

# West 104<sup>th</sup> Street

**BLOCK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

**EDITOR: Trudie Grace**

**April 18, 2016**

**Layout Editor: Jon Smith**

## West 104<sup>th</sup> Street Historic District News, II

In our first installment, we wrote about the row houses on the south side of West 104<sup>th</sup> Street, designed by Clarence True and built in 1891 and 1892. In 1893, the building firm of Welcker & Fisher completed a row of five brownstones on the north side of the street, numbered 315 through 323. Only four of these houses remain. Number 323 was demolished for the construction of the present 320 Riverside Drive.



The building on the corner (now 320 Riverside Drive) was owned by Prof. Richard Smith Bacon, headmaster of the Columbia Grammar School in the mid-1800s.

The architect of the brownstones was Martin V. B. Ferdon. Although very little is known about him, he was one of New York's most prolific architects for a period of about twenty years beginning in the late 1880s. Rows of Ferdon houses can also be found on West 101<sup>st</sup>, 102<sup>nd</sup>, 103<sup>rd</sup> Streets, and elsewhere on the Upper West Side, as well as on the Upper East Side and in Harlem. He also designed apartment houses, tenements, warehouses, and stables. The Landmarks Preservation Commission [LPC] lists his date of birth as 1860, but with a question mark. (That would have been shortly before the death of his namesake, President Martin Van Buren.) Ferdon was active as an architect in New York until 1909. Neither the LPC nor I were able to find out what happened to him after that, or even when he died.

Although the houses had the same basic design and materials, Ferdon provided visual interest by using different details around the doors and windows and by varying the shape of the bays. The pattern of the row was symmetrical: ABCBA. Thus, the missing No. 323 was a twin to No. 315.

The five houses were each 20 feet wide. At the time, a standard New York City building lot was 25 feet wide by approximately 100 feet deep. However, it was common practice for builders to buy, say, four lots and slice a few feet off each to fit in an extra house or two.

*Cont'd on Pg 3*

## In The Spotlight: Paul Zeigler

Pianist/Composer/Teacher and New Resident on the Block

Paul Zeigler moved to the block in March 2015 from East 78 Street with his husband, retired doctor Larry Stern. Giving up a much used terrace at their former residence, they see the joy in living near Riverside Park. Larry has joined the board of the block association, and Paul will give a talk on Beethoven's early and mid-career sonatas for BAIp [Bloomingdale Aging in Place] in late April either at a public location to be announced or in his apartment at 315 Riverside Drive. He has a longtime interest in Beethoven's sonatas and is looking ahead to a second and possibly a third talk on his later work.



Paul Zeigler in his studio in his apartment, March 15, 2016

*Photo by Trudie Grace*

Over the past forty years, Paul has performed widely as a pianist and been a piano teacher of many students. He has given equal attention to composing, especially of "art songs," for which he has a strong passion. Born in 1954 and raised in York, Pennsylvania, Paul did not begin to play the piano until the age of sixteen. That occurred when he decided to teach himself to play the theme song "Romeo and Juliet" from Franco Zeffirelli's 1968 film *Romeo and*

*Juliet*. Paul soon began to take lessons and advanced so rapidly that

*Cont'd on Pg 3*

### An Appeal for Dues from Mary Koval, West 104<sup>th</sup> Street Block Association Board President

Dear Neighbor,

You have recently received a letter asking you to contribute to the block association so that we can continue to provide the services you have been accustomed to, such as security, block beautification, and safety.

We would like to thank all of you who have responded by contributing to the block association and especially those who have contributed more than the recommended \$140.00 per year in response to our appeal.

However, our current household contribution rate is 35%, which is still short of our goal of 60% in order to alleviate the **\$9,000 deficit each year**. While we have a reserve fund of approximately \$18,000, this fund will be depleted by the end 2017 if we do not increase our contribution rate. Needless to say, at that time the board will be forced to review the neighborhood services and perhaps eliminate those services that are important to you.

**WE NEED YOU! PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!**



Osbourne Thomas, our block guard, builds a snowman by sweeping snow off parked cars during a very light snowfall.

Photo by LMD

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**W 104 ST BLOCK ASSN FINANCIAL REPORT  
 March 2016**

<b>Opening Balance (3/01/16)</b>		<b>\$27,582.79</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Dues	4,215.00	
Other Contributions	550.00	
Newsletter ads	135.00	
Interest	.02	
<b>Total</b>	<b>+4,900.02</b>	<b>+4,900.02</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Guard service	2,696.66	
Bank fee	12.00	
PayPal fees	8.70	
Plants	2,847.08	
<b>Total</b>	<b>-5,564.44</b>	<b>-5,564.44</b>
<b>Deposit delayed</b>	<b>-114.84</b>	
<b>Check delayed</b>	<b>-849.00</b>	
<b>Closing Balance (3/31/16)</b>		<b>\$25,944.53</b>

