractive, and to Celia Knight, who took charge of the giveaway table one afternoon.

In another wonderful neighborhood improvement effort this fall, resident Tara Pagano-Toub organized a beautiful fall afternoon (she gets credit for the great weather) of tree-well restoration with a group of neighbors and school volunteers. They cleared trash and weeds from and added compost and mulch to six different tree wells, planting some of the daffodil bulbs on the corner of W. 103rd St. and West End Ave.

We're lucky to live in a beautiful spot, and to have neighbors who help keep it that way. I can't wait to see the flowers pushing up in the spring!

Saying Thanks to Cynthia Doty

THE BLOCK ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO FIND a special way to honor Cynthia Doty, who, before she passed away in July, was a longtime Block Association board member and served most recently as its chair. Her family has requested that donations in her memory be made to the Riverside Park Conservancy. Many neighbors and friends have already done so, and the Block Association will make a contribution as well. With additional participation—and we intend to partner with some of the other organizations with which Cynthia was active in order to reach this goal—we expect the cumulative total to be sufficient to adopt a Riverside Park bench in her name. Cynthia devoted much of her professional life to our community and its residents. Please help us acknowledge Cynthia's generosity and hard work by making a donation of whatever amount you can comfortably afford.

1. To pay by credit card: Visit riversideparknyc.org/bench. Once you've filled out your information, select the "Special Tribute" button and then "In Memory of" and enter Cynthia's name. (Leave the field regarding the engraving blank.)
2. To pay by check: Please make the check out to "Riverside Park Conservancy" with Cynthia's name in the memo line, and mail to:

Riverside Park Conservancy
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 455
New York, NY 10115



Talking Trash



RAT MITIGATION EFFORTS SEEM TO BE WORKING

By AMY EDELMAN

AT 300 RIVERSIDE DR., two efforts to mitigate the rat problem appear to be making a difference. First, last fall, the co-op re-upped for the city's curbside compost pickup service, and residents are fully onboard. Superintendent Steve Inoue said recently that a substantial number of building occupants are participating and that there has been a notable decrease in wet garbage as a result—which, of course, means less material for neighborhood rats to feast on.

The second effort, undertaken this past summer, was to start putting curbside garbage in cans rather than just piling plastic bags on the sidewalk. The city has already mandated that all food-related businesses move to using containers, and by next September, residential buildings of nine units or fewer will be required to comply. It is not clear when this rule will expand to larger residential buildings, but 300 Riverside decided to go ahead voluntarily.

Steve sees the two-pronged effort as a clear success. "We don't see many rats anymore," he says. And there's one other advantage: If you use containers, you are allowed to put the garbage out at 6 p.m., but if you stay with plastic bags, the earliest you can put it out is 8 p.m. So the building staff gets to go home at a reasonable hour, and the rats are deprived of an evening meal. Win-win for everybody!

If your building isn't using garbage cans for curbside pickup, encourage your super to look into it. The benefits are already paying off on W. 102nd St.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME!

By KATE MCLEOD

GIVEN THE INEQUITIES in our society, even small ways in which we can help those who have little or nothing to their names can have a big impact. Some folks at 300 Riverside Dr. came up with a good idea that has been implemented this fall. Residents now separate the bottles and cans that can be redeemed and place them in a designated receptacle in the building's basement. Building staff then put the separate bags of redeemable items out with the rest of the recycling. In the case of our building, one person has been collecting these bottles and cans for at least 20 years. "Now," said a resident, "that person does not have to go through our recycling bags to make a few dollars. It's simple. It's easy. And it is something we can do."



BE THE HOST WITH THE MOST COMPOST

And, while we're on the subject of trash, don't forget that even if your building doesn't participate in the Dept. of Sanitation composting program, you can still do your part to keep food waste out of regular trash. Put scraps in a bin on your kitchen counter or in the fridge or freezer and bring them to the smart compost bin on the southeast corner of Broadway and W. 102nd St. Sadly, Mayor Adams's proposed budget cuts will mean that the greenmarket collection sites will be shut down by the middle of December. (If you would like to sign a petition protesting the budget cuts that will affect composting, go to gownyc.org/petition).

