

West 104th Street

BLOCK ASSOCIATION

August 17, 2000

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Nancy Lian

Layout and Design: John Johnston

Yard Sale Activities on September 16

Breakfast for a Buck

9 - 11, at the corner of WEA and 104th St.

Entertainment

11 - 12 Manhattan Valley Boys, bluegrass trio
12 - 2 Botafogo, Brazilian bossa nova quartet
Afternoon Bill Saferstein sings Sinatra-style

Food & Drink

11 - 4

Book Table

10 - 5

Silent Auction

10 - 4 Make your bids
4: Winners announced

Vendors

10 - 5

Block Bakery

10 - 5

Let Us Sell Your Surplus Books and CDs

The block association will happily sell your used books and CDs at the Yard Sale. Bag or box them, mark them "Yard Sale," and bring them to 320 RSD between September 8 and 16.

Calling All Bakers!

Bake your best brownies, cookies, cupcakes, quick breads, and cakes for sale at the Yard Sale. Bring them to the Block Bakery at the corner of WEA and 104th St. any time after 10 on September 16. There are lots of hungry people at the Yard Sale so make a double (or triple) recipe. Yum!

Vendor Spaces Still Available, But Going Fast

Rent 10 feet or space for \$30 to sell just about anything. (Sorry, no food or drink.) Have the kids outgrown their toys? Have you moved on to a different jewelry style? Are you tripping over your whatnots and bric-a-brac? Turn those unused household items into cash. Call Marsha Tantleff (932-9592) to reserve a space and for more information. Vendor information and the vendor agreement are also available on our website: www.bloomingle.org, click on *For vendors* on the homepage.

Constructive Construction

Excerpts from a letter from Larry Chodoff, a resident of 325 Riverside, regarding the Broadway development story in the June newsletter.

Some of us may feel threatened by the prospects for new construction along Broadway, but on balance I believe it's a good thing. This section of Broadway is woefully in need of improvement. The reality of the New York real estate market is that low rise 'tax payer' commercial buildings can never provide sufficient return on investment to their owners to justify investments to upgrade their appearance in a way that will attract high quality tenants and services. Construction of hi rise, mixed use buildings on such lots will expand the housing stock in the city (sorely needed), with a mix of rental or condo units above and upgraded commercial spaces below.

Failure to promote controlled development ultimately promotes neglect and decay. The best way to assure that such development is undertaken wisely is for neighborhood representatives to become engaged in a dialogue with developers, and to insist that new constructions is respectful of community needs.

Silent Auction

We've got some great stuff for you to bid on! How about a new DVD player? And a Move Place certificate for 30 rentals to go with the player. Or a 10,000 BTU air conditioner. Cuddle up in front of the AC in a hand-knit Norwegian sweater. Take someone special to dinner at one of our top local restaurants. Certificates for two hours of Innovative Techniques to Stop Smoking or Clutter Control and Space Management are yours for the top bid. Stop by the silent auction table near 320 RSD on the 16th and check out all the items up for bid. If you have an item worth \$50 or more to donate, call Teresa Elwert at 866 4260.

Volunteer! Get in the Spirit of our Annual Celebration!

Help out for an hour or two with our good spirited fun loving neighbors! You have many choices. Early birds enjoy preparing the block for the party. Volunteers needed for the Baked Goods Table, the Food Table, the Silent Auction. Cleanup help needed too (along with a retrospective on our day!)

Please call: Teresa Elwert at 866 4260

Tree Treasures of New York

By Ned Barnard

Most people think of New York City as a concrete canyon and certainly not as a place to enjoy trees. But there are few other places in the country where a tree lover can see more tree species and more fine old specimen trees. It is true that Washington, D. C. offers exceptional vistas of ornamental Japanese cherries and spectacular rows of splendid old oaks shading broad avenues, and the Capitol's National Arboretum is without doubt one of the finest arboretums to be found anywhere. However, no American city besides New York contains so many truly remarkable parks with such large native and exotic specimen trees and so many stands of original forest. Nor does any other American city possess within its borders not one but two world-class arboretums.