If you would like to write for the 104th Street Newsletter, we'd love to hear from you. Please send Jon an email at:

[104thstreetba@gmail.com](mailto:104thstreetba@gmail.com)

**Contributors to the April issue:**

Barbara Boynton, Missy Cohen, Trudie Grace, Karen Gershenhorn, Mary Koval, Hanna Rubin, Jon Smith

**West 104<sup>th</sup> Street Block Association Board**

- |           |                                      |
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**Gil Tauber Article - Cont'd from Pg 1**

Nevertheless, these houses were of very high quality. In February 1893, a real estate trade journal described them as follows:

Five three-story and basement houses...The fronts are of the finest quality Middlesex brownstone, finely carved...with spacious and easily-ascended stoops. The interiors are trimmed in hardwood. The woods used are mahogany, fine-grained quartered oak, sycamore, hazel and ash. The first floors contain three rooms and a butler's pantry. The next floor has two large bedrooms, two dressing salons...and a handsomely appointed bathroom with porcelain tub, exposed nickel-plated plumbing,

etc. The third floor has five bedrooms, store-room, etc. while the basement has a front breakfast or billiard room, pantry, kitchen, laundry, etc. The dumb-waiter runs up to the butler's pantry in the extension, in which there is also a rear stairway for servants.

In March 1893, the same journal, *Real Estate Record and Builders' Guide*, reported that Welcker & Fisher had bought an adjoining 102 x 100.11 foot vacant parcel on the north side of 104<sup>th</sup> Street. That same month, they filed plans for another group of brownstones on that site. They were also three stories and a basement and also designed by Ferdon. In this case, the 102-foot frontage could be neatly divided to hold six houses, each 17-feet wide. They were numbered 303

through 313. They must have been completed by 1894 since the sale of No. 311 was reported in January of that year.

None of the six remain. Number 303 stood for only twenty-two years before it was torn down in 1916 for the construction of 905 West End Avenue. Numbers 305 through 315 lasted about a decade longer before they succumbed to the economics of Manhattan real estate. They were demolished in or about 1925 for the present 309 West 104<sup>th</sup> Street.

But their sister brownstones at 315 through 321 have now stood for over 120 years and are still looking very good.

Gil Tauber

(To be continued in future newsletters)

**Paul Zeigler Article - Cont'd from Pg 1**

he was composing after only one month. His first teacher encouraged him to move on after a short time to a respected pianist/composer in York, Wells Gemberling, with whom Paul studied for thirteen years. He went on to work with another notable pianist/composer, Harold Zabrack, for eleven years, at Zabrack's studios in Princeton and West New York, New Jersey. Paul also took courses in theory and in composition at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore from 1974 to 1977.

By the age of twenty-one, Paul himself was teaching students privately in Baltimore, York, and New Jersey. He moved from York to New Jersey in 1992 and continued his private teaching. When Paul met Larry, he expanded his teaching to include Manhattan and Brooklyn, all the while commuting daily to his studio in Madison, New Jersey. In his and Larry's apartment, he is still seeing a few private students in his very pleasant music studio with two pianos, artwork with music-related subject matter, and books. Paul and Larry met in 2000, held a commitment ceremony in 2004, and were married in 2014.

Paul's career as a performer has had many highlights. In 1986, he won first place at the Young Keyboard Artists International Piano Competition, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and, in 2002, he took second place at the Bartok-Kabelevsky-Prokofiev International Piano Competition, Radford University, Virginia.

Paul's compositions include piano solos, ensemble sonatas, concerti, songs, and chamber music. In May 2013, his *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 1* premiered with the Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey [BONJ], with Maestro Robert W. Butts conducting.

In addition to his many concerti and solo performances, Paul also enjoys being a player of chamber music. In a review of an August 2014 performance of *Dvorak's Quintet in A* at the BONJ's Summer Chamber Music Festival, Paul's playing was described by the *NJ Arts Maven* as having "breathtaking precision and passion."

Paul's art songs involve works for voice and piano using poems, including ones by e. e. cummings, Emily Dickinson, Rainer Marie Rilke, and Langston Hughes. In 2008, Paul's composition *Peace: A Song Cycle on Five Poems by Langston Hughes* was a finalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Composition Competition [NATS], and his song cycle *Astonishing Light: Six Songs on Poems by Hafiz* won the NATS 2nd place in 2013. Paul tries to have his vocal lines feel like the natural movement of the poetry. In his song cycles, he allows a loose structure in which each song can be independent; however, he also unites them with related motivic and harmonic elements.

Paul's five CDs date from 2003 to the present. All of them, with titles below, are available on his website [paulziegler.com](http://paulziegler.com).