How to Be a Good Neighbor

WE LIKE TO THINK that most of the people who live on our blocks understand that they are part of a larger community and that their actions have an impact on everyone else who lives here. Some of what we've seen lately suggests otherwise. See below for six tips on how to be considerate of those around you. If you have other suggestions, please email them to editor@w102-103blockassn.org call (212) 865-8524 and leave a message.

1. Curb your dog and pick up the poop. If you find yourself without a bag, ask another dog owner for one or go get one and come back!
2. Keep your dog leashed except in the dog run or in the park at designated hours (between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m.) This is for the safety of your dog, other dogs, and other people.
3. Move your car so the street sweeper can come through. If you have to be away at the critical time, find someone else who can do the alternate-side shuffle on your behalf. Rats love it when the street cleaner is unable to do its sweeping job.
4. Toss garbage into the sidewalk trash containers.
5. Snow season is about to begin. Help keep the sidewalks navigable by grabbing a shovel or providing a friendly reminder to the building staff or management responsible.
6. If you see something, say something! Call 311 whenever you notice a streetlight out, a sidewalk in need of repair, or any similar glitch in a city service.

A Hefty Toll

By GAY HAUBNER

IN THE DUSTY ATTIC of my head, I remember reading an article in a high-brow weekly magazine (where are the snows of yesteryear?) about the Toll Brothers empire of highfalutin housing developments.

Toll Brothers. Any relation to Toll House? Like a Toll House cookie, the new Toll Brothers building, the Rockwell, is studded with goodies. Our new neighbors will start moving in and enjoying the yummy benefits early next year; thankfully the Porta Potties have already moved out.

I got a peek at the Rockwell's lobby, on W. 103rd St. between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave., and was underwhelmed; there is a more private lounge on the second floor.

I am obsessed with imagining the person who bought the 645-square-foot, \$940,000 studio. (It may still be on the market; the sales director I spoke to was forthcoming about everything except number/percentage of condos sold.)

Full disclosure: I live on W. 102nd St. in a matchbox with two dogs.

My imaginary neighbor also has a dog, a dog who she will not have to wrangle into the tub. In the basement of the Rockwell is that neat dog-washing machinery that does everything (it has an attached blow-dryer!) but scrub the dog.

My imaginary neighbor plays electric guitar. The Rockwell (or maybe it should be Rock Well) has a music room, stocked with a piano, drum kit, guitars, and so forth, so

she can scream out "Free Bird" on repeat without driving her neighbors stark-raving mad.

My imaginary neighbor, like her city, never sleeps; she has no bedroom. The floor plans for her studio show living room, kitchen, bathroom, and office, where she must spend most of her time making money. When she doesn't have her nose to the computer screen, she's got her butt on a Peloton in the Rockwell fitness center.

My imaginary neighbor has more friends than space (she has my sympathy there). She can feed her entourage in the Rockwell private dining room, and then they can take in her new movie about her dog, which she wrote in her spare time, in the Rockwell screening room.

My imaginary neighbor probably won't be barbecuing Impossible burgers on one of the grills of the Rockwell rooftop terrace. Manhattan in the summer? Please.

Could you be, would you be, won't you be my neighbor?

As for who is buying the three-bedroom, three-and-a-half-bath, 1,934-square-foot condo for \$3.75 million . . . my imagination fails me.

If all this sounds irresistible, the website for the Rockwell invites you to "PLEASE CALL THE SALES TEAM TO INQUIRE ABOUT INCENTIVES."

TOVA'S PET SITTING



Experienced • Responsible • Caring

I take care of your pets like they are my own!
Dogs, cats, small animals, birds, reptiles, fish
Licensed Vet. Tech. - can administer meds

917-526-2862

Tova Getoff • tgetoff@gmail.com

REASONABLE RATES



Are you confident in your building's financial management?