I have been spending a good deal of time during the past two years visiting the City's parks, assembling notes and taking pictures for a book on New York City trees. Every time I venture out, I discover something new and noteworthy, so my list of special trees is constantly growing. But here in no particular order are a few of my favorite New York City arboreal gems:

The American elms along Poet's Walk in Central Park—*This spectacular grove of American elms, protected from Dutch elm disease only by the constant vigilance of the Parks Department, is the greatest assemblage of these noble shade trees in existence and is truly an irreplaceable national treasure.*

The London plane trees of upper Riverside Park—*They are no longer politically correct because they constitute a monoculture, but the long rows of London planes along the lower promenade beginning about 98th Street are truly imposing, the living legacy of the late, great Parks Commissioner Robert Moses.*

The large Yoshino Cherry near the west entrance to the New York Botanical Garden—*When it is in full bloom, it is like a fragrant white cloud descended from heaven, a vision of loveliness beyond compare.*

The trio of dawn redwoods at the Strawberry Fields in Central Park—*To suddenly encounter these living fossils growing together while you take a casual walk through the park is to be transported for a moment back to the age of dinosaurs.*

The beeches of Wave Hill—*These breathtaking sylvan giants with their great silver trunks, exquisite coppery leaves, and mighty spreading roots quiet the mind and soothe the soul.*

The forest of Inwood Park—*The towering oaks and tulip trees on the western slopes of Inwood Hill are the last vestiges of the aboriginal forest that once covered Manhattan. They have grown largely undisturbed since Hessian soldiers bivouacked on Inwood Hill one winter during the Revolutionary War and cut most of the trees down for fuel and shelter.*

The Botafogo Musicians

By Estelle Kattelton

Don't miss this outstanding group of performing artists at the Yard Sale on Sept. 16.

Suzy Schwartz, leader and flutist, was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil. She came to NY in 1982 to study and received full scholarships from City College and Hunter College, where she graduated cum laude. She teaches flute, piano and general music at the Owen School, where she has been a faculty member since 1991. She has performed with Banda Sinfonica De Sao Paulo, Orquestra Sinfonica De Sao Paulo, The Black Wolf Duo and Botafogo, and has recorded and performed in chamber music groups and jazz ensembles throughout New York, Europe and Brazil.

Itaiguara Brandao, electric bass player, is from Rio de Janeiro, and performed there for more than 10 years. In May '93 he moved to Boston and performed live, as well as for radio, TV and DC recordings. Since 1995 he has worked for SONY & LKUX and various groups in the US and Europe out of New York. He graduated summa cum laude from Berklee College.

Jair Coelho was born in Bahia, Brazil, and is a self-taught guitarist and vocalist. He moved to Miami in 1998 where he performed and recorded with Julio Iglesias, Roberto Pereira, and participated in several jazz festivals. Since arriving in New York in 1996, he has performed solo, with the groups Saviero, Samba Mova, and Botagogo, among others. In Brazil he recorded two solo albums and with the Feira Livre group.

Vanderlei Pereira, drummer, percussionist, plays hot samba and cool bossa nova, elegant chorinho, the exotic rhythms of Bahia, and modern Brazilian jazz. He has credentials from the Mannes College of Music in NY, the Academia de Musica Lorenzo Fernandes in Rio de Janeiro, and participated in the Orquestra Sinfonica Brasileira in Rio. He has appeared and recorded with Toots Theilemans, Airto Moreira, Tito Puente, and many other artists and has performed at The Village Gate, Birdland, The Ballroom, Lincoln Center and The Madrid Jazz Festival, among others.

The camperdown elm of Prospect Park—*The time to view this venerable little elm is in the spring when it is covered with samaras but not yet leafed out. With its strange, twisted limbs, it looks like an overgrown bonsai.*

The Kwanzan cherries of the Central Park Reservoir—*When they bloom in Spring shortly after the Yoshino cherries on the eastern side of the Reservoir, the Kwanzans transform the jogging path on the western side of the Reservoir into a corridor of enchantment with their profusion of sumptuous pink blossoms.*

These are just a small sampling of the arboreal wonders that make New York a city of extraordinary trees for me. Without our tree treasures, the City wouldn't be fit for human habitation.