- *Beethoven: Three Sonatas, Pathétique, Moonlight and Appassionata*
- *To Music and Other Original Works by Paul Zeigler*, with Patricia Ruggles, mezzo soprano; Janet Vidovich, clarinet; and

Mitchell Vines, piano

- *Brahms: Sonata in F minor, Liszt: Sonata in B minor*
- *Peace*, with Diane Gold Toulson, flute; Patricia Ruggles, mezzo soprano; Renée Jolles, violin; and Paul Zeigler. This includes *Peace: A Song Cycle on Five Poems by Langston Hughes*, Paul's *Sonata for Flute and Piano*, and his collaboration with the world-renowned Jolles performing his *Sonata for Violin and Piano*.
- *Love...Light...Peace, Songs by Paul Zeigler*, with Patricia Ruggles, mezzo soprano

The latter has just come out and contains all of Paul's art songs, including *Astonishing Light: Six Songs on Poems by Hafiz*. Paul's most recent composition, *Piano Concerto No. 2*, will premier with the BONJ in November 2016 at the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown, New Jersey.

Please watch for announcements of Paul's talks on Beethoven sonatas.

Trudie Grace



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# Coyotes!

Coyotes are moving into the Northeast to take the top predator position in the ecosystem, vacated when wolves were hunted to extinction. Rodents are a major food source, as are dead animals. These opportunistic omnivores are good news—they clean up the environment by consuming potentially disease-carrying small animals and are not a threat to humans, unless threatened by our (or our pets') behavior or are rabid (which is rare). They are wily enough to eat anything they can easily catch or find—fruit, food left out for animals in the park, etc.

We are most likely to see solitary individuals hunting, usually at dawn or night. Coyotes are naturally wary of humans and will not build dens in areas where they might be disturbed.

## Report Sightings to the Rangers, Not 311 or 911

Park officials report that each of three Bronx parks is now home to a coyote family, and a solitary coyote is permanently living in Railroad Park in Queens. The Parks Department's official position is to do nothing, other than track sightings and study their behavior.

If you see a coyote, *do not call 911, 311, or the police—unless the animal is behaving aggressively/fearlessly* (i.e., nuisance behavior), or you have been bitten. Calls to those numbers will result in the animal being traumatized by pursuit, tranquilizing, and relocation. That is the official police procedure, and all calls to 911 or 311 will result in the NYPD's involvement.

Instead, call the Manhattan Urban Park Rangers at (212) 628-2345 or (212) 304-2365. If possible, take a photo so that identification may be confirmed. Sightings

may also be reported to <http://www.gothamcoyote.com>.

Several projects are underway to learn more about coyotes' urban behavior, including the Gotham Coyote Project, which is studying the Eastern coyote's colonization of New York City and Long Island using motion sensor cameras in city parks.

## Tips: Be Coyote Smart



Coyotes are common throughout New York State, including urban areas. If you see a coyote, **do not panic**. Most coyotes are not dangerous to people. Nationwide, only a small number of coyote bites are reported each year.

## Coyote Facts

- Coyotes are not strictly nocturnal. They may be observed during the day but are generally more active after sunset and at night.
- You may see and hear coyotes more during mating season (January-March) and when the young are dispersing from family groups (October-January).
- Coyotes eat what is prevalent and easy to find, shifting their diet to

what is seasonally or locally available.

- Coyotes are naturally wary of people but can habituate to the food sources we provide and our presence.

## Recognizing a Coyote

Coyotes are canines. In general, coyotes appear "sleeker" than domesticated dogs, with a flatter forehead and a more pointed snout. Coyotes appear to have longer legs than dogs, while dogs appear to have deeper chests. Coyote tracks are more elongated, and they place their front and back paws in alignment when they walk.

## Five Easy Tips for Coexisting With Coyotes

- 1. Do Not Feed Coyotes.** Their life and your safety depend upon coyotes remaining naturally wary of people.
- 2. Remove Attractants.** Store food, pet food, and garbage in animal-proof containers. Do not leave food or garbage behind in a park.
- 3. Supervise Pets.** Walk dogs on a leash and keep cats inside for safety.
- 4. Keep Coyotes Wary.** If you are approached, act big and make loud noises until the coyote retreats.
- 5. Appreciate Coyotes.** From a distance. Stay at least 150 feet (45 meters) or more from the animal.

If you spot an aggressive or fearless coyote, report it immediately to on-site golf course or Parks personnel. In case of a medical emergency, such as a bite from or physical contact with a coyote, call 911. (From <http://www.nycgovparks.org/programs/rangers/wildlife-management/coyotes>)

Karen Gershenhorn



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## Remembering Michael Graves (1935–2016)

Former 320 Riverside Drive resident Michael Graves passed away on March 30, 2016, at his home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, after a long battle with lung cancer. He was 80 years old.

Michael and Jennifer Graves moved to 320 RSD in 1992. They made many friends within the building and on the block with whom they continued their relationships after their move to Santa Fe in 2011.