Felix Rozenbaum, CPA
Condo CFO Founder

Condo CFO partners with condo and co-op boards to manage building finances efficiently & properly to:

- Save money
- Eliminate inaccuracies
- Make sound decisions
- Prevent fraud

"Felix's expertise and friendly manner have brought us peace of mind. We know our finances are being looked after professionally and promptly. We enthusiastically recommend him."

Lynn Carroll, 252 West 102nd Street Co-Op President

Contact me to set up a no-obligation call to learn more.

718-676-4050 • condocfo.com • felix@condocfo.com

Big-Hearted Neighbors Give a Woof: 15 Rescues Adopted at 2023 Barking Day

Photos BY ODETTE VENIZIANO



Animal Care Centers of New York (nycacc.org) joined with Park to Park 103 for its second annual Barking Day on Oct. 15. It was a great success: They matched last year's record of 15 adoptions, even including a sweet 12-year-old dog!



Donations of pet toys, food, and cash were welcome.



A four-footed participant enjoys the day.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

boomernology.com

Personalized Luxury Tech Support for NYC's Baby Boomers & Older Adults

Empowering You to Navigate Today's Digital World

SERVICES OFFERED:

- COMPUTER SETUP, SUPPORT, & EDUCATION
- CELL PHONE & MOBILE DEVICE SUPPORT
- WI-FI & SMART HOME SETUP
- PRINTER & SCANNER SUPPORT
- SOCIAL MEDIA & EMAIL ACCOUNT SETUP
- CYBERSECURITY & FRAUD PREVENTION

f Instagram X

908.299.6634
dave@boomernology.com

BROADWAY DIVE

2552 Broadway
(101st St)
212-865-2662

- Artisanal Bottled Beers for Purchase 'To-Go'
- 25 Draft Beer Lines with Growler Fills Available
- Kegs Available for Delivery to Your Parties
- Delectable Gluten Free Snacks and Beers
- Sensational Holiday Beer Packs Available

For any questions, concerns or inquiries, please email

Broadwaydive@gmail.com

TRIVIA - BEAT THE TRIVIA MASTER TUESDAY NIGHTS **9PM**

Susan M Schor
Independent Sales Agent
890 West End Avenue 7A
New York, NY 10025
914-419-5499
susanmschorphd@gmail.com

Authorized to Offer
AARP
Medicare Plans
from UnitedHealthcare

Let Us Eat Cake

By GAY HAUBNER

I HEARD "LET THEM EAT CAKE!" long before I heard the name Marie Antoinette. It struck me then, and still does, as a sensible statement. Why not eat cake? The world is going to hell in a handbasket; let's clean out the pastry cart (and the breadbasket).

I walk my dogs past Omonia Café every night. Set on the cheerful and blessedly scaffold-free northwest corner of W. 108th St. and Broadway, the shop sends out a warm, inviting glow. The important cakes are displayed in the window like Gucci handbags, the view semi-blocked by small café tables that are usually empty.

I am tempted by a pretty good imitation of an Italian gelato bar—tiramisu! Almond! And, oh: salted caramel. (I belong to the order of the Salted Caramelites.) On hot summer nights, the gelato beckoned, but I was pulled past by 120 pounds' worth of mutt.

I missed gelato season but it's always time for cake. It dawned on me that I could tie the dog leashes around the leg of an unused table. Fully conscious that my idiots could bolt off down Broadway, dragging the café table behind them, I needed to move quickly. One glance at the extravagant array of pastries and I blurted out, "Chocolate mousse cake—no bag, please!"

The chocolate mousse cake was huge and deep and moist and nothing at all like what Mother and Betty Crocker used to make.