TAGINE—a new restaurant

Toni Gallo of 320 Riverside Dr. recently opened Tagine, a restaurant featuring the Moroccan cuisine of her boyfriend Hamid Idrissi. Tagine is also one of the specialty items on the menu: a fragrant stew of vegetables combined with pheasant, lamb, kefta, or fish simmered with a bouquet of herbs in conical earthenware. Tagine (pronounced with the accent on the second syllable and a soft “g”) also features middle Eastern music, exotic dancers (belly dancers, that is), and comedy in a separate srea. The restaurant is located at 537 Ninth Ave at 40th St., and is open for dinner from 6:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

President: Teresa Elwert
 VP / Secretary: Nancy Lian
 Treasurer: Sid Herzfeld

Members
 Ned Barnard
 Barbara Bryan
 Michael Deegan
 Sheila Garden
 Alex Grannis
 John Johnston
 Mimi Schade
 Marsha Tantleff

E-mail: West104block@hotmail.com

Make Christmas in August for Local Music School

A boiler may not be the first thing on your mind in the middle of [August]. Yet we have boilers on our mind. On January 17, [Bloomingdale School of Music's] boiler failed, causing extensive flooding and damage.

Our insurance company didn't pay in full for the damage the old boiler caused. The company imposed three separate deductibles for three separate incidents of damage. Each deductible was \$1,000, for a total of \$3,000. The amount, coupled with a \$1,600 fee for the removal of asbestos from the old boiler, cost the school \$4,600. This is how much we are trying to raise with your help.

Your support in defraying costs for the new boiler will free us to allocate resources to benefit our students directly. Please send in a contribution today. I thank you.

Lawrence Davis, Executive Director
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CORRECTION: The building Columbia University plans to build at the southeast corner of 110th St. and Broadway will be 12 stories tall, not 25 stories, as reported in the June newsletter.



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 Vice President

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Treasurer's Report for July 2000—Sid Herzfeld

OPENING BALANCE 7/1/00		\$11,052.33
INCOME		
Dues	680.00	
Yard Sale Space Rentals	450.00	
Curbside Café Sales	100.00	
T-shirt Sales	20.00	
Newsletter Ads	40.00	
Subscriptions	25.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,315.00	+\$ 1,315.00
DISBURSEMENTS		
Guard Service	2,500.58	
Guard Emoluments	80.00	
Landscaping	47.59	
Time-clock Repair	184.03	
Yard Sale Permits	16.57	
Yard Sale Supplies	30.11	
Bank Fee	15.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$2,873.88	-\$ 2,873.88
CLOSING BALANCE 7/31/00		\$ 9,493.45

Calendar of Selected Events

- 8/18-22 **Reading Aloud**, special program for ages 3 to 6, Monday through Friday, NYPL, Bloomingdale Branch, W. 100th St. 4 pm.
- 8/18 **Making Friends**, a disability awareness program using dolls, adaptive equipment and sign language. For children ages 4-1/2 to 8. Bloomingdale Library, 4 pm.
- 8/18 **Vieux Diop/African Music**, Sunset Concert Series 2000, Riverbank State Park, RSD at 145th St., 7 pm.
- 8/23 **Story Songs**, a summer reading club celebration. Stories through songs and a sing-a-long with Bob (Bob-a-Loo) Basey and his flute and drums. For ages 6 and older. Sponsored by CLASP. Bloomingdale Library, 3:30 pm.
- 8/27 **Jammin' on the Hudson**, Jazz Concert with Bob Cunningham Trio and Natasha C. Coward, Riverbank Park, 145th St. 5 pm. Call 212-694-4829 for information.
- 8/29 **Timon of Athens**, Shakespeare, performed at the Shakespeare Theatre, 450 7th St., NW, Washington, DC previews from 8/29 to Sept. 4, opening night Sept. 5 and continuing until Oct. 23. Featured roles by Michael Graves of 320 RSD. To order tickets, call 202-547-3230.
- 9/10 **Jammin' on the Hudson**, Jazz Concert with Bob Cunningham Trio, Riverbank Park, 145th St., 5 pm. Call 212-694-4829 for information.
- 9/16 **104th St. Block Association Yard Sale**. To volunteer to serve, call 866-4260, Teresa Elwert. To book a vendor space, call 932-9592, Marsha Tantleff.