Michael had a long and distinguished career in the theatre and film that began with playing Iago opposite James Earl Jones's *Othello*. He joined John Raitt and Chita Rivera in the national tour of *Zorba* and was seen on television in his longrunning stint on *All My Children* and during many other appearances across the nation.

He was a founding member of the Undercroft Players at Trinity Church on West 100th Street, performing a wide variety of roles including A. R. Gurney's two-character play *Love Letters* opposite his wife, Jennifer.

One could often find Michael, with his dog, Black, taking walks in the neighborhood and greeting his human and canine friends with equal exuberance, or sitting at Silver Moon Bakery or at a diner having a coffee and doing the daily *Times* crossword puzzle. And he could always be found at Henry's on the evenings that fellow 320 resident Steven Blier was playing.

He particularly loved the annual 104th Street Yard Sale where he would enjoy time with his neighbors and pick up a trinket or two to take home.

Michael will be remembered for his kind demeanor, wicked sense of humor, and boisterous laugh. He was a warm and wonderful neighbor, and a dear friend.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Las Cruces Community Theatre, 313 Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001, would be greatly appreciated.

Missy Cohen  
April 2, 2016



## We are happy to announce a new tri-organizational activity in our TriBloomingdale initiative: Birdwatching in Central Park!

Led by neighbor Miriam Rakowski, we are offering four birdwatching sessions in Central Park to members of BAiP, the West 102nd & 103rd Streets Block Association, and the West 104th Street Block Association. The sessions will all take place in May, which Miriam lauds as the ideal time to observe the greatest number of species. **The first outing will be held on Wednesday, May 4th at 8:15 a.m. for about 90 minutes to 2 hours. The meeting place will be just inside the 103rd Street entrance to Central Park on Central Park West. Later this year, we will be scheduling a couple of weekend birdwatching outings. If you would like to be notified of any of these outings, please reply to this message specifying your interest.**

Here are a few things you will need:

*Binoculars* (These are strongly recommended to enhance your experience. Miriam will give pointers on how to use them in the best way for birdwatching.)

*Comfortable walking shoes* (The outings will be on back paths of Central Park and will entail moderate stair climbing and walking.)

*Water, a hat, and a small notebook and pen*

Exercising and being outdoors together are meant to be fun and motivate us all.

Ultimately, though, each individual is responsible for his or her own health and safety and must decide if he or she is up to our outings.



To join our birdwatching list, please

**RSVP to [mtkoyal@aol.com](mailto:mtkoyal@aol.com) so we can let Miriam know you are interested in receiving her messages about outings and meeting places.** When Miriam communicates with you, your RSVP to her is crucial since bad weather will cancel birdwatching, and she will want to be able to contact you in case that happens.

# COMMUNITY CORNER

by Mary Koval

## 24<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Meeting: March 16, 2016

Deputy Inspector Marion O. Larin, commanding officer of the precinct, reviewed crime statistics in our neighborhood. Grand larceny, which includes stolen unattended property, continues to be on the rise. Car thefts on Riverside Drive increased, but the perpetrator was apprehended. Larin reminded everyone not to leave valuables in cars.

There has been a recent trend of "mail fishing" in which a string is attached to a piece of cardboard covered in glue. The latter is placed in a mailbox and pulled out with mail stuck to it, including sometimes checks that are cashed. The mailboxes targeted include those on 104<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, 94<sup>th</sup> and Columbus, 93<sup>rd</sup> and Amsterdam, and 93<sup>rd</sup> and Broadway.

Larin recommended that residents should either use electronic payment or take their mail directly to the post office. In addition, if you notice glue-like substances on any mailbox, please call 911 to report it.

The 24<sup>th</sup> Precinct is cracking down on graffiti throughout the neighborhood by organizing a program, led by Police Officer Jennifer Toro, to paint any storefronts or residences marked by graffiti. The program will begin in the summer, and Toro will be asking for volunteers and for donations of paint. If you see someone defacing a building, please call 911. To report graffiti, please call 311.

## NYC Parks Department: Redesign of Park

The NYC Parks Department has contacted the block association requesting input from our members regarding the complete redesign of the Bloomingdale Park at 104<sup>th</sup> Street and Amsterdam. If you always wanted an area to practice yoga or to exercise in a park, now is the time to get involved.

The park will be completely redesigned for adults and children, and all input will be considered by the park architects. The meeting will be held on April 18 from 6 to

7:30 p.m. at PS 145 at 150 West 105<sup>th</sup> Street.

## Safety Improvements to Bus Stops

The Community Board 7's Parks and Environment Committee reviewed a presentation by the NYC Parks Department to improve safety at bus stops between West 97<sup>th</sup> and West 129<sup>th</sup> along Riverside Drive. The goal is to improve pedestrian safety at the bus stops, update bus stop locations, ensure stops are ADA-compliant, and repair landscaping areas adjacent to the bus stops. The budget for this project is 1.875 million.