My dogs now know that when I get a cake at Omonia, they get a cookie, so I can linger there for all of three minutes. The service is just friendly enough. The displays are gorgeous, making choosing almost impossible, and everything is pristine and gleaming. The prices are reasonable, \$6–12 for generous portions, or you can graze on the smaller selection of minis. It took till my fourth visit to finally



look up. On the ceiling is a collection of blue delft plates, superfluous and charming.

Eclairs have always seemed the height of indulgence, so when I requested one and was asked, "Small or large?" of course I got the large. It was topped with a white-and-dark-chocolate baton. I love attention to detail.

My pal raved about the seven-layer cake, and yes, it is the best seven-layer cake ever. And as with every Omonia pastry I've had, it required more than a little willpower to put down the fork halfway so I could enjoy it the next day.



Photo: Gay Haubner

If you can finish an Omonia pastry by yourself, God bless you, sir or madam.

My only slight (very slight) disappointment was the strawberry shortcake. Wait till summer and buy a \$24

box of strawberries at the Columbia greenmarket to dump over it for a better cake/whipped cream/strawberry ratio.

The only thing Omonia lacks is a bakery smell. Everything is made at their original location in Astoria, opened in 1977 by 21-year-old John Arvanitis, who had gotten off the boat from Greece only two years before. Mr. Arvanitis created a homey café, where his neighbors (he lived above the shop) could linger over traditional Greek pastries. His spinach spanakopita comes from a family recipe; eat it over a very big plate to catch the flurry of phyllo flakes. (Omonia thoughtfully offers a vegan spanakopita; I didn't try it.)

Mr. Arvanitis had his eye on a Manhattan location for a while, and cake-eating Upper West Siders are grateful that he and his son found that Broadway corner, and they are scouting opportunities to expand further. Next up on my list to try is Mr. Arvanitis's favorite pastry, the napoleon; whether

French or Greek or German (I'm enjoying the Black Forest cake as I'm writing this), deliciousness is its own allegiance.

Omonia (which I always mispronounce "ammonia"!) is Greek for "harmony." As soon as they manage to pipe in a cake-in-the-oven aroma, all of your senses will be in harmony at Omonia.

Omonia Café, 2801 Broadway: (212) 246-4050; open every day, 8 a.m.–10 p.m.

HEALING ARTS

Lauren Stahl

Reiki Practitioner
Certified Reflexologist - ACRB, RAA, TRA

(917) 670-1327

lauren@laurenstahl.com

www.laurenstahl.com

Best Copy & Shipping



2660 Broadway
(Btwn 101 & 102)

212-665-8523

212-665-7685

email: bestcopy@nyc.rr.com

bestcopy101@gmail.com

website: www.bestcopyny.com

Copy • Print • Binding • Fax
Internet Cafe • Scan & PDF

Passport Photo • T-Shirt Print
Business Cards • Color Posters
DVD Convert • Blue Print

Your 2023 Eco-Friendly Gift Guide

By SHARON WASKOW

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

IT'S HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING TIME, and who doesn't like to give and receive gifts? But amid the joy of our gift-giving traditions we may overlook the true cost to the environment. Producing goods consumes energy, water, and natural resources. Delivering them adds greenhouse-gas emissions. Throwaway wrapping materials contributes to lethal methane in landfills. What follows is a curated list of smile-producing gift ideas that leave no or a minimal negative imprint on our planet.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Does someone on your list want to learn to swim or become a part of a community of swimmers? Try a local swim club such as Trinity Swim Club on W. 91st St. (trinityschoolnyc.org/our-programs/trinity-swim-club) or Imagine Swim Club on West End Ave. (imagineswimming.com/about-us)
- Gift a local gym membership to help jump-start a fresh commitment to exercise. Befitnyc, on Broadway between W. 104th and W. 105th Sts. (befitnyc.me), offers classes in Pilates, Zumba, tai-chi, and more.
- We are fortunate to live in a city with world-class museums, where memberships offer unique benefits, such as special visiting hours, tours of new exhibits before they open to the public, and discounts at gift shops.