9/29 **Bach's music for One and Two Keyboards**, performed by Douglas Drake and Nicholas White, organists, St. Michael's Church, 225 W. 99th St., 7:30 pm. Call 222-2700 for more information.

10/12 **Harry, Hoagy, and Harold**, greatest hits and rarities by Harry Warren (I Only Have Eyes for You), Hoagy Carmichael (Stardust) and Harold Arlen (Stormy Weather). Performed by the New York Festival of Song, with Judy Kaye, mezzo-soprano, Mark Stewart, instrumentalist, and Steven Blier, pianist and resident of 320 RSD, Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College, 8 pm. Call 212-772-4448 for ticket information.

LAST CHANCE. Cow Parade in New York closes Sept. 4. Be sure to walk around the city and count the number of artistically decorated cows. You can see some of them on cowparadenewyork.com. They'll be auctioned off for charity after that date.

MUSIC CLASSES AT BLOOMINGDALE SCHOOL OF MUSIC. Register now. Classes begin Sept. 17 for the fall term. Call 212-663-6021 for a Program Catalog, go to www.bloomingdalemusic.org, or visit the School at 323 W. 108.

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING

What: Westsiders for a Viable Neighborhood invite you to attend a short, important meeting to organize a steady stream of protesters against the new CVS Pharmacy at Broadway and 102nd St.

When: Thursday, Sept. 7, 7:30 PM

Where: Youth Hostel at 103rd & Amsterdam

• Aged Beef

• Poultry



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e-mail: fpwohlfarth@wohlfarth.com

Thank You to Our Contributors

Listed below are the names of people who paid block association dues since June, as well as some names we inadvertently omitted from the June newsletter. Our apologies for the omissions and our heartfelt thanks for the contributions.

Support your block association by mailing your third quarter dues today. Thank you!

Last Name	Building
Ajami	315 RSD
Baldwin	309 W104
Barnes & Taylor	318 W104
Berger & Gross	320 RSD
Bloom	317 W 104
Borras	320 RSD
Bryan	905 WEA
Cheung	308 W104
Christiansen	320 RSD
Cohn	905 WEA
Connell	905 WEA
Constantine	309 W104
Crouch	320 RSD
Dugan & Schade	895 WEA
Elwert	320 RSD
Emanuel	320 RSD
Feingold	308 W104
Galdston/Tarshis	308 W104
Geldzahler	320 RSD
Goldman & Schraeder	315 RSD
Goodfriend	308 W 104
Gordon	308 W104
Granatstein	320 RSD
Greenstein	895 WEA
Harris	314 W104
Harris	320 RSD
Hitz	308 W 104

Last Name	Building
Hulser & Baird	309 W104
Ingalls	315 RSD
Jenkins & Hiler	309 W104
Kamara	308 W104
Katz	320 RSD
Kerr/Walter	315 W 104
Krantz & Glaros	320 RSD
Krassner	320 RSD
LaCombe	308 W 104
Linde	308 W 104
Lerman	320 RSD
Linderman & Granowitz	320 RSD
Maheshwari & Singh	312 W104
Maheu	309 W104
Mannings & Korff	309 W104
McGee	320 RSD
Mitchell & Hoffman	320 RSD
Park	308 W104
Patrisso	309 W104
Patton	905 WEA
Penman & Banks	905 WEA
Penn	320 RSD
Rabinoovich & Beren	905 WEA
Richards & List	905 WEA
Rogers	905 WEA
Ronay	317 W 104
Russo	315 RSD
Sanjek	320 RSD
Schwartz & Tapper	309 W104
Silberring	308 W104
Solomon	895 WEA
Soriano	320 RSD
Stanley	895 WEA
Stewart	309 W104
Taussig	320 RSD
Tolkow & Woodbury	320 RSD
Veilleux	320 RSD
Von Turk & Nienaber	320 RSD
Zickerman & Sharp	309 W104

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Make checks payable to West 104th Street Block Association Inc.

**Mail to our treasurer: Sid Herzfeld, 895 WEA., Apt. 5D New York, NY 10025
or drop off at**

**315 RSD: Steinhardt, Apt. 18B, 320 RSD: Elwert, Apt. 9D,
905 WEA: Bryan Apt. 141, 309 W 104th: Deegan, Apt. 5B**