The project includes moving the 104<sup>th</sup> Street bus stop, where there are benches, to 103<sup>rd</sup> in order to comply with the MTA standard that bus stops are 3 blocks apart. Unfortunately, there are no benches at the proposed 103<sup>rd</sup> Street stop. The CB7 Committee issued the resolution of approval needed by the NYC Parks Department in order to go before the Planning Commission. However, the full board of CB7 will have to approve the resolution.

If you are concerned about the bus stop move from 104<sup>th</sup> to 103<sup>rd</sup>, please attend the CB7 full board meeting where this will be discussed; the date will be announced. You may access the NYC Parks Department presentation at: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb7/downloads/pdf\\_2/Presentation\\_Riverside%20Bus%20Stops-CB7-032116.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb7/downloads/pdf_2/Presentation_Riverside%20Bus%20Stops-CB7-032116.pdf)

Thanks to neighbors Ira and Karen Gershenhorn for attending the CB7 Parks and Environment Committee meeting.

## Neighborhood Update

### Resident Comment Corner

Many of our block residents are concerned about the increase in dog waste on our block. Our street is a major thoroughfare to the park for dog owners. The board will discuss ways to minimize this problem, but, in the meantime, I recommend that residents speak up if they see a dog walker not picking up dog waste.

Another comment received was the concern over the frequent illegal turns from the service road at 104<sup>th</sup> Street onto Riverside Drive. This issue was brought to Deputy Inspector Marion O. Larin of the 24<sup>th</sup> Precinct, who will look into the matter.

Residents are concerned about the areas in front of some of the brownstones. If you note trash not covered or if the sidewalk is blocked by debris or ice and snow, please call 311 and report the situation.

We love to hear from you! Please send your comments and suggestions to [mtkoyal@aol.com](mailto:mtkoyal@aol.com).

## Incidents Reported by the Block Security Guard

Osbourne Thomas, our block security guard, was summoned on two separate occasions by block residents to assist in troubling situations. Both incidents involved aggressive men harassing our residents late in the evening. Osbourne was able to diffuse both situations and escort the men off our block.

His presence is a definite plus for our block. Please send your contribution to the block association today so that we may continue his services.

## Beautification Update

Many of our block trees had dead branches, and the board was concerned about our residents' safety. The NYC Parks Department was contacted but would not be able to come out in a timely manner for routine pruning. It did remove a non-viable tree on the block. The tree will be replaced between April and June. The block association arranged and paid for all the block trees to be pruned by a private company. The cost was approximately \$1700.00. The block association also paid for a deep root fertilization of all trees costing \$700.00 to ensure healthy, beautiful, and safe trees.

Due to our ongoing deficit, the board elected not to have spring pansies planted this year as planned. The crocuses and daffodils seen now are a result of last year's planting. The summer planting will occur in May at the cost of \$5600.00, which includes mature plants, soil, compost, and fertilization.

Please send in your contributions today so that we may continue the block beautification mission.

## The West 102<sup>nd</sup>/103<sup>rd</sup> Street Spring Bazaar: May 21, 2016

Please join our neighboring block association's Annual Spring Bazaar on Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 103<sup>rd</sup> Street between West End Ave and Riverside Drive.

There will be many vendors with treasures, live music, a split 50-50 raffle, and much more! For more information and to rent a table, visit the West 102<sup>nd</sup>/103<sup>rd</sup> Streets Block Association website at: <http://www.w102-103blockassn.org/2016-spring-bazaar-flyer.html>.



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## Sal and Carmine Pizza: A Neighborhood Icon

**Sal and Carmine**, the pizzeria on Broadway between 101<sup>st</sup> and 102<sup>nd</sup>, has been a neighborhood institution since 1987.

Counting its inception on 95<sup>th</sup> Street in 1957, it has operated for nearly sixty years, first under the management of two brothers (you guessed it: Sal and Carmine Malanga) and today by a different generation of brothers. I decided to learn more about the latest proprietors, Luciano Gaudiosi and George Adamopolous. Sal was their grandfather and Carmine their great uncle.

I wanted to interview both simultaneously, but, as luck would have it on my first attempt, I found **George** alone.

*Q: How did you wind up continuing the family tradition? What are your background and interests?*

A: I started working here on weekends when I was eleven. That was fourteen years ago. In school, music was my major interest, playing bass and drums. I was still in school when Sal passed away. Carmine retired a few years later so it was just Luciano and me to run the business.

*Q: What are your earliest memories of the neighborhood? How has it changed since then?*

A: My early trips into the city were always special, but my time was spent here at the store. Going to the Beacon Theater to hear [legendary guitar gods] Steve Vai and Joe Satriani, that made me feel like I had arrived.