SUBSCRIPTIONS & EXPERIENCES

- A membership to Libro.fm (libro.fm/membership) not only offers the rich experience of listening to an audiobook but also benefits the independent bookstore of your choice; Libro.fm shares profits from your audiobook purchases with your chosen bookstore, giving you the power to keep money within your local economy.
- "Give someone you love less stress, better focus, and more happiness," states the meditation app Headspace (headspace.com).
- Music, dance, or theater lovers will always appreciate subscriptions or tickets. Consider a season subscription to the Joyce Theater (joyce.org/become-joyce-member) or concert tickets to nearby Miller Theatre at Columbia (millertheatre.com).

ECO-FRIENDLY HOUSEHOLD GIFTS

Here are some products that are naturally regenerative, biodegradable, or recyclable, or use green technologies.

- Give a Zojirushi, a leak proof thermos that comes in many colors and sizes. It's good for water, or on-the-go coffee or tea purchased from a favorite local shop. Added benefit: When you use your own container you cut down on plastic waste (zojirushi.com/app/category/vacuum-insulated-mugs-bottles).
- Gifting a nice compost bin can encourage anyone who may have been on the fence to participate in NYC's compost program. Good Grips offers an attractive option ([oxo.com/easy-clean-compost-bin-](http://oxo.com/easy-clean-compost-bin-small.html#color=White)

small.html#color=White).

- Refillables are a good way to set in motion a plastic-free mindset. With a gift of refillable cleaning supplies from Blueland you also free someone from lugging home cleaning products in heavy, polluting plastic jugs (blueland.com).

FOR YOUNG KIDS

Consult Green and Simple (greenandsimple.co/2021/05/the-coolest-eco-friendly-toy-brands-on-the-planet) for a list of eco-friendly toys.

GIFT-WRAP IDEAS

Reuse brown paper shopping bags, fasten with twine, and decorate with drawings or leaves or pine cones. Or follow the Japanese tradition of furoshiki—wrapping in beautiful and reusable cloth squares.

Best of all, give the gift of companionship. More important than ever in our troubling times.

It's Easy Being Green is your neighborhood climate-education and personal-action group. Consider subscribing to the It's Easy Being Green newsletter to keep in the know on NYC environmental information and tips for a greener lifestyle (itseasybeinggreen.org).



GRAPE COLLECTIVE



2675A Broadway (102 St)

212-222-3640

Great New Selections
Compare Our Prices

Visit GrapeCollective.com

Learn About Your Favorite
Wine and More. Then Pick Up
Your New Selection at Our Store.

Over 80 Winemaker Videos
on Our Website

Shawn Bhandari

Store Manager



AT&T
Authorized Retailer

2727 Broadway
New York, NY 10025

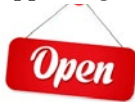
Tel: 212.389.2727

Email: attbroadway105@gmail.com

On Broadway

By KEITH TAURO

DARE WE HOPE? It seems that there are more openings these days than closings, though it's painful to see the mom-and-pops disappearing before our eyes.



OPEN

Afternoon Upper West Side, a coffee shop that also features Korean street food, has opened on the west side of Broadway between W. 107th and W. 108th Sts.

Moon Kee, a Hong Kong Cantonese restaurant featuring dim sum and roasted duck as well as other traditional dishes, has opened on the east side of Broadway between W. 100th and W. 101st Sts.

Kukdae Taekwondo, with classes for both children and adults, has opened on the west side of Broadway between W. 98th and W. 99th Sts.

CHANGES



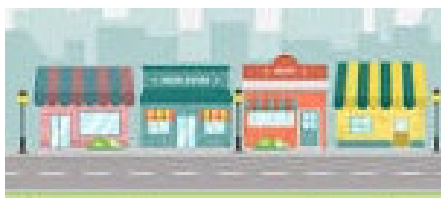
Nan Xiang Express: Work is ongoing at a soon-to-open soup-dumpling spot on the west side of Broadway between W. 107th and W. 108th Sts., at the former location of the **Bubbles** laundromat (which, in turn, has moved to the former West End Lounge location at the southwest corner of W. 107th St. and West End Ave).