The next day I caught up with **Luciano** to get his answers.

*Q: Tell us about yourself. How did you wind up continuing the family tradition?*

A: Although an English major, I began professionally as an automotive engineer. I started at Ford and then got a job for Delta Airlines working on their ground fleet at JFK. All the time I was also filling in at the shop at night and on weekends, whenever my grandfather told me to. Finally, in the summer of 2006, he told me he needed me to work full-time here. So I quit my job. To me there never really was any question of what to do.

*Q: What are your earliest memories of the neighborhood? How has it changed since then?*

A: I remember my grandfather bringing me along to this store when I was small enough to duck under a subway turnstile. He was very protective of me outside the shop. If I wanted to buy some candy, I had to go to the deli next door and not down to the corner newspaper shop. I was a teenager when I got to go by myself to the Metro Theatre to see *Tales from the Crypt*. There was a payphone out front, and I called Sal to tell him I had arrived safely. The neighborhood has changed since then.

*Q: Longtime loyal customers might have noticed that Sal and Carmine used to bicker at times. That's understandable. After all, they were brothers driving from New Jersey and working together every day all week long. Anything to it?*

A: Sal pretty much called the shots and ran a tight ship. We used to have a small TV in front on the refriger. That's because my Uncle Joe [a policeman] would only come to work on weekends if he could watch the ball games. One day, Carmine got caught up watching a game. Sal came out from the back room to discover a line of people waiting to be served. He took his big long knife, walked to the TV, and cut the electric chord in two. Sparks flew! Circuit breakers shut off! He then took the TV and deposited it outside on the sidewalk where we could watch it from the front window the next three days.

That made me curious as to how the two brothers got along. So I tried again to get a joint interview several times but with no success. The last attempt I found **Luciano** alone.

*Q: Where's George?*

A: He quit.

With my storyline having taken an unexpected turn, I decided to turn our questions away from the family part of the business and towards the pizza part.

*Q: As the clippings on your wall show, your pizza is acclaimed by more than just neighbored locals. What's your secret to making great pizza?*

A: A lot of heart.

*Q: That's the artistry. How about the ingredients?*

A: I would say the cheese is the most important: Wisconsin whole milk mozzarella.

The tomato sauce is next, from California tomatoes.

*Q: What do you think of Chicago style pizza?*

A: I've never had it. Wait, I had Uno's once. That counts. How did they become a nationwide chain? I don't get it.

*Q: Now that Sal and Carmine is under new management, what kind of changes have you made or plan to make?*

A: One of the first changes was to offer home delivery. Now we're planning to bring back fountain soda and sandwiches, including the calzones we used to sell. Then we'll do some

redecorating in the back.

*Q: How about installing air conditioning?*

A: Nope. I'd miss cooking in the 105-degree summer temperatures.

*Q: I had intended as my last question to ask you and George "Which one of you two brothers makes the better pizza?"*

A: I'm going to say "me." By the way, don't forget to mention that I'm single and good-looking!

Sal and Carmine is located at 2671 Broadway. Open 7 days a week 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (212) 663-7651.

[www.salandcarmine.com](http://www.salandcarmine.com)

Michael Fara

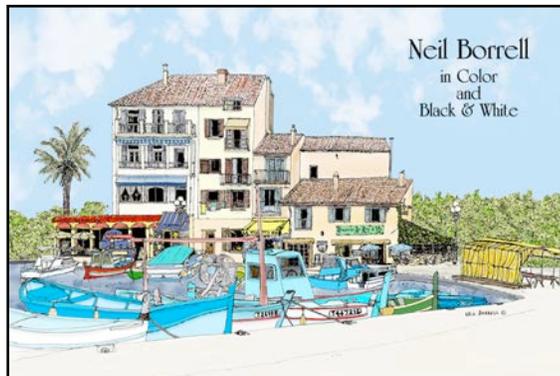


## Art Exhibition: Neil Borrell in Color and Black & White April 1 through June 30, 2016

Our neighbor Neil Borrell will be exhibiting pen and ink drawings at the 107 West Restaurant, 2787 Broadway between 107<sup>th</sup> and 108<sup>th</sup> Streets, from April 1 to June 30, 2016.

Borrell's pen and ink drawings have been published in the *New Yorker* and the *Martha's Vineyard Gazette*. His limited edition prints have been featured at two galleries: the Wellfleet Collection and the Swansborough Gallery, both in Wellfleet, the Cape Cod town that has inspired much of his work.

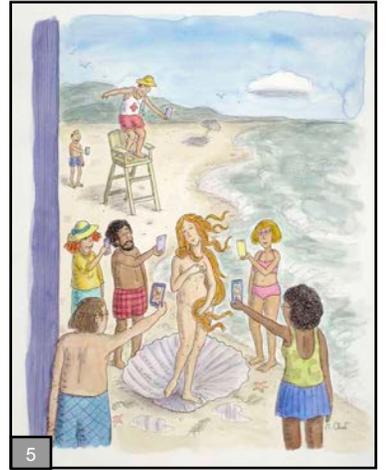
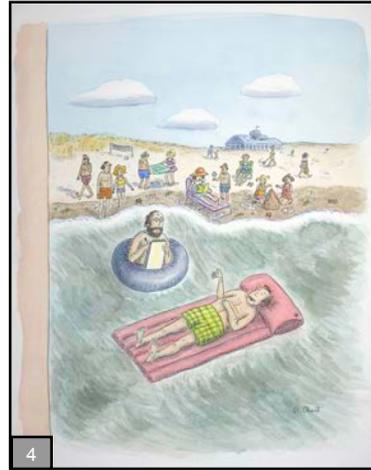
In New York, Borrell's drawings comprised



a one-man show, *Fishing Ports in Pen and Ink*, at the South Street Seaport Museum in 1979. It received a positive review from the *Village Voice*. Borrell's work has also been featured in exhibitions at Lincoln Center, the Hudson Guild, Bank Street College, Henry Street Settlement, Columbia University, and the Educational Alliance.

Pen and ink is the medium that allows him to explore the details of life. In the past decade, he has expanded his work from years of small black and white pieces to large color canvases.

Please take a moment to enjoy Neil Borrell's art.



**Upcoming Events in the Neighborhood And More!**

4/11: Chill out at the American Museum of Natural History's **Beneath the Ice: Immersive Dome Installation**. Located in the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life, the installation, up until May 27, will take you beneath the ice to see the amazing array of marine life that flourishes in the frozen Antarctic. Free with museum admission, which is \$22. [www.amnh.org](http://www.amnh.org).

4/14: The work of New Yorker **cartoonist Roz Chast** is celebrated at the Museum of the City of New York in "Cartoon Memoirs." The show features more than 200 works that capture Chast's quirky, distinctive take on contemporary life. Until Sept. 5. Suggested admission is \$14. [www.mcny.org](http://www.mcny.org).

4/15: Learn how the large rock outcroppings in Central Park have had an impact on the city and the nation's history in **Landforms: A History of Central Park's Fort Landscape**, a free exhibit at the Charles A Dana Discovery Center in Central Park now through Nov. 5. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. daily. [www.centralpark.com/events](http://www.centralpark.com/events).

4/16: *Wicked* fans, this Wall-to-Wall is for you. Symphony Space showcases the **music and lyrics of Stephen Schwartz** in its annual day-into-night celebration of a Broadway composer. The composer and lyricist of *Wicked*, *Pippin* and other now-classic shows, Schwartz has been a hit-maker for five decades. Performers—at different times of the day—will include Carolee Carmello, Raul Esparza, Tovah Feldshuh, Laura Osnes, and many more starry names. Free: first come, first served. There are three seatings, starting at 3 p.m. [www.symphonyspace.org](http://www.symphonyspace.org).

4/19: Leading American baritone **Thomas Hampson** teaches a master class at Manhattan School of Music's Miller Recital Hall. 2 p.m.–4 p.m. Free, first come, first served.

4/30: The **Columbia Ballet Collective** presents works by Amy Hall Garner, Daniel Mantei, Brian Reeder, and Maurice Brandon Curry for its annual spring recital. The group will also present George Balanchine's haunting "Valse Fantasie." 8 p.m. Tickets are \$22. [www.millertheatre.com](http://www.millertheatre.com).

5/1: Kick back for the kick-off of **Summer on the Hudson**, a free summer-long series of events from music performances to movies to childrens' shows. Until Sept. 30. Check [www.riversideparknyc.org](http://www.riversideparknyc.org) for details and weekly updates.

5/6: Explore the music of Medtner, Stravinsky, and Prokofiev at their most Slavic when violinist Rolf Schulte performs their works with pianist Judith Olson in the Bloomingdale School of Music's "**Russian Soul**." 7 p.m. Free. [www.bsmny.org](http://www.bsmny.org). See website for more concerts.

5/9: American Ballet Theatre begins its annual spring season at the Metropolitan Opera House with Frederick Ashton's lush, romantic *Sylvia*, to the music of Leo Delibes. Don't miss the season's **extraordinary Ratmansky Festival**, a salute to the company's current Artist in Residence and one of ballet's leading choreographers. ABT will perform both full-lengths (*Sleeping Beauty*, *The Golden Cockerel*) and shorter works like the masterful *Seven Sonatas*. Until July 2. [www.abt.org](http://www.abt.org). Tickets from \$72.