CLOSED



Creative Health, the health-food store on the west side of Broadway between W. 108th and W. 109th Sts., has closed after more than 35 years at that location.

Blue Marble, the all-natural-ice-cream shop on the northeast corner of W. 97th St. and Broadway, has closed.



Meet Your Talented Neighbors

By JULIA C. SPRING

MARY JO PAGANO

The Chamber Music Center of New York, which Mary Jo founded and directs, presents its free winter Youth Chamber Orchestra Concert at the Riverside Church Theater, 91 Claremont Ave., on **Sat., Jan. 20, 7 p.m.** The CMC has nurtured young musicians in the tri-state area for more than 10 years. Go with pleasure to their public offering of chamber music.

MEL LEHMAN

Union Theological Seminary graduate Mel Lehman offers his tour on the Bible at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (mostly archaeology, with some great paintings included) for a group of neighbors on **Sat., Feb. 10, 11 a.m.** Mel keeps the group small, and all you need to pay is what you wish for entrance to the museum; if needed, there will be a second tour. More information about his tours: TheBibleAtTheMet.org. To sign up, contact mellehman89@gmail.com.

LYNNE SAGALYN

Professor emerita at Columbia Business School and a lover of cities, Lynne had a new book come out in October, *Times Square Remade: The Dynamics of Urban Change* (MIT Press). Named one of the most notable books of 2023 by *Architectural Record*, it is available in local bookstores and on Amazon. Interviews with Lynne are at skyscraper.org/p-andrograms/times-square-remade-the-dynamics-of-urban-change and curbed.com/2023/10/times-square-theater-district-hammerstein-real-estate.html. Future events will be on her Facebook page: facebook.com/lynne.sagalyn.



BROADWAY MALLS

Although the installations on the Broadway malls haven't changed recently, the Broadway Mall Association now has a field guide identifying a variety of potential sites for public art: broadwaymall.org/public-art-field-guide-to-primary-installation-sites.

The NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation website also has an interesting entry on the malls' history: nycgovparks.org/parks/broadway-malls/history.

JUILLIARD CONCERTS: IN-PERSON AND REMOTELY

I have recently discovered and am enjoying Juilliard student and faculty performances at Lincoln Center. Many of these ongoing events are free or low-cost (often \$15, nothing more than \$55); and they are completely free if you watch them online, a service started during the pandemic. Go to juilliard.edu/stage-beyond (calendar in blue box).

BARCRAWL RADIO

Upper West Side podcasters Rebecca McKean and Alan Winson named it that on the theory that it's in a bar that you can learn most about what's going on among people in your community. One of their recent episodes featured drag entertainers who performed at the W. 103rd Open Street event in September. They are now working on an idea that features how bricks built New York City and could perhaps again replace asphalt on city streets. Check out barcrawlradio.com.

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 2024 Newsletter (or beyond) to creative@w102-103blockassn.org. Do it today, before you forget!

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

RESIDENTS

235 W. 102 ST.

Antonino
Awner
Baxter
Broderick
Callender
Epstein/Eden
Fair/Guide
Kirkpatrick
Knight
Koffler
Mercurio
O'Hanlon
Patterson/Praserdsuwan
Scott
Stahl
Timperley
Van Buskirk
B. Williams
Wilson
Zetlan