5/20: Modern sculptor Elie Nadelman found inspiration for his work in his world-class folk art collection. The New-York Historical Society is showcasing more than 200 of those works in **The Folk Art Collection of Elie and Viola Nadelman**. Some of Nadelman's own pieces will be exhibited alongside the pulltoys, paper mache busts, stoneware, and other items that make the collection one of the most outstanding of its kind. Until August 21. Museum admission \$20. [www.nyhistory.org](http://www.nyhistory.org).

5/22: Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Society winds up its season with a concert of works by three favorite Romantic composers—**Strauss, Dvorak, and Brahms**. 5 p.m. on 5/22 and 7:30 p.m. on 5/24. Tickets start at \$30. [www.chambermusicsociety.org](http://www.chambermusicsociety.org).

**Cheap Events Around Town**

Visit these websites for ideas and information: [www.amny.com/cheap skate](http://www.amny.com/cheap skate) [www.nyc-arts.org](http://www.nyc-arts.org) [www.niftynyc.com](http://www.niftynyc.com)



Photos 1 & 2, Courtesy of Norbert Wu Productions; Photo 3, Courtesy of New-York Historical Society; Photos 4 & 5, Courtesy of the Museum of the City of New York; Photo 6, by Richard Walker, New-York Historical Society

**BLOOMINGDALE AGING IN PLACE (BaIP)**  
[Bloominplace.org](http://Bloominplace.org)

**BAIP** is an intergenerational volunteer network of neighbors working to help older residents to continue living at home safely and comfortably. BAIP sponsors social and cultural activities and provides educational tools and a helping hand for those in need through its **Neighbor-to-Neighbor (N2N)** program. The latter takes the form of providing help going places, running errands, light shopping, accompaniment at home or outdoors, and information. If you want to contact N2N for this kind of assistance, or to talk about volunteering, e-mail: [N2N@bloominplace.org](mailto:N2N@bloominplace.org), or call: 212.842.8831 to leave a message with your contact information. Either way, a BAIP member will respond promptly.

**Computer Consultant/PC Doctor**

Computers repaired, maintained, viruses removed, junk mail controlled. Advice to repair or buy. I do Windows! Contact Greg Williams, block resident at 212.749.2398, 917.771.2929, or [prosolutions@stny.rr.com](mailto:prosolutions@stny.rr.com),

**Mathematics Tutoring**

Former Bronx HS of Science teacher SAT, SHSAT, GRE, LSAT logic games  
 Henry 212-666-0396

**QuickBooks Consultant/Professional Organizer**

Accounting, business and personal finances, home and file organization. Contact Ellen Curtis at 212.749.2398, 607.829.5631, or [EC4QBooks@aol.com](mailto:EC4QBooks@aol.com).

**Pet sitting**

Experienced, responsible, caring pet sitter. I take care of your pets like they are my own! Dogs, cats, small animals, birds, reptiles, fish. Very reasonable rates. Call Tova at 212-662-5143 or email [tgetoff@gmail.com](mailto:tgetoff@gmail.com).

**Writer/Editor**

Professional writer & Faulkner finalist available for critiques, editing & as a writing tutor. Contact Pat at: 212-615-6927

**Your Neighborhood Service Publicized FREE!**

Publicize your neighborhood service (babysitting, dog walking, apartment cleaning, etc.) free in the newsletter and on our web site for one year, renewable. To submit an ad mail/deliver this information to Jon Smith, 320 RSD or send to [104thstreetba@gmail.com](mailto:104thstreetba@gmail.com)

**For our records:** Your name and mailing address

**For publication:** Your name, contact method (phone or email address), description of your service

The block association board meets once a month.

We enjoy having residents attend the meetings.

Please let us know if you would like to attend one and we will send you an invitation.

[104thstreetba@gmail.com](mailto:104thstreetba@gmail.com)

**Call for Safe Escort Home With Block Guard**

If you're ever coming home at night and you'd like to have an escort, please don't hesitate to call Osbourne Thomas, our security guard. He has a special phone for these times, and he will come to meet you either on West End Avenue or Riverside Drive and walk with you to your home.

Security Guard Phone Number:

**347-723-1517**



Steel plates being removed from West 104th Street in front of 308 as Con Ed finishes the installation of gas lines, March 11, 2016.

Photo by Trudie Grace

**2016 2nd Quarter Dues:**

Please allocate my contribution to:

Amount of check: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Security \_\_\_ Beautification \_\_\_ Social \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Board Decision (Suggested amt: \$35/quarter or \$140/year)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(For internal use only. The Block Assn. will not sell, exchange, or lend your e-mail address to any outside parties.)

Suggestions for the block: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please send to our treasurer: Barbara Boynton: 905 WEA, #71, NY, NY 10025 or leave with one of the following:

T. Grace: 308 W. 104, Apt 1A

G. Waskow: 320 RSD, Apt. 8G

M. Koval: 895 WEA, 6D

J. Howitt: 315 RSD, Apt. 8C

M. Mann: 309 W. 104, Apt 3A