240 W. 102 ST.

Cope/Becker
Fishman
Flanagan/Hopkins
Kalish
Workman/Miller
Worman/Chun

247 W. 102 ST.

Robbins

250 W. 102 ST.

Boris

254 W. 102 ST.

Sagi

302 W. 102 ST.

Morrow

307 W. 102 ST.

Zakaria

309 W. 102 ST.

Wishengrad

310 W. 102 ST.

Albert

311 W. 102 ST.

Doyle/Lauren

315 W. 102 ST.

Elliot
Knox
Weil

320 W. 102 ST.

Brail

250 W. 103 ST.

Falk
Katzner
O'Brien
Rahmani
Wall

307 W. 103 ST.

Bridger/Paul

308 W. 103 ST.

Ian
Roskam

312 W. 103 ST.

Aaronson

315 W. 103 ST.

Kleidon / Ahmed

317 W. 103 ST.

Knee

855 WEST END AVE.

Ausubel
Huey
Koblitz
Solowiejczyk/Porjesz

858 WEST END AVE.

Regensburg

865 WEST END AVE.

Beels
Blumm/Snell-Blumm
Carroll/Bartlik
Chase
Frank
Krasner/Perchanok
Mao

870 WEST END AVE.

Stokar

872 WEST END AVE.

Budzanoski

875 WEST END AVE.

Alter
Appelbaum/Slusky
Babush/Boirin
Barbor
Borinstein/Vartanian
Canin/Sauer
F. Canin
DeCurtis
Duncan
Felton
Fricke/Klimley
Gorelick
Grosos/Fisch
Hochman/Reid
Issacharoff
Keane
Levin
T. Levine
Lohr/Trucco
Malamed
Malatzky
Offen/Beim
Russo/Conovitz
Straw/Gubitoso
Ullendorff
Ward
Yood/Helfrich

878 WEST END AVE.

S. Adams
Alvarez/Feinberg
Barrett/Dubitsky
Dubin
Frizell/Smith
Kendall
Lansdale
Sagalyn/Hack
Schachter
Stearns
Winograd

884 WEST END AVE.

Arnold
Carponcy
Cary
Davis
Fisch/Irizarry
Kozodoy
Mckelvie

885 WEST END AVE.

Bernstein/Bowen
Brown/Gruber
Cryer
Friedman
Skopov
Spring/Miller
Tolkow/Woodbury

299 RIVERSIDE DR.

Alamo
Brender
Dane
Flateman/Goldstein
Holtz/Horowitz
Kastanis
Leidner/Ruden
McLean/Wang
Reich/Dessel
Seidel/Field
Shear
Tedoff
Titowsky/Price
Wang/Sedlis

300 RIVERSIDE DR.

Alfonso/Gouck
Bauman
Cherry/Hudson
Corcoran
Davenport/Miller
Edelman/Gold
Forbes/De Prenger
Halberstam/Cohen
Kowal/Paul
Levit/Ehrlich
Livingstone
Lupatkin
Maderer
Mills
Mitnick/Hochman
Parker
Reiner/Lally
Rocks
Schiff
Smith/Castellano
Thomas
Vernacchio/Valsamis
Weiss
Weissberg

305 RIVERSIDE DR.

Avidon
Borrell
Chang/Abuba
Colon
Gold
Hoffman
McGinn

310 RIVERSIDE DR.

Bien
Brown
Bryant
Hagiwara
Holness/Levine
Huber
Hugus
Kelly
McKinney/Chin
Maffei
Ralph
Tambini/Miller
Wagner
Woodward
Zaid

OTHER

Optimum Income Tax and
Accounting
Pollak

LANDLORDS/CO-OPS

247 W. 102 St.
252 W. 102 St.
315 W. 103 St.
317 W. 103 St.
878 West End Ave.

COMMERCIAL

Best Copy & Shipping
Broadway Dive Bar
Condo CFO
Grape Collective
Dave Kolesnikow,
Boomernology
Susan M. Schor, AARP/
UHC Medicare
Lauren Stahl, Healing Arts
Tova's Pet Sitting



CURRENT DONORS:

Thanks so much!

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

NEW DONORS:

Please use the enclosed envelope to send your contributions to:
W102-103 Streets Block Assn., PO Box 1940, New York, NY 10025.
Or contribute online at w102-103blockassn.